

# The Paper

Medium For People Of African Descent

Volume 6

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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

## BMLMP Making Moves

By Orin Abel

On Thursday October 5, Tuskegee Airman, Roscoe Brown, met a group of young Black men as a part of the Black Male Leadership and Mentoring Program (BMLMP). The program, which was in the preparation stage last semester, has begun to impress success into the lives of dozens of Black men. The Black Male Initiative, set up in 2005, uses CUNY as a pioneer in changing the lives of Black men around America, beginning with New York City. Among the nine recommendations, CUNY's special task forces advised admission and graduation rates, improved employment prospects, reduced incarceration rate and the progression of educational and social equality. Each sought to curve alarming figures which show the downward spiral that entraps the lives of many Black men.

Among the many prospects the program provides, assistance is available with internship, mentoring and promotion opportunities as well as creating a network of support for the men to be better equipped to deal with life in general.

The program's commitment in generating an appealing program has taken them to the Harlem Hospital, Black Enterprise and the New York Historical society over this past summer.

The City College coordinators are Dr. Claude Braithwaite (LSAMP), Dr Ramona Brown, Dr. Maudette Brownlee (SEEK), Dr. James De Jongh (IRADAC), Mr. Larry Elcock, Prof. Williams Gibbons and Mr. Rasheen Allen (Project coordinator). The project coordinators work in affiliation with CUNY in providing assistance to a social issue that plagues the Black community.

According to The BMLMP of City College, the program seeks to:

- Ease participants' transition into college
- Enhance a sense of community and connection to college life
- Provide participants with a network of peers who share common academic goals
- Develop participants' knowledge and awareness of career opportunities
- Introduce successful, mainstream role models
- Improve participants' social and

leadership skills

- Provide mentoring to participants to support their efforts to stay in college until they earn their degree

This summer, 19 mentors were trained over a three week course. The mentors were required to be at least a semester ahead of the incoming freshmen in order to provide necessary assistance. Currently there are 18 mentors capable of handling roughly fifty students altogether; mentors are expected to keep in constant contact with their respective students. Project co-coordinator, Dr. James de Jongh, states: "Social support [is] as important as academic support, young Black men can support each other." Students must have no more than 32 credits to qualify to be mentored. According to Dr. de Jongh, "We want to expose students in the program to successful African American male figures." Fittingly guest speakers such as Roscoe Brown are sure to instill zeal in the hearts of young Black men that need the advice of influential figures.

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## Roscoe Brown, Up Close and Personal

By Juan Nunez

On October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006, Roscoe Brown visited City College to talk about his past experiences as an African American man in a biased military and segregated society. He served as a fighter pilot in World War II, became a recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal award, and has been a major participant in the Harlem Community. Without a doubt, Roscoe Brown has accomplished many noteworthy feats and I'd like to take a moment to focus on his advice and words of experience that apply to everyone here at City College.

Brown's first piece of advice came as he told the audience of how he grew up in an achievement-oriented middle-class family. He told the audience that the world is full of opportunities but that we, as

African Americans, Latinos, Asians, and any other minorities, have to fight for those opportunities. Our challenge is to fight for what we want and not simply relinquish it.

The second bit of advice Brown gave the audience came as he talked about his time in the military. He stated that around this time, military officials thought that African Americans were not educated enough to fly combat planes: little did those officials know that Brown was going to be one of the first pilots to shoot down an enemy plane. Brown stated that he acquired the skills of aerial combat through practice and he advised us to also practice, and that once we are done practicing, he wants to practice some more. He said that practice increases readiness, and readiness increases the chance to succeed.

The third and final word

Brown gave came from the experiences he had after the war. He wanted to work with Eastern Airlines as a pilot, so he decided to fill out an application. After handing in the application and almost exiting the premises, he reentered the office only to find the secretary discarding his application in the garbage bin. Why? Simply because he was black. He told the audience that to defeat the "system", we must become better than and rise over the "system" itself.

For my fellow students who did not attend, Roscoe Brown wants all of us, to stay focused, determined, and ambitious in our journeys. While others may attempt to discriminate against us based on our ethnicity, gender or other factors, we must take advantage of all the opportunities and practice with discipline to obtain the necessary skills for our success.



# Editorial

## Bridging the Gap

By Lindsie Augustin

At the end of last semester, I received an unexpected yet interesting call from a gentleman by the name of Luis Reyes-Rivera, a former editor and co-founder of *The Paper*. We parlayed on the phone for several minutes about life at *The Paper*, now versus then and throughout our conversation I found myself more and more intrigued, especially because he had not yet revealed his purpose for calling.

After about ten minutes or so of conversation, I was pleased to find out that he had called because a number of former staff members from the 1970's and on, had expressed interest in organizing a reunion as a way to bridge the gap between the different generations of staff members, and were wondering if the current Editor-in-Chief would offer their assistance. Now, being somewhat

new to the position as Editor-in-Chief of *The Paper*, this seemed like the perfect opportunity to pick the brains of professionals in my dream field. Needless to say it didn't take long for me to offer my help in any way needed.

This reunion would provide members of *The Paper* as well as others, the opportunity to improve on their skills and let's face it, if someone could help us become better at our craft, we as an organization would be foolish to refuse.

After my conversation with Rivera, I was inspired to take a deeper look into the past of *The Paper* and through this issue the staff has decided to pay homage to those who came before us by reprinting articles and poems that still have relevance in current times. On that note, I hope readers enjoy our little blast from the past.

*Editorial note: Plans for the reunion are still in the development phase; check in for more information in upcoming issues.*

## CCNY Students Rebuff Re-Vote

By Orin Abel

Iqbal "Iquii" Muhammad won the recent Undergraduate Student Government (USG) election despite the low voter turnout for the diversity following the political melee of last semester that led to the eventual invalidation of the ballots. Of the 485 total votes, Muhammad (Diversity) defeated Leon Abbo (AAA) by a margin of 19% or 92 votes according to Finley Student Centre. Students were given the opportunity to vote in the NAC Ballroom on September 18-20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to 9:00pm after the election process introduced in spring '06 requiring students to vote via their CCNY email accounts, proved flawed. The new system, though more efficient, did less to win students' appeal – or perhaps CCNY students were just annoyed with college politics.

The electoral system introduced this semester, seemingly a hybrid between the trusted system of the past and the flawed system of last semester, promised a freer and fairer election process. Student Election Review Committee (SERC) member

O'Lanso Gabbidon, stated, "It's a combination of both, you won't be able to vote anywhere." A SERC mass email sent to the CCNY student body a few days before the election, outlined the many changes students would encounter in ensuring this election process was scandal free.

Among the changes, no campaigning was allowed within 100 ft of the ballroom and placards warned against campaigning beyond the Hoffman lounge area; fittingly, the political posters and signs that overtook the NAC lobby were not to be found beyond this point. Tables were set up at the entrance of the ballroom, to assist CCNY and Sophie Davis students in casting their ballots. All students that were registered in a degree program as of fall 2006 were eligible to vote in the election, yet the ballroom was desolate and practically void of students. Students were sorted according to major and surname, this new procedure required all names to be checked from a "secured" list preventing students from recasting their ballots. Only after presenting a valid photo ID were

students' name checked from the list and the only accepted forms of identification were CCNY ID or NY State ID, adding to the security of the process.

After checking, students were ushered to an adjacent table to obtain their passwords, after which point only one student at a time was allowed to proceed. This password was made available upon presentation of an acceptable ID card. Using their CCNY email and their token password students could then vote as they saw fit at any of the nearby computers.

The entire process was very productive. However, the rapid time seemed more the result of the low student turnout than the elaborately concocted process. The 485 voter responses represent a mere 5.2% of the 9,264 CCNY undergraduate student body. Still, the process was safeguarded against the flaws of the previous system whilst maintaining its technological improvements and, in the end, Iqbal "Iquii" Muhammad (Diversity) came out the victor of the past year's political skirmish.

## THE PAPER

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## The Paper Wants to Hear from YOU!

Articles and letters to the Editor are welcomed and can be submitted to The Paper for consideration. All submissions should be between 300-500 words. We look forward to reading what you have to say!

## OUR MISSION

For over thirty years *The Paper* has served as a medium through which students, faculty and members of the local community can communicate. As a publication for people of African descent, *The Paper* focuses on pertinent issues facing the Black and Latino community as well as issues that are of relevance to people of all races and ethnicities. In addition to that, this publication is a valuable resource for CCNY students and faculty alike as information on everything from scholarships to job opportunities can be in the newspaper. With increased membership and support of the student body, The Paper will continue to serve CCNY and the surrounding community.



# Spotlight on Darfur

By Easter Z. Wood

## What is Darfur?

Darfur is a region about the size of California located in the East African nation of Sudan. A major humanitarian crisis has been underway in this region since 2003 – a crisis of which most people are completely unaware. Although information has been made available through UN observers and other outlets, there has been virtually no media coverage of the situation, and cries for help seem to have gone ignored.

## What is going on?

Imagine: you are in bed asleep, as are your parents and sister. You are stirred from your sleep by unusual noises – loud bangs and people screaming – you smell smoke. You leap from your bed and run outside to find your family already running away, the houses around you are on fire, their inhabitants running away screaming as well. You begin to run, you look back to see your father on the ground, your mother and sister being dragged off. You run until you can't run anymore and then you stop to rest for a moment. You take one last look back before you start to run again and see that your whole village is ablaze. You have no idea what happened to your family – or what will become of you.

You were just imagining, but this nightmarish scenario, or ones similar to it, has been reality for millions in the Darfur region. According to UN figures, more than 2.4 million inhabitants of Darfur have been forced to flee their homes to avoid the reign of terror being carried out by militia groups known as the *Janjaweed*. While the UN and others have hesitated to use the word *genocide* in referring to these events, estimates show that many as 180,000 Black African Sudanese have already been killed by these *Janjaweed* militias, who are composed of Arabs, which gives the definite impression of an ethnic cleansing campaign. Worse, although they deny involvement, much evidence shows that the Sudanese government is in fact responsible for arming these militias and sending them out to attack the civilian population.

Whether or not the word genocide is employed, there is no question that the *Janjaweed* have certainly broken the Laws of War. These laws, set forth at the Geneva Conventions of 1949, with two additional provisions added in 1977, were intended to protect people from inhumane conduct in times of war and came, largely, as a result of the horrors committed by the Nazis during World War II. The Sudanese government accepted these laws as they were set forth and agreed to abide by them. As such, being proven to have committed, or have assisted in the commission of, the types of atrocities of which they are accused is a direct violation and could result in the leaders' prosecution in the

"widespread and systematic" scope in this instance, are considered *crimes against humanity*.

