



ASK ME ABOUT NATURE

by Doris B. Kwakpui

Dear Mrs. K:
I want to know what people have crocodile skin?
Andy

Dear Andy:
The wrinkled skin of old people is called crocodile skin. Therefore all people of the world who are very old may have crocodile skin.

Dear Mrs. K:
I watched a black, gray and white bird catch a mouse and hang it on the barb of a wire fence. Why did it do this?
Kofi

Dear Kofi:
You probably observed the peculiar habit of the Loggerhead shrike or Butcherbird. It hangs the animals it catches on barbs of wire fence because this is an easy way for the Loggerhead shrike to tear the prey to pieces before eating it.

Dear Mrs. K:
Are deep-sea animals cold-blooded?
Jeff

Dear Jeff:
Deep-sea animals are cold-blooded creatures. Their body temperatures are the same as their surroundings which are usually from 37.4° to 30.2° F.

Dear Mrs. K:
Why is it that Barlette pears that grow on our trees are gritty while the Barlette pears that are sold in the grocery stores are not?
Mrs. P. Richardson

Dear Mrs. Richardson:
You are probably leaving the pears on the trees too long before picking them. Pears develop grit cells and taste gritty if left to tree-ripen. Pears must be picked before they fully mature and then be allowed to ripen off the tree to improve their texture and flavor.

Dear Mrs. K:
Why do Siamese fighting fish fight?
Peanut

Dear Peanut:
Siamese fighting fish fight only to drive off an opponent during mating season. Only the male fish fight.

Dear Mrs. K:
Around my house there are a few tree stumps. What is the best way to get rid of them?
Mr. Maughan

Dear Mr. Maughan:
You did not mention what kind of land you have. However, stumps in sandy soils may be pulled out easily while stumps in heavy clay soil may have to be removed with dynamite. If you can wait for about eight to ten months, the stumps will rot away if treated with table salt which kills the roots, first. Chemicals for this purpose are sold in farm and garden stores. The salt or chemical must be put in a hole which has been bored in the middle of the stump.



RALEIGH--BOOSTERS DONATE MONEY-The Shaw University Boosters Club donated \$1,000 last week to the institution's J.E. Lytle Fund. The fund was established in 1975 in honor of Dr. James E. Lytle, former athletic director at Shaw. Booster Club president Herbert Hilliard (second from left), presents check to (left to right) William Spann, athletic director; Lee Monroe, director of development; and Thomas Kee, vice president for university relations and development.

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Major Black Art Exhibit Opening At A&T

GREENSBORO--Amistad II, an exhibit of art work by black Americans dating from 1795 to the present, will be shown in the H.C. Taylor Art Gallery at A&T State University Feb. 15 through Mar. 12.

The exhibit, consisting of some 75 works by the nation's top black artists, is being shown in connection with A&T's year-

The exhibit, consisting of some 75 works by the nation's top black artists, is being shown in connection with A&T's year-long celebration of the American bicentennial.

"We feel extremely fortunate in securing this outstanding exhibit," said Mrs. Eva Miller, curator of the museum. "In this show will be very important paintings, sculptures and documents, vitally steeped in our history."

The Amistad II exhibit will be coming to A&T from the Museum of Colorado.

A cooperative project of seven Southern colleges, the Amistad Research Center and the American Missionary Association, the exhibit cost more than \$60,000 to assemble. More than three

years of planning went into the exhibit.

Amistad II is named for a slave ship which was seized by mutinying slaves in a desperate attempt at freedom in 1839.

The 53 slaves, led by Cinque, the oldest son of the chief of the Mendi tribe in West Africa, took over the Spanish slave ship, La-Amistad.

The slaves thought they were heading for Africa, but were tricked by two

Spanish navigators. They ended up in Long Island, New York and were tried for piracy and murder.

Tried before the U.S. Supreme Court which was presided by former President John Quincy Adams, the slaves were freed and later returned to Africa.

Included in the extensive collection, will be works by Henry O. Tanner, Romare Bearden, Jacob Lawrence,

Elizabeth Catlett, Charles White and Joshua Johnston.

Among the documents are original and enlarged reproductions of slave letters, Adams' correspondence and other writings which tell the Amistad story. The Taylor Gallery will be open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It will be closed on Saturdays and will open again on Sunday from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

WSSU Observes Black History Week

WINSTON-SALEM--In observance of Black History Week, February 8-14, various campus organizations at Winston-Salem State University have prepared a seven-day program which highlights the history, religion, politics, and culture of Black Americans.

The program events will include participants from the campus and the Winston-Salem community as well as other professional talent. Of particular note is the history program on Wednesday, February 11 which is entitled "An Evening with Frederick Douglass" featuring William Marshall.

This event sponsored by the Scholastic Achievement Program and Student Government Association, will be held at 8:00 p.m. in the K.R. Williams Auditorium. It is open and free to the public.

Marshall is a distinguished Shakespearean actor who has performed as Othello for the British Royal Family. His appearances on the American Stage, in films and television over the more than twenty years of his career include his widely acclaimed performance in the Greek drama, "Oedipus Rex", and his portrayal of the fictional King Dick in

"Lydia Bailey", based on the life of the Haitian patriot Henry Christophe. Marshall was most recently the recipient of two Emmy Awards for both executive producer and performer in the production of "Adam, Early in the Morning". Marshall plays the starring role in American International's film of "Blacula".

In the Wednesday night performance Marshall will re-create the life and times of Frederick Douglass, a man born into slavery, who became a uniquely eloquent voice of 19th Century America as both a writer and orator in the cause of human rights.

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