

Issue No. 8

April/May 1994

A Black Student Newspaper at the University of Virginia

Skandaline

"Rock of Offense"

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Skandaline is derived from the Greek word, 'skandalon,' which means rock of offence. (Romans 9:33)



Changes

.....INSIDE.....

Special Section:
Farewell Graduates!

Audacious Faith
Says What?

Jocelyn Jones: Out
To Change The
World

Testimony: "I Ain't
Lost Nothing"

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Students Assemble in
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The opinions presented in Skandaline do not necessarily reflect those of the students, faculty, or the administration of the University of Virginia.

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Editor's Corner

By Nicole Harrington and Nicole Boone, CLAS I
Skandaline Staff Writers

Black people certainly have many ways of showing outward solidarity. From the handshakes, the "my brother" or "my sister" greetings, right down to oversized jeans, platform shoes and social/cultural organizations. We do many things in order to say that we "belong" to some group — have some type of consciousness. However, do we do these things out of a sincere heart or because we are searching for the sense of identity which comes with this outward image.

Considering the history of oppression in this country, there is little doubt concerning the need for some symbols of cohesiveness. As a people we would love to bring back the sense of true

brotherhood and sisterhood felt generations ago before slavery. Then, Black people could freely associate with one another within their tribes. They were a family. Certain skin types and even symbols marked you as a special breed not as a problem forced on society.

What symbolizes and marks the African-American "tribe" today? It must go deeper than the clothes we wear, our athletic ability, and our unique lingo. Our ancestor were turned over years ago by their own people, and forced to live in a society in which they were no longer a family. Therefore, this association by skin color and symbolism is only one stone in the rebuilding of African communities, which were brutally disrupted, but is that the end for our African-American communities?

Rebuilding the foundations of an ancient culture tends to begin with knowledge and acknowledgement of the ancient culture. This is an area that we must improve in as individuals by educating ourselves, those around us, and altering

legislation for education. We must develop the urgent vigor to know about our roots.

Even in the pursuit of this knowledge, we must not bow down to the altar of "Blackness." There is a much deeper level than the historical. We, as God's creations, must learn about our spiritual heritage that began before this earth was conceived. This goes beyond church every once in a while, or even every Sunday. We must develop a hunger to read about the Ancient of Days. He knows why He has placed you here, He knows why slavery had to take place in the African American community, and He knows what will happen in the future. What greater source can you find? Even if you did know all the facts about history do you know the One who made history? Without Jesus our knowledge is just facts with no insight. We must learn how to search the Holy Bible to gain the revelation we so desperately need.

To let you know the purpose and goals for Skandaline...

SKANDALINE POEM

SERVING U.VA., GETTING US TO THINK ABOUT OURSELVES,

**KEEPING IN PRINT BEFORE OUR EYES WHAT BLACK STUDENTS
DO WELL**

**AND REMINDING ALL THAT THERE IS STILL SO MUCH MORE THAT
COULD BE DONE**

NEVER LOSE SIGHT OF THE VICTORIES TO BE WON

DEALING WITH THE ISSUES THAT WE OFTEN TIMES AVOID

ACCEPTING ONE ANOTHER WITH SOCIETAL BOUNDARIES IGNORED.

LETTING GO OF ALL THE LABELS THAT LIMIT HOW PEOPLE INTERACT

INCITING ALL TO COMMUNICATE INSTEAD OF JUST REACT.

NOT TO BE SELF-RIGHTEOUS, NOT TO TEACH, RATHER TO SOW

ETERNAL SEEDS THAT INTO TREES OF UNITY WILL GROW.

Skandaline welcomes WORD! submissions and letters to the editor from the community at large. The opinions presented in WORD! do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Skandaline's editorial board or staff.

WORD!

Race Relations at the University

By Peter Schwartzman, GSAS
Skandaline Student Contributor

Race relations at the University have recently caught the attention of the student body. Thus, it appears that this is still one of the major concerns facing students. Although this may be surprising to many who have falsely convinced themselves that racial injustice has been eliminated or that the health of race relations is at an all time high, a quick reality check reveals that a great deal of effort must be made by my generation to ensure that race relations improve, ultimately to a point where our civilization has transcended the issue of race as a source of division.