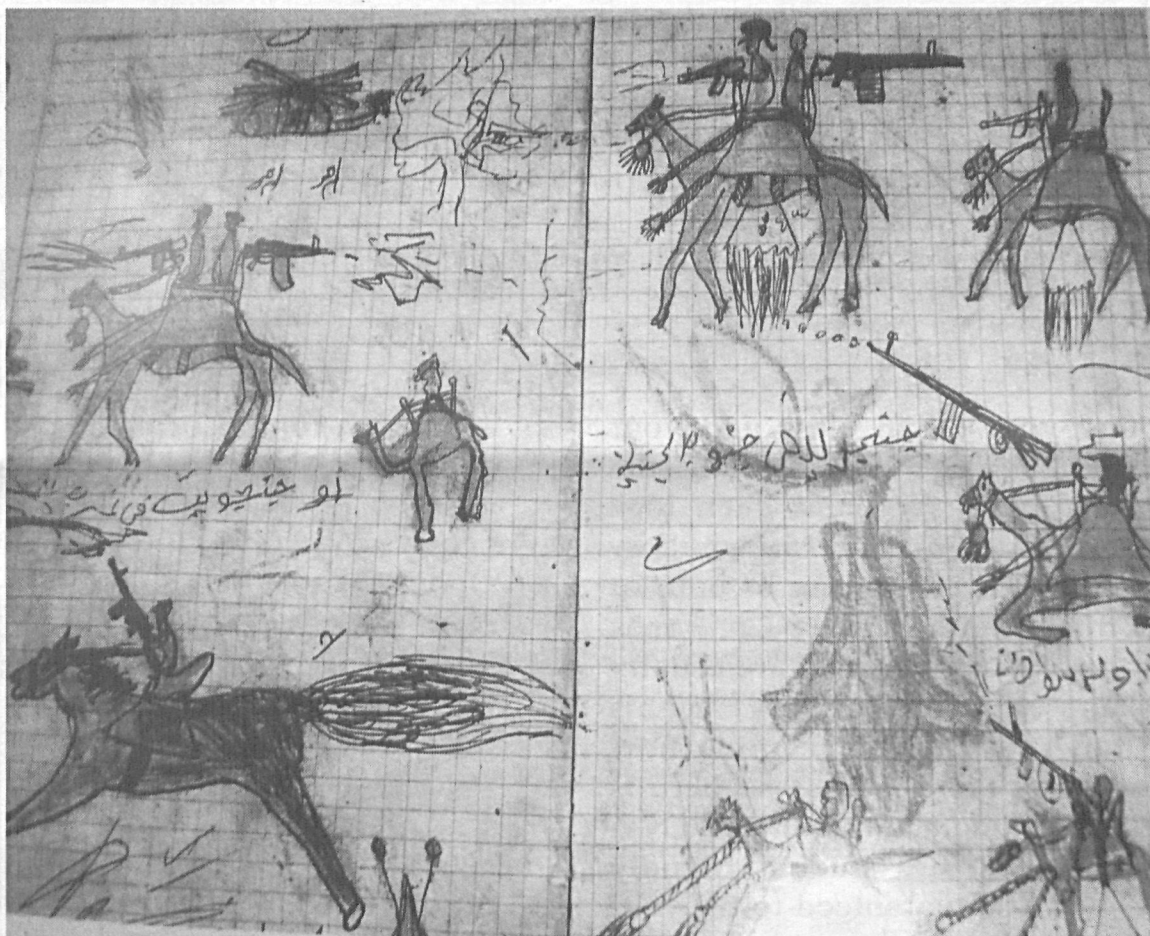
Dr. Annie Sparrow, a Pediatrician affiliated with Human Rights Watch, initially went into internally displaced persons (IDP) camps in Darfur and refugee camps in neighboring Chad to interview women on their experiences with sexual violence – a huge problem now faced by women forced to live in refugee or IDP camps because their villages were destroyed by the *Janjaweed*. As Dr. Sparrow and her colleagues interviewed the women, they gave the women's children paper and crayons to keep them occupied. Little did they know that this action would result in some

including a stop at the gallery in New York University's Bronfman Center for Jewish Student Life. The exhibition was on display there through September 6, 2005.

Aside from making the drawings public, Dr. Sparrow is also touring and giving lectures about the events taking place in Darfur. She has also been featured in a PBS special about the Darfur crisis. Dr. Sparrow has said that through the drawings, the children are creating a "unique visual vocabulary that corroborates all the testimony...taken from adults" (New York Times – July 6, 1005) and that this "visual vocabulary" may aid in the prosecution of Sudan's leaders in the ICC due to a lack of other evidence. More immediately, she believes that the exhibition of the drawings will help bring Darfur into the public consciousness and urge people to get involved in helping those affected.

### Editorial Note:

I met Dr. Sparrow at the exhibition at NYU and procured high resolution copies of some of the drawings. The drawings were publicly displayed during Bronx Community College's International Education week last fall and are now in the permanent collection of the newly founded Tolerance Center at Bronx Community College. The center will soon be open to all CUNY students who are interested in viewing the drawings or other resources contained therein.



International Criminal Court.

## Dr. Annie Sparrow and Human Rights Watch

Watchdog groups, including the United Nations, have been into Darfur to bear witness to and document the crimes being perpetrated. Human Rights Watch ([www.hrw.org](http://www.hrw.org)) is one such group, and according to their widely distributed literature they have documentation of several violations including "massacres, executions, of civilians – including women and children – acts of sexual violence, [and] the burning of towns and villages." All such activities, aside from being reprehensible, are specifically forbidden by the protocols set forth in the Geneva convention and, because of their

of the only "hard evidence" of the happenings within Darfur – the children's drawings.

Over several visits, Dr. Sparrow and her colleagues collected hundreds of drawings from children in Darfur and Chad. These drawings graphically depict the things the children had witnessed – bombings by military helicopters, burning of villages, rapes, murders, mutilations – things that no child should ever see. Since they have been forced to witness such atrocities, however, Dr. Sparrow and Human Rights Watch have been on a mission to make sure that their traumatization wasn't in vain. The exhibition of the drawings, entitled "Smallest Witnesses: The Conflict in Darfur Through Children's Eyes," has circulated throughout the country,

Above: A Drawing from the exhibition

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Michael Witter - Ombudsperson  
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# Health in Harlem

By Maurice Selby

As the theme music begins to fade out, the lights down in the studio at WHCR are dim and all is still. Carheem Coleman-Cooke, the man controlling the audio engineer of the shows, signals the host Mrs. Gloria Thomas to start speaking and the show is underway. "Welcome to Health in Harlem. I'm your host Mrs. Gloria Thomas and today we're going to be talking about epilepsy with our guest Dr. Richard Etienne, an Epileptologist at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital." Following her introduction, the audience is taken on a comprehensive tour of the subject matter of the night and before long, one could consider himself an expert as everything is discussed from the prevention of various ailments to how to cope when diagnosed with a certain illness.

"To say that the show is informative and worth listening to is an understatement," said Mrs. Kim Dash, a regular listener via the internet. "We need more programming like this on every station. There's more to life than love, lust, and

lies."

Unlike many of the talk shows featured on the air today, the format of Health In Harlem is fairly simple. Each show is dedicated to a different topic and a health care professional specializing in that particular area is basically interviewed by the Host, Mrs. Gloria Thomas and people call in with any questions they may have for the guest. Following its inception in February of this year, the show addressed everything from headaches to cancer and has even had modest success in courting sponsors such as Harlem hospital, that are committed to informing the people of New York City to take care of themselves.

"We have to take responsibility for our own healthcare," said Mrs. Thomas each time the show airs. One of the main goals of the show is to focus on the preventative measures that people can take in managing their own health. The myriad doctors and other health care professionals featured on the show say that many people wait until the condition they are suffering from is in an advanced stage before seeking the help of a professional. "This," says Mrs. Thomas. "Has got to stop!"

One myth that the show has tried to discount is the one that has led people to believe that no matter how serious they're condition is, they're going to be kept sitting in the emergency department waiting room for hours on end. While this may be true for those seeking treatment for mild conditions, no ER in the world will have someone wait when they're in dire need of medical attention. In a show featuring Dr. Reinny Trowers, the director of the Emergency Department at Harlem Hospital, this common misconception was addressed. The overall message of the show was that it is always better to seek help when you're not sure exactly how serious something maybe. "Maybe that headache isn't 'just a headache' after all, it could be a stroke, who knows!? Come in for an evaluation," said Dr. Trowers.

Health In Harlem has been privileged enough to host guests such as Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC) President and Chief Executive Alan Aviles, along with HHC Senior Vice President of Medical and Professional Affairs Dr. Van Dunn.

## Hungry... Why Wait?

By Lindsie Augustin

Have you ever found yourself in class and your stomach was making more noise than the professors' lecture? Have you ever been in a situation where your wallet was as empty and hollow as your stomach? If you answered yes to one or both of these questions, consider this article an early Christmas present. It's a known fact that college students are usually financially deprived and also extremely hungry. At this new point in their lives they're face with learning how to budget whatever money they come across so here is something that will benefit all students attending CCNY. Following is a list of places that are student friendly (when it comes to money) and are guaranteed to fill your stomach. Bon Appetite!

- **Collegiate Food Shop:** better know as The Greeks; offer a wide variety of salads, sandwiches and soups among other things. Located on the corner of Amsterdam and 139<sup>th</sup> street.
- Looking for a bit of Italian cuisine, well there's no place like **Three Men in the Kitchen**. This local pizza shop serves as a common spot for many students. The pizza is good and affordable, what more could you ask for. Located on Amsterdam between 139<sup>th</sup> and 140<sup>th</sup> street.
- In the mood for great Cuban sandwiches, hot tacos, wraps and sweet fruit shakes then **Kaffe** is the place for you. Located at 502 west 139<sup>th</sup> street (across from the fire station).
- Want a little more ethnicity in your day, than **El**

**Toro Partido Restaurant** is calling your name. Where you can have your choice of Ecuadorian and Mexican food. Located at 3431 Broadway between 139<sup>th</sup> and 140<sup>th</sup> street.

- **Grand Great Wall:** Chinese restaurant, whose daily lunch special between 11:00-4:30 may be just what you're looking. Due to its size it may not be the perfect place to eat in but do take comfort in knowing that they deliver. Located on 1588 Amsterdam Ave. between 138<sup>th</sup> and 139<sup>th</sup> or call (212) 283-7223/7123
- Looking for something a little healthier, eat fresh; eat **Subway**, where you can get your choice of sandwich made with whatever you'd like on it. Located on 139<sup>th</sup> and Broadway.
- Are you just craving a good old burger, than **McDonald's** is the place for you. With everything from their classic Big Mac with fries to the various premium salads they have, you'll find whatever you're looking for. Located on Broadway between 138<sup>th</sup> and 139<sup>th</sup> street.
- If you're just not in the mood to go outside then look no further than the campus' trusty **Cafeteria** - it will definitely satisfy your hunger. Located in the NAC Building on the second floor.

**Writers Wanted!**

Contact The Paper @  
[thepaper@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:thepaper@ccny.cuny.edu)  
 or come in to NAC 1/118



# Jumping On the College Wagon

By Orin Abel

City College students can understand the angst of waiting for the CCNY shuttle bus. The bus' unreliable service is notorious among students, who often opt to walk rather than stand in uncertainty. It is common to witness students peering up 145<sup>th</sup> street, searching the horizon to spot a glimpse of the CCNY bus. This supposed undependable service raises the question of whether it is really the bus' unreliability or simply their own busyness clouding the judgment of students.

