

# THE PAPER

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.

CITY COLLEGE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK IN HARLEM

Volume LI No. 3

A Medium For All People Of African Descent

February 22, 1996

## Mayor Giuliani Attends Malcolm Shabazz Masjid

BY ALI RAHMAN

History was made in Harlem on Friday, January 19, 1996.

An historical event that will leave a lasting impression on the writers of history.

It was the first time ever in the history of New York City, that a Mayor accepted an invitation to attend 'Jumu'ah' prayer at Malcolm Shabazz Mosque. Friday is traditionally 'The Muslim Sabbath.' It is primarily called the 'Day of Assembly,' a weekly meeting of the congregation.

Ramadhan is a time for millions of Muslim all over of the world to reflect on the remembrance of 'Allah' and his Prophet Muhammad. The Holy Qur'an was sent down in the 9th month of the lunar calendar, to Prophet Muhammad 1400 years ago. 'The Holy days, are observed by praying, meditating, fasting, and reading 'The Qur'an.'

Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, graciously accepted the

invitation from Imam Izak-El Mu'Heed Pasha, Muslim elected leader of Malcolm Shabazz Masjid. Mr. Giuliani made one request, could he be allowed to stay for the entire Khutba (sermon). The Mayor sat in his chair leaning forward, listening intently to every word spoken by Imam Pasha. It

was a simple and eloquent khutba. The Imam spoke articulately about Ramadhan, belief in one God, Mohammed, his last messenger, the pillars of Islam, the articles of faith, Zakat (Charity) praying five times a day and the pilgrimage to Mecca.

However, once the foundation of the sermon was delivered, Imam Pasha, began introducing the message to a broader community. He spoke on one of his favorite subjects, (Family) and our human-relationships with them. The words were plain and simple, "We are all Human-Beings! Men and Women, Husbands and wives, struggling hard to want to be the best, providers for our families. However, we don't always get what we want from our wives, or our children, do we? These few human words touched the minds and feeling of those present. A warm glow descended upon the people in the mosque. The Ummat, (Brotherhood) began shredding away some of the suspicions, fears, and doubts. I watched the Mayor, and all his security force, that surrounded him. Their facial expressions, were hard as stone, and cold like a wall of ice. But, slowly, a new picture began to develop. Because the words spoken made an impression that melted away their hard physical exterior. Mayor Giuliani,

became relax, his was laughing, and smiling. At this time, The Mayor's, posture now was sitting straight back in his chair.

For a moment, I reflected quietly on the his-

tory of the Mosque and the area, 116th street and Lenox Avenue, Malcolm X. Blvd. History is best qualified to reward all research. I remember, the early sixties and the name called "Murderer's Row Inc., and Junkies Paradise." That was the code name for Central Harlem (116 th street.) Gang's, the 'Umbrella Man from El Barrio', and Black folks were killing each other wholesale.

The neighborhood environment was polluted. With drugs, prostitution, urine stench hallways, and abandon buildings. It was unsafe for our families, mothers, wives, daughters, and young children to walk the streets. Every Friday and Saturday nights, you heard loud, and incoherent noise! called music, from the local dance hall. Black



Mayor Giuliani Attends Malcolm Shabazz Masjid

Photo Credit: Ali Rahman

folks dancing and drinking, and often times you heard screams in the wee hours of the morning. And often times, alarming sirens of ambulances, arriving to pick up knife wounded, mutilated bodies lying in the gutter. The gun blazing battles were like a scene straight out of "Dodge City's" wild west movie.

Around this time, there appeared on the scene a young gospel singer who began recording for the R&B circuit. Sam Cook had a hit record at this time *Giuliani, continued on page 14*

## Remembering Our Heritage

BY NNEOMA NJOKU

What started the Civil War? What was the Cold War all about? Who was the War of 1812 between? In a page or two, can you give a brief summary of World War I & World War II? Who was Abe Lincoln and what was he known for?

Without a doubt, a good 70% - 85% of you can answer these questions without a problem. That's good. But how many of you know exactly how Black Slavery began? What countries in Africa did the first set of slaves come from? Who is Melvin Van Peebles?

Many people may know the answers to these questions, but not as great as 70% - 85%. Why? Though Black History is not widely taught in classrooms around the country, there are books in the libraries and on the

shelves of most book stores, and elective courses in some colleges that can teach us "Black History".

Though these books and courses are available year round, February, Black History Month, is a great opportunity to learn where to find our history because during this time of the year, more information is made available to us, about the wheres and whats and hows of Black History.

It will also be a good opportunity for those in position to spread Black History to start (if they haven't already).

Not to take credit away from Malcolm X, Dr. Martin Luther King, Frederick Douglas, W.E.B. Dubois etc. and those who have spread their words, but there is so much more to the history of Black people than these people.

What about the history of where

we came from, Africa, and how it affects us today? What about the great Black people who's names we rarely hear? □



Bronze panels from Benin, Nigeria

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# Editorial

February, coincidentally the shortest month of the year is, as we know, Black History Month (BHM). Each year, around this time, cable networks and T.V. channels schedule a range of "Black movies" and "Black documentaries" to be shown, Barnes & Nobles, Borders Book Stores and other book stores' sales go up due to an increase in "Black History Books" sold. Libraries are suddenly full with people trying to read about Black History and write papers for class. Professors and teachers, from grade school through college, assign a report on research pertaining "Black History" and so on. All this is nice, but have you even stopped to think we (Black People) are being patron-

ized? Have you ever stopped to think that this becoming a commercialized holiday? Do you really think that we need a month dedicated to Our heritage? It will be nice if we dedicate February to our heritage and follow up the rest of the year. It seems like we are not aware of these marvelous books on the shelves of Barnes & Nobles from March - January. It seems like we don't know that Black History books sit on the library shelves collecting dust after we put them down in February till the next year. Why? Is it just me, or does someone else see it this way?

History is important because until we learn and understand our history, we won't be able to plan for the future

properly.

Most of us believe we know who we are, but if we don't know how we got here, why we got here or what happened before we got here, then we don't really know who we are.

Let us all make a resolution. Let us make every week "Black History Week". Let us all learn or read a little about our history, and our heritage. Let us learn about ourselves a little bit each week. Let us make a habit of it so, when February of next year comes around, we can celebrate what we learned this year.

By the way, Black History is not just a Black thing. No matter what your race is, there is something to be learned from the history of Black people.

## Letter to the Editor:

I think it is terrible that The College is bringing discipline charges against David Suker, Vice-President of the Graduate Student Government.

David has been a bold and tireless fighter against the budget cuts to The College and CUNY. He has helped organize protest rallies, participated in informational forums, testified before the CUNY Board of Trustees and the

state legislature, lobbied in Albany, and engaged in civil disobedience. In the course of his efforts, he has naturally come into some conflict with The College administration. But the administration should keep things in perspective; it shouldn't lose sight of the big picture. We are in a battle for the survival of The College as a first-rate institution, and we need students

such as David to win this fight. It's petty and divisive to bring David up on charges because of some heated exchanges with administration officials. All of us—faculty, students, and administrators—should be joining forces against the devastating assault on our great college and university.

