

# Over a ton of books donated to Uzbekistan library

By Vanessa Raba  
Old Gold and Black Reporter

University alumna Jessica Jackson '00 took the stage in Pugh Auditorium last November to speak about her experience with the Peace Corps in Uzbekistan. During the speech, she mentioned her effort to establish an English library for the residents of her village. Four months later, the university community has donated over 2,640 pounds of literature to be sent halfway around the world for her cause.

Although Jackson was pulled out of Uzbekistan four months before she was scheduled to leave due to the Sept. 11 attacks, she has continued her efforts to educate Uzbekistan's citizens by encouraging continued donations to the country's new English libraries.

The Uzbekistan Book Drive, announced the night of Jackson's speech, was a service project undertaken by the executive advisory committee of the Year of Unity and Hope. The committee, made up of 12 student volunteers, collaborated with the theme year's steering committee and invited Jackson to speak about her experiences as an American in a Muslim country following the World Trade Center attacks.

Junior Jonathan Willingham, co-chairman of the committee, reflected on Jackson's speech and the importance of the cause.

"Many of the people of Uzbekistan think that the way to a better life is through knowledge of English," Willingham said. "Jessica Jackson started a library for them with only a magazine and an auto parts manual. From there she asked her family, friends, and, eventually, the Wake Forest community to help out."

Willingham said the response from the community was remarkable. After leaving a box for donations at the Benson University Center Information desk the group received everything from textbooks to Diane Steele.

The University Bookstore also made a sizeable donation that members of the group said was just what they needed.

"It has been a little overwhelming, in a really great way," he said.

The book drive concluded with the members of the Executive Advisory Committee packing the fifty boxes of donated books on March 20 in the Taylor Residence Hall lounge. Student Government and the theme year committee will be sharing the fee of shipping the books from the university to Uzbekistan.

Donations for the book drive so dramatically exceeded expectations that the committee recently changed the scope of the project to include two more libraries begun by Jackson's Peace Corps friends who served in other villages in Uzbekistan. Willingham explained how the books were sorted, saying, "The village where Jessica Jackson lived was home to many children so those are the types of books we sent her way. We sent the textbooks to a town with a large college-age population so that they could benefit from our chemistry books. Jackson wouldn't have wanted all of the fifty boxes of books sent to her library." Willingham added, "We're glad we had enough donations to help out more than one town."

Willingham praised senior Sarah Milton, SG chief of staff and member of the student advisory committee, for organizing the project saying, "Sarah did an incredible job coordinating the whole affair, from securing storage to going down to the post office to figure out the



Photo Courtesy of Sarah Milton

Senior Sarah Milton and junior Jonathan Willingham stuff a bag full of books bound for Uzbekistan. The project, associated with the Year of Unity and Hope, gathered over 2,000 pounds of books for the overseas library.

best way to get over a ton of books from North Carolina to Uzbekistan."

While Milton admitted that shipping 50 boxes of books to Uzbekistan is, "no small feat," she spoke of the project as just one more perk of the Year of Unity and Hope, noting, "It has been a great opportunity being involved with the theme year. The most exciting thing has been the service activities because we are actually putting *Pro Humanitate* to work. The success of the book drive made every minute of hard work worth it."

Willingham echoed her satisfaction with

the project, saying, "It has been refreshing to see how many people, not just students, but in the community at large, came out to support this cause. I think that furthering children's education is something that is not only important to consider, but is our responsibility to pursue. This is one way that the theme year has expanded beyond the Afghanistan situation, beyond our community."

The executive advisory committee recently sent letters to members of the university community affected by the events of Sept. 11. These letters, whether of con-

dolence or appreciation for donations and volunteers, were mailed on the six-month anniversary of the tragedy.

Future events overseen by the committee include a display in the library featuring art from local elementary school students. The display will serve as a commentary on religious and cultural diversity. There will also be a civil liberties panel discussion at 8 p.m. March 26 in Pugh Auditorium.

The panel will address effects of the Sept. 11 attacks, both in the United States and around the world.

## AIDS quilt coming to campus

By Laura Weems  
Old Gold and Black Reporter

The Gay Straight Student Alliance plans to bring 24 panels of the nationally recognized AIDS quilt to campus starting March 26 through April 1.

The AIDS quilt, which will be displayed in the Hanes Art Gallery located in the Scales Fine Arts Center, is the product of The Names Project, designed to educate and create public awareness about the AIDS epidemic.

Each panel of the quilt is 12 square feet of artwork created by friends, family members and co-workers of AIDS victims that have died since the quilt's creation in 1987. The quilt, in its entirety, spans the length of 26 football fields, consists of 44,000 panels and includes more than 83,000 names. Materials used to create sections of the quilt range from old clothes to love letters to Hemingway quotes. It has appeared on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., stretching from the Capital building to the Washington Monument.

