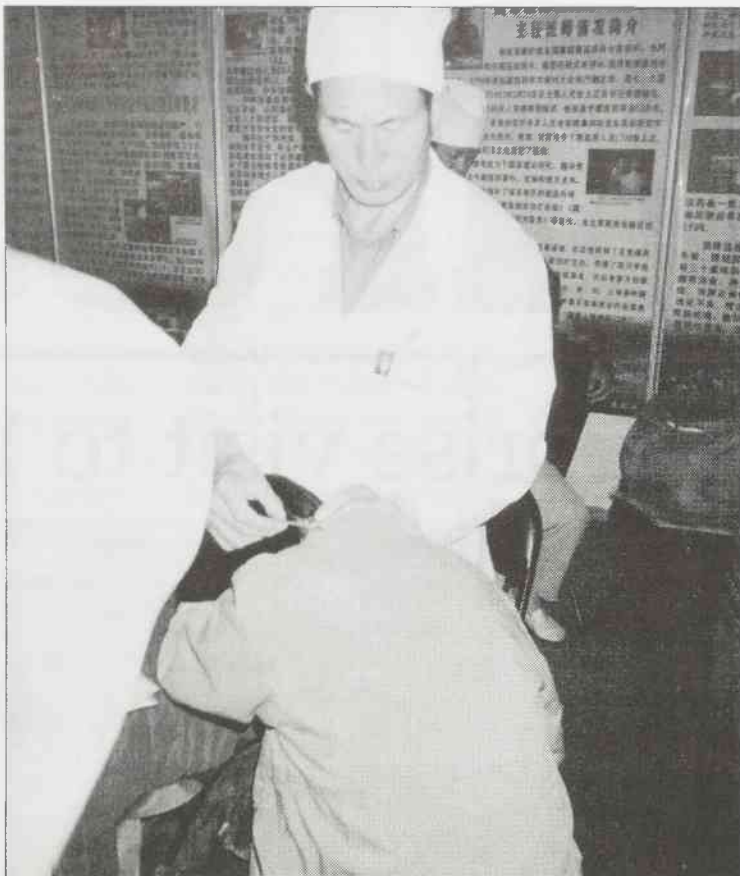


STUDENT
Features

Photo courtesy of Denetara McLean

A medical practitioner in Beijing uses a burning wooden split to make his patient relax. Some Eastern medical practices date back thousands of years and are based on herbs and the soil instead of science.



VISIT,

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squadron in September 1943 as a replacement pilot and returned in April 1945, shortly before the war ended. He toured overseas for 18 months, flew 186 missions with the 12th Squadron, and 168 missions with the 15th Squadron. He said there was a need for the airmen's history to be noted and recognized.

"This is a part of history that is not well-known, and it is time for everyone to know our history. We are the stepping stones for everything the people in service have today. The services are intergrated because of us," Easgleson said.

PLANNER,

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out of my desire to spread financial literacy one person at a time, particularly with high school and college students," said Boyce.

"I graduated from college in 1995 with a tremendous amount of debt, and it was basically because nobody told me. I figured the credit-card companies were stupid for giving me the credit anyway, and I was going to eventually pay them back, so it was no big deal, and I realized quickly that wasn't the reality.

"My first devastating experience was being turned down for a very well-paying job in my major that I was totally qualified for from an educational standpoint, but unqualified for because I had not been financially responsible. That was one in a series of jobs that I had been denied, not because I wasn't smart, not because I didn't do great in school, not because I wasn't a good candidate, but because I wasn't financially responsible.

"That was part of the equation that no one ever told me. It was 'Go to school, get good grades, and then you go out and get a great job, and all will be well with the

Despite doubt that Negroes could fly planes, the group accomplished several goals to receive their pilot's wings.

Now, the Tuskegee Airmen travel around to do air shows and speak about their experiences.

They also offer scholarships to those interested in the aviation and aerospace industry.

Hunter said: "These guys were the first black pilots in WWII, not only the first, but the best pilots that this country has seen. With the Redtails flying, they gained superiority over Europe during the second World War."

world' and that wasn't the case."

Boyce said that a lot of the freedoms enjoyed by students for the first time are a huge contributor in the ways money is spent.

She said students must understand that life does not begin in college. It begins in the real world.

"The biggest thing is to understand that credit is not money, and \$1,500 of credit is not \$1,500. You were paying that back to someone at high interest.

"Understand that credit is not emotional, money is. If you have \$20, and you have a credit card in one hand and \$20 in the other, you need to think twice about using the credit card.

"Understand that discipline comes along with it, and understand truly that it's not money. You're paying it back, and you're paying it back at incredibly large interest rates."

Spending needs to involve constant conversation and understanding when dealing with credit cards and the problems.

"Can I really afford this?" said Boyce. "That's a really tough question to ask because most of the time your wants say, 'Yes' and your needs say 'No.'"

CHINA,

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next morning, it was a different story. It was dry and dusty there."

She attributed this dusty dry atmosphere to the large population of the country.

But it wasn't all fun and play. "I had to take classes in Chinese, and had a mentor in Chinese. It was awkward at first but then I started getting used to it," said McLean.

However, she was not entirely alone, having been joined by Dr. Lee from the education department who acted as the mentor for the students.

All of the classes were done in Chinese, so for the English students it was a matter of depending on the translators for the material.

When it came to the local cuisine, McLean said it took a while for her to move out of her comfort zone and branch out.

"I was eating chicken and peppers for the longest time until I decided to try something else," she said.

A good portion of the program was spent analyzing why the students were there and that was to gain valuable research in a topic of their choice.

"My research was the difference between minority health treatment in China versus the United States," she said.

"In China there are 56 nationalities, and the majority are descendants of the Hans. The other 55 nationalities are all different minorities. There was a lot of

information which I had to collect."

She said she went to several minority hospitals in the country where the minorities practice their own brand of medicine.

"The interesting thing about it is that the government supports minority medicine there. They have a law there which says that if you have your own type of medicine, we will make sure you are able to practice it. Here we only have one kind of medicine," said McLean.

"If Eastern medicine and Western medicine were to combine together, it may eliminate some of the minority health-care problems we have today."

She said the difference between Eastern and Western medicine is that the Eastern medicine is based on herbs and soil, but Western medicine is based on science. And in the United States, if there was no scientific basis, then it will not be used.

McLean said she had the opportunity to visit the Great Wall of China, the forbidden city and Tiananimen Square, which was the sight of the 1989 massacre.

"Female friends would hold hands when walking down the street. Guy friends would sometimes do it. When I first got there I was like 'Wow,' that was a real culture shock."

While it was hard to sum up the entire experience into a few words, McLean said that it was an experience she would do again.

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