

The Financial Aid Crunch...the Movie

When last we met, I had begun to ponder the "things nobody wants to talk about." Well, I'll start with a tale of magnificent proportions and certainly something that nobody wants to talk about, a really bad movie.

I arrived here in essence, ignorant of the college routine especially where finances were concerned, and in all honesty, I am speaking specifically of financial aid.

I have classified this experience as either an out-of-body experience or reminiscent of a movie that goes on much too long, like the Energizer Bunny advertising campaign. Sometimes you just have to say enough is enough.

"The Financial Aid Crunch—The Movie," is one of those films that could have been a contender for an Oscar, with its cast of thousands; intriguing plot; and thrilling twists and turns. The only problem I seemed to have with the film is that while it

promised much more than it delivered, I found that the ending simply ruined the entire film.

After the main character had jumped through all the appropriate hoops to put the plot

into motion, I found the dialogue of the supporting cast weak, and sometimes inconceivable. And while the plot line was realistic, (maybe too much so), and the story was billed as a romantic, true-to-life, success story, it quickly turned into a horror or psychological thriller that is a more accurate description.

It seemed that the perpetrator of this tale decided that instead of following a successful movie format, such as those mentioned above, it was deemed that something was lacking in that format. It was also decided that in order to "boost" popularity, the

heroine would be pitted against the system.

Well, it is needless to reiterate the entire plot, but I am sure that there are many of you who can relate to a movie experience of

when you look at "the bottom line", they are in the business of making "our money."

Believe it or not, there are still many of us walking around with no time or money for such trivial

"The bottom line" is this, with all the other problems we face in "this world," something that is simply a matter of formulas, should not become the fairy tale turned nightmare that was produced by this institution.

Hopefully you can relate to this column, and while bad movies can hardly hold a candle to reality, there is a very important point hidden in the message; think about it.

On a kinder and gentler note, my tip for the week is to never underestimate the importance of cultural interaction. This campus is a wealth of cultural diversity, to which I say, embrace it. By understanding the cultural pride of others, we are better able to appreciate the beauty of our own culture.

Have a good semester; release some pressure and work it out! Peace.

No She Didn't with Tonya Crew



it so aptly illustrates, but I can definitely guarantee that its a film you would not want to live through twice.

As a novice critic, I fail to see where a lot of the dilemmas created in the film were anything but diversionary and frivolous. I guess the film producers wouldn't feel a need to apologize, because

this type. I have to say that I recommend the movie, for no other reason than the lesson

pursuits. So hopefully, with the next film release date, just around the corner, the producers will realize that even though they seemingly begrudge us our finances, we do not wish to be treated like ignorant, young children being led around by our noses.

We recognize the financial clout that we possess and understand that while this may be one of the better movie making establishments, there are others, who with our patronage, would profit and eventually be able to better compete with such a giant of the industry.

Why Blacks Should Remember the Past

By Jarvis T. Harris
Ink Staff Writer

"Live today. Forget the past!" I hear this all the time from certain elements of our society. "Blacks need to stop thinking about slavery and the oppression of the past 400 years."

That's another famous claim that I continuously hear. But none of this could be more erroneous than the Board of Trustees members speaking on the lack of a need for a more diverse curricula at UNC. Blacks are continuously asked to forget their history. We should never forget our history.

First, blacks already had very little knowledge of themselves before arriving on the wretched shores of this country. Asking us to forget the past is tantamount to asking us to forget what we do know about ourselves.

Denying who we are can't, and never will, lead to anything

productive or fulfilling. Asking us to stop looking back is to say that, "we should not want to be proud of who we are and what we have endured to get this far." In the early days of our existence here in the United States, we didn't do anything to be ashamed of.

In fact, everytime white society tried to take a step, we were right there paving the way for their successes—never reaping the benefits of our own labor.

Maybe other segments of our society should stop looking back, because the history that I read and understand says that they, whites, are the transgressors, not African Americans. Maybe if we stop reflecting on the past, they will stop feeling guilty. If that is the case, we should never stop turning our heads to the past.

Second, many African Americans wonder why we are in such a sad state today. Well,



Jarvis Harris

that question can easily be answered by looking into the historical crystal ball. Anytime you start two centuries behind the status quo, you will need centuries to catch up.

I am amazed that we have made the strides that we have, in such a short period of time.

Our condition today is deeply rooted in our past in this country. We did not come here like European immigrants with hopes

and desires for a better life; we came here with chains shackled to our bodies, while we endured every kind of inhumanity possible.

We could not just assimilate, because we were black and African — not pale and European. No matter how hard you try, you cannot hide your blackness. You cannot hide your skin tone like a religion or faith. Being black was seen as a reason to handicap African Americans.

We need to look back for an understanding that this is very much the case today and will almost certainly be the case for years to come until we unite to fight that ideology. The arrival of the "Blackness" was the greatest thing to happen to this country.

Finally, we need to look back, because if we do not, the same thing will happen again — slavery. Maybe in a different form, but it will happen.

As a matter of fact, we are enslaved now.

Look around your community. Who owns the stores and shops? Non-African Americans — economic slavery.

Look on the street corner. Who is selling the dope? That's right — brothers and sisters — mental salvery.

Look at your evening news. Who's getting killed by the dozens? Once again, the answer is brothers and sisters.

Looking back to the past shows us that while the mechanisms may change, the institutions do not. If we give up our past, we might blindly think we are making progress. A careful look at the past will show us that we are still just slaves, but to a different type of master.

If we don't look back to study our mistakes and those of others, we are doomed to die still cradled in the arms of bondage.