

The Paper

A Medium For People Of African Descent

VOLUME 64 NO1

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"So We Stand Here On The Edge Of Hell In Harlem And Look Out On The World And Wonder What We're Gonna Do In The Face Of What We Remember..."
—Langston Hughes

ANOTHER TUITION HIKE?



Picture from The Messenger

by: Ernesto Johnson

It is quite possible that the tuition for CUNY & SUNY schools could increase once again. New York State Governor, George Pataki aims to

balance the State budget by imposing tuition hikes and additional cuts to the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP). The Seek program, which also provides assistance to financially strained students, has also come under fire by

Pataki. Pataki's cuts threatens student enrollment since many of them can only afford to attend school with financial aid from the government.

NYPIRG, The Undergraduate Student Government and oth-

er organizations throughout CUNY and SUNY schools have waged several protests and demonstrations to stop these senseless tuition increases, but they need YOUR HELP.

Join their fight!!!

JOIN (USG), NYPIRG AND OTHERS IN THIS FIGHT AGAINST THE PROPOSED TUITION INCREASE. FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT NYPIRG OR VISIT NAC 1/111 VISIT WWW.SUPPORTCUNY.ORG

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A Semester in Review from the President of the Undergraduate Student Government

by: President
Redeemer Amedzekor
(RESK Q!)

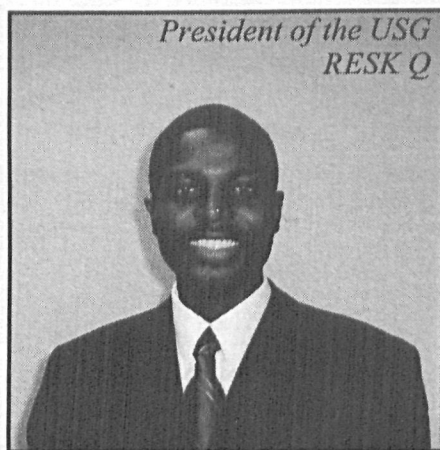
As president of the Undergraduate Student Government, my focus has been to provide strong representation for the student body here at the City College of New York. This plan includes making the Undergraduate Student government more effective and visible to our constituents whom we advocate for.

If the Student Government is to have a profound impact we need to work on filling the void that exists between the Student Government and the student body, thereby allowing for a clearer understanding of our function. This principle combined with increased visibility will help to ensure the support of our fellow students in all our endeavors. In the past, the Student Government leaders have been "out of the loop" and have failed to sit on important college-wide committees; therefore the administrators took it upon themselves to make decisions without the student voice. Now, however we made it our number one priority in having students sit on every committee that may directly or indirectly affect us. The expectation is to have the student government association take on the responsibilities of student leadership more seriously than ever.

Upon being inducted into office during September of 2004, the Student Government embarked on numerous initiatives. For starters, we have extended our usually irregular office hours to now 8:30am to 9pm so that our doors will always be opened. More importantly, we focus on offering greater varieties of services to students as we create a professional student oriented environment. By the request of the student body, we have also extended the NAC computer lab hours from 8am to 10pm Monday through Thursday. The Library hours have now been extended until midnight

specifically for midterm and final exam periods.

The Metropolitan Food Services had proposed an increase in the food prices since July 2004. The Student Government have denounced this increase. Sequentially, we have commenced a major food survey to find out about the



immediate needs of the students and more specifically to address the issues or problems, if any may be present.

As you walk around the campus,

"This is an issue of our education being compromised..."

particularly in the NAC building, you will notice the following changes: there are newly renovated classrooms and elevators. The new seating in the rotunda is by no means to be misinterpreted as a student lounging area, but should rather serve as a supplementary area for students to relax between classes. These on-going projects are being executed through the efforts of the Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Lois Cronholm. Recently, individuals may have noticed that the hassle of running back and forth to the Y-building has ended. In the fall of last year, Dr. Gregory Williams, President of CCNY and I had hosted the inauguration of the newly renovated Enrollment Center. This Center could be considered the "one-stop-shop" for all services that provide information and assistance for students to obtain and maintain their enrollment at the City College.

For the longest while, the student lounge near the bookstore had been occupied by the Administrators (Admissions Office). Currently, we have reclaiming our lounge. We are working on renovations that will better suit the needs of the students. We plan to continue luxuriating student life by placing computer stations in the lounge, constructing a quiet study room and installing television monitors and information screens.

Clubs and student organizations are a major contribution to school spirit. It is our goal to get clubs more active on campus. Over the past year, one hundred and fifty clubs have been registered at the college, however; only about twenty of these clubs have been active. This year, we have approximately 135 registered clubs. It is our goal to ensure that clubs not just register, but also become active on campus by fulfilling their missions, thus contributing to our goal of boosting school spirit. The very small budget we received from the allocated student activ-

ity fees [\$4 per student] has made it difficult to provide clubs with adequate funding. Through the help of some USG members I have accumulated some \$12,000 through fundraisers to help pay for the exorbitantly high security costs for events on campus. In addition, we are persistently petitioning for the cleaning and renovation of the Baskerville building for student organizations. We are also striving to obtain a new twenty-four hour study area in the NAC building for students who wish to stay on campus to study for their exams.

Every year clubs are encouraged to apply for extra funding through the Auxiliary Enterprise Corporation (AEC). This year \$200,000 was allotted amongst the student organizations for their proposed programs. We are currently working on a more enhanced and accelerated process with less restrictions for the next AEC fund-

ing period. Workshops would be given to clubs and organizations to thoroughly explain the application process and deadlines.

We are working with Provost Dagan on the implementation of a Degree Audit system. A Degree Audit is an easy-to-use tool that can assist individuals and their advisors in measuring progress towards specific academic requirements. Behind the degree audit is a complex computerized system that tracks your completed coursework. These courses can either be registered or transferred and is eventually displayed in a report format. Degree Audit prepares a comprehensive report detailing a student's progress toward meeting their program's academic requirements. Degree progress reports should be an effective tool used in conjunction with an academic advisor. This service however thrives and functions on technology fees from students. For the first time Student Government representatives, would be sitting on the technology fee committee.

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THE PAPER

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REVENGE ON THE COHEN LIBRARIANS

by: Jillian Jankie

What the *&\$)@# is going on with the library? When did all the librarians get such immense attitudes? Did they have a meeting and say, "we're tired of people asking us for call numbers. Who cares if they're in a hurry and the computers are slow? Let's make them pay for every single time they ever said they didn't remember the call number for a class textbook... Or did they say, "we're tired of the stereotypes...lets' be naughty..." (I was going to say b*&\$)@y, but I don't want to anger them, lest they sting me with a biting sarcastic remark)

For those of you unfamiliar with what I'm talking about, the circulation desk is an area

in the Cohen Library where textbooks are loaned out. Last semester, I used borrowed several of their texts, but I could never remember their call number's because I usually have numerous things on my brain that need my immediate attention. (like the stages in the Information Processing Model for my Thinking, Knowing, Remembering class) Every morning, when I stepped into the library, I would ask the librarian on duty for the same history and psychology book. They would tell me that I need the call number, and I would give them what I thought was the number. The number I gave them was always wrong, which wasted my time and their time. Most of the time, after I gave them the wrong number, they would find the book without even looking on the computer.

The same computer that is in front of them, that they use to check their mail and surf the internet. The librarian would hand me the book and tell me to remember the call number next time. On a few occasions, the librarian on duty would be snide with me after I told them I didn't remember the number. But nothing could prepare me for the attitude I experienced when I walked up to the Circulation Desk this very day.

I saw a familiar face. I knew this librarian to be a quiet but friendly guy. When I walked over to the circulation desk, I saw him talking to someone. After what seemed like forever but really was a little more than five minutes. I asked for my textbook. Instead of his usual readiness to help, he handed me a slip of paper with the reserve address. (which I now use

as a bookmark) I looked at the can with all the slips of paper and pictured all the people he would do this to in a day. Who would be the one to throw the can at him?

After I was ignored at the Circulation Desk, I walked to the computers with my slip of paper. I figured the computers would be full so I sat down at a computer next to the microfilm machine. Big mistake. "Excuse me, those computers are for microfilm." My second mistake occurred when I asked, "do I really have to go to this website for reserved books?" Why did I ask that? Why didn't I just slink away? She got all smarmy and said, "It's really very simple. Seriously, go over to the 70 machines over there."

NEW "POWERS" IN STUDENT AFFAIRS

Dr. Maureen H. Powers



Interviewed by: Ernesto Johnson

Last semester, the Vice President of Student Affairs, June Hendricks, retired in a somewhat quiet fashion. Many of the clubs and organizations on campus learned about Mrs. Hendrick's departure only from hearing the buzz about the arrival of a new V.P.

I recently had the pleasure to meet with our new Vice President of Student Affairs, Maureen H. Powers, and here is what we discussed:

Q: What is your educational background?

