

# NUBIAN MESSAGE

Sentinel of the African-American Community

March 5, 2005

Vol. 12 | Edition 19

## Pan-Afrikan fest starts

**Aniesha Felton**  
NEWS EDITOR

While April is known to usher in showers, for the black community and N.C. State community at large, April ushers in the annual Pan-Afrikan festival.

The festival, created for purpose of celebrating and illuminating African and African-American culture, began this year on Apr. 1. Although it commenced on April Fool's Day, one Black Students Board member said people should not be fooled by the title Pan-Afrikan.

"Don't think that because it says Pan-Afrikan it is only meant for African and African-Americans," said LaTonya Kelley, a senior in sociology. "The festival is meant to celebrate, and most importantly educate any and everybody on our culture...it is not meant to exclude," she said.

The 2005 theme of "Yesterday's drum sounding the beat of tomorrow's song," is meant to symbolize the importance of African-Americans past



influencing their future, according to Kelley.

"This is very cliché, but you really don't know where you are going if you don't know where you have been," she said. "This year's theme signifies that; we

are using our past, yesterday's drum, as a ladder to propel us into a brighter future, tomorrow's song, that none of our ancestors had probably ever

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## Cochrane, O.J. defense attorney, dies

**Staff Report**  
NUBIAN MESSAGE

Famed celebrity and social justice lawyer, Johnnie Cochrane died last Tuesday. He was 67.

Cochran, famous for his acquittal of O.J. Simpson stemming from charges in the 1995 slayings of ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and Ron Goldman, and the phrase, "If the glove doesn't fit, you must acquit," died from an inoperable brain tumor that he has had since December 2003, according to reports.

In a press release statement, his family had to say this about his death:

"Certainly, Johnnie's career will be noted as one marked by 'celebrity' cases and clientele. But he and his family were most proud of the work he did on behalf of those in the community."

Cochrane's family

Cochran fought social injustices, especially in the cases of police brutality. He represented a 19-year-old black woman who was shot many times by police as she sat in a locked car, a Haitian immigrant who was harassed and tortured by New York police, and a white trucker who was videotaped being beaten by a black mob during the 1992 Los Angeles riots, according to CNN.

"The clients I've cared about the most are the No Js, the ones who nobody knows," he once said, as reported by CNN.

Cochran is also known for representing stars and athletes such as Tupac Shakur, Snoop Dogg, Sean "P. Diddy" Combs, Todd Bridges and Jim Brown. He is also known for his failed defense of Black Panther member Elmer "Geronimo" Pratt, but also of his release 25 years later, according to

COCHRAN see page 2

## Raleigh courts black tourney

**Marcus Gibbs**  
STAFF WRITER

With the city of Raleigh losing the bid for keeping the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) college basketball tournament, it's left a bitter taste in the mouth for many people in the Raleigh area.

On the bright side of things, it didn't take long for the city to get over it. Immediately after the end of the CIAA tournament, the city of Raleigh announced that it would be bidding to be the new host of the Mid Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) tournament.

The CIAA had a lot of success here in Raleigh,

bringing lots of money to the Raleigh area. This money helped the city build itself up economically by attracting visitors over the past few years. The CIAA tournament also displayed some of the best predominately black colleges in the nation, whether it be rich in culture or in athletics.

The excitement of the CIAA tournament and happenings will definitely be missed, but the MEAC will become a great plus for the city of Raleigh itself. The MEAC, like the CIAA tournament, displays black universities playing for a right to compete in the NCAA tournament.

The bidders that Raleigh is competing with

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## Ektaa hosts 'India Night'

**Kyle Alston**  
STAFF WRITER

Ektaa, N.C. State's South Asian Student Organization, celebrated the diverse culture of the region through its annual tradition of India Night Apr. 2. This spectacular event, which has been in existence for thirty years, draws a diverse audience with backgrounds from several different countries.

What was it all for? It was for the support of South Asian culture. This tradition is recognized as NCSU's largest student-run event.

"More and more people get involved with the production of the event each year. That is because there is a large Indian community in Raleigh, Cary, Durham, and Chapel Hill," explained one of the

performers in the show, Dr. Afroz Taj, who teaches classes on Hindi and Urdu at NCSU.

"It is always sold out," Taj said.

Manisha Parmar, a member of Ektaa's cultural committee, said the organization spends a lot of time getting ready for India Night. "We generally start working in August, we elaborate on our ideas in December, and then our work evolves into a full-swing production by April," she said.

India Night is designed to emphasize the issue of increasing the amount of unity between the various regions of South Asia.

South Asia — the countries south of China, in and around India — is an overwhelmingly vast mix

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## Pope John Paul II dead at 84

Pope John Paul II died Saturday (2:37 Eastern Time) in his Vatican apartment. The pope was 84.

According to MSNBC, the pope was officially sworn in on Oct. 22, 1978.

Known for his disapproval of contraceptives, abortion and communism, John Paul traveled the world for 26 years before succumbing to an accumulation of heart and kidney failure and Parkinson's Disease.

According to Catholicism USA: A Portrait of the Catholic Church in the United States by Bryan T. Froehle and Mary L. Goutier, there are 2 million African-American Catholics. The majority of African-American Catholics live in Louisiana, Maryland, and New York.

There are 21 papal candidates up for the position of the 265th pope.



**EKTAA** from page 1

of islands and continental countries that are home to thousands of religions, languages, and cultures

Parmar said India Night wants to expose this ethnic diversity to the campus community. The main message of the show was all identities that exist should be able to stand side by side as one cohesive whole, yet serve as essential elements to create one unified but still beautifully diverse entity, South Asia.

The colors in performers' outfits, which included different shades of blue, purple, orange, red, black, and white among others, represented different groups of people in South Asia. In many of the acts in the show, each performer wore a different color, or if in an act, the performers were separated into different groups, and each group wore a different color.

"When the colors are together, it's beautiful. However, when the colors are separated, it's boring," Taj said.

Another major element of the show was dance. In almost every dance performance, the dancers were barefooted, and their dances involved many hand, hip, and leg movements. The

way they moved their hands, hips, and legs helped to distinguish their dances from other types of dances from cultures from other parts of the world.

In addition to dancing, there were skits with certain messages to help emphasize the major theme of the show.