As many students at the University will be (or already are) leaders in their communities, it is imperative that all students at U.Va. resolve their insecurities and battle their areas of ignorance regarding peoples from different cultures and races. I refer to this as achieving a sense of community. This goal, in my mind, should even be paramount to receiving one's diploma. Until this is made a priority by the administration and understood and eagerly pursued by the student body, one prerequisite for eliminating racist mentalities in our society will unfortunately not be fostered by and at the University we all choose to attend.

There are a plethora of reasons why race relations are what they are on our campus, and I am in no position to attempt to articulate all of them. However, I will suggest a few that I feel are particularly noticeable and worthy of correction. My hope is that students at the University will reflect upon these and consider altering their every day behaviors in hopes of relieving racial tensions on campus.

One of the barriers to improving race relations is the apparent lack of communications between peoples of different races. Here, I am referring to the limited extent that students acknowledge one another, whether on the bus, in a class or while strolling about the Grounds. A simple hello or a gesture of acknowledgment can do wonders to improve social relations.

Students also organize themselves in ways

that preclude interracial interaction. Such preclusion manifests itself in uni-racial intramural sports teams, Grounds cliques (people of the same race who tend to convene together on campus at high profile locations), or racially uniform fraternities, sororities, clubs or organizations. While I understand that many of the above examples represent social communities which foster student support and camaraderie and are in this sense beneficial, they at the same time artificially restrict the diversity of individuals that one associates with, thereby minimizing the likelihood of achieving the "sense of community" suggested above.

Many students, I sense, also fail to seek out opportunities to be exposed to different cultural attitudes and perspectives. Consider the lack of interest in this here journal at my department; a majority of copies still remained weeks after they were distributed, while The University Journal and The Cavalier Daily went like hotcakes. Consider as well the disproportionate showing of non-black students at Kwame Ture's talk surrounding Black Awareness Month. At the same time, consider the lack of minority interest (in particular those form the Black community) in many environmental lectures which I have attended. The list could go on and on.

The message I am trying to convey to all students at this University is that race relations are what we make of them. Everyday all of us make conscious decisions that in large part determine the state of race relations on our campus, and in our society more generally. Without a doubt improvement must continue to be made in the area of race relations. We all have a stake in making this change happen, if not for ourselves, at least for others, our community, our nation, and our world.

I desire to organize a student forum to discuss these matters more fully. Those who wish to do so please contact me (send e-mail to pds9e@virginia.edu). I am willing to and sincerely want to discuss these matters because our country and, more specifically, the world will ultimately have to deal such concerns if we are to realize a peaceful existence on this planet.

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BSA Focus

Year In Review

By Katrina Wilson, CLAS I
Skandaline Staff Writer

The Black Student Alliance has successfully completed another year, working to articulate the concerns of the black students here at U.Va.. The year began with the first meeting in Newcomb Hall Ballroom. Many people attended the meeting, eager to work for the uplifting of the community.

As the year progressed, the numbers decreased, but the struggle continued. The executive board continued to work hard producing events such as the Ebony Man/ Woman Pageant, the BSA Talent Show, and the world famous civil rights activist, Kwame Ture. In the midst of all the activities, projects and meetings the BSA worked with issues such as The West Main Street Expansion, Board of Visitors, Dual Sanction, Honor Referendum, and WIRE radio station.

The year closed successfully with a week long celebration of the Black Student Alliance's 25th Anniversary. The celebration included various speakers, events, vendors, workshops, and panel discussions. The active body of the BSA closed following the election of the new executive board. The new executive board has already begun to plan activities for next year. They work to continue the struggle of our people reflecting the words of the 25th Anniversary theme... "When spider webs unite, they can tie up a lion."

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STRAIGHT UP

Students March For Change

By April C. Logan, CLAS III
Skandaline Staff Writer

On April 7, over 200 members of the Concerned Black Students marched to Madison Hall. The students demonstrated in order to express to President John T. Casteen III their frustration with the climate for African-American students at the University. The march was provoked by the rediscovery of 'Audacious Faith,' a 295 page 1987 report documenting the status of African-Americans at the University.

