

Blind Ambition

Now that Valentine's day and Spring Break are over, we can move on to business as usual.

So far, it's been a rotten semester and believe me, cynic that I am, rotten could imply, for regular people, catastrophic. But I won't linger on the bad, so let's proceed with the business of living.

Recently, I was in the Print Shop here on campus, and standing near me was a young lady with her guide dog. Quietly observing this young woman, it struck me—out of the blue—at how different her life must be from mine. Later that evening, the young woman's image appeared to me once again.

While I could have concluded several things from my encounter that afternoon in the Print Shop, what stood out the most in my mind was this: "it is truly amazing how we go from day-to-day, taking for granted the fact that those of us with vision "can see."

Moments after this conclusion, I realized something else. "Even more amazing, than my first conclusion, is the fact

that there are many of us with vision who still can't see."

Since my encounter with this young woman, I have formed the opinion that no words "she" (the young woman) hears, or things, which she smells, or touches, go by without great significance. While

necessary survival tools of this young woman —touching, hearing, smelling—that I envy her.

And because time speeds by and precious moments get lost due to a "lack of vision," I would like to share an exercise

want you to see if your senses can detect a dual dynamic, which exists in the absence of visual assistance. Put on your favorite CDs, talk to friends and wander around your suite or room if you like. Remember, however, "friends don't let friends drive blindfolded" okay? I think

and to wish her the very best in her bright future.

As for my usual tip, I want to share with those of you, who would like to know it, my E-Mail gibbs. And for those of you who don't have E-Mail, wise up.

I am at crewdesu @n Superhighway is here. This is a wonderful resource offered by the Office of Information Technology (free of charge) and there are mini-courses offered on how to use the system. Plus, if you catch anyone in the computer lab having a go at the E-Mail function, it has been my experience that they are more than happy to share their working knowledge to get you started. It's an easy way of communicating with your friends. And if you really put some effort into it, you can travel the world.

Until next time, read between the lines. Sayonara and peace.

No She Didn't with Tonya Crew

"we," on the other hand, banter playfully back and forth, most of the messages behind what we hear, smell and touch, get lost in the fury of living.

For example, when popcorn burns, we know that it smells bad. But how many of us stop to think about why it really burned in the first place? Furthermore, we don't even look beyond the basic things in life such as a look or touch, which can mean so much more than "hello."

In fact, either one or both can be interpreted as "I care about you; I want you." And it is because of the fact that these very things we have come to take for granted, are the



with you.

The next time you have a moment to spare, sit down with your friends, or alone, and "lightly" blindfold yourself. I

what you will experience, will be something different; something special.

In case you find that you don't have time to do this exercise, then just take a few moments to at least "look beyond" the conversations and interactions you have with others. What do the eyes say? When someone shares a smile with me, I want to know, "why?" I want to know am I ignoring or being ignored (that's ignore, not annoy). Think about it.

Now on a totally different subject, I would like to say a fond and grateful farewell to former Associate Dean Rosiland Fuse-Hall,

ALUTA CONTINUA

By Faye Peterkin
Ink Staff Writer

Everyone is probably familiar with Ebony Readers' comical renditions of "In Living Color" and their poignant performance of African-American poetry. But on the weekend of Feb. 26, the group brought it home as members performed a play about the 200 years of African-American contributions to the University.

As part of the Black Student Movement's contribution to the Bicentennial Celebration, the Ebony Readers sponsored a production entitled, "Aluta Continua," a play written by senior Angela Ray.

The play's title is Swahili for "the struggle continues" and highlighted selected African

Americans and the contributions they have made to the history of UNC.

Ray said that the original plan of Ebony Readers, which is a sub-group of the BSM, was to find a playwright,

the committee last March, by April Turner, liaison for the group.

"We needed someone who would write it (the play) and not ask for money or royalties,"

'Aluta Continua highlighted selected African Americans and the contributions they have made to the history of UNC.'

but the Bicentennial Committee could not give them a definite budget. The idea was presented to

said Ray, a Communication Studies and Speech Communication major. "I was

the logical choice."

Ray also decided to write the play because she was writing her honor thesis and wanted it to center around Afro-Americans.

Aside from its entertaining merits, the play also served as an educational tool for University students, black and white.

"Aluta Continua is important and enlightening, entire University community to see, as well as recognize, Afro-American contributions where otherwise the opportunity would not exist," Ray said.

The play by no means attempted to cover every significant aspect of Afro-American history, but it was an attempt to make more people aware of the contributions of black people.

From the slaves who laid the first bricks of the University to the one

who wrote Valentine's Day poems for UNC undergraduate men to the present day housekeepers who clean up after students, the sweat and sacrifice of black people was evident in Aluta Continua.