



# NUBIAN MESSAGE

Sentinel of the African American Community

January 25, 2005

Vol. 12 | Edition 13

## Alumna urges sacrifice for others

**Aniesha Felton**

STAFF WRITER

"I feel good, I look good, I am good, and there's nobody like me," could be heard throughout Tally as students took part in the fourth annual Martin Luther King Service Challenge.

Led by Miss USA (or universal servant of America), Ebony Ebron, the chant commenced the Saturday community service project.

Ebron, a motivational speaker, challenged the audience to take the opportunity of life and live it with purpose, passion, vision and service to others. She also told the audience to think outside the box.

Encouraging crowd participation, Ebron asked, "If you were given \$25, and the goal is to get as much food for the food bank, what would you do?"

A female student from the audience shouted that she would ask the store to match her funds or to simply ask the store to donate food.

Erica Jones, a junior in Spanish, had another idea.

"What I would do is use that money for gas," she said. "After my car was full, I would drive into neighborhoods asking for food donations for the food bank," Jones said.

Ebron applauded these ideas as thinking outside of the box and said, "we need to stop looking at the situation and think about how we can

maximize what is given, this is what Martin Luther King would have done."

While being honored by Ebron that afternoon, Martin Luther King was also honored by Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, of which he was a member, and Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.

Marching in with the sound of the ancient drum, elders such as Henry Arthur Callis and Thurgood Marshall for the Alphas and Ethel Hedgeman for the AKAs called a meeting to see whether the work and principles they had set as the foundations of their organization were still being practiced.

After Tyrone Davis, president of the Eta Omicron Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha and Mariah Thorpe, president of the Kappa Omicron Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha made claims that indeed they are fostering and mentoring programs for young men and women as well as educating them on issues relevant to the times, a question was posed of whom will stand with them and make a change.

The entire audience stood.

Ebron commented that what has happened to the MLK holiday is a shame.

"Dr. Martin Luther King and his holiday has been reduced to a sound byte of his 'I Have A Dream' speech," she said. "He is much more than that and it is up to us to take that speech

MLK see page 2



Jerry L. Blackmon II - staff

Ebony Ebron, alumna, urges students to 'live for others' at MLK Service Challenge.

## Chisholm, political pioneer, activist, dies at 80

**LaWanda Ray**

SPECIAL TO NUBIAN

The United States, Congress, and young black girls every where lost a role model Jan. 1.

Shirley Chisholm, the first black woman elected to Congress, died of natural causes. She was 80.

Her life was a testament to her beliefs in civil rights as well as women's rights and the rights of those less fortunate. During her first term in Congress she spoke out against Vietnam, spoke for civil rights, and hired an all female staff.

She was quoted once telling voters that her greatest political asset, which professional politicians fear, is her mouth, out of which "come all kinds of things one shouldn't always discuss for reasons of political expediency."

Born Nov. 30, 1924 in Brooklyn, N.Y. to Charles and Ruby St. Hill, Chisholm was shortly sent to Barbados to live with her maternal grandmother. She went back to live with her parents in 1934, and gradu-



public domain image

Shirley Chisholm

ated in 1942.

Chisolm made history at the 1972 Democratic National Convention in Miami when she became the first woman to run for the democratic presidential nomination. She received 151 delegates'

80 see page 2

## Freshman achievers lauded at convocation

**D.J. Hardy**

STAFF WRITER

N.C. State is known for its intellectual and professional achievement, both on campus and abroad. This year is no different, as 253 freshmen are honored for their superb academic achievement at the tenth annual Freshmen Honors Convocation.

The Freshman Honors Convocation will be held tonight at 6 p.m. in the Witherspoon Cinema. The program was established in 1994 by African-American Student Affairs to honor first-year African-American students who earned a semester grade point average 3.0 or better. In 2002, after the establishment of the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, the program was expanded to include Native American and Hispanic Students.

This year, 253 African-American, Native American, and Hispanic students will be honored at the program.

Dr. Tracey Ray, director of MSA, said 47 percent of the targeted freshmen class achieved a 3.0 or greater semester grade point average. This is a record achievement for NCSU.

"That's a seven percent increase from the last five freshman classes - it's a huge accomplishment for our students and is truly remarkable," Ray said.

Many students attribute their continued achievement through their time here at NCSU to the Convocation.

"Being that this was the first award I received recognizing my academic achievement, it really motivated me to keep my grade point average high, in lieu of more rewards in the future. I still have the award in my room, as a symbol of motivation to achieve academic success," sophomore Ticora Jones said.

She said the positive reinforcement motivated her to continue to strive for excellence during the

CONVOCATION see page 2



## WHAT'S GOIN' N?

wgo@nubian.ncsu.edu

**Freshman Convocation**  
Jan. 25 at 6 p.m. in  
Witherspoon Cinema

**Taste of Africa**  
ASU-sponsored event.  
Wed. Jan. 26 in WSC

**NSBE Conference**  
NSBE's Spring Zone  
Conference is coming to  
Raleigh Jan. 28-30,  
2005.  
Events Fri. thru Sun.  
\$10 registration fee.

**Leadership Workshops**  
Presented by Ms.  
Stella Adams, Pres. of  
the African-American  
Caucus of the North  
Carolina Democratic  
Party, et al.  
Sat. Jan. 29, 10 a.m.

**Heritage Lecture**  
Sherrod Gresham  
Sun. Jan. 30, 3 p.m.  
AACC

**J-Board Elections**  
Applications available  
in student government  
office.  
Due date: Feb. 2

**CHASS Career Fair**  
Wed. Feb. 2 from 10-3  
p.m. The career fair  
will be held on the sec-  
ond floor of Talley  
Student Center in the  
Ballroom. Bring your  
resumes for opportuni-  
ties for jobs and  
internships. There will  
be \$500 in giveaways  
for students. This  
event is open to all  
students.

**SAA-PAMS Quiz Bowl**  
Feb. 26, 2005 in  
Multipurpose Room,  
AACC.

MLK from page 1

and amplify its mes-  
sage, remix it, put a  
different beat to it."

"Once people  
understand that he did  
more than march and  
make speeches, and  
that he lived to serve  
others and worked for  
the betterment of the  
common good, they will  
be able to truly under-  
stand who he is and  
have a deeper respect  
for him and his holi-  
day," she said.

Encouraging the  
audience to be like  
King, Ebron said that  
as he lived for others,  
so should they. She told  
the audience to make  
the passion for living  
for others a part of  
their daily walk, this of  
which motivated one  
freshman.

