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THE RODDEY-MCMILLAN RECORD

Winthrop's multicultural newsmagazine
Dec. 1994, Vol. 2 No. 10

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Union County tragedy evokes anger, sadness

by Arlecia Simmons
Staff Writer

He is described as the fly brother walking down the street - a portrait of an African king in the poetry of Nikki Giovanni. But in the media, he is seen as the culprit of all decay in society. The negative stereotypes of black males are a time worn epidemic of our society.

On Oct. 25, authorities were notified by Susan Smith that she was forced from her car by a black man. She reported that the man said he would not harm her two children who she was "forced" to leave in the car. In an attempt to find the children, a mug shot of a black man with a toboggan was featured on many newspapers and television stations. Prayer vigils were held in hopes that the children would be safely returned.

However, Smith later confessed to murdering her children by dumping her car in the lake and lying to authorities about a black assailant. This led many African-Americans in Union County and the country in general to be angry. Many asked why they had become the victims of the media.

Samuel Vanderpool Jr. was the Rock Hill man who was questioned in the case of

the deceased children.

"All my life, I had to go through this because of the way I look," Vanderpool told "The Herald" days before Smith confessed. "I'm hurting. I've been hurting a long time."

Even though Vanderpool was hurting, he does not remain bitter. In an appearance on "The Oprah Winfrey Show," he said, "We are God's children and we shouldn't say that she (Smith) should be killed."

Smith is not the first person to falsely accuse an African-American of a crime.

Charles Stuart, in a 1989 case in Boston, claimed that a black gunman had robbed him and his pregnant wife, killing her and wounding him. Police in Boston suspected, William Bennett, a man who had been arrested for a number of crimes. Bennett, however, did not murder Stuart's wife.

The culprit was Charles Stuart. He lied about the robbery in order to cover up the fact that he shot his wife in their car on the way home from a lamaze class.

While the media continues to perpetuate the idea that the Smith case has sparked a racial fire in Union county, Tammie Tucker, a
see *UNION*, pg. 3

"Play me a song, you're the piano man."



Photo by Amy Powell

Molly Pederson reclines on the carpet as Michael Denny plays the piano in East Thomson.

Getting involved helps minority students succeed

by Arlecia Simmons
Staff Writer

Shannon Lee is a senior at Winthrop University, a predominantly white institution in South Carolina. Next spring, she will graduate with honors and hopes to go to law school. She recently scored 162 out of a total 180 on the Law School Admissions Test.

Lee, an African-American student, possesses something that many African-American students on predominantly white campuses don't - social skills.

African-American students on predominantly white campuses face many educational and emotional challenges as well as social challenges.

These often result in other problems that plague the student.

The survival of the African-American student at a predominantly white institution depends on a number of factors.

One way is to get involved. All colleges and universities have organizations that promote African-American culture and awareness.

Also, it is important to join departmental student organizations, sororities and fraternities.

Tracy Moore, student development coordinator at Winthrop, said his office attempts to get freshmen involved in minority activities because they are initially less threatening.

"First, they have to tell someone they want to get involved," he said.

Moore added that these general organizations are where people get their initial foundations.

"It takes several different types of things to attract most people," he said.

Lee said she began her involvement with the Association of Ebonites and the Program for Academic and Career Enhancement (PACE). Both are organizations geared towards the cultural and educational enhancement of African-American students.

"The more you get involved, the more you get to interact socially," Lee said.

Inside the Record :
See four page story on violence against women.

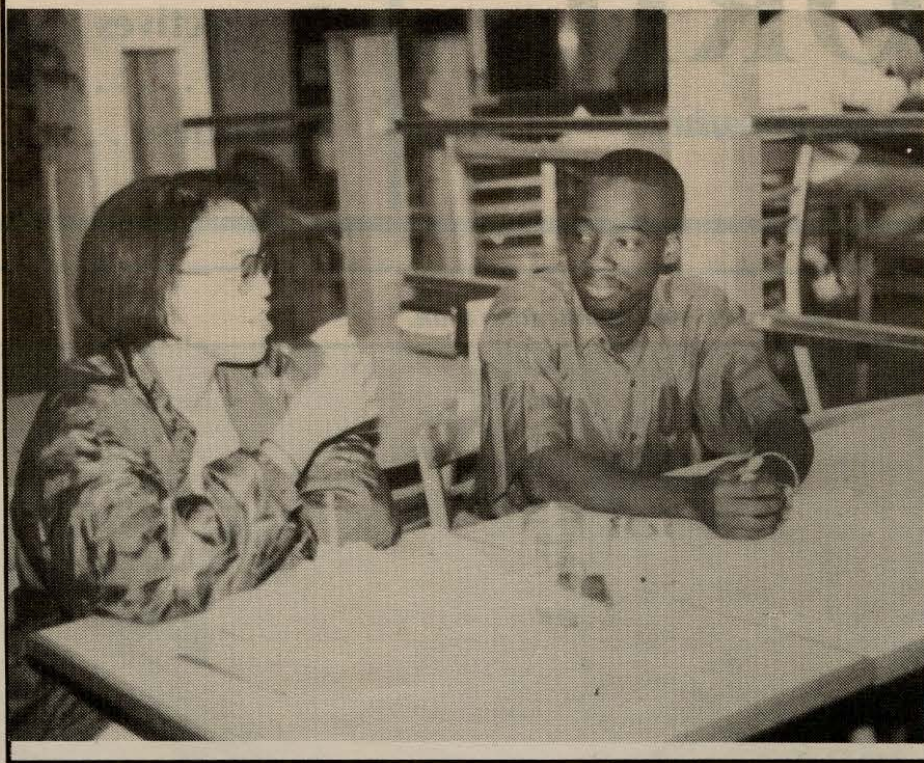
"After dinner snack"

Photo by Amy Powell

Amanda White enjoys her ice cream cone as she engages in conversation with William Spann.

