

Sudoku becoming major hit in U.S.

By Victor Barrett
The Voice

The objective is quite simple. Place digits 1 through 9 in a 9 X 9 matrix. Do so in a manner where every column, row, and the nine 3 x 3 matrices has the digits, and they cannot repeat. It does not require means of arithmetic, just a strong sense of logic.

Despite its name, Sudoku is an American creation. It was initially titled "Number Place" in 1979, but it never took off.

Japanese puzzle maker Nikoli took the puzzle and ran with it, it being popular in Asia for many years. The modern Godfather of Sudoku, Wayne Gould, first introduced it to the Western world in 1997. The current wave of Sudoku popularity is focused in the United Kingdom, and then spread outward.

In fact, my first encounter with Sudoku was an article that was posted on BBC last year. My interest was piqued and then I found myself doing puzzles, printing them off from a British newspaper's website and then subsequently filling them out. I thought that it was something completely novel, and that the United States would not be receptive to it. I was quite wrong! I started seeing them in the Observer and other newspapers and I was amazed. I started to see the books in major bookstores and I realized that it was something special. It seems like I'm not alone, as I've found a few students that solve the puzzles.

For the sake of example, I solved the puzzle in the Fayetteville Observer's March 22 edition. It took me about 45 minutes. Champion Sudoku players would scoff at my efforts. The champions have been

able to shoot down much harder puzzles in only a few minutes of their time. This of course, comes from doing multiple puzzles a day, and in that respect, it's become an obsession. Very recently, a world Sudoku championship was held. Not to be outdone, the United States is hosting its own Sudoku championship for a national champion. It's got to be serious, if people are willing to form a sanctioning body so that such a tournament can be held. If you have a little bit of time to spare, try your hand at solving a puzzle. Go easy at first, then work your way up. I'm not a tournament level,

but I'm familiar with the various methods of solving the puzzles. There are several resources on solving sudoku puzzles, so you shouldn't be

at a loss for information. If you give it a try, you just might find it an enjoyable hobby and maybe a little addicting.



FSU's hidden artists showcased

By Phillip Gattling Jr
The Voice

There are many artists at Fayetteville State University that we know of, and there are also many that we haven't heard of. This article will showcase and spotlight FSU's very own, Jarell Wadell. Jarell, a Freshman Political Science major, dreams of one day producing soundtracks for New Line Cinemas and Warner Bros.

He is gifted with the gift of producing and making his own music. He is a mastermind for composing beats. His music name is Black Rain, deriving from a childhood event discovering his love for music.

"Black Rain", Wadell remembers playing his keyboard outside his home in 1997, looking at the breathtaking black night sky, praying that if the beat he was working on at the time was "hot" then let it rain, and abruptly it rained that night outside, and giving him the name, "Black Rain"

When asking Jarell the question, "where do you see yourself in 10 years from now?" it didn't take him long to reply with an answer.

This is a young man who has a future planned, and is determined to reach all

of his goals and dreams. His response was "that he would be living somewhere in Hawaii or Maryland, married with 2 kids, holding a job as a Regulatory Affairs Officer fresh out of the United States Air Force, while pursuing his dream with his love of music".

Jarell accounts back to age 3, when he first discovered and fell in love with music. He remembers beating on pots and pans in the kitchen, then later on, he was able to have real instruments to practice on.

When asked what music does to him, Wadell replies that; "Music is my anti-drug, and that it is an incredible way of expressing myself, then he testifies, that he would rather lose all of his senses besides his hearing, because if he lost his hearing, he wouldn't be able to hear or compose music."

If you are interested in hearing some of Jarell Wadell's work, look out for his compositions featuring other FSU students like, Ken Kimber, Alexis "Burna" Rhone, Larry Lynch and soon, Anthony Lindsay. And also look for "The Answers" Band, a local punk rock group that has planned a future project with him.

To reach "Black Rain" (Jarell Wadell), check him out on his webpage, (www.myspace.com/blackrainofblacksoundsinc)

FSU Senior and SGA President Jerry Wilson, and Sophomore Andre Swann are enjoying a beautiful day on campus by tossing a frisbee around in the quad. Too often, students complain about the university not having enough for students to do around campus. However, if the university doesn't offer an activity that you're interested in, you should start your own organization or club for that activity. Whether it's starting an Ultimate Frisbee team, a Dodgeball Club, a Rap Club, or an organization that promotes student artists, it is up to you to make it a reality. See the Student Activities Council office in the student center, or visit their web page for more information.