"I feel so invigorated  
right now," said  
Sylvia Carver. "Her  
message made me real-  
ize that every day I can  
do a little something to  
improve someone's life.  
It doesn't matter who  
you are or how old you  
are, we all are capable  
of changing the world if

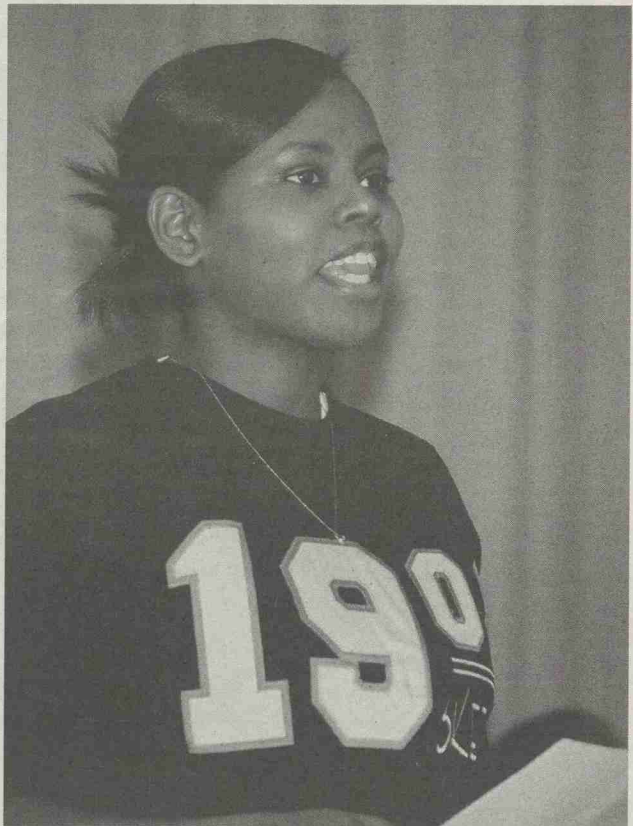
we want to," said the  
math education major.

Jess Horton, a jun-  
ior in communications  
and MLK team leader,  
stated that this event  
is not only to highlight  
Martin Luther King,  
but to also to highlight  
the importance of giv-  
ing back to communi-  
ties, as he did.

"Dr. King chal-  
lenged us to give back  
to the community," she  
said. "He taught us to  
be aware of the world's  
issue, but he also  
taught us that some of  
these issues are right  
here in our own com-  
munities and that if we  
attend to them, then  
slowly we will change  
the world," Horton  
said.

Concluding her  
presentation, Ebron  
offered these instruc-  
tions.

"Live for others,  
commit yourself to oth-  
ers, serve others," she  
said. "Commit yourself  
to caring more about  
community than chaos,  
but most importantly  
live your life to live a  
legacy," Ebron said.



Jerry L. Blackmon II • staff

Scene from MLK Commemoration skit

80 from page 1

votes.

In her book "The  
Good Fight," she said "I  
ran for the Presidency,  
despite hopeless odds,  
to demonstrate the  
sheer will and refusal  
to accept the status  
quo; the next time a  
woman runs, or a  
black, a Jew or anyone  
from a group that the  
country is 'not ready' to  
elect to its highest  
office, I believe that he  
or she will be taken  
seriously from the  
start."

She was a lecturer,  
speaker, and teacher  
with a long list of hon-  
ors and awards. On  
January 25, 1972,  
Chisholm announced

her candidacy for presi-  
dent. She stood before  
the cameras and in the  
beginning of her speech  
she said "I stand before  
you today as a candi-  
date for the Democratic  
nomination for the  
Presidency of the  
United States.

"I am not the candi-  
date of black  
America, although I  
am black and proud. I  
am not the candidate of  
the women's movement  
of this country,  
although I am a  
woman, and I am  
equally proud of that. I  
am not the candidate of  
any political bosses or  
special interests. I am  
the candidate of the  
people."

CONVOCATION from page 1

remainder of her time here. MSA is  
expecting nearly 350 family members  
to accompany the honored students.

An alumnus of NCSU will give  
the convocation's keynote address.

Dr. Gregory Washington received  
a bachelor's in mechanical and aero-  
space engineering from NCSU in  
1989. He went on to earn a master's  
degree in 1991 and a doctorate in the  
field in 1994.

Washington is currently an asso-  
ciate professor of mechanical engi-  
neering at Ohio State University. He  
has received several awards for out-  
standing teaching and research,  
including the OSU Award for  
Outstanding Teaching. Washington  
has been featured in Ebony  
Magazine as one of the top ten  
African-American scholars in the

United States.

As in years past, college perform-  
ance awards are given to those col-  
leges that had 50 percent or more of  
their minority freshmen earn a 3.0 or  
greater semester GPA.

This year, seven colleges will  
receive honors. The College of  
Design, the College of Physical and  
Mathematical Sciences, the College  
of Textiles, the College of  
Management, the College of  
Agriculture and Life Sciences, the  
College of Humanities and Social  
Sciences, and the College of Natural  
Resources will all be receiving  
awards for outstanding academic  
achievement by the freshman class.  
MSA notes that compared to last  
year, twice as many colleges will  
receive the accolade this year.



## NUBIAN MESSAGE

Sentinel of the African-American Community

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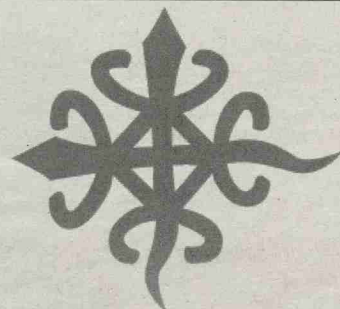
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Only with the permission of our elders do we proudly produce each edition of the Nubian Message.

Dr. Yosef ben-Yochanan • Dr. John Henrik Clark • Dr. Leonard Jeffries • The Black Panther Party • Mumia A. Jamal • Gerónimo Pratt • Tony Williamson • Dr. Lawrence Clark • Dr. Augustus M. Witherston • Dr. Wandra P. Hill • Mr. Kyran Anderson • Dr. Lathan Turner • Dr. M. Iyallu Moses • Dokta Toni Thorpe and all those who walk by our side as we continue to make our journey to true consciousness

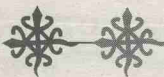


### FUNTUNFUNEFU-DENKYEMFUNEFU

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

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





# OPINION

# 3

January 25, 2005 • Nubian Message

## Enlightenment can and will bring change

We as an African-American people have to raise our standards regarding education. We must cease to have nonsensical and futile debates about what political party each other is affiliated with because, the truth of the matter is, whether a Republican or a Democrat is in office, we still have ghettos, more black men in prisons than in college, low funding for schools in urban and rural areas, increases in single-parent homes, the nation's highest cases of heart attacks and strokes, African-American women comprise the highest percentage of new HIV cases and the lowest quality of healthcare offered among minorities, just to name a few.