The demonstrators individually and in groups proceeded to read the 27 recommendations of the 'Audacious Faith' task force 27 times. Casteen arrived at Madison Hall shortly after the protest began. The students then addressed Casteen directly with the 27 recommendations. The

president attempted to engage in dialogue with the protesters only to be met with their backs as they turned and walked down McCormick Road.

The students shouted "No justice, no peace" and "The place here, the time is now!" as they walked down McCormick Road to the Tree House snack bar. Once at the Tree House, the students expressed their reactions to the demonstration and discussed future activities.

There have been a number of articles in the student newspapers, and also informal discussions around grounds since the demonstration. All suggesting that the challenges African-Americans face at a historically segregated University are nothing new. They will continue to be an issue calling for discussion and action by students and administrators at the University.



Students Meet for Protest

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STRAIGHT UP

African-American Fraternities and Sororities Workshop

By April Logan, CLAS III
Skandaline Staff Writer

"The critical element that goes to the heart of what African-American Fraternities and Sororities are supposed to be about is service," Ishmail Conway, acting Director of the Luther P. Jackson Culture Center. On Thursday, April 28, in Peabody 106, Conway led a workshop on African-American fraternities and sororities. The workshop, entitled "African-American Sororities and Fraternities: Builders of Community or Destructive Force," was a part of a series of events being held as part of the Black Student Alliance's 25th Anniversary Celebration.

Ishmail Conway discussed the symbolism history, purpose, and challenges of African-American fraternities and sororities. Mr. Conway has done extensive research of Gambian and Senegalese culture in an effort to understand the symbolism which is a key part of African-American


fraternities and sororities. A large majority of African-American's ancestors were forcibly migrated from this western part of Africa during slavery. Through this research, Conway found links between the rituals and function of African-American fraternities and sororities and Gambian and Senegalese secret societies.

He also addressed the popular belief that African-American fraternities and sororities came into existence only as a result of discrimination. "They didn't just come into being as a result of some vacuum," Conway said. He explained that most of the sororities and fraternities were founded at African-American universities, and were merely part of a movement of African-American organizations that came into existence after the Emancipation Proclamation.

"Unless you look at history and see how something emerged, you can't fix it," Mr. Conway explained concerning the imbalance of service and socializing.

Mr. Conway said that the central challenge facing African-American fraternities and sororities is creating a balance between the five main elements of such organizations, symbolism, operational management, human resource development, socialization, and service. Conway expressed concern with what he perceived to be an unequal emphasis on symbolism and socialization in contrast to the other elements.

During a discussion after the workshop of the role African-American fraternities and sororities have played in the African-American at the University Damion Samuels, former Chair of the Black Student Alliance said, "All unity must be functional and I have seen more of that this year." However, Mr. Conway added that there is still work to be done to improve the quality of African-American fraternities and sororities, and that members of such groups have expressed interest and have begun working toward that goal.



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STRAIGHT UP

Reconciliation

By Nicole Boone, CLAS I
Skandaline Staff Writer

"Give me a J! J, you've got your J, you've got you've your J" were the praises heard Sunday, April 17, 1994 when several of the Christian organizations on grounds came together to Celebrate Jesus. The groups began the celebration at the Student Activities Building. From there they went to the Gooch/Dillard gravesite where the beginnings of racial reconciliation were established. This was done by the reading of a poem which clearly expressed the feeling of both white and black people, and how both are quite defensive on such a sensitive topic. They then all joined in the chorus as people lead "Lift Every Voice and Sing."

From that point the marchers stood before an "audience of One". Many marchers said the the purpose of the march was not to have a public display, but to praise Jesus Christ. Several of the soloists and singers came together before the meeting to organize songs and truly be unified as various songs were contributed by all the organizations.

The organizer of this event was Paul Cassell, a graduate student from the University. His vision was to have outbursts of praise go forth to Jesus as was characterized in the first century church. This event allowed many Christians at the University to meet each other, and get to know different people with the same goals. Racism was not an issue at this event because every group was joined in order to help one another see Jesus. There was a love and comraderie throughout the meeting that broke down barriers and began to knit the people together. This was just the beginning of the reconciliation yet to come.

