

## Editorials

### Thurgood Marshall: A Legacy for African-Americans

Many words can describe him. Industrious, esteemed, argumentative and aspiring. The first African-American Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall was a hero of the times and a role model for all African-Americans.

In February, during Black History Month, we widely publicize and glorify, Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr. We sometimes tend to forget about the other contributions from African-Americans.

As a special counsel lawyer for the NAACP, Thurgood Marshall appeared before the Supreme Court 32 times and he won 29 cases. It was because of his efforts that the landmark Brown v. Board of Education court case that outlawed segregation was won. His contributions were innumerable and his ability amazing. On June 13, 1967, Thurgood Marshall was nominated for the position of Supreme Court Justice by President Lyndon Johnson. He served a productive 24 years on the Supreme Court, and by doing so paved the way for other African-Americans striving to move up the ladder in the judicial system.

As students, we should all take time out to remember Thurgood Marshall and the educational enrichment he has provided for us. As African-Americans, we should remember the opportunities he has made possible dating back from the 60's, even until today. The memory of his dedication to his people and the uplifting of the standards of society within the United States is one worth glorifying.

When Thurgood Marshall retired in 1991, he was asked by a reporter how he would like to be remembered. His response was that he wanted to be remembered as one who "did the best with what he had".

His wish has come true.

On that we can all agree.

### Clinton Should Lift The Ban On Gays In The Military

President Clinton has decided to lift the ban on gays in the military.

We agree.

A person's sexual preference shouldn't be a factor in their quest for a military career.

Officials who imply that gays will weaken the morale of the military don't read the newspapers.

Over the past year, the Navy has been rocked by the Tailhook Scandal, where some officers have been accused of grabbing on women [their fellow officers] and making lewd and obscene gestures.

It would seem that heterosexual men were the problem in the military.

However, it seems that each time the military discharges someone from the military because of their sexual orientation, they are the most decorated and most esteemed person in the field.

Case in point: the military has a long history of having a bias against allowing women and African-Americans in the military.

Both groups had to fight stereotypes and prove that their gender nor skin pigmentation controlled their ability to think or to serve our nation from all enemies, foreign and domestic.

Gays make up about 10 percent of America's population and some of them work in our most honored professions: lawyers, doctors, and educators.

A person's sexual orientation also doesn't control their ability to accomplish any task that the military can offer them.

But, although we believe that everybody has basic fundamental rights, we also agree to disagree.

We want to hear from you. Tell us what you think.

We don't need a novel or a short story. A few words will suffice.

Drop your responses under our door [319 Comm Bldg] and tell us what your think. This is an open invitation to anyone who reads our publication. In our Feb. 11 edition, we will print the feedback and report on the mentality of our readers.

We look forward from hearing from you.

### Congratulations, NCCU Men's Basketball Team!!!

15-0

We Wish You Much Success



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## Guest Forum- Trina Glass

### King's "American Dream" Lives On

Martin Luther King Jr's life was dedicated to the liberation of black people by doing God's will. He wanted to give black people a chance to live the "American Dream" and make real the promise of democracy. King constantly challenged the white power structure while we have allowed that same white power structure to sedate our movements. I am sorry to say that I sometimes feel as though his death may have been in vain. Meaning that this same white power structure has forced you

to analyze the deaths of Martin as well as Malcolm and has made you afraid to dedicate your life to the liberation of our people. Understand that he gave his life to combat cultural homicide, racial inequalities, to serve humanity by feeding the poor and clothing the homeless. Realize his strength came from the love of his people and the faith in his dream. By not doing so you allow yourself to live with false patriotism and spiritual slavery. By not doing so, you allow yourself to contribute to the white power structure. King may have been shot down by an

assinator but he has left us one of the blueprints we need to fight oppression.

You see, Dr. King was the man, the Alpha, the philosopher, the prince of peace, the Christain minister, the civil rights activist, the most peaceful warrior of the 20th century, a legend.

What does Martin Luther King Jr. mean to me? A dream that we can make a reality, a vision that became a legacy, a voice that reminds me "I am proud to be black," a leader with the assistance of other black leaders would have taken us to the prom-

ised land, a turn from racial injustice, towards racial equality.

When I think about Dr. King, I also have a dream. But I am ready to wake up and experience the ideologies of King, myself, and through reality. The man, the works, will never be forgotten. However, I can not and will not allow our liberation to end with the civil right's leader of the 60's.

*Editor's Note: Trina Glass is Junior Class President, and a honor business major student from New Jersey*

## Letters To The Editor

### Miss NCCU Speaks

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Queen's Council on community awareness, I would like to thank all the students, faculty, and administrators who helped to make our first project a success. Without your support and contributions our "Share Your Christmas Program" would not have been possible.

Because of your generosity, we were able to give clothes and toys to a family that could not afford to buy any Christmas gifts. The expressions on their faces when the gifts were delivered were priceless.

We look forward to working with the campus and Durham community to fulfill our purpose of enhancing our communities through worthwhile projects and programs.

Once again, thank you for your support.

Yours In Truth and Service,  
Kia Hardy, Miss NCCU

### English Club Presents Film Festival

Dear Editor

The English Club proudly presents a film festival honoring Black History Month. In this issue of The Campus Echo is enclosed a schedule of the films ranging from movies starring Poiter to Spike Lee. The theme of the festival is: "Racism, Black and White: The Changing Face of Prejudice in the Twentieth Century." We invite you to incorporate all or part of this festival into your classes. By assigning the films as part of the

course or as an extra-credit writing assignment, your students will both enjoy and benefit from the wide range of films being offered. For your viewing pleasure we are showing films that move from old-fashioned, searing racism ("Birth of a Nation"), to a thought-provoking discussion of the ability/desirability to "pass" for white and the intra-racial prejudice on light skin and "good" hair ("Imitation of Life"). The next movie, Sidney Poitier's "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner," deals with inter-racial marriage and offers a thoughtful discussion of this phenomenon from both a black and white perspective. Finally, Spike Lee's "School Daze," set on a historically black campus, focuses on issues that concern you, the college student today. Each film will be followed by a panel discussion led by faculty and students. We encourage you to come out and take part in this festival celebrat-

ing Black History Month, and to lend your views and opinions to the panel discussion. Celebrate Black History Month With The English Club.

Krishna Scott

### GET DRESSED BEFORE YOU HIT THE ROAD.

Gloves help your grip. Leathers help prevent hypothermia. And all gear protects against flying objects. Which is vital if you ever become the flying object.

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY FOUNDATION

### Our Policy On Letters

The Campus Echo welcomes letters from students, faculty, administrators and anyone else interested in the North Carolina Central University community. Letters must be no more than 300 words in length. The editors of The Campus Echo reserve the right to edit all letters for correctness and length. Address your letters to The Campus Echo, Department of English, North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC 27707.

### How To Publicize Your Club Or Organization In The Echo

The Campus Echo publishes news of campus meetings and events, achievements, honors and activities of students, faculty and staff. If you want your activity or event to be written up in the Echo, just send a news release or fact sheet to The Campus Echo, c/o The Department of English, NCCU. We encourage you to send photographs when they are available. Let us hear from you.

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