A father catches his son sleeping late in the day during one skit. After giving his son an example of a responsibility he had to face as a young man, the father lectured him about how he should treat women and how he should avoid getting into what would be considered, in the father's day, negative youthful experiences.

"There is a decline in the amount of respect for the Indian culture," Taj said as he thought about how the young men and women in America tend to forget the old customs and traditions that their parents and grandparents kept in India, as well as other regions of South Asia.

Another issue that was raised during the show was overcoming barriers as depicted in a skit where a young lady was trying to shop in an area of South Asia where the people did not speak English. This led to a confrontation between the young lady and one of the

shop owners because of a misunderstanding about what was said.

One of the goals of India Night was to get the audience to see how we can break down language barriers if we are only willing to learn about the languages of other groups of people.

Besides language and cultural issues, India Night took on religion in South Asia.

There was one person for each dominant regional religion in one skit. The Five Pillars of Islam, the Eightfold Path of Buddhism, the Gospel in Christianity, the major beliefs of Hindus, and what makes a Sikh a Sikh were just a few of topics mentioned in the act.

"It's about opening up the borders of these regions in South Asia," Taj said. "When everyone is together, they are stronger."

India Night concluded with a short film about Mahatma Ghandi and one of his quotes.

"Honest differences are often a sign of progress."

Taj said the quote helped to emphasize the idea of the possibility of people working together in spite of their differences.

**MEAC** from page 1

are Richmond, Virginia, and Winston-Salem. The MEAC tournament was held in Richmond, Virginia last season and attracted 20,000 people over six days and it gained an outstanding 3 million dollars which could prove to be very beneficial to the city of Raleigh.

The Mid Eastern Athletic Conference is very rich in tradition. It consists of eleven schools: Bethune-Cookman, Coppin State, Delaware State, Florida A&M, Hampton, Howard, Maryland Eastern Shore, Morgan State, Norfolk State, North Carolina A&T State and South Carolina State University.

This conference could bring very familiar names to Raleigh, like NC A&T State, Howard and Hampton, and gives the city a look at the other interesting and exciting schools like Florida A&M. These teams have proven to be competitive over the years and are no pushovers. If one recalls a few years ago in the NCAA tournament, Coppin State, a 15th seed defeated a number two seed in South Carolina which was a huge upset.

Also the MEAC will gain plenty of attention and will attract many more people in the years to come because they have signed a seven-year contract with ESPN to cover their tournament games. Things look good for Raleigh, and history is on its

side. In Hampton Virginia, 40,000 people who were expected to be a part of the MEAC tournament when only 20,000 people showed up and it gained a little over 4 million dollars when the CIAA gave the city of Raleigh three times as much.

With the disappointing turnout for the MEAC tournament, the city of Raleigh could be the city to look to for putting the MEAC back on the map. With its success with the CIAA tournament, rest assured that the MEAC officials will be looking at the city of Raleigh to help attract more people and gain more money.

If you remember, Norfolk State and Hampton University joined the MEAC when they left the CIAA a few years ago. More familiar institutions will join the MEAC conference from the CIAA. Winston-Salem State and North Carolina Central University will be next in line to be a part of the tournament and its festivities within the next couple of years to help these happenings to make this MEAC tournament grow.

Although it's the MEAC, commissioner Dennis Thomas looks to give this tournament a CIAA atmosphere, with the new planned additions to this conference and seeking a new location from last year, the MEAC will undoubtedly reach its goal

**AFRIKAN** from page 1

imagined could have been sung," Kelley said.

With the passing of events that ensured pure entertainment such as Pan-African American Idol and Groove Theory, and events that educated the community such as Wrapping it Up: You, Me, and HIV and Dancing to the Beat of Time, the festival proves to have more in store.

For Kelley, each event is relevant to the culture of African and African-Americans. "We have always

been known, even tracing our roots back to Africa, to express ourselves through dance." For diverse displays of dancing, Kelley said that the festival features Groove Theory, DanceVisions "New Moon Children," and the step show.

For the purposes of educating the community on issues that affect them, she said they incorporated "HIV and Me," for education on their history, they have African Student Union's "Dancing to the Beat of Time," and for educating the community on living creative

geniuses, they have Dr. Harold Freeman on Tuesday.

"For empowerment," she said, "We have Sistah Souljah." For classiness, the festival has the Black Finesse fashion show and Young black Entrepreneurs "Something for the Soul." To touch on African-American's athleticism, there is the basketball tournament put on by Alpha Phi Alpha and Six Degreez. And at the crux of the African and African-American culture, the festival concludes by honoring God through the SAA-PAMS and New Horizon events.

**COCHRANE** from page 1

reports.

Johnnie L. Cochran Jr., the great-grandson of slaves, grandson of a sharecropper and son of an insurance salesman, according to MSNBC, was born on Oct. 2, 1937 in Shreveport, Louisiana.

Cochran attended UCLA

as an undergraduate, and earned his law degree from Loyola Marymount University in 1963. After passing the bar in the same year, he took a job as a deputy city attorney in the criminal division.

Funeral services for Cochran will be held on Wed., Apr. 6, 2005 at 11 a.m. in Los Angeles.



# NUBIAN MESSAGE

Sentinel of the African American Community

A. Michelle McLean | **EDITOR IN CHIEF**

Cedric Pickett CULTURE  
Melissa R. McLean MIND, BODY & SOUL  
Keitris Weathersbe OPINION  
Marcus Gibbs SPORTS

Tahnia L. Davis | **EDITOR IN CHIEF**

Aniesha Felton NEWS  
Shameica Gardner MANAGING EDITOR  
Jerry L. Blackmon II PRODUCTION MANAGER

PHONE NUMBER 919.515.1468

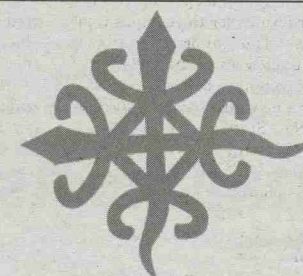
ADVERTISING business@nubian.ncsu.edu

INQUIRIES/FEEDBACK response@nubian.ncsu.edu

WEBSITE www.ncsu.edu/nubian

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 • Geronimo Pratt • Tony Williamson • Dr. Lawrence Clark • Dr. Augustus McVey Witherspoon • Dr. Wandra P. Hill • Mr. Kyran Anderson • Dr. Lathan Turner • Dr. M. Iyaku 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.