Commentary: Republican 'take over' gives gays an advantage

by Alvin McEwen
Editor

Unlike my liberal compatriots throughout the country, I refuse to bellyache about the results of November's election. Despite many gloomy forecasts about how the Republicans will eliminate this and cut that, I remain optimistic; particularly for the advancement of homosexual rights.

To many gays, the Republican party is the ultimate evil, the anti-thesis of who they are.

This is mainly because of how the religious right has fused its ideology to that of the Grand Old Party like a leech to an overweight man. One of their claims is that homosexuals are plotting to destroy "family values" and it's up to them and the Republican party to stop this.

Despite what they think, the religious right does not rule the Republican party. There are many gays Republicans who are now getting their voices heard as the spotlight falls on their party.

One of these individuals

Despite what they think, the religious right does not rule the Republican party. There are many gays Republicans who are now getting their voices heard as the spotlight falls on their party.

is David Brock, author of "The Real Anita Hill." While Brock continues to demonize President Clinton and other Democrats in the right winged "American Spectator" magazine, it is well to note that he is "out of the closet."

The same goes for Bruce Bawer, who writes for the right wing "The New Criterion" and the gay magazine, "The Advocate."

This also goes for Steve Gunderson, former chief deputy to Speaker of the House-to-be Newt Gingrich. Gunderson is presently still a Republican and founder of the Tuesday Group, an organization founded to draft a more moderate strategy.

It's not the politics of Brock, Bawer and Gunderson that matters.

It is the fact that they are gays in a party full of indi-

viduals who want to eliminate gay rights. It will be more difficult for Republicans to take a hard line against gay rights because, lo and behold, they have gay supporters.

This is also not a out of the ordinary occurrence. I'm sure Brock, Bawer and Gunderson are only three of a numerous voting block of gay Republicans.

Even if these gay Republicans were not numerous enough to make a dent in the circle of power the religious right has created in the Grand Old Party, I predict some angry posterings, as well as changing of positions.

At the very most, the spotlight shown on gay Republicans will give the homosexual movement a foothold. It gives the homosexual movement true diversity, some-

see *GOP*, pg. 3

Stereotypes: are they somewhat truthful?

by Pat Burrows
Staff Writer

A stereotype can be defined as the assumed, oversimplified norm by which most groups of people are judged. Very few fit into the rigid definitions that make up a stereotype.

But, as freshman Dan Kelley said, sometimes the way a person looks or acts is a good indication of what kind of person they are.

He also said that "stereotypes don't happen for any reason." Kelley said that these views and perceptions must be grounded in some sort of realistic observations.

The problem is stereotypes are viewed from a prejudicial, judgemental standpoint where every member of a certain group, be it African-Americans, white Americans, women or homosexuals, are viewed the exact same way.

"I think there is a social hubris that we need to do away with," said Buddy Freeman, a graduate stu-

dent majoring in International Relations. "To some degree, everybody stereotypes a little bit.

Freeman said people can eliminate this human reaction by opening their minds.

"If you don't open your mind, you mind stagnates," Freeman said. "If your mind stagnates, you die."

Often times, however, it is hard to overcome personal stereotypes or see people from an uninfluenced point of view when members of the group in question do things to reinforce the stereotypes about themselves. It is times like those that cause people to wonder if the stereotypes are true.

Jerry Morgan, a religion/philosophy major, said "People always said that black people are louder than other people. I found this true, yesterday. I was standing behind two black girls and I couldn't even hear my friend talk because they were so loud. We had to stop our conversation because of them."



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We have meetings every Monday at 5 p.m. in the Student Publications Building.

Interested students are invited to drop by.

Married and attending college

Couples in Roddey speak out

by Sherry Ford
Staff Writer

Being a student is a very stressful situation by itself, but when one is married, it is even more so.

Married couples here at Winthrop live in Roddey apartments or off campus. Bob Krebs, a 31-year-old graduate student working on his masters in Music Education, said he and his wife live in Roddey because he didn't have the time to devote to a regular job and attending job. He became Roddey's resident director.

Krebs said the most difficult thing about being married and going to Winthrop is attempting to devote some

time to his wife and Jesse, his nine-month-old daughter.

Darryl and Gail Hughey are also two residents of Roddey. Gail is a residence assistant, while Darryl is employed as a security assistant.

They said that living in Roddey and having an on campus job gives them more time devoted to their school work.

They also said they also try to spend time with each other.

Madeline Duke has been living in Roddey with her husband and one-year-old son since May. She also said time management is a huge problem.

Analysis: Students should learn foreign language

by Robin Fogle
Staff Writer

Goal four of the Winthrop University General Education Distribution Requirements is the following: "To recognize and appreciate human diversity as well as the diversity of ideas, institutions, philosophies, moral codes and ethical principles. To achieve this goal, the student should: 1. analyze diverse world cultures, societies, languages, historical pe-

riods and artistic expressions."

What this means in layman's terms is that every student has to demonstrate an adequate level of knowledge in at least one language other than English.

Here you have it. This is the official reason why a foreign language requirement is necessary for graduation. But why should we, as Americans, be forced to learn

see *LEARN*, pg. 8

"The Diligent Student"

