

## BY CHOICE OR BY CONSEQUENCE

By Vadrin Colvin and Natasha Etienne

Can you tell Fayetteville State University is a historically black college by walking through the campus? I can't. As a second semester freshman, I find no signs of pride in the historically Black foundation of this school. Unlike other historically Black universities, I see no statues of our heroes and sheroes. I don't see Malcolm, Martin, Medgar, Maya, or Angela along the pathways of the campus. I see no documented speeches of the great orators, ministers, and authors showcased in any building, other than the library (maybe). The list of noted Black engineers, mathematicians, and scientists are endless. So why haven't I read about their achievements on the walls of SBE or Lyons Science buildings? I see no banners displayed that represent any of the hundreds of nations in Africa and the Caribbean. Shouldn't we know what the flags represent-considering we do call ourselves African-Americans?

Instead, we have faded pictures of Avon flowers plastered on the walls of the TSA reading lounge. My question is what do those pictures have to do with the humanities? I would personally donate the covers of my Essence, Ebony, and YSB magazines to bring that room alive with a little color.

The lack of enthusiasm and school pride that some students have in FSU has to be addressed as well. We, the staff of the Bronco's Voice, had planned to dedicate this issue to the Black Woman in celebration of Black History Month. We asked (practically begged) the university community to submit poems, drawings, essays, anything that they wanted to see in this edition. And what did we get? Absolutely nothing, except the poems we

usually receive. Are we here by choice or by consequence?

Don't get me wrong, I have lackadaisical days myself, but this campus has been sleepwalking since my first semester here. I hear the complaints. I hear the "we don't have this" and the "we don't have that" from students and professors alike. Can we blame the problem on the lackluster performance of a sports team? I don't think so. FSU fails at promoting Black education on a whole scale. African-American History is not honored as part of the core curriculum. The African diaspora is not offered as a class. One of the purposes of a Black college is to further educate the students on their past, a past that has not been accurately depicted. The Black college should uplift, instill a sense of knowledge and pride in not only the American part of us, but the African part as well. Having visited the campuses of other historically Black colleges such as NC A&T, JCSU, Bennett, and Morgan, I know the feeling of a warm, cultural atmosphere that nurtures and respects the achievements of African people.

Greek organizations are not as "hype" here as they are on other campuses, and let's be real: that is one reason many of us choose to attend a Black college. Skimming through the FSU catalog as a prospective student, I wondered if the university had Black fraternities and sororities at all.

We can no longer sit back and complain about the things we don't like. It's time to make your presences known and speak up. Only then can changes be made. So unless you're ready to do something about the things you don't like, Shut Up!

"School: I think I should stay in school because I want to get an education and learn to get a job. I want to get my own house and learn for myself."

Rosetta Harris, First Grade, Mary McAuthur Elem School

## Bronco Pride

By Deitric Davis

The other day a question was raised about the identity of Fayetteville State University. However, a majority of the conversation was about how FSU will be represented in the future. Are we talking about 10, 15, or 20 years down the line? If you haven't noticed, the future is only a day away!

Okay. Pop quiz! Who is that makes up the various student organizations, who puts on the athletic uniforms, who marches and plays at the games and who is it that goes to the student center to see how the rest of the student body is living - People with School Pride. What about the rest of you who go to class and then call it a day?

I understand that we all have our own "calling" in life. But just because you don't have the gift of athleticism, political savvy, or you have decided to retire from your musical career.

To those men and women who chose to represent F.S.U. to their utmost ability, we salute you and wish you continued success. These individuals have rearranged their lives because they believe in what they do, they enjoy the challenges, and they like what they do! They do this by choice. Do we not owe it to ourselves and to them to show more support?

An identity is achieved and maintained through pride -something this particular campus is lacking! You can hear "Aggie Pride" louder than A & T's band The Sound Machine at halftime shows. "Eagle Pride" can be found way beyond the confines of North Carolina Centrals "Nest".

"Bronco Pride?" I was at a basketball game, and it was in the closing moments of the half. The Broncos were coming down the court attempting to win the game. For a brief moment it looked as if they had stumbled. At that instant I yelled my rally call "Bronco Pride" to the team! (I felt it was the thing to do.) So why did people turn to look at me as if I had fallen and bumped my head and offer a barage of obscenities as a cushion?

Around this campus, most of us exhibit more pride for our former high school as opposed to the school we now attend. Let's face it people, we are at Fayetteville State University, a school that is as rich with its own history as other schools. Your time here is going to follow you for the rest of your life by means of memories shared with your classmates, transcripts, and finally your diploma, -these are the best years of your lives

Do we let these times pass us by like A gentle summer breeze. No! Grab hold of the years because one day, your memories will be all that you have. We are all here to obtain a degree or two. We do not spend all of our time in class or doing homework in the library because I've looked for you in there. Surprise! And we do not spend the rest of our time at work: there is an occasional day or two off.

When it's time to have fun, let's do it together with a capital "F" and a style that is all our own. We may not have all the resources that other schools have but does that mean we still can't have fun? If variety is the "Flava that you savour," make the powers that be move. The feeling from the Faculty is that, "If you're happy, Hey, We've done our job!" They will work no harder than they are pushed.

Now once we get this variety, we must do the things necessary to keep the trust that has been bestowed upon us. In essence, "once you've got it, take care of it!" I issue these challenges:

1. On campus students: make the off campus students aware of the activities and make them want to get involved to see what they have been missing.
2. Commuters: You represent 3/4 of the student population. If you leave campus faster that it took you to get here, then you're cheating yourself.
3. Upper Classmen: Show the under classmen how it's done so that one day they may carry on the torch.
4. Under Classmen: Let the upper classmen know that you are here and you're not the ones to be slept on.
5. Administrators, Faculty, Staff and Alumni: Make us want to carry on the Legacy!

If you don't have a clue, here's what you need to do. First of all, respect yourself and those around you. Secondly, take care of business in a responsible manner. Finally have pride in your abilities and within yourself (it was your decision to attend Fayetteville State).

The past has been written and recorded, what about the future? Go into the future with pride, Bronco Pride. We are the only ones who can do it.

## Friends for Life

by Cherie' Hinton

As I entered college for the first time, I had many fears and anxieties. Just a few were the fears of not fitting in, of being away from home, and concerns about making new friends. Fortunately, I was able to overcome most of my fears with the help of three wonderful, young ladies... Tasheba Dukes, Tenesia Kollock, and Dameka Watson. Many obstacles faced us because of our inexperience and naivety in ranging from registering the men of F.S.U.. ever, with the help of the strong bond that developed between us, we overcame obstacles. Many nights laughed and joked together but later we found that we were closer because of the tears we shed. We now appreciate each other because they have become the women we are our best friends you will ever find on this campus. We stand proud and proclaim to any and all men, that there are still some "good girls" left. There are some women who deserve a man's respect because these women respect themselves. Together we learned these principles and together we will set an example for other young ladies as they follow in our footsteps.



From left to right: Cherie' Hinton, Dameka Watson, Tenesia Kollock, Tahsheba Dukes

s u e s ,  
t i o n t o  
H o w -  
G o d a n d  
v e l o p e d  
c a m e t h e  
w e g e t h e r ,  
w e g r e w  
t e a r s a t e  
t h o s e s h a p e d  
u s t o d a y .  
t h e c l o s e  
f i n d o n

I love you girls!  
Cherie' Hinton