# The Search for a New Director

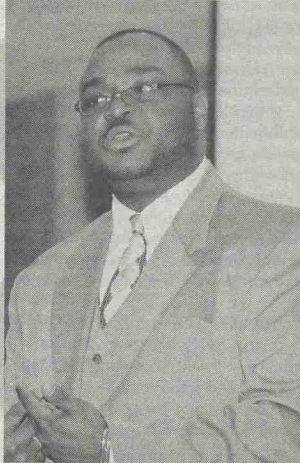
## AACC Director Finalists



*Dr. Dwayne Mack*  
Ph.D., American History

- M.A., N.C. Central University
- B.A., Methodist College

"Without a name, [the Cultural Center] doesn't have an identity. You might as well call it 'boy'."



*Dr. Lawrence Potter*  
Ph.D., History

- M.A., University of Missouri-Columbia
- B.A., Stillman College (magna cum laude)

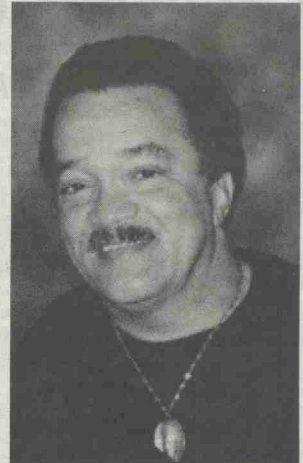
"Fighting is not always the answer; look to creativity."



*Janet Howard*

- M.Ed., UNC-Chapel Hill
- B.A., N.C. Central University

"I don't fancy meetings too much, however they are necessary for progress and at this time in the Cultural Center's history, it is ready to make great strides forward."



*Dr. Fred Hord*  
Ph.D., Black Studies

- M.S., Indiana State University
- B.S., Indiana State University

"Students, students, students."

## Our take: Nubian endorses — Dr. Fred Hord

We've been looking for a new, permanent director for the African-American Cultural Center for the past two years.

The campus has had an opportunity through the tenure of Janet Howard to see how the Center can benefit from an influx of new ideas and fresh approaches to old problems.

Perhaps more importantly, we've had an opportunity to figure out exactly what characteristics we want to see in a permanent director.

Nubian attended and covered all four forums for the campus community. The editorial board sat down recently and compiled a list of six key points we believe are essential for a new director to be successful at N.C. State.

### 1. Willing and able to work with students.

This point is going to be job one for Dr. M. Iyailu Moses' successor. Students from all walks of life are constantly flowing in and out of the Center; its new, permanent director must establish a good rapport with the students who are the heart of the Center.

### 2. Willing to work with faculty.

We want to see the AACC become as important a resource for black faculty on campus as it is for those students who practically live there. The Cultural Center should have a years-long backlog of lectures given by campus professors who want to showcase their works to the black community. The Center

should be the first stop for black faculty on campus and elsewhere looking to research the black experience.

### 3. Experience and knowledge to lead the black community toward positive change.

The new director must be a leader, an advocate and a visionary. We crave steady, solid, credible leadership on this campus. We need a leader who isn't afraid to stand shoulder to shoulder with students when they are at odds with administration, but the leader should be credible and respected enough to be able to tell students when they're going too far.

### 4. Someone able to give national visibility/credibility to AACC.

Kennedy could just as easily have said we're going to put a man in space and bring him back safely. That's hardly a challenge. Going for the moon? That was inspirational. If we're going to shoot, let's shoot for the moon. Let's not just settle for a Cultural Center that is relevant and vital to campus. That is a basic prerequisite for the new director. In addition to that, let's turn our Cultural Center into a model for other cultural centers in the country. Let ours become a beacon of leadership and scholarship that brings world-renowned talent to North Carolina on a regular basis.

### 5. Bridge gap between students and faculty.

The new director must be an effective advocate for students, but

he or she should also serve as a liaison between students and the academic community.

### 6. Strong academic background

The new director must have strong academic credentials, and in the university environment, that means he or she must be published — the more extensively, the better.

Only one candidate has visited campus who meets all six of our criteria: Dr. Fred Hord. Naming Dr. Hord director of the Cultural Center would be a coup for N.C. State.

Hord would immediately bring national visibility and credibility to the AACC through the Association of Black Culture Centers. He would do that by making our AACC the organization's national headquarters. As its president, Hord himself set the standard for what a culture center should be — obviously his knowledge of running culture centers is unparalleled.

Hord's history of activism not only serves as a vital link between the civil rights generation and our own, he exhibits the knowledge and capability to lead the black community toward positive change. Hord has the potential to become a visible and preeminent leader not only within the campus community, but in the greater Raleigh community as well.

By his own admission, Hord has stood with students against the administration for the sake of the students; we believe Hord will

always be willing and able to work with the student body as a powerful advocate for students.

And even though he is a figure of national prominence, Hord is a very personable and approachable person. He understands the need for and value of constructive criticism, and he's willing to listen to others' input. As he told us, he doesn't like to say he's "in charge" — his door is always open.

Hord has published numerous books and articles, and is a noted scholar in the field of black studies. He has an extensive resume that can only bring academic credibility to the AACC.

Of all the candidates, we believe Hord will best be able to work with faculty on campus to begin work to bridge the student/faculty gap because he will have credibility with both faculty and students. His overall focus has always been on the preservation and progression of the African-American community, and that focus dovetails nicely with Nubian's mission and purpose.

NCSU could make no better gesture of friendship and good will toward the African-American community of students, faculty, staff — and alumni — than to name this acclaimed scholar and advocate director of the African-American Cultural Center.

Imagine how disappointed we all would be if a candidate of this caliber were to end up directing a center at Duke or Chapel Hill.



## Learning Disorders

*Maybe they are paying attention*

**Melissa R. McLean**  
STAFF WRITER

The term "learning disability" (LD) refers to a group of neurological disorders that affects how a person's brain receives, processes, stores and responds to information. A person with a LD has noticeable unexplained difficulty in acquiring basic academic skills, and he or she may have more than one.

Contrary to popular belief, a learning disability is not caused by a person's culture, socio-economic status or his or her environment.

According to the National Center for Learning Disabilities, experts believe that a learning disability is more likely due to heredity or incidents before or after birth. If a person's parents have LD, it is likely that he or she will have similar problems.

