

The Yard

We offer a voice for all at NCCU

This issue of the *Echo* brings many changes. With the help of Dr. Gladstone Yearwood, we are making the design of the paper more modern, to reflect what surveys show readers like. More blank areas are being built into the page, and headlines are tighter, shorter, and with a different typeface than before. More graphics are used, including pictures, artwork, and simple lines and boxes. Stories will be shorter and more numerous.

To encourage student writing in the "new" *Echo*, the editors are taking this opportunity to familiarize our readers with the newspaper's policy on publishing opinion pieces. Our statement is important after some recent questions were expressed regarding articles submitted for publication. We should have been publishing a policy statement on a regular basis and apologize for not doing so. It now appears on the bottom of the editorial page.

Following are some guidelines on *Echo* policies:

- Editorial length is necessary because of the limited amount of space available. For an effective piece, state what you are arguing for or against and what your point is at the beginning. Keep your writing limited to one specific argument. Conclude with your solution specifically stated.
- Opinion pieces should fol-

low a similar pattern: one point, stated clearly at the beginning, and a clear conclusion at the end.

- Headlines are written by the staff to reflect the main point of the article. Essay-style headlines normally hint at the point, or suggest something about the purpose of the piece, but newspaper style immediately states the main point of the article.

- All articles submitted become the property of the paper. Editors have the final say on headlines and articles selected for publication, based on timeliness, newsworthiness, local impact, importance, and oddity.

- Headlines have a standard type style as well. That style dictates that only first letters and proper nouns are capitalized. The typeface may change in future issues. Now, it is Helvetica bold.

The co-editors are responsible for final content, and we are not perfect. Sometimes we make mistakes, but we strive for objectivity and correctness in reporting and editing, working hard to keep personal bias out of the paper. Article III of our constitution clearly states: "The Campus Echo shall not be subject to the jurisdiction of any political organization. It shall be the voice of the student body of North Carolina Central University."

The *Campus Echo* is the bi-monthly student newspaper of North Carolina Central University. The paper can be found at several sites on NCCU's campus, including the Alfonso Elder Student Union and Shepard Library.

Co-Editors - Geraldine Ndirforchu and Terri Boykin
Business Manager - Patrick Johnson
Entertainment Editor - Robert Thornton
Sports Editor - Carey Johnson
Layout and design - Geraldine Ndirforchu
Staff Reporters - Shelvia Dancy, Danny Hoolley, Terri Wilson, Malcolm Crawford, Christopher Richburg

The *Echo* is published bi-monthly. The next issue is out on March 3. The deadline for advertisements, calendar of events, letters to the editor, etc. is Feb. 23 for the March 3 issue. Mail all material to:

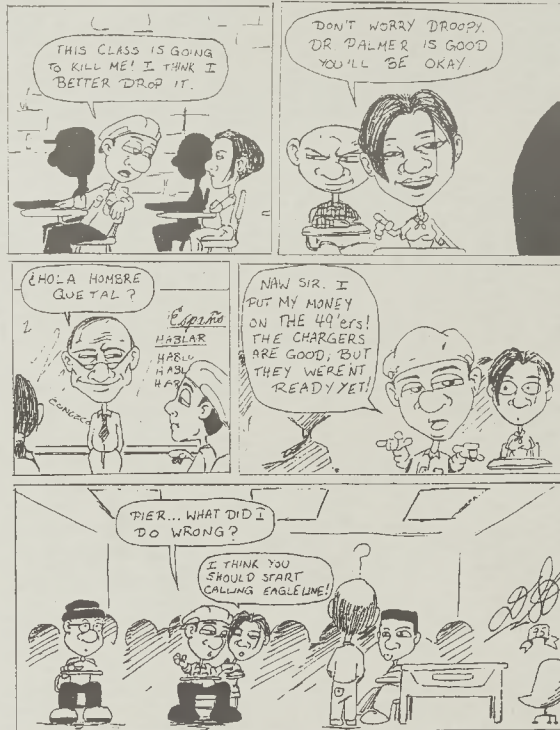
The Campus Echo
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The *Echo* office is located in Room 319 of the Farrison-Newton Communications Building, NCCU.

Student, faculty and staff are encouraged to submit articles, editorials and pen and ink artwork. Student participation is vital to the quality of the *Echo*; please volunteer.