Why can African-American men spend six hours on the basketball court in Carmichael Gymnasium and only one hour studying? Why can some black students miss 50 minutes of class, but spend three hours in the Atrium socializing? Why do many African-American females continually blame African-American males for their problems?

We must make more of an effort to inform ourselves of what is going on in the world around us. Stop saying, "I do not read the 'Technician' because it does not represent African-American culture." Instead, if you see issues of inequality, more African-Americans should read the "Technician" to pick out those stereotypes and challenge the media. More African-Americans should be applying for positions with the "Technician" to add that cultural perspective that most of the white staff are not aware of or can speak of.

Educational statistics state that 80 percent of what students learn is on his or her own. We must stop doing the minimum or what the professor asks of us as students and use every resource available to us on campus.

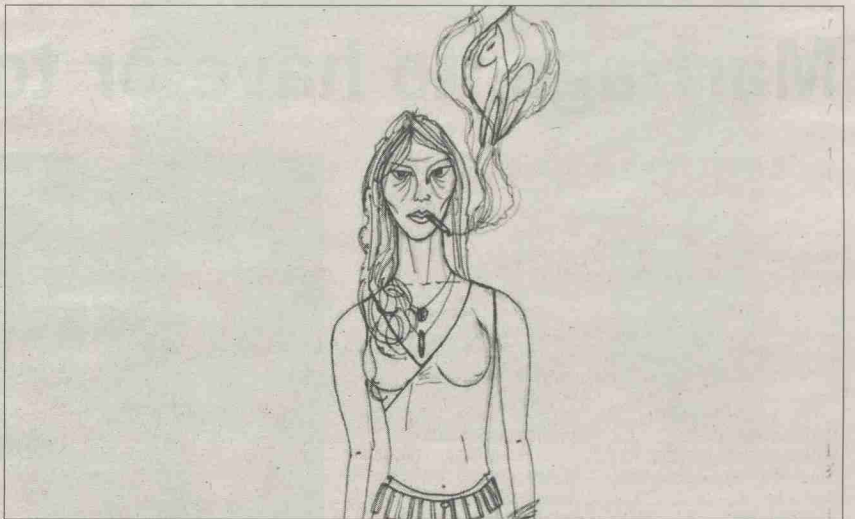
Stop arguing that most African-Americans go to D.H. Hill library because they have more resources compared to the African-American Cultural Center's library. We should write letters as student Ticora Jones did, complaining about the lack of good computers in the library. We should get together and protest things in which need to be changed, because only enlightened and unified people can make real change.

Therefore as African-American people, let us all make a New Year's resolution to become more enlightened and unified as a people. And we can begin on this campus.



—from the desk of the Talented Tenth

The unsigned "Talented Tenth" editorial is the opinion of the Nubian Message's editorial board and thus its responsibility.

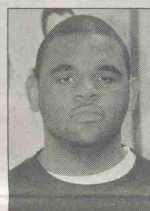


## The African tsunami

When is it okay to judge the live of one person and deem it more valuable than the life of another? Or perhaps, in a natural disaster, who should get more money, those who were poor before the disaster or those who lost everything because of the disaster?

What of rebels and such? How do we expect a country that had little to rebuild itself from nothing? In the end, the only question that matters is: why haven't we, not only American citizens but as the human race, seen the destruction of the tsunami in Africa?

On Dec. 26, 2004, just as the African-American holiday Kwanzaa began, a powerful underwater earthquake struck in the Pacific Ocean, an earthquake so strong that it gave



**Tony Moses**  
COLUMNIST

birth to a tsunami.

A tsunami is a huge destructive wave (especially one caused by an earthquake). This tsunami swept through the ill-prepared countries of Eastern Asia and Northeast Africa and caused devastation beyond any other natural disaster in recent history.

With the death toll greatly surpassing that of Hurricane Hugo and the debt greater than

that of the forest fires in the latter part of the 1990s, this tsunami has made its presence known not only in the eastern part of the world, but in the United States and on its economy.

Upon hearing of this catastrophic event, American Red Cross chapters nationwide began to initiate programs to raise money and other donations to give to the victims of the tsunami. Clothing and food donations were accepted with open arms as were monetary donations.

With each new day, new information concerning its destruction was revealed on CNN, FOX and other local news stations. Pictures of the overflowing mounds of rotting car-

TSUNAMI see page 5

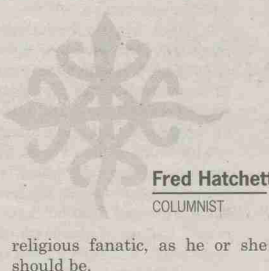
## Confronting homosexuality in the African-American community

There is a clear and obvious immoral turn in the United States and the world. Homosexuality is considered genetically innate and therefore, an acceptable lifestyle.

Why not drunkenness, murder, bestiality, child molestation, incest etc.? Why does homosexuality seem to be the only socially abhorrent behavior that is deemed normal?

If people are born with the gene that turns them on to their sons or daughters, why should it be a crime or detestable? Even some of the behaviors mentioned are repulsive to the homosexuals that I am exposing.

The problem in our country is relative morality. If it feels good, do it. Whatever is good for you is all that matters. But when someone says that God told me to kill, we label them a



**Fred Hatchett**  
COLUMNIST

religious fanatic, as he or she should be.

But when we label homosexuals as faggots and homosexuality as an abomination, we are called haters, judges, bashers or homophobes. If you don't like being called what you are, stop being one.

But euphemisms are in and truth is out. I ask a question to the homosexual. What is wrong with a father and his 16 year-old daughter having consensual sex

or bestiality? Soon these behaviors will be drowned in the apparent majority of public opinion.

I say apparent, because all normal thinking people know that homosexuality is among a very small minority. They have had to use the majority among three judges and there, instead of the collective voice of the people who have said no to the gays.

It is obvious that the gay lifestyle is not self-perpetuating, but rather a self-destructive behavior. Homosexuality is a logically destructive and fruitless lifestyle, for they can bear no fruit of their own.

I love them enough to tell them the truth boldly that their lifestyle is sinful. The Black

GAYS see page 7



# Marriage, to have or to have not?

**Shameica Gardner**

STAFF WRITER

With the issue of gay marriage receiving much media attention, many people use the "sacredness" of marriage as an argument against legalizing unigay unions. However, in the land of the free, is marriage still a sacred institution?

"I Want to Marry a Millionaire," "Joe Millionaire," "My Big, Fat Obnoxious Fiancé," "The Bachelor," "The Bachelorette" and "Who Wants to Marry a Midget," are just a few shows which use competitions and hot tubs as tests of compatibility.