A: I got my PhD in Higher Education from Indiana University, a Master in Urban Affairs from Saint Louis University, a Bach-

elor of Arts in Government from Georgetown University, and I have a Minor in History from North Adams State College. I was the first person in my family to graduate from college.

Q: Where were you raised?

A: I was raised in Chicago by my mother and father. My mother was a secretary and my father was a trucker.

Q: Where were you employed before you came to City College?

A: For the past 6 years, I have been working at The Institute for the International Education (IES) in Chicago, as the Dean of Students.

Q: What did you do there?

A: Well, I was appointed the first dean of students in the 55 year of the Institute for the International Education of Students (IES). There, I was a senior student affairs officer for IES's international consortium of 150 U.S. colleges and universities providing study abroad programs to 4,000 students annually, in 14 countries. I helped to facilitate programs to help stimulate student life and I expanded efforts to address unmet student needs.

Q: What attracted you to City

College?

A: The College's rich history and their mission. It remains one of the most important institutions here in the east. I was also drawn by the challenge that it posed.

Q: Our school is populated by a diverse group of people, have you ever been perceived as insensitive?

A: I may have, but it was never intentional. People may sometimes mistakenly construe things but I am considerate of others. I've worked in diverse environments, lived in Africa, worked in multicultural environments, chaired multicultural committee's and I have remained committed to them. Most importantly I have respect for all persons.

Q: What do you think will be your greatest challenge here?

A: Helping students outside the classroom because there are many obstacles that could derail a students education. These obstacles can stem from the family, personal, or financial issues. My challenge is to find ways to assist them through these challenges. I have much to offer to student life.

Q: What are some of the initiatives

you plan to implement?

A: I hope to build up the student government. We can build on the existing structure. I can assist in reforming regulations that will better enhance programs and I would like to expand the role of the Career Services Department.

Q: In what kind of situations would you find it difficult to work effectively with others?

A: I can't think of any.

Q: What would the people that you've worked with in the past say about you?

A: They may say that I am a fair person and dedicated person, especially the students that I've worked with.

Q: What would you want people to know about you?

A: I am a strong student advocate. I really want students to succeed and all of my efforts will be behind these goals. Also, I will have office hours so I'd love to meet the many students out there.

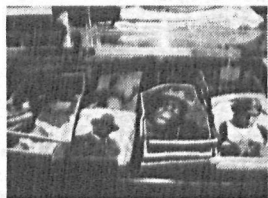
In concluding, thanks for taking the time for this interview-introduction, V.P. Powers: Good luck with your new appointment.

BLACK MARKET HUSTLERS

by: Twan Graner

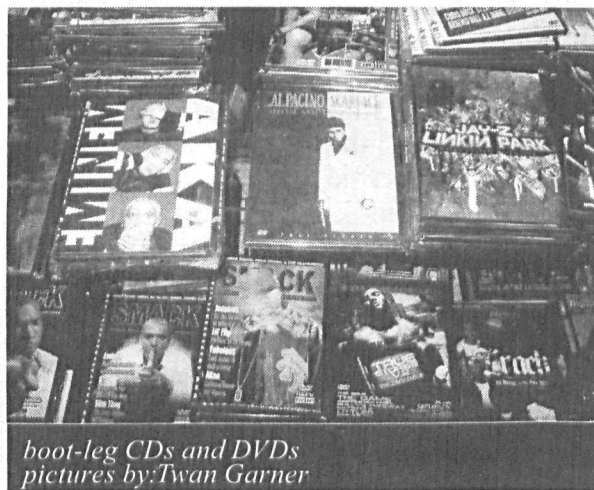
With the immense losses suffered by the fashion, movie and music industries, many blame street peddlers for selling unlicensed, counterfeit goods. But should we blame them or the consumers? Consumers from all walks of life benefit from these bootleggers. Their products are commonly used because of their low prices, exclusive merchandise, overall accessibility, and more importantly, their items appear to be genuine. At a fraction of the cost, consumers can purchase the exact item sold by retailers or one identical to it. Over the past few years the black market has been the "one stop shop" location to purchase movies, DVDs, and various other types of merchandise. Producers and distributors of these various products claim that the black markets are responsible for millions of dollars lost due to infringement. The public is now faced with a question. "Do people support the black market to make some of our purchases? Or do people feel the black markets are criminal enterprises and should be shut down along with the people who support them?"

In addition to being a place to go for savings, black markets serve as a medium for consumers to check products out before one actually purchases it for full value. There have been times when people purchased a CD or DVD and have been seriously disappointed. "I was disappointed with a couple of recent films," said Ernesto Johnson, a CCNY



student and Editor-In-Chief of The Paper. "Specifically they were "Meet the Fockers" and "Spanglish," thank God I didn't see either one of them in the movies."

Maurice Selby, a Freshman at City College had a similar experience with G-unit member Game's album entitled "The Game's." People



boot-leg CDs and DVDs
pictures by: Twan Graner

are always hyping things up that aren't really up to par, like Game's joint, that is why I buy bootlegs first." It turns out that a lot of times the only good song on an album was the one receiving all the commercial spins on the radio. According to most people, when CD's come out sometimes they're overbearingly expensive (between 12-18dollars). That price adds up when your purchasing 3-4 at a time. In times like these the majority of consumers are happy black markets exist. Not to mention, they could have used that extra money for lunch, a metro card, or going to the movies. Accordingly the general public likes going to the movies a lot and they're expensive. Even with student discounts once you've ordered popcorn, nachos, soda, and candy, one can end up spending a nice amount of change. That price doubles if you go on a date, or are in that courting phase

when you and the significant other are just friends getting to know each other. If a person can purchase the movie on the black market, they can check it out and decide if it's worth seeing in the theatre or saving their time and money.

Black markets are extremely convenient. They are easily located on commercial shopping strips in just about every neighborhood. Maybe your neighbor sells them and in that case its only few doors away or in front of your building. In your local barbershop, barbers are usually watching the latest movies that have come out or listening to the latest music and in most cases the consumer can purchase the items there. On campus I'm sure someone has the latest movies and cd's that are out or we're talking about the latest amongst our friends and hang out partners. My point is that it's a striving business that's extremely more accessible than going out to the movie theatre of your choice or HMV type stores that have the latest music.

I'm interested in the opinions of my fellow students here at City College. What is your take on this article? Are you in support of black markets or against them? Do we as future inventors and business owners of products support black markets now as students and then once we're deep in our careers despise them for causing the profitability in the companies we work for to fall do to the items sold on the black market? Have you: the faculty, staff, professors, deans, and security officers, ever purchased an item from the black market? Leave your response if you have one at the paper. I would like to do a follow up article on this topic. tujan7@yahoo.com

Homosexualized Media

by: Tameek Henderson

Does it seem to you like the media is trying to "homosexualize" America? Gay marriages, D.L King's Brotha's on the Down Low, Queer Eye for the Straight Guy, Queer Eye for the Straight Girl, Twinky Winky, the gay purple teletubbie, Buster Baxter from the PBS series, Will & Grace, the infamous kiss between Sarah Michelle Geller and Selma Blair in the movie Cruel Intentions and the equally infamous kiss between

Madonna and Britney Spears at the 2003 MTV video music awards. It seems as though the media is saturating us with gay imagery in hopes of desensitization.

"We want to make sure we do this well," said MTV Group President Nancy McGrath speaking of MTV's new gay network LOGO, which debuted on February 17, 2005. The network will feature shows, music videos, and commercials that cater to gay individuals. Although the network targets viewers between the ages of 25-49, a majority of the viewers will be under the age of 18 and

extremely impressionable. The concern is what the effects of this kind of network will have on teenagers. We are all familiar with the influence of genres like Pop and Hip-Hop. The images and lifestyles portrayed of these icons like Jay-Z, Britney Spears and Usher are very powerful. The result is many young impressionable minds attempting to emulate what they see.

"The main thing is to talk about gayness until the issue becomes thoroughly tiresome," writes Kirk and Hunter Madsen in their book After the Ball: How

America Will Conquer Its Fear and Hatred of Gays in the 90's' (1989, Doubleday/Bantam.), "If you can get [straights] to think homosexuality is just another thing - meriting no more than a shrug of the shoulders - then your battle for legal and social rights is virtually won."

tameek@gmail.com

PROFILE OF SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

by: Maurice Selby

As if being seen and heard in America during the 1950's and 60's wasn't hard enough, Shirley Chisholm had the nerve to be black, a woman, and a person of a disenfranchised background while rising to become the first African-American woman elected to congress. Despite her death on January 1, 2005 in Osmund Beach, Florida, her story of triumph in the face of adversity will inspire people from every corner of the world for generations and she will not be forgotten.

November 30, 1924 saw the birth of Shirley Anita St. Hill to Charles and Ruby St. Hill in Brooklyn. Mr. St. Hill struggled to support his family as a factory worker and it was at age 3 that Shirley was sent to live with her grandmother in Barbados due to the financial instability of her parents.