Drug and alcohol use during pregnancy or premature or prolonged labor can cause learning problems. Nutritional deficiencies, exposure to toxins or physical injuries after birth can also cause LD.

How common are learning disabilities? In public schools alone, almost five percent, or 2.9 million, school-aged children are classified as having learning disabilities. This percentage does not account for home-schooled children or those in religious or private schools.

Learning disabilities do not go away. However, if detected early, a person can develop good academic and social skills. Observing a child as he or she develops language,

motor, and social behavior and skills will help determine if he or she is learning well for his or her age.

If, for some reason, an adult was not diagnosed at an early age, there is still help. Adults with LD can work with specialists to overcome long-term problems with reading, writing and concentration.

There are five main types of learning disorders: attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, dyslexia, dysgraphia, dyscalculia and dyspraxia, characterized by their unique symptoms.

One-third of people with learning disabilities also have attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (AD/HD). This is a disorder of the brain that is mostly genetic but can result from brain injury.

There are several types of AD/HD: predominantly hyperactive/impulsive, predominantly inattentive, or a combination of the two.

People who are hyperactive/impulsive are always moving, fidgeting or restless, have trouble taking turns, have temper outbursts or act without thinking. People with the inattentive type usually have difficulty listening to instructions, maintaining attention, organization and paying attention to details.

Disabilities with spelling, reading or writing often occur in conjunction with AD/HD. Some people may also have emotional or social problems. This disorder cannot be cured, but there are treatments. Medication is a primary treatment, but counseling and specially trained

teachers can be helpful to adults and children, respectively.

Dyslexia is a language disorder that affects oral and written language skills. Those with dyslexia can have high intelligence, but the disorder causes their brains to process and interpret information differently.

Problems with reading, writing and spelling are often present in each person but in different ways. They often have problems with complex language skills such as grammar and reading comprehension. Dyslexia also affects verbal skills because they are challenged by using vocabulary and structuring their thoughts clearly.

People with dyslexia are born with it. Early detection will determine how well a person develops reading and writing skills. There is no medication to treat dyslexia. However there are steps that can be taken during the learning process to ensure success.

A person with dyslexia can prac-

tice reading different types of text such as magazines, comics and books. A teacher or tutor may allow the person extra time to complete assignments or provide oral testing instead of written.

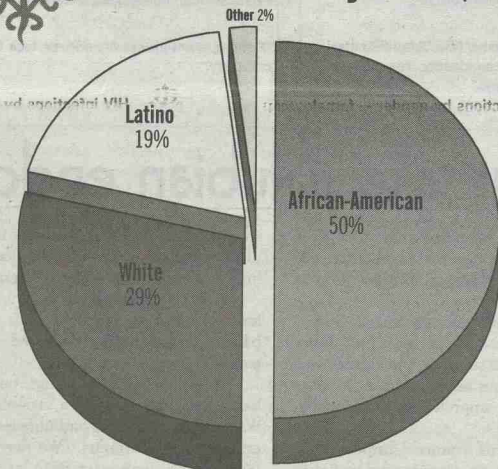
Counseling may help since a person with dyslexia can develop emotional problems from struggling with this disability.

Individuals with dysgraphia have problems with writing abilities that include difficulty with spelling, handwriting and transferring thoughts onto paper. People with this disorder have insufficient motor and information processing skills. They may have illegible handwriting, trouble saying words out loud while writing or difficulty with grammar and syntax structure.

Treatment for dysgraphia centers around three strategies: accommodation, modification and remediation. A teacher or tutor may allow

**ATTENTION** see page 6

### HIV infections by race (2001)



## Killing us softly

**A. Michelle McLean**  
STAFF WRITER

• MBS is reprising our 2004 AIDS series because we didn't have a chance to finish it last year.

As before, we hope to educate those who are ignorant about the subject, and re-educate those who already have the information, but need to be reminded of its salience.

Did you know that only about 12 percent of the United States' population is African-American?

I'm sure you did, but did you also know that African-Americans accounted for half of the new HIV diagnoses

reported in the U.S. in 2001?

HIV/AIDS is, in fact, the leading cause of death for those aged 25 to 44 in the black community.

Were you also aware of the fact that many of the new AIDS cases diagnosed are among African-American youths?

According to the most up-to-date statistics available from the Centers for Disease Control, 43 percent of new AIDS cases reported in 2001 were black men. African-American women accounted for almost 64 percent of new HIV cases in 2001.

A CDC study revealed that African-American women between the ages of 16 and 21 were seven times as

likely to become infected with HIV than their white counterparts, while African-American men were four times as likely to become infected.

Over the past few years, the expected occurrences of HIV/AIDS diagnoses has dropped for every race except African-Americans. It has been estimated that African-Americans will account for 60 percent of AIDS diagnoses in 2005.

Has any of this gotten your attention yet? These numbers may seem exaggerated and somewhat

unreal. They may be startling and hard to believe. What they represent, however, is a reality that many people in our own community have to face and struggle with every single day.

AIDS. Just the mere utterance of this small, but complicated word conjures an array of reactions, thoughts, and opinions.

Why is this? Is it because we're so educated about and well-versed on

**KILLING** see page 7



# Righteous Relationships: putting God first



**Christina Johnson**  
STAFF WRITER

As spring gradually sets in, everyone's heart begins to skip a beat for that special someone as they are struck with spring fever. Many times people enter into relationships for superficial reasons, such as looks, money, status or a combination of all three. Some of you might be in a relationship like that right now.

Most of the time, individuals get so caught up in themselves and their significant others that they forget what is most important: putting God first.

Matthew 6:33 states, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." This means that it is important to always put God first in everything, including relationships with others.

In placing God first in relationships, He will provide all the things one needs to make sure that his or her relationships are successful...that is, as long as it is in His will for one to be with a particular person.

Seeking God first in relationships, moreover, means praying and studying together with your partner and encouraging them in Christ. It is important to read and study scriptures together so that the both of you are continually growing in Christ mutually.

The person that you are with should encourage and uplift you and vice versa. Each person should be encouraging and challenging one another in God.

Many people make the mistake of dating some-

one who is not on the same spiritual level as them. Some feel that they can help the other person in his or her spiritual walk. This is not always so.

A good illustration of attempting to pursue a relationship with unequal yokes can be looked at in the same way as someone standing on a stool and another person standing on the floor. It is easier for the individual on the floor to pull down the person on the stool than for the person on the stool to pull up the person on the floor.