Black Law

By Nolan Wilson, LAW
Skandaline Staff Writer

On March 1, 1994, the student body of U.Va.'s Law School made history as they casted their votes for SBA (Student Bar Association), electing as President and Vice President Trey Muldrow and Rodney Floyd respectively. Trey and Rodney are not the first African Americans to hold these offices. But, they are the first African-American men to hold the offices simultaneously.

When asked why they decided to run, both answered similarly. Trey responded, "Once you figure out who's running, you have to determine if you can work with a lot of these people ... and it seemed like the people who were interested in running were really devoted to the law school community. It was going to be a fun arrangement to work with. Everyone had good ideas." Rodney explained, "Frankly, if I could not work with a person, we couldn't accomplish anything."

Trey and Rodney explained that they did not take long for granted that they would be African-American men holding such important positions. Trey replied, "Hey, it was a big year ... on main grounds with Terry, Tanisha, and Carlos, that's incredible." He went on to say, "Both of us felt that we had pretty good ideas, ideas that are generalized inside and outside of the black community. That's the only thing that can limit us, our imagination. ... I'm excited."

In regards to feeling additional pressure as black men, Rodney explained, "It's a lot of pressure just serving in the capacity of President and Vice President of the SBA. I don't feel any additional pressure, everyone has been really receptive."

History is Made

Year Council and Class Representative to the SBA. Trey was also very active in the student government while at Princeton University. While at U.Va., Trey was the President of the First Year Council and this year, he was Student Council representative for the SBA.

As for the coming year, Trey and Rodney are both committed to seeing more involvement between the Law School and the University. Trey commented, "I was able to see, during my involvement with Student Council, walking around on main grounds, there are so many things happening within the university that we are oblivious to. Trying to make sure that we are a part of the larger university, [including] speakers, events, whatever it takes, is one of his goals.

Within the law school community, one goal is to sponsor more events that will bring the whole law school community together. They both perceive that there are law students who feel as though they are on one side of the larger law school community.

Trey stresses that he believes that this feeling exists not only among some black students, but also with a lot of older students, married students, and foreign students. They also want to ensure that the students are heard and concerns addressed regarding the Darden expansion. More faculty interaction, placement concerns, and creating a variety of social activities appealing to everyone, are all areas that this administration wants to address.

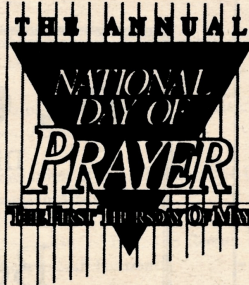
When asked what they wanted students to remember about them as President and Vice President, Rodney responded, "I want them to remember that Rodney Floyd was a hard worker who had their best interest in heart and tried to do the best he could in incorporating them into the plans of this administration."

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Graduation '94 University of Virginia



Graduation '94

Graduating Black Student Leaders are LEAVING A TRAIL BEHIND THEM

By Patrice Perry, CLAS IV
Skandaline Staff Writer

The University must say farewell to another group of student leaders who have helped to make U.Va. a better place as individuals and in various student groups. The next set of student leaders has learned by watching the examples set for them by graduating leaders. In this section they pay tribute.

On 1993-94 Black Student Alliance President Damion Samuels by 1994-95 President Ean Shearer, CLAS II

"Damion is forthright. He is not afraid to say exactly what is on his mind...If Damion sees an initiative or necessity that needs to be met in the community, Damion does it himself or sees that it gets done."

As BSA President, Damion provided a "tight mechanism to get things done," but made you "feel part of a family." Ean plans to perpetuate Damion's family ideal as he leads the BSA's executive board next year.

"I appreciate his mentorship, words of advice to me, and his example," Ean said.

On Black Voices Vice-President of Musical Administration Shondale Bostick by Black Voices Secretary Laura Morgan, CLAS III

Out of all Shondale's attributes, Laura most admires her enthusiasm.

"She not only loves doing what-ever she is involved in, but she motivates others to become excited about it as well."

"Leadership, to me, means inspiration...in order to be a good leader, you have to be able to inspire others."

"The purpose of leadership is to strengthen the organization and its members," according to Laura. Shondale did this for Black Voices, serving as the vice-president of musical administration for two years, head musician for one year, and occasionally as a choir director and soloist, she said.