It was in Barbados that Ms. Chisholm received the base of her education and throughout her career she always stressed the importance of this point in her life. She felt that the British schooling

system under which she studied, provided her with the fundamental skills necessary to achieve success in everything she did. "If I speak and write easily now, that early education is the main reason," she said.

Ms. Chisholm returned to the Untied States in 1934 and rejoined her parents back in Brooklyn. She attended Girls High School upon her return and graduated with honors in 1942, enrolling at Brooklyn College that fall. Her academic success continued as she majored in Sociology and it was here where her first skirmish with racism occurred. Black students were prohibited from joining a social club and instead of trying to persuade the group to change its policies, she simply started her own club. Her actions provided black students with an alternative and this was an important battle for her as it probably shaped the course of the rest of her life. From that point on she was always taking action rather than passively trying to make changes. "You don't make progress by standing on the sidelines, whimpering and complaining," she once said. "You make progress by implementing ideas."

Despite her exceptional performance at Brooklyn College, Shirley Chisholm found it difficult getting a job commensurate with her education. Eventually she found a job with the Mt. Calvary Child-care Center in Harlem. She married Conrad Chisholm in 1949 and together they formed the Bedford Stuyvesant Political League. Ms. Chisholm worked in daycare until 1959 when she left and formed the Unity Democratic Club.

In 1964 Shirley Chisholm ran for the State Assembly and won. While in office she proposed a bill to increase funds for schools as well as provide state aid to daycare. With the completion of her term in 1968 she ran for a spot in the House of Representatives as a representative for the twelfth congressional district. She pulled an upset as she defeated her opponent in a ratio of 2 and a half to one.

Mrs. Chisholm hired an all female staff and vocalized her opinions on the Vietnam conflict, civil rights, women's rights, and the exploitation of the poor. She was ultimately elected to serve a second term in 1970. Altogether, Shirley Chisholm served seven terms in office.

On January 25, 1972 Ms. Chisholm shocked the nation when she announced herself as a candidate for the democratic nomination for the presidency of the Untied States. Although she wasn't a very strong candidate for the presidential race, she was no doubt very serious as this was a symbolic gesture that encouraged others to rise up and take control. "Someone had to do it first," she said simply, as she explained the rationale for her vying for the United States' top spot. Shirley Chisholm thus became the first woman as well as African American, to make an effort for the presidency.

Mrs. Chisholm was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in 1993 and will be remembered as one that could always fight the tough fight. "She was an activist and a woman of great courage," said Jesse Jackson, in an article that appeared on the Operation Push Website. Most people agree that this is true and would have trouble describing her in any other way.

The Cohen Library will be open extended hours (until MIDNIGHT) in the following weeks:

Week of: 3/14/2005 (open 8:00 AM-midnight)

Week of: 5/23/2005 (open 8:00 AM-midnight)

Location: Morris Raphael Cohen Library

Contact: Grace-Ellen McCrann X7612

The Science/ Engineering Library will be open extended hours (until MIDNIGHT) in the following weeks:

Week of: 3/14/2005 (open 9:00 AM-midnight)

Week of: 5/23/2005 (open 9:00 AM-midnight)

Location: Science/Engineering Library, J29

INTERVARSITY
CHRISTIAN
FELLOWSHIP

THURSDAY

NAC 5/126

12:30-1:50 PM

PRAYER MEETINGS
BASKERVILLE 306A

EVERY TUESDAY

IVCFCCNY@YAHOO.COM

646-236-5325

CCNY PRAYS FOR DISASTER VICTIMS

by: Maurice Selby

Both the frailty of Human existence and the true feelings of mankind were exposed after a Tsunami ravaged parts of Asia more than a month ago. Within hours, countries around the World vowed to contribute vast resources to help sustain the Tsunami relief effort. The Red Cross raised approximately \$1.2 billion dollars before diverting resources to other tragedies while the United States among other World powers, pledged funds in excess of \$350 million. Despite the Red Cross' announcements of sufficient funds to help victims of the disaster, money is still pouring in from everywhere as people around the World are coming out of their own pockets with donations. The only question left is, what cord in the World's psyche has this catastrophe struck, to make people so anxious to lend a helping hand.

"Why does it take a tragedy of this magnitude for people to help one another? Why aren't we so generous with the various other cases of human suffering throughout the World?" asks Gary Gee, a Staten Island resident with family in Asia.

This is the question being asked by many in the wake of the Tsunami disaster. However, no one is exactly sure what it is that makes people more or less sympathetic to various disasters. Although there were contributions made to charities for past and present misfortunes

around the World, they pale in comparison to the response of individuals and entire Nations to the Tsunami disaster.

"I don't recall anything like the events that followed the Tsunami," Said Mr. Richard Potter, advisor of the Newman Club at Curtis High School. "Usually we'd be the only club looking to donate for something like that, but everyone was trying for this one."



Dr. Kate McReynolds, an Instructor of Psychology here at CCNY, believes that this show of sympathy and support might be due to the acute nature of this calamity. The suddenness of this event shocked people around the world. This has a different affect on people than that of tragedies that occur gradually over longer periods of time.

Despite the fact that the Tsunami tragedy is at the forefront of the media's attention, there are other more deadly cases of distress in the World. According to Mr. Jeffrey Sachs, UN

Millennium Project Director, in Africa, approximately 150,000 children die every month from afflictions like Malaria, domestically there are families that are homeless due to fires or are struggling to feed themselves. In addition to that, there are local chapters of the Red Cross claiming a shortage of funds for its normal functions due to the aid needed to cover the Tsunami disaster.

Donations for the tsunami victims have decreased in recent weeks, however there is still more money being allocated to that disaster than anything else. "I truly believe that this disaster made people feel so little and vulnerable that it shook them to the core," commented Lorenz Neuwirth, a Psychology major at the College of Staten Island. "It makes them feel like they have at least some control by donating something."

Although the Red Cross has halted donations for the Tsunami relief, they're still encouraging and accepting donations. These will be applied to other places of need in the World. This may even help local chapters throughout the country get back to their normal functions such as providing shelter for families that were burned out of their homes and helping the elderly.

THE WELLNESS AND COUNSELING CENTER SERVICES

Physical Health Services:

Immunization provided:

- Tuberculosis
- Measles,
- Mumps and Rubella
- Hepatitis B.

Practitioners available:

- LPN and RN (Tuesday and Thursday) and MD/PA (usually 2 days a week).
- Clearance Consultations for students to use CCNY's Wingate facilities.
- Initial Physical Exams and consultations are provided to students for FREE.
- Family Planning referral off campus (LOW COST tests and birth control options). FREE over-the-counter medication is available at the WCC.
- Prescriptions can be available at NYCTC in Brooklyn.
- Referrals are given by WCC.
- Referrals are available for ongoing

medical care and for conditions not treated at the WCC site. The costs are minimal and various off-site appointments can be scheduled including laboratory tests and follow-up treatment.

Psychological Services:

Crisis Intervention:

- Short term counseling is available
- Referrals can be provided for up to eight individual treatment sessions outside the WCC
- WCC works closely with Academic Departments to schedule workshops focused on providing students with stress reduction and anxiety management techniques.

Your student activity fees allow the WCC to provide these activities for FREE

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THE NEW BUZZ AROUND TOWN

HIP-HOP ARTIST
"ELEVEN"

HIS 2 NEW SINGLES ARE "BIG BALLA"
"WAT U LIKE" FEATURING "G"

TO PREVIEW HIS SONGS AND VIEW BIO GO TO
SONICBIDS.COM/ELEVEN

DEFENDING ANIMALS

by: William Crain

We are all aware of the human propensity for war, and the death and suffering that wars produce. We also are familiar with racism, sexism, and other kinds of oppression. Humans, it is clear, aren't always kind to one another. They commonly demonstrate what the poet Robert Burns called "Man's inhumanity to man."

But another kind of human cruelty is less visible: The treatment of animals. Nearly all the chickens, pigs, cattle, and other animals we eat for meat are raised in brutal factory farms. As John Robbins describes in his book, "Diet for a New America," the animals in today's factory farms must live in cages so tight that they can never move about. Many are forced to stand on hard floors until their legs give out and to endure painful illnesses. Yet most people eat animals without a second thought. Indeed, people don't like to think about where their meat comes from. Although the media sometimes reports that vegetarianism is on the rise, a 2003 Vegetarian Resource Group/Harris Survey found that only 2.8% of U.S. adults maintain a vegetarian diet.

It is therefore noteworthy whenever an influential person speaks out in defense of animals. The rap promoter Russell Simmons is one such person. Simmons, who attended City College before venturing into the music business, publicly advocates a vegetarian diet in order to minimize harm to animal life. In fact, Simmons adheres to a strict "vegan" diet; he not only avoids eating meat but also refrains from animal products such as eggs and milk. Recently Simmons, along with Al Sharpton, the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), and others, issued sharp statements against KFC's treatment of chickens.