Many view shows such as these as evidence of the deterioration of the institute of marriage.

Benjamin Lewis, a senior in civil engineering, thinks that marriage in our society has lost its value.

"Every year the value of marriage goes down. You have so many single parent homes that marriage is becoming a lost art. People aren't willing to try and stick to their marriage vows," he said.

According to the 2002 National Center for Health

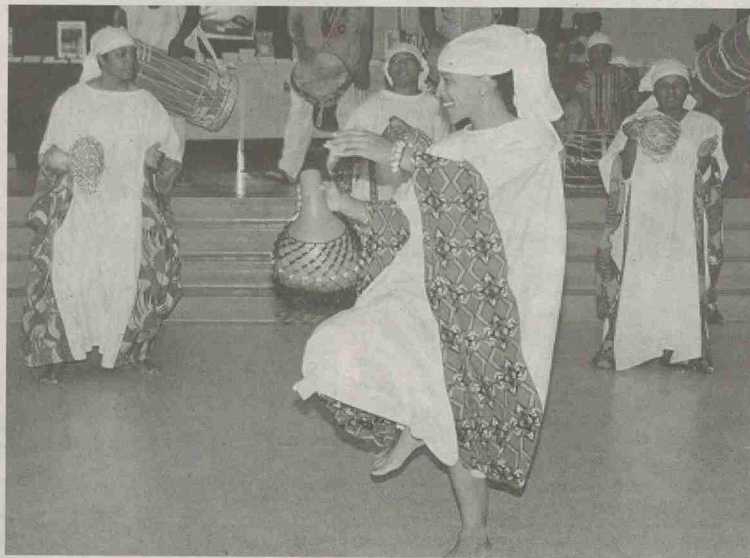
Statistics Census (NCHSC), the divorce rate for that calendar year was 40 percent. However, according to the census, this number is only derived from states that actually keep track of the number of divorces, and the states, California, Colorado, Indiana and Louisiana, did not even factor into this sum. In the year 2000, the NCHS reported that 957,200 divorces were finalized.

A recent study published by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in 2002 found that divorce occurred at a rate of 4.95 per 1000 people.

Many statisticians say problems arise from misinformation. There are many misconceptions concerning the actual rate of divorce. For instance, divorce is calculated using the entire population of the country, therefore divorce rates include children.

Religious groups across the nation have said that divorce is an epidemic and marriage is in a state of emergency. Vegas chapels, annulments and quickie divorces on exotic islands have become outlets for getting in and getting out quickly and easily.

The term "irreconcilable



African dancers at wedding reception in Multipurpose Room.

file photo

differences" is a term adopted by the courts that allow people to divorce without citing specific reasons for ending the marriage. Advocates of marriage see this as an "excuse" to get out of marriage without having a valid reason.

Many people argue that

divorce rates can be misleading.

"Women used to stay in abusive relationships because they had nowhere to go and they had to take care of their children. A lot of times, society would look down on women who divorced, so people stayed

and took all kinds of abuse; they don't have to do that anymore," said Victoria Carter, a junior at Winthrop University.

Troy Summers, a senior at Shaw University, still thinks marriage is a sacred

MARRIAGE see page 7

## Seeing through Glaucoma

**Christina Johnson**

STAFF WRITER

As January comes to an end, a disease facing the African-American community should be discussed. This disease affects many, but few know about it and its impact on African-Americans. This month is Glaucoma Awareness month.

Glaucoma is a type of eye disease that can lead to blindness. An individual with glaucoma has natural fluids in the eye that are not drained properly, thus increasing pressure within the eye. This increase in pressure causes damage to the optic nerve.

The optic nerve is a set of muscles that connect your eye to your brain sending messages to the brain letting your brain know what the eyes are seeing. Once the optic nerve is damaged, it causes a glaucoma patient to go blind and the effects are irreversible.

Because this process does not happen suddenly, but gradually, primary vision loss will most likely go unnoticed by individuals affected by the disease.

Some people are more at risk

than others for developing Glaucoma.

These individuals include people over 60, people with family members that have glaucoma, individuals that use steroids and persons that have suffered an eye injury.

Races that suffer the most from glaucoma are Asian-Americans and African-Americans.

There are no noticeable symptoms to the onset of glaucoma. Glaucoma can not be detected by a primary health care provider using a routine eye chart exam, but only by an ophthalmologist measuring actual eye pressure. The sad truth about the matter is if an individual is young, does not wear glasses, passes routine eye exams and does not know of any family history of glaucoma, they will most likely not have a need to see an ophthalmologist to detect it. By the time they realize they have glaucoma it may be too late, and vision has already been lost. There are currently many African-Americans that do not even know that they have glaucoma.

Treatments for glaucoma include: eye drops or oral medica-

GLAUCOMA see page 6

30  
JAN

African American Cultural Center  
GALLERY WALK

Mr. Sharrod Gresham, a philatelist for approximately 15 years, uses stamp collecting as a way to "stamp out ignorance" about African American contributions. Join us for his presentation that will be followed by a gallery tour of *Commemorating Our Genius*, the current African American Cultural Center postage stamp and presidential coin exhibit.

Sunday, January 30  
3 - 4:30PM Multipurpose Room

African American Genius Changing the  
Landscape of Society

www.ncsu.edu/aacc

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

African American Cultural Center

666.7.0000.44

♿ If you are a person with a disability and require any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations, please contact Toni Thorpe at (919) 515-1451 five days prior to the event during the normal business hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or via email at [toni\\_thorpe@ncsu.edu](mailto:toni_thorpe@ncsu.edu) to discuss accommodations.



# Chronic kidney disease, a threat to us all

**Kyle Alston**  
STAFF WRITER

Defining chronic kidney disease is the first step in the process of detection.

This disease occurs when the kidneys no longer have the ability to properly remove wastes from the blood and carry out their duties at a normal rate.

It can spring up all of a sudden, or it can happen gradually, according to "All about Chronic Kidney Disease" an article featured on DaVita.com, a website dedicated to providing information about CKD and dialysis treatment.

A problem directly associated with CKD is acute renal failure.

Since "acute" defines a sudden occurrence while "renal" directly describes the kidneys, acute renal failure occurs when the kidneys have suddenly failed to operate the way they should. This is usually due to allergies related to taking certain drugs, the intake of a poison, severe blood loss or trauma.

Being aware of the causes of kidney disease is quite essential. As stated by the aforementioned article, Diabetes is the number one cause of kidney disease, responsible for about 40 percent of all kidney failure. High blood pressure is the second cause, being responsible for about 25 percent.