Bill Crain, Professor  
Department of Psychology

**To the Editor:** "Executive Vice President Vahid McLaughlin's Statement Regarding the Erroneous Attack in 'The Paper' November 16, 1995"

The odd and perplexing article run by **The Paper** in the November 16, 1995 issue under the heading of "Student Government", was indeed a peculiar little cup of tea, filled to the brim with hypocrisy and tawdry appeal. I find myself, a student and student governor at City College, wondering why and for what purpose someone would want to muster the energy to launch a personal attack against me, when I'm sure its quite obvious that we all have better things to do these days. I find it absurd to actually respond to such propagandized

journalism, but it seems like the only fair thing to do. And besides, I'm sure a little fun for the holidays won't hurt.

Let me say first that if it were not for the spelling and grammatical errors in the attack piece/opinion article, as well as the spiteful and absolutely inane language, I might actually have taken this seriously.

The article's most salient feature is its anonymity. Who wrote this? and why? The reader is left to fend for themselves, clearly with only the understanding that Mr. McLaughlin is a "liar" and a "demagogue". And that he throws around scornful accusations and indictments almost wantonly, charging his "friends" in the student government

with irrelevant misdeeds based on his own idiosyncratic ideologies. What harebrained fellow he must be! And given the fact that the article lacks any author, can we assume that they speak on behalf of everyone in the student government, too? No. They do not speak on behalf of the DSG.

Fact: Curtis LeBlanc and Shahabuddeen Ally, the Treasurer and Campus Affairs Vice President of the Day Student Government, wrote that letter to several people and distributed it in a much smaller fashion not too long ago, with their names attached. Imagine my surprise when I saw that same letter published in **The Paper** anonymously.

*Letter, continued on page 5*

## Letter from the Editor:

As the Editor-in-Chief of The Paper, my duty is to see to it that our readers; City College faculty, staff and students and the City College Community, informed of what are going on on campus and in the community. It is, however impossible for me to do this without a staff.

City College campus is asleep. Is it the budget cuts or do people just not care?

The Paper is run by students who also have their academic work to take care of, but are willing to spare some-time to keep you informed on what is going on on campus and the campus community.

If you look to the right, in the shaded column of this page, you will see

how many vacant positions there are. The Paper staff presently consists of two health editors, a copy editor, a photographer, a business manager and the editor-in-chief. How can we fulfill our duties as a college newspaper with such a small staff? The answer is that we can't?

I would like to use this opportunity to ask for help from the faculty, staff and students of City College. Help us be what a college newspaper should be. Articles, ideas and any form of contribution will be of great help and benefit. You do not have to be a journalism major or a writer.

To our subscribers and regular readers, we will always strive to give you our best. Feel free to call us or write to us and keep us informed on how we

may service you better.

Thank-you.

Sincerely yours,  
Nneoma E. Njoku  
Editor-in-Chief

The Paper welcomes articles from contributing writers, reader responses, letters to the editor and faculty editorials. Due to space restrictions, however, *The Paper* reserves the right to edit and condense all letters and articles. All work *must* include name & telephone number, but requests for anonymity will be honored. All work *must* also be in by the deadline.

# THE PAPER

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# Health News

## Viral Hepatitis

*Adapted from pamphlet distributed by The American Liver Foundation and the Blues Heaven Foundation*

Hepatitis causes inflammation of the liver that is associated with the damage or death of liver cells. It is classified into five different types, (Hepatitis A, B, C, D, and E) which have differing modes of transmission. There is also acute hepatitis, which eventually heals, and chronic hepatitis that causes ongoing liver problems. It is a disease that affects 1.2 million (for Chronic Hepatitis B) and 3.5 million (for Chronic Hepatitis C) people in the United States Alone. This article will focus on hepatitis A and B.

Hepatitis A was formerly known as infectious hepatitis. It is most common in children in developing countries, however, it is being seen more frequently in adults in the western world. This form of hepatitis can be transmitted orally and the most common way of contracting this is through

food or water that has been polluted with human waste. Infected food preparation workers can transmit the disease by not properly washing their hands before touching the food. Hepatitis A is not associated with liver damage nor death of liver cells. It is described as an acute illness that lasts usually four to eight weeks, however it may last as long as six months. Symptoms include nausea, loss of appetite, vomiting, fever, fatigue, and aching muscles and joints. People that carry hepatitis A may not feel ill or suffer lasting complications, however they may still infect other people.

Hepatitis B is transmitted by infected blood and body fluids. Sexual transmission is the most common means of transmitting Hepatitis B. In addition it can be transferred via intravenous drug use, tattooing, or body piercing with improperly sterilized needles or instruments. The chances of contracting hepatitis B from blood transfusions is very unlikely because

since 1972, blood banks have been tested for this virus.

Hepatitis B is considered more serious than hepatitis A because it can exist as either a short-term acute illness with symptoms similar to those of hepatitis A, or it can be a chronic long term infection that can lead to permanent liver damage. Hepatitis B can be acquired by someone without them experiencing any symptoms. Therefore, a seemingly healthy individual can be asymptomatic, however, may still be at risk for developing long-term liver disease and transmitting the disease to others. The major long-term affects of chronic hepatitis B include liver inflammation and damage that can lead to liver cirrhosis, liver failure, and an increased risk of liver cancer. Each year approximately 5,000 people die from complications of hepatitis B infections.

A vaccine that prevents hepatitis B has been available since 1982. This vaccine provides protection for all

newborns, children, adolescents and people in high-risk groups (for example, health care workers, people with multiple sex partners, and intravenous drug abusers). Individuals planning to have tattooing, body piercing, or ear piercing performed should be informed of the potential risks involved. Improperly sterilized equipment used on an infected individual can cause the transmission of hepatitis B to others.

If someone suspects they have been exposed to hepatitis B, should see their doctor about being tested. Blood tests can determine whether they are infected, are recovering from the disease, or have chronic hepatitis.

Almost everyone is at risk for contracting hepatitis. However, people who have the greatest risk are health care workers and people who have multiple sex partners, use intravenous drugs, receive tattoos, and have body piercing. The best defense against hepatitis is prevention. □

## Heroin-the white lady of death

BY DAWUD GLOVER

In the last few years there has been enormous attention given to the effects that certain illicit drugs are having on our society. Surely, many of us remember the anti-drug commercial with the young teenage girl who says "...I've been gettin' high since...since..."- indicating that she now has memory loss due to marijuana use. However, the resurgence of perhaps the world's most insidious illegal substance-heroin- is once again carving its own indelible mark on all of mankind.

The last time heroin, or smack, horse and whit lady as it is sometimes called, saw widespread usage in the United States was throughout the 1970's. It experienced a decline in use during the early 1980's because of the rising popularity of cocaine and the high price of heroin- about \$600 per gram. However, heroin prices have recently fallen to a 30-year low due to worldwide opium glut. Also, the purity of a typical heroin sample has risen from 3 to 4% in the early 70's to as high as 80% today. This drug is many more times as addictive and deadly than ever before.

Why is heroin so deadly, you ask? Well, let's first examine the origins of this drug. Heroin is the by-product, the ash, the garbage, if you will, of processed methadone (opium), which is derived from the poppy plant. Most poppies are grown throughout Asia, but are cultivable in other areas of the world as well. Numbers of usage have increased in recent years due to the

availability of China White, a purer, smokeable form of heroin. Addicts no longer need worry about sharing diseased needles for intravenous drug use.

