

Nubiance walks on-campus and beyond

By Landra Phillips
Correspondent

Every Monday and Wednesday night, the auditorium in the Seby Jones Fine Arts Building transforms into the runways of New York, Paris, and Milan, for the 35 men and women who make up, the Nubiance Modeling Troupe.

The journey into their world gave insight into a unique collage of models that are an array of different hues, shapes, and sizes.

As they await the difficult and painstaking process of rehearsing for their fashion show in Rock Hill, South Carolina, they eagerly await their cue to begin from head choreographer, Vashawn Marshall, junior, communication.

Dressed in everything from jeans to sweat pants, they began to walk down the well-lit stage in singles and pairs with one thing in mind: to showcase the art of runway modeling.

"Twenty jumping jacks. Let's go!" could be heard echoing from the voice of Marshall. In a scene reminiscent of a Richard Simmons thirty-minute workout, the models began to move up and down, taking deep breaths, in and out. Before the models even begin to

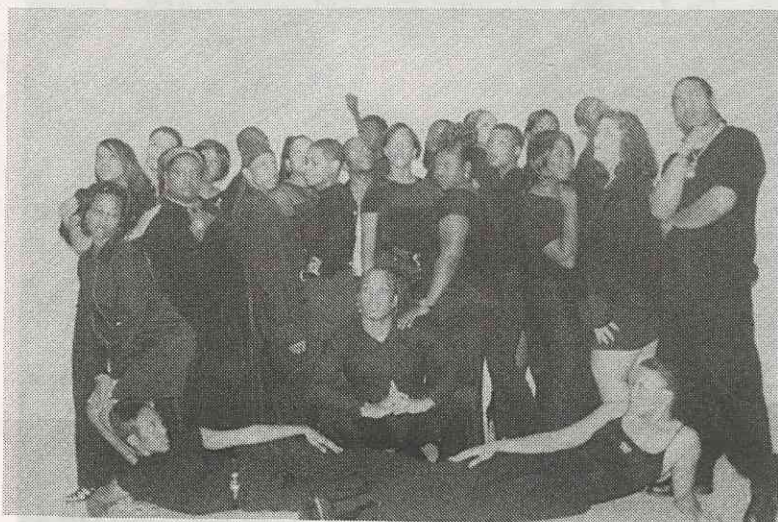


Photo by Roslyn Belk
Nubiance Modeling Troupe in the elegance of the evening.

think about walking down the runway, they must endure the rigorous aerobic warm-up that Marshall has created. "It is important to me that the models have the stamina it takes to rehearse and put on a grand fashion show", says Marshall. The seriousness of her workout shows, because by the time they are finished, the entire troupe is dripping with sweat.

The next phase of rehearsal requires

the models to form two lines and walk down the runway in singles and pairs. This is the final warm-up before they begin working on individual scenes.

Throughout the auditorium, the house music song "Walk for Me," can be heard pumping from the speakers, as models clap for each member who graces the end of the runway.

Marshall has had an interest in the

fashion industry since she was a small child. She applies her love for modeling and clothing design, as the Head Choreographer for Nubiance Modeling Troupe. In this capacity, she has the responsibility of coming up with the various scenes, themes and names for each fashion show. Without Marshall's creativity and innovation, the models would have nothing to prepare so diligently for.

The title of the show that she coined for their October 10th performance in Rock Hill, is *The New Book*. This particular show has seven scenes, including the introduction and the finale.

As Marshall passionately states, "*The New Book* comes from my heart, and it has taken a lot of effort to teach the models many of the intricately choreographed scenes. I want the models as well as the audience to feel what I feel, because it truly comes from the heart."

The introduction of *The New Book* is entitled Genesis. It is apparent how much it took the models to perfect this scene, by the overwhelming amount of feeling and emotion they put into their character. What's more, each model is in total synch with one another, which only enhances the choreography of the scene.

Genesis depicts a woman having a baby while models are coming from backstage, and the back of the theatre with their hands folded, concentrating like their lives depended on it.

