

Commentary: "Rethinking Black College Day"

By Carter Cue

"Rethinking Black College Day"

"I feel like a man who has been asleep somewhat and under someone else's control. Now I think with my own mind."
Malcolm X-New York Times Feb. 22, 1965

Many of us are asleep or as the Honorable Elijah Muhammad so frequently said, "we are dead". This is the case at our institutions of higher learning because we do not question or ask why.

Many fellow students who made the Sept 28th bus trip to Raleigh, North Carolina for Black College Day had the least inkling as to why they were going in the first place. Many went to stay out of class; some went to visit high school friends and parents living in the area. I felt a sense of obligation as I rode down that highway. This overwhelming resurgence of pride brought back images of the African-American college students from CORE (Congress of Racial Equality) who were beat for participating in the Freedom Rides. This plus the other atrocities perpetuated against African-Americans in the 50s and 60s during the Civil Rights Movement reminded me of my mission in Raleigh.

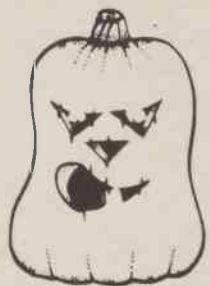
The first Black College Day took place on Sept 30, 1980 in Washington DC. The march was organized by African-American journalist Tony Brown for the purpose of drawing attention to the impact of integration and the merging and entinction of African-American colleges and universities.

This ignorance concerning the legacy of historically Black colleges can not be blamed totally on STUDENTS. We are all products of training. Even though statistics say that the majority of African-Americans attending predominantly White colleges do not graduate, we still retain the persistent notion that Black schools have out grown their usefulness. Evidently these schools are worth standing up for. The records of these historically black schools speak for themselves.

It was inspirational to sing "We Shall Overcome," the way Dr. King sang it in the 60s and the Black National Anthem (Lift Every Voice and Sing), even though many of us did not know the words nor the author. The show of unity was fantastic but his old strategy will not work in this age of high-tech racism. We need new tactics to solve and old problem.

I was equally shocked to hear our future leaders (SGA presidents) promote beggarship instead of leadership by pleading with Governor Martin to please give us some money and not shut down our school. However, I must add that the WSSU SGA president, Marla Blunt did not fall within those narrow confines of leadership.

Black College Day was many things to many people, as it should be. But it was definitely not a time to think with our own minds of our mission in Raleigh. As the old song goes, "Its your thang, do what you wanna do" Well thats fine as long as your "thang" is not detrimental to the viable conscious existence of African-Americans.



**Happy
Halloween**

Commentary "You're Entitled"

By Todd McIntosh

As I walk around campus, I seem to hear the same discontent concerning a certain university policy. As everyone probably knows, this is the visitation policy. I'm not very familiar with how long this policy has been in effect and I'm not sure why it was put into effect, but there is one thing that I am sure of, the students who live on campus don't like it.

I don't live on campus, therefore the policy doesn't affect me very much, but I do sympathize with my classmates who are affected by the policy. I understand that the administration believes that allowing coed visitation would promote promiscuity. It might very well do exactly that, but this is not my concern. I am not judging if the policy is right or wrong, but only offering a solution to the problem.

When I was in high school, we (the student body) had a similar grievance with a school policy that disallowed short pants. All of the students hated this policy and constantly spoke out against it. A few rebelled and wore shorts anyway. They were punished rather severely for such a petty action. This proved one thing that has been established throughout history; rarely does change come when only a few rebel.

My English teacher at the time, a very smart woman, offered a solution to our problem upon teaching a lesson on Henry David Thoreau. Thoreau was the father of civil disobedience. He believed that if you thought a rule or law was unjust, that you should break that law and take your punishment, but let your punisher know that you believe what he has done is unjust. In recent history, Dr. King monified civil disobedience by focusing on the mass rather than the individual. If a mass of people defy a rule or law, it makes the punishment much harder to enact and it applies pressure to the establisher of the rule or law to make a change.

In the case of my high school and the short pants issue, what was suggested was that everyone, on the same day, wear short pants. This would put pressure on the administration to either send everyone home or alter the policy on short pants. If they chose to send everyone home, then everyone would wear shorts the next day and everyday thereafter until the policy was changed. Surely the school board would not allow students to keep being sent home and deprive them of an education over an issue as trivial as short pants. Or would they? Well, this plan I'm sure would have worked. There are other things to be considered, would parents allow their teenagers to stay out of school over something as trivial as short pants? This is a question that never became an issue and subsequently we didn't wear shorts to school. There was not one person who could convince the vast majority of the student body to go home and tell their parents they were going to be sent home for a few days or a week or tow so that he or she could wear short pants to school. There was also a problem geeting everyone organized, and without organization, there is very little chance of any progress.

So this is my plan to gain coed visitation; get everyone who lives on campus together and devise a time and date for every male to enter a female dorm and every female to enter a male dorm. This would do one of two things: everyone would gain coed visitation; or everyone would be kicked out of their dormitory. If the latter happens, you then must be prepared to tell your parents that you are no longer a resident of the WSSU campus and why. Therefore, there is a certain amount of risk and possibly sacrifice. So, we come to the classic decision, is the gain worth the risk and possible sacrifice? Would your parents understand that you were evicted because you stood up for something you believed in?

I hope my suggestion will be of some use. I hope that it will solve your problem. So act now or forever hold your peace!

WSSU CPA Majors Attend Conference

By Maureen Chavis

On October 13, several WSSU students were invited, for the first time, to attend the monthly gathering of CPA's. The official name is the North Carolina Association of CPA's (Certified Public Accountants), in the Piedmont region. It was held at the Bermuda Run in Clemmons.

Since this was the first time for WSSU representation, the CPA majors who attended were recognized by the chairman.

Valuable information was given to these seniors, such as when to take the CPA exams and it gave them a chance to make contacts with CPA's from the Winston-Salem community.

In addition to WSSU students Michael Wright, Mary Weaver, Dionne Comery, Robin Huntley, and Doris Hussey being in

attendance, students from Wake Forest were also invited.

Michael Wright stated, "I took advantage of the situation by talking to CPA's that work in different areas. I was also interested in their opinions of courses to take and how to go about starting your own business."

Robin Huntley felt that "they gave valuable tips!" It appeared to be beneficial to these majors in many ways. According to Mary Weaver, "It was a rewarding experience for graduate students, because it gave us a chance to meet people in the CPA field located in this area!"

Doris Hussey, seemed to sum up the conference for everyone when she said, "It was a lot of fun — I enjoyed it!"

On Behalf Of The Entire News Argus Staff

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends of the University.

We Hope that
Homecoming Will Be
A Joyous Occasion

THE NEWS ARGUS-WSSU

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