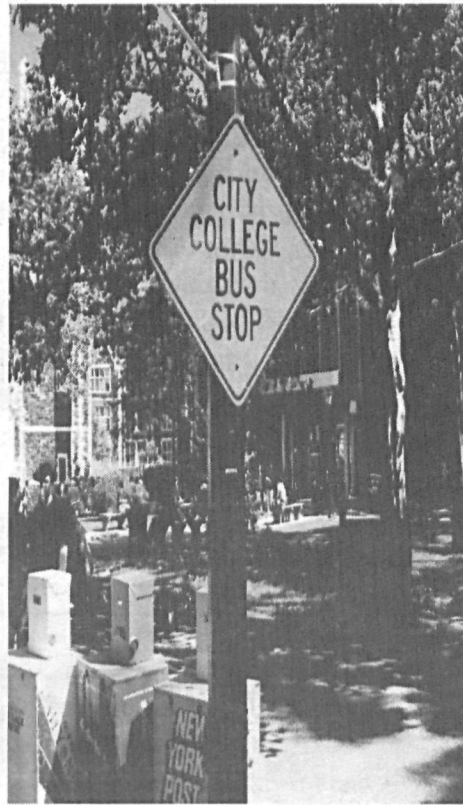
On Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, using the latest copy of the bus schedule currently posted on the CCNY website, the bus was put to the test of consistency and dependability. According to the schedule, the bus runs from 7:00am - 9:55 pm, practically every 15 minutes beginning on the hour at 145<sup>th</sup> street. Every time a train pulls into the station, a barrage of students would surface. The vast majority would stride past without as much as a glance to peer up the road, only a few would remain for the bus

"Its usually never here, I don't wait for the bus...it's bad for the students", said sophomore Alex Charles a computer engineering major at CCNY. The bus' constant tardiness has gotten so bad, a young lady accustomed to bypassing the stop walked right past the bus only to have to run back from the corner.

Upon further observation, between the hours of 1:25 and 2:40pm, the CCNY bus came at 1:40pm, 2:03pm, 2:12pm, and 2:33pm. The bus' actual arrival times does not even compare with the given schedule times of given of 1:30pm, 1:45pm, 2:00pm, 2:15pm and 2:30pm. Michelle Chirlo, a psychology and Jewish studies major stated, "It's terrible, even with the schedule it's unreliable". The CCNY senior stated, "I'm only waiting because I don't have a class until four, if I'm in a rush I just walk up the hill."

The CCNY bus has shown itself to be undependable coming anywhere from 10 to 25 minutes apart. In addition, the bus hardly ever came anywhere near the proposed schedule time. In all fairness, maybe

the note at the bottom of the schedule proclaiming, "*schedule is subject to change due to weather, traffic, mechanical troubles and driver absenteeism*" was simply a well intended warning in disguise.



## Join The Paper

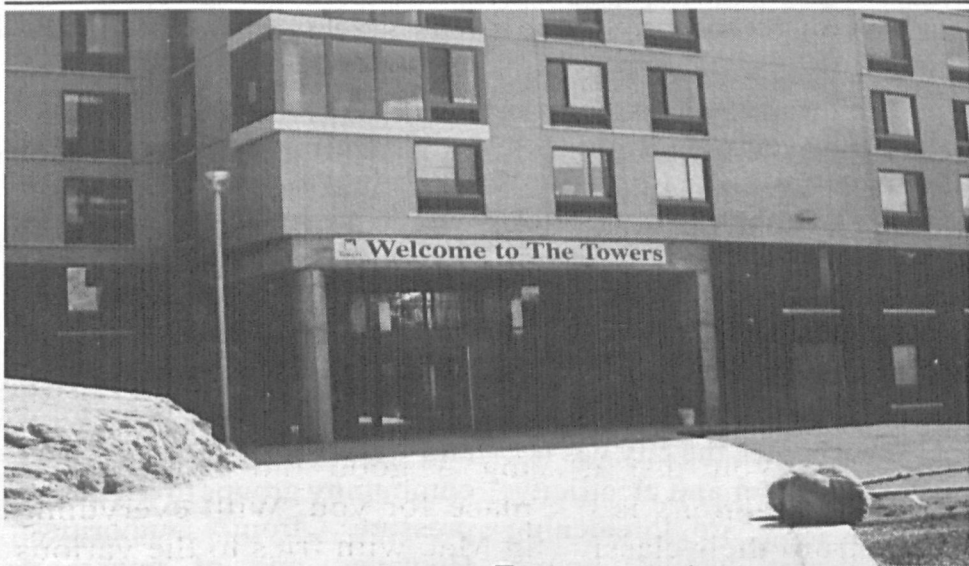
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# The Towers: Dorm or High-Priced Highrise?



By Aubrey Semple

As a freshman, hungry to live the life of a college student, there are so many things that I want to experience; going college parties, meeting new people, and most importantly living on campus. As a student under the CUNY system, there aren't many opportunities to live on campus since none of the schools, with the exception of Hunter College, have dormitories available for all students.

From the outside, The

Towers, newly constructed so-called dormitories on CCNY's campus, can be compared to a high-rise building like those in neighborhood like Midtown or the Upper West Side. As you enter the Towers, you enter a place some people may describe as a mansion. Which is great for those who can afford to live in the Towers, unfortunately, the majority of the 10,000 plus students that attend City College do not have the means, especially considering constant rise of tuition prices and student fees. When looking at the high prices for renting an apartment

in Harlem, you'll realize living in The Towers is no different. In fact it can set you back anywhere from \$9,300 to \$12,900 per term. This builds a problem among working-class individuals trying to get by with paying tuition, books and fees.

It has also come to my attention; the population of the Towers is predominantly Caucasian with small sections of other nationalities, which is not a surprise for the college campus itself is designed the same way. Also, there are students that not only attend CCNY, but other college and university in New York City living along side us in the Towers. As the dorm life at City College begins, new relationships are slowly, and I do mean slowly starting to build. The Towers have been established for over a week, and people are not very receptive on bonding, therefore creating a sense of an anti-social living environment. Though some are optimistic, others including myself feel that we have a long way to go to achieving that goal.

The essential idea of

developing the new resident halls to some residents is to build a better and brighter image of the Hamilton Heights neighborhood. But, as you walk blocks away from The Towers and walk down the streets of Hamilton Heights, you see a different story. In my eyes, I see drug-dealers making sells and winos waiting for their next drink. The development of gentrification is growing bit after bit and the only people that are suffering are those that are struggling to make rent, in one of the most expensive boroughs in New York City.

So, what is the connection between The Towers and gentrification? The fact of the matter is that when a new development such as The Towers is created, others living in the neighborhood are forced to move. As the area of Harlem is changing, the culture surrounding the area is changing. And at the end of the day, housing development companies are only going to care about receiving the profits from the residential housing complex.

Continued on Page 7



## Blacks Prosper in Queens

By Teshaka Bond

Amongst all the other boroughs, Queens is the only county in the nation where the median income of Blacks residents surpasses White residents.

This increase in the income was largely influenced by the growth of the two parent households as well as the success of immigrants from the West Indies. David Vernon, a 45 year old lawyer, believed "despite the economic progress among Blacks in Queens, income gaps still endure[d] within the borough's Blacks community where immigrants, mostly from the Caribbean, are generally doing better than the American born Blacks. When immigrants come here, they're not accustomed to social programs, and when they see opportunities they had no access to [such as] tuition or academic or practical training- they are God-sent and

they use these programs and opportunities to build themselves and move forward".

While Blacks prosper in Queens, the overall income for African Americans are still lower than other ethnicities. In Manhattan alone, the average income for White households was \$86,494. Asians households reported \$53,000 Blacks reported an estimated \$51,836, non-Hispanics \$50,960, and Hispanics reported a mere \$44,000. According to Richard P. Nathan, co-director of the Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government in Albany, stated, "it really is the best illustration that the stereotype of Blacks living in dangerous, concentrated, poor, slum, urban neighborhoods is misleading and doesn't predominate." Professor Edward Wolff stated, "That the wealthiest Whites may have left the city for the suburban [in turn] shifting the income balance in the borough."

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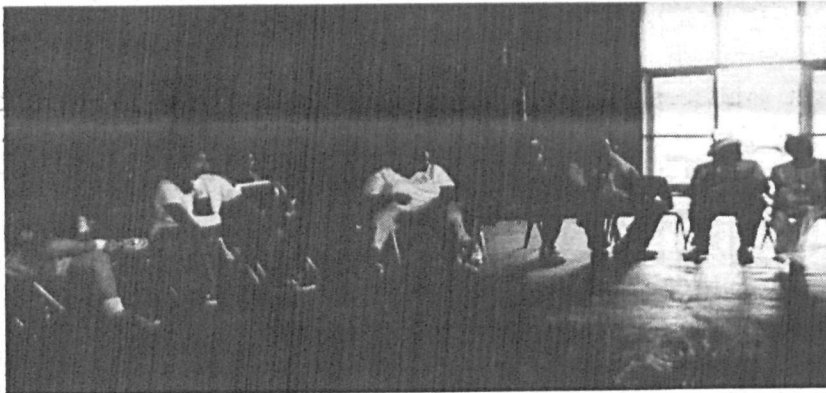
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## Commentary

### The Anti-Racist Struggle to Rebuild New Orleans



*Left:*  
A Katrina survivors council meeting



*Right:*  
Drew (third from left) with fellow volunteers

By Drew Stahl-David

A little over a year ago Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast. While the storm itself was a force of nature, the devastation produced as a result of the storm was largely the fault of the rich and politically powerful delayed response to the tragedy. Many of those, who were most affected and displaced by the storm, were black workers and youth from New Orleans. This summer, several CCNY students including myself had the chance to go down to New Orleans to help out. It was during this trip and while speaking to the different folks in the New Orleans area, that I received a new perspective on the racist and fascist nature of life in New Orleans.

Upon our arrival, the volunteers received a "levee

tour". The levees are the walls that keep New Orleans from flooding regularly. With an area already 80% below sea level, I was baffled to learn that the levee walls were not the same size throughout the entire Louisiana state. 50 ft-wide, double levees to protect their expensive areas such as the French Quarter and Lake View, while areas such as the 9th Ward, where mostly black homeowners live are protected by feeble 1 ft-wide walls. And even after a tragedy like Hurricane Katrina, the new levees built in the last year, which Mayor Ray Nagin has claimed are "ready for another hurricane", are still the same width. I learned from our tour guide that in the 1930s the rich had dynamited the levees in the poor neighborhoods even before storms arrived. I guess this time around the dynamites weren't necessary since these

days they simply build the levees to break.