As they wait for Brain McKnight's song *The Chariot*, they are in male, female pairs balled up in crouched positions on the floor. When the music begins, they use angelic like motions, as the men caress the

woman in a series of exotic movements. As the couples on the stairs make their way to the stage for the climax, they form two parallel lines that resemble the parting of the Red Sea.

Next, one of the male models takes away a dead woman who has just given birth, and then like a flashing beam of light, an angel appears with the newborn child. All of the models behold the power as they walk backwards slowly, and fall to the floor.

At the end of the introduction, everyone stands up and claps, and Marshall says in a firm tone, "Let's take it from the top."

Nubiance practices the introduction three times, because their goal is perfected. As Assistant Choreographer Leon Randle states, "With all of our work and preparation, we are displaying how much we love the modeling troupe and its Nubian models."

With less than one week until show time, the entire troupe will continue to endure the hardships that come with rehearsing for a fashion show of this magnitude. When Nubiance takes the John W. Martin Gym on the campus of Clinton Junior College by storm, they will have the opportunity to display their hard work in front of thousands, for the grand opening of Rock Grove AME Zion Church's Education Center.

The official title of the event they will perform is *An Evening of Fashion: Dare to be Different! Anything but Ordinary!*

Nubiance Modeling Troupe is out of the ordinary. They are in a world of their own that constantly test their dedication and preparation for the art of runway modeling.

Levi Jeans launches nationwide search for the next collegiate web-celebs

FROM U-WIRE

Levi.com is combing the country for three brave college students who think they can survive an entire semester buying everything they will need online — from Twinkies and condoms to lava lamps and bike tires. In preparation for the grand opening of the Levi's® Online Store in November.

A semester online will uncover the savviest cyber-shopping co-eds.

College students who think they've got what it takes to be one of 1999's hot web-celebs can log

onto www.levi.com between November 16-23 to enter. Students should be registered and living on campus at a four-year college in the U.S., and will be asked to share the wackiest online purchase they've ever made.

The three lucky students chosen for the mission will score a weekly online shopping allowance and will show cast their cyber shopping expertise via "live" programming and an in-room webcam.

Virtual voyeurs can see what they're buying, how they look in their latest "Levi.com" threads and even what surprise "guests" drop by for web-cameos.

Levi's® is celebrating that brand's venture into the world of cyber-shop-

ping with this unprecedented experiment. With 79% of college students regularly surfing the Net and 60% spending at least an hour online every day, the Levi's® brand thinks these cyber-students can teach the rest of America a byte or two about the virtual world at their fingertips.

This cyber-commerce adventure will not only showcase for web-voyeurs the specific items that the Semester Online cyber-shoppers dig up on the web (like the random bonsai tree for Mom's birthday), but will also answer the burning question of whether the future of everyday shopping revolves around the mighty mouse.



Photo by Neice L. King

Division of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Allied Health held their end of the semester cook-out with the famous 'Ken-Burger.'

Delany Sisters, still making headlines

By Michael Lucas
Staff Writer

"Having Our Say" by the Delany sisters was October's book of the month where the student/faculty forum discussed on September 29th.

Written by Sarah and Elizabeth Delany the book explains these sisters extraordinary lives. The sisters, who lived more than a 100 years saw many changes in race relations in America, including the end of the Jim Crow laws.

They were highly educated and well rounded women.

Sarah received a bachelor's and master's degree from Teachers College at Columbia University. She was the first appointed black home economics teacher on the high school level in New York city, and Elizabeth was the second black women licensed to practice dentistry.

These sisters have overcome many obstacles as black women and so they will be remembered in American history.

This book is special to St. Aug because the sisters were born and raised on many parts of the campus that we walk and travel on everyday.

Today, Delany Hall, which is a womens' dormitory is named after these extraordinary ladies.

The discussion was lead by Linda Henry-Simmons, head of the library and Dr. LaVerne Weldon, assistant professor of Education, in the library conference room.

"I chose 'Having our Say,' to let other students know the history of these two remarkable women," says Simmons.

The Delany's have decedents that are a part of St. Aug today. Father Thomas Logan, the new chaplain and Peter Murphy, student who is the grandson of ten Delany children.

Every month students and faculty will choose a book to discuss and this month is "Voice from the South," by Anna J. Cooper.