

The GRIOT

KAYLA TOLBERT , EDITOR

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First Annual Royalty Homecoming Pageant

Colorado State University

Trenice Lane

On September 30, 2012 the Black/African American Cultural Center hosted the First Annual Homecoming Royalty Pageant. There were 10 lovely contestants competing to be the Homecoming King and Queen. The contestants included Keana Johnston, Kamishia Henry, Aujhanay Domingo, Mya Wells, Tyreesa Reeves, Kayla Tolbert, Taylor Pettaway, Shannon Patilla, Sesugh Solomon, and Shayla Monteiro. There were about 150 people in attendance. The stage had a wonderful appearance; there were wonderful green dim lights as well as spotlights that lit the path down the runway. As the lights went down Beyoncé's song "End of Time" came on and one by one, each contestant came out for the opening dance, the girls all had wonderful rhythm and then Sesugh's comedic character put smiles on many faces in the crowd as he joined the show.

One of our special guests was the host of the show, Trudi Morrison. She was the first African American Homecoming Queen at Colorado State University in 1970. Trudi states that when she was at CSU there were 62 African Americans and this year we are up to 800 African American students, which is a huge transformation! In honor of the pageant Trudi stated, "Beauty comes in all sizes, shapes, colors, fate, vision, character, integrity, how we make decisions, mind, body, and soul. Beauty is not defined as the Barbie doll definition because most of all beauty comes from within." Trudi served as a very significant component of the pageant.

There were four different categories the contestants were given to shine in, which were, beachwear, an interview, talent and formal wear. All of the contestants did a wonderful job and all deserve to be Homecoming Queen, unfortunately there could only be one and the lucky winner was Miss Shannon Patilla and the Homecoming King of course was Sesugh Solomon. Ram's Choice went to Tyreesa Reeves and Miss Congeniality went to Taylor Pettaway. Special thanks to the judges, Trudi Morrison, the B/AACC office and last but not least Torshan Thomas and Erica Boyer who helped put this event together. Special thanks to Cydnee Black who volunteered her time to choreograph the opening dance and to do make up back stage. The Homecoming Royalty Pageant was a huge success and an amazing turnout.

Inside this issue

<i>First Annual Royalty Homecoming Pageant</i>	1
<i>Interview with Brieon Paige</i>	2
<i>Lt. Col. Mosley Mentoring Program</i>	3
<i>Letter from Assistant Director</i>	5
<i>Calendar</i>	6

Interview with Student-Athlete Brieon Paige

By Erica Boyer

FULL NAME: Brieon Alyssa Paige

HOMETOWN: Fresno, CA

MAJOR: Communication Studies

MINOR: Ethnic Studies

YEAR IN SCHOOL: Senior

POSITION: Middle Blocker

What impact has being the only African American on the volleyball team had on you?

When I first was being recruited there were two other African Americans on the team. Once they graduated, I guess it kind of surprised me. The next year came and still we hadn't recruited another African American, I just wanted any minority. I thought it would be difficult, but the girls never made me feel left out or less than them at any time in my career.

What makes you love the game, and when did you start playing?

I started playing at the age of 12 and have been playing since then. I can't say it was something that I immediately fell in love with! I started off on the worst team, but thankfully I was moved up and able to play varsity all four years of high school. My sophomore year was when I realized volleyball was something I wanted to do in college. I am just now figuring out what it means to honor God with the athleticism that he has given me and show others his talents through my play and love for the game.

What are your future aspirations?

I aspire to be either a broadcast journalist in either sports or entertainment. I am also interested in doing public relations work because I love working and helping other people. I also aspire to one day be on the USA National Team and compete with the best of the best.



How has your time here at CSU been?

It has definitely been challenging, but I am so grateful for the challenges. Here at CSU I have grown into a mature woman who loves the game of volleyball, but more importantly loves herself. I don't regret anything and I would totally relive this whole experience again.