On Student Council Vice-President for Finances Jason Morgan by Student Council Vice-President for Organizations Mark Staton

After they were both elected after having run on separate tickets, Mark and Jason both thought they would hate each other. Today, Mark considers Jason one of his best friends.

"He is the most up-front, thoughtful, doesn't care at all about what others think about him guy I

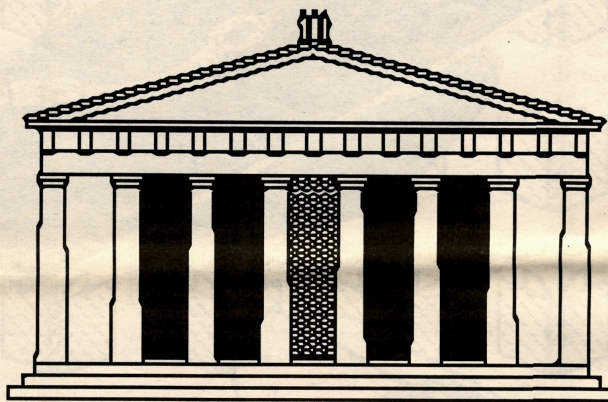
have ever met."

"He does not hype up the fact that he has added a lot to the University community, which is something I really respect."

As a leader, Mark thinks Jason is both true to himself and his community. "He has done a really great job representing the entire University."

"I'm really going to miss him."

On 1993-94 Graduate Advisor for Omega Psi Phi Marvin Dickerson by Black Fraternal Council Co-chair Ken Edmonds, CLAS III



"While some people think or dream about getting things done, Marvin gets things done," Ken said. Largely on his own, Marvin organized a fundraiser last year for Omega Psi Phi which included getting Corner merchants to donate prizes for a raffle. It was Marvin who organized everything for Omega Psi Phi's Founder's Week, though all of the brothers helped, Ken said.

Based on Marvin's example, Ken defines leadership as the "ability to use, connect, and bring together pertinent people, information, and resources to bear on a situation which effects and influences outcomes."

"He knows how to get things together."

On 1993 Black Christian Fellowship President David Holland by 1994-95 President Louise Byers, CURRY IV

"The secret of Dave's leadership is in his charisma," Louise said. He has "the ability to encourage people...and make people feel they are

special...He values your opinions."

Louise also believes Dave is a man of his word. "There are leaders who say stuff but you wonder if they really meant it," but this is not the case with Dave. "You can trust him," Louise said.

"He'd make a good politician."

On Black Christian Fellowship Discipleship Leader Simone McKelvey by First-year student Shelley Cowley, CLAS I

"She's such a loving person. When I first met her through Black Christian Fellowship, she immediately hugged me. She wanted to get to know me." Shelley said Simone took her to church and helped guide her.

"Simone is a good friend who you can trust...somebody who really listens." Since she is genuinely sincere about wanting to solve your problems, Simone will guide you to Christ, Shelley said.

On 1993-94 BSA Vice-chair for Issues and Mahogany dance troupe Co-founder Cicely Peterson by Kenda Kittrell, CLAS III

As her suite mate, Kenda has had the privilege of getting to know Cicely both personally and as a student leader. A member of both Mahogany and the BSA, Kenda has noticed that Cicely is a very dedicated, tactful, and affectionate person, who works well with different

types of people.

Kenda believes that Cicely has made a significant impact on the University. She leaves behind suite mates and a host of friends who will miss her.

On Patrice Perry, 1993-94 Editor-in-Chief and Co-founder Skandaline by 1994-95 Editor-in Chief Nicole Harrington, CLAS I

"Patrice has two very distinct and shining qualities about her: humility and determination. She is willing to absolutely bow at all times. She has a meekness that just cannot be counterfeited."

"Mixed with that meekness is a will to do the things that need to get done. She always has a number of projects in motion. They always get done. Period."

"However, her humble servanthood is just phenomenal. It keeps her in a position of honor and prestige."

Graduation '94



Final Admonishments From the Class of '94

Reflecting on their student involvement and other experiences, black student leaders have learned a lot since they have been here at U.Va. Here, some of them offer final words of advice to those they are leaving behind and offer a peek into their futures.

