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African American Education Program Newsletter, Fall 1999

Eastern Washington University. Africana Studies Program

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AFRICAN AMERICAN EDUCATION PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

Eastern Washington University

Fall Quarter 1999

Director's Note **Nancy Nelson**

Driving to work early one morning, I stopped to assist with a one car injury accident. Several Eastern students had also stopped. They offered the use of a cell phone and one dug in his backpack for a pen so that we could write down an emergency contact number for the injured woman as we tried to help her to remain conscious.

When they had provided what help they could and three people were in place to remain with the woman while awaiting the emergency vehicles, the students left. They did not hang around to gawk or to block parking needed by the emergency vehicles.

Also during this quarter I received a call from an EWU student who had transferred to another university out of state. He informed me that he was transferring

back to Eastern. He insisted that professors at his new university did not care the way that Eastern's professors did. At EWU if you made an effort, professors would work with you. When I reminded him that if he dropped out this year and returned to Eastern he would graduate a year later, he answered that that was all right. He stated that he would rather graduate with a degree and know something than to just have a degree.

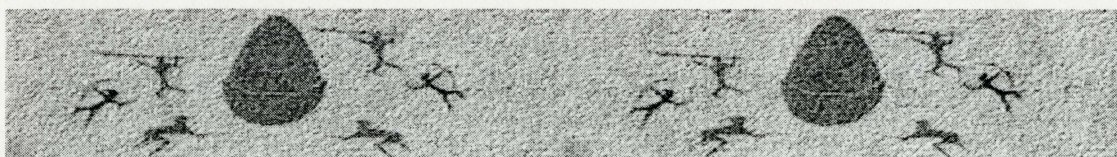
These are just two examples of many that illustrate the kinds of students who attend Eastern. They are goal oriented, interested in learning, respectful, care about others, are very giving, and fun.

The AAEP has had a very productive start this year. During the summer the program moved out of the College of Education and Human Development and into the School of Social

Work with Dean Mike Frumkin. We received a large welcome from the staff and faculty and quickly felt like a valuable part of the school.

LeMar Jackson joined our staff as a recruiter/advisor. LeMar is a 1993 graduate of Eastern with a major in communications. His excitement and dedication towards the students has been infectious for the program.

Professor Scott Finnie taught three courses this quarter to over 300 students. Besides the standard course offering of Introduction to African American Culture and Early African American History, he taught a new course on the Harlem Renaissance. Assisting him was his teaching assistant, Ryan Carlson, a student who is minoring in African American Studies. Be sure (continues on page 4)





The Friends of the AAEP

What's happening in the BSU?

Currently the Black Student Union has been working with and participating in events with the African American Education Program. The BSU is sponsoring a Children's Book Drive to benefit project LOOK (all books donated will be given to the Martin Luther King Center of Spokane and the Seahurst Apartment school of Seattle). Volunteers are needed to help with the Black history month banquet on February 19, 2000. Also in February there will be a poetry night and dance. The next meeting for the BSU will be on January 6, 2000 at 2:00pm in the AAEP Library, which is located in Isle Hall on

the 2nd floor

If anyone has any questions or ideas for the BSU, or if anyone is interested in working/participating with the BSU, please contact Venus Smith at 359-2205.

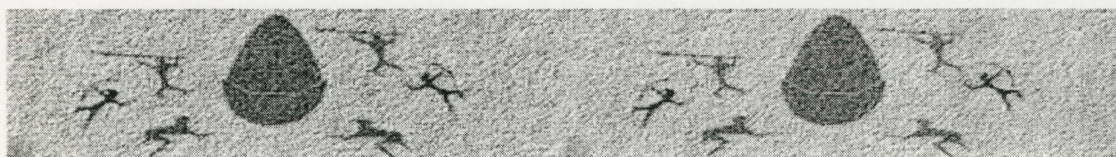
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.

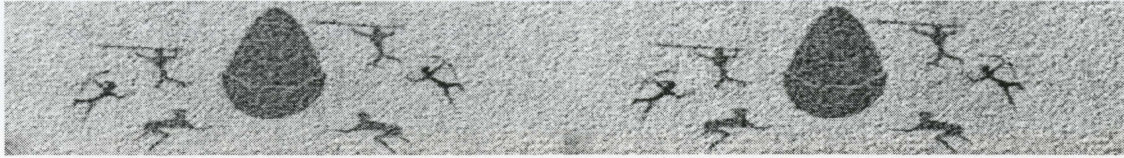
The Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc was founded in 1920 on the campus of Howard University, Washington DC. Five women chose not to embrace the tenets of established black sororities and chartered Zeta Phi Beta Sorority to encourage the highest standards of scholarship through scientific, literary, cultural and educational programs. They promoted service projects on college campuses and in the community, fostered

sisterhood and exemplified the ideal of finer womanhood.