What do you wish was different about CSU?

I wish Greek life was a little bit bigger here. Growing up my mom told me about her experiences as a Delta and I was excited to experience the same here at CSU.

How are you feeling about this season?

I think there have been a lot of challenges that have come our way since the beginning of the season. We've played a lot of tough teams, and we lost to some but were also able to beat others. I have very high expectations for myself and I think there are some minor things I can get better at. I will continue to work on my game by working hard at practice, staying later to get better, and playing my best.



Lt. Col. John Mosley Student-Athlete Mentoring Program

By Kayla Tolbert

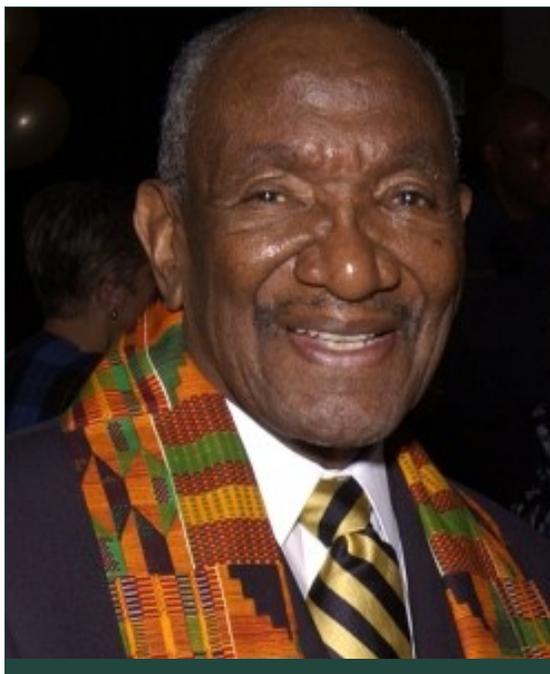
Like many other universities and colleges across America, sports have been one of the most popular ways to bring together and unite the university as a whole. Sports at Colorado State University are highly valued at our university, as we can see through the approval of a new stadium or even the unanimous support of the Olympian Janay DeLoach in the 2012 Olympics. Our student athletes have a way with getting our students and faculty to become full of school spirit when participating in the sport they excel in.

In the Black/African American Cultural Center, we understand that athletes are not only on the field doing work, but they have other duties to worry about such as school, work, or extracurricular activities. With such a busy schedule, it can be difficult for an athlete to stay focused physically, mentally and even spiritually. Therefore the Black/African American Cultural Center introduced the Lt. Col. John Mosley Student Athlete Mentoring Program, which is a mentoring program aimed for our African-American student athletes.

Many of you are probably wondering who Lt. Col. John Mosley is as well as his importance to our community. Lt. Col. Mosley was the first African-American Athlete to graduate from Colorado State University, according to the recording era. Lt. Col. Mosley was raised in Denver, Colorado and he attended Manual High School, where he was a National Merit Scholar. Mosley furthered his education through deciding to attend Colorado State College of Agriculture and Art Mechanics. During this time in Fort Collins, segregation prevailed and had an effect on Mosley as a student. In the year of 1939, Mosley decided to try out for the football team at Colorado State as a freshman. Even after being taunted by opponents as well as teammates, Mosley continued to excel

athletically as well as in his career. After learning how to fly through a civilian pilot training program and graduating in 1943, Mosley eventually made history through his work as a Tuskegee Airman. Today Lt. Col. John Mosley resides in Aurora, Colorado.

The name of the mentoring program not only has history behind it but it also has opportunities and option to make a bright and promising future for our African-American student athletes. Our mentors are former student athletes, who know from experience what it means to be a student athlete as well as the obstacles it takes to be successful. One of our student athletes, junior, Sabrina Jones states "Many people do not know how it is to be a minority as well as an athlete at Colorado State. Majority of us feel out of place when were not on the track, court or field. This program sets out to help us realize that there is so much history that allowed for us to be here today and no matter what, we have a support system who wants to see us succeed."