C-YA!

Yared Getachew is an Ethiopian student studying abroad in the U.S. to get his degree in government and foreign affairs. He has been a member of the Afro-Carib society, attended human rights conferences on Africa for Amnesty International, and organized panel discussions in the International House regarding Somalia during the Somali crisis. He has written editorials for the University Journal to inform others that Africa is turning to an age of democracy.

Yared's most recent accomplishment is founding and serving as Editor-in-Chief of African Student Publishing Alliance, whose premiere issue was published this spring. The journal attempts to answer questions in the government and foreign affairs department on African attitudes, politics, and policy making.

After graduation, Yared plans to go to law school, but not so he can practice law. He eventually wants to go back home and help restructure Ethiopia's governmental system by blending it with Western democracy. Ultimately, he wants to teach in his father's village.

His final words of wisdom for younger students are to "never give up...Know that the prime motivator in life is ultimately God...As long as that is clear, everything else comes with time."

He recommends that other international students consult Dean Papovich, and if they are

majoring in government, Professor Fatton, since both of them helped ease Yared's culture shock and transition to the U.S.

In the five years that former Delta Sigma Theta President and BFC Co-chair Lisa Grillo has been at U.Va, it had become clear to her how imperative it is "for me as a black woman to serve my community in every way possible."

"Every contact that I have made at the University...has helped me in the process of defining what my purpose is." Being exposed to several different facets of the University community as BFC Co-chair helped Lisa see that some forms of institutional racism still exist here, she said.

WE'RE OUTTA HERE!

"I realized the role I needed to play in combatting that...the most direct way that I can do that is in the classroom with black children and [by] acting as an activist for the upliftment of the black community."

"As a black student, it is your responsibility to go out and seek knowledge of your history, your culture, of your God. Realizing where we have come from as black people, then your role will become much clearer to you," she said.

Lisa wants to remind all the students she is leaving behind that "your purpose goes beyond defining yourself in the context of your career." "How are you going to be a revolutionary in your field?"

Co-chair of the Diversity Committee for University Union Mark Holbrook aspires to be a marine biologist. Last spring semester, he spent a week after school snorkeling off the coast of San Salvador to research marine life as part of a University course in continuing education.

This trip helped him gain focus and decide what he would major in. Like he did, Mark suggests that students who have not yet selected a major should "try to take a wide variety of courses, but first focus on the ones you have the strongest interest in."

Students should balance their academics with student involvement.

"The only way you can affect change here is to get involved and make your voice heard," Mark said. So, he urges students to join organizations where they feel as if they can make an impact.

Though she has been a tutor for the Spanish House and at Buford Middle School, and a volunteer in the Maternal and New Born Intensive Care Units at U.Va hospital, Elizabeth "Candy" Ellison said her most significant experiences have been outside U.Va.

Candy has led Vacation Bible School [VBS] at her church, Covenant Church of God, and has participated in a sign language ministry

PEACE

there that interprets church services for deaf members of the community. After interpreting for a deaf little boy at VBS, Candy realized that sign language is much more than a hobby.

See ADMONISHMENTS, page 12

Graduation '94

ADMONISHMENTS

Continued from page 11

"It's a language, like French," she said. Had it not been for her and other interpreters, the boy at VBS would not have known what was going on around him.

As a volunteer at the hospital, Candy was able to use her Spanish language skills to translate patient information for nurses.

To all of U.Va.'s hard-working students, Candy says that no matter how much work you may have or the number of personal problems that may arise, "nothing is too hard for God."

At one time, Candy thought that she had to carry all her cares alone. "The Lord let me know all I had to do was to look to Him...He gave me the peace of mind I needed to focus on my studies." "Realize that the only way you can accomplish your goal is through Him."

University Union Governing Board member, Madison House Big Sibling, and Fourth Year Class Trustee Elesha Simmons says getting to serve the University community and meet people from different backgrounds are the most rewarding experiences that she will take with her when she graduates.

Whether it be in a predominantly black or a mixed group, Elesha believes getting involved "adds so much more to your University experience."