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority strives to serve the campus and community through community service projects, fundraisers and events that educate as well as motivate. The current International Sorority President, Grand Basileus Dr Barbara West Carpenter introduced the Seven Point Plan of Action as the cornerstone of the Zeta service. The Plan includes education, community volunteerism, drug and substance abuse prevention, chapter management, health and wellness awareness, economic development, and governmental affairs.

For more information, please contact Darlene Bradley at 359-2727 or Angela Jones at 359-6620.





student Spotlight:

Stacy King

Stacy King is a 21 year old, pre-medical student at Eastern Washington University, currently in junior standings. Besides going to school, he is an active member of the BSU, is involved with intramural sports, and helps with security for the Chicano Education Program.

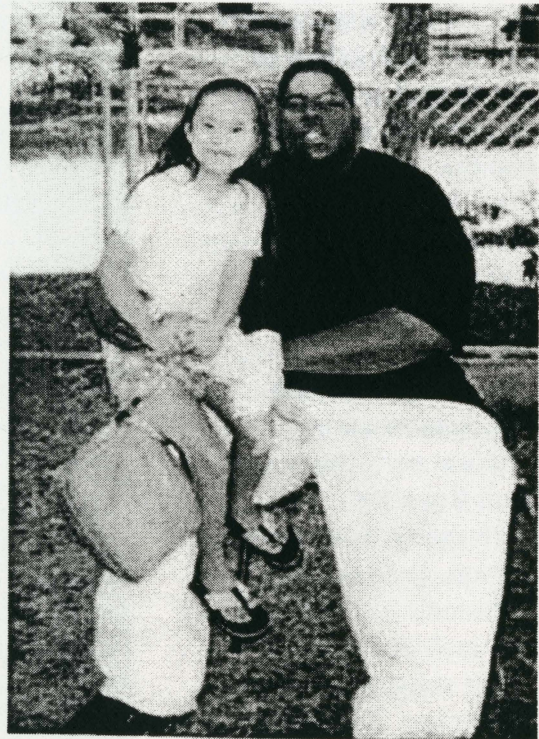
To attend EWU, Stacy left behind the main lady of his life (his mother) in Tacoma, Washington. Being the youngest of four children, and coming from a single parent, low income home has given Stacy a great determination to succeed. When asked how he overcame such tremendous obstacles, he calmly stated, "I don't have time to let things get to me. You have good days, you have bad days." And on the profusely bad days, Stacy says that he turns to God for help.

Stacy is a very calm individual who has a great respect for people. No one is ever denied a conversation with him, as long as he does not have to be the catalyst for it. "Believe in yourself and have God in your life, and you will do well," are the words that Stacy live by

Determined, respectful, and passionate are the three words that mostly describe Stacy. He is the epitome of a good doctor and an

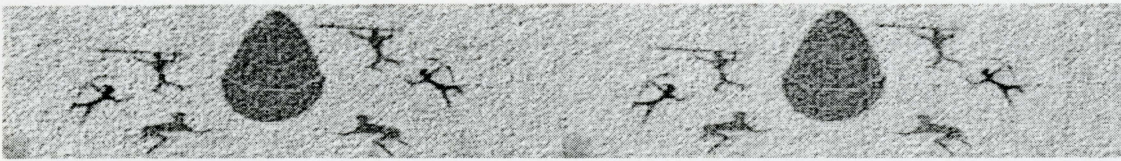
incredible individual. He knows his goals and he is continuing to strive for them, and that is why he is our student spotlight.

by,
Odessia Harris



Stacy King is pictured here with the second most important lady of his life, his God-daughter.





(continued from page 1
Director's Note)

to take note of the course offerings for the remainder of the academic year listed later in this newsletter

The program sponsored four special events this quarter. The Welcome social was held out of doors in Sutton park. Catered by Chicken n More, this event gave students an opportunity to meet each other, be introduced to department heads on campus including President and Mrs. Jordan, and to have some fun. Music was provided by DJ Tony Brown.

Eastern Alum, Ted Hutchinson gave a brilliant performance as Paul Robeson. Performing in the first person, Ted told Robeson's life history and included several songs sung in Ted's deep rich voice. Ted also gave presentations on African American history to the students in Scott Finnie's classes.