Heroin is a sedative that robs the addict of his/her bodily functions. The muscles become totally relaxed. Tell-tale signs of heroin use are extreme slouching, instantaneous dozing (even while standing upright), loss of appetite, diarrhea, vomiting, excessive scratching, and at some point, death, which can be achieved after just one use. Obviously, this drug, and any of its pushers, is an unrelenting killer.

Interestingly, heroin is prevalent in high-profile circles. About 1 in 5 musicians playing in rock clubs in Hollywood, New York and Seattle are involved with heroin. The entertainment world is littered with ex-, or dead, heroin users. Boy George (remember Country Club?), jazz legends Charlie Parker and Miles Davis, Billie Holliday, and rockers Janis Joplin and Kurt Cobain either abused or died from heroin use.

I strongly urge all who read this article to inform others about this death-dealing drug. Unfortunately, many young people do not know about heroin, and cannot remember the scourge that plagued countless lives during the 50's, 60's and 70's. Therefore, they would not recognize the downside until it is too late. Also, the majority of new users are women, from all socio-economic circles.

Beware of the White Lady, for she is a bringer of death. □

*I want to*



*finish school. I met*



*a guy. We were really tight. I was*

*wild. Now I'm pregnant.*

*I want a baby... this just isn't*

*the time.*





*If you have an unplanned pregnancy remember... you can choose.*



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# Unsung Heroes

BY KAYDEION LEE

As we celebrate the 70th year of African-American History month we must think back to the contribution that we have weaved into the fabric of this nation through art, literature, theatre, and dance.

Every February we find ourselves facing the same commercials, the same African-American History month programming, and usually history on the same people we did reports on in elementary school. But with a little time and a library card it is possible to unearth all the riches that our culture holds. Many of our unsung heroes and heroines have made history by becoming the first to realize the dreams that many of us are struggling towards.

\*Norma Merrick Sklarek became the first African-American woman registered architect in New York State in 1954 and in 1962 she was registered in California. She then became a fellow in the American Institute of Architects in 1980.

\*Frances Ellen Watkins Harper (1825-1911) wrote "The Two Offers", the first short story published by a black woman in the United States. Harper's work also appeared in *Anglo-African* magazine in 1859. She became a noted speaker in the abolition movement and after the Civil War supported suffrage and temperance movements. She was an highly successful poet. Her book of poetry *Poems on Miscellaneous Subjects* is

reported to have sold 50,000 copies by 1878 and her novel *Iola Leroy* had three editions printed.

\*George Herriman (1880-1944) was the first African-American man to achieve fame as a syndicated cartoonist. His strip *Krazy Kat* was popular in the 1920's and continued to be published until 1944. Herriman had a large following among the intellectual crowd and became an inspiration for many black and white cartoonists of today.

\*Janet Collins (1923- ) was the first African-American prima ballerina at the Metropolitan Opera Company and held the position for three years. She debuted in *Aida* and is well-known for her choreography and dance instruction.

\*The first African-American hero heard on network radio was Juano Hernandez's depiction of 'John Henry: Black River Giant'. Hernandez performed in a series broadcast on CBS.

\*In 1989, Euzham Palcy was the first African-American woman director of a full-length film, *A Dry White Season*, for a major United States studio. The film dealt with apartheid in South Africa.

\*Edward Mitchell Bannister (1828-1901) was the first African-American to receive full recognition in America as a painter. He was the most renowned artist of the nineteenth century and he specialized in landscapes. In 1876, Bannister accepted the gold

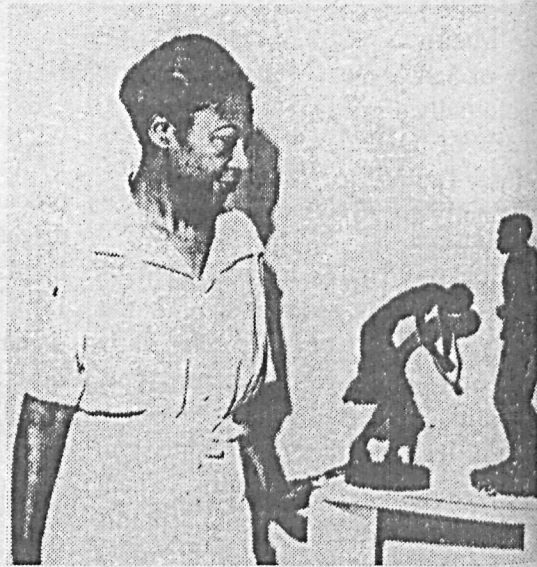
medal in the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition for his huge landscape *Under the Oaks*. He was also one of the founders of the Providence Art Club, which became the Rhode Island School of Design.

\*The first African-American television show sponsored by a African-American business was "Soul Train". Johnson Products Inc. supported the show into the fame it has achieved today.

\*Augusta Fells Savage (1892-1962), a sculptor and educator, was a member of the National Association of Women Painters and Sculptors. One of her major commissions was the creation of sculpture for the New York World's Fair in 1939. The sculpture, *Lift Every Voice and Sing*, represented blacks' contribution to music and is her best known work (see picture). Another of her most successful works was *The Negro Urchin*.

\*In 1958, the first African-American man to be nominated for the Academy Award for best actor was Sidney Poitier.

\*In 1972, Lorenzo Milam founded KPOO-FM in San Francisco. It was the first African-American controlled station of the National Federation of Community Broadcasters. The station was created to serve the inner-city poor and predominantly black people and was called "Poor People's Radio".



Augusta Savage

\*Hal Jackson (1922- ) was the first African-American announcer and disc jockey on WOOK, in Washington D.C., when the station changed to a black format. Known as the Dean of Broadcasting, he was also the host of an international network jazz show, and the first African-American to be inducted into the National Association of Broadcasters' Hall of Fame. Jackson founded the Miss Black Teenage America Pageant (now the Miss United States Talented Teen Pageant).

Although these firsts have already been accomplished it does not mean that we cannot be the best and brightest at the careers we are exploring. "If we stand tall it is because we stand on the backs of those who came before us." - Yoruba proverb □

## Forming a student movement: STAND conference

BY KRISTINE GARCIA

Last Spring the CUNY Coalition made headlines when it succeeded in rallying thousands at City Hall to protest tuition hikes and budget cuts in education. Many viewed the rally as a sign to renewed student activism that hasn't been seen since the 70s. While the March 23rd rally may have gotten some of CUNY's 200,000 students involved in activism for the first time, a few months later it seemed the Coalition was unable to sustain the momentum and most students abandoned the movement.

On November 188 student activists reflected on the lessons from last semester during the STAND (Students Taking Action Against Non-Discriminatory Education) conference at Hunter College. With about 170 faculty and students from CUNY, SUNY, high schools, and private universities in attendance discussions on how to build and maintain a unified student movement began. The conference, which was months in the making, was organized by students who met in the Coalition and included workshops on getting media attention,

methods of feminist organization, using the computer as a mass information tool and planning CD (civil disobedience) actions.

Deciding how to move forward in the formation of a student movement began with heated discussion about the events which led to the collapse of the CUNY Coalition last year. Although activists debated on what they felt led to the Coalition's demise, the consensus was that poor organization along with sectarian leadership failed to maintain a stable base of student support.