"Stay focused on what you came to the University for, but don't limit yourself on what you think is an education." To Elesha, part of education is "meeting other people, hanging out, going to hear Jubilate...Black Voices."

At the same time, "It is important to not fol-

low the crowd, but do what you think is important," Elesha said. "Pick your battles, you can't fight everything."

Trent Williams, former President of Kappa Alpha Psi Incorporated and 1992-1993 Co-chair of the Diversity Committee for University Union, has the heart to see people set goals, develop support systems, and succeed. This is quite evident in the Kappa Leadership League at Buford Middle School. He founded this group last year to teach eighth grade young men elements of group consciousness.

Trent offers the same advice to the undergraduates that he gives to the Kappa League, "ALWAYS THINK BIG. Never feel that you can't achieve it. Set a vision and remain determined, supportive, and persistent."

Owen Griffin, 1992-93 Commerce School President, Black Christian Fellowship Men's Group Leader gives this advice: "Remember why you're here. It's very easy to lose sight that this is foremost an institution of learning. If you don't learn anything, you're the one who loses."

"You will leave Charlottesville the same way you arrived, alone. You alone will determine the tools with which you will leave."

"Don't let your education or your life just happen to you. Be proactive in everything that you do."

"Realize that everyone has something to teach you. So, always arm yourself with the humility of being able to learn from them."

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

Proverbs 3:5, 6

*Congratulations
Graduates!*



Say So Long To...

*Mr. Jefferson's University
The Lawn
The Rotunda
The Academical Villiage
Cabell Hall
The BBS
BET
Step Shows
ARA!!!
ISIS
Midterms, Papers, Finals*

Say Hello to...

*That 9-5 J-O-B
Bills
Graduate School (?)
Marriage (?)
Supporting Your Parents
Adulthood
An Income
Real Food
New Friends
Your Degree
Hello Real World,
Good-Bye, U.Va.*



STRAIGHT UP

Students Discuss Relations Between Blacks and Asians

By April C. Logan, CLAS III
Skandaline Staff Writer

Tuesday, April 26, in the Backroom of Pavilion XI over twenty students gathered to discuss the formation of a group focusing on African-American and Asian-American relations. Undergraduate students Alex Holcombe, Michael Kim, and April Logan, Co-chair of the Jewish and African-American Relations Committee (JAAR), facilitated the meeting. Rafiq Jeffries, College of Arts and Science Honor Representative, was also in attendance.

The leadership of the Black Student Alliance and the Asian Student Union felt there was a need for such a group after a controversial article concerning Asian-Americans appeared in

Pride, a magazine sponsored by the Black Student Alliance. The article led to a forum in which Asian-American and African-American students participated in a heated discussion of issues raised by the article.

The facilitators said the group will be similar to JAAR, but not necessarily a part of that group. JAAR, a group established in 1991, is a social and educational group dedicated to bringing together students of the African-American and Jewish communities. John Kang, former Issues Committee Co-Chair of the Asian Student Union said of the group, "This could be an opportunity for both groups to come together and work toward reaching our common goals."

After Michael Kim's introductory remarks, Alex Holcombe explained why he is interested in

the creation of such a group. "I have no African-American or Asian in me, that I know of, but have friends of both communities" Holcombe added that he has not seen much done to encourage interaction between diverse ethnic groups. Holcombe, Kim, and Logan went on to facilitate a discussion of what issues the group should address and how to address them. Such topics as the political tactics used by the Asian and African-American communities, the differences in experiences of each community as minorities in America, and conflicts between the groups in the inner city were among the many issues proposed. Students at the meeting agreed that there is a definite need for candid discussion of such issues between the groups.

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ATTENTION STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS:

The What's Happening section of Skandaline is here to serve you. We would greatly appreciate it if you would send us any of your mid-April and May announcements. We have placed this section in the newspaper especially to be a help to you and the rest of the University community by making them aware of your events. Please help us to serve you by sending in your groups events by April 11. Your organizations events list should be dropped off in the Skandaline mailbox in the office of African-American Affairs.

Thank You

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*If you're not becoming to him,
You should be coming to us.*

An Audacious Faith: What Does It Say?

