Typical College Life

By Selina Hines
STAFF WRITER

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is an ideal place for black students to get the so-called "real college experience". We have the opportunity to acquire a first rate, well-rounded undergraduate education and express our blackness while being exposed to diverse cultures. Yet often we forget a crucial part of our own culture and educational experience.

Once we arrive, the initial challenge and thrill of adjusting to new found freedom quickly subsides. We usually calm down and commence to taking care of business.

And so, we fall into the routine of going to class and working, eating and sleeping when possible, and of course, waiting for the weekend to come, which never arrives quickly enough. Because we work and play so hard during the week, we usually need one day to rest and recuperate, which is usually Sunday.

But what about church? Are the academic and social parts of college life more important than the spiritual aspect? We can stay up until 7:00 a.m. studying for an 8:00 exam, so why do we find it so difficult to get up and go to 11:00 service after getting in at 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning? We are submerged in an academic climate which encourages us to think independently and analyze. We sweat for a degree that will keep us in a state of financial stability, where our physical desires and comforts can be maintained.

However, we cannot lose sight of our spiritual well-being. We cannot forget that our mothers and grandmothers woke us up at the crack of dawn on Sunday mornings for a reason. We have not forgotten the reason. Even when we lay in bed all day on Sunday, we get that feeling; that feeling that tells us that even though we aced that last exam, and even though we had fun at that party, that something ain't right. The feeling tells us something is missing. We had that feeling at home before we came to UNC, it is a part of who we are as black students and as black people who draw on spiritual strength.

Don't fight that feeling that draws you closer to the Creator. Listen to it.

Listen.

The Black Ink's Creative Edge

Title: Techical Noise BY KIMSHALA WILSON
"The more advanced the knowledge and technology, the more primative the fear."
Black and White copy of 15x18 color painting

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