"The leadership tended to be leftist white liberals," said an activist who argued that the needs of CUNY students, who are largely of color, was not represented in leadership. "The reality of it was that romantic thing of confrontation with cops is not romantic in the black and Latino communities."

Division in the coalition may have also hindered its ability to create a unified movement. "The politics of race and gender is always hard to get around," said Vernon Ballard a Philosophy and Computer Science major at City, "but if we are to

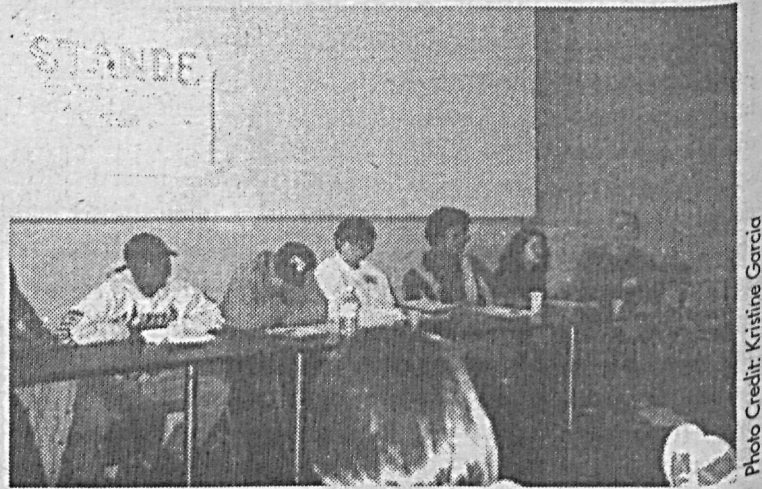
build a real student movement we should just work together and not concentrate on how to work together."

Coming up with ways to increase student activism was also at issue. Keenan

Taylor, one of *STAND* Conference attendees six City College students and member of the International Socialist Organization that we had a huge missed opportunity. What we need to address now is how do we deepen the base on campuses so that we don't just have an active core of maniacs doing everything."

One way to accomplish this goal, that we discussed at the conference, is through the establishment of university wide CUNY coalition was established in October with this in mind.

"This is a new City College Coalition with a whole new group of people involved," said Vahid



*STAND* Conference attendees

Mclaughlin, co-chair of the City College Coalition and Executive Vice President of the Day Student Government. "We trying to unify everyone-students, faculty, staff, administrators. We are seeing a broad spectrum of the campus."

While a new wave of budget cuts for the next fiscal year is looming on the horizon, just how successful the new coalition will be at rallying a massive unified student movement is yet to be seen or as one activist said, "A room full of radicals does not a revolution make." □

# Was Trans-Saharan Slave Trade Ever Abolished?

BY IKENNA EZENEKWE

Mauritania lies at the far west of a belt of Sahelian nations that have been profoundly affected by the past twenty years of uncertain and insufficient rains. The people of Mauritania were originally made up of pure Africans. [Halpulaar, Soninke, Wolof, and Bambara]

In this age of post-Atlantic slave trade, Mauritania still remains a slave market. The enslavement of our people has existed in Mauritania for centuries. The ruling body in Mauritania are called the Beydanes [white+Arab=Bey]. According to Newsweek, "More than 100,000 descendants of Africans conquered by Arabs during the 12th century are still thought to be living as old-fashioned chattel slave in Mauritania". In addition,

the U.S. state department estimates that 90,000 of our people still live as the property of the Arab slave master. Newsweek also states that, "Aside from the shanty-towns and a strip of land along the Senegal River, virtually all blacks are slaves, and they are more than half the population." A newsletter published by Human Right Watch reported that, "Religion has been used by masters as an important instrument to perpetuate slavery...they have misinterpreted it to justify current practices." The Koran forbids the enslavement of fellow Muslims.

"In 1980, the government sought to have its ruling ratified by a body of religious jurists, [Ulema]. The jurists aired that slavery was not wrong on religious grounds, but that outlawing it would be within the government's power ... , but

the slave masters must be compensated." as reported by Newsweek. No evidence of compensations - no freed slaves (Q.E.D.). As Dada Ould Mbarek, 25, a slave bought and sold twice, put it, "Slavery was never abolished". He remains a slave to the Arab Berber masters as of this writing.

Total slaves in 1981 accounted for over 100,000, while ex-slaves and part-time slaves add up to 300,000. Knowing that the slave trade is still a way of life for these Arabians, answers to questions and inquiries must be sought in order to understand why they can and will continue to get away with it. Slaves are taught that serving their Arab master is a religious duty. Arabism, as a result, has penetrated into Mauritanian cultural and political life. The administration of justice,

employment, financing system, language and even the educational system has been infiltrated.

In the words of Westin Bent Jr., a chemical engineering student, "The problem is rooted, not in economics, but in the Arabs ancient culture of slavery." Selling salvation in return for slavery has nothing to do with economics. These Arabs force Africans to be and to live as *natural* slaves. Interpretations, when done right is not a problem; however, it can be deadly if the seeds are sowed with dangerous and vicious intentions. Understanding that Islam and Arabism are both foreign ideas to Africa requires no complex intellectual sophistication. To be an African was, and should still be, a way of life not an abstract label or a curse word. □

Letter, continued from page 2

Now these two student governors have made several poor decisions while in office, and not only according to my judgement. Some of those decisions involve the President, Ray Flete, and indeed Mr. President has chosen to ally himself with these two characters and their questionable practices. Nonetheless, many of these decisions involve money. Student Activity Fees, more precisely. This is where I come in.

On one occasion, Mr. LeBlanc and Mr. Ally, who also happen to be the President and Treasurer of the Urban Legal Studies Student Association, approached me and asked me to sign a disbursement for \$187.00 to their club. The Urban Legal Studies Student Association's first luncheon was planned for September 14, 1995, well before any clubs had received any money (most clubs get \$200 per semester!) and they needed the money "immediately" to pay for fried chicken and soda (Metropolitan Foods are expensive caterers!). They approached me with the disbursement two days prior, and said, "since Ray (president) is not around...will you(the executive vice president) sign this SSC disbursement?" I then asked them when the decision was made by the Senate, or the Executive Committee, of our organization to make an allocation to the ULSSA. The reply was "never" because, as they cite in their attack/article, they did not want to "empower the Senate in a way which is bureaucratic..."

I conferred with the President, Mr. Flete, upon his return to the office. He confirmed that the decision to sponsor this project was made by Mr. Flete, Mr. LeBlanc and Mr. Ally alone, without any other student governors present (they later confirmed this on record). I warned them that our by-laws expressly states that all allocations (especially the kind with MONEY) must be made through the finance committee and reported to

the Senate for recommendation and approval. Otherwise, the alternative is to have the Executive Committee review the allocation **under special circumstances, which have yet to be identified, and still seek final approval by the Senate.** Needless to say, neither of these procedures were followed, and the disbursement was signed by the President and submitted to the Business Office. Mr. Ally and Mr. LeBlanc, along with Mr. Flete, admittedly (again, **it's on record**) chose to unilaterally allocate money to ULSSA for a promo luncheon. This occurred 1) outside of legal quorum, 2) at a time when Mr. LeBlanc and Mr. Ally were the chief executive officers of the ULSSA, and 3) when the operating budgets of Student Services Corporation allocating bodies like the DSG were in the process of being reduced by 8% due to drastic reductions in student enrollment. Further, the three exacerbate the problem by refusing to admit to any misdeeds.