Simmons, PETA, and their colleagues have charged that the chickens, in addition their imprisonment in tight cages, often undergo painful de-beaking and suffer from broken legs because they are bred to be top-heavy. In the slaughterhouse, they are sometimes fully conscious when their throats are slit or are occasionally thrown into scalding water while they are still alive. KFC has replied that its treatment of chickens conforms to federal standards and is no different from that in other industrial farms—as if these were compelling rebuttals. "Cruelty

is cruelty, whether it's cruelty to children, to the elderly, to dogs and cats, or to chickens," wrote Simmons in an ad in the Louisville Courier-Journal. Chickens, like cats and dogs, are "intelligent... and interesting individuals in their own right," Simmons added.

Decisions to become more responsible toward animals are often very personal. It sometimes seems that every individual, famous or not, has his or her own story to tell. At the same time, a respect for animals has roots in some cultural groups and social movements, including the non-violent civil rights movement.

Tolstoy, Thoreau, and Gandhi initially developed the principle of nonviolent civil disobedience—all of whom urged nonviolence toward animals as well as toward humans. The activist and comedian Dick Gregory said that under the leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "I became totally committed to nonviolence, and I was convinced that nonviolence meant opposition to killing in any form. Animals and humans suffer and die alike," Gregory said. "Violence causes the same pain, the same spilling of blood...the same arrogant, cruel, and brutal taking of life." Although Martin

Luther King himself may have eaten meat, Gregory became a vegetarian in 1965 and is credited with inspiring Dr. King's wife Coretta King and their son Dexter King to become vegetarian.

Similarly, the novelist Alice Walker has argued that the moral insight of the civil rights movement—the fundamental worth of all individuals—extends to animals. "Animals," Walker says, "exist for their own reasons. They were not made for humans any more than black people were made for whites, or women for men..." (For the views of Dick Gregory, Alice Walker, and others, see Vasu Murti's book, "They Shall Not Hurt or Destroy".)

It is likely that cruelty in one sphere of our lives affects all other spheres. So long as we engage in mindless violence toward animals, the cruelty will be embedded in our character, and it will prevent us from achieving peace and compassion with respect to our own kind. As Pythagoras wrote centuries ago, "As long as people massacre animals, they will kill each other."

William Crain is a professor of psychology at the City College.

History Of Black History

by: Amaka Okoli

"...Hold on to the real facts of history as they are, but complete knowledge by studying also the history of races and nations which have been completely ignored." These are the words of historian and scholar, Carter G. Woodson. As we celebrate this Black History month let us take a minute and celebrate history of Black History month.

On Monday February 7, 1926 Woodson launched National Negro Week. His mission was to celebrate the lives of African Americans, their achievements and contributions to the United States. Woodson found it disturbing history of nation differed from the truth. The roles of African Americans were not only being omitted from history books but the picture that white historians painted where untrue. There were many distortions in books and films like D.W Griffith's 1915, racist film The Birth of a Nation.

It became Woodson's mission to educate the truth. He created pamphlets and kits sending them to schools, journals, preachers and black magazines. He sent them to those that he felt would help build National Negro Week. Each year, the week grew and became more elaborate. In 1930, Woodson created the "Table of 152 Important Events and Dated in Negro History." During the 1940's lectures started being helped throughout the nation.

In 1972, National Negro Week was renamed Black History Week.

It was not until this nations 200th bicentennial in 1976 that the Black History was made a month long. The United Postal Service started issuing stamps with notable African Americans in 1978. Some people believe that it is an added insult to blacks that black history month is held during the shortest month of the year. It was Woodson who chose the month of February to honor the lives of two men whom he deeply respected for their fight in the struggle to end slavery, Fredrick Douglas (b February 14, 1817) and Abraham Lincoln (b. February 12, 1809).

THE PAPER WOULD LIKE TO THANK THESE PROFESSORS, FACULTY AND STAFF MEMBERS FOR THEIR INSPIRATION. THEY ARE SOME OF OUR HEROS AND HEROINES AND WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THEIR SERVICES. IN OUR FUTURE ISSUES, WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROFILE MORE OF THESE PROFOUND INDIVIDUALS.

Lolita Wood-Hill
Health Professoions Advisor

Lolita Wood-Hill is the Deputy Director for the Program in Premedical Studies and the Director of the Post baccalaureate Certificate Program at the City College of NY. She holds offices in several organizations: National Association of Advisors of the Health Professions and the National Association of Medical Minority Educators, Inc. at both the regional and national level. She was the recipient of the American Association of American College's (AAMC) Group of Student Affairs Special Recognition Award in 2001. Ms. Wood-Hill serves as a consultant for the Associated Medical Schools of NY, AACOMAS, and University of VA's MMEP program. She conducts workshops on debt management and financial aid for Prehealth students for several colleges and organizations.

Advising is not a job—it's a calling. To advise well one needs to be interested in what each individual student has on his or her plate. Are they working 40 hours? Do they have kids? Are they responsible for translating for every member of the family for things such as doctors' appts, the GE man, housing board, etc? Do they have a lengthy commute? Do they have money to eat? Any one of these factors will impact on anyone's chances of success academically when taking challenging courses. ALL science courses are challenging and therefore need to be seen in light of all other obligations one has. Enjoying eliciting this information from others makes advising, for me, a pleasure. I can be a mom, a counselor, a friend, an advocate, or a mentor to each student I touch. This ability to pass on blessings

to others makes it possible for me to enjoy each day of work. Most importantly, I enjoy seeing the success of students who have had challenges way beyond the average medical school applicant and I am always writing about how these challenges make them the best choice for a medical school. These students don't have exceptional GPA's and MCAT scores; they have tenacity, courage, and dedication as their hallmarks.

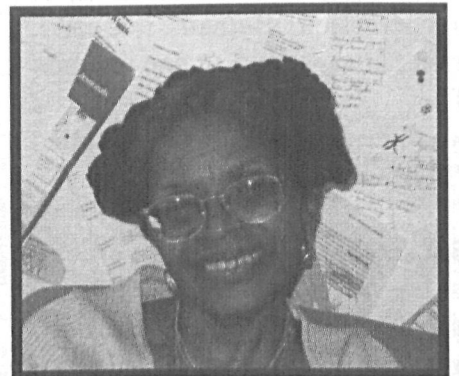
What else is necessary to be an effective advisor? For Prehealth students who want to go into the very competitive field of medicine, I need to know people on a national level who can be advocates for my students. Therefore I have to attend regional and national meetings. I meet and socialize with admissions officers, I volunteer to work on committees with others and I make it a point to express my point of views as eloquently and forcefully as possible. I also attend conferences geared at students and volunteer to serve as an advisor to students who do not have advisors at their institutions. As a debt management consultant, I always work from the perspective of looking at how one will cope with the enormous debt to be incurred while in medical school and this again gives me an opportunity to travel to other areas of the country and speak to students from other schools. Having national recognition from my peers and from students helps my advisees immensely. I can make personal calls on their behalf; I can give them information about how they should approach a particular school, who they should contact for additional information and guide them based on the success of previous students. Most importantly, I feel that I can make a more substantial contribution to their applications because others know that my students are well known to me—I can praise their

strengths and explain their weaknesses on both a personal and academic level.

Information is important if you want to get somewhere in life. Towards this end I help our premed club, Caduceus, offer workshops on medicine, dentistry, and the other health professions. We bring in reps from health professions schools and we try to take at least one trip a year to a medical school conference. Most importantly, with the help of the club, I am able to socialize with my students—having fun together forges a bond that is not easily broken. And I love to go to weddings, christenings and graduations from medical school! Most importantly, I keep hoping that one day one of my students will become a plastic surgeon and I'll finally be able to be sculpted into a perfect size 10 (smile).

It's important to note that I could not do my job without having wonderful students. These are people who are willing to trust me, listen to my counsel, put up with my nagging, and look forward to my congratulations. City College students want to be successful. They want recognition for their efforts and need encouragement when things go wrong. I hope to continue to provide this support for as long as possible for as many as needed.

Latrella Thornton
Director of Child Development
and Family Services



Latrella Thornton has been Director of the child service center since 1993

The Child Development And Family Services Center, which has existed since 1977, enables City College students with children that are at least two years of age and toilet trained, to attend class while keeping their children in a safe program that provides quality education, not simply childcare. The Child Development And Family Services Center provides an innovated mixed age program, which are defined by concept rather than age ie., Math, Science, Family, and Woodworking and Blockbuilding Creative Arts.

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E. Maudette Brownlee
Seek Department
Director / Assistant Dean



E. Maudette Brownlee is the Assistant Dean/Director of the SEEK Program. SEEK is a state-funded, educational opportunity program. Each of the CUNY senior colleges has a SEEK Program, and there is an

equivalent program, known as College Discovery at each of the CUNY community colleges. The SEEK Program at The City College, formerly known as the Pre-Baccalaureate Program, was the first of its kind in New York state. Next fall, the program will celebrate its 40th anniversary. Percy Sutton and Shirley Chisholm were among the principal legislative architects of SEEK, which was later expanded to include students in SUNY and private colleges where the programs are known as EOP and HEOP respectively.