Inheritable diseases, autoimmune diseases, major internal birth defects and other problems can also lead to the onset of kidney disease.

This disease is not contagious, but it is genetic. If this disease is apparent in one's family history, it is of great importance that he or she get screened.

Symptoms of CKD are so evident that those suffering will have no doubt that they have the disease.

Some of the symptoms include significant changes in urination (burning sensations, abnormal urine color and an increased rate of urination), swelling of the feet, ankles, hands or face; itching and hypoglycemic episodes.

To find out if you have kidney disease, check any symptoms you believe you have or ask your primary care provider to administer lab tests.

These tests are done so one can see if he or she has high levels of creatinine and urea nitrogen (BUN) in the blood as well as high levels of protein in the urine.

Chronic kidney disease affects

millions of adults in the United States, but compared to other ethnic groups, African-Americans face a higher risk.

Furthermore, higher rates of diabetes and hypertension, the two prominent causes of kidney disease, belong to the African-American population.

Nearly 33 percent of African-Americans have high blood pressure.

According to some research, blacks may have a certain gene that allows for a higher level of sensitivity to salt. In the 25 to 44-year-old age group, the rate at which African-Americans contract kidney failure because of high blood pressure is 20 times higher than that of whites, as indicated by the DaVita article, "Risks for CKD in African-Americans."

If one is cautious about the types of food he or she eats, it may increase that person's chances of avoiding high blood pressure. Regular check-ups with a physician can also improve one's condition if they are affected by the disease.

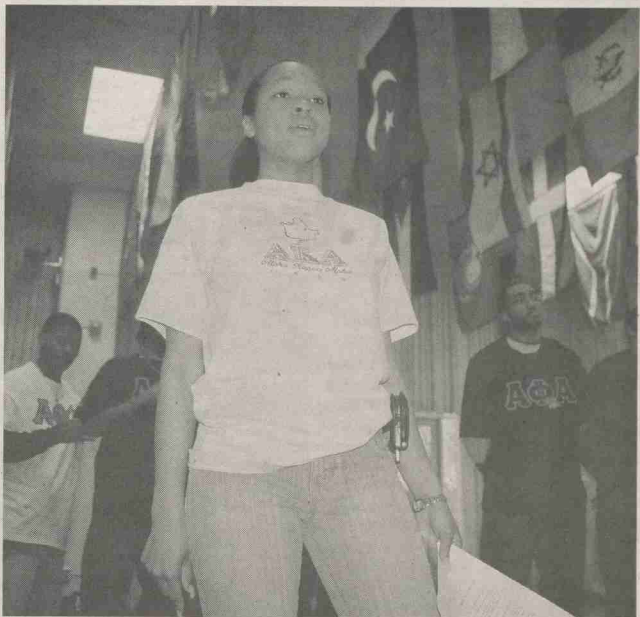
The appropriate treatments of CKD may also decelerate the progression of the disease. If a person has been diagnosed with kidney disease, his or her doctor will more than likely put them on some type of medication.

If the person has been referred to a dietitian, he or she may put the person on a restricted diet that will not allow the intake of sugar, sodium, protein, phosphorous and potassium, as said by the article, "Understanding Chronic Kidney Disease."

To get one's blood pressure in better condition, and to relieve stress and harm to the kidneys, dialysis may be utilized. In the early stages of chronic kidney disease, dialysis is not needed.

This period of time can last for several years. If the kidneys fail, a person will need dialysis or a kidney transplant to maintain a suitable quality of life.

In understanding the nature of kidney disease, it is necessary to know that it is a chronic one. Many people across the United States have fallen victim to this serious disease. Because of that, it would be in the African-American community's best interest to be knowledgeable about it, especially African-American men.



Rowlette Simmons as Ethel Hedgeman Lyle, founder of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.

## TSUNAMI from page 3

casses graced prime-time television.

Fears for the spread of malaria were as common on the news as the weather report. Sri Lanka, Thailand, the Philippines were all countries that many became familiar with soon after the destruction as they were blasted on the news every five minutes.

But what of the countries in East Africa? Why is it that America was never informed of the 111 people who lost their lives in Somalia, or perhaps the 10 people who are no longer with us in Tanzania?

An online newspaper, National Non-News, has raised some questions. Maybe there was some mention of the two missing fishermen and the others who were hospitalized on the island of Seychelles? Suppose the one person in Kenya who lost their life was a fact that could be looked over, as was the 50 capsized boats?

According to the same paper, the only American organization that seems to be paying any attention to the Tsunami Relief Aid in Africa is UNICEF.

An organization that supports the well being of children worldwide, UNICEF has realized the severity of the disaster and plans to respond immediately with donations and such.

According to the website [www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org) and the article entitled "Relief Supplies

Reaches Somalia's Children," UNICEF and the local administration have sent an assessment team to the affected areas to survey the damage and determine what measures should now be taken.

Senior Program Officer Siddharthe Chatterjee says, "We need to set up sanitation facilities as soon as possible for the displaced people. Water and nutrition are the top priorities, then we will also see if we can bring education back to the children to help them get back to normalcy."

Is this enough, I wonder? When asked "Why do you think Africa is receiving such little attention and relief from the damage of the tsunami," three students at N.C. State jumped with enthusiasm to answer this question.

Sophomore Ashlee Canty, a Biological Sciences major, says; "Many people view the countries in Africa that were destroyed as insignificant which is certainly not true."

When asked to elaborate, she continued by stating, "I think that people feel this way because of the publicity that the other countries have gotten. If more emphasis was placed on the small African countries then there would be more people and organizations reaching out to help. Although the countries in Africa that were destroyed may not be places where we, the U.S., receive products from, help for

tsunami victims should be for every country that was affected not the ones deemed "superior" by our governmental standards."

Sophomore Alesia Caple, a Chemistry major, responds. "Aid has been given to them for many years and it has not had any affect. The people in Asia, although poor, have the land as a resource and most people want to invest in something they see will immediately yields results."

No matter what the reason, the fact of the matter is that America and the American Red Cross is not helping to re-establish Africa as much as they are helping to re-establish Southeast Asia. I feel that we, as African-Americans, should help to support those in Eastern Africa who were affected by the tsunami and who are having a difficult time rebuilding what was lost.

I encourage you to donate but always ask the organization exactly where the money is going. Request that the organization send your donation to Africa instead of Southeast Asia. Make sure to always research the organization first to make sure they uphold the principles in which they speak.

Another good idea is to possibly start your own charity event to raise money solely for Africa. We, as a people, must realize our rich heritage and must do all that we can to preserve it.