Nevertheless, black residents are fighting to return home. Unfortunately, the over 50,000 individuals who have been displaced have a hard battle in front of them. In many neighborhoods, the city has not turned on water and electricity, and yet they are threatening to confiscate people's homes for not coming back to work on them. Many simply do not have the resources to travel from Houston and farther away to New Orleans and back, and even with those who manage to make it back, FEMA has deny and delayed many people from receiving trailers and monetary assistance to rebuild their homes. It seems as if the only thing victims of Katrina can depend on during the recovery of the New Orleans area is the support and understanding provided by fellow victims.

During my visit, I heard many horror stories from people who had survived the storm in their attics or been stuffed into overcrowded FEMA trailers, as well as people who had given boat rides to dry land in the days after the storm and others who had organized community groups to challenge pressure from authorities. However, one of my most memorable experiences was doing reconstruction work with a group of public housing residents. Even with the city officials only wanting to open about 10% of the public housing, residents started rebuilding their own and stating "to hell with them, these are our homes".

*Continued on Page 7*



# To Protect, Serve, and...Rape?

By Lindsie Augustin

Imagine, you're home alone and you hear a knock on your door. When you look through the peep-hole you see a police officer standing in the doorway claiming to be checking out a disturbance in the building. Now, assuming you're a law abiding citizen, you'd most likely open your door with little or no hesitation, but did you ever stop to question if the man standing in front of you is actually an officer. Just when the city seemed to be getting safe, a new breed of criminals has emerged. Men impersonating figures of authority, such as police officers and firemen, are taking advantage of the trust women carry for these figures in order to sexually assault, rape and murder them.

While statistics on this matter are scarce, several incidents have been reported. In a recent issue of the *Chicago Sun Times* a special investigation conducted last January revealed that over a thousand cases of phony cops had surfaced in the Chicago area over a three year period. In Sacramento California, police are still searching for suspects in four different cases, in which young female drivers were pulled over by a vehicle resembling a patrol car and assaulted in either their car or the "patrol" car. Incidents such as these have been reported in areas such as Culpeper, Virginia and right here in New York as well. Last fall,

journalist Peter Braunstein posed as a NYC firefighter and started a small fire in an apartment building to gain access into a woman's apartment. Once inside Braunstein allegedly sexually assaulted and terrorized the woman for hours. Situations such as these have become such a growing problem that it has appeared in the September 2006 issue of *Cosmopolitan Magazine* as well as in an episode of the hit CBS show CSI.

Many may wonder why these men are able to get away with such crimes. However these assailants are aware of the undeniable trust women have in authority figures. Louis Schlesinger, PhD, professor of forensic psychology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, stated "We trust them. We have to. And that trust is the most important part of the perpetrator's MO." Along with our blinded trust, with a simple internet search perpetrators are able to purchase police and firefighter uniforms as well as other paraphernalia that assist them in fooling their victims. Unfortunately, these crimes are rarely reported mainly due to the fact that many victims feel a sense of self-blame. Not to mention the victims inability to trust police officers and unwillingness to turn to them for help.

These attacks take careful planning. According to Katherine Ramsland, Ph D, professor of forensic psychology at DeSales University, "Many have wanted to be cops or have

shown an interest in law enforcement." To successfully commit such a crime, a level of creative repulsiveness is required and it is imperative that females are aware of the steps that can be taken to protect themselves.

If an unmarked car attempts to stop you, slow down, turn on your blinker and stop when you're in a well-lit area. Learn to trust your instincts, if you feel like something is wrong, you're probably right. If the stop is legitimate, the officer would've call it in, and you can always verify the stop with dispatch by simply calling 911. Be aware, generally you will not be requested to step out of your vehicle in a routine traffic stop, so remember to keep your guard up. Now if an officer attempts to gain access into your home, always ask to see a badge, identification card, and warrant if applicable. In this situation, you can always call 911 to verify the officer's identity and presence. Remember, if you still feel uncomfortable you may always ask the officer to return with a partner. Similarly, if a firefighter is requesting access to your home, only open the door if you see or smell smoke, if the fire alarm has been activated or a fire truck outside, and if there are other firemen around. Remember when your life is on the line, don't let anyone rush you; take all the time necessary to ensure your safety.

## BMLMP Making Moves

*Continued from page 1*

This summer the Black Male Initiative also met its first hurdle with a lawsuit brought against the program by Michael Myers. Myers found the program's foundation as an organization specifically targeting Black men to be prejudiced on the basis that it excluded other races and sexes. Dr. de Jongh retains that the program whilst specifically targeting Black men will not turn away any student seeking to gain footing in college life. Furthermore, as the program is funded by the City council of New York, it cannot turn students away; however the foremost goal of the program remains the establishment of balance between Black males and every other student in the CUNY.

Dr. de Jongh states, "This is not Affirmative Action, this is an Affirmative step to help our Black students stay in college."

The future of the program is full of big dreams and bigger ideas. Though, similar programs are in place on other CUNY campuses, the extension and institutionalization of the system will ensure continuity of the system beyond CUNY. Additionally, Dr. de Jongh cited

a recruitment portion possibly dispensed to high schools to emphasize retention of the system. The program also plans on working with youth groups and other organizations that branch out of the college and into the Black community. The Black Male Initiative program, when fully implemented may surely make a lasting impact in the African American community, thereby setting an example for all of America to follow.

## The Towers

*Continued from page 5*

For the average CUNY student, paying as much as \$20,000 in housing costs, tuition and fees, books, and supplies, build more of an economic burden to for students wishing to have the "college experience". Not every student is lucky to have parents paying this substantial amount or having financial aid covering this expense. But then again, that's the price we pay to have the "real" college experience.

## Struggle to Rebuild New Orleans

*Continued from page 6*

Showing up on that Saturday morning last May,

we were as a hold unsure if the authorities would welcome and encourage the work we were trying to do, or arrest us for "tampering with Housing Authority property." Luckily for us we had nothing to worry about, since residents brought their deeds to prove they had a right to be there. Unfortunately, all wasn't the same in August, when a group of residents and volunteers tried to reclaim FEMA trailers that had been sitting in a Six Flags parking lot, police and National Guardsman surrounded them and threatened arrest for theft of federal property.

Recently New Orleans has been the center of crime, and because of that there has been a subsequent presence of the National Guard, in order to "keep the peace." However based on the experiences of friends and myself, I would say that their presence in the city is much more based on protecting the interests of the powerful in disputes over property. I was glad to have had the opportunity to the New Orleans area. I saw first hand how racism and injustice are alive and well in this day and age; and I only hope that I can continue to be apart of the fight against racism and fascism.



## The Nuñez Academic Report

By Juan Nuñez

One of the things that I have noticed, while attending the City College of New York, is that most students are not aware of all the opportunities that CCNY has to offer. It is clearly understood that managing tough courses, a social life, and perhaps a job may make it difficult to take some time and ask around the campus about your major and its opportunities. That is why *The Paper* has taken it upon ourselves to speak with each department on your behalf and ask about current scholarships, internships, and academic programs that are being offered to students. Check out what *The Paper* has found so far and keep reading other issues to learn what other departments are offering.

### PSYCHOLOGY

Psi Chi is the National Honor Society in Psychology. One-time Membership fee is \$35 but once inaugurated members obtain a certificate, membership card, and other benefits. The Psi Chi National Office can also be used for reference purposes when needed. To be eligible, students must be registered as a psychology major or minor, have completed 9 semester hours or 14 quarter hours of psychology courses, and have a GPA of 3.0 in both psychology classes and in cumulative grades. For more information visit [www.psi-chi.org](http://www.psi-chi.org) or the psychology department.

### ENGLISH

The Isaacs Scholarship is an undergraduate program that pays full tuition, partial living expenses, and renews annually. It gives a stipend of \$2,500 for every 15 credits completed and personal study time with professors in the English Department. Requirements are a personal statement, written sample of about five pages, two references, and a copy of your high school and/or college transcript. GPA must be at least 3.3. Students must concentrate in English literature. For more information call 212-650-8388.

### HUMANITIES AND ARTS

The Kaye Scholars program offers high stipends in the amount of in-state tuition to CCNY students in majors like Media Communications, Art, Music, Foreign Languages and Literatures, and more. Members will be selected on the basis of academics, creativity, and need. For more information contact 212-650-8388, visit 6/316 in the NAC, or email [kayescholars@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:kayescholars@ccny.cuny.edu).

### THE CAREER CENTER @ NAC/116

Time Warner Cable is looking for customer care representative to perform data entry and respond to customer inquiries. The wage is \$10.50 or more depending on the language you speak. This job has full benefits. Visit the career center for more information.

On-campus interviews with Con Edison. They are to interview candidates in chemical engineering, mechanical engineering, civil engineering, electrical engineering, economics, and mathematics. Event is on November 8, 2006 but resume submission deadline is Nov. 1. Open only to students registered in Professional Recruiting Programs. For more information, visit the career center.

# Sudoku

	6				
3	4		5		2
4	2			3	5
1	3			2	4
6		4		1	3
		3		5	

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 2x3 box contains the digits 1 through 6

## EVENTS @ CITY

Morris Raphael Cohen: The Golden Age of Philosophy at CCNY, 1908-1938

Date: 9/13-11/22  
Time: 9:00 AM  
Address: 160 Convent Ave / Morris R. Cohen Library  
Admission: Free  
Tel: 212-650-7609

This exhibit celebrates the life and achievements of Morris Raphael Cohen, who taught at the College between 1902 and 1938. Highlights of these years are illustrated by photos from the City College Archives collection.

ROBIN BECKER'S "DOMAIN OF PERFECT A FFECTION"

Date: 10/16-10/16  
Time: 4:30 PM  
Address: 138<sup>th</sup> Convent Ave / The Rifkind Room / NAC 6/316  
Admission: Free  
Tel: 212-650-6388

Noted poet & poetry editor of "The Women's Review of Books," Robin Becker reads from her latest book.

Eugene O'Neill: Universal Symbol of Integrity

Date: 10/19-  
Time: 5:30 PM-7:00 PM  
Address: 160 Convent Ave / Shepard Hall / Great Hall  
Admission: Free  
Tel: 212-650-7799

The Gelbs, leading authorities on one of America's most distinguished playwrights, present the Samuel Rudin Distinguished Visiting Scholar Lecture.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

Date: 10/19-10/21  
Time: 7:00-10:00pm  
Address: Aaron Davis Hall Theatre B  
Admission: Free  
Tel: 212-650-6666

Shakespeare's magical romp about the illusions and delusions of love and reality. Directed by Prof. Steven Urkowitz.

"A NARRATIVE"

Date: 11/2-  
Time: 6:00 PM  
Address: 160 Convent Ave.  
Shepard Hall Rm. 95  
Admission: Free  
Tel: 212-650-7118

by G. Phillip Smith, a partner of Smith and Thompson Architects, currently a visiting professor in the Master of Architecture program at CCNY.



