

CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

Poetry Corner

BODY AND SOUL

You always were the loud one
 but could put a smile on someone's face
 Never did I take the time to see how talented you were
 nor how special
 You played practical jokes and cried with us sometimes
 but never in the world would I think I'd be so sad around you now
 Your hair is cute and so is your suit
 You sure do look lighter than before
 I see your mother and your father,
 but where are all of your friends?
 Maybe they were too scared to be here or...Nah
 Never mind or maybe they were ashamed
 because you died of AIDS.

Jhonnell Ridout

THE GRADUATE

Five books as big as dictionaries
 Four bills to pay with no money
 My parents, they're on vacation
 but didn't ask me if I wanted to go.
 Oh, well it's late now and
 this place is about to close,
 and the the big day is tomorrow, all my shoes are worn out
 and my car is dead, but I guess I must thank God because
 next week, I am going to be the first black female
 in my family to graduate from college.

Jhonnell Ridout

"Tree of Life" Provides Mind Food

BY KEISHA BUTLER
Staff Writer

Do you hunger for knowledge, wisdom, cultural and spiritual identity? If so, then hunger no more. The *Tree of Life* will feed your mind, body and soul.

The *Tree of Life*, located at 1404 N. Cherry Street, is a new store in Winston-Salem that is geared toward providing an "overstanding" of the world through the eyes of African souls.

The store, owned and operated by Weusi Baraka and Hashim Salih, opened its doors to the public in October 1994.

"The *Tree of Life* is striving to be known not just as an Afrocentric store, but more so as Winston-Salem's house of cultural enlightenment," said Baraka.

To keep the culture alive, African dance and drumming classes and information regarding cultural history and philosophies will be available at the store.

At The *Tree of Life* you will find incense, oils, health and cooking herbs, Jamaican vegetable and beef patties, natural health and beauty aides, jewelry and an array of books/pamphlets

containing information regarding issues that may be important to persons of African decent.

The roots of the *Tree of Life* started sprouting long before it's doors opened in Winston-Salem last October. The store received it's origins in Harlem, NY. Hashim Salih gave birth to the idea of having a *Tree of Life* in Winston-Salem, NC.

"When I lived in New York, there was a store called the *Tree of Life*. It was very impressive. It sold herbs and literature of all kinds. There was even a place in the back of the store, like a small library, where you could go and read a book. If you couldn't afford to buy a book, all you had to do was go to the back and read it. Anyway, the *Tree of Life* impressed me so much that I dreamed of owning a place just like it," recalled Salih. The store in New York is no longer in existence.

For further information, call 724-2200.



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