African American Cultural Center

Thursday, February 3, 2005

7 - 8:30 PM Multipurpose Room

The AACC presents Dr. David Levering Lewis, Julius Silver University Professor and professor of history at New York University. Author of seven books and compiler of two editions, *The Harlem Renaissance Reader* (1994) and *W.E.B. Du Bois: A Reader* (1995), he has twice won the Pulitzer Prize for biography, for *W.E.B. Du Bois: Biography of a Race, 1868-1919* (1993) which also won the Bancroft and Parkman prizes - and for *W.E.B. Du Bois: The Fight for Equality and the American Century, 1919-1963* (2000). He holds a five-year John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Fellowship and is also a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and of the American Philosophical Society.

*Shaping the Landscape of Society*

If you are a person with a disability and require any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations, please contact Tina Thorpe at least three days prior to the event at (919) 615-1451 during the normal business hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or via email at [tina.thorpe@ncsu.edu](mailto:tina.thorpe@ncsu.edu). Seated seating is available for those with disabilities.

African American Cultural Center



# Hottest trend of 2005

**Shauna Guyton**  
STAFF WRITER

A new trend has swept through many colleges across the nation. This time, the fad is not a new brand of shoes and does not have anything to do with the colorful rubber bracelets people have been wearing.

It is a new website titled "thefacebook.com" and if you have never heard of the site before, you, like everyone else at N.C. State, will find it to be addictive.

The website is an excellent way to find mutual people in places such as classes. It enables students to meet students on other campuses and even allows people to re-connect with classmates from high school.

In short, "thefacebook.com" is a wonderful way to extend anyone's social network. Once students complete the free registration, they can log onto the site and create a page that allows them to post their information.

Most students include a picture and fill out the profile page which asks for their name, year in college, major, relationship status and special interests including: favorite type of books, music, hobbies and more. Filling out the information page is optional but allows others to see what type of person one is.

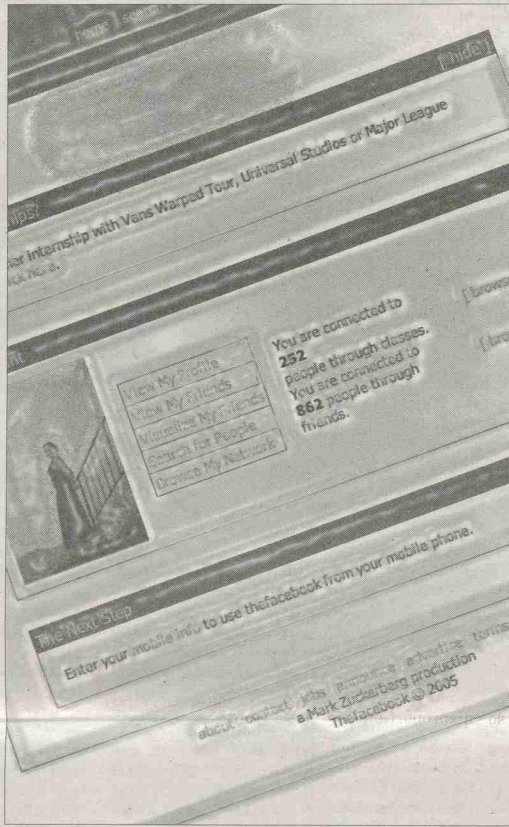
After the profile is made, students can search for the profiles of friends at their schools, or do a global search and browse the pictures of students at different colleges. If a student comes across a picture that they recognize or that they simply find to be attractive, they can request that person to be his or her friend or simply poke their picture and let the person know that they are interested. The website also allows students to send messages back and forth or post announcements about upcoming events in the local area.

One interesting aspect about "thefacebook.com" is that it shows the different ways that you are connected to other people. Each day that a student logs onto the home page, the site shows how many people that he or she is connected to.

Also, if a student clicks on a person, the site shows how many friends the two have in common and how they are connected to one another through classes at N.C. State. Students can also connect through people by requesting to join groups such as "The Chocolate Takeover," "Crunk and Sexy" and "Proud to be a Christian."

Chris Gilmore, a freshman at N.C. State, admits that he has heard about the site but has yet to check it out.

"I don't have a picture on my computer and I



The facebook website

really don't care to put a picture online to meet someone. I'd rather do it in person," Gilmore said. "I've been on 'thefacebook.com' since December and I love it because I've been able to meet cute guys from different colleges. Also, if I'm walking around campus and I forget the name of somebody I see, I use the website as a reference," quotes an anonymous source. "It basically serves as a good icebreaker when I want to meet or get to know someone new on campus."

James Hankins, a freshman in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, says that he heard about "thefacebook.com" from friends at another university.

"I believe that the website is an excellent way for students to communicate without invading one another's privacy. A person can easily connect with their peers and learn their interests before getting to know them," Hankins said.

as other (legal) prescription medications and treatments.

Currently there is no cure for glaucoma, but only treatments to prevent blindness. However, with new and encouraging research being done by the Glaucoma Research Foundation, and many other organizations, a possible cure gives individuals with glaucoma a very promising future.

Glaucoma is a very important and unknown problem.

In this last week of January, do some reading on glaucoma for yourself. As African-Americans,

it is our responsibility to stay knowledgeable about important issues such as glaucoma in our community. It is also our responsibility to share that knowledge with others.

Unfortunately, glaucoma has become the leading cause of blindness in the African American community, making it very important to keep ourselves, friends, family, and loved ones well informed and educated.

## Who's Who

African-American Heritage Society

The African-American Heritage Society (AAHS) is an organization established for the academic development and cultural enrichment of students. Through mentoring, research and scholarly presentation, the Heritage Society hopes to strengthen the knowledge students have about their heritage and history.

The theme of the African-American Culture Center is: Changing the Landscape of Society: African-American Creative Genius. To compliment the theme, the Heritage Society has gathered speakers, who are modern-day geniuses, to lecture the N.C. State community.

As vice-president of the Heritage Society, Evan Dixon believes that the organization offers students, "a place to let their guards down, be around family, express their issues concerning campus life and help out the community."

Dr. Levi Watkins, the first African-American graduate from Vanderbilt, and Mr. Frank Matthews, publisher and editor-in-chief of "Black Issues in Higher Education," have both come to lecture students about their individual success and life experiences.