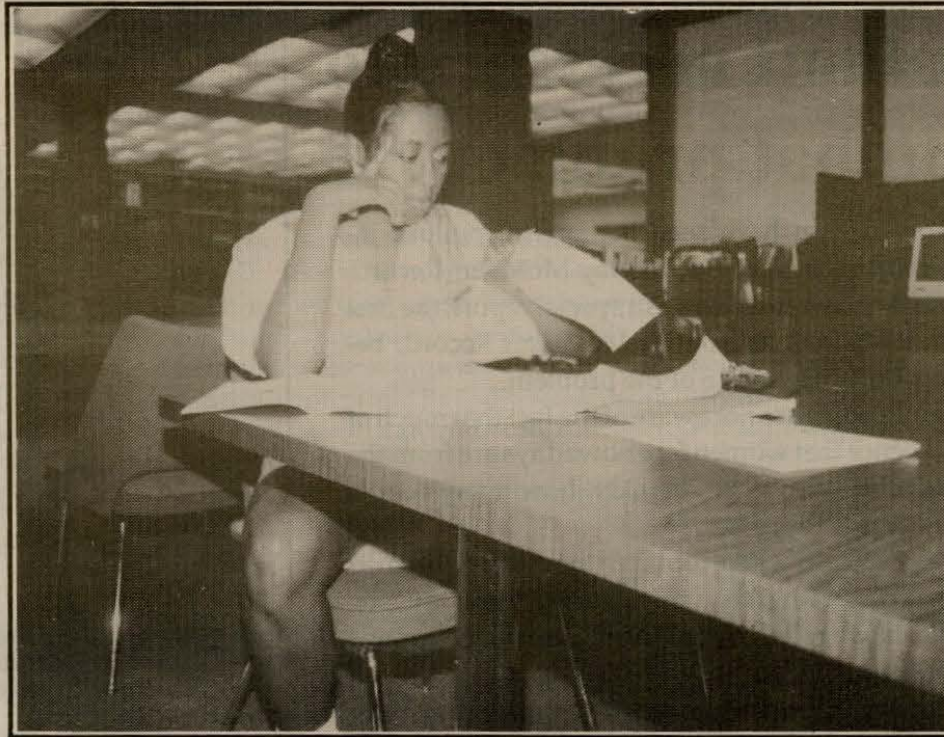


Photo by Amy Powell

Stella Quarles, a graduate student, studies her lesson in the library.

Union

continued from pg. 1

junior from Union, said that this fire was already burning.

"Union is an okay little town to live in - if black people stay in their place and white people stay in their place," she said. "It's not completely prejudice, but there is still a lot of racism."

Tucker said that many African-Americans in Union believed that the case was racial. She said she could not see being angry unless a black man was charged as a result of the false accusations made by Smith.

"A lot of black men are just

sick of it," she said. "Not only in this case, but this case just brought out the anger. A lot of black guys because of the way they dress are stopped by the police."

She believes that even though the recent happenings have shaken up Union, the town must begin to heal. Tucker believes that the town has learned from the tragedy, but ignorance will continue.

"Tragedy has struck Union before," she said, "but people go back to doing the same old thing."

Tucker's boyfriend, an African-American who lives in

Union county, is angered. He said that the stares from people there are now more abrasive.

"You can feel an evil, evil eye when you walk into a store," he said. "Not from white people our age, but from older white people."

He added, "the media wants you to see what the media wants you to see."

He said when something good happens in the black community, you must hear it through the grapevine, but when something negative happens, one sees and hears it virtually everywhere.

GOP

continued from pg. 1

thing which it sorely needs. One gets tired of seeing "dykes on bikes" and transvetites.

At the very least, it's going to make very interesting politics as the Republican party try to get their homosexual faction and the religious right faction working together -- lots of luck.

To paraphrase Bette Davis, "fasten your seat belts, it's going to be a bumpy time til '96."

ALLIES WANTED!

Heterosexuals interested in educating themselves and others on issues concerning homosexuality and bisexuality, GLOBAL needs you!

Please contact Jamie Clark at ext. 3550

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Recycle The Roddey-McMillan Record**

Coming next semester in The Roddey-McMillan Record:

An in depth look at Black History Month

Interview with a Holocaust survivor

A look at gays and adoption

The Skinhead movement

Revisionist history

All of this and more in The Roddey-McMillan Record, so don't miss out!

Pullout necessary to combat problem

Many of you have seen the special pullout included in this issue of The Roddey-McMillan Record. The staff choose to make this a special report, the first of its kind for The Roddey-McMillan Record, because of the magnitude of the problem.

Many people are not aware of the fact that much of the violence that women face nowadays are from the hands of a "loved one." Frankly, how many people would care if they knew?

In this society, where too often the victim is blamed for the crime rather than the criminal, some say "she should have gotten out of the relationship" or "she brought it upon herself."

Many women do attempt to leave the relationship, only to be stalked and have their lives endangered by the man in question. As the pullout mentioned, it is difficult for the woman to keep the man away from her.

Much of our negative attention needs to be given to the man in these cases. No doubt, some sensitive, politically correct types will claim that this would be male bashing.

Yes, that's true— that would be male bashing and more power to it..

Any man who is weak enough to attack a woman for a comment or less deserves to be bashed. He deserves to have everyone know how much of a lesser being he is. Also, any man who will cry male bashing without regard to the victim in question needs to really look at himself. No woman brings violence upon herself, no matter what she may say, wear or do.

The problem is real and very close to home, as the article mentions. No doubt, even as you are reading this, a woman on this campus is being physically threatened or abused.

