



The Gotham City Club 'Chillin' After A Dance

Photo By: Wilson

A Club For All Occasions

by Linda McKnight
Staff Reporter

When you think of Gotham City, you normally think of Batman and Robin, who along with Commissioner Gordon, try to keep peace in the fictional city. Well now you can add some reality to your thoughts. There is a real Gotham City, or so it is nicknamed, where a certain group of people do work together to bestow harmony. That place is Fayetteville, North Carolina. From this town a group known as the Gotham City Club, made up of all WSSU's Fayettevillians, was formed on campus to try and promote the general well-being of all students.

The club was founded in 1983 by a group of entering freshman from Fayetteville who decided that even though they were away from home, they could still be leaders for the new community they had become a part of. One person generated the idea and then everyone else joined in to help. Many of the people that help found the club are still here. Among them are Kent Beatty, President, Anthony Butts, Darrell Jenkins and Tim Lamb.

When the members first started out, they did face some problems. Beatty recalls that a major problem was respect. Continuing he said, "Other organizations were founded that year for example: Northern Connection. Northern Connection was popular on campus. They insulted our club a lot. People from Fayetteville had been stereo-typed as being the no good, use you, stab you in the back type of people. We had to live that down." They not only lived it down, but as Beatty put it, "We got ahead." "We have kept it. Since 1983 we've had our dead spots, but we've always been a club.

The club now runs off about 30% participation, but that's okay because they are alive with spirit and business is always carried out. When the club was founded, it was written in the constitution that it's main purpose would be to help in the community. "We did that this year," Beatty stated, "and we're going to keep it up." "We are going to participate in Habitat For Humanity as soon as it gets warm and will be apart of the march for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. our university is having on January 18."

The Gotham City Club, in all that they do, by no means leaves out the students of WSSU. Last year they sponsored a school wide picnic as one of their main projects. "It was a success, but money was lost," Beatty stated. "We take that into consideration since it was our first time." The picnic is in the plans for this year also and Beatty feels that this year they should come out ahead.

A major tool of motivation that keeps the club going is the support they get from both the students and the faculty. "Students support the dances we have because they love to hear us play. Of course some don't like them, but you can't please everybody. You will always have some people that will stereotype you. Chancellor Thompson supports us a lot. He helped with the funding of the picnic. He has given us words of encouragement many times and tell us to keep it up."

Since the club began, from it has emerged two other forms of Gotham City pride. They include the Gotham City Party Rock Squad and The Gotham City Rockers. The Gotham City Park Rock Squad sponsors dances in the Student Union. The first one was held in 1984 after having met with the Student Union Program Board to see what could be planned as an activity in the students interest and it was decided that a dance would be it. The dee jays for the squad are Kent Beatty and Anthony Butts. "We try to make it a carefree affair," Beatty remarked. "We let the audience participate by talking on the mike etc..."

For those who specifically like to dance, there is the Gotham City Rockers. It was formed in 1984 for the first Lip Sync Contest. They also perform at the Mr. Ram pageants and other functions upon request. The dancers consist of Kent Beatty, Anthony Butts, Michael King, James Caldwell, Ronnie Bennett, Greg Gillis, Antonio McCoy, Albert Tapps, and Terry Brock. The members of the group vary from time to time depending upon who wants to dance for what occasion. It was sort of by accident that they formed. As a group they had originally planned to have their own lip sync contest, but it fell through. When the News Argus then announced that they were going to do a Puttin' On the Hits fund raiser, they decided to enter. They entered as one group then divided one containing eight members and the other four naming themselves the Time and the Gotham City Rockers respectively. And what a success they were. The Time placed first and the Gotham City Rockers placed second. The next year they decided to try their luck again. This proved to be a smart move as the Rockers came in first place and Dameon Miller, along with his wife, placed third.

Is this a club or isn't it? I think that we can all agree that the Gotham City Club is really on the move and will continue to rise to bigger and better heights.

NCSU To Sponsor Greek Leadership Workshops Feb 21st

Representatives from universities in North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia have been invited to the ninth annual Greek Leadership Workshop at North Carolina State University Feb. 21.

The day-long workshop will be held at NCSU's McKimmon Center, with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. Students, faculty, staff and alumni may attend the program, sponsored by NCSU's Department of Student Development.

Dave Westol, assistant prosecuting attorney for Kalamazoo County, Mich., will deliver a program on "Hazing on Trial." A member of Theta Chi Fraternity while an

undergraduate at the University of Detroit, Westol has served as national vice president for the fraternity.

"Hazing on Trial" provides a realistic approach to the moral and legal implications of hazing.

The registration fee, which includes a buffet luncheon, is \$9 and should be paid by Feb. 15. Checks should be made payable to NCSU Greek Leadership Workshop and mailed to Drew Smith, NCSU Department of Student Development, Box 7314, Raleigh, N.C. 27695-7314. For information, call Smith at (919) 737-2441.

Happy Valentine's Day from The News Argus Staff

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