SEEK, and other educational opportunity programs, are designed to provide access to senior colleges to those students who meet the program's academic and economic

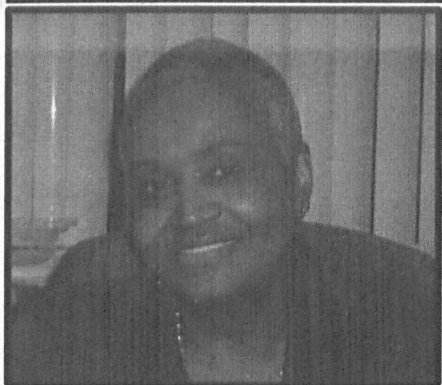
admissions criteria. Once admitted, SEEK students are provided with a variety of support services which are designed to increase their chances of success. These services include counseling, tutoring, supplemental instruction, and additional financial aid. The program has an annual enrollment of more than 800 students. SEEK students are represented in every academic division of the college and are widely involved in the co-curricular activities as well.

Dean Brownlee has been the SEEK Director for eight years. Despite the administrative demands of the position, she maintains regular contact with students in the program and actively solicits their input on various program matters.

She encourages SEEK students to take greater ownership of the program by fully utilizing its services. She is firmly committed to strengthening the program and improving the academic outcomes of SEEK students, and has implemented a number of program activities over the years to support these goals.

In addition to her involvement with SEEK students, Dean Brownlee has worked with students outside of the program as well. For the last four years, she has served as a workshop leader at the annual CCNY Student Leadership Retreat. She also served as a judge at the first AAE talent show held last year.

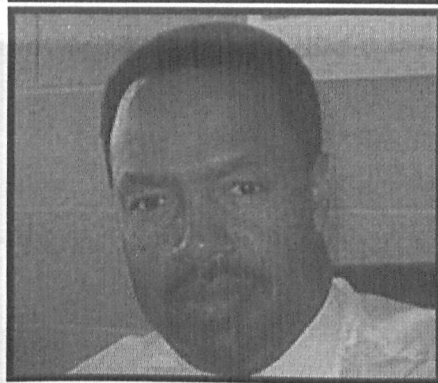
Joyce Conoly-Simmons
Seek Department
Tutorial Center
Coordinator



Having been a part of the CCNY family for many years, I am still excited by the work that I do with students. I constantly look for new and innovative ways to approach my students to get them to stretch and reach for the best in themselves. As a member of the staff of the SEEK Program, I have been an advocate, counselor, teacher, academic advisor, tutorial coordinator, mentor, role model, confidant, and hopefully a friend to students over the years. This year, the CCNY SEEK Program is celebrating 40 years of being on this campus. In my time here, I have seen our students earn undergraduate degrees that have been the stepping

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Jerry Guyden
Research Center in Minority
Institution(RCMI)
Program Director



Jerry Charles Guyden was born and raised in Texas. Throughout his childhood, the 1950s and 60s, Texas was segregated. The schools, places of business, playgrounds, water fountains and restrooms were separated by race. Fortunately, Jerry's parents, Robert and Martha, were strong and educated people who never allowed the ills of society to affect the lives of their children. His brother and sister, Robert Jr. and Monda, respectively, and Jerry were taught to love their fellow persons no matter what. It is with these teachings that Jerry has lived his life.

After high school, Jerry integrated himself into North Texas State University. Upon finishing his undergraduate degree he was recruited to the University of Cali-

fornia, Berkeley to study cancer. In 1986 he came City College. Dr. Jerry C. Guyden is a Professor in the Department of Biology at the City College of New York. For the last eighteen years he has been the Program Director for the RCMI (Research Centers in Minority Institutions) program at City College. The RCMI has been funded by the National Centers for Research Resources (NCRR) Division of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) through the Division of Research Infrastructure for the last 20 years. The City College was one of the flagship institutions to receive money from the RCMI to improve and increase research infrastructure here at the College in order to become competitive in three areas of Molecular Biology. The areas chosen by our institution were Neurobiology, Protein Structure and Function and Gene Expression and Regulation. Since that time the departments of Biology, Chemistry and Physics as well as the Medical School have hired 21 faculty members into our RCMI Program. All those hired, except the latest appointments (2003-2004), have obtained tenure. Each of the faculty members has received external funding through the NIH, National Science Foundation or other funding agencies.

These new faculty members have allowed the building of a

cutting edge facility. RCMI funds have allowed the City College to renovate labs for each of the faculty members hired, and has allowed the development core facilities which meet the needs of all research active faculty in these departments. The RCMI has received in excess of \$42M from 1990 to the current year. Also, RCMI faculty members have published over 400 papers and have given more than 600 presentations in research meetings across the country and abroad. These funds have allowed RCMI scientists to train thousands of undergraduates, graduates and post-doctoral fellows. In his own laboratory, Dr. Guyden has trained 54 undergraduate and graduate students who now have a PhD or a MD or who are in the pipeline to receive their doctorate degrees. His research involves the study of a unique thymic epithelial cell called thymic nurse cells. Dr. Guyden has received extramural funding for these studies continuously for the last 16 years from NSF and the NIH. During this time he has published 30 papers in peer-reviewed journals. He also has co-authored one book and two review articles. He has presented a significant number of scientific seminars; two were presented at the national immunology meetings. He was also

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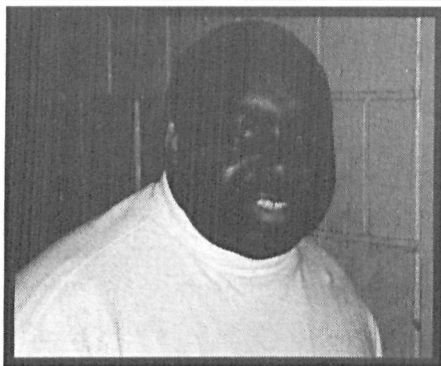
Gyden continued from page 9

invited to present a seminar to the intramural immunology research group at the NIH.

Outside of the laboratory Dr. Guyden is an avid golfer and a poet. One of his poems is presented below.

**MAKE SURE TO
VOTE IN THE
STUDENT
GOVERNMENT
ELECTIONS
APRIL 19-21**

Jay Thomas
Maintenance Worker



I've been working at City College for 16 years and I feel like the custodians have done a great job at keeping the campus clean. The bathrooms and floors are my high priority areas and they require lots of hard work to keep them up to par. Sometimes its not an easy thing to do but the payoff is well worth it and I take pride in my work.

THANK YOU



by: Piaget Francis

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the students who supported the Rwanda book drive. Due to your contribution we have collected 4 boxes. Your demonstrated kindness reflects a conscious awareness that in this age, human beings are inextricable connected to each other. Therefore as such, what affects one, affects the others. It is through efforts like these that humanity will regain its dignity.

Simmons continued from page 9

stones to their becoming medical doctors, judges, lawyers, TV anchors, not to mention teachers and business men and women, as well as fine, honest, contributing citizens of the U.S. Preparing people to be good citizens is after all one of the reasons why schools were started and that is what we attempt to do in the SEEK Program and here at The City College.

**CHECK
YOURSELF
BEFORE YOU
WRECK
YOURSELF!**

SOCIAL SECURITY SCARE

by: Kwasi Kessie

Is Social Security unfair to blacks? According to President Bush it is. Why? Because whites live longer, they will receive more benefits. But the problem is everyone is living much longer today, too long according to the Social Security Administration. By 2018, more money will be paid out in benefits than is collected in payroll taxes. This is due to the baby boom generation which is composed of those people born between the years of 1946 to 1964. The system, President Bush argues, is "inherently unfair" to many blacks. The solution, Bush says, is to embrace his plan for private accounts. The question of whether the system is inherently against blacks has become a central argument in the debate over private accounts. The White House strategy for getting rid of social security and going ahead fully with private accounts includes an effort to win over African Americans. How? On the grounds that black males, on average, die at age 69, compared with 75 years for white males.

Social Security's full retirement benefits begin to be paid between age 65 and 67.

Social Security originally set the age at 65 in 1935 when life expectancy was a mere 63 but today the average life expectancy is 77. For those who live past 65 their expectancy is 83. In effect, back then many people would pay but would not be able to reap the benefits because they would die before they were eligible for Social Security. Humans are now living longer due to better healthcare. According to the Social Security Administration in 1950 there were 16 workers paying into the Social Security system for every beneficiary but just last year in 2004 there were only 3.4 workers for each beneficiary. It is estimated that by the year 2033 there will only be two workers who will be paying into the Social Security system for every beneficiary. Also between the years of 2042 to 2052 the government bonds brought by Social Security surplus will be completely gone.