Ted Hutchinson is also the recipient of the EWU College of Business' Distinguished Alumni award for 1999

The First Annual Multicultural Educational Fair was organized by EWU student Donna Russell. AAEP commends Donna for doing an outstanding job of organization. This fair presented students with an opportunity to talk, one on one, to business and community leaders, to learn what is available in various fields and the steps towards achieving success in these fields. It was a chance for students to ask questions as well as to introduce themselves to potential contacts. Mel Carter, a leader in affordable housing, spoke on "The role of African American Business" Cid Williams, a graduate student at Gonzaga, addressed the audience on "Connecting Education With Spirituality, Community, and Your

Future"

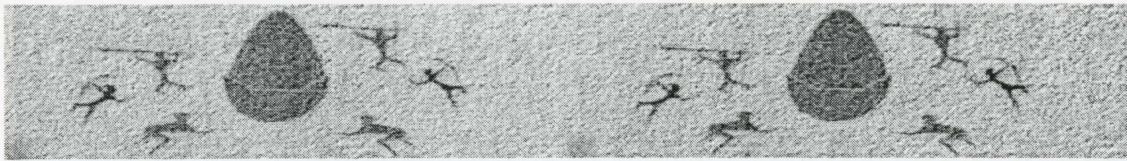
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority co-sponsored the program's annual Kwanzaa Celebration on December 2nd. After learning the meaning and history of Kwanzaa, those in attendance enjoy a deliciously rich cake prepared by EWU's event planning and a chance to socialize.

I want to thank all those who have supported and participated in the courses and events hosted by the African American Education Program. Upcoming events are listed. Be sure to mark your calendars.

I also want to thank Odessia Harris for her hard work and dedication in producing this newsletter and Alexis Butler for assisting her

Nancy Nelson

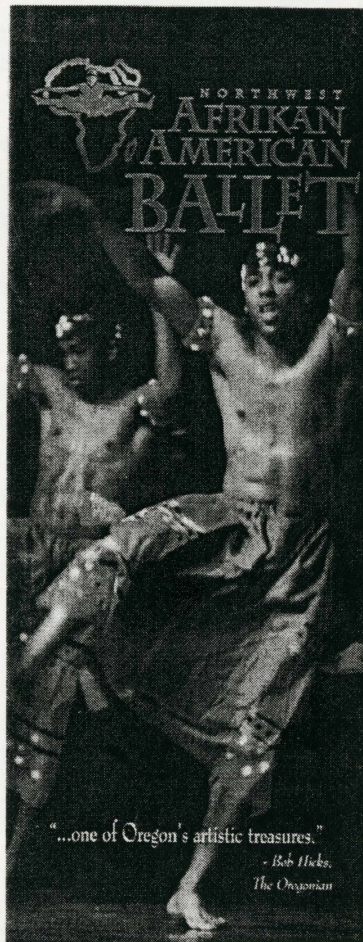




The Afrikan American Ballet

Co-sponsored by the African American Education Program

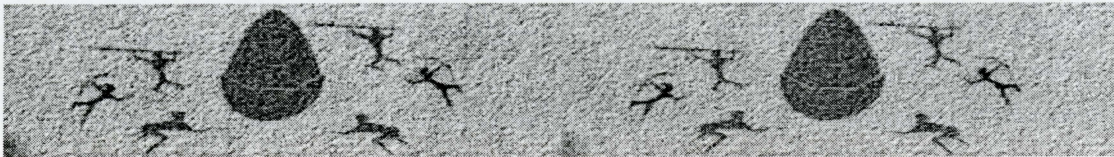
Bruce Smith founded the Northwest Afrikan American Ballet in 1982. Their moves come from Senegal, Guinea and Mali in West Africa. The exciting and colorful performance of African folklore had the crowd on their feet clapping, shouting and just getting down to the music. The Northwest Afrikan American Ballet has found itself in many different places including several schools. On October 8, 1999 several other Eastern students and I attended the NWAAB show and I have to say I was amazed. It took my breath away! They began with the piece



Twa Ngo Ngo from Ghana and ended with an encore. The performance was so wonderful that the crowd was begging for more, and more is what they got. This was an experience like none other; it was culturally and spiritually intriguing. If you missed this performance you missed out on a lot. The outfits were colorful and the drum solos were amazing. So if I had to narrow it down to one word, the word would be WOW!

By,
Alexis Butler





Information On the Program

Upcoming Events

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration- January 18 @ 12pm in the Showalter Auditorium. Co-sponsored by Eagle Entertainment.

Experience Six Historical African American Women- February 8 @ 12pm in the Showalter Auditorium. Co-sponsored by Women's Studies.

