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Section

LIFE



IN RELIGION
Black and white
masons have yet
to come together.

True to your school

For alumni of historically black colleges, homecoming is like a family reunion

By Cheri F. Hodges
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The crowd barely looks at the football field and on this special Saturday, winning isn't the top priority.

Then again, winning is the only thing that will make the day even more exciting. It's homecoming and everyone's back in effect.

Homecoming at historically-black colleges means more than a football game. It's a time when the game crowd puts on a fashion show, fraternities and sororities come together and recall the days of pledging and the bands put on a show at half time.

Whether your alma mater is having a winning season or not is irrelevant. Jeffrey Lathan, a 45-year-old graduate of North Carolina A&T State University, isn't happy the Aggies haven't won a football game all season, but last week he was front and center to take part in the homecoming festivities.

"Homecoming is an event all itself," he said. "The game is almost secondary."

The Aggies lost their homecoming to Howard University 26-0, but that didn't matter a whole lot.

"People still look forward to homecoming," he said. "People come back to see folk they went to school with and see who got married and who has kids."

Lathan, who comes from a long line of

Aggies, said that he's had cousins that may have gone off to other schools, but every year, they make the pilgrimage to Greensboro for what A&T calls the "greatest show on Earth."

As Johnson C. Smith University gets set to celebrate its homecoming and a winning football team, excitement is building for alumni. Robert Johnson of Bennettsville, S.C., who graduated from JCSU in the 1960s and pledged Kappa Alpha Psi, made his way to Charlotte on Thursday to begin the celebration.

When asked if he was excited about Smith's season and this year's homecoming, he said, "Oh yeah."

Erin Quick, a graduate of Clark Atlanta University, said she attended homecoming this year, but she wasn't too excited.

"I really didn't see anybody," she said. "I just saw one person that I hadn't seen in years."

Homecoming at some HBCUs can be a source of healing. Take Southern University for instance. Following the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, the game and festivities went on. It was a party with a purpose as the theme was "Honoring the Past, Charting the Future."

Last year, according to Black America Web, 910 displaced students from New Orleans were able to attend all of Southern's homecoming events for free.



Members of Miss JCSU's court prepare for the queen's coming out party.

From tennis to meetings to football and parties, there'll be plenty for young and old alike to do at Johnson C. Smith University's homecoming this weekend.

Oct. 27:

8 a.m. - Alumni golf tournament, The Tradition Golf Club. For information, call Francis Pendergrass at (704) 578-8437 or James Saunders at (704) 451-5434.

9 a.m. - Alumni registration, Blake Hotel convention foyer.

1 p.m. - National Alumni Association Executive Committee meeting, Blake Hotel, Mecklenburg 3 ballroom.

2 p.m. - Blue & Gold Alumni Tennis Play Day, campus tennis courts. Call James Cuthbertson at (704) 378-1282 for information.

4 p.m. - General alumni meeting, Blake Hotel, Mecklenburg 1 and 2 ballrooms.

5:30 p.m. - Class agent meeting, Blake Hotel, Mecklenburg 1 and 2 ballrooms.

6 p.m. - Pep rally, the Block.

7:30 p.m. - Lyceum concert with The Young Eight, The String Ensemble at Jane M. Smith Memorial Church. Free.

9 p.m. - Alumni party, Blake Hotel, Symphony Ballroom. Admission \$10.

1 a.m. - Alumni hospitality Blake Hotel, Governor's Ballroom 1-4.

Oct. 28:

8 a.m. - Parade lineup, Trade and Cedar streets

9 a.m. - Alumni registration, Blake Hotel convention foyer

10 a.m. - Parade along East Trade Street to Memorial Stadium features JCSU marching band as well as bands from high schools across the Carolinas.

1 p.m. - The Golden Bulls football team, winners of six of eight games, take on Savannah State at Memorial Stadium.

4 p.m. - After all that walking, talking and football, you're bound to be hungry. Head to the campus for the alumni soul food dinner in the dining hall. Cost is \$9.

5 p.m. - Young Alumni meeting, Grimes Lounge.

9 p.m. - The Charlotte Alumni Chapter hosts its annual Fellowship Ball. Music provided by Johnny White & The Elite Band at the Blake Hotel Symphony Ballroom. For information, call Peggy Lide at (704) 568-6847. Admission is \$25.

1 a.m. - Alumni hospitality, Blake Hotel, Governor's Ballroom 1-4.

Oct. 29:

10 a.m. - Worship service, Jane M. Smith Memorial Church on campus.

2 p.m. - Alumni gospel concert, Jane M. Smith Memorial Church.

