

Letter From Editor



Greetings Broncos!

On the night of February 27th I sat anxious and hopeful behind my laptop screen, continuously refreshing my Twitter timeline to keep tabs on the updates for the Lady Broncos CIAA Championship basketball game against Bowie State University. I could only imagine the exhilaration felt by the mass of Broncos who braved the jungle of the annual CIAA tournament to support our lovely ladies. From the looks of Twitter, the girls fought a long, hard game, clenching their lead and fighting to stay afloat. I've seen Bowie State play and although I am not a basketball expert, I believe they are pretty good. In the end, I don't believe statistics or skills mattered... It was about who wanted that championship title. And our Lady Broncos demonstrated how badly they craved it. This brings me to examine how important drive is, when compared to talent.

If you are a student at Fayetteville State University, obviously somebody thought you were good enough to have the opportunity to pursue a higher education. Some of us are not as good at Algebra or English as others, and some of us may not enjoy waking up early for that Biology class or studying late at night for that history exam. Our talents and abilities vary and are not always entirely responsible for our success. Often times, it is the person who lives, eats, and breathes the essence of his or her passions and dreams... that gets to live them. You must take control of your goals and drive them like your vehicle. When you get in your car, you don't place the key in the ignition and expect the car to just go wherever you wish, you guide it the entire way, paying attention to stoplights, caution lights, and avoiding people who threaten to cut you off. You don't go above the speed limit, but you don't go too slow either and if you don't budget your bank account (time), you won't have enough for gas (energy).

Two years ago, I had a great conversation with the Senior Marketing VP of a national publication, when I attended a gala in New York City. "How do you get hired here after college?" I asked, in amazement of Manhattan. "You have to demand to be hired," she responded. That night I wondered about her answer. As a freshman, I couldn't imagine walking into a public relations agency and forcing somebody to put me on their payroll, so I dissected her words. Today, I am fully aware of what she meant. You must work and work and work, and after you are done working, you must still think of how you can work better in the future.

The semester is not done until it's done, just as you cannot take your hands off the wheel until your car is in park at your desired location. You wouldn't just stop and get out of your vehicle in the middle of the highway, so don't do it to your dreams. Drive... Drive... Drive!

L'Asia B. Brown

Women's History Month

by Shade' Slade

Ladies were you even aware that there is a whole month dedicated to you? The celebration of Women's History month takes place during the month of March, recognizing the honorable woman of our country's history. North Carolina figures like Nobel Prize-winning scientist Gertrude Elion and United States First Lady Dolly Madison have made historical contributions to the growth of North Carolina.

The celebration of women's history in our country began in the year 1980; however the initial time frame was only that of a week. It wasn't until the seven year anniversary that the weeklong celebration became Women's History Month, still celebrated 30 years later in 2010.

Governor Bev Perdue calls upon citizens of the state to observe and commemorate Women's History Month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities. On the third Wednesday of each month FSU'S College of Arts and Sciences Women's History Month committee will host a gathering, open to all students, faculty, staff and the community to provide an opportunity to network and discuss topics of interest. More information is available on www.uncfsu.edu, keyword Women's History Month. Events during March 2010 include a presentation titled "Rabbit Proof Fence" delivered by Dr. Micki Nyman on March 17. All events will be held in the Lyons Science Annex at 2:00 pm with served refreshments. See you there!

The Professor Speaks, FSU Listens

by Latasia Jones

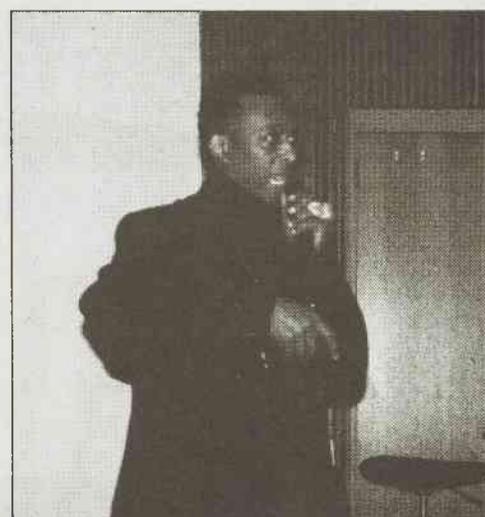


photo by Tia Gilliam

Former Public Enemy member, Professor Griff, dropped in February 19th to encourage students to take responsibility for their education and the community around them. The affair was presented by Bronco men and classified as a Black History Month cultural event for freshman seminar students. Public Enemy, a hip hop group known for their controversial and politically charged lyrics, showed interest in the African American community. The group used their music to reach out to such communities and stress the importance

of education and getting involved. Griff, whose given name is Richard Griffin, strived to convince students to step up and make themselves the best person they can be. He suggested, in order to build the self, we must first build a strong foundation. He went on to explain how African American history is the key to establishing a stable base worthy of building on. "Take the books off the shelves and let's start building a foundation," said Griffin.

Senior Willis Covington opened for Griffin and shared with the audience an original poem titled "Wisdom, Knowledge, and Understanding". She then went on to introduce Professor Griff as a writer, producer, and motivational speaker.

Motivation is exactly what he provided for Freshman Brittany Creecy. "I didn't want to go, but when I left the program I felt uplifted... like I should be more focused and involved." Griff explained the importance of education no matter who you are or what you believe in. He used this same principle to explain how the music industry has changed. "Hip Hop doesn't have a love-hate relationship with education... it has a wonderful relationship," said Griffin. Music reflects the issues of a time period. From slave era music to the blues, preaching, to Negro spirituals, "Hip Hop combined it all like gumbo... and became the voice of the people," said Griff. Hip Hop groups, like Public Enemy spoke out on political issues and encouraged listeners to educate themselves. This type of music convinced people to go out and vote, to get involved in their government and community. Hip Hop motivated, uplifted even.

Professor Griff's passion for hip hop was quite evident. It was also easy to see how he detests many of the current images associated with African Americans, due to the turn the music industry has taken. He showed little interest in current music artists and their work. Shortly after referring to rap artist, Lil Wayne, as Lil Wendy, Griff said, "we have rap music today not hip hop." The speaker went on to explain that even still, hip hop is not dead. "It is an energy that cannot be created nor destroyed". His theory is that big icons in the music industry today are being paid to keep African Americans down. He also believes rap music consists of nothing but sex, money, drugs, and the degradation of women. Professor Griff went on to say it lacks content and many rap artists glorify selling drugs, being from the hood, and staying in the hood, as if it should be all African Americans' version of the American dream. Referencing the N word, Griff asks, "Why do we turn around... and identify ourselves with these words? Why do we continue to buy into the hype?"

Griffin stressed how important it is to soak up as much knowledge as possible. In his view, advertising agencies deceive without people even knowing it. Due to a lack of education people tend to miss these things. Griff's presentation opened student's eyes in more ways than one. He provided information that, as students, citizens, and humans, we sometimes don't want to believe, but can't always afford to ignore.

If you'd like to submit a letter to the editor please write L'Asia Brown at lbrown15@broncos.uncfsu.edu

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