Someone simultaneously pursuing intimacy with God and a person not of God will never work. Godly relationships were not meant to exist in that way.

A relationship like this could potentially lead to one person having to compromise their relationship with God.

Before entering into a relationship, it is important to make sure that both partners are where each needs to be spiritually. If neither of you are separately whole, how will you be able to encourage one another?

As Christians it is important that you are constantly growing in and building upon your relationship with Jesus Christ. If one's mate prevents you from doing so, you might want to reevaluate that relationship. It is more important to please God than to please man.

It is His love towards you that allows you to love others. If He did not love us, we would not be able to love our partners.

Additionally, acknowledging God in our relationships will please Him. Remember the couple that prays together stays together.



## How much do you really know about HIV and AIDS?

answers on page 6

1. People age 25 and under account for what percentage of all new HIV diagnoses in the United States?

- A. 40% B. 15% C. 50% D. 25%

2. It is impossible to find HIV in:

- A. semen and vaginal secretions  
B. blood  
C. breast milk  
D. air

3. Which of these do not aid in reducing the risk of spreading HIV to someone else?

- A. using birth control pills, diaphragm  
B. abstinence  
C. using latex condoms or female condom  
D. all of the above help reduce risk

4. You can become infected with HIV by:

- A. hugging someone infected with HIV  
B. using the same toilet as an HIV-positive person  
C. being bitten by a mosquito  
D. sharing eating utensils or drinking glasses  
E. none of the above.

5. One might be showing positive signs of being infected with HIV:

- A. within a year  
B. in 10 years or more  
C. within a few months  
D. any of the above

True or False

Only gay males or drug users should worry about becoming HIV-positive.

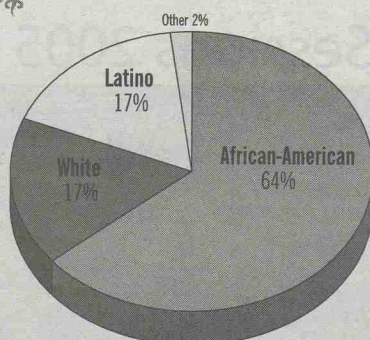
America's youth between the ages of 13 and 25 are becoming infected with HIV at a rate of 2 per hour.

There are medicines available for HIV-positive women that can reduce the chances of passing the virus to their offspring.

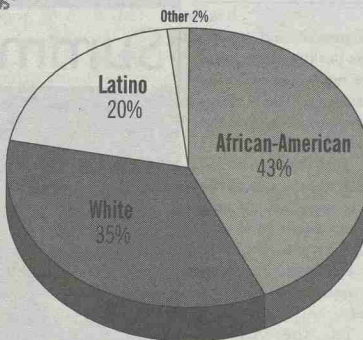
AIDS is an incurable disease transmitted primarily by unprotected sex or by sharing needles (used for drugs) with someone who has HIV.

New drug treatments exist that could possibly lower the number of deaths from AIDS in the United States and allow people with the virus to live longer.

HIV infections by gender — female (2001)



HIV infections by gender — men (2001)



CDC HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report 2001

## KILLING from page 6

the subject that we feel we have a right to speak out about it without reservation? Or is it because some of us only think we are well-educated about the subject?

Because of society's infinite number of clueless "experts," every day countless communities deal with denial, fear, intolerance, and ignorance about a disease that requires immense knowledge that is not being eagerly or seriously sought.

So many speak out about AIDS without really understanding the disease. Because these self-appointed experts either know too little or simply don't know enough, they make a plethora of irresponsible and inappropriate assumptions.

AIDS has been stigmatized as one of society's last taboos. It has been extremely difficult to discuss it openly and rationally, particularly within the African-American community. The truth is that we have hidden the existence, ignored the importance, and stifled the discussion of

AIDS in our homes, schools, workplaces, and communities for too long. Despite the fact that an abundance of education, promotion, and support programs specifically targeting AIDS are constantly being made available to us, I believe that the disease continues to be denied the urgency it rightfully deserves.

AIDS has become a pandemic that is rapidly destroying the lives of our people, here at home and abroad. It affects us not only on an international level, but also nationally and locally. AIDS is not just a crisis needing only to be dealt with in a far away place. You may see the AIDS epidemic and how it has wretchedly crippled the villages of Africa, but this problem is closer than we may think. It has found prey all across the United States, and even North Carolina. Right here in the Triangle, in fact. As a result of the spread and diagnoses of AIDS, the fatality rates for blacks are the highest in society. It has become one of the leading killers of black men.

So the issue at hand does, in

some way, involve you. If you are a black man or woman, or know a black man or woman, this concerns you. If you are African-American, period, this concerns you. For these reasons alone, get involved with acquiring and spreading as much knowledge as you possibly can. Become conscious of what is really going on. Don't let denial, fear, ignorance, and intolerance regarding this issue go on for any longer. It's time to become more educated, aware, sensitive, and tolerant of the situation facing us. It's time to put away the apathetic, careless, and judgmental attitudes and opinions. Believe it or not, we are all in this together. We, without a doubt, need each other to somehow change.

I am, therefore, asking you to engage in the forthcoming series devoted to AIDS awareness. In succeeding issues of the Nubian Message, our goal is to provide you the most necessary and pertinent information about this pressing issue we can manage. I personally feel that it is highly necessary to share

any and every thing I know and learn during this meaningful and life changing exploration of a problem so serious for our community and the world.

Among the several topics I envision for this upcoming series, I plan to report the bare-bones facts and information imperative to allowing our readers to better understand AIDS and its many underlying and subsidiary problems as well as addressing misconceptions about AIDS. In addition to that, we will take an in-depth look at both the history and causes of HIV/AIDS along with treatment options while addressing treatment disparities that should concern all people of color. The Nubian Message also plans to discuss, with intensity, the disturbing and exasperating impact the disease has had on society from local, national, and global levels and perspectives.

I sincerely encourage and challenge you to become involved in this important series.



**ATTENTION** from page 4

ample time for writing assignments and let the person choose which is comfortable, print or cursive.

A person with dysgraphia may need to break writing assignments into small tasks and give extra time for completion. He or she should also be provided practice tasks such as writing letters or keeping a diary.