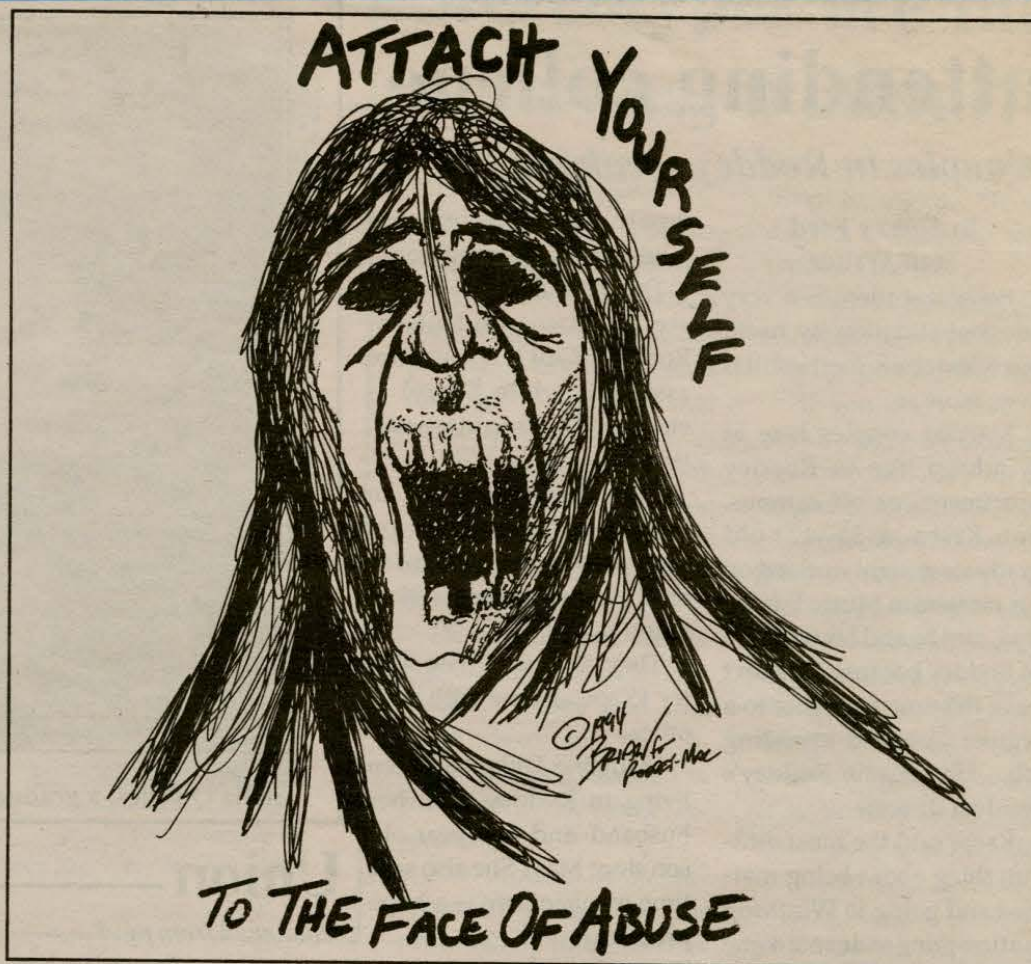
Scary, isn't it? It's supposed to be. Until we realize this problem and do something about it, it's going to continue.

THE RODDEY-MCMILLAN RECORD

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Brian Clement	Activities Editor

The Roddey-McMillan Record is a monthly campus publication that deals with multicultural issues.

Unsigned editorials reflect the opinion of the entire editorial staff of The Roddey-McMillan Record. The Roddey-McMillan Record holds meetings every Monday at 5 p.m. in the Student Publications Building in the basement of Bancroft.



Letters to the editor

Student-parent disagrees with Woods's letter

Dear Editor,

This is written as a response to a letter by Jeannie M. Woods. She expresses misconceptions about the reason parents claim that attending cultural events is a burden.

Many parents agree that attending cultural events is an inconvenience. However, attend the events is not an inconvenience because we cannot find or afford child care. The fact is that parents do not want to spend time away from their children.

To this date, the only complaints about disruptive children at cultural events have

come from Mrs. Woods and her husband, the actor. Their widely publicized complaints have created this feeling in parents that the cultural events requirement is a burden.

Parents who wish to nurture the tastes of their children by bringing them to cultural events do not feel welcome to do so even after paying for a seat for the child, which is usually the equivalent of what a babysitter would receive.

How can children learn how to behave in public if they are not exposed to these events?

Finally, many parents who are enrolled in school have financially supportive spouses who would prefer to entertain their families with a weekend trip to another country. True cultural experience have a greater impact on one's tastes than an artificial event at Winthrop University.

Many students have lived in or traveled in various countries throughout the world and have attended various events, giving experiences in tastes of different cultures. These students should be exempt from the requirement.

Lynn Wise

Cultural events requirement breed problems

Dear Editor,

The cultural events requirement is nothing more than plays and concerts. Students are adults, not children. Why force them to attend a function they already know whether or not they enjoy.

Mrs. Woods takes for granted that non-traditional students can't afford child care for events.

Contrarily, concerned

parents would rather spend time with kids than pay someone else to care for them. I am a professional. However, this has not come between my children and me. My income allows me to support my wife in school as well as two kids.

I could afford a nanny if I wanted to, but I don't. I would rather attend my kid's school function than watch Mrs. Woods's husband dance

on stage wearing a "G" string. Does this make me less cultured? No, just different interests.

Maybe Mrs. Woods should relocate her acting and stage manager's profession instead of advising students to transfer. To the students opposed to the requirement: take her advice. Winthrop will become a ghost college.

William Wise

Slavery should not be issue in Confederate flag debate

by Julie Tucker
Special to The Roddey-McMillan Record

What exactly is behind the meaning of the Confederate Flag? Heritage.

As a Southerner, I feel a special need to distinguish a symbol of my heritage. That being the case, then the the flag of the Confederacy needs to stay flying at the State House in Columbia. Red, white and blue with 13 stars, this flag has not hurt anyone without justification.

The Confederate Flag is flying because it is symbolic of all the men who did fighting for a cause, this cause being States's Rights.

Without the South seceding from the United States, the government could have become too powerful. In other words, the South fought for Article 10 of the Constitution: "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people."

The South felt as if the government was interfering in state affairs unjustly.

So, the South withdrew under the ideas stated in the Declaration of Independence: "Whenever any form of government becomes destructive to these ends, it is the right of the people to abolish it, and to institute a new government."

Notice that not once have I mentioned slavery as a cause of

secession. It is not a manipulation of words; the South did not fight to maintain slavery.

In fact, the majority of Southerners were opposed to slavery; not being industrialized as the North was, the South needed slaves for manual labor assistance. Lincoln said, "I declare that I have no intentions, directly or indirectly, to interference with slavery in the states where it exists," during his inaugural address. The South seceded only two years later.

All in all, there were fewer than 350,000 Southern slave owners but over 600,000 African-Americans in the Confederate army, including some who came voluntarily

Robert E. Lee, the head of the Confederate army, declared slavery as "moral and political evil." "Stonewall" Jackson, a general in the Confederate army, agreed with Lee in desiring to free all slaves.

Both men believed that "the middle and melting influence of Christianity" would solve the problem of slavery without any war effort.