The article written by Mr. LeBlanc/Mr. Ally states that we are all equals in the organization. Yet at the same time, they have used their positions (President and Treasurer, monitor and sign disbursements of funds, Campus Affairs handles club business) to control the allocation of resources to certain clubs while denying or botching valid attempts from other clubs or coalitions. Meanwhile, the list of complaints against Shah and Curtis and Ray are beginning to read like a weekly laundry list: sluggishness, provincial attitudes, inefficient managers, self-righteous politicians.

For instance, the Internet learning center bearing my name ("Vern and Vahid's...") was awarded a subsidy of \$1,500 by the entire Day Student Government Senate. The President and Treasurer refused to fund the project for over a month, simply by not signing the disbursement. The problem? Me, I suppose. We went to the Student

Ombudsman, Sam Wouyeah, who demanded that the President and Treasurer reconsider their political chicanery. Finally, as a last ditch effort, we went to Vice President of Student Affairs, Mr. Thom Morales, who then spoke to Ray (the president), who then decided to sign off the subsidy by the next day (is he really just a lifeless wooden figure attached to strings...!)

But perhaps more important than what these three *are* doing (writing attack articles, spending money, attending meetings, luncheons, dinners, award ceremonies, being manipulated, maintaining questionable business practices, collecting stipends), is what they *are not* doing. Has anyone noticed that enrollment is down 1,000 students? Do we have a sig-

nificant voice in politics on or off campus? Have any clubs noticed how long it's taken for them to receive funds for this semester? Does anyone care to observe that the computer laboratory bearing the DSG's name is never properly supplied or has functioning equipment? What are the Day Student Governors doing besides attacking dedicated students and sitting on their fat backsides, stroking each other's ego and preparing for LSAT's. Gee, I *wish* I had a job like them.

Ray, Curtis, Shah and the groupies within the Day Student Government need to wake up and realize that they are not in Oz anymore. In this time of fiscal crisis, we need leaders at City College, not pencil pushing presidents and pseudo-intelligent, self-righteous dilettantes.

## SURVIVAL GUIDE

### Rape Is a Violent Crime That Can Happen to You

News USA

(NU) - You read about it. You hear about it. You probably know someone who is a victim of it. You think it can't happen to you.

It's time to think about the unthinkable: rape.

The truth is, rape is an act of violence that can happen to anyone — children, students, women, men, the rich and the poor.

And rapists can be anyone — classmates, co-workers, a neighbor or delivery person, ugly or attractive, outgoing or shy, and often a friend or family member, say the experts at the National Crime Prevention Council.

#### Use Your Head

Remember that a person who is raped is the victim, and is not at fault in this violent crime. The council says the following common-sense tips can help keep you from being a target:

- Trust your instincts. If a situation or place makes you feel uneasy, leave.
- Don't let alcohol or other drugs cloud your judgment.
- Make sure all the doors in your home or apartment have dead-bolt locks and use them. Install a peephole in the door and keep entrances well lighted.
- Be wary of isolated spots — laundry rooms, underground garages and parking lots after business hours. Always walk with a friend or security guard.

• If you come home and see a door or window open or broken, don't go in. Call the police from a neighbor's house or public phone.

• Avoid walking or jogging alone, especially at night. Stay in well-traveled, well-lit areas.

• If you think you're being followed, change direction and head for open stores, restaurants, theaters or an occupied house.

#### Time to Survive

There is no one right or wrong answer in handling a rape attempt. How you decide to react depends on your physical and emotional capacities.

Keep the following tactics in mind:

- Scream. Make noise to discourage your attacker. Try to escape.
- Talk, stall for time, and constantly reassess your options.
- The presence of a weapon may mean you have to submit in order to survive. This is your choice.
- If you decide to fight back, strike hard, strike fast and get away. Target the eyes, groin or knee.
- If you are victimized, report it to the police and seek help from a local rape crisis center.

This information is provided as part of the National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign, which is substantially funded by the U.S. Department of Justice.

# Opinions

## Affirmative for Affirmative Action?

BY JONMICHAEL V. BUTLER

Affirmative action is the government's comical solution to the problem of minority job discrimination in the United States. It is a form of legal discrimination that its proponents, black and white, claim will put an end to the lack of minorities occupying quality positions in the work place. Their reason being that if you regulate the percentage of minorities that must be hired for various executive and administrative positions, then equal rights organizations will be appeased in some way.

If the US government feels it can blackmail companies into conforming with an institutionalized quota system by withholding state and federal funds with the hopes of improving the welfare of minorities, then it is sorely mis-

taken. What we end up with is lesser qualified applicants receiving positions simply because they are African-American or Latino or woman. This is a slap in the face to intelligent Americans, if we are supposed to believe that in a country in which we seek to erase color lines and put an end to inequality, the only solution is government sanctioned discrimination (reverse discrimination). That would be just like enslaving the master in order to correct the injustices of slavery. It all sounds rather ludicrous when one really thinks about it.

The mistake that is being constantly made and consistently overlooked is this: the problem is not who is being hired, but whom is responsible for the hiring; a problem to which affirmative action is not the solution. In order to

develop a more feasible solution, we must first look to the root of the problem. In the case of job discrimination, the blame falls squarely on the personnel directors, on whose shoulders hiring usually falls. With quota systems in place it becomes quite easy for unscrupulous employers to hire and fire unqualified applicants while still complying with government regulations.

Of course this is a worst case scenario, but with the implied quotas of affirmative action policies, it is a possible occurrence. To solve this without the use of quotas and percentages, programs need to be developed to produce qualified personnel directors. These newly trained individuals would be responsible for hiring the best qualified applicants to fill every position

regardless of color, culture, country of origin or sex. This may sound like a romanticized pipe dream, but it offers a more concrete and long lasting solution than affirmative action.

Also, it is necessary to explore the ways that affirmative action can affect education in this country. When it becomes more common to receive a position based on culture or color rather than the merit, the importance of education 'falls at the wayside.' Minorities in this country have enough problems without affirmative action policies teaching them contradictory lessons. Discrimination is wrong regardless of the perception of its positive results. A problem cannot be a solution to itself. It should more aptly be named Negative Action; there is nothing affirmative about it. □

## March Onward!

BY LA-JUNE MCPHERSON

Now that the *march* is over, and we've all *exhaled*, what next? Everyone has hopefully had the opportunity by now, to pore over the details surrounding the 'Million Man March' and dissect the movie 'Waiting To Exhale'. It seems both events have had such an enormous impact on the Black community at large, that I find men and women who are still reeling from their effect.

Let's face it. We all knew that the *march* and the *movie* would leave a lasting impression on our minds, so why are we still awe-stricken by these events? Granted it may have caused a great deal of introspection for everyone, I do feel it's time we all moved on. The old adage "time waits on no man" is true. The longer we dwell on critiquing and rationalizing, the less time we have to implement the lessons we may have learnt from them.