Dyscalculia is a learning disability that affects math skills. A person with dyscalculia may have good speaking, reading and writing skills, but has trouble with counting and solving math problems. They may also have trouble reading numbers or recalling sequences of numbers.

Being chronically late and having trouble remembering a schedule are both problem areas

for people with dyscalculia.

There are ways to treat dyscalculia. A tutor can help a person focus on the specific problems and find help that is suitable for that individual. A person can find different ways to retain math facts, such as creating multiplication tables, instead of memorizing them.

Using more concrete, real-world examples for math problems are better than abstract examples when introducing new skills. When doing math, a person with dyscalculia should work with as few distractions as possible and have all necessary tools, such as pencils and paper on hand.

When a person has insufficient motor skill development, he or she has a condition called dyspraxia. People with dyspraxia have trouble

planning and completing motor tasks.

Approximately two percent of the general population is affected by this disorder, and males account for approximately 70 percent of them. Dyspraxia can affect functions as simple as brushing teeth or waving hello and goodbye.

There are four categories of dyspraxia. Ideomotor dyspraxia causes difficulty with motor tasks that require a single step like combing hair. Ideational dyspraxia hinders tasks with multiple steps like making a bed or buttoning a shirt. Individuals who cannot coordinate muscles movements for pronouncing words have oromotor dyspraxia. Constructional dyspraxia sufferers cannot determine spatial relationships like moving objects from one place to another.

Dyspraxia often occurs in individuals who also struggle with AD/HD, dyslexia and dyscalculia. Other difficulties these individuals face include depression, behavioral problems, low comprehension and low self-esteem.

There is no cure for this disorder, but it is treatable. A person with dyspraxia may work with a speech, physical, and occupational specialist to overcome struggles with the disorder.

For any of the aforementioned disorders, early detection is key, and patience and encouragement is vital with helping a person who has difficulty completing otherwise easy tasks.

**MARTIN** from page 7

American tradition, it has been the popular position that the female becomes the primary teacher of culture and historical relevance.

The advantage of hindsight allows us to see through the mist, and see things for what they really are. Willie Lynch's horrific account of breaking men and women into slaves testifies to the notion that, "the primary person to conquer and cognitively castrate is the black female."

We have to understand the historical demon of the struggle if we are to eventually progress. Lynch understood all too well that if you can masterfully manipulate the black female to subjective submission, then you have conquered the nation as a whole. He recognized that it is the black female that was the primary teacher of the next generation.

Just as Lynch understood and recognized that the black female was

the centralized point for domination, we as a people have to realize that it is the black woman that we have to reconcile back to her people, but more importantly, herself.

There is no greater testimony of this fact, than the Statue of Liberty. When weary men and women come from distant shores plagued with oppression seeking the thirst quenching rivers of freedom, the first symbol that reaches out in justice is a black woman.

The first beacon of hope they see as her sturdy hands hold out the lamp leading and guiding men and women to the shores of peace and tranquility is a black woman. When those tired men and women see that 151ft. woman clothed in honor and justice holding the Holy Scriptures in her left hand to cut through every oppressive tactic there is, they see the statue of the American dream, a black woman.

**We're always looking for writers. If you got game, and you want the rest of the campus to know you all that, you should be working here.**

**The history is being made this year. Next year, the campus will expect nothing less. Be part of Nubian's history.**

[response@nubian.ncsu.edu](mailto:response@nubian.ncsu.edu)

**MOSES** from page 7

American students on campus who comment they are the real deal, who comment they are true to their African-American race and yet, never attend a lecture or forum of any sort to learn about their culture.

As a matter of fact, I have discovered that at lectures, the same few students are there. I find that workers of the African-American Cultural Center are always in attendance, as are members of AASAC, SAAC, the Heritage Society, and some NPHC Greek Organizations. However, I rarely see freshmen attend these events; or worst, I do not see many upperclassmen attend these events.

Surprisingly, I have yet to see student body president Tony Caravano, who is African-American, for those who were unaware of this, attend a lecture or such. This surprises me because as an African-American, I feel he should set the standard for others to follow.

Overall, I feel the African-American community on campus needs to learn to balance social life with learning about their heritage. I

am not going to preach and say do not attend parties because they are a good end to the week and help to relieve the stresses of school. They are a good way of networking and are just fun.

However, I feel that we, as African-Americans, must support the programs that are designed to help us learn about our heritage in the past, present and future. We must support lectures to let our ancestors know that we appreciate all they have done for us.

We must let the African-American Culture Center know that we support their efforts in trying to enrich us with the knowledge of our people. But most of all, we must let ourselves know that we appreciate ourselves as a race of people that has been through it all and has yet to fall prey to the demands of the majority.

If you have any concerns about the next lecture, a list of events during Pan-Afrikan can be found on bulletin boards across the campus. You may also go to this website and find out location, times, and dates for these events. The website is <http://uab.ncsu.edu/paf/paf2005.htm>.

**Le Answers**

1. C False
2. D True
3. D True
4. E True
5. D True

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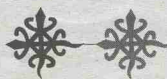
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# Voices

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April 5, 2005 • Nubian Message

## Changing Guard

EDITORIAL

• As you can probably tell, given edition 18, leadership of the Nubian Message has changed hands. This is a taste of what the new editors in chief are about.

The black newspaper. It was the black newspaper that gave voice to the abolitionists who brought down slavery. It is the black press that has historically served as a voice and venue for those who would not otherwise be able to speak, or whose opinions might be drowned out amid a cacophony of ill-informed ignorance from those who presume to know what's best for the black community.

It is against this backdrop that we publish. Nubian Message is unique in the sense that it's one of the few black-focused newspapers at a predominately white university. It is not, however, unique in being a newspaper focused on the needs and interests of black people. Indeed, the black press has always struggled to survive in the face of white oppression, amid questions about its relevance and necessity, and continual challenges to its very existence.

Our predecessors have allowed others to question our relevance and challenge our existence. We two, A. Michelle McLean and Tahniah L. Davis, arise from a new generation of Nubian editors who have no connection to the mistakes of this paper's past. We have behind us two solid years of publishing strong, relevant content. We've proven we know how to do it. We've proven we can do it. We've silenced our critics, and taken the haters head on. It's time for us to progress from step one to step two. Nubian Message is here, and we are not going anywhere.