Keeping it Real with REAL TALK

By Michael Burnett

What is Real Talk? Real talk is an event held every Tuesday from 4pm to 5pm in the Lory Student Center in room 204. It is a place where all students are encouraged to share their ideas and opinions about all types of hot trending topics, ranging from inter-cultural dating to the presidential election. Real Talk is one of the many programs offered by the Black/African American Cultural Center and has become a very successful one because of the amount of involvement from students.

We discuss topics which affect the African American community within the media, as well as in our communities. Due to the nature of the topics we value the room as a safe space allowing individuals to feel comfortable to share their ideas and opinions among others. Real Talk is opened to the Colorado State University community and we value the diverse perspectives that can contribute to the discussions.

Upcoming Real Talk Discussions

October 23rd: "Interracial Dating"

October 30th: "Rock the Vote: Who's Who in the Presidential Elections?"

November 6th: "Men Use Love for Sex and Women Use Sex Love"

Real Talk Discussions are held every Tuesday at 4 pm in the Black/African American Cultural Center located in room 204 of the LSC!

We hope to see and hear your perspectives soon!



Marcus Elliott

Assistant Director

Greetings!

The clean, crisp autumn scent is in the air and we are swiftly moving through the Fall 2012 semester. We here in the Black/African American Cultural Center are thrilled with the opportunity to not only reach out to new students, but to also to reconnect with returning students as well.

Only a few weeks into the fall semester, there were plenty of events hosted by our center, ranging from our annual Open House/Ice Cream Social to the well-attended Welcome BAACC BBQ at Rolland Moore Park. Also, our annual Fall Retreat for New

Students was held at the Short grass Steppe Research Center. In addition, our first annual Homecoming Pageant was a success and we look forward to many more in the years to come.

I hope that you find this issue of the GRIOT to be informative, interesting, and enjoyable. A special thank you goes out to our GRIOT staff for their hard work in making this issue possible.

Have a great month!

Marcus D. Elliott, M. Ed.
Assistant Director



Colorado State University
BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN
CULTURAL CENTER

204 Lory Student Center

Fort Collins, Colorado 80523-8016

www.baacc.colostate.edu

Office Hours: 8:00 am— 5:00 pm

Phone: 970-491-5781

Fax: 970-491-0492

Email: bss@lamar.colostate.edu

October 2012

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1 <i>Math and Science Tutoring 6-7:30 pm</i>	2 <i>Real Talk 4pm</i>	3 <i>Math and Science Tutoring 6-7:30 pm</i>	4	5	6
7 <i>AKA Week</i> <i>Athletic Mentoring @6-8pm</i>	8 <i>AKA Week</i> <i>Math and Science Tutoring 6-7:30 pm</i>	9 <i>AKA Week</i> <i>Real Talk 4pm</i>	10 <i>AKA Week</i> <i>Math and Science Tutoring 6-7:30 pm</i>	11 <i>AKA Week</i>	12 <i>AKA Week</i>	13 <i>AKA Week</i> <i>GPS 9-12pm UMC Basketball Tournament 10-4pm</i>
14 <i>AKA Week</i>	15 <i>Math and Science Tutoring 6-7:30 pm</i>	16 <i>Real Talk 4pm</i>	17 <i>Black Def @12pm Math and Science Tutoring 6-7:30 pm</i>	18	19	20
21 <i>Athletic Mentoring @6-8pm</i>	22 <i>Math and Science Tutoring 6-7:30 pm</i>	23 <i>Real Talk 4pm</i>	24 <i>D.W. Professional Mentoring @ 12pm</i>	25	26	27 <i>Football vs. Hawaii Tailgate</i>
28	29 <i>Math and Science Tutoring 6-7:30 pm</i>	30 <i>Real Talk 4pm</i>	31 <i>Math and Science Tutoring 6-7:30 pm</i>			