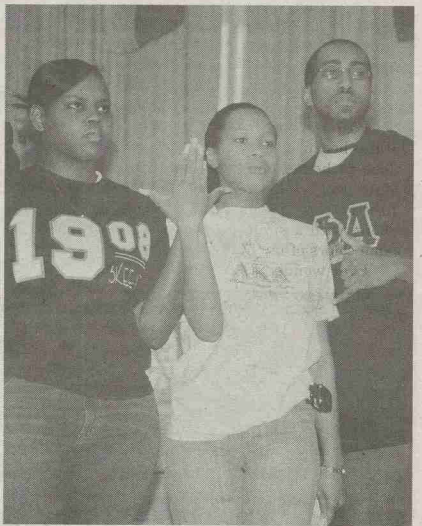
Having the privilege to hear these geniuses speak is one of the greatest opportunities that the Heritage Society offers, according to sophomore Ervin Johnson. As a Heritage Society member and African-American student, Johnson enjoys the programs and takes advantage of the lectures. After attending, he feels a greater connection to the Culture Center and his fellow students.

The next Heritage Society program will be a Gallery Exhibit guided by philatelist Mr. Sherrod Gresham, on Jan. 30 from 3-4:30 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room.

On Feb. 3 at 7 p.m., Dr. David Levering Lewis, two time Pulitzer Prize winner and professor of history at Rutgers University, will lecture students in the Multipurpose Room. The next meeting will be Mon. Feb. 6 at 4:45 pm in Witherspoon Student Center, room 375.



"Who's Who" is a semi-regular feature profiling African-American organizations at N.C. State.



"Elders" from the MLK event.

Jerry L. Blackmon II - staff

## GLAUCOMA from page 4

tions that helps to decrease the pressure in the eye preventing any further vision loss.

Also, traditional or laser surgery can be performed to ensure that fluids in the eye continue to drain properly.

Marijuana is often associated with glaucoma treatments. As many of you know marijuana has not been legalized and although marijuana has shown to decrease pressure in the eye preventing vision loss, research shows that it is not as effective



# GAYS from page 3

Church is not completely silent.

It should be no surprise to the Christian that an even more disgusting behavior could come from homosexuality. Romans chapter 1 says that homosexuals would be given over to a reprobate mind.

Do you know what someone did? The movie, "City of Angels," was made, which glorified the homosexual lifestyle and made a veiled reference to the phenomenon of, barebacking.

Barebacking is the practice of unprotected sex among two male homosexuals. It gets worse. There are a group of homosexual men out there who are barebacking on a mission.

It took a while to finally enlighten you as to what the whole article is about. HIV is on a sharp rise among gay men. This lifestyle is no longer underground. These individuals are having "conversion parties" (parties to exchange HIV) and are labeling the process of achieving HIV+ status as a "Rite of Passage."

But there is a more serious problem. All gay men are not just homosexual. What do I mean? What would you think if I told you that 90 percent of lesbians have had at least one abortion?

This gay gene philosophy is a hoax. But the fact is that heterosexual women are being infected by men who they think are heterosexuals. But lurking behind that man is a secret.

A secret that is about to be unlocked at your first desire to donate blood, or an unusual inability to fight off the common cold. You are or were the ones that wished you had read the article about abstinence or the down low.

You can call what I am about to

say an opinion, but I will differ. You can call me judgmental, and I take it as a compliment. Not only is homosexuality an abomination of God, but the fruit that it is bearing is also.

Every bleeding heart liberal, evolution-believing fanatic who promotes and justifies the abomination of the homosexual lifestyle is to blame.

The only person that gives hope to the homosexual is Jesus Christ. He says that He died for you and for you to live for Him. It is your choice.

The relationship with Jesus Christ is conditional. It is His way and no other way to God. Had He not died for you, He would have no more claim on you than anyone else would.

In conclusion, an innate behavior does not necessarily make the behavior acceptable. They want a voice in our social and spiritual areas of life, but silence all opposing voices especially the church. I am a member of the church, and my voice will never be silenced.

All the homosexual agenda can bring to a debate is emotion. They have no proven facts that their behavior is normal. I leave you with a quote.

"We [blacks and homosexuals] are all tied together in a single garment of destiny...I can never be what I ought to be until you are allowed to be what you ought to be." "Therefore, I appeal to everyone who believes in Martin Luther King's dream to make room at the table of brotherhood and sisterhood for lesbian and gay people."

The above quote is from Coretta Scott King, speaking at a National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) conference in November 2000. It should be no surprise that blacks are so disproportionately infected with HIV.

the mind of track runners while they are on their blocks? Let Ebony tell you what they are thinking. "You have to visualize the race before you run through it, you have to think about what moves to make if you were to mess up on a certain part."

Foster broke her own school record in the 100 and 600 meter hurdles last season. She was the 100 meter hurdle champion in the Outdoor ACC Championships. In a clutch streak, Foster finished no lower than third place in the 100 meter hurdles leading up to the NCAA Championships.

She helped the 4X100 meter relay team to set a new school record, and that's just naming a few of her accomplishments.

Ebony's personality and positive attitude will take her a long way in life. Unlike a track race, her strives to be the best will not come to a finish any time soon.

# EBONY from page 8

mother's home because she already had two children prior to accepting Ebony as a foster child. She wants to give underprivileged children the chance to grow up in a loving home.

Foster has her priorities in line with her daily routine being scheduled around track and field. "I get up; go to class, then to study hall. After that I go to practice, another study hall afterwards and then I have to find time to eat."

It's not always all about her demanding schedule. During her free time, Foster enjoys what she says most college students find pleasure in doing, and that's sleeping, eating and shopping.

Foster chose to run track at N.C. State because it was conveniently close to home, one could say. "N.C. State was close to home, but not directly close to my parents," said Ebony with a smile. "It also has the same colors of my high school."

Ever wonder what runs through

# MARRIAGE from page 4

institution.

"I think marriage is a sacred affair. It's in the Bible. It is meant to bring men and women together."

Dr. Brian Allison, a psychologist, states that, "Divorce is a 'no win' situation for everyone involved. Allison quotes Mavis Hetherington of the University of Virginia who did a five-year study of the effects of divorce on small boys.

"Small boys are the worst victims of divorce and their painful attempts to adjust often lead them into a mutually destructive conflict with their mothers." Allison is a victim of divorce, his mother and father having gotten one, and later his brother.

Entertainment icons such as Elizabeth Taylor (seven marriages), Billy Bob Thorton (five marriages) or Jennifer Lopez (three marriages) have popularized both marriage and divorce.

"People get wrapped up in sex

and romance and they don't think rationally. They jump and get married without thinking about it as a lifetime commitment," said Rhonda Gordon, a senior in Language, Writing and Rhetoric.

"My parents have been married 32 years and I use them as a model of marriage," Gordon said.

Whether it's paternity suits on the Maury Povich show, hearings for child-support and alimony, single mothers needing government assistance, or children gazing out windows as one parent walks away, the state of marriage is questioned everywhere.

Although there is no clear-cut answer as to why divorce rates are so high, or why marriage has been "trivialized" by television, there is one certainty. Divorce rates are rising, and single-parent homes are becoming the norm rather than the exception.