"African American males die sooner than other males do, which means the system is inherently unfair to a certain group of people,"

President Bush said at a White House conference on Social Security in January. "That needs to be fixed."

Many people were outraged by the President's remarks, among them was Representative Charles B. Rangel, a New York City Democrat who is a black member of Congress. He stated he is "really offended" that the White House and some Republicans are trying to sell Bush's plan for private accounts on grounds that it would be more beneficial to African Americans. "I told the president, you can't get out what you can't put in," said Representative Rangel. "If Bush wants to do something about inequities between the races, he should address issues including the lack of access to healthcare among many blacks, higher unemployment, and lower wages." Rangel then added that unless blacks have better economic prospects, private Social Security accounts will not help them.

President Bush's proposed plan for the future of those retiring in the United States is for young workers to put a portion of their Social Security taxes into private

investment accounts. But this relies completely on the stock market. The stock market is unreliable, and to place the future of your retirement on a shaky stock market may not be as reliable as current Social Security. These investments will also result in a boom for big business but not necessarily a good retirement fund. Blacks are far better off with current Social Security standards because "Social Security is a one-size-fits-all and it doesn't take into consideration changes because of income levels, gender, and many other things," said David John, who is apart of the conservative Heritage Foundation.

A solution for the problem which is facing Social Security is to raise the age at which pension starts and to reduce the annual increase in benefits as stated by Federal Reserve chief Alan Greenspan. President Bush adamantly insisted after a meeting at the Oval Office with the Social Security trustees that "we will not raise payroll taxes to solve this problem." My mother always said to "save for a rainy day." By the time generation X is ready to retire, it may be pouring.

UNSUNG HEROES

by:Orin Abel

A few infamous faces such as Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Rosa Parks or Medgar Evers have become the epicenter for Black history month. Though it is important to give honor unto such great men, we must not forget their equally important counterparts. Little if any is said of the infinite souls that stood alongside such individuals in the fight for equality. These anonymous individuals have sat at unwelcoming counters and on segregated buses, stood in degrading conditions and united and supported our Black leaders when the world shut them out.

Many roles were played behind the scene, roles that were not only ostentatious but were necessary for the movement. Such as the individuals who prepared flyers announcing the Montgomery Bus Boycott. The Black car-owners

that picked up and dropped off other boycotters. The black cab drivers that charged 10 cents per ride rather than the usual 45 cents or more. The Blacks in Montgomery whom refused to ride buses for over a year, walking long distances or piling into cars. They settled for nothing less than complete integration of the Montgomery buses.

Blacks running voter registration drives were tormented or killed. Still many continued to encourage voters in the black community. 600 civil rights activists were jeered, spat on, whipped, trampled by horses and tear-gassed on "Bloody Sunday", while protesting the unfair voting practices imposed on Blacks. Still, marchers returned to march with Dr. King the following Tuesday. On March 25th 25,000 marchers entered the city of Montgomery. Their bravery in refusing to settle for less than equal rights impacted history.

Throughout the Civil Rights movement, Black protestors sat

at "whites-only" counters, while displeased servers seeking to shut them down, abused them verbally and physically. The protestors sat as condiments, juices and other items were poured onto them. Blacks stood behind the protestors, waiting to start their shifts. They stayed seated through it all; settling for nothing less than integrated lunch counters. Students staged protests at school campuses around the country drawing attention to the plight of Blacks in America. These are our heroes.

The Blacks that stood up in their daily lives, in their own homes, at their jobs, in their communities whose dedication and sacrifice aren't recorded. Blacks that sought to bring about change by using the "whites-only" fountain or standing before an array of mounted policemen. The brave men that were wounded in battle or never made it out alive. These are our heroes.

Blacks that contributed to the movement were more than boycotters and protesters; they were fight-

ers. En route to integration many died fighting for equality. They all are our heroes. Their bravery and strength is often unaccredited and forgotten. Thus, many of their stories remain untold but their efforts set in motion changes that remain today. To forget such people is to neglect a valuable part of American history. Their role in achieving equal rights was essential to the movement's success. Throughout Black History Month, as we remember the infamous men and women of our past, let us not forget our unsung heroes.

Dr. Karen Hubbard

Associate Professor
Biology



What is the service that they provide?

Mentorship-In addition to my love of teaching, I try to provide mentorship for my students and junior faculty. It is difficult to find the right paths to success, especially if you are a minority. I have tried to identify mentors to help me find my way in my career as a scientist. A person who possesses characteristics that are supportive and truthful at the same time. I strive to be that person for my students.

Charlene Darbassie

Administrative assistant
Social Science Department



Charlene Darbassie's welcoming demeanor and helpful nature make her an asset to the Division of Social Sciences and the City College community. Charlene is a highly organized and very effective administrator. When approached with any question or problem, she works diligently to provide solutions. During even the busiest days of the registration season, she and her team of coworkers maintain a calm and supportive atmosphere, treating each

individual student with great attention and concern. Most of all, Charlene's warm smile and fun-loving nature make her a dear friend to many students and staff members. Charlene gives her very best, whether she's helping a re-entry student navigate the new registration system, sorting out a complicated registration overtally, helping a senior with their graduate school application paperwork or decorating the office for a holiday. For her years of excellent service, hard work and leadership, Charlene Darbassie exemplifies a City College heroine.

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THE BLACK IMAGE

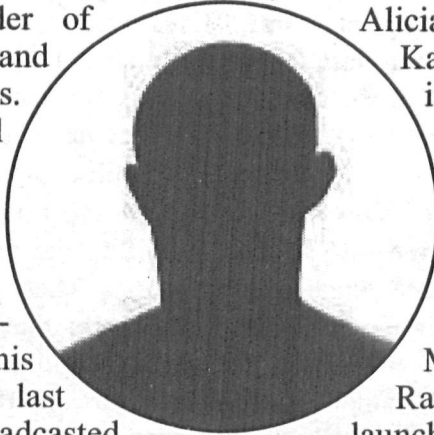
by: Nandi Charles

The Image of the Black Man in America: Socially Acceptable or not?

Gangster like images, sensually curved women with voluptuous figures swinging their bodies in music videos; and the scene of struggling families economically constrained to impoverished neighborhoods, are often the romanticized images that the media portray of African Americans. Surely these instances ought not to be revered as the main prospects acquired by black people. This gives way to deeper thoughts as to what actually defines the role of a Black Man in

America.

Luckily for some African-Americans, glaring through the lens of what it is to be, a person of color in America is slowly becoming fonder of more positive and progressive roles. This gradual change serves as a movement to erase those negative stereotypes attributed to this identity. Just last month, CBS broadcasted the 47th Annual Grammy Awards, where quite a reasonably large amount of the artists nominated and merited in categories for awards, were



actually people of African descent. It was a memorable and extravagant occasion where audiences from all stretches of the imagination were graced by the talents of artists like Alicia Keys, Usher and Kanye West. It is important to analyze the gradual progress of the accomplishments of blacks in America.

Musical legend Ray Charles only launched his career in the beginning 1940s, during a time when musical compositions made by people of color were not readily accepted or appreciated by the general

public. For any Black artist seeking to inflate their career would encounter bleak chances of fame and longevity. It is the same quality of music that Ray Charles continued to make that earned him nine Grammys last month. Comparing the situation that existed fifty-five years ago to what it is today would be a great leap. It showcases the talent and great quality of work Blacks have contributed and also reflects the fondness and appreciation now given to the works created by black people.

Speaking of fine talent, actress Halle Berry managed to make history as the only female Afri-

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COLLEGE & DEPRESSION

by: Amaka Okoli

The reality of college is that it can be very challenging and very stressful. The pressure to excel, along with the hefty workload can all be very overwhelming. Additional responsibilities like a job and rearing a family can only add to the stress. Everyone deals with these pressures differently, for some students the pressure can lead to depression. In an article published by the University Of Minnesota School Of Medicine, 1 out of 3 college students suffer from depression. Adam Glass, M.D., the director of Student Health and Counseling at the University states, "...depression and suicide are the largest health issues facing college students at this time."

Depression is a "prolonged and

persistent negative mood that can color and interfere with many aspects of ones life." Depression can last a day or two or it can be months and even years. There are different causes that can lead to depression. Loss of something very important like a family member or a boyfriend/girlfriend, lack of control of their environment, unmet expectations, disappointment and negative thinking can all be factors that lead to depression can also be caused by chemical imbalances

There are different symptoms of depression:

sadness, anxiety, guilt, anger, mood Swings, helplessness, hopelessness, sleeping irregularities, overeating/loss of appetite, constipation, weight loss/gain, irregular menstrual cycle, loss of sexual desire, fatigue, crying for no reason, withdrawal from others, tem-

permental, lack of motivation, and feeling suicidal.

At one time or another, many of us have probably experienced some, or even all of these symptoms.