Annual Black History Month Banquet- February 19 @ 6:30pm PUB MPR

African Art Exhibit- April, JFK Library

Terrence Roberts, Ph.D.- April 28, location TBA

Micheal Kane, MSW- date/time/place-TBA

Red Beans and Ricely Yours- date /time/ place, TBA

More info: 359-2205 or 359-6150.

Scholarships

African American Education Program Scholarships. Entering first-year (freshmen) students or transfer students (\$2,000).

Minnie Whittenbach Memorial Scholarship: First-year, sophomores, juniors, seniors, or transfer students interested in majoring in any Health Science field (\$1,000)

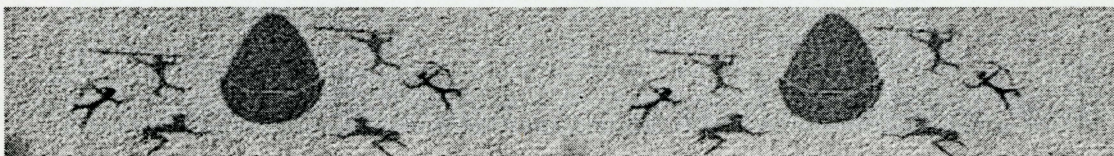
Empire Ford Scholarship: Awarded to

an African American student who has

demonstrates academic excellence and social responsibility Submit an essay not exceeding 1,000 words documenting social responsibility

Avista Scholarship: Open to undergraduates only Recipients must have minimum grade point average of 2.5 An essay not exceeding 1,000 words on how the recipient will use their education to make positive contributions to the African American community must be submitted. Preference will be given to a student from an area served by Avista Corporation (\$1,500)

If interested in applying please call 359-2205 or visit the office, Isle 216.





Course Offerings

Winter 2000

Introduction to African American

Culture: AAST/HUMN 214 MTWRF

12-12.50 - 5 credits - Scott Finnie.

An interdisciplinary survey of African American culture beginning with ancient African history and traditions through contemporary issues in the African American experience.

(Satisfies the university requirement for gender and diversity studies*)

Contemporary African American

History: AAST/HIST 216 MTWRF

1-1.50 - 5 credits - Scott Finnie.

The study of the history of African Americans in the U.S. from the end of the Reconstruction period to present times.

(Satisfies the university requirement for gender and diversity studies*)

Contemporary African American

Literature: AAST/ENGL 381 MW

1-2.50 - 4 credits - Nancy Nelson.

Major African American literature of the 20th century: fiction, poetry, essay, autobiography, and drama.

Spring 2000

Introduction to African American

Culture: AAST/HUMN 214 MTWRF

12-12.50 - 5 credits - Scott Finnie.

(Satisfies the university requirement for gender and diversity studies*)

Contemporary African American

History: AAST/HIST 216 MTWRF

1-1.50 - 5 credits - Scott Finnie.

(Satisfies the university requirement for gender and diversity studies*)

African History. AAST/HIST 315

MTWRF 11-11.50 - 5 credits - Scott

Finnie.

A survey of African History from prehistory to present. Emphasizes earlier African civilizations, extensive contact with the outside world, and the formation of African nations.

(Satisfies the university requirement for gender and diversity studies*)

African American Family: AAST 320

MTWRF 1-1.50 - 5 credits - Nancy

Nelson.

The African American family as a social system influenced by institutions of the larger American society

Economics of Poverty and Economic

Security Programs. TR 5.30-7 30 p.m. -

5 credits - Offered by Economics and crosslisted with ECON/AAST 424.

Causes of poverty and evaluation of possible remedies, especially current and proposed programs.

(Prerequisite - Junior standing)

Summer 2000

Contemporary African American

History: AAST/HIST 216 MW

12-2.35 - 5 credits - Scott Finnie.

(Satisfies the university requirement for gender and diversity studies*)

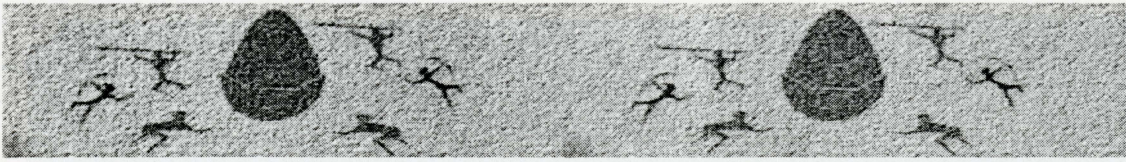
Introduction to African American

Culture: AAST/HUMN 214 TR

12-2.35 - 5 credits - Scott Finnie.

(Satisfies the university requirement for gender and diversity studies*)





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