

# Alliance

Spring 1994

## Latino fraternity and sorority become reality

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Ian Bautista

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The beginning of the Spring semester marked a milestone for Multicultural Greek Letter Organizations at Kansas State University. A group of 14 dedicated young men officially became members of Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternity, Inc.

This culturally based organization was founded in 1986 at the University of Iowa and has grown in size to include chapters, colonies and interest groups from schools as far north as Harvard University, as far west as the University of California-Dominguez Hills and as far south as La Universidad Catolica in Ponce, Puerto Rico.

On February 5 and 6 of 1994, two of the 18 founding Sigma

Lambda Beta Fraternity members came to Manhattan to visit with the men in *Somos Latinos sin Barreras*, an interest group of Sigma Lambda Beta.

At that time, the group became a colony and chose to call their founding line *Los Pioneros*, which is the Spanish term for pioneers. The founders, Baltazar Mendoza and Enrique Carbajal, said they were impressed with the dedication and hard work already devoted to the foundation of a Kansas State Colony of the Fraternity.

On April 9 - 11, the K-State Sigma Lambda Beta Little Brothers travelled to Iowa City, IA for the 8th annual Founder's Ball. On April 10, the 13 Little Brothers became Actives.

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Elsa Diaz

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On March 26, 1994, a group of very dedicated women from Kansas State University went to Champaign, Illinois with a dream—that they would become members of the first Latina Sorority in Kansas, Sigma Lambda Gamma Sorority.

The women called themselves "**Las Determinadas**" (The Determined). They were recognized as a colony of the Sigma Lambda Gamma Sorority on October 30, 1993, and became active members of the sorority during the March 26th trip.

Sigma Lambda Gamma was founded at The University of Iowa in 1989. Sigma Lambda Gamma Sorority is a social, academic, and cultural organization.

## Black Student Union to act as agent of change

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Jawwad Adib Abdulhaqq

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The Black Student Union has the potential to be a powerful and positive force at K-State. With newly elected officers for the 94-95 school year, we will move to be self-sufficient. We will concentrate diligently on organization, politics, advertising and marketing.

We have re-organized to insure that every facet of campus life that applies to the African

American gets full attention. We have established an Advisory Board made up of administrators and faculty, which will work hand in hand with the Executive Committee.

A political interest committee will be developed to research and address issues that affect the African American student.

Also, a public relations committee will be formed with the intent to make the organization more accessible and visible

to the African Americans on campus. The PRC will also handle all of the organization's advertising and marketing needs.

These are just a few of the many endeavors the Black Student Union will tackle to become a self-sufficient entity. God-willing it will be a new adventure, new opportunity and an agent for change. Black Student Union will be that agent to establish African American life at K-State during the 1994-95 school year.

05/02

## Henry Green appointed Kansas appellate judge; is second African American assigned to position

Kim Hamilton '89

So much depends on Henry Green's ability to make decisions slowly, carefully, and his ability to listen and analyze all sides of an issue.

Green, a Kansas appellate judge and 1972 K-State history and political science graduate, and nine other appellate judges determine the fate of approximately 92 percent of the cases appealed from the district court. Those cases include the realm of civil, criminal and administrative law cases.

Sworn in on June 3, 1993, as the second African American appellate judge in Kansas history, Green acknowledges his mother, wife and K-State as motivators in his personal and professional aspirations.

"My mother instilled in me the 'stick-to-itness,' to always do my best, try my best and never give up," Green said. "I think that has been good advice and has helped

me out. I would say that those two people - without them, I wouldn't be here today."

He cited K-State as a wholesome university with down-to-earth, friendly professors and students. He added that the university provided a good education and the background he needed to attend law school.

When Green arrived at K-State in 1967, there were only about 14 or 15 black students in the freshman class. And although there was much cohesiveness between black students, he enjoyed the sharing of cultures at K-State.

"One of the big things coming from high school to college was meeting new people from different backgrounds," Green said. "That helped me grow and develop, and has stayed with me throughout my career. As an attorney you meet people from all different walks of life, and you have to be able to understand the problems they have and try to develop

solutions to their problems."

Upon graduating from K-State, Green entered law school at the University of Kansas, earning a law degree in 1975.

He then began law private practice in Leavenworth, Kan., and had been there until his judgeship appointment this year.

Born and raised in Leavenworth, Kan., Green lives there with his wife Shirley and son Malcolm. His daughter, Monica Green Simpson, is a senior at K-State.

*Kim Hamilton is a writer for the K-Stater and coordinator of the K-State Alumni Association's multicultural constituent program. The K-State Multicultural Alumni Council, an advisory committee for this program, will be contributing articles and other information to the Alliance. This and future issues of the newsletter will be mailed to all alumni of color, as the council strives to establish and maintain a link between former and current students of color.*

## Monrovia Scott named one of top engineering graduates

Alliance Staff

Monrovia Scott, a senior in industrial engineering, received a Knight of Pat award at a banquet during the annual K-State Open House festivities on April 9, 1994.

The Knight of Pat award is given to the top 40 graduating seniors in engineering.

The award, given by Dean Donald Rathbone, is based on a

student's college and university-wide involvement and grade point average. Monrovia was nominated by Dean Ray Hightower. He is the advisor to Steel Ring, an honorary for seniors in engineering.

While Monrovia has completed her graduation requirements, she has decided to stay at K-State for another year as an undergraduate student. This will allow her to take classes to prepare her for graduate

school.