# EXPRESSIONS

## Untitled

Ask me how I feel and I'll tell you,  
 I crave you – I crave all of you  
 I crave your lips  
 I long to feel the sweetness pressed against mine  
 I crave your laughter  
 To see you happy makes me happy  
 I crave your hands  
 The way you use them is phenomenal  
 I crave your eyes  
 One look sends me into a trance  
 I crave you – I crave all of you  
 I crave your mind  
 Your intelligence leaves me bewildered  
 I crave your presence  
 Being near you excites me  
 I crave your persona  
 The way you view the world and the people around you is breathtaking  
 I crave your secrecy  
 I love how personal and intimate you are  
 I crave you – I crave all of you  
 I crave the unknown  
 I crave the passion of your fruit  
 I crave the feeling of you laying within my continent – conquering territories as you explore me  
 I crave the feeling of the rich earth moving – compelling our bodies to be transformed into complete oneness  
 I crave you – I crave all of you  
 I crave the know  
 I crave the unknown  
 I crave you body and soul  
 I long to touch your smooth brown skin  
 I long to entice you  
 I long for you to feel the intense emotions bursting through my veins  
 I long to hear you say I crave you – I crave all of you.

By Jodie K. Alexander

## BOO!

Are you scared?  
 Are you afraid of me?  
 Does my face bother you?  
 Do my thick lips frighten you?  
 Does my nappy hair disturb you?  
 Does my posture trouble you?  
 Does my language annoy you?  
 Does my clothing upset you?  
 Does my walk threaten you?  
 I know it does, I see you  
 You pull away, You cross the street  
 You clasp your bags, You say a prayer  
 I see the look, I see your "Equality"  
 But be afraid  
 Of the knowledge I seek  
 Of the Power I crave  
 Of the change I will instill  
 Be afraid of me  
 Be afraid of the real me.

By Orin R. Abel

## Revulsion

*Originally published 2/24/1987*

the streets were all blank,  
 just pave and pebbles  
 wherever you'd look –  
 police-people had come,  
 arresting things of worth  
 & growth, dozing the remains—  
 spread tar on the church, library & park,  
 hot wind carried torn out feathers  
 & torn sheets f poetry  
 crashed against their blue banner  
 as they stood it in the desolation.

By Simon Cruz

## The Homeland

*Originally published 2/24/1987*

The homeland  
 of all peoples  
 Dust where flowers used to grow  
 Pain where joy used to be  
 The maiden of paradise Raped of her virtue.  
 Oh how I weep for thee  
 Yet her children stand unconquered,  
 Proud,  
 Though their bellies are empty,  
 And their tears are that of ancient  
 rivers which flow no more to the Nile.

The rapist sprinkles water on the dust  
 Proclaiming for all to see what a  
 Wondrous thing he has done for thee.  
 Conveniently, forgetting all that had come  
 before and since.  
 Yet he does not see the bile of  
 anger which boils in bellies yet unfed  
 That once let loose can never be contained.  
 The rapist wishes even to strip  
 the heritage off our backs.  
 If only for once the rapist could  
 see the scope of evil he has done  
 he will surely weep for me.

By C. Edwards



# War on Drugs Keeps Students Out of College

## Law Has Stripped Aid From 200,000 Students With Convictions

*By Students for Sensible Drug Policy*

Washington, DC- Thousands of would-be students won't be joining their peers on college campuses across the country this semester because they were convicted of drug offenses and automatically lost their financial aid under a little-known federal law. Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP), a group with chapters on more than 70 campuses across the country, has been working to overturn the penalty since it was enacted and recently filed a class action lawsuit to challenge its constitutionality.

"Students are tired of having our access to education destroyed as collateral damage in the War on Drugs," said Kris Krane, SSDP's executive director. "For too long the Drug War has been waged supposedly to protect young

people. But we know firsthand that these punitive policies hurt us instead of help us. We won't allow this war to be waged in our names any longer."

In addition to lobbying for changes in federal law, SSDP students also work to foster sensible drug policies on their own campuses. Some chapters have worked to stop automatic dorm expulsions, to eliminate parental punishing student more harshly for marijuana than for underage drinking.

"Students on campus around the country are taking action to foster more sensible drug policies that respect and protect young people," said Krane.

This fall, SSDP is hosting an international conference and congressional lobby day in Washington, DC, November 17-19. Hundreds of students are expected to converge on the

nation's capital to learn, lobby, and network with one-another.

"Young people have had it with the War in Drugs. This is our opportunity to take our concerns directly to our lawmakers' doorsteps," said Krane.

Students interested in getting involved with SSDP's efforts to foster sensible drug policies on campus should visit <http://www.schoolnotprisons.com>

Students for Sensible Drug Policy, a national organization with college and high school chapters, is committed to providing education on harms caused by the War on Drugs, working to involve youth in the political and promoting an open, honest and rational discussion of alternating solutions to our nation's drug problem.

## One Step Closer to Being Hired

### *A Few Tips to Help You Get that Dream Job*

*By Lindsay Augustin*

If you are like most young adults, there's a chance that you're still searching for that dream job, or at least something to hold you over until a better job comes along. If this does in fact apply to you, you may find the hardest situation to overcome in a job search is the interview process. Its inevitable, certain questions will come up during the course of an interview, and for the sake of getting the job, its imperative that you are aware of the proper way to answer such questions. Don't fret, it's natural to be nervous during an interview, but with these few tips things may go a little smoother.

First and foremost remember to breathe. Letting your nerves get the best of you, could end your interview before it even starts. Remember a smile goes a long way.

You'll find, after exchanging a professional yet friendly hello with your interviewer, there is a great chance that they'll begin with a question about your future; "Where do you see yourself in the next five or ten years?" Now, your best bet for nailing this type of question is to talk about your values. This is the perfect opportunity to for you to bend your interviewer's ears about what's important to you. Just remember, employers do not care about your life plans, but they are interested in how you intend on accomplishing them.

The next and probably most important question you'll have to answer, is the dreaded "salary question." Believe it or not, there is a safe way to answer this question. Since you should already have a general idea of what the salary for this position is, when answering, it would best to provide your interviewer with a reasonable range. In other words, by simply providing a figure between your salary from your previous job, what the position calls for, and what you would like to make you can't go wrong with your answer. Obviously, this isn't the type of question you can answer on the spot, it is necessary for you to prepare your answer ahead of time. Remember a little research can go a long way.

Whether this is the first or last question an interviewer will ask you to tell them something about yourself, in other words reassure them on why you should get the job. The most important thing for you to remember when replying is to show confidence and honesty about your abilities. Find ways to turn your negative attributes into positive ones and don't be afraid to talk about the things you do best. If you find it difficult

to praise yourself, rehearsing your answer ahead of time may give you that extra bit of confidence needed to wow an interviewer.

Now, this next question may seem a bit odd, but its not uncommon. "If you were a tree, animal, or car, what type would you be?" Given the fact that this question has absolutely nothing to do with the job, it is understandable for you not to have a prepared answer. Truth be told the only reason why an interviewer would throw in a question like this is to see how well you cope under pressure and deal with the unexpected. Just remember what you choose to be is not as important as how you back up your answer. Choosing to be an oak tree instead of an evergreen will not be the deciding factor in what gets you the job, but explaining you would like to be an oak because you want to reach new heights in your career, may help. You'll find that any answer along that line will please just about any interviewer.

Going on an interview can be extremely nerve wrecking and will be the more unprepared you are. Hopefully by using these few tips as a guideline, you'll be one step closer to hearing, "you're hired."

Phi Beta Sigma & Gamma Nu Delta  
*invite you to a*

## DATING AUCTION

Friday, November 3, 2006  
NAC Ballroom, 7 PM

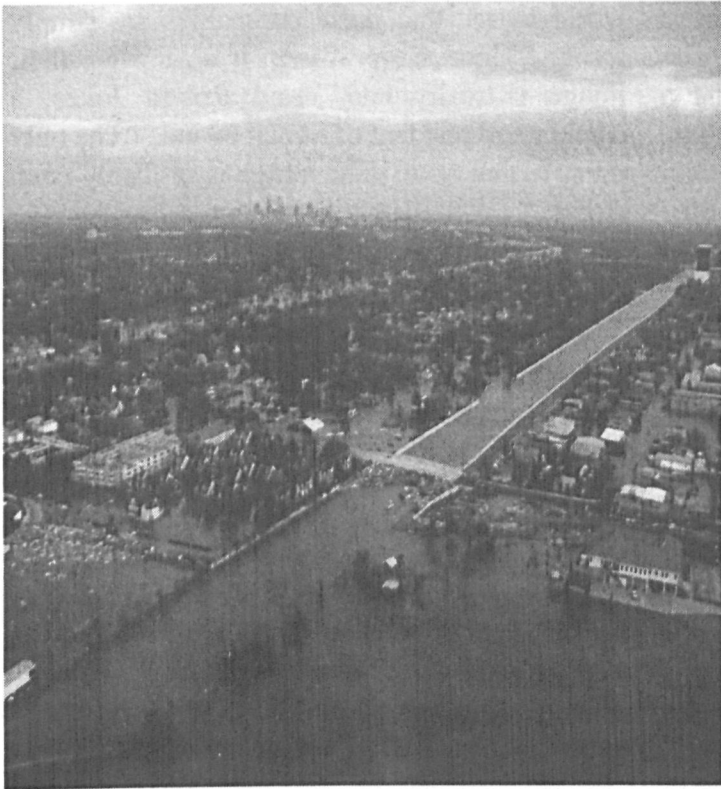
*To sign up call:*  
Frank: 917.747.5987  
Shante: 917.771.5687

*Or email:*  
[ccnydateauction@yahoo.com](mailto:ccnydateauction@yahoo.com)

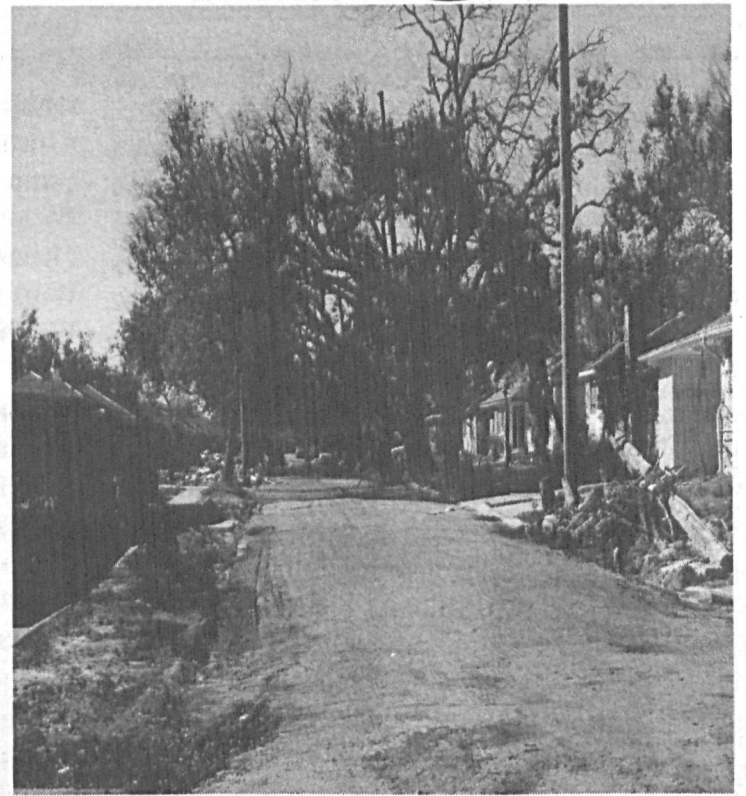
*Come bid on the school's finest guys and gals!*



# “The City that Care Forgot”



*Left:  
New Orleans days after Katrina  
hit.*



*Right:  
New Orleans months after the  
storm.*

*By Lindsie Augustin*

On August 29<sup>th</sup> 2005, Hurricane Katrina devastated the New Orleans area. The category five storm claimed the lives of an estimated 1,500 individuals and left over a half a million without homes. As catastrophic as Katrina was, matters only worsened when the feeble levees built to protect New Orleans breached, leaving many areas in the path of death. For days after Katrina initially hit, residents were left to fend for themselves, without so much as food, water, or medical care and to top it all off, they were forced to endure the heat and stench of the bodies of their families, friends, and neighbors rotting around them. Now, 14 months after Katrina brought her wrath down on New Orleans, many are still questioning why the situation was able to escalate to the horrific level that it did.

