



# Happy Thanksgiving!



## THE CAMPUS ECHO

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### Ex-Black Panther Says Blacks Are Guilty of Self-Oppression

by Paula McDonald

In a speech given to about 50 students Friday, former civil rights leader, H. Rap Brown, currently known as Jamil Al-Amin, accuses blacks of oppressing themselves.

"We are oppressed based on the weaknesses within ourselves," said Al-Amin. "It is our own fault." For him, blacks mistakenly look to other groups and governing bodies to define themselves.

To complicate this problem, said Al-Amin, blacks have become immersed with the idea that the Constitution is their key to winning the struggle. "In dealing with African Americans, the Constitution enslaves us rather than it liberates," he said. In his opinion, these documents do not recognize blacks as human beings and it is a myth for blacks to think they have power through voting for instance, because the electoral college, not the people, control that aspect of "freedom."

Furthermore, he said the aims of black people are misdirected because they are still looking towards the sixties for their guidance. "We have become trapped in a time warp when we think about the Civil Rights movement," he said.

Also, Al-Amin, an ex-black panther, maintains that it is important not to use "blackness" as a popular fad. "To be Black is necessary, but not sufficient," he said. Wearing

tee shirts promoting black pride does not necessarily make a person black because "blackness" is a state of mind that can only be achieved through knowledge.

Moreover, color should not be the focus of the struggle because it is negative. Instead, a common cause amongst all of humankind should have precedence. "Color will be used against you at some point," he said.

Another important element we all must possess is spirituality said Al-Amin. "Have spirituality because it is your guidance," he said. "The change must come within yourself before you can change your surroundings."

Formerly known as H. Rap Brown, Al-Amin emerged along with Stokely Carmichael in 1966 as a determined advocate for black power. Brown was the chairman of the Student National Coordinating Committee. He also created the Peoples Medical Center and the People's Sewing Center in Brooklyn.

In connection with a hold-up, Brown was arrested in 1972 and while in prison he converted to the religion of Islam, and took the name of Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin. He is currently serving as an imam in charge of mosques in several states.

Al-Amin appeared courtesy of the North Carolina Center for Black History.



Former Civil Rights Leader Jamil Al-Amin (H. Rap Brown)

### Tuition Increases Possible in Future

by Yolanda Alexander

Over the last five years there has been a dramatic increase in tuition fees for students at North Carolina Central University, and according to a university official, only time will tell if further increases will follow.

"At the present time it isn't predictable," said Ralph Fennell, director of cash management. "At the conclusion of this year we will know if there will be long-term increases."

In 1988-89, in-state, students paid \$944.76, and during the 1989-90 year that figure rose to \$1,044.00. Also out-of-state, students paid \$4,444.76 in 1988-89 and \$5,416.00 for the following year for a 10.5 percent increase. Likewise, in 1990-91 the tuition was \$1,120.50 for in-state and \$5,562.00 for out-of-state for another increase of seven percent. For the 1991-92 school year those figures rose once again to \$1,262.00 for in-state and \$6,316 for the out-of-state population which is a 12.5 percent increase for a total of 30 percent for the past five years.

These increases are decided upon by the state legislature each year, based on the amount of revenues they receive. As a result,

all monies collected for tuition are channeled back to the state. In turn, the state gives the institution appropriations (budgeted money for that year) plus the amount paid in tuition.

This year the appropriations are \$35,225,949 and NCCU is expected to pay \$7,672,988 in tuition and fees to the state. This is expected to pay \$27,552,961 plus the amount paid in tuition back to the school, totaling the original budgeted amount. Every dollar NCCU does not collect, it does not receive. If the state revenues fall, the appropriations decrease.

Although NCCU's budgeting office could not be reached for the affirmation of the following statistics, Fennell unofficially estimates that 85 percent of this money pays the salaries of the faculty and staff, 10 percent for the supplies and equipment, and five percent for utilities. The students do not benefit directly from these increases, but it does allow for more money in the state budget and the hiring of more instructors.

"The state is experiencing the same problems as the federal government," said Fennell. "This translates to less revenue and possible increases, but once again, it's too early to tell."

### Few Students Meet In-State Residency Requirements

by Johnnie Whitehead

Only 10 percent of out-of-state students qualify for in-state residency because they have no knowledge of the requirements set forth by the residency manual, said a university official.

"Most of these students do not

take the time to go to the reserve section of the library and read the residency manual," said James Pierce, university registrar. "They may glimpse and see 12 months and automatically think they qualify."

In order to be classified as in-

state, a student must come to North Carolina for the purpose of establishing residency, said Pierce. "If a person comes only for an education he is not considered a resident."

