

Dixon's optimism carries him forward

(Continued from page 1)
Wake Medical Center-Physical Rehabilitation), "but it is good to get up and move again after lying in the hospital so long."

Dixon's day begins at 6 a.m. and ends as late as midnight. Most of his day is spent in physical and occupational therapy, he says, sounding every bit the consummate professional.

"The object of therapy is to maximize movement and help me adjust to different ways of performing routine tasks. "I was right-handed, now my right hand cannot move. So, I'm in the process of learning how to use my left hand."

Dixon credits optimism and faith for his survival. "It is really putting your life back together after something awful has happened. This period of my life is a time of patience because I have to wait for the nerves in my spinal cord to regenerate. A lot of people are not as

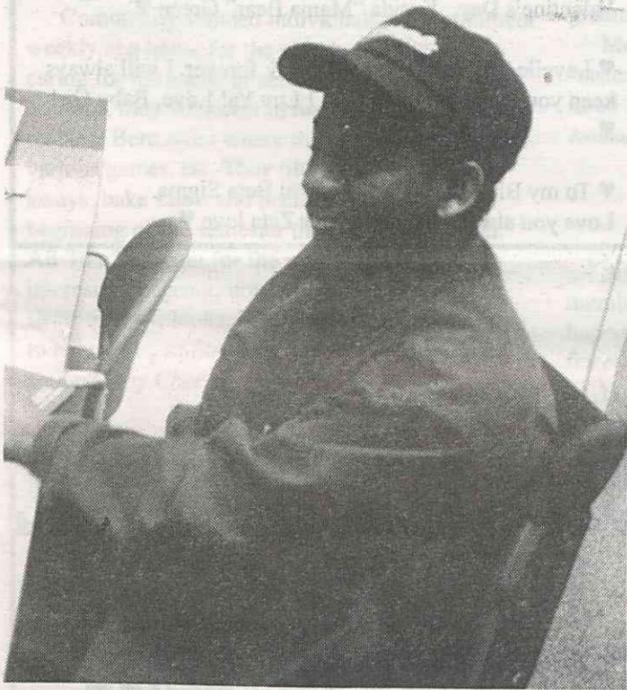
optimistic as I am believing this will happen. Well, basically the doctors say what they see. I'm paralyzed. We'll have to wait and see.

"But, older people and my family keep telling me 'Boy, you are blessed and God has something for you to do.' I know this is true and so it's all on me to be positive. I really can't see myself like this for the rest of my life. It's just not me."

Dixon's fate seems insufferable, but his response testifies to the will of the human spirit. "I don't think people are in rehabilitation the rest of their lives. They move on. The disability is not the focus of my life anymore."

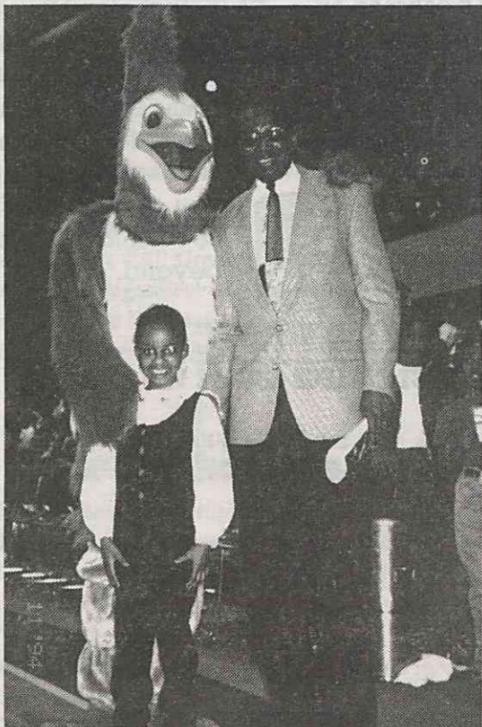
Dixon who aspires to be a lawyer is uncertain whether he will return to St. Augustine's College because of the inadequate handicapped facilities.

But one thing he knows, the healing process will have to be one step at a time.

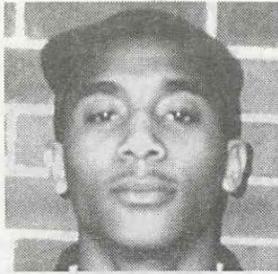


MARTIN DIXON says optimism and faith are the key to his survival. He is determined to succeed.

Mighty Mo spreads his wings



ALL SMILES- Mighty Mo, the Footloose Falcon, took a break from his dancing routine at the CIAA to spread his wings around President Bernard Franklin and Franklin's oldest daughter, Jacari.



Maruzio Vance



Alvin Midgrette



Nikki Dublin

Students say

Black history reaction

By Malika Reynolds
What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think of black history?

Marunzio Vance, soph. Charlotte

The first thing that comes to my mind when someone mentions Black history is "us," because we are Black History. From the beginning until now. Then I think of race with a historical past but with an uncertain future.

Alvin Midgrtte, freshman Goldsboro

The first thing to come to mind is Martin Luther King, because he opened the door for blacks.

Nikki Dublin, senior Raleigh

Black history for me is



Ylonda Yvette Jones

365 days of the year. However, during the month of February, other races are exposed to our culture more so than at any other time. Hopefully other cultures and races will become more enlightened and more educated about the fathers of the black culture.

Ylonda Yvette Jones, soph. Ann Arbor, Mich.

For me Black History stands for Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, the "I Have a Dream" speech, the march on Washington in the '60s, the movie "The Eye is on the Prize." The media reflects mostly upon the struggle as our history— all the thou-



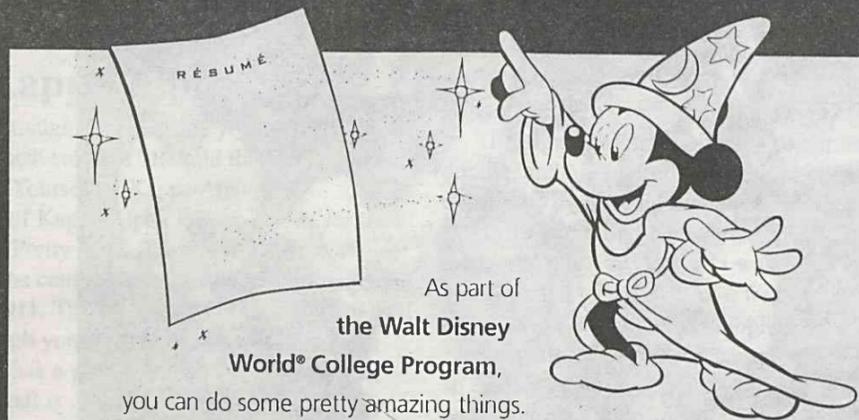
Dawn X. Henderson

sands of blacks who were beaten. All the protests blacks had to make in order to gain and protect their rights. All the pain and distress blacks endured for their freedom from slavery. Yes, those things are important in understanding that we also came from blacks who moved this race forward positively.

Dawn X. Henderson, junior, Camden, N.J.

The first thing that comes to my mind when I think of Black History is the wholeness of our every existence— from the beginning to the end, our accomplishments, struggles and the strength we have displayed through time.

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