If any of these symptoms sound like you or someone that you know, there is help available to you, regardless of whether you have insurance. If you do have insurance, contact your insurance company for a list of psychiatrists or psychologists that they cover. Keep in mind, there might be a co-payment that you have to pay depending on your insurance carrier.

There is help available right here on campus at the Wellness & Counseling Center which is located in the Marshak Science building in room J-15. There are counselors and psychotherapists available free of charge for registered CCNY students.

If you are not a registered student they can help refer you to someone that will be able to help you. Call (212)650-8222 to set up an appointment or if you have any questions.

There are also numerous community clinics throughout the Bronx, Manhattan, Queens, Brooklyn and Staten Island that charge on a sliding scale. Regardless of where you go, if you feel depressed and it is affecting your work performance or your daily life, get help.

Graphic designers sought by

The Paper

contact: 212 650-5081 or stop by room 1/118 NAC

black image...cont. from page 12

can American to win an Oscar award. This was however in great contrast to another actress of color named Dorothy Dandridge who was often segregated from her Anglo American contemporaries. Even the simplest of rights were restricted. She was made to use the back door when entering and exiting facilities and many acting openings for roles were limited. As was the case of Jamie Foxx, his performance was such an outstanding one that as an African American actor he managed to acquire the role of a golden globe recipient and an Oscar award.

Blacks are acquiring more tangible positions in the political arenas. Barrack Obama is one such example. He has also maintained historical acclaim as the only African American presently inducted into the Senate apart from four other members formerly seated. Far from being a man of just figurehead status, his charm and grace combined with the sophistication and intellect, which he already strongly exudes, will allow him to be a voice of change and representation for black in America. Condoleezza Rice who recently replaced another African American, Colin Powell, as Secretary of State, has made history as the first female person of color to be in such a position. These individuals are sure to leave a legacy for younger generations to follow.

Let us not limit the progress of blacks to just Politics, Music or Acting. It is necessary to also acknowledge that African Americans have made a breakthrough in fashion and the industries of both film directing and entrepreneurship. Surely it is the Capitalist mentality that drives these individuals. Hip-hop moguls Sean Carter (Jay-Z) and Sean Combs (P.Diddy) are world-renowned celebri-

ties that seem to maintain this particular stature. Clearly both individuals have successfully added their individualism to the image of fashion. Sean Combs' "Sean John" clothing collection is not just commercially sold nationally but has expanded on the international arena to European markets that appeal to a wider audience. The same principle could be applied to Sean Carter and Damon Dash with the "Roca Wear" brand name clothing. In addition to this business venture, most recently Sean Carter has opted to investing in shares of partial partnership deals for the expected formation of the Brooklyn Nets. Let us not forget the contributions also made by new black film Directors like Denzel Washington who recently created a film entitled, "The Great Debaters".

In the case of Sports, it is safe to say that individuals of color have dominated that arena. Ghanaian-American soccer prodigy, Freddy Adu and basketball superstar LeBaron James have continued to project a positive image of blacks in the area of Sports. "Coming from a broken home in Detroit, Michigan, Ben Carson developed a terrible hot temper along with severe low self-esteem at a very young age. He was just another kid trying to survive. His possibility for a decent future didn't look good. The deck was definitely stacked against him." Those were the few words outlined in a biography from [usadreams](http://www.usadreams.org) [http://www.usadreams.org] of Dr. Benjamin Carson. He has also made historical acclaim as one of the first and youngest neurosurgeons in America. His performance in the E.R is what you can refer to as unprecedented.

It is necessary that blacks learn how to similarly elevate above these adversities they are faced with and apply their focus in the same manner that Dr. Ben Carson was fortunate to accomplish. He has encountered

the same struggles that some blacks use as excuses to not succeed. Growing up as a fatherless child in poverty with a struggling mother and an older brother, he was able to rise above and conquer the ills of his lifestyle and use it to his advantage for progression to prevail.

The question of how blacks are defined will all be dependent on the personal experiences encountered by individuals in their particular circumstances. However it is certain, that some African Americans have been making profound efforts to change the overly exaggerated negative image, with which they are frequently perceived in by other sectors of society, to a more positive one. When approached on the campus of City College, most students who were asked about their opinion on the subject remarked that many blacks were looked upon in a negative light both by the media and their peers. As Biomedical Engineer student Latoya Davis stated, "I am proud to be black and many people of color are gradually taking college life seriously and having ambition. There seems to be more integration of cultures and diversity on campus. However it was not long ago that I was in a beautiful residential neighborhood in a taxi, when the driver commented in a tone suggesting that he could never live in such a neighborhood as a black man because of the standard of living in the vicinity." She further continued by saying, "Today blacks are able to have better credit that gives them more options of housing areas that they could live in. They can now attain the status of living in well to do neighborhoods that are usually predominately Caucasian populated."

The images of blacks are slowly evolving into one of more acceptance and affluence. Their roles in society are being taken more seriously, however

this movement can only continue to grow into something more concrete if more people of color could adopt this mode of thinking. If it means avoiding the situations that result in problems, it is a choice they will have to make, one, which requires more professionalism and grace. It is necessary for them to use the opportunities that come their way and expose themselves to more access to information.

In the view of Abraham Traora, a Civil Engineering student at City College, "Some blacks need to grasp the concept of having long sighted vision, instead he proclaimed that they have continued to shun opportunities and squander the virtuous things that come their way." He further elaborated, "Due to the loss of drive and urge to focus and succeed, these individuals are further helping to put our image in a negative light."

Regardless of how people of color see each other or what roles they have played in the contribution circle in society, one thing that is certain is that the image of blacks will be defined by the function they play in society. This is what shapes how you will be perceived and therefore if you choose to make it a priority to paint that image. Whether good or bad, you are the controller of that process.

**READ
MORE!**

Here is what some of City College's students said about honoring Black History.



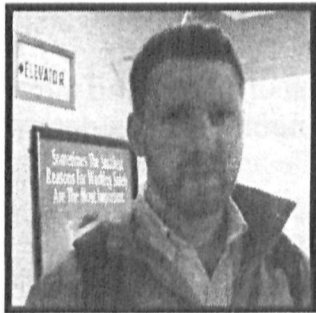
Anderson Serrant
Sophomore, Advertising

Black History is a SMALL representation of the good contributions that my fore fathers gave to this ungrateful country.



Tomi
Junior, Management

Whether or not you celebrate black history, it is a peoples heritage and the knowledge should continue to the next generation.



Brian Garnet
Post Baccalaureate, Bio/ Pre-Med

Its important that extra time is taken to observe both the struggles of African-Americans and all they have contributed to our country.



Moise Koffi
Professor of Thermodynamics

It's important for people to know their own reason.... because in society it is important to know about your history.



Danny Martin
Freshman, Biology

To be honest, it just means more news commercials. It's insignificant to me; I mean I don't really care about it, not because I'm racist or anything, but because it honestly has nothing to do with my life in any way.



Keisha
Sophomore, Civil Engineering

It is the celebration of what MY people (blacks) have accomplished. Its bull**** that we celebrate it one month out of the year.



Heba Gabre
Freshman, Computer Engineering

Black History is the growth and developmental inspiration of the Black society. It's when Blacks unite to prove their existence.



Veronica Villacis
Junior, Biology & Psychology

It means important history; it's a large part of American history. When you think of American history, you think of African-Americans. They play a larger role in society than many people think. For example, the fore founder of the Internet was of African-American descent.



Maria Roba
Junior, Biology

It's the history of America because "Their" history is intertwined with everyone's.



Victoria King
Associate Director, Wellness Center

Unfortunately, something that has been lost, and my hope is that it will be recaptured.



Jennifer Valcin
Junior, Psychology

Black History is the celebration of African American culture. February this is the designated month where we learn about the sacrifices and contributions our ancestors made. Its the time when we learn about who we are, where we come from, and what we aspire.



Karina
Junior, English

Because I'm half black, it means alot. I feel that we need more than one month to express how blacks have shaped America. All schools need to promote black history as they promote others. I haven't seen any black history signs.

A semester in review ...con't form page 2

This would help make sure that fees are appropriately allocated.

In addition, we are working on monitoring the faculty here at the City College. We all should exercise our freedom of speech as it pertains to the teaching methods from incompetent professors, as well as the faculty who fail to provide students with syllabi and grading policies in class. The student government will randomly conduct surveys in different departments to get direct feedback from students on the performance of their professors, thereby providing a system of accountability. We have sought collaborative efforts with the provost and with the faculty senate in rectifying these and other issues. Just as students are graded, likewise professors are to be evaluated by students to better improve the learning experience. This is an issue of our education being compromised and therefore we will advocate strongly towards this cause. Should you have a problem with any professor or have any issues of any sort please contact us. The City College mission emphasizes access and excellence in education; therefore we must work in fulfilling its mission.