The Confederate flag is flying as a symbol of the progress the United States has made in the South. The first flag is the United States flag; second, the Confederate flag; third, the state flag.

Each one of the flags flying is a piece of history.

If we allow someone to take down the Confederate flag, then the lives of the men who fought for States' Rights would be in vain.

Thoughts from the editor New change controversial but necessary, successful

I am happy to announce that this is the 10th issue of The Roddey-McMillan Record that has gone to press since the controversial change last year.

For many of you who do not know, I will recap; last year's staff decided to change the format and focus of this paper. Before the change, it was an African-American oriented newsletter.

We changed it to a publication that talks about diversity and issues of multiculturalism.

Needless to say, some people were not pleased.

We were met with extreme resistance, but came out on top due to the enormous support that faculty, students and staff gave us.

I look at what happened as our baptism of fire. We came out slightly singed but okay.

Looking back, the change was necessary and a good move. I am still surprised and overwhelmed about how positive the Winthrop community has been to us.

It shows that this place is not as apathetic as people claim it is.

Students want to discuss and find solutions to pressing issues of today. They just needed something to point them in the right direction.

As we come to the end of this semester, I would like to thank you all for allowing us to be that beacon.

Next semester, we will bring more issues and more surprises to you all. Keep reading.

Letters to the editor

Columnist claims editor misquoted him

Dear Alvin,

I read the Roddey-McMillan Record regularly for different opinions and views that others on this campus are expressing. After all, it's interesting to see what the other side is up to lately.

Imagine my surprise when I saw you, Alvin, quoting me. I'm touched, really. However, it's obvious that you have recklessly distorted my opinion as it was expressed in my weekly column, "The Plain Truth."

You said: "Some members of this campus are alarmed by GLoBAL because it, in their own words, 'forces homosexuality down their throats,'" A clarification is needed here, boys and girls. First of all, I represent myself and not anyone else or organization. To say a group of people expressed this belief is a downright lie and blatantly poor research. Secondly, don't throw quotation marks around a couple of words and say that a group said it if none did.

Alvin, you also said, "What's wrong with gay, lesbian and ally students forming an organization?" My reply is: absolutely nothing. Did I even once say in my column that these students had no such rights? No I did not. You are correct Alvin. Their money is the same as mine. I never said, nor inferred that I believe homosexuals should be banned from higher education due to a different form of currency.

Alvin, you used a quote from another column of mine on prayer in schools about perverts and closets, but you threw quotes on a phrase that I did not even write. I said (clearly I thought) that we are putting religion in the closet where the perverts used to be. To assume that I am talking about homosexuals just because I mentioned closets and perverts is a mockery of your own intelligence. You are discrediting and degrading your own sexual orientation by getting defensive when someone mentions perverts. A pervert is someone who rapes 10-year-olds, or kidnaps children or hacks up innocent people.

Finally, the way I see it, Alvin, you want flack. You don't want to be accepted because then you wouldn't have anything to bitch about. Be careful what you wish for Alvin, you might just get it... and then you'd be out of a job.

Pete Kaliner

Editor's note: In my column last month, I used an interpretation of Mr. Kaliner's statement. I apologize to him if he became offended.

However, how out of context was my interpretation of his words? If Mr. Kaliner were not referring to homosexuals, then perhaps he should have not used words and phrases, such as "in the closet" where the "perverts" used to be, that are generally associated with homosexuals. At the very least, he could have explained who he was actually talking about. Readers can only interpret a columnist's actual words and not what he meant to say at the time he wrote them.

Also, except for the disputed quote, Mr. Kaliner and his column were neither referred to nor mentioned in my piece. Students' reaction to GLoBAL, the ones that I commented on, are true and totally independent of Mr. Kaliner's column. Why Mr. Kaliner would think that I was referring to him in those passages when he wasn't even mentioned is beyond me.

The staff of The Roddey-McMillan Record wished that students, faculty and staff have a safe holiday season. See you next semester!

PFLAG supports gay students

by Karen N. Mitchell
Staff Writer

"Rock Hill doesn't have a PFLAG chapter and neither does Winthrop," senior Jamie Clarke said, "but Winthrop has a large gay population, and now that we have GLOBAL, it's important to have a PFLAG to show there are parents out there who will accept their gay children for who they are and still love them."

Jamie Clarke, an English major, is working with student life director Cristina Gabel to start a local chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) at Winthrop. The organization was founded in 1981 as a family and friend, educational support group for gay and lesbian people.

"There are gay members, parents, members' children and partners and friends of gay people in the group," Clarke said. "A very close friend of mine is gay, so I went to support him."

Thomas E. Myers Jr., the regional director of PFLAG is interested in helping Winthrop start a chapter.

"PFLAG is committed to provide support, advocacy and education," Myers said. The regional director has

helped organize other chapters in South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky.

"A really good friend of mine came out to me, and his parents are the type who would disown him," Clarke said. "It hurts me to know he can't be himself, that he can't tell them because he will be nothing to them and that he would rather be something they want him to be than nothing. . . . I've even pretended to be his date."

Clarke believes there is a link between this and the fact that about 60 percent of attempted suicides are because the teens fear they are gay.

"If we had proper sex education that included a section on homosexuality, we could help promote understanding and education," Clarke said. "There are no books in high school libraries on homosexuality, so kids are left there sitting in the dark when school is the best place to learn."

Clarke also hopes that the Winthrop chapter of PFLAG will reach out to include high school students in the area.

The local chapter of PFLAG intends to be organized by the Fall of 1995.

"What's that on his finger?"