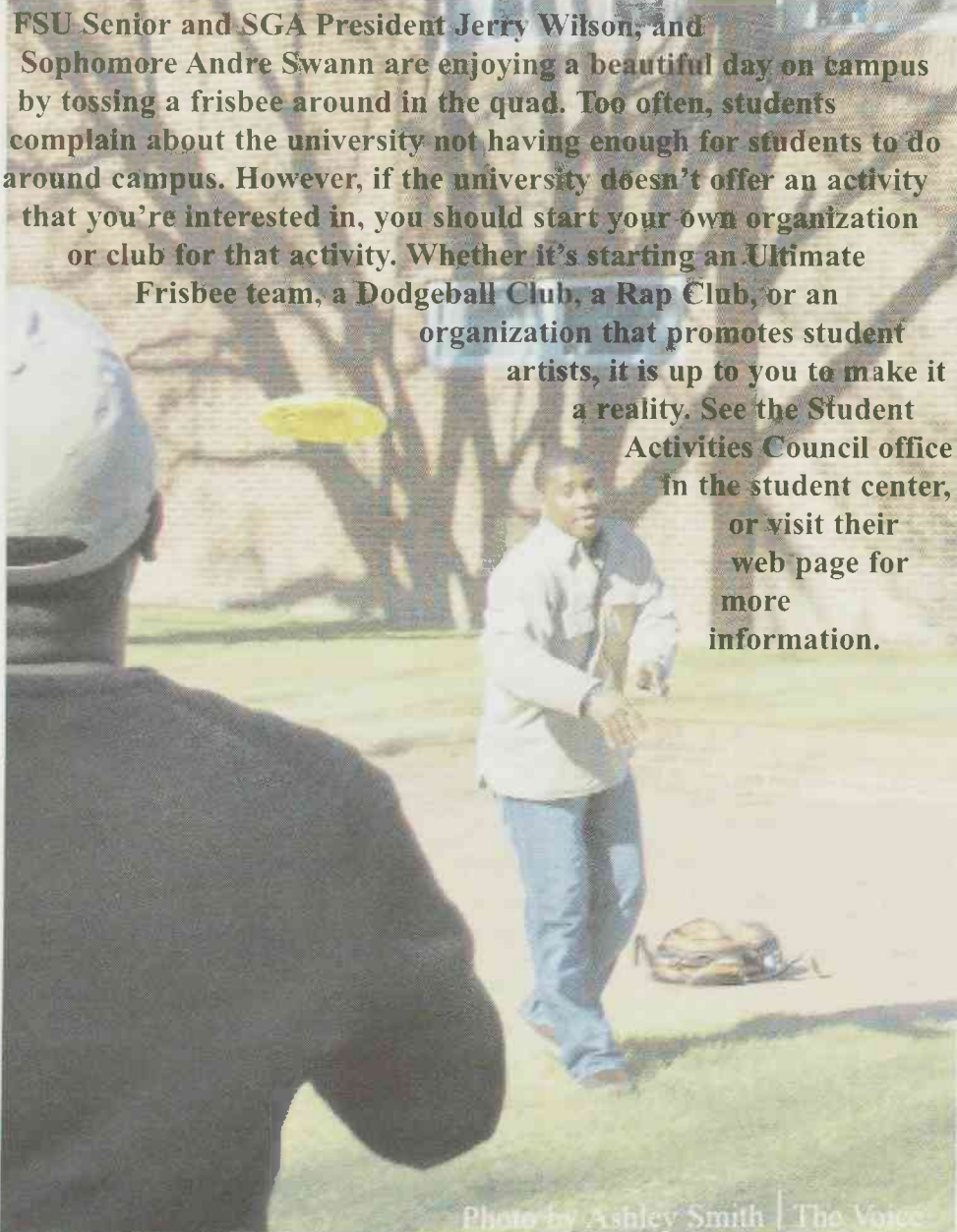


Photo by Ashley Smith | The Voice

THE WRITER'S BLOCK

(There are so many talented students here at FSU. You may be able to write poems very well, you may have a lot of favorite quotes, or you may just be a student who always has strong words of wisdom and encouragement. No matter what your writing talent is, here is your chance to share it with Fayetteville State University.)

Arts & Entertainment Editor: Phillip Gattling Jr.

A Lost Generation

By: Matthew Wynne

A lost generation
The lost sons and daughters of our nation
Discarded and displaced in penal institutions
Society's human trash bin
Viewed as underachievers, deviants, and pariahs
A lost generation
Many waiting for lost fathers
to retrieve them from life's
lost and found
Hearts aching for a fathers embrace
Hopelessness and confusion displayed on each face.
A lost generation
Lacking a mission or a vision
Find themselves incarcerated for choosing
just one wrong decision
Unstable lifestyles blinding them
to long range achievable goals
living merely for the here and now
has taken its toll
A lost generation
Futures tattered and
scattered by the winds of time
Potentials squashed
The ties in families that binds is severed
They can't be found when no one
searches for them
be found
Seek a solution, a revolution to
strengthen our youth
strengthen our youth to empower and ensure
our tomorrow
Find our lost generation
There future is our future.

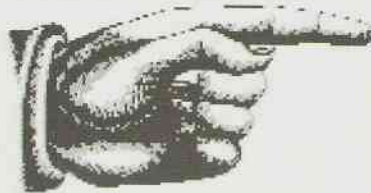
Dear God

By: Phillip Gattling Jr.

Dear God, I've Sinned Again,
How many times can I fall short before I'm
through with sinning?
When will I ever learn?
When will I give up evil, and give you a turn?
When will I stop my mess?
Cause now I realize that through you I will be
blessed,
Dear God, today is the day,
I want to be closer to you, I promise I'll never
stray,
In your arms, I feel so safe and secure,
Through your blood, I feel so pure,
You are the way, the truth and the light,
And I wanna live so right,
Dear God, you are the only way,
Just knowing you, makes a brighter day,
Dear God, I love you,
Dear God, I need you,
Dear God, This is my plea,
A sinner has fell, and is down on one knee,

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