

Jackson values being an intern

by Sara Williams

An internship with the local CBS TV affiliate has brought Robin Kay Jackson closer to her dream of becoming a television producer.

Jackson, a junior from Wilmington, is operating a camera for WFMY where she is working for The Good Morning Show. She underwent two weeks of training, and she has to report to the set by 5 a.m. each morning.

Jackson considers her time at WFMY to have been invaluable.

"I think it's an excellent experience that will help in the long run. Either if I stay here or go on to Atlanta, I will have that experience. My opinion for interns is that if you're really interested, go for it!" she said.

The path to the internship began with a tip from Dr. Helen Trobian, director of the Interdisciplinary Studies Program. Jackson contacted WFMY's production coordinator at the time, Ms. Debbie Mason. After submitting a resume, references and application, Jackson got the job.

Production manager Jay Wilkins offered her morning work or a position with News 2 Tonight.

Jackson has learned a great deal about the pressure involved in television work.

A tight situation made Jackson "so nervous, one time I even cried."

Jackson said, "They wanted me to get a shot of (reporter) Mike Hogwood, and I wasn't moving the camera fast enough. Eric Albright, the floor director, told me to move. Then he came over and took the camera and finished

the shot.

"I was embarrassed and scared at the same time. He had yelled at me, and everyone, including the guests, was looking at me. Then tears flowed from my eyes. He apologized after the show, and everyone told me, 'Don't worry about it; it happens.' He stayed on my case until three weeks ago. I think it was good that he stayed on my case. I would still be slow if he didn't."

The internship has taught Jackson to think like a professional.



TV Intern: Junior Robin Kay Jackson is serving an apprenticeship as a camerawoman at WFMY-TV. (photo by Waller)

"School Daze" will awaken sleepers

by Charlicie Pettway

"School Daze," the first movie that confronts issues that are directly geared to African-American college students, is in a class by itself.

Spike Lee, writer, producer and director of "School Daze," stated in the February issue of Black Radio Magazine that he thinks the movie may upset many black people. The reason is because of its "depiction of race and class." "I think it's going to bother a whole lot of black people. Not that they don't know that it's true. It's the fact that it's being exposed for the world to see that will bother them," stated Lee. He added that he hopes people will see the movie and come to realize that "there are many things that keep us divided."

Many Belles, however, did not find the movie upsetting. On campus, the movie caused a sense of awakening. The Belles felt as if Lee wanted more than to entertain; he sought to make a movie with a message.

"I feel as though the movie expressed that blacks haven't truly awakened yet or recognized who they really are,"

stated sophomore Taimia Bell of Winston-Salem. Bell said she believes the reason black people do not have a strong feeling of self is because of scanty education.

"In order to understand where we are going, we must know our history to understand where we are today," stated Bell. The movie was not what she expected. "I thought it was going to be entertaining. I didn't know that it was going to represent values and morals," explained Bell.

From "School Daze" Bell discovered three themes involving black people: 1) Black people are unique. "Our race is not the minority but rather the majority. We come in a variety of colors as well as our hair and its texture," said Bell; 2) Blacks must stop being prejudiced toward each other. "Our problem is not that whites are prejudiced against us, but we are prejudiced against each other. Jews and Italians stick together and that is why they are successful," stated Bell. 3) Some Greek organizations have lost touch with their roots. "Some fraternities and sororities have lost focus of

the true meaning of brotherhood and sisterhood. Instead they have acquired a sense of violence which teaches the abused to be abusive. This is far from the legacy that fraternities and sororities had in store for us," Bell stated.

In spite of negative reviews from mostly white critics, Belles enjoyed "School Daze" and Lee's purpose to unite the race by showing the division was effective.

"I thought it was a good movie. I thought it was going to be a comedy. A lot of people had high expectations. I didn't know it was going to have a message in it," said sophomore Amia Croom of Boston.

Not all of the Belles were impressed with the movie. "I thought 'School Daze' was pretty good," stated Nichelle Green, a sophomore from Montclair, N.J. "I didn't like the ending. It seemed as if it wasn't finished. It looked as if there was more to be said," Green stated. Green related to certain parts of the movie. "I could relate to the guy that was afraid that if his girlfriend went on line and made it she would change," said Green. Green stated that

if Lee based his movie on his experience of Morehouse Homecoming Weekend why didn't he mention Bennett College? "Morehouse's sister school should have been acknowledged," complained Green.