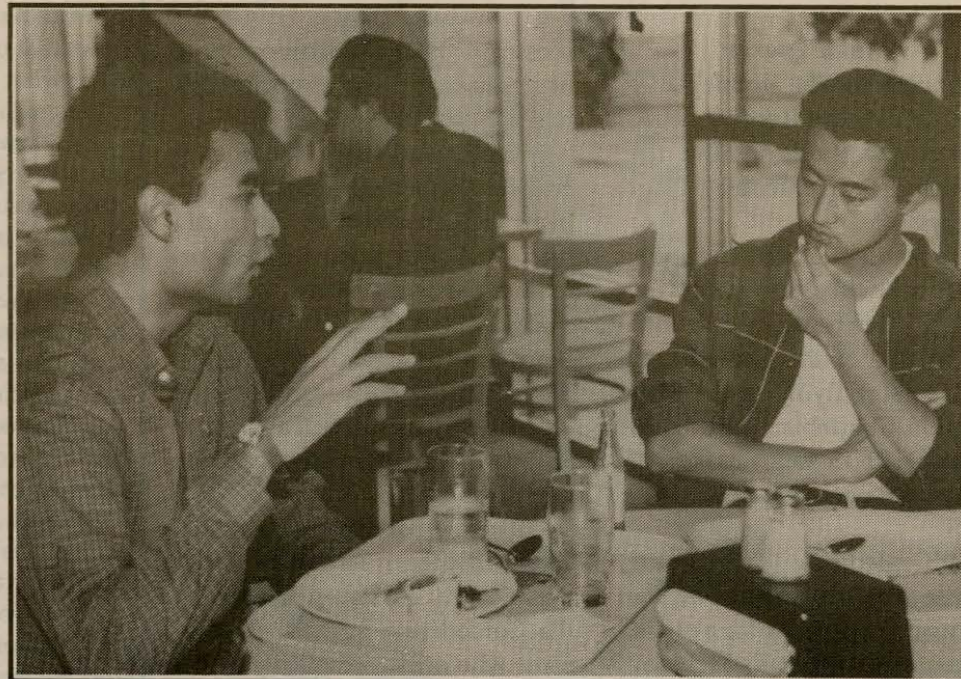


Photo by Amy Powell

Atif Aziz and Kazutora Taira talk over lunch at Thomson Cafeteria

Habitat for Humanity provides homes and hope

by Arlecia D. Simmons
Staff Writer

Members of the Winthrop community are currently in the process of applying for a campus chapter of Habitat for Humanity International. The organization is a Christian housing ministry that seeks to eliminate poverty. Homes are provided for those struggling to make ends meet through the donation of labor, management expertise and tax deductible donations of money and materials.

Houses are sold at no profit to partner families and no interest mortgages are issued over a fixed period of time. Prospective homeowners are involved with the project from start to finish.

Each family desiring to own a home must contribute 500 hours of "sweat" into the construction of their home, helping to reduce the cost.

Jacqueline Chavis, a senior, has been involved in the application process for the Winthrop chapter.

"Habitat for Humanity helps people. It also helps in eliminating poverty. I feel that since we are products of our community, it is our responsibility to help with its upkeep and building," Chavis said.

Chavis, a member of the Xi Beta chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., said her interest was sparked in the project because of her sorority's involvement nationally and her concern for the Blackmon community, an impoverished area of Rock Hill where the homeless live in abandoned school buses.

On September 3, 1994, Delta Sigma Theta assisted the Fort Mill Rotary Club paint a Habitat home on Joe Louis Boulevard. Delta Sigma Theta, Pi Kappa Phi and Circle K also assisted the Rotary Club with their haunted house at Knight's Castle this Halloween, the proceeds to benefit another home in York County.

Guillermo Castillo, Chair of the Modern Languages department and Chair of the Board for the Habitat for Humanity of York County, and Jennifer Castro of the Development office have been instrumental in assisting Chavis with the application process. Dr. Castillo will serve as the campus advisor for the organization.

There have been four Habitat homes built in Rock Hill in the past seven years and seven more are planned for Habitat Court in Rock Hill,

Castillo said. The group is excited that more Winthrop students will be able to participate.

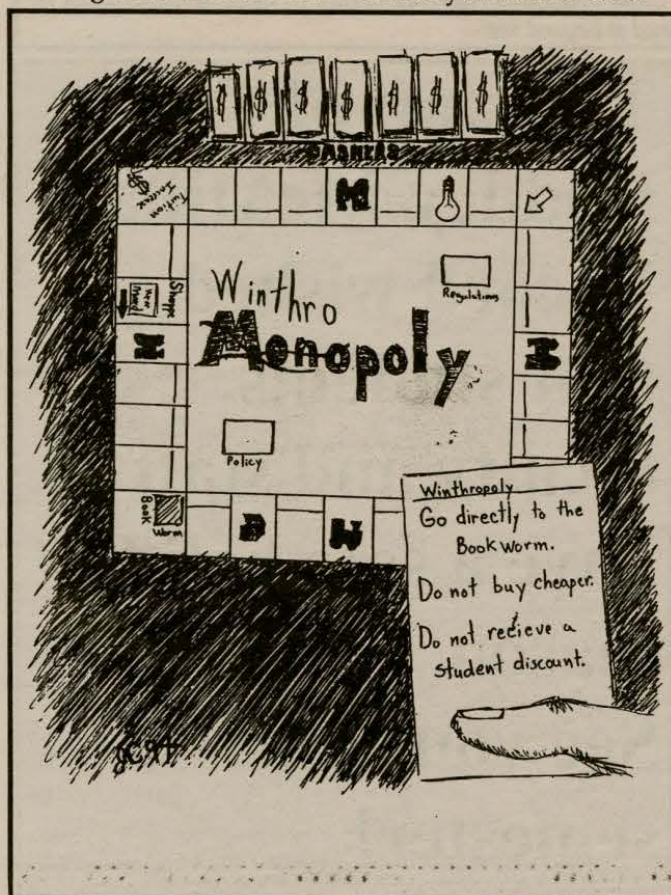
Even though the organization helps those who cannot help themselves, Chavis may not be able to help the Blackmon community. Guidelines suggest that a family earn at least \$550 a month so they will be able to pay their interest free mortgage and maintain the home.

"We are our brothers and sisters keepers," Chavis said. "Although Habitat for Humanity is a Christian organization, we have people of all religions providing homes to people who could never afford a house otherwise. I couldn't imagine anything more Christian."