Speaking of lessons; did we really gain something from these events? And if so, what are we going to do with the knowledge we hopefully have taken from them? Are we just going to take a few months to revel in our 'blackness', and then later shrug it off as if it were just for a moment? Oftentimes I've seen where we as a people really take pride in our heritage, then there seems to come a time when we become so stagnant, that we take a few steps backward instead of forward. A period of complacency sets in and we allow ourselves to drift off to sleep until we experience another awakening.

We are now in the midst of what's been labeled as "Black History

Month". And as always, the wheels have been set in motion to highlight the historical accomplishments of our rich culture. In public schools, children are being given a crash course about prominent Black people in our history, and in our neighborhoods, extensive preparations are being made to celebrate "Black History Month". This is often an enlightening experience for us all, but what happens when the month of February has passed? Do we fold and put away our kente cloth and sit around waiting for next year? After all, we are not slaves to the confines of February to embrace our heritage as society has ordained it. Black history is ours to take pride in and observe at will. We seemingly have become so comfortable in the accomplishments of our fore-fathers, that at times it seems we need to be reminded that we all still have future contributions to make towards the progress of our people. In a recently aired edition of "Tony Brown's Journal", it was expressed that there were five ethnic groups which were considered to be prepared to enter the 21st Century; to my disappointment, the Black community was not mentioned. This of course may not be an accurate assumption, but the mere fact that someone holds such an opinion is disconcerting.

For decades there have been branches of our society that relish the thought of being able to show the Black community in an unfavorable light. At such times we jump on the bandwagon to demonstrate and protest our discontent, but is this really the answer? Time and time again, it has taken the occurrence of unpleasant cir-

cumstances of this nature to spur us into action to reaffirm our pride in our culture. This should not have to be the case. If we take from these bad experiences, lessons to help us not repeat them, we would all have a better

chance to make a great deal of progress.

"Experience is the best teacher." I do feel that if we as a people take into consideration the incidents that *March*, continued on page 14

## Talk Shows Are Not Just Full of Talk

BY NIKKI DAVIS

Talk shows are very entertaining and relaxing. We enjoy watching other people embarrass themselves in front of millions. Have you noticed, however, that the majority of folks making fools of themselves on talk television are African-American? I don't know about you, but I am ashamed every time I watch a talk show and the featured panelists are loud-mouthed ignorant black people. The news media has already destroyed our image; now we are allowing the talk shows to do further damage. Blacks sitting in the audience laugh heartily without realizing that they are just as bad as the people they find amusing. Society does not view us as individuals, if one Black person does something wrong, the entire race must suffer the consequences (remember O. J. Simpson). On the other hand, when Caucasian people commit any wrongdoing, it does not reflect badly upon the whole race just on the individual involved.

One talk show in particular made me very angry. The panel consisted of young Black women who smoke, drink and use all sorts of drugs during

pregnancy. These women were adamant that no harm would come to their unborn babies; and were determined not "having fun" just because of pregnancy. The talk show host, the audience, and even an "experienced" guest who had given birth to a drug-addicted child could not persuade them to reconsider their actions. No one could get through. It was beyond belief! Where did they find this ignorant, foolish group of women? It doesn't surprise me that people do things they know are wrong, however, I find it surprising that they would advertise their stupidity in front of the whole world.

There are good and bad people in every race, but, unfortunately, Africans are portrayed negatively by the media. This must stop. We must call or write letters to these shows demanding that they depict us more positively. At the expense of Black America, everyone connected with the talk show industry is laughing all the way to the bank. African-Americans as panelists, audience members and home viewers are contributing to their own destruction. □

# 1996 GRADUATES:

You are invited to participate in  
Commencement Exercises

of

## THE CITY COLLEGE

of the City University of New York

TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 1996

10:00 A.M.

LEWISOHN PLAZA, 138TH STREET AT CONVENT AVENUE

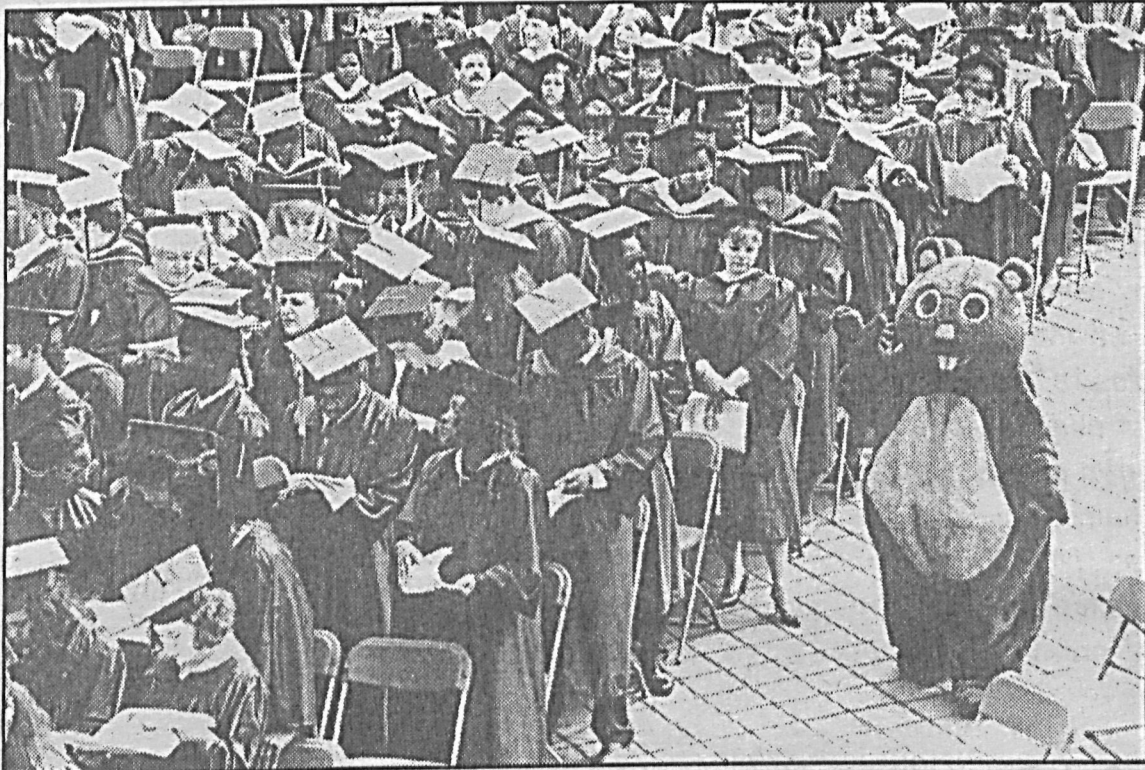


Photo Credit: Lisa Schwair

RAIN OR SHINE

### IMPORTANT DATES

Application for Degree, deadline (Applications are available from Registrar.)	March 1
Ordering Cap & Gown, deadline (See order form below.)	April 18
Yearbook photo, deadline (To make an appointment, call 650-8180 or stop by NAC 1/120. )	February 16
Honors Convocation	May 29
Commencement	June 4

Graduates must wear academic attire to participate in commencement. The cap and gown (and hood for master's candidates) are yours to keep. **DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS APRIL 18, 1996.**

Degree candidates will receive instructions, including distribution dates for caps and gowns, in late March.