One of the main problems here at the College is the lack of communication between students, clubs or organizations, faculty and administration; hence, most are unaware of what goes on in the college community. Recently, the Chief Operating Officer, the new VP of Student Affairs and I had visited John Jay College amongst others, and were thrilled to see some of their technological advancements. We have proposed the purchase and installation of new communication equipment through the use of our technology fees. This would help keep the college community abreast to ongoing programs and events. We are also working on having computer stations in the NAC lobby, the rotunda and other spacious areas where students can easily access computers at all times without restrictions.

The new student Residence Hall project will be completed and opened by the fall semester of 2006. There is to be the construction of a Residence Hall here at the college that will accommodate students in 600 rooms. Under the current administration, student government representatives are closely involved in this project to ensure that it benefits and satisfies student needs. Their roles entail selecting students for the housing complex, laying down housing policies and also actively being involved to govern and promote fairness.

Last year, Governor George Pataki proposed a \$1200 annual increase in tuition. This was then reduced to \$800 and was approved by the Board of Trustees after students testified and advocated against this plan in Albany. Some then predicted that there would not be an increase for at least some years to come. This year, Governor George Pataki has proposed a \$500

increase for SUNY and \$250 for CUNY. In addition, he has proposed a half deferment plan for the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) and fifty percent Cuts in the SEEK Program. Before 1976, universities under the CUNY system were tuition-free institutions for all and were then administered appropriately. Just as the CUNY system adapted an open admission policy, to individuals from the Latino and the African American communities, the FREE Academy as it was originally called changed to the FEE Academy. We are currently planning strategies with different student organizations, some of which include: NYPIRG, USS as well as with various other student government leaders to combat this tuition hike. Most of us will be seen protesting and lobbying in Albany against these unjust proposed plans. I urge you to join us in this effort because your support and strong commitment will make this struggle more successful. As in the words of former USS Chairperson, Agnes Abraham, "Students United will never be defeated!"

These are just a few of the initiatives we are working towards achieving. The USG represents and advocates on your behalf. We encourage all students to be involved by holding their representatives accountable. It must be said however, that we have much to do in very little time. Feel free to contact the office of the New USG in NAC 1/111 with ideas, comments and complaints: Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:30am and 9:00pm. Our hours on Friday may vary however we will make ourselves available at 212-650-8175 or send an email to usg@ccny.cuny.edu. Let us work together to make the CCNY experience more productive and meaningful as a place where students can truly have a voice. Succinctly, we represent

ALL STUDENTS [with] ONE GOAL and ONE PRIORITY! (A 1)

LET'S TALK ABOUT SAFE SEX

March 22nd, 2005

NAC 1/208

12:30 - 2:00 pm

Guset Speaker:

Pedro Alicea NY Presbyterian

Hospital

Safe Sex Information

Give-A-Ways

refreshments will be served

PLACE YOUR ADD HERE

1-212-650-5018
thepaper@ccny.cuny.edu

INCIDENT AT THE CAREER FAIR

OFFICE OF THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT PRESIDENT: REDEEMER "RESK Q" AMEDZEKOR

STATEMENT ON A RECENT INCIDENT AT CITY COLLEGE CAREER FAIR ON MARCH 9, 2005

Date Released: MARCH 11, 2005

In a recent incident here at the City College of New York, three students were arrested in a course of a protest against the US Military recruiters during a Job Fair. Two of these students were later charged with misdemeanor counts of assaulting an officer, resisting arrest, and disturbing the peace and one other student charged with obstruction of a government administrator.

According to sources, the involved students were assaulted. However, the office of the Public Safety of the City College denies the allegation and rather accused the student protesters as the assailants. Incidents of such had occurred in the history of the City College of New York.

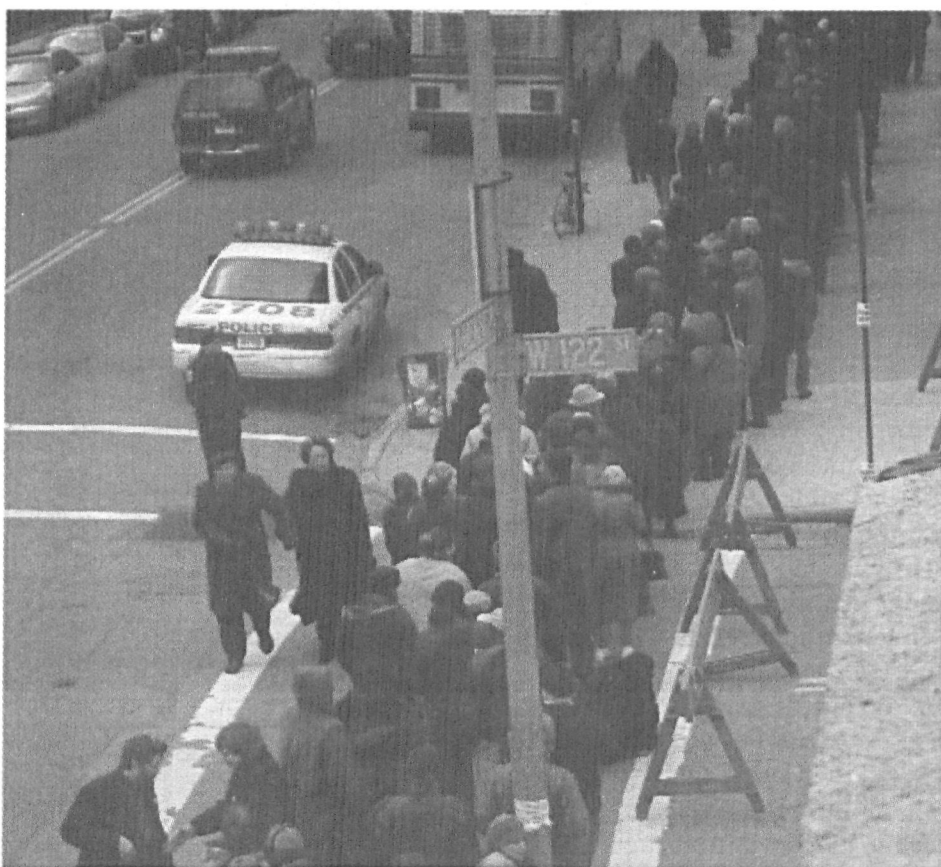
Two days later, a staff member of CCNY was, also, arrested in connection with Wednesday's protest. The police arrived to the staff member's work place to be apprehended. Officials stated that the staff member allegedly attacked an officer and possibly charged with assault.

Currently, the incident is under full investigation and all involved parties will be brought to justice.

I strongly believe in the Freedom of Speech and Expression as stipulated in the United State Constitution. Students have the right to VOICE their opinions and to EXPRESS their concerns in a PEACEFUL manner. Assaulting and arresting students or any member of the college community as a way to silent them is in violation of the rights of all citizens of the United States of America.

I strongly stand against any violence in the college community. All members of the college community have equal rights, which must be upheld and not infringed upon at any cause. I encourage all students to stand strong and not be afraid of protesting or speaking out against any acts of injustice, especially those that affects student life on campus.

For further information, please contact the Office of the Undergraduate Student Government. You may call us at (212) 650-8175 or e-mail usg@ccny.cuny.edu.



Scores of people lined up to attend the late Ossie Davis' Memorial.



OSSIE DAVIS REMEMBERED

by: Ernesto Johnson

The memorial services for Actor Ossie Davis were held Saturday on February 12, at the Riverside Church in Harlem.

Elaborately stretched lines curved the sidewalks and maneuvered passed neighborhood blocks as people from both near and far and from all walks of life, came to extend reverence to one of television's fallen icons.

The legacy that Ossie Davis

has left behind was met with profound favoritism from the visible large outpour of people present at his open casket viewing. Davis, who was found dead at a Hotel Beach in Miami on the 4th February, performed other functions as director, playwright and an activist. He was actively involved with a plight of other African Americans off and on the stage since the 1950's. He played key roles in movies produced by Alex Haley such as "Queen and Roots: The Next Generation". Ossie Davis' presence was also felt in other films like Martin Luther King: "The Dream and the Drum", Stephen King's

"Stand" and two of Spike Lee's films entitled, "Do the Right Thing" and "Jungle Fever", just to mention a few.

Present at the service was his widow of 56 years Actress Ruby Dee, family friends like Harry Belafonte who eulogized the memorial, former President Bill Clinton, Oprah Winfrey, Spike Lee, Cornell West, and the Harlem community. The service included a musical procession composed by Wynton Marsalis and the recitation of a touching poem from the distinguished Maya Angelou.

In addition to his on screen

works, Ossie Davis showcased his strong and courageous side as a committed participant of the civil rights movement in the face of the intolerable era of the Jim Crow Laws and McCarthyism. He continued his efforts by collaborating with both Malcolm X and Martin Luther to help advance social justice for blacks in America.

Ossie has maintained an image which exudes moral fiber, bravery, strength and vigor that is lacking presently in our community. For this reason and many others Mr. Ossie Davis will always be loved and remembered.