Nubian publishes in the tradition of Fredrick Douglass' "North Star." We publish in the tradition of W.E.B. DuBois' "The Crisis." We publish in the tradition of Ida B. Wells Barnett's "The Free Speech and Headlight." We publish because it is our job to give voice to those on this campus who otherwise would have no voice.

We intend to start banging on doors and asking questions where no questions have before been asked. When we turn down a blind alley, we will marshal all of the tools and resources at our disposal to ensure that progress on this important issue continues. We will fight against any slight with the full force of a black newspaper that is finally, after thirteen years, at full strength. We will no longer turn a blind eye or a deaf ear to the obvious; nor will we allow our readers to be lulled into complacency.

Nubian is a publication by African-Americans for everyone. That is a message we intend to communicate to the entire campus. This is not a "black" newspaper that can only be read by "blacks." This is a student medium that can be read by the same people who read Technician and Americana: everyone.

With the community's support, the removal of the shackles that have been impeding us the past two years, and the grace of the most high, we will hand to our successors a newspaper that's even better than the one our predecessors are handing us.

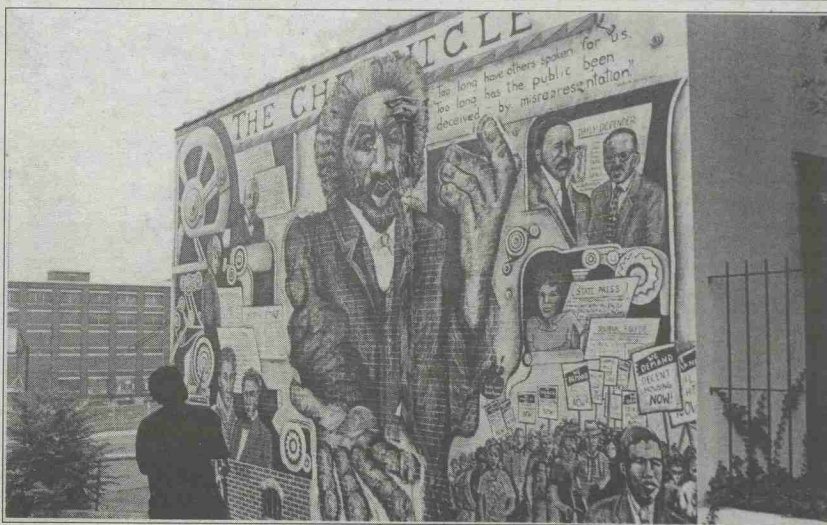
Just in case you misunderstood who we are, misunderstood what Nubian is, allow Muhammad Ali to summarize:

"I am America. I am the part you won't recognize. But get used to me. Black, confident, cocky; my name, not yours; my religion, not yours; my goals, my own; get used to me."

—from the desk of the Talented Tenth

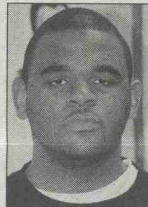
This "Talented Tenth," published as a prelude to Nubian's developing formal mission statement, is the platform on which McLean and Davis campaigned for Editor-in-Chief.

response@nubian.ncsu.edu



## Do blacks value culture?

• As Pan-African week commences, Tony Moses evaluates black students' lack of participation in educational events compared to strictly social events.



Antonio Moses  
STAFF WRITER

As the 2005 Pan-African festival begins at N.C. State, many programs will be hosted through this week to commemorate the forgotten African-American culture present at N.C. State. Events ranging from talent shows to lectures will be held to celebrate those African-American traditions that we hold so dear to our hearts.

However, which events will be attended the most? Will the events that show past inventors and current African-American scholars see a full attendance record, or will the parties and such sell out? In the end, why is it that African-American students attend parties and such events in record numbers and yet never attend lectures and other

learning events in that same capacity?

One theory has to do with publicity. I must admit, parties and such events are publicized a lot more heavily on this campus than lectures and similar events are. Ask any student and they will be able to tell you of an upcoming

party but sadly, not of an upcoming lecture, forum, conference or similar event.

Another theory that coincides with the theory of publicity is the fact that parties and such bring in more revenue. Due to the fact that organizations must pay to host a party, they are pretty much obligated to publicize events in order to retrieve the money they put out for the party.

I find it funny, however, that more students do not attend lectures. There are numerous African-

MOSES see page 6

## Why I love the word woman

• Arguably the most disenfranchised people in this country, black women are the glue which holds our community together.



Chad Martin  
STAFF WRITER

Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses, yearning to breathe free, the retched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, the tempest tossed, to me. I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

This is the poem engraved on the statue that symbolizes the liberty and justice for every person that has been mesmerized at its 151ft. stature. Freedom comes in many forms and fashions, but no symbol is recognized more than the Statue of Liberty. The statue is a pillar of hope, but her true significance and nature has been a mystery to many. Liberation has also come in many forms but none as unforgettable as the black woman.

The Statue of Liberty has been an enigmatic mystery to me for some time now. Over the course of my educational metamorphosis I have come to

realize that the truth will testify for itself if you are looking and searching hard enough for it. Serious and prudent research has led me to believe that the Statue of Liberty was in fact a black woman.

Bartholdi's true intentions for creating Lady Liberty were in honor of the

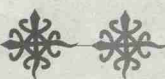
black union soldiers who fought so heroically to gain their freedom. What most people don't realize is that it was a black woman that was the poised masterpiece for the statue.

Lady Liberty has and will always testify to the fact that it is through the black woman that true liberation can come for the black community. The confrontational difference in the symbol of freedom lies within her grasp. We have to understand that the responsibility of passing on one's culture has been placed on the shoulders of the female.

It is not the lack of capability of the male's position or a lesser degree of intellect. In the African-

MARTIN see page 6





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## Culture

April 5, 2005 • Nubian Message

## AACC Events

## April 5

**Heritage Lecture**  
Dr. Herold Freeman  
7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
Multipurpose Room

## April 7

**Book Discussion**  
Sister Souljah  
Noon - 1:30 p.m.  
AACC 375

## April 21

**Heritage Lecture**  
Dr. Washington Warren  
7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
Multipurpose Room

## Pan-Afrikan Week

## Friday, Apr. 1

PanAfrikan American Idol

## Saturday, Apr. 2

Groove Theory

## Sunday, Apr. 3

Dance to the Beat of Time

## Monday, Apr. 4

Wrapping it up: You, Me and HIV

BRT: The African-American Experience — and you say forget?