Do you or your organization want to help?

Contact:

Jacqueline Chavis
323-3393



"This is too easy"

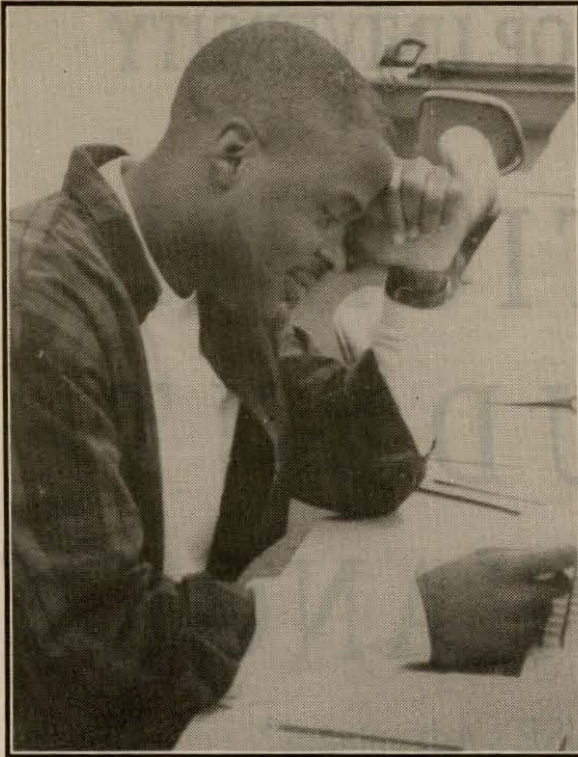


Photo by Stephenie Robinson

Tyrone Thompson reads an assignment in the Mass Communication Lab.

PACE fosters achievement, self esteem in all students

by Kenya Mali Cureton
Staff Writer

PACE, Program for Academic and Career Enhancement, recognizes outstanding, high achieving African-Americans at Winthrop.

This is only one of the positive things PACE is responsible for doing. PACE also has a mentoring program for freshman, helps students prepare for graduation and provides scholarship information.

Members of PACE are Af-

rican-Americans who are full time undergraduate students, and who have at least a cumulative 2.5 grade point average.

However, freshmen in the mentoring program, although their cumulative grade point averages are not yet established, are still considered members of the program.

Students in the program with a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 to 2.99 are considered pre-PACERS

and those with a 3.0 and above are called PACERS. There are approximately 200 members of PACE not including freshman mentorees.

Coordinator of PACE, Tracy Moore said that the requirements for being a PACE member in the past have increased and may continue to increase to keep the motivation of the students high.

Some of the upperclassmen in PACE agree to be

see PACE, pg. 8

Kwaanza: a different celebration

by Sherry Ford
Staff Writer

Kwanzaa was created in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga, founder and chairman of the Black Nationalist Organization. It is the only nationally celebrated non-heroic African-American holiday in the United States.

It is a unique holiday celebrating the cultural roots of African-American ancestry and is based on seven fundamentalist principals called Nguzo Saba.

Kwanzaa comes from the Swahili word, "kwanza," meaning "first fruits." The idea of Kwanzaa comes from the tradition of the agricultural people of Africa who celebrated and gave thanks for the harvest at certain times of the year.

The seven principles of Nguzo Saba are as follows:

Umoja (unity) - staying together

Kujichulia (self determination) - saying who we are

and who we will be and not letting others say for us

Ujima (collective work and responsibility) - working together and helping each other