"I thought it was a very educational film. It was an eye-opener for the black American public," stated sophomore Patricia Moody. She reacted to the movie's treatment of "good" and "bad" hair. "Blacks don't really want to relate to their true heritage. All the chemicals we put in our hair is not its natural state," complained Moody. "It is not our fault. Some white Americans have always thought of us as bad anyway," said Moody. In Moody's opinion, straight hair is seen as "good" and nappy hair is seen as "bad."

"Blacks are not only discriminated against by whites because of their skin color, but blacks are discriminated against by other blacks," said Moody. She pointed out that African-Americans have become too settled or "complacent" in their attitudes and have forgotten where they are from.

Moody talked about the protest scene where the Jigaboos marched against apartheid and the Wannabees did not care to protest. "Until blacks are free, none of us is," stressed Moody. She thought the ending was "beautiful." "The sunrise at the end was very symbolic. When I think of sunrise, I think of awakening from a very deep sleep. You can just tell that at the end they (the characters) had a new look on life," said Moody.

Moody thought that the movie was made for the black audience. "White people wouldn't understand," stated Moody. She said the movie stimulated the African-Americans to end color and class discrimination. "This was a stepping-stone. Now it is time for black Americans to act upon these discriminations in a positive manner," stated Moody.

In the February issue of Essence, Lee stated, "I don't show all this divisiveness just to say we're divided. I hope by showing it that somehow we can look at the stuff and see that we need to try to come together if we're going to do anything with the race."



Ski Sojourn: Seniors Karen Horne (left) and Karla Williams (right) enjoyed the college-sponsored outing to Boone in February. (photo by Waller)

Ski journey applauded by Belles hitting slopes

a column
by Karen Horne

I give a definite "thumbs up" to Herb Jackson, athletic director on the Feb. 19 ski trip to Mill Ridge Ski Lodge in Boone. It was my first time skiing and I had a great time. I believe that all of the students who participated had a good time as well.

In the beginning it seemed like it was going to be a Murphy's Law adventure where everything that could go wrong did. At first, the van couldn't get started and then we got a jump and when we stopped for gas, it cut off again. But we finally got on the road in no time at all. The bus ride was rather short, only about two hours. The school cafe had packed lunches for everyone, but most people brought their own assortment of munchies. We arrived at the lodge about an hour before it was time to pick up the rented equipment and hit the slopes. There was a hint of disappointment at the slope because there

wasn't a lot of snow. It had been very warm the past few days, and the lodge had to use man-made snow. But everyone was still excited about the whole thing.

We picked up our boots, skis and poles and headed for the slopes. I was pleased that the money we paid covered everything and we didn't have to pay when we got there. Some people on the trip had been skiing before and were familiar with the sport, but others took lessons and others just went for themselves. Jackson had brought along a camcorder to make sure he captured the most memorable falls on tape. Our first lesson was to learn how to stop. This had to be the best part, watching one of us flying down the beginner's slope, screaming frantically because she was nervous and had not gotten the hang of it. But as the day progressed, learning to stop was nothing. I had fun, too, watching the really brave first-timers take their share of "plops" in the snow.

After about the first two

hours, some of us stopped for a while to get something to drink or a quick bite to eat. Then it was time again to go back out and try to conquer the slope. I watched in admiration of the brave first-timers who went on the chairlift and came down the steep slope with relative ease. I confined myself to just learning how to use the rope-tow that pulled me up the beginners' slope and stopping. Before I realized it, it was time to go, but my tired body was well aware that it had been time to go.

Finally, we had all returned the equipment and reloaded the van and the other two cars. On the ride back we stopped at McDonald's and rode briefly through Appalachian State and then headed for the highway. When we got back to school, all of us were pretty tired, but it was for a very good reason.

I was happy to see that a trip Bennett sponsored turned out to be really nice. Students complain that there is nothing to do, but this trip proved otherwise.

Satellite

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years ago, and Scott says that the satellite is crucial because this is such a major resource for the college.

The first broadcast of the satellite dish was of Spike Lee's live teleconference regarding his movie "School Daze" on Feb. 16. Viewing areas for the broadcast were set up in the Thomas F. Hol-

gate Library and Annie Merner Pfeiffer Chapel.

Diplomat

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quality of the work here. He just felt that there was a need for more awareness of international affairs. The people here at Bennett sensed that and he thought the State Department should take advantage of it," says Ryan.