For information, call  
Office of Ceremonial Occasions  
650-8311 or 650-8498

—Detach here and mail completed form with payment—

#### City College: STUDENT PURCHASE OF ACADEMIC REGALIA

**MAIL ORDER DEADLINE, APRIL 18**

Last Name _____		First Name _____		MI _____	
Sex: _____	M/F _____	Master's Degree Only (hood color): please circle below			
Height (in shoes) Feet & Inches: _____	_____	M. Architecture	M. Engineering	M. Arts	M. Science
Weight: _____	_____		M. Education		
One Cap Size Fits All					
CHECK UNIT: _____		Bachelor Cap, Gown & Tassel UNIT		Please remit: <b>\$18.00</b>	
_____		Master Cap, Gown, Tassel & Hood UNIT		Please remit: <b>\$33.25</b>	

**Make check payable to**  
**and mail to: Collegiate Cap & Gown**  
**309 Fifth Avenue - Box 491, Brooklyn NY 11215-2418**

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(\$5.00 fee after 4/18/96) \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# EXPRESSIONS

## For Thought:

Lord, Lord  
 Why did you make me Black?  
 Why did you make someone the world wants to hold back?  
 Black is the color of dirty clothes, the color of grimy hands and feet  
 Black is the color of darkness, the color of tire-beaten streets.  
 Why did you give me thick lips, a broad nose and kinky hair?  
 Why did you make someone who receives the hatred stare?  
 Black is the color of the bruised eye when someone gets hurts.  
 Black is the color of darkness,  
 Black is the color of dirt.  
 How come my bone structure's so thick, my hips and cheeks are high?  
 How come my eyes are brown and not the color of daylight sky?  
 Why do people think I'm useless? How come I feel so used?  
 Why do some people see my skin and think I should be abused?  
 Lord, I just don't understand  
 What is it about my skin?  
 Why do some people want to hate me and not know the person within?  
 Black is what people are "listed" when others want to keep them away.  
 Black is the color of shadows cast. Black is the end of the day.  
 Lord, you know my own people mistreat me and I know this just ain't right.  
 They don't like my hair  
 They say I'm too dark or too light  
 Lord, don't you think it's time for you to make a change?  
 Why don't you re-do creation and make everyone the same?

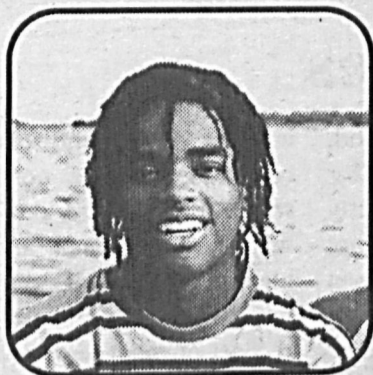
### God answered:

Why did I make you black?  
 Get off your knees and look around. Tell me, what do you see?  
 I didn't make you in the image of darkness, I made you in the likeness of me!  
 I made you the color of coal from which beautiful diamonds are formed.  
 I made you the color of oil, the black gold that keeps people warm  
 I made you from the rich, dark, earth that can grow the food you need  
 Your color's the same as the black stallion, a majestic animal is he  
 I didn't make you in the image of darkness. I made you in the likeness of me!  
 All the colors of the heavenly rainbow can be found throughout every nation  
 But when all of those colors were blended, you became my creation  
 Your hair is the texture of lamb's wool. Such a humble little creature is he  
 I am the shepherd who watches them  
 I am the one who will watch over thee  
 You are the color of midnight sky  
 I put the star's glitter in your eyes  
 There is a smile hidden behind your pain. That's why your cheeks are so high  
 You are the color of dark clouds formed, when I send my strongest weather  
 I made your lips full so that when you kiss the one you love, they will remember.  
 Your statue is strong, your bone structure thick to with stand the burdens of time.  
 The reflection you see in the mirror...the image that looks back is MINE.

by RuNell Ni Ebo



# Blacks in Entertainment



**Larenz Tate:** Dead Presidents, The Inkwel, Menace II Society, TV sitcom South Central

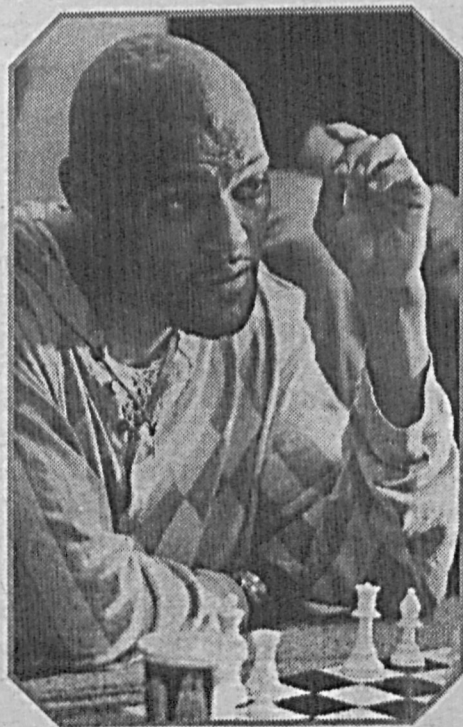
**Eddie Murphy:** Beverly Hills Cop trilogy, Distinguished Gentlemen, The Golden Child, Boomerang, Coming to America



**Matty Rich:** Directed The Inkwel, and Straight out of Brooklyn



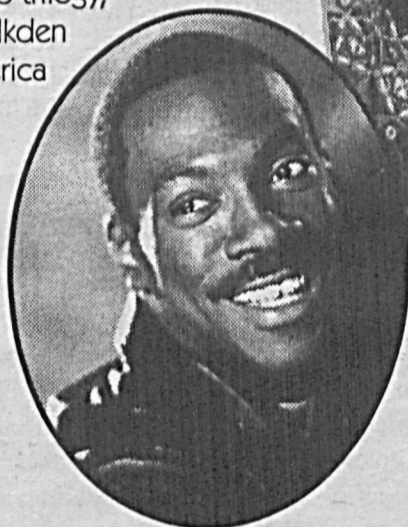
**Spike Lee:** Directed, produced and acted in Jungle fever, Do the Right Thing, Mo' Better Blues, She's Gotta Have it, Crooklyn, School Daze and upcoming Girl 6



**Laurence Fishburne:** Deep Cover, Boyz N the Hood, Searching for Bobby Fisher, Higher Learning, Tuskegee Airmen and upcoming Othello



**Whoopi Goldberg:** The Color Purple, Sister Acts 1&2, Sarafina, Born in America, Corrina Corrina, Boyz on the Side



**Bill Duke:** Directed Sister Acts 1&2, Deep Cover and acted in Predator, Menace II Society



**Leleti Khumalo:** Sarafina



**Jada Pinkett:** The Inkwel, Menace II Society, Low Down Dirty Shame, Jason's Lyrics, and TV sitcom, A Different World



**Shaquille O'Neal:** All-Star center for the Orlando Magic, acted in blue Chips and rap recording artist



**Anfernee Hardaway:** All-Star guard for the Orlando Magic, acted in Blue Chips

Photos Courtesy Ideal Films (Pty) Ltd., Paramount Pictures, Buena Vista Pictures Distribution Inc., and Touchstone Pictures

## Features

# Have We Kept Our Promises

BY JONMICHAEL V. BUTLER

Nearly three and one half months have passed since that historic Monday in October, when more than one million (don't believe the erroneous miscounts) strong black men and a substantial amount of black women attended a peaceful rally in Washington, D.C. As a black man that attended the rally/march, I am still proud to announce that I stood shoulder to shoulder in a massive crowd that extended from the steps of the Capitol Building to the feet of the Washington Monument.

