

# CAMPUS NEWS

North Carolina Central University

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## 'Central Issues': NCCU's best kept secret

By Kimberly Thornton  
Campus Editor

One of the best kept secrets around campus is North Carolina Central University's television program, "Central Issues."

The program airs on Thursday at 8:30 p.m. on Channel eight and is produced by some faculty members. One of the producers, as well as host and creator of "Central Issues," is Joanne Carter. Carter, a home economics instructor at NCCU, said she felt that there was a need for a program like "Central Issues" for the university.

"I was looking around at opportunities that the university had in this community for telling the good things that we do and the chance for showcasing some of those positive things to the com-

munity. I did not see the kind of program at NCCU that is fairly commonplace with the universities now, which is broadcasting."

Carter came up with the idea of a television program over the Christmas holidays last year and discussed it with others. She said that Central was not approached for financial support for the program.

She produces "Central Issues" with two other faculty members, Larry Lovette and Dr. Marvin Duncan from the Learning Resources Center.

Carter is also working with Dr. Donnell Lewis, director of the telecommunications project. When she discussed her idea for a television program with Dr. Lewis, they both realized that they could help each other. Dr. Lewis' telecommunications project is working to-

wards creating a television studio on campus and "Central Issues" is just one step in achieving that goal, as well as establishing the much rumored radio station.

While working with Dr. Lewis, Carter hopes to produce two to three shows a month instead of one. "Central Issues" is taped at the studios of Durham Cable.

Also working behind the scenes with "Central Issues" are NCCU students: Terry Steed, Amy Franks, Albirida Jackson, Carlton Forrest, Earnest Batts and Herb Delany. These students received a crash course in television production from Janet Evans, production director at Durham Cable.

Carter said the students were excited about working behind the scenes, especially the students whose major is media-journalism because this gives these students

the opportunity to put to use what they have learned in the classroom.

Although she isn't able to hire extra students, Carter does hope that she will be able to involve more NCCU students in the future.

One problem "Central Issues" has is getting access to the students. Since the program is on Cable Channel 8, the students living in the dorms cannot watch the program.

Carter has been trying to work out a time to show "Central Issues" in the Student Union.

She encourages all of the students to ask that a vcr be assigned to the student union so that tapes of the program can be shown. Carter feels that if the students actually see the program then they will feel free to come to her and

give ideas for upcoming shows.

The first show dealt with black student activism 20 years later. The panel featured Dean Milton Lewis of Student Life, Dean Irving Joyner from the law school and students from NCCU.

Other shows dealt with the black male crisis, promotion of various programs around campus such as summer school, Edu-care, the evening degree program, etc.

Carter hopes to cover other important issues like the controversy of the First Amendment and its relation to popular music, as well as program on the Drama Department and the NCCU Dance Troupe.

In November "Central Issues" will be moved to Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. on Cable Channel 8.



Miss NCCU, Terri Rowland, waves to the over 13,000 fans at the homecoming game. For more pictures of Homecoming 90', see pages 5 and 6.

## Homecoming Rap Extravaganza

By Terri Rowland  
Staff Writer

What is unique, original, hip-hop, suave, slammin' and creatively revolutionized by our African-American culture? Yes, you've got it right, rap!

The homecoming rapping extravaganza was outta sight! The North Carolina Central University Homecoming show consisted of five of the most popular groups in the country. Urban contemporary group Today headlined the show, but the rap groups: A Tribe Called Quest, X-Klan, D-Nice and Special Ed held their own while entertaining a screaming crowd of 5,000 in McDougald Gymnasium.

They call Derrick Jones who? Jones, better known as D-Nice, is a 20-year-old resident of Manhattan, New York who is also known as the D.J. for KRS-1 and Boogie Down Productions, via New York. Derrick is known for his

current hit "Just Call Me D-Nice" and other video hits such as "Glory."

Derrick has been a single artist for two years now with many hopes and dreams for his future. He's created the 40th Street Black Music Inc. and is happy to call it "his own recording company." He hopes to expand his company and continue to write music as well as produce more acts. Derrick has no musical idols but he "respects other entertainers," and doesn't feel as if he has to idolize them.

"I idolize my mother; she's the one I look up to," he reveals. O-Tip, Jarobi, Ali and Phife are the eccentric members of A Tribe Called Quest who stress "unity through rap." Their first album is titled Peoples Instinctive Travels And The Paths Of Rhythm, and their first single was "Description of a fool." The follow up was the high selling "I Left My Wallet In

El Segundo," which is a unique song that enhances their peculiar but "hyped" style.

Who? Brother J, Professor X, Isis... it's X-Klan, the group that emphasizes the richness of the African heritage and the pride of Africa through draping themselves in the red, the black and the green, and ethnic, striking attire. Currently, X-Klan is receiving much attention for they have a militant impression that some people tend not to understand.

NCCU junior, Robert "Earthquake" Thornton feels that X-Klan "is very misunderstood. Many of people are turned off by their (X-Klan) methods of conveying their message," said Thornton. "People tend to call them extremists, but I think that they are just straight forward with what they teach."

X-Klan has definitely made their mark on society with their music.