Tour stop puts shine on hair and makeup

By Cheri F. Hodges
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Want to know what the trends are for fall hair and make-up?

Then, the 2006 Shine Trend Release and Education tour is the place to be.

The tour stop, which begins Sunday at Center Stage@NoDa and runs through Monday, will showcase the hottest hair and fashion trends seen from couture runways to chic streets. Experts will also learn techniques as they take advantage of the SoftSheen-Carson Professional Product and Style Educators on staff discussing "look" creation,

inspiration and development process. Celebrity stylist-taught classes will include topics such as Tricks of the Celebrity Stylist, Creating Flawless Color, and Hair Trauma 101. Other event highlights will be an anniversary presentation by Charlotte salon Hera by Him that showcases the style and flair of the local professional market.

Featured at the event will be Oscar James, a world renowned stylist whose client list includes Star Jones, Tyra Banks, Iman, Vanessa Williams and Kelly Rowland; Jacqueline Tarrant, director of education for

Please see HAIR/2B



The faces and hairstyles of fall will be on display Sunday and Monday.

Derek Jeter Driven:

New cologne smells like team spirit

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Derek Jeter might wear a 2 on his New York Yankees' jersey, but, right now, he's No. 1 with a group of devoted female fans — Avon ladies.

Jeter is the inspiration, spokesman and model for Derek Jeter Driven, the newest men's fragrance from Avon Products Inc.

The cologne won't be available until the end of November,

but Avon reports advance sales are strong.

The AP sat down with Jeter when the announcement was made earlier this year, and he said he was as surprised as anyone that a beauty company came to him with a partnership deal. "It was something I never thought about, something that never crossed my mind."

AP: Have you always worn fragrance?

Please see NEW/2B

The People's Clinic
THE MAYA ANGELOU RESEARCH CENTER
ON MINORITY HEALTH
Wake Forest University Hospital
WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

Cancer study seeks sisters

The Maya Angelou Research Center on Minority Health is honored to dedicate this week's column to a National Institutes of Health project called the Sister Study.

As we have discussed in previous articles, the National Cancer Institute has reported that, though breast cancer is more common in white women, African American women experience higher death rates from it than any other racial or ethnic group. Research is important in helping us understand why.

We've all been touched by breast cancer. Whether we've personally experienced the disease or have a relative, good girlfriend or colleague who's dealt with the challenge head-on, breast cancer can be devastating. In the midst of the uncertainty, it's reassuring to know there's hope on the horizon. In an effort to find the causes of breast cancer, the Sister Study is seeking the help of women whose sisters had breast cancer.

The Sister Study is a nationwide effort, conducted by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, one of the National Institutes of Health of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to learn how the environment and genes may affect the changes of getting breast cancer. The study needs 50,000 women whose sisters had breast cancer to help find the causes of the disease. The Sister Study is particularly committed to enrolling women in every state, and from all backgrounds, occupations, races and ethnicities, so that the study results represent and benefit all women.

Is breast cancer caused by something women come in contact with at work, at home, in their communities or in the personal products they use? That's what the Sister Study research team is working hard to answer.

Women ages 35 to 74 are eligible to join the study if their sister (living or deceased), related to them by blood, had breast cancer; they have never had breast cancer themselves; and they live in the United States or Puerto Rico.

The Sister Study has made participation as convenient as possible. "At the beginning, women will answer some over-the-phone and written surveys and provide blood, urine, household dust and toenail samples," said Dr. Dale Sandler, principal investigator of the Sister Study. "After that for about 10 years, we'll touch base once a year to learn about changes to their address, health or environment." She added, "The Sister Study does not require participants to take any medicine, undergo any medical treatments, or make any changes to their habits, diet or daily life."

Organizations that are in partnership with the Sister Study include the American Cancer Society, the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities of the National Institutes of Health, Sisters Network Inc., the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, the Y-IME National Breast Cancer Organization, and the Intercultural Cancer Council. In addition to working with its national partners, the Sister Study works with sororities, churches, labor and professional organizations, civic groups and numerous other local and national organizations to inform diverse women about the study.

Joining the Sister Study is fairly simple, can be done from home when it is convenient for women, and is available in English and Spanish. To volunteer or learn more about the Sister Study, visit the web site www.sisterstudy.org, or for Spanish visit www.estudiodehermanas.org. A toll free number is also available 1-877-4SISTER (877-474-7837). Deaf/Hard of Hearing call 1-866-TTY-4SIS (866-889-4747).

Woman by woman...Sister by sister... We can make a difference.



Jeter

