

CAMPUS NEWS



CAMPUS PROFILE

Elizabeth City State University

Location: Elizabeth City, N.C.
 Founded: 1891
 Chancellor: Mickey L. Burnim
 Enrollment: 2,114
 Some degrees available: Accounting, biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, music, English, history, sociology, education.
 Faculty: 250
 Buildings: 43 (including nine residence halls)

For admission information, call (800) 347-ECSU or (919) 335-3305.

Shouts

Three Charlotte-area students have are among 550 winners of Achievement Scholarship awards for college undergraduate study.

Chaunston Avery of Charlotte Christian School, Steven Montgomery of Charlotte Country Day School and Kala Hamilton of Concord High participated in the National Achievement Scholarship Program, an annual academic competition in which black students participate. Awards won by students are supported by 80 corporations, businesses, company foundations, professional associations and the Achievement Program's own funds.

To be considered, semifinalists had to advance to the finalist level by meeting high academic standards, recommendations from their principals and submitting information about their activities, personal interests and goals.

Avery is a National Mathematics Award winner and lists varsity basketball and church youth group as extracurricular activities.

Montgomery plans to major in electrical engineering. He is a member of the National Honor Society, Cum Laude Society and president of the Spanish Club.

Hamilton plans to enter the medical field and is a member of the National Honor Society, Book Club, Chemistry Club and Students Against Drunk Driving.

Xavier Wise has been chosen as recipient of the Lakewood Community Academic Scholarship awarded by Circle No. 3 of Myers Park Baptist Church.

Wise is a freshman at Elizabeth City State University and is the grandson of Lula Wise of Charlotte. He is a 1995 graduate of West Charlotte High School.



Black college radio BURN-ing

By Benita Dillard
 FOR THE CHARLOTTE POST

A Johnson C. Smith University student is promoting radio's message at historically black colleges.

Demetrius Burrell, a junior at JCSU, is program promotions and marketing director at WJCS, Smith's on-campus radio station. He is involved with promoting Black University Radio Network, or BURN, throughout black college campuses on a regional level. He was selected by Diane Blackmon-Bailey, executive vice president and partner of Los Angeles-based Lee

Bailey Communications. Burrell was one of the first 10 representatives chosen to promote the network. Burrell and five other JCSU students known as BURN Street Team are promoting the network by attending Reunion Weekend in Jacksonville, Fla., this year.

BURN was started last October by Lee Bailey Communications, producer of Radioscope.

"JCSU kicked off this major event on the starting date," says Burrell.

The purpose of the network is to allow black colleges to keep up with what's going on around other campuses.

BURN focuses on press releases, media contact, social functions, voter registration drives and a host of other events that black colleges may never hear about.

"It facilitates black colleges through positive news," says Burrell.

"Entertainment 360" is the network's flagship program. It is nationally syndicated to keep up on entertainment in news and sports.

"It is a college version of Radioscope," says Burrell.

"Entertainment 360," a five-minute show, can be heard every day at noon and 5 p.m. on more than 40 college radio

stations, including WJCS.

BURN is sponsored nationally by the U.S. Army and Coca-Cola USA. The program has enabled black colleges and universities to join together to support African Americans in the radio network. It promotes, as Burrell puts it, "the 3 Rs - radio, records and retail." Also BURN will sponsor academic programs such as scholarships, network radio internships and other opportunities for students.

Several events are being planned to advertise the network in cities by including major college events such as

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Black Youth Vote!

By Herbert L. White
 THE CHARLOTTE POST

Are you old enough to vote? In an effort to mobilize young brothers and sisters to vote, Black Youth Vote! is soliciting volunteers to register voters at entertainment events, including LL Cool J and TLC concerts.

The Hip Hop Coalition, which includes artists such as Chuck D, Method Man, Naughty By Nature, Will Smith and Jada Pinkett, is working with BYV! to target street, incarcerated, college and school age youth for aggressive urban mobilization.

"BYV! functions according to the highest coalition principles, building intergenerational ties among youth, civic, religious, labor, civil rights, environmental and education activists to bring about positive change in the black community," James J. Ferguson, BYV! executive director says.

Planned events include a celebrity awards dinner, golf tournament, training seminars, issue forums in urban areas across the U.S., and a tour of historically black colleges. BYV! will also have a strong presence at major events and concerts including registration at FreedomFest in Atlanta. A high school outreach program to train brothers and sisters as coordinators in the southeast is being developed.

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Teens grapple with the joys and hurt of interracial dating

By Allison Mechem
 KINGSPORT TIMES-NEWS

KINGSPORT, Tenn. - You meet each other, you like each other, you date, no problem.

Well, not always.

"I think it's not good dating outside your race in this town, because it's not accepted here," said Nathan Vaughn, a junior at Kingsport's Dobyns-Bennett High School.

"Nathan, who is black, knows firsthand about dating someone whose race is different from his, and he has concluded that the pros are outweighed by the cons.

Janina Jefferson, who is white and a senior at Powell Valley High School in Big Stone Gap, Va. agrees.

"This is really a small community and everybody knows everybody's business," she said. "This is a really prejudiced community."

Janina is dating a black man who is serving in the U.S. Army as a medic. She said they knew each other as neigh-

bors and were "best friends" for two years before they began dating. To her, race is a non-issue.

"When you love someone, you don't see it," she said. "I don't see him as being black. We love each other, and we don't really care what anybody else thinks."

At first her parents were opposed to the relationship because interracial dating was not acceptable when they were teens, she said.

"But I couldn't find a better person than he is. He loves me, he respects me, he works hard, doesn't drink, doesn't do drugs. "He's all I could ask for."

Janina said her peers do not give her any trouble about her relationship, but at least one adult has interfered, she said.

"My school counselor took me in and said I shouldn't be dating a black person," Janina said. "I think that's pitiful, it doesn't have anything to do with school. She shouldn't have done that."

Tara Pope, a senior at

Dobyns-Bennett, once dated someone from another race and culture, and had a very different reception from her peers and community than did Nathan and Janina.

Tara, a white DBHS junior, dated a Japanese native, and said the relationship caused hardly a ripple among her friends and family.

The difference may lie in what racial lines she, Nathan and Janina chose to cross.

In looking back on her relationship, Tara says the cultural differences between Americans and Asians are tremendous, but that was one of the positive aspects of the relationship.

"There's a lot of differences, cultural differences, and views on government, family - really, everything," she said.

"But that wasn't really a problem. We both learned a lot (about each other's cultures)." Nathan said that his relationship had the same thing going

for it that any dating relationship has - he was able to spend time with someone he liked.

But the interracial aspect was not warmly accepted by some of his friends and some of hers, he said.

"Really, her (white) friends were more cool about it than my (black) female friends were," he said. "But I think mostly it is not accepted in white society."

Nathan said that while interracial dating is not uncommon in Kingsport, acceptance does not appear to be growing.

"But I think it is kind of good (to date outside racial and cultural lines)," he said. "It's not good being separate from anybody."

"It's not so much as it is who you like. You like them because you like them, not because of what their skin looks like."