## Tuesday, Apr. 5

African-American Creative Genius: Dr. Harold Freeman

First Class

## Thursday, Apr. 7

Sister Souljah: No Disrespect

New Moon Children

## Friday, Apr. 8

Something for the Soul

## Saturday, Apr. 9

Blackout & "The Classic" basketball tournament

NPHC Step Show

PanAfrikan American Idol

Afterparty

Inaugural Black Alumni Conference

## Sunday, Apr. 10

SAA-PAMS Worship Service

Soul Food Sunday

New Horizons Concert

Inaugural Black Alumni Conference

## Special Edition

Look for a special 12-page, full color edition of the Nubian Message with wall-to-wall coverage of Pan-Afrikan week.

Tuesday, Apr. 12.

## BRT shows off for spring

**Staff Report**  
NUBIAN MESSAGE

April 21 • 7 p.m.

**BRT**: Black  
Repertory  
Theatre

It's been awhile since Black Repertory Theatre put on a spring show, but the acting troupe will be returning Apr. 21 to talk about the African-American experience.

BRT's one-day production "The African-American Experience: and you say forget?" will open in the Talley Ballroom at 8 p.m.

"It traces the African-American experience in this country from slavery until now, chronicling the struggles, trials, joys and traumas of African-Americans during the time they've been here in America," Patricia Caple, BRT's adviser said.

Experience is a compilation piece assembled from various pieces significant to African-Americans, Caple said. The production samples from such well-known playwrights as Lorraine Hansberry, "A Raisin in the Sun"; several August Wilson plays; it incorporates poetry from Langston Hughes; and the ensemble is tied together with monologues and dialogues Caple and her late

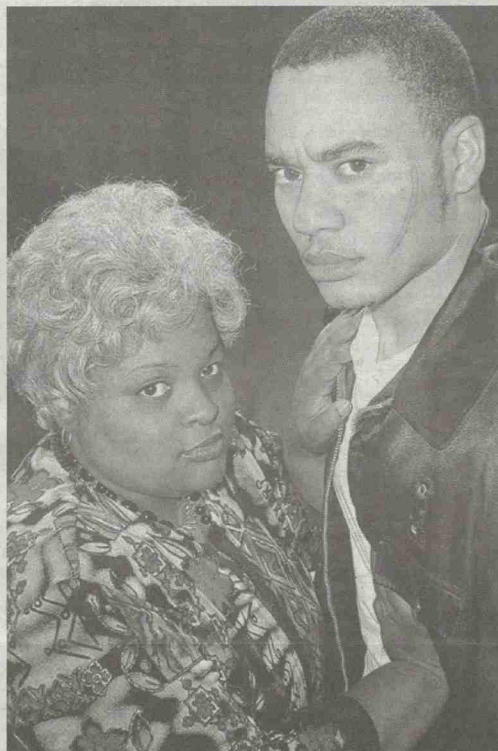
## and you say forget?

husband Dr. Horace B. Caple wrote.

"It's a very moving, powerful piece," Jelisha Gatlin, junior in sociology said of the play. "It will grip you." Gatlin played Rena in Caple's production of Wilson's "Jitney" in 2002.

Caple says she wanted to put on this show because it uses an entertaining format to deliver a history lesson some in the audience might not otherwise get.

"In order for people to intelligently deal with their lives, they have to understand history. If they understand history, they can understand the present, and understanding the present, they can project the future," Caple said.



Alaina Pierce and Damion Sledge from "King Hedley II" courtesy, University Theatre

## First black billionaire: Reginald Louis

**Cedric Pickett**  
STAFF WRITER

In summary of Reginald Lewis: this is an exemplary role model. Reginald Lewis is so profound because he used extraordinary intelligence, athleticism and financial skills that propelled him from a working class family to one of the Forbes America's richest black man in 1993.

In addition, he accomplished this before the impact of integration, the Civil Rights Movement or Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It was still during a time when segregation was present and a black person still could not share the same water fountain with a white person, let alone share the same opportunity to be a billion dollar tycoon.

Reginald Lewis was born in East Baltimore on the Dec. 7, 1942. He was not born in a family of school intelligence and financial wealth beyond measure. His family was a blue collar, strong working type.

One can say that his family's hard working drive was passed down to Reginald Lewis. In his pursuit for excellence and personal glory, Lewis transferred that passion into his classroom, playing field and boardroom.

Athletics was one of his prime areas of achievement in high school. On the playing field, Lewis earned four varsity

letters in baseball as a shortstop, three in football as a starting quarterback and two varsity letters in basketball as a forward. In all three sports he was named captain. Reginald Lewis was also elected vice-president of the student body. During his high school years, he worked nights and weekends as a waiter.

In 1965, Lewis received his bachelors in Virginia State College. He was accepted into Harvard without an application.

He first worked as an attorney with the firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison until 1970.

The aspect of Reginald Lewis's life that has made him a legend in black history was his outstanding financial skills in the boardroom and on the street. No, I am not talking about the "streets" as in drug dealing. I am speaking of Wall Street.

Lewis was then a partner in Murphy, Thorpe & Lewis, the first black law firm on Wall Street. He became an elite at Wall Street dealing by making over 1 million dollars through trading.

His success in dealing and creating opportunities did not stop there. He bought the McCall Pattern Co. for 22.5 million, supervised it to record earnings, and later sold it for 65 million dollars.

Lewis's greatest business move was

his ownership of Beatrice International Food in 1989. It was a global giant with 64 companies in 31 countries, for just under 1 billion dollars. Lewis outbid several multinational companies, including Citicorp, who had plenty of accountants, lawyers and financial advisers.

Beatrice International Food became the largest black owned and managed corporation in the United States. The corporation also produced 2.2 billion dollars in revenue during Lewis's management.

Lewis was a member of the American and National Bar Association and the National Conference of Black Lawyers. He was on the board of directors of the New York City Off-Track Betting Corp., the Central Park Conservance, the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and WNET-Channel 13 and the public television station in New York.

Although Reginald Lewis was capable of breaking the financial chains of a blue-collar generation and racism, he was not capable of beating brain tumor on Jan., 19, 1993 at the early age of 50.

He shows us how we can be anything we want to be regardless of the challenges we may face in life. He was a great lawyer, entrepreneur, philanthropist, CEO, husband, father, son and a friend to many.