Monrovia plans to keep her grade point average at 3.3, while still being involved on campus as the president of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, secretary of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. and as a senior board member for the Society of Black Engineers.

Monrovia was also a residence hall staff member in Ford Hall for two years.

## Charlotte Moore: with love and prayers

Tamara Jordon

"When you think all your work may or may not have been in vain, God confirms that it wasn't. And this was how God confirmed it for me," stated Charlotte Moore, 1993-94 Outstanding Senior of the Year.

Thursday, April 21, Moore, graduating senior in pre-law and social work, was notified that she had been selected by students in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work as the Outstanding Senior of the Year. Moore has been excited ever since.

K-State has been instrumental to her life in one profound way. "It has helped me understand the importance of diversity," she said. She further explained that understanding diversity helped her to learn about stereotypes, prejudice, and racism. "K-State helped me find my purpose in life," she confirmed.

Moore has been very active on K-State's campus. She helped write the Black Student Union (BSU) 1992 Memorandum to President Wefald, was past president of National Pan-Hellenic Council, best actor in *Defiant Times*, recognized for her talent in *Fences*, past president of Zeta Phi Beta sorority, past member of United Black Voices (UBV), 1991 Vice President of

Black Student Union (BSU), and presently, president of Ebony Theatre, vice president of Zeta Phi Beta sorority, and Outstanding Senior of the Year.

Along with these activities, Moore has established special bonds with many faculty on campus. Bernard Franklin, Mordean Taylor-Archer, Dr. Ann Butler, Dr. Juanita McGowan, Shirlyn Henry Brown, Pat Bosco, and Cheryl Kirkemide are individuals of which Moore has seen some uniqueness. Moore confessed, "They took me in as if I was their flesh and blood; their child, in very trying times. They have mentored me in one way or other." These same people, through prayers and support, helped her when her fiance died of cancer. They helped Moore get back on track.

When asked what her driving force to endure each year at K-State was, she readily answered, "God." She further testified, "Every year I was challenged by some obstacle. But through prayer and God's help, I have endured. I take no credit."

Moore will continue her education in graduate school at Virginia Commonwealth University. She will be working to get her masters in Social Work and will pursue a law degree.

Moore advises current and future students at K-State "to never forget how supportive God is and should be in your lives."

Moore's parents are Eduard and Frances Potts. She has two brothers.

## Calendar of Events 1994-1995

**BSU & KSU Pan-Hellenic Council Welcome Back Picnic**  
August 27, 1994, 3 - 8 pm. West Stadium

Lots of good food and entertainment. Meet African American students, faculty and staff.

**Racial/Ethnic Harmony Week**  
October 3 - 7, 1994

Speakers and activities designed to highlight diverse cultures.

**Hispanic Awareness Month**  
October, 1994

Movies, speakers, dances and dance lessons celebrating the rich heritage of Latinos and Hispanics.

**Martin Luther King Jr. Week**  
January 16 - 20, 1995

Reflects on the contributions of Martin Luther King Jr. and the ways we can fulfill his vision for an equal and respectful society.

**Black History Month**  
February, 1995

BSU and the KSU Pan-Hellenic Council bring noted speakers, hold discussions, and host a myriad of other activities in celebration of Black history.

**Asian American Awareness Month**  
March, 1995

ASIA, Asian Americans for Intercultural Awareness, plan a variety of activities highlighting the contributions of Asian Americans.

**Native American Heritage Month**  
April, 1995

The annual pow wow, noted guest speakers, free films, and potluck dinners offer Native students and friends the chance to experience Native culture.

# Speak Out

by Darren Geimausaddle

John F. Kennedy stated, "We are a nation of nations." This statement was in reference to America's supposed melting pot status. In reality, America is anything but a melting pot. We are segregated by race and socio-economic status into not-so-neighborly neighborhoods. This is a characteristic of larger cities with some diversity, unlike most small towns in Kansas.

The University is like a small town, with a small town mentality. The white picket fence syndrome has its ugly side. Is it any wonder KSU's students are rejecting the diversity overlay when their sole life experience is a system of values, ideas, and beliefs that underscore conformity?

The idea of a diversity overlay program challenges this mentality. It brings in another component that seems to threaten white society, even bringing out the likes of Fred Phelps.

We must be free to question

this society without being called white-male-bashers or whiners and in its stead, question the system that has churned out generations of wholesome white Americans who passively allow the nation to become oppressive and exclusionistic. It is for the good of the people, all the people, to eradicate racial intolerance.

I don't think the diversity overlay will pass. The University is not ready for it. What does that say about America's next generation of leaders? I wonder if the next Native American student who comes to Manhattan will face the same ignorance I have—the same indifference to civil strife, the same bigoted remarks whispered about people who are different, whose religions are different, and who have the audacity to love whomever they please. The road to individuality has become a desolate one.

If a future engineer cannot understand the Native American's

spiritual ties to the land, she will be destined to continue to make the same mistakes of the past. Native Americans revere Mother Earth; She feeds us, clothes us, shelters us. How long can a society pollute the land whose very existence we depend on? Is that ideology so foreign?

What about the psychology professor who blithely tells the students, "Let's circle the wagons." No harmful intent, sure, nothing personal, but again a product of his society which has rendered the Native American invisible.

Today's students are tomorrow's leaders, and as the future lies in their hands, I would like to see students come away from college with more than a degree in their hand. It is my hope all the students of KSU will come away from K-State honest, caring human beings, with more understanding so that they can make a better world for ALL people.

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