Prior to the storms arrival, New Orleans government officials were aware of the potential damage Katrina could cause on the area already built six feet below sea level. However, even with the mountains of data predicting Katrina's deadly path, their response was still exceedingly inadequate. In fact, a mandatory evacuation was only put in to effect two days before the storm was due to hit the New Orleans area. Unfortunately, the evacuation was useless, since so many residents relied on public transportation and the government failed to provide the stranded residents with a way out of New Orleans.

Having dealt with many hurricanes prior to Katrina and feeling comfort in “knowing” the levee walls would protect them, the remaining residents felt they had no reason to worry about their safety. Little did they know the levees they entrusted their lives to would be no match to Katrina's tropical force winds and heavy rains. - in actuality, the levees were designed to only withstand a moderate category three storm and were in no way capable to sustain the category five storm that was Katrina.

For months after the storm, government officials continuously claimed, the damage caused by the breach of the levees were

“unpredictable.” However, believing such a statement to be true proved difficult, especially considering the amount of data showing what would happen if a category five hurricane were to hit New Orleans. In 2004, Hurricane Pam, a fictitious storm, was created by the National Weather Service, the US Army Corps of Engineers, and the LSU Hurricane Center, along with other state and federal agencies. Hurricane Pam used realistic weather scenarios to attempt to develop a response for a disastrous hurricane in Louisiana. Pam brought with her winds of 120 mph, close to 20 inches of rain in certain sections of southeast Louisiana as well as storm surges that toppled the levees in the New Orleans area. From the data, it was clear that only a third of residents would be able to evacuate New Orleans before the storm hit, and this was largely due to the fact that an estimated 100,000 individuals did not own vehicles. Yet, after all the research and results found after Hurricane Pam “hit” New Orleans, government officials still found themselves blind sided by Katrina.

Needless to say, the lackluster recovery effort conducted by the government did nothing to ease the feelings of abandonment many New Orleans residents felt after the storm. Although, the cause of the levees failure was a direct result of a flawed design and inadequate building, many residents felt something more ominous had occurred. After the alleged dynamiting of the levees during the 1965 category four, Hurricane Betsy, residents were suspicious that the same situation took place during Katrina. In fact several residents living near the Lower Ninth Ward attest to hearing an explosion before water came pouring into their homes, however such allegations have not been supported by any evidence.

Once relief efforts finally began to take effect in New Orleans, surviving residents were provided with a one way ticket, courtesy of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), to any location as far away from Louisiana as the government could send them. While this may have seem like the long over due assistance New Orleans residents were

pinning for, the tickets did nothing but move them further away from their homes and families with essentially no way back. As for the residents who managed to return to New Orleans, they came home to find absolutely nothing: their homes demolished and many of their family members still absent and living off the charity of the states that had taken them in during their time of need.

Katrina did more than just demolish the New Orleans area, but left many U.S. citizens questioning how much the government truly cared about their well being. Director/producer Spike Lee was one the many individuals who was plagued by this question after Katrina hit, and felt it was his job and duty to tell the story of Katrina through the voice of those who experienced the horror first hand. In his HBO documentary, *When the Levees Broke: A Requiem in Four Acts*, Lee interviewed several residents as well as prominent government officials such as Governor Kathleen Blanco, Mayor Ray Nagin, and activist Al Sharpton, among others; and asked them the difficult questions many would've preferred ignore and bypass. With only one-fourth of the population back in New Orleans, Lee hoped his documentary “will bring this fiasco, this travesty, back to the attention of the American people. And maybe the public can get some politicians' ass in the government to move quicker, and be more efficient in helping our fellow American citizens in the Gulf region.”

Hurricane Katrina, was an act of nature, however that the flood that put the entire New Orleans area 80% under water and changed the lives of millions of individuals was a man made tragedy. While President Bush has gone on record promising a new levee system that would be built to pre-Katrina standard before the next hurricane season, many are left unconvinced and are unwilling to trust the government that has failed them before. Says Audrey Mason, resident of Gentilly: “If they wanted us back in New Orleans they wouldn't have tried to drown us and kill us, so I'm not going back so they could finish it off.”



# Nicotine Levels On the Rise

By Maurice Selby

As if targeting teens with sophisticated ad campaigns and marketing gimmicks wasn't dastardly enough, a recent study has found that the nicotine levels in cigarettes have increased significantly in the last six years. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health reported that the amount of nicotine in most cigarette brands has increased more than 10% from 1998 to 2004.

While no one is exactly sure how this will affect smokers and others that try it, many experts believe this could lead to current smokers experiencing more difficulty when trying to quit while at the same time making it easier for others to become addicted. In a statement to Voice of America, a spokeswoman for Philip Morris, one of the largest manufacturers of cigarettes in the United States, said their company is evaluating the report and that they "will have no comment at this time."

Dr. Jeffrey Wigand, the key witness in a case that claimed that tobacco companies intentionally adjusted nicotine levels to increase addiction, was among those not surprised by the results of the study, as he has intimate knowledge of the tactics tobacco companies use to increase

their bottom line. Dr. Wigand was a research executive for the Brown and Williamson tobacco company and ended up becoming a whistleblower that ultimately brought cigarette companies to their knees.

"Hook 'em young. Hook 'em for life." I heard that mantra day in and day out," said Dr. Wigand in reference to his days at Brown and Williamson.

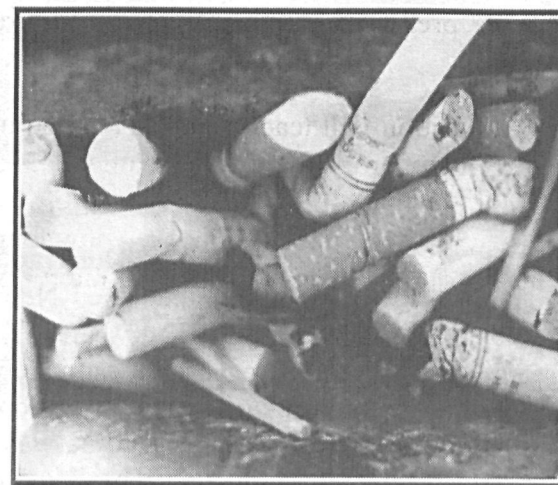
Dr. Jana Johnson of the North Carolina Division of Public Health believes that the increase will indeed make it tougher for people to quit. "This study suggests that individual smokers may be inhaling more nicotine, but it still doesn't mean it is impossible to quit."

Massachusetts is among three states in the country that requires tobacco companies to disclose the results of nicotine levels. Of the 116 brands tested in the study, 92 showed steady increases in nicotine levels over a six year period. 52 of these brands showed increases of more than 10%. Marlboro, the cigarette of choice for many high school kids, was found to have nicotine levels that increased more than 12 percent. Kool menthol lights, which are preferred as many as two thirds of African American smokers, increased by 30 percent in its nicotine content.

"I don't think it's pretty plain for the

world to see that these companies are simply trying to increase profits in a time when their image is really bad," said Robert Jones, a smoker and resident of Staten Island. "The only thing is that now, their image is probably even worse."

Many people believe that these increases are the tobacco companies' response to various national anti-smoking campaigns that have only recently became more aggressive in their work to help people quit, and stop others from starting the habit. "I don't think it's a coincidence that the nicotine levels have increased now that we have all these ads telling people to leave (cigarettes) alone," said Robert Jones.



## New York Health Type 2 Diabetes: A Major Health Problem for New York

(NAPS) – Diabetes is growing into a major health problem in New York, where more than 1 million adults have the disease. On average, about one out of every 12 New Yorkers has diabetes.

The most common form of diabetes is type 2 diabetes; which accounts for 90 - 95 percent of all diagnosed cases. Type 2 diabetes tends to affect certain ethnic groups more than others. African Americans and Hispanic/Latino Americans are at higher risk for developing the disease. For example, surveys conducted by the New York Health Department show that Puerto Rican immigrants are almost twice as likely to develop diabetes as non-Hispanic whites. While type 2 diabetes used to be referred to as "adult onset diabetes" because it occurred in people over the age of 40 doctors are seeing it in much younger people.

### New York's Diabetes Health Is in Jeopardy

A national report issued last year by the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists (AACE) showed that nearly three out of every four New Yorkers with type 2 diabetes analyzed in this study had blood sugar levels that were not in control - their blood sugar levels were higher than the target of 6.5 percent recommended by AACE.

The study found the same results for some of New York's larger cities like New York City, Albany, and Syracuse. In each city, almost 70 percent of the people with type 2 diabetes did

not have their blood sugar under control.

### High Blood Sugar Can Lead to Serious Health Problems

Poorly controlled type 2 diabetes can affect many parts of the body. Over time, high blood sugar can increase the risk of stroke and heart attack. In fact, heart disease is the number one cause of death in people with type 2 diabetes. The disease can cause eye problems and may lead to blindness. Diabetes can cause foot ulcers, nerve damage (neuropathy), which can affect feeling in arms, hands, legs or feet, and cause people to lose sensitivity to pain.

"The poor rates of blood sugar control should serve as a wake-up call that we need to do more to help New Yorkers manage their diabetes," said Dr. Raul Vazquez, Urban Family Practice. "We have a potential health crisis on our hands and we must ensure that patients have access to care and the most effective diabetes medicines. We must work together as a medical community, to stop this rising epidemic before it takes a tremendous toll on the future health of our state."

### Good Diabetes Management Is Key

"New Yorkers can take control of this disease that is having such a devastating impact on our state," said Jerome Tolbert, MD, endocrinologist, Cabrini Medical Center. "People with diabetes need to know that the decisions they make each day play a big part in managing their condition. As doctors on the front lines of

this battle, we have to be able to give our patients the best available medicines to help them get and keep their blood sugar down."

