

CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

WSSU Has An MTV Intern

BY SHARONDA WILCOX
Entertainment Editor

To be the eyes and ears and to report on the local club scenes in the Winston-Salem, Greensboro and Charlotte areas is what a junior mass communications major is doing this semester.

This major is serving as a local online stringer who reports on music happenings and other grass roots items of interest to MTV (Music Television) viewers in these cities. These are just a small part of the duties being performed by Charlottean Danielle Prophete.

Prophete is interning with MTV and corresponds through e-mail with her supervisor and other MTV interns across the country. Prophete and a student from Wake Forest University are the only two interns in the Winston-Salem area.

Like most interns, Prophete says

there are some things that she likes and dislikes about her internship. "I like the different entertainment venues that I will be able to explore and I like it even more that I will be exploring them for free," explained Prophete. However, she doesn't like not reporting to a job site everyday. "I report electronically through e-mail. I don't exactly feel like I am a part of the MTV staff because I don't correspond with them or see them daily," she said.

Even though Prophete does not correspond with her internship supervisor, her assignments have been consistent. Her first assignment was to contact clubs in Winston-Salem and Greensboro to find out information about the people who frequent their clubs, the type of music played in the club and what is served at the clubs.

Prophete feels that being a stringer for MTV will provide experience, skills and techniques she will need in her proposed career.

"I think that it's definitely going to help in the long run because MTV is a nationally known entity. My long term goal is to own my own magazine which will be patterned after *Vibe* magazine. Being a stringer for MTV and reporting on music happenings will be an extra incentive for my magazine."

Prophete, who is a very ambitious and driven young lady, says she sets very high standards for herself. She has the following words of encouragement for her fellow mass communications majors who are considering pursuing competitive internships.

"Don't settle for less, always strive for the best and don't let the stereotypes



Danielle Prophete

of going to a HBCU (Historically Black College/University) discourage you from applying for competitive jobs and internships. I think that more of us should apply and put Winston-Salem State University on the map.

A Trip To Africa Through Artifacts

BY CHERYL CASH
Staff Writer

Beautiful African artifacts from hand-carved statues done in ebony to statues carved from wood were featured at an African artifacts display last month during Winston-Salem State University's Black History Month Celebration.

Numerous artifacts including a hand-carved statue, done in ebony wood of African elders sitting around a fire wearing robes of burlap, and holding whisk brooms used to fan the fire in their hands were on display. The artifacts are owned by Annette Pierson.

Pierson's artifacts represented several aspects of African culture. The Akuaba Dolls represented fertility. The beautiful hand-carved statues were done in sese wood.

One, featured a baby suckling the mother's breast and the other was of a baby on the mother's back. An antique maternity piece was the most beautiful of all the maternity statues. The neck of the statue was long and sleek, which is a sign of beauty in African culture, and the abdomen has a slight protrusion indicating that she has conceived.

"When women wanted to get pregnant, or after she conceived a child,

the Akuaba Doll was kept in the home. The significance was that children are first in African life," Pierson explained.

The versatility of the artisans and the importance of family was evident in each piece of displayed art. The skill of the African artisans were especially recognizable in the wood work "Unity" and the "Strength" statue, made from one single piece of ebony wood. The statue was of five African men entwined, each with a different face.

The piece, "The Unity Globe," made of sese wood, had several hands holding up a globe, which symbolizes that "it takes all people to keep the world going," stated Pierson. Unity was also the apparent theme in "Unity in Marriage," a statue of a man and woman embraced.

However, the most intriguing display were the bold masks that represented several countries in Africa. These masks included a Chimbano Mask, from Malawi; the Masai Mask and the Bird Mask from Kenya (called a bird mask because the lips looked like the beak of a bird) had colorful beads on the bridge of the nose.

According to Pierson, a papyrus shield and a two-headed spear revealed the efficiency of the African hunters. The spear was made to serve a dual

purpose; the hunter could shoot arrows at their prey or throw the spear at their prey. While a hand-carved cane from Malawi represented honor and respect for the elders.

Pierson explained that the photography of the people in their village was very special because most people think Africans now live only in cities; but some of them still live in villages.

The photography, done by Cynthia Shields, captured the essence of Africa through breathtaking landscape pictures, the beautiful animals and the beautiful people in the village. She took the photos while she was visiting Kenya.

She explained that when missionary groups travel to Africa, they purchase art very cheap. They sell the art for a very large profit when they return to the U.S. Pierson hopes to change this by making her art affordable to everyone.

Pierson is the owner of African Expressions in High Point.



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