According to Pierce, just because a student lives off-campus, he or she is not eligible for residency based on that criteria alone. "The manual is 50 pages long and they must meet all of these requirements," he said.

State law clearly states that if one is interested in becoming a resident, that person must acquire a

drivers' license within 30 days. "Some students fill out the application and have just changed their license to in-state a week before," said Pierce. "The 12 months start from the date of that license."

Also, if parents still claim a student as a dependent in another state, residency will not be granted.

The main requirements are that students must work, pay taxes, register to vote, have a North Carolina drivers' license, reside in North Carolina for at least 12 months with the purpose of establishing residency.

### Student Dies After Drinking Contest

GAINESVILLE, Fla.(CPS)- For Larry K. Wooten, 21, a drinking challenge from his roommates proved fatal. The University of Florida student died Nov. 5 after drinking 23 shots of alcohol, authorities said.

Wooten and his three roommates were at a local bar, *The Mill*, when Wooten's roommates challenged him to break a drinking record. Wooten downed 23 shots of various kinds of alcohol in one hour, Gainesville police said. The bar was offering a two-for-one special.

Wooten's roommates took him home shortly after he finished his last shot. He later started vomiting and passed out. An ambulance was called and he was taken to the hospital about 2:15 a.m. Wooten was pronounced dead at 3:45 a.m.

Wooten's blood alcohol level was not immediately known, but police say blood alcohol levels that prove fatal are usually about .40.

The Alachua County Sheriff's Department is investigating the overdose since it occurred at a bar located outside the city limits.

### Financial Troubles Responsible for High Dropout Rate

by Johnnie Whitehead

Financial difficulty is the most important reason why many students drop-out of North Carolina Central University, according to the Office of Research, Evaluation and Planning (OREP).

"The population NCCU serves are largely financial aid recipients," said Myron Dunston, director of institutional studies. "These people are more likely to work to supplement their education."

Dunston said that NCCU has older, non-traditional students who tend to have families. As a result, he said, these students cannot take many hours, which prolongs their graduation.

In addition, Dunston made it clear that traditionally black institutions nationwide have this same problem—not just NCCU.

Recent statistics show that NCCU has a low graduation rate and a high drop-out rate. "We have to put these numbers into context, said Dunston. "They don't necessarily mean that students are failing. We must look at them from a socioeconomic standpoint and incorporate all of the variables."

From 1983 to 1989, an average of 25 percent of freshman students that enrolled each year did not re-enroll the following year. Just over 29 percent of upper class transfers failed to re-enroll, as did 34 percent of under class transfers, 37.5 percent of master's enrollees, and 23 percent of the law students.

From 1983 to 1986, the average Scholastic Aptitude Test score was 681. The graduation rate for first-time freshmen after four years was 11.5 percent and 25 percent after five years.

Of the 999 new freshmen in 1989, 221 did not return, a withdrawal rate of 22 percent. Of the 224 under class transfers, 37 percent did not return in the fall of 1990. Of the 138 new master's degree students, 31 percent withdrew. Of the 143 law students, 24 percent withdrew.

In a 1989 study of why students did not re-enroll or continue their education, 41.9 percent gave as a major factor that "financial aid received was inadequate"; 37.2 percent checked "tuition and fees more than I could afford" as a major reason; and for 29.5 percent, not receiving financial aid was a major factor.

A consistent trend is that financial factors are the most important reasons why students do not re-enroll. In 1988, 27 percent said aid was inadequate. In 1989, 42 percent said likewise.

### Charges of Foul Play at Stepshow Denied

by Johnnie Whitehead

A North Carolina Central University administrator denies accusations of foul play in the judging of the homecoming stepshow.

Roger Bryant, associate vice chancellor for student affairs, said that the three judges were not affiliated with any of the Greek organizations. "The Pan-Hellenic Council wanted no students, administrators or staff," he said. "There is a step show committee on the council that recommended the procedures."

In the 1991 Homecoming Stepshow, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Inc., sorors won a close decision over the sorors of Delta Sigma Theta. Also, the brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha walked away with the crown but many students and viewers disagreed with the decision of the judges.

Although the consensus opinion of the students appear to be that the judging was "unfair," Bryant disagrees. "The audience supports certain people such as the Deltas because they are a popular organization," he said. "It doesn't matter if they're good or bad."

Bryant also maintains that he

did verify the judges scoresheets. In addition, he denies rumors that the same judges have been used the past five years. "We never had the same judges," he said. "The

council selects them."

It was recommended to let the audience decide the winners by applause. However, Bryant said the Greeks rejected this proposal.

The categories in which the participants were judged on: appearance, originality, synchronicity, voice clarity, crowd appeal and

*continued on page 4*

### Remember When: An Aerial View of A Growing NCCU in 1958