For this issue of Skandaline the staff decided we would talk back to the community. Several requests have been made to print what exactly the Report on Afro-American Affairs at the University, *An Audacious Faith*, says. For the last few months several concerned Black students have been protesting the "overtly hostile environment" at the University. So, whether you support the rallying, protesting, and debating or not here is the list of demands that Audacious says we should be fighting to acquire as well as the original twelve requests made by these concerned Black students. Make an informed decision on what you believe.

Audacious Faith Recommendations, June 1987
(taken directly from the original document)

1. Provision of Incentives to Academic Units to Promote the Hiring of Black Faculty
2. Enhancement Efforts to Recruit Black Faculty Members
3. Improved Monitoring of and Accountability for Affirmative Action Faculty-Recruitment Efforts
4. Enhancement of Efforts to Retain Black Faculty
5. Expansion of the Number of Black Graduate Students at the University of Virginia
6. Enhancement of Activities to Increase the Interest of Black Students in Attending the University of Virginia
7. Development of Sustained Links Between the University and Target Public School Systems
8. Enhancement of Financial Aid for Black Students
9. Enhancement of Efforts to Retain and Graduate Black Students
10. Provide Training Sessions for Faculty on the Classroom Experience of Black and Other Minority Students in a Predominantly White Milieu
11. Improvement of Academic Advising and Development of a Mentoring Program.
12. Coordination and Evaluation of Special Educational Programs
13. Coordination and Evaluation of Tutorial Programs
14. Coordination and Enhancement of the Diagnosis and Remediation of Learning Disabilities
15. Establishment of a Committee to Assure Full Use of the Luther P. Jackson Cultural Center by University Departments, Institutes, and Programs
16. Encouragement of the University's growing emphasis on Inter-Cultural Programming by Supporting Incorporation of an Afro-American or African Perspective into Public Presentations
17. Enhancement of the Relationship Between the University and the Black Community of Charlottesville-Albemarle
18. Initiation of a Thorough Public Examination of the Philosophical Basis and Practical Realization of Affirmative Action
19. Enhancement of the Afro-American and African Studies Program
20. Provision of a More Welcoming Social Environment for Black Students
21. Implementation of Discrimination Complaint Procedures
22. Study of the Application of the Honor System to Determine if it Provides Equal Treatment to All Racial Groups
23. Appointment of Blacks to High-Level Administrative Positions
24. Establishment of the Position of Advisor to the President on Minority Affairs
25. Creation of the Office of Associate Provost for Student Academic Services
26. Redefinition of the Mission of the Office of Afro-American Affairs
27. Enhancement of Efforts to Recruit and Promote Blacks in Staff Positions

(Taken from *An Audacious Faith*, Report of the Task Force on Afro-American Affairs, University of Virginia, June 1987)

Critical Issues Presented to President Casteen by the Concerned Black Students, March 1994
(taken from the original document)

1. The immediate denouncement of Governor Allen's BOV appointments and the lobbying for at least one Black member on the Board which will better reflect a more diverse student body and state;
2. The immediate halt of the following search committees: provost, associate provost, student affairs vice president, architecture dean, education dean, and engineering dean.
3. The university meet and provide the full amount of financial resources to Black students for their successful matriculation and graduation;
4. Systematic and mandatory multicultural education that a) respects diversity and individuality, b) emphasizes the contributions of various racial and cultural groups and understanding in term of different perspectives, and c) allows all students to reach their potential as learners.
5. Comprehensive and required multicultural training for all administrators, students (undergraduate and graduate), and faculty at the university.
6. Significantly more Black graduate students, faculty and administrator that again reflect a diverse student body.
7. More Black coaches and administrators in the athletic department who can provide identifiable mentorship and guidance to our Black athletes.
8. More financial resources form the athletic department for non-athletic purposes that affect Black males at the university.
9. Better guidance to increase the marketability of skills of specifically Black male athletes.
10. More involvement in the dialogue and discussion in the West Main Street expansion initiative as part of the university's plan.
11. To facilitate discussion with your office and member of the Black community to research and address the poor working conditions, disparity of pay and full benefits, and lack of access to educational opportunities for the Black support staff.
12. To facilitate discussion and an audience with Governor Allen at the earliest possible date.