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January 25, 2005 • Nubian Message

# The Other Side

## A LOOK AT THE STUDENT BEHIND THE ATHLETE

*Kendra Bell*  
Senior, Accounting

- Women's Basketball
- Point Guard
- Co-Captain



**Johnathan Brunson**  
STAFF WRITER

*What was your childhood like?*

I grew up playing ball. Basically, each level I was playing, I was thinking, "What's next?," from elementary, to middle school, high school and later college.

*Why did you choose to play ball at N.C. State?*

Coach Yow. She cares about her players first as people and the athlete is second. She always makes sure to keep in contact with her players. There were other schools in which to them you are just an athlete, but Coach Yow is such as genuine person and that is why I chose N.C. State.

*What's your daily schedule?*

Get up, go to class from 8 to 12, go lift weights, and practice normally from 1:30-4:30.

*Y'all play with so much energy and intensity this season, what's the team's motivation?*

Basically our motto, "One heart, one mind." Anyone on our team can step it up and basically we are determined not to let our coach down.

*Do you feel added pressure as a captain?*

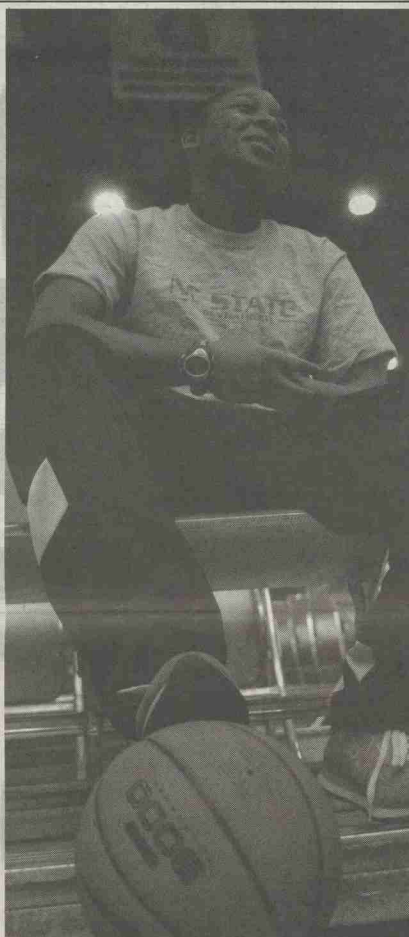
At first I did, but as the season went on, there was not as much pressure anymore.

*What are your plans after graduation?*

Go to grad school here and be a grad assistant on the team.

*So you're not thinking about going to the WNBA?*

Nope, I want to coach.



Kendra Bell, co-captain women's basketball team

Matthew Robbins • Special to Nubian

## Do we promote 'Bad Boys' in sports?

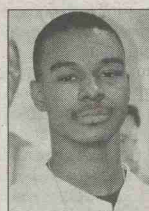
I am convinced the media only wants to feed off of degrading moral images of professional athletes today.

I learned this while watching ESPN's 1st Down broadcast on Friday evening. During this episode, one of the commentators mentioned the news of Kobe Bryant getting injured in the Los Angeles Lakers vs. Cleveland Cavaliers game. It has been reported that Lebron James visited Bryant during halftime to see how he was doing after an injury he received during the game.

I can see why we could carry some concerns for his action, if he rebelled against the authority of the coach, Paul Silas, during halftime to visit him. I can also understand some resentment if he prolonged his stay with Kobe during the game and missed some minutes. However, none of this information was ever presented. The only thing shared on the program was that he visited Kobe during halftime to see if he was ok.

"I just went in there to see how he was doing," said James. "He told me that he was likely going to be out for a little bit, but I hope he gets well soon. He's like an idol to me," he added.

I guess you still can't please everyone. Other commentators discussed their feelings of James' actions as being a disappointing thing. He continued to express how James was not like other great players such as Michael Jordan because Jordan did not care about the other team during the game and carried a "killer mentality." He even ended his whole argument by stating that even though James had 28 points, 13 rebounds and nine assists, James could not be justified for his actions because he missed the



**Cedric Pickett**  
STAFF WRITER

game winning shot.

May I remind you that all of these feeling came right after a previous discussion of how Randy Moss's actions in Green Bay (fake mooning the crowd) was a total disgrace. We (as the public) have already witness the three week special of Ron Artest assaulting fans in the crowd. In addition, please do not mention the year round special of the downfall of Kobe in his fiasco with Shaquille O'Neal, Phil Jackson, Karl Malone and the rape trial.

However, not only do we not hear a lot of positive materials about athletes today, but when they are mentioned, it is not enough. How can an athlete get disgraced for showing concern for another? How come we do not hear specials on the news about their efforts to give back to the community such as Read to Achieve and other programs? How come we have not heard about some athletes such as Kobe Bryant, Tracy McGrady, Jermaine O'Neil and Jalen Rose's efforts to donate money to the Tsunami relief efforts for every point they score. Twenty-two teams are putting forth effort in the National Basketball Association to help victims of the recent tsunami disaster.

Unfortunately, this type of information is not headline news. The media has a lot of power, and bringing down athletes on and off the field has brought a lot of ratings for them.

## Foster runs toward goals



**Marcus Gibbs**  
SPORTS EDITOR

There is no doubt that Ebony Foster is a tremendous athlete. The junior sociology major has accomplished a lot in her college career so far and has shown signs of improving every year.

From humble beginnings, Foster has used what life has thrown at her to make a positive situation out of it. Growing up in the mountain and rural area of Lynchburg Virginia, Ebony found life difficult at times. "We were the only black people in that section, and we had to adapt to where we lived," said Foster. "It was ok, but it could have been better."

The ability to run well start-

ed at an early age for Foster and according to her, she has her brothers to thank for that. "I had two older brothers that used to get at me all the time and I had run from them," said the N.C. State track star.

Through the hard times, Foster found strength and inspiration from her mother who was basically supporting the family on her own. The determination and hard work that Foster's mother displayed has obviously rubbed off on her, but she decided to show her strengths on the track.

Always striving to be the best, Foster sees herself as an Olympic champion in five years. In looking at what she has done already, that goal is not difficult

to attain.

In this summer's Olympic trials, Foster was the only collegiate runner to advance to the finals in the 100 meter hurdles.

"I didn't know until after the race that I was running against non-collegiate runners. I was excited, but there was a lot of pressure also." Foster also advanced to the NCAA championships in the 2004 season.

Foster's aspirations go beyond the area of track and field. She also strives to own a business in the field of social work. She looks to give foster children the same opportunity she had in growing up.

Foster is very grateful to have been welcomed in her

EBONY see page 7