Policy on letters

The *Campus Echo* welcomes letters from readers. Letters should be no more than 300 words in length. Our editors reserve the right to edit all letters and articles submitted for correctness and length.



POETRY

Mother To Mother

Mother to mother,
 I can imagine your pains,
 to have to part with your
 son is such a shame.
 Mother to mother,
 you spent so many years,
 only to be left now with so
 many tears.
 Mother to mother,
 you're not to blame, for it
 is the system in need of
 change.
 Mother to mother,
 dry your weeping eyes,
 and pray 'O' Lord, please
 hear my cry.
 Mother to mother,
 there is not much time,
 for we must educate our
 young to stop the dying . . .

Alton Wall

LETTERS

Using pagers can be disruptive

Dear editor,

I really appreciated the article in the Feb. 3 issue on pagers. I see so many irresponsible people carry pagers these days it is just a crime. If people would just take a few of the suggestions listed I would feel much better.

I am not a student at NCCU, but I do read your newspaper on a regular basis. I see more and more people using pagers both for business and personal use that do not heed these sample rules.

Nothing annoys me more than to have a pager go off in the middle of a meeting. This not only disrupts the meeting with the noise, but also with the paged person getting up to return a call. I can see how this would also disrupt a class, or a study area like the library.

I am glad to see you bring this up at the college level, before the students enter the work force. Hopefully this will teach some students to have pager etiquette that will be carried on for a long time.

The next problem I see coming is the cellular phone. These little things make the pager more of a crime.

When a pager goes off in the wrong place and the paged person picks up a cellular phone to return the call, that can be the worst crime of all.

**Kenneth Swakopf,
 Youngsville**

Put Alexander-Dunn on circulation list

Dear Editor,

Congratulations on making the *Campus Echo* more informative and helpful to your readership. You and the staff have worked hard to provide an organ that I now look forward to reading.

Hopefully, the circulation manager will add the Alexander-Dunn Building on the list of circulation sites.

**Sarah Bell-Lucas,
 Coordinator, Undergraduate
 Student Advising**

It's time Black men move to organize

Dear Editor,

I am writing to the man formerly known as EarthQuake:

Firstly, let me say thank you for not changing your name to an unpronounceable hieroglyphic. Two men in the world with symbols would be too much.

Secondly, I don't know what internal revolution you went through but I must say that you make sound and prolific points in your piece "95 ain't for no frontin'." It makes me feel that there is hope for the black MAN in Amerikkka.

It is time that we stop the bovine excrement and move towards more productive means. True there is no place in the hip hop culture nor in any culture for the gun, aka the nine, the gat, the glock or what ever it's called.

Gangsta rap started with good intentions. Being a lyrical revolution of the 90's, hip hop has been bastardized into a money making sham for producers and studio gangsters.

There is no place for it. And never let it go without saying, we as black MEN who want to be treated as MEN in this "Othello-like" society cannot and will not move forward until we stop dissing our black WOMEN and allowing them to be dissed by misled brothers.

Once we as a segment of soci-

ety come to realization of this, then we will be in a better position to demand and command our piece of the proverbial pie.

My question to you ROB is how do we initiate the solution? We see the problem and we see the solutions.

What will it take to execute the solution? Will it take the sacrifice of O.J. Simpson to make the black MAN realize that there is a price on his head and that it's much less than six million dollars.

Will it take another beatdown of a black MAN by the police in any of these "United" States? Or will it take the extinction of the black MAN to finally drive the point that there is some plan to remove the black MAN—By Any Means Necessary?

I would very much like to see just the black MEN on our campus and others that surround our community develop and implement a plan to counter attack this all out assault on my black brothers, be they Kappas, Alphas, Omegas, Sigmas, Masons, Elks, Christians, Muslims, Baptist, Eagles or Aggies.

We are all brothers in living color and if my brother is in trouble, then, so am I.

If you need help in putting a function like this in motion, don't hesitate time in asking me, I'm at your back just as I am with any black MAN doing something to advance himself and his people.

Humbly and with mad respect,
Russell Robinson

The *Campus Echo* welcomes letters to the editor. Send all correspondence to: The Editors, *Campus Echo*, North Carolina Central University, 1801 Fayetteville St., Durham, NC 27707