The corner stones of good diabetes management include healthy eating, being physically active, seeing your doctor or other healthcare professional, and, when appropriate, taking one or medicines. Diabetes medicines work in different ways to lower blood sugar levels. As many patients have to take more than one pill to control their blood sugar, physicians need access to a variety of medicines to help manage diabetes.

In addition, people should monitor their blood sugar at home to check whether their blood sugar is in control. People with type 2 diabetes should also ask their doctor for an A1C test, which shows a person's average blood sugar over the previous two to three months, and work with their doctor to set an A1C goal that is right for them.

Patients need to think of their doctor and other healthcare professionals as partners and together make a plan that will help them lower and control their blood sugar. It's time New Yorkers with type 2 diabetes to take charge of their disease and try to prevent the serious complications of diabetes.

Go to [www.diabetes.com](http://www.diabetes.com) to learn more about managing type 2 diabetes.

This health information is provided by GlaxoSmithKline.



## A Look Into the Past

### Commentary

# A Rat Race of Survival

By Orlando Mc Allister

Originally published February 24, 1987

Welcome graduating seniors and aspiring underclassmen to the "rat race for the survival of the fittest." Are you prepared to hunt in life's jungle of survival? Awaken fellow Beavers to the realities of a disoriented society, where the needed aren't greedy and the greedy aren't needed. We live in a perplexed world full of anxieties and ironies, where thousands upon thousands of atomic bombs exist and the fact of not being able to fight fires exist. Fellow students, in your minds dwells the preserving creative seed for future generations.

Education will teach and/or train you in four years about problem solving techniques and the development of critical thinking abilities in a complex world. But upon graduation, how long will it take you to be given the opportunity by

your employers to be promoted to a respectable and motivating position?

Self-confidence in your skills and abilities can instill the needed security in your request for respect and recognition. A cohesive and well-integrated mind will inevitably lead you into a position of great strength and leadership, allowing you to penetrate and expose the negative influences of those who dare to exploit you and impede your progress. Transcend the wall of inertia and insecurity by being optimistic and committed in understanding the essential characteristics and nature of the work you do.

We, the students of a pioneering age, must seek out teachers of sound mind so that they may lead us in the path of growth and sustenance. Some of you will be exploited by your employers in terms of low pay, excessive overtime, added pressures, trivial pursuits and disrespect. Ask yourself if your employer and his

constituent share holders nominate you as a prime candidate for the "Chairman of the Board" post for your devotion, sincerity, professionalism, and productive abilities displayed throughout you years of employment?

We must not allow our creative impulses and productive skills to stagnate. Let us work together for the development of the community and the world at large, and yes, for "survival." From the Industrial Revolution to the present, modern man has been psychologically brain-washed and placed into the precarious position of never examining the intent and purposes of the global employment apparatus. Ignite the spark of intelligence within your mind fellow Beavers and learn to think analytically, systematically, innovatively, creatively, and most of all, ethically, towards the development of an advanced civilization we can all be a functional part of.

## The Rich History of Black Studies

By Krishan Trotman

Originally published March 2002

There has been a major controversy concerning the educational curriculum created in the Black Studies Department at City College, a department that takes students on a new experience where Blacks have a history beyond slavery and Jim Crow laws. The Black Studies Department has made its own contribution to Black history, due to the intense struggle and effort put forth by prominent leaders in their continuous effort to keep the department active.

The Black Studies Department focuses on the "Africanness of Black people," a term commonly used by Dr. Leonard Jeffries of the Black Studies Department. Africanness derives from the idea that the Black mind has to be redirected from the idea that the Middle Passage, slavery, Jim Crow, modern racism, police brutality, and many other degradations of African culture renders it inferior and points the Black mind toward the [primacy] of African cultures. The Black Studies Department's curriculum was formed in 1971 to re-socialize Black people with their Africanness, which is their culture whether they were born in America, the Caribbean, or Africa. The need for Africans in the Diaspora to be re-socialized was acknowledged, and the Black Studies Department was brought forth as a tool of educational exploration for the African people.

The Black Studies Department was a part of Urban Ethnic Studies in 1969, but divided from the pie in 1971 when Robert Marshak, the President of City College, during the 70s put into works an urban model of a college that differed in relation with the standard "Harvard" design. Marshak's Urban Design at City College as created to service the people of New York. Marshak worked cohesively with Blacks and Latinos to make City College an urban school, which during the development did not undermine the needs of the community. Marshak a man of Jewish descent, helped to make CCNY a flagship for people of African descent so they could have the educational and mental resources to seize the world by storm.

Marshak's support in the implementation of the Black Studies Department helped to create a new reality for Blacks. CCNY's department became the largest Black Studies Department in the country from 1972 - 1982. The curriculum, at the height of the department, encompassed the study of Africa, the Caribbean and Black America in the sum of fifty courses per semester taught by 22 professors, with an average enrollment of 4,000 students per year. The Black Studies Department helped to enable the Marshak design to be developed and maintained by bringing various opportunities and fundamental links such as Spohie Davis Medical Center, Greenberg Law Center, and development of an overseas summer experience in the Caribbean and Africa, the largest group of tenured Black professors, community-based

internships, scholars from abroad, visiting authors, et cetera., et cetera.

The list of credits and contributions that the Black Studies Department made in the development if City College could run much longer, but the question arises of why is the Black Studies Department receiving a smaller number of classes and fewer students? Why are fewer Black students interested in learning more about their heritage in a school that is covered predominantly with individuals of African descent? The brilliant minds that lay behind the history of the Black Studies Department is reason enough to take one of its courses, such as Dr. Jeffries, Professor M.A. Samad-Matias, Dr. Francis Butchwey, Dr. Courdy, Professor Ogunade, Professor Moyibi Amoda, Dr. Prezi Kamunanwire, Professor Eugenia Bain, and Professor James Small. All of these individuals come from an long line of professional Black role models who have worked hard for the study of Blacks to exist in CCNY's curriculum.

The Black Studies Department created the legacy of being a voice for the Black communities of the world when they shouted the Black history. When these leaders stood in front of the classes and spoke of the Egyptians as Blacks and the pyramids made from Black hands, when they taught their students to carry Africanness to engineering or science buildings, when they stood in Cornell armed and ready to fight so that their ancestors, parents and personal Africanness be recognized, they knew that the past and the future matters and so should you.



*A Look Into the Past*

# Students Lend Direction to Black Studies Convention

By Selwyn Carter

Originally Published Monday May 1, 1978

On the weekend of April 15, when some 15,000 people were demonstrating against Bakke in Washington D.C., I was in Amherst Massachusetts, attending the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention of the National Council for Black Studies. This event, which attracted approx. 200 people from across the U. S., was held at the University of Massachusetts (U MASS); a school where Blacks make up less than 800 out of a population of 26,000.

The convention opened on Saturday April 15 at 7:00pm, with speeches from persons who, seemingly, were ignorant of the conditions under which Black Studies was born. What shocked most of the audience was that these persons attempted to examine Black Studies' intrusion, maintenance, and survival on American colleges and universities without considering one underlying factor, **Black Students**. The most extreme of these opening presentations came from a Negro representative of the Federal Government. The tone of his speech was that it was the 'benevolence' of the Federal Government which was responsible for the creation, and maintenance, of Affirmative Action and Black Studies programs. He completely ignored and undermined the Black community's struggle, insulted several of the conference participants, who were directly involved in the Black Studies movement. One couldn't have imagined a worse beginning for a Black Studies convention.

Totally upset with the direction set by this opening session the students present, spearheaded by members of the National Black Students' Association, held three hour meeting at the end of Saturday night's proceedings. At this meeting, which occurred while others were busy partying, the students voiced their concerns with what transpired in the opening session and proceeded to examine the convention's overall direction. The latter was accomplished through a thorough analysis of the weekend's schedule. It became clear, just from studying the workshops' structure and content, that the entire convention was called to serve the selfish needs of an elitist clique within the organization, and not to address the serious issues of Black Studies' survival during this period of **rollback**.

The students presented their grievances and recommended changes at the opening plenary session on Sunday April 16. The first of these modifications was a proposal to include a speaker (on students' role in the creation, maintenance and survival of Black Studies) among those scheduled to address general body in the morning session.

To accommodate this speaker, and discussion around the other recommended changes, the students succeeded in getting the convention's participants to vote on resolutions emanating from the workshops.

The scheduled speakers for the morning session were Bertha Maxwell, outgoing NCBS chairwoman, and John Bracey, Chairman of the W.E.B. Dubois Department of Afro American Studies at U Mass. To speak for them on students' role in the creation, maintenance and survival of Black Studies, the students chose Akbar Muhammad Ahmad, a graduate student in Atlanta Georgia. Without a doubt he was chosen because of his consistent involvement and leadership role in the struggle for Black liberation in general and the Black Studies movement in particular, from 1961 through the present. Akbar's presentation, which turned out to be a major one, spoke directly to the issue of Black Studies' survival by correctly linking its origins to the Black Liberation Movement. He traced this movement throughout the 1960's, in particular the period from 1967-1970, when Black students all over the country took over administration buildings demanding Black Studies. According to him the turning point in the Black Student movement came in 1967 when "a group of Howard University's students engaged in a rechanneling of the student body's values toward changing Howard from 'a negro college with white innards' to a Black university relevant to the needs of a Black community and its struggles... Black students at other colleges began to pick up on what was going on at Howard and by 1968 the Black Studies rebellion had swept San Francisco State College and on the campuses (white and negro) across the country, and had spread as well to Black High Schools. By 1969 the Black Studies revolt had hit over 50 negro colleges alone." Akbar, himself a former Black Studies instructor at U Mass, reminded the Black Studies professors that **their degrees don't excuse them from struggle. "I have a degree and I may soon have a masters and even a Ph. D., but to Black students and the community I will always be 'AK'."** He cautioned them that they are the role models of Black students and as such their behavior must be up to par. They must provide positive examples for Black students to emulate. For those who pretended not to hear the students' viewpoints, or attempted to dismiss them (and there were some) several professors stood up and reemphasized what the students said. **"It is not a question of student vs. faculty; it is a question of political line. Are we here attempting to relegate Black Studies to the level of just another academic discipline, or are we going to open our eyes and**

**see that Black Studies can't be detached from the Black Liberation Struggle."** That comment, coming from a Ph.D., served to unify many progressive teachers within the National Council and forced other members to seriously deal with the issue of Black Studies' survival. The overall discussion in that plenary session had such an impact that, a position statement released by several faculty stated, **"as a result of the discussion at the NCBS opening plenary session on April 16, 1978, a number of people were moved to serious consideration of the goals of NCBS and the formulation of objectives, tactics, and strategy for the survival of Black Studies."**

The above mentioned position paper was only one of the several others emanating from the workshops. Among the resolutions, which were all adopted, were two presented by the progressive faculty calling for (1) NCBS to adopt formal guidelines for Black Studies and (2) that NCBS encourage that use of the text *Introduction to Afro American Studies* and call on Black Studies programs to join in the effort to criticize and make it better. In addition, a resolution was adopted calling for NCBS to recognize a student chosen committee which will encourage other students to join the organization. The students also succeeded in getting the organization to adopt a resolution calling for the NCBS to take an **anti-Bakke** position as well as one calling for **total U.S. economic and military withdrawal from southern Afrika [Africa]**, and inform, President Carter, the press and African delegates at the U.N. of their position.