Ujamaa (cooperative economics) - buying from each other

Nia (purpose) - making our people as great as they can be

Kuumba (creativity) - thinking of ways to make our community better

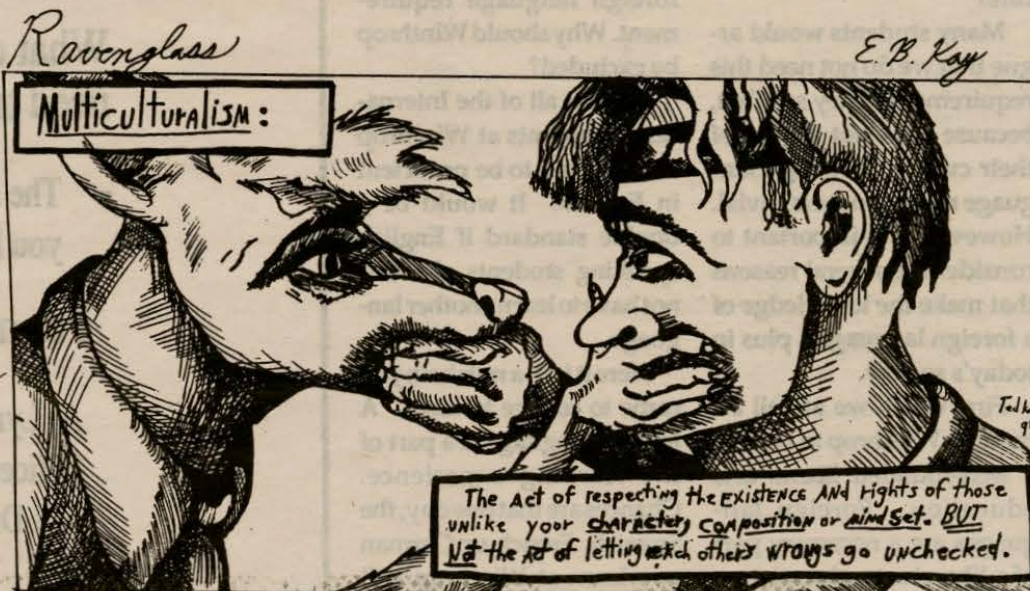
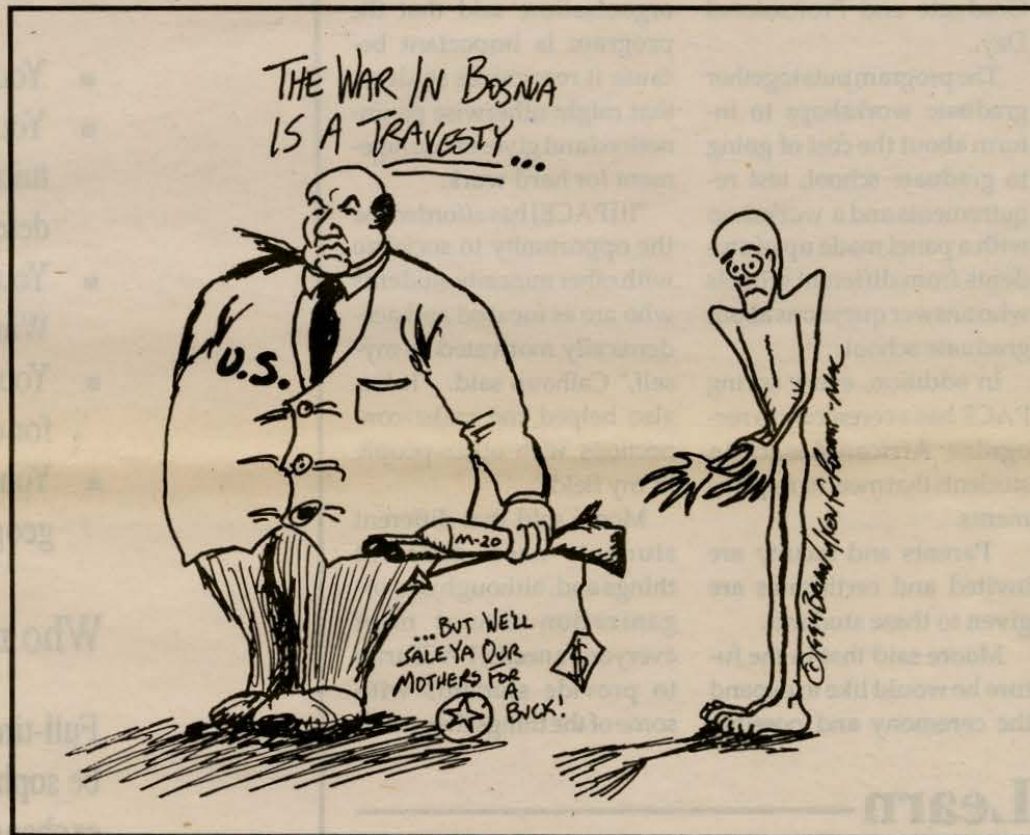
Imani (faith) - believing in ourselves and the worth of our people

The Kikome Cha Umoja, or the symbolic drinking from the unity cup is performed every day of Kwanzaa. Also, the lighting of Mishumaa (seven candles - three are green, three are red and the one in the middle is black) is performed by lighting one candle each day.

Kwanzaa begins Dec. 26 with the celebration of Umoja and ends Jan. 1 with the celebration of Imani.

Do you have any ideas for a story regarding multiculturalism or minority cultures? Do you think that a certain minority is not given enough attention? Don't sit there and gripe. Come and work for The Roddey-McMillan Record.

We have staff meetings every Monday at 5 p.m. in the Student Publications Building.



Pace

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mentors to freshmen.

Moore said that the mentoring program plans trips that relate to African-American culture. Also, the mentors have study sessions during finals week and give studying tips to their mentorees. The mentors make themselves available to their mentorees throughout their freshman year.

Freshman mentoree, Patrina Dease said that the freshman year is the most stressful and it is helpful and important to have an upper-classmen in the same major to answer questions and give guidance.

PACE also co-sponsors Graduate and Professional Day.

The program puts together graduate workshops to inform about the cost of going to graduate school, test requirements and a workshop with a panel made up of students from different schools who answer questions about graduate school.

In addition, every spring PACE has a ceremony to recognize African-American students that meet its requirements.

Parents and faculty are invited and certificates are given to these students.

Moore said that in the future he would like to expand the ceremony and possibly

have an award given to a student that has shown strong leadership or the organization with the highest grade point average.

He also said that PACE gives minority students on a predominately white campus the additional support and encouragement they need.

"Students start to feel good about their academic progress because someone is taking notice," Moore said. "Students are really proud to be recognized as PACERS. Everyone needs recognition as a way of encouragement."

Kevin Calhoun, a PACER and former president of the organization, said that the program is important because it recognizes students that might otherwise go unnoticed and gives encouragement for hard work.

"It [PACE] has afforded me the opportunity to socialize with other minority students who are as focused and academically motivated as myself," Calhoun said. "It has also helped me make connections with other people in my field."

Moore said that different students need different things and, although one organization cannot meet everyone's needs, PACE tries to provide students with some of the things they need.

Learn

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the language of another culture?

Many students would argue that we do not need this requirement. They say that, because it is not a part of their culture, a foreign language requirement is trivial. However, it is important to consider the several reasons that make the knowledge of a foreign language a plus in today's society.

First of all, we are all attending Winthrop to receive a well-rounded liberal arts education. Foreign languages are a necessary part of a liberal arts education.

Next, almost every accred-

ited, four year university has foreign language requirement. Why should Winthrop be excluded?

Finally, all of the International students at Winthrop are required to be proficient in English. It would be a double standard if English speaking students also did not have to learn another language.

Here it is in a nutshell; you came to college to learn. A foreign language is a part of the learning experience. Chances are that one day, the Spanish, French or German you learn at Winthrop will come in handy.

WINTHROP UNIVERSITY NATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE

What are NSE's Advantages?

- Your transfer credit is assured.
- You continue to pay Winthrop tuition; your room and board will be determined by the host school.
- You may take courses not offered at Winthrop.
- Your financial aid can be transferred for costs at the host school.
- You may live and learn in a different geographic setting.

Who may participate in NSE?

Full-time Winthrop students who will be sophomores or juniors during the exchange. Students with a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher.

What do NSE's participants need to consider?

- The academic and personal goals you hope to satisfy on the exchange.

For more information contact:

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