For weeks after the event I would laugh when government officials would applaud the effort of law enforcement officials for keeping the crowd under control. Let's have a reality check for a moment; there is no possible way for a comparatively handful of police officers to control a crowd standing over one million strong. If anything, credit should go

where credit is due, to the participants that exercised self control in order to assure that the demonstration went off without the slightest hitch. I applaud you and all. But let's examine what has transpired since then.

\*Now that the speeches are over and the busses have returned to the four corners of the nation from whence they came.\* After we return to our normal lives and have to live up to the promises we made at the climactic end of a proud day. What happens now?

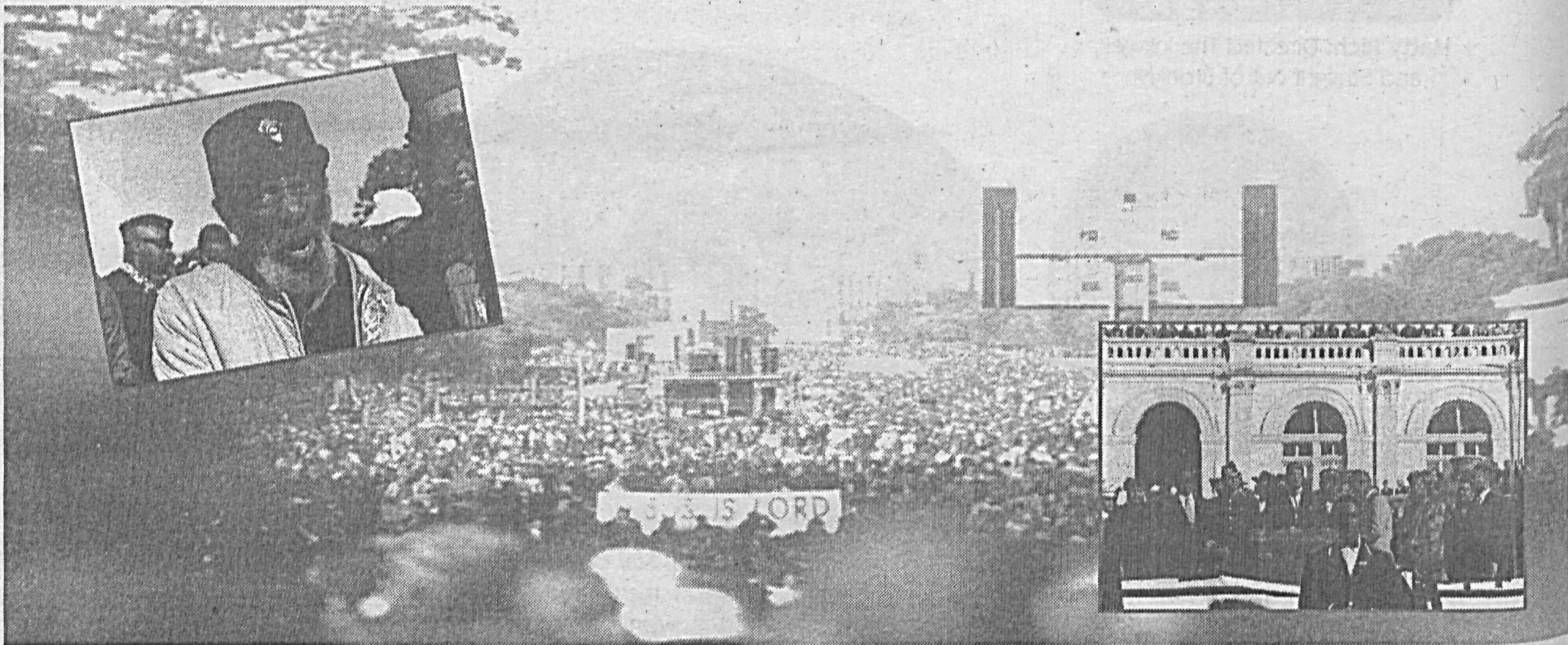
Growing up in a close knit suburban area of southeast Queens, I learned of the many dangers of handling your business in the street. In a time when neighbors were genuinely concerned about the welfare of the neighborhood children, anything that you did wrong somehow found its way back to your parents; and you were punished accordingly. Somehow we have gotten away from that. Anytime you, as a young black man, can show disrespect

towards an adult in you neighborhood, you are showing lack of respect for yourself. How you treat others directly reflect upon yourself. If you cannot respect those in your community, then you will not have any love for those in neighboring communities. Respect begins at home. Standing in Washington, D.C. and promising to treat our fellow black men and, especially, our black women with the respect they rightfully deserve, I felt strong and empowered. Today, when I use the "b" word when referring to a black woman, even in jest, I feel like a hypocrite, guilty of the most heinous crime of welshing on a promise that I made to myself.

If others, along with myself continue making the same mistakes over and over again, we will be nothing more than idiots and fools refusing to learn from our mistakes. It only takes one time of running into a wall to learn that the next time you must go around

it. Why do we find it so difficult to consciously make positive changes when it comes to our relationships with black women and our fellow black men? Who is ever going to respect us as a people if we cannot respect ourselves? We will never gain equality in this nation as long as we refuse to unite amongst ourselves.

If you, like myself, were one of the man in attendance on October 16, 1995 (one of the many that made promises at the end of the day) and you are living your lives the exact same way you did before, then the Million Man March was not a success and the promises were made in vain. It's time to wake up, and as an individual, start making changes. We must start living up to the promises. Stagnation is the enemy. Progress, no matter how gradual, is still progress nonetheless, and should be praised for the positive thing that it is. □



## Have We Forgotten Already??

BY NNEOMA E. NJOKU

Just a few months ago, Louis Farrakhan called for a million black men to meet him in Washington, D.C., and over a million black men answered to this call. Some important figures in our Black community like Maya Angelou, Stevie Wonder, Jesse Jackson, Benjamin Chavis, Rev. Al Sharpton and others spoke to and in behalf of our Black community. Farrakhan spoke of the eight steps to atonement; awareness, acknowledgment of wrong, confession, repentance, taking action, forgiveness, reconciliation and perfect union. Have we

forgotten already?

We pledged to look out for one another. We pledged to better ourselves. Have we forgotten? Well, it seems like some of us have. We are still killing ourselves and abusing ourselves. We are still killing one another and abusing one another. To kill some one is not just piercing a knife through his chest or putting a bullet through their head, it's drugs and alcohol. It's our tongues, our closed eyes and hardened hearts. It's our ignorance and selfishness.

Most of us have not improved ourselves spiritually, mentally, morally,

politically or economically. I know we cannot change in a snap of a finger, but are we making an effort? Do we even want to change for the better? If we don't help ourselves, who will? And if we want to, what are we waiting for?

Are we striving to raise leaders of tomorrow? Are we still calling ourselves "Bitches" and "Niggers"? If we call ourselves these names, we cannot expect a