The conference on the whole was a productive one; however it is now up to the executive board of the NCBS to decide whether or not to implement the adopted resolutions.

*The Simon H. Rifkind Center and  
The English Department present:*

## *The Heroic Young Woman* Book Party

*A multi-ethnic collection of original  
fairytales, fables, and folktales edited  
by Pam Laskin*

*Includes works from many former  
CCNY Students*

**Bring your young ones!**

Thursday, November 9, 2006  
5:00 - 7:00pm ~ Shepard Hall 250



# A Look Into the Past

## Night

By Tom Mitchelson

Originally published November 1, 1973

sunsets and  
 stellar uprisings  
 close my days and  
 open my eyes  
     to self  
 sounds and silences of conga rhythms  
     shrill voices and  
 abandoned moans of lovers  
 wrap themselves in  
 warm blankets of darkness  
 regenerating  
 regurgitating pulses  
     throbs  
 pounding rushes  
 of life thru times' veins...  
 night faces  
 long drawn  
     tired faces  
 turn their backs on  
     day light  
 and begin the second phase  
     of life  
     night life  
     come life  
     speak life sing to me

blk songs of love  
     and hate  
 for this night  
     each night  
 we celebrate  
 the rising of the moon  
 the blk falling of the days  
 secrets  
 we celebrate the cooling winds  
 and the rising spirits of  
 coal/dusk.  
 we all come together  
 to rejoice  
 the re/union of the blk light  
 w/our blk selves  
 we clap our hands  
 move our feet  
 dance and shout  
 dance and shout and  
 sing w/a million spirits  
 swinging in our walk  
 dipping in our talk  
 fingers poppin  
 shoulders rockin  
 glidin in our stride  
 dance yeah  
 dance spirits  
 dance fine mama  
 dance to blk songs of truth  
     be truth

doooo-bop  
 dance and sing  
 croon      croon  
 my man  
 yea-bo  
 sing the words  
     love words  
 known and felt  
 yet unspoken soft  
     tender  
     love words  
 dance and sing brother  
 rap at me  
     to me  
     for me  
 be the light  
 be the spirit  
 be the life  
 love life...  
 at night i  
 rejoice w/  
 my spirits  
 dance w/  
 my devils  
 at night  
 but to u,  
     i as just walkin down  
     a dark street.

## the spirit Of...

Are you what your words are?  
 yours should be revelations  
 vibrating thru the universe as energy  
 Energy as motion,  
 lifegiving/lifesustaining

Our string voices shall offer incantations of love  
 from ourselves to ourselves,  
 ascending with our spirits as  
**BLACK MAGIC PEOPLES**  
 a new nation of righteousness.

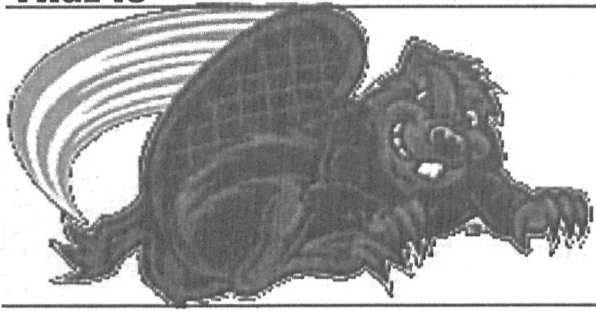
the gods we are ourselves  
 exist harmoniously in the universe,  
 spread peace and tranquility  
 and a holy message of unity  
 and understanding

we are alpha and omega  
 extensions of the Master Creator,  
 fragments of the Supreme Life Force  
 Father/Ruler/Radiant Energy/God  
 Spiritual Consciousness

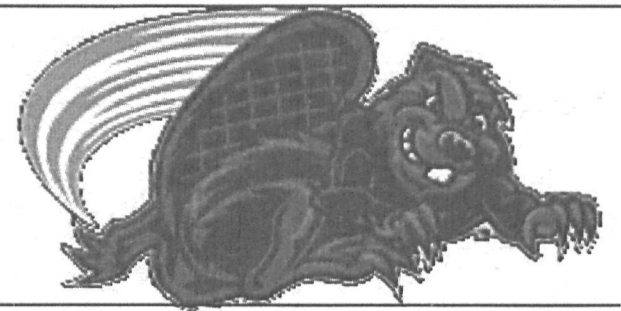
- By Linard Scott  
 Humbly restructured by  
 Dorothy Randall Gray

Originally published May 7, 1974





# Sports



## Yankees' Big Loss

By Deborah D. Rivera

An airplane owned by New York Yankees pitcher Cory F. Lidle crashed into a 50-story condominium in Manhattan's Upper East Side, killing at least two people including Lidle. Records at the Federal Aviation Administration show that the four-seat Cirrus SR20 plane was registered to Lidle. The airplane departed from New Jersey's Teterboro airport at 2:30pm. The plane took a normal pattern down the Hudson River and appears to have circled the Statue of Liberty, headed up the East River and fell off the radar at 59th street. About 15 minutes later Lidle's plane crashed into the 40th floor of The Belaire, a red brick tower overlooking the East River about 5 miles from the World Trade Center. Two other apartments on the 41st floor were damaged from the impact.

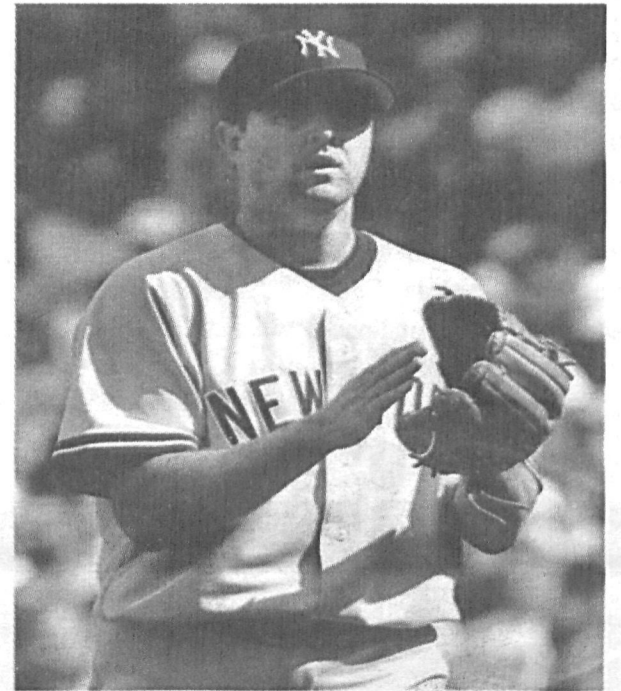
Witnesses say there was a loud bang which caused a raging fire that cast a pillar of black smoke over the city and sent flames shooting on two adjoining floors and flaming debris onto the sidewalk. The plane had issued a distress call before the crash, according to a law enforcement official in Washington, who

also said there were two people aboard the plane, and Lidle's passport was found at the crash scene. MLB commissioner Bud Selig said "All of baseball is shocked and terribly saddened by the sudden and tragic passing of Cory Lidle. Cory was only 34 years old and had played in the major leagues for nine seasons with seven different clubs. He leaves a young wife, Melanie, and a young son, Christopher. Our hearts go out to them on this terrible day."

Before coming to the Yankees, Lidle pitched with Philadelphia Phillies. He began his career with the New York Mets in 1997, and has also pitched for Tampa Bay Devil Rays, Oakland Athletics, Toronto Blue Jays and Cincinnati Reds. In 1995 Lidle was a replacement player, when major-leaguers were on strike, for this he was an outcast with some teammates throughout his career. Lidle's career was 82-72 with two saves and a 4.57 ERA.

"Right now, I am really in a state of shock, as I am sure the entire MLB family is. My thoughts are with Cory's relatives and the loved ones of the others who were injured or killed in this plane crash. I have known Cory and his wife, Melanie, for over 18 years and

watched his son grow up. We played high school ball together and have remained close throughout our careers. We were excited to be reunited in New York this year and I am just devastated to hear this news," said Yankees first baseman Jason Giambi, Lidle's teammate with Oakland in 2001.



Cory Lidle  
March 22, 1972 - October 11, 2006

## Upcoming Games

(All games are subject to change)

### Men's Soccer

10/14	Brooklyn <sup>1</sup>	12:00pm	A
10/16	Kean <sup>1</sup>	4:00pm	H
10/18	City Tech <sup>1</sup>	3:30pm	A
10/25	CUNYAC Quarter <sup>1</sup> Finals	2:00pm	A
10/28	Semifinals <sup>1</sup> CUNYAC	11:00/1:00pm	A
11/14	Championships <sup>1</sup>	1:00pm	A

### Women's Fencing

11/12	Vassar <sup>4</sup>	10:00am	A
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### Women's Soccer

10/16	Polytechnic University <sup>1</sup>	3:30pm	A
10/21	St. Elizabeth <sup>1</sup>	12:00pm	H
10/29	Hudson Valley <sup>1</sup>	TBA	A
11/2	Tournament Hudson Valley <sup>1</sup>	TBA	A
11/5	Tournament Hudson Valley <sup>1</sup> Championship	1:00pm	A

### Women's Tennis

10/17	CUNYAC Quarterfinals <sup>1</sup>	3:00pm	A
10/20	CUNYAC Semifinals @ NTC <sup>1</sup>	TBA	A
10/21	CUNYAC Finals @ NTC <sup>1</sup>	TBA	A

### Women's Volleyball

10/17	Medgar Evers <sup>1</sup>	7:00pm	H
10/17	Medgar Evers <sup>1</sup>	7:00pm	H
10/20	Skidmore Tournament <sup>1</sup>	TBA	A
10/20	Skidmore Tournament <sup>1</sup>	TBA	A
10/21	Skidmore Tournament <sup>1</sup>	TBA	A
10/21	Skidmore Tournament <sup>1</sup>	TBA	A
10/24	Montclair State <sup>1</sup>	5:00pm	H
10/24	Staten Island <sup>1</sup>	7:00pm	H
10/24	Staten Island <sup>1</sup>	7:00pm	H
10/28	New Jersey City <sup>1</sup>	1:00pm	A
	@Stevens Tech		
10/28	Stevens Tech <sup>1</sup>	1:00pm	A
10/28	Stevens Tech <sup>1</sup>	6:00/8:00pm	A
	CUNYAC		
10/31	Tournament @ Hunter	6:00/8:00pm	A
	CUNYAC <sup>1</sup>		
11/2	Tournament <sup>1</sup> @ Hunter	5:00/7:00pm	A

### General info

1	CUNYAC
2	Double Header Game
3	Hudson Valley Conference
4	EWFC (Eastern Women's Fencing Conference)