Senior Jason Brown, executive chairman of GSSA, worked to bring the AIDS quilt to campus last year when he found out a good friend had been diagnosed with AIDS.

"I'd been taught about AIDS and knew a lot about it, but I felt

like we were forgetting about it; the emphasis isn't there anymore," he said.

GSSA hopes to support and accomplish the five goals of the AIDS quilt project, which are: providing a creative means for remembrance and healing, illustrating the enormity of the AIDS epidemic, increasing public awareness of AIDS, assisting with HIV prevention education and raising funds for community-based AIDS service organizations.

Organizers will approach this last goal in two ways with the university exhibition.

First, money given to the AIDS Memorial Quilt organization in exchange for the quilt will be distributed at their discretion. The money that enabled GSSA to bring the quilt to campus was provided mostly by the Student Government Budget Advisory Committee. In addition, the Adam Foundation, Winston-Salem a non-profit group designed to provide ongoing financial support for gay and lesbian communities, donated \$1,200 for the reception and publicity.

A donation box will also be set up within the gallery for the duration of the exhibit, which will benefit the local AIDS Care Service.

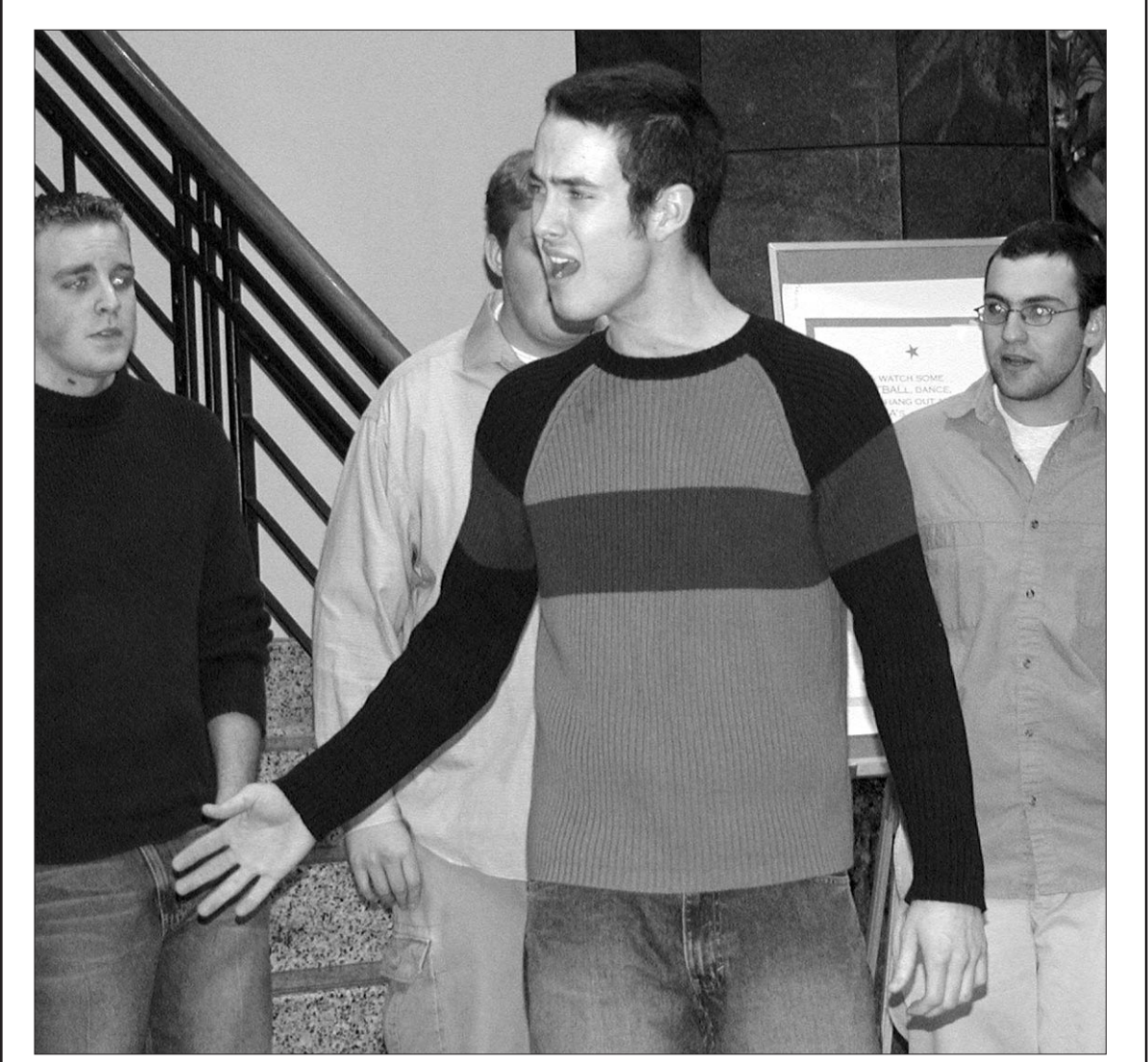
The quilt's display on campus will be kicked off with a recep-

tion at the Hanes Art Gallery on March 27 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served and the Triad Gay Men's Chorus will be providing entertainment. In addition, the GSSA will be creating a Wake Forest panel to be added to the quilt permanently. Creation of the Wake Forest panel is open, and volunteers with artistic talent are encouraged to participate.

