

# Sony black college tour puts on show at N.C. A&T

Sony Music Black College Tour '99 at North Carolina Agriculture & Technical State University on Wednesday, Mar. 17, 1999, was a success. The tour featured a variation of black music performed by eight soloists and groups. All proceeds went to benefit each university's scholarship fund.



Jason Smith  
Review

The show started off with new acts that will be releasing their albums in the near future. Between each act comedian J'Vonne Pearson entertained the crowd with jokes and a few jabs at the crowd.

The first act was Fundisha. Her sultry sound put out great messages for the new millennium. Since she was the first act, she showed that she can handle and take the crowd herself. I felt that she had much potential and will take the industry by storm. Many talk about Brandy and Monica...keep an eye out for Fundisha.

Second on the stage was New Direction. When I first heard them I was quick to label them as a Kirk Franklin & Nu Nation replica ... I was wrong. This small tour group of the original 41 person group has the ability to push Kirk and his Nu Nation to the side and reach more people. "Being young makes it easy for us to reach out to other young people," says Meechie Merrick, soprano section leader and oldest member of the group. "We have a message to take around the country. We want to reach out to our peers and let them know they

don't have to be doing the things they're doing. We want them to know they can find peace with God." Check out their debut self titled album.

Next was the sister duo Trina & Tamara from Gary, Indiana. The two are sisters of MCA recording artist Jesse Powell, so you know they can grace a track and rock a crowd. Performing three songs from their upcoming self titled debut album, they had the audience rocking, especially the guys & fraternities, when they performed their first single "What'd You Come Here For?" T & T are definitely going somewhere and they will not be in their brother's shadow for long.

The first rap group to come out was Jim Crow. What looked to me as a bunch of backyard boys spitting all over the place. I was happy to only see them perform two songs. The first one had a chorus that went, "Smoke some, drink some, freak some..." The second song was a song that could get a man killed over titled "That Drama." Overall, their performance was horrible. NEXT!!!

The next rapper out was a female wanna-be-lil'-Kim named Cha Cha. Her stage man did the same thing Puffy does by walking around saying, "Uh" and "Pump it up Cha Cha." Her performance received mad response from the men since she showed a lot of skin. Not to mention she sat down and bared all. So like the last one, NEXT!!!

The groups that already had albums out performed. First off was Jagged Edge. These guys can blow and can keep the girls on their feet. The group rocked the stage with songs from their debut album. While they

performed "I Gotta Be," the group pulled a girl from the audience and encircled her on stage as they sang to her. The group still had it even though it has been two years since the release of their album. They promoted their next album titled Heartbreak, due out June of this year.

TQ performed two songs from his debut "They Never Saw Me Coming" album. He did not get much of a response since many has not heard of him out here on the East Coast. TQ didn't last long on the tour. He got thrown off the tour for cursing out the sound man on the microphone.

The last performance of the evening was Kenny Lattimore. Yes, the man himself with back-up singers and a live four-man band. He definitely put the whip cream on the sundae for the ladies. Kenny Lattimore is a great performer. He performed songs from both his debut and sophomore albums. If you don't already have his CDs, I suggest you go out and get them. They will definitely be good to add to your CD collection.

Wendy Covington, a senior in mass communications came to the concert to see Lattimore again. "I met Kenny in Washington D.C. I want to see if he remembered me," said Covington. She had a rose that she gave to him during his second song.

The night was a good and successful one as we got to see some of the upcoming artist. I must say Sony has a good line up of R&B singers on the way, but their taste in rap needs to be polished.

Sony plans to release albums from the new groups real soon so look for them at your nearest music store.

## Hill's concert was a sell out

CORTNEY L. HILL  
Editor

For those of you that had the chance to see Lauryn Hill and Outkast in concert, I would like to say way to go! For those of you that were unable to attend... too bad, so sad because you missed the greatest show of the year.

Lauryn Hill's "Miseducation" tour was definitely too good to be true.

Hill was a sight to behold, while Outkast kept the crowd jumping like Kangaroos.

The concert took place on Mar. 20th at the Greensboro coliseum.

The concert started promptly at 8 p.m., and Outkast kicked the show off right. They took it back to the old school when they started singing hits off of their debut and sophomore CDs, *SouthernPlayalisticCadillacfunkyMusic* and *ATLiens*.

But Outkast didn't stop there. They performed their latest hits off their current album *Aquemini*.

They rocked the show with jams like "Rosa Parks", "SpottieOttieDopalicious," and "The Art of Story Telling pt.1".



Lauryn Hill

After Outkast performed, there was a long intermission. After the intermission, a blue light shined on the stage and a song titled "Freedom" by Bob Marley started playing and everyone put their flickering lighters in the air.

Immediately after the song finished, all you heard was the smooth alto voice of Lauryn Hill singing her rendition of "His Eye Is On the Sparrow." Then the lights on the stage came on, and a jazzy version of "Ex-Factor" was played by her live band, and her 3 background female singers laid down some real smooth harmony. Lauryn Hill, later, came dancing on to the stage.

Hill performed songs from when she was with the Fugees, including that ever-so-popular 90's version of Roberta Flack's, "Killing Me Softly".

From her debut album, *The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill*, she did a great job performing the song "Zion," to which she dedicated to her son. She also did an incredible job with "Doo Wop (That Thing)," "Lost Ones," "When It Hurts So Bad," "Superstar," and many others.

The "Miseducation" concert was worth every dime spent and if I had to see both Lauryn Hill and Outkast perform again, I would and hope that they wouldn't change a thing.

## STUDIES, from page 7



Lawandria Penn lived in Taxco, Mexico, while studying abroad.  
Photo by Lawandria Penn

practicum in the natural and applied sciences is also available.

Programs similar to CSIS are the North Carolina Consortium for International and Intercultural Education (NCCIIIE) and the university of North Carolina Exchange Program, or UNCEP are coordinated similar to the international internships available through CSIS. The purpose and goals of these exchange programs are to sponsor motivated students who want to study abroad and upon returning to the United States, incorporate experiences abroad into their academic life and long term goals.

So, after learning a little bit of information about international studies, do you want a chance to study abroad? Well here's how to get involved in the international learning experience. The

internships available through CSIS are for graduate or undergraduate level minority students that have a financial need. Applicants should also have strong written and oral communication skills and demonstrated leadership potential indicated through their involvement in the community and extracurricular activities.

Anyone can apply for UNCEP programs and opportunities. However, all students wishing to learn abroad must be in good academic standing with their university and must have an ultimate goal of academic excellence. Applications for these programs are always available. Students with a desire to learn more about international studies can contact Dr. Oyelaran, Associate Professor of English and Foreign Languages in 316 Hall-Patterson.