The AIDS quilt was started in 1987 when a group of family and friends of AIDS patients gathered at a storefront in San Francisco to document the lives they feared the world would forget. The first panel of the quilt was created in that summer in honor of Marvin Feldman, a friend of gay rights activist and quilt founder, Cleve Jones.

As awareness of the quilt increased, so did participation. In October 1987, the quilt was first displayed on the Capital Mall in Washington, D.C. It covered a space larger than a football field and included 1,920 panels.

During a four-month tour following the inaugural display, the quilt grew to 6,000 panels and in the process, raised \$500,000 for AIDS service organizations. Today, the quilt has raised almost \$1.85 million nationwide and through displays and it continues to bring in money for the AIDS cause.



Billie Zito/Old Gold and Black

### Temporary tunes

Junior Jamie Spaulding goes solo during a performance by the men's a capella group Temporary Reprieve. The group performed in the rotunda of the Benson University Center on March 20 before they left for an a capella music festival at Washington University in St. Louis, M.O. this weekend.

## BRIEFLY

Campus organizations may have their announcements listed by sending e-mail to [news@ogb.wfu.edu](mailto:news@ogb.wfu.edu), faxing to Ext. 4561 or writing to P.O. Box 7569. The deadline for inclusion in each week's paper is 5 p.m. Monday.

### Travel scholarship available for classics

The department of classical languages is accepting applications for the William Royall Scholarship.

The scholarship provides an award of \$500 for excellence in classical studies. Preference is given to students who plan to travel abroad to classical sites. Application forms, which must be completed by March 25, are available in Tribble Hall B6.

### Applications available for service trips

Students wishing to go on winter service trips sponsored by the VSC and the Office of Volunteer Services can pick up applications outside of Benson 345. These are due on April 1. Opportu-

nities include trips to Calcutta, India, Honduras, Mexico City and Vietnam. For more information, contact Sally Sue Brown at Ext. 4549.

### Project Pumpkin chair applications due

Students interested in chairing one of 12 Project Pumpkin committees for fall 2002 should pick up applications outside of Benson 345. They are due on March 29. Contact Sarah Mastalir at Ext. 8526 for more information.

### VSC offers program leadership positions

The Volunteer Service Corps is accepting applications for leadership positions for 2002-03. Students are needed to serve as agency liaisons for 40 community

organizations where students volunteer.

Pick up applications outside of the VSC Office in Benson 345. Contact Noelle Shanahan or Lacey Shirk for more information.

### Applications available for President's Aides

Applications for next year's President Aides are available in Reynolds 211 or at the Benson information desk. For more information, call Carolyn Dow at Ext. 5212.

### Foreign films to be shown in Greene 239

There will be a Romance Language Film Festival March 26-28 at 7 p.m. each evening in Greene 239. The films will be *Who the Hell is Juliette?*, *Malena* and *Widow of*

*Saint-Pierre*.

An essay contest on the films will also be held, with a \$100 prize. Essay deadline is April 15. For more information, contact [kem@wfu.edu](mailto:kem@wfu.edu).

### Applications available for Spain program

The department of Romance languages announces openings for its Salamanca, Spain study abroad program for fall 2002 and spring 2003. The deadline for fall applications is April 1. Interested students can contact Justin Peterson at Ext. 5866 or [petersjr@wfu.edu](mailto:petersjr@wfu.edu).

### Applications available for 2003 Flow House

Applications are now being accepted for the spring 2003

session at the Flow House in Vienna.

Students will study German and the archaeology of Vienna, while fulfilling divisional requirements and travelling through East Germany, Prague and Budapest. For more information, contact Fred Horton at Ext. 5460 or [horton@wfu.edu](mailto:horton@wfu.edu) or visit [www.Fredhorton.com/flow2003/](http://www.Fredhorton.com/flow2003/).

### Health Policy minor to be offered

Students interested in the Interdisciplinary Minor in Health Policy and Administration are encouraged to schedule and advising session with economics professor Michael Lawlor.

For information and advising times, students should call Laura Covington, at Ext. 5534 or e-mail her at [covinglm@wfu.edu](mailto:covinglm@wfu.edu).

### Info session planned for 2003 Worrell House

Students interested in the study-abroad program in London for

spring 2003, should attend an informational meeting at 5 p.m. March 27 in Calloway 210.

The Worrell House program includes living with other students in an 1875 Victorian home in North London, attending classes led by British and university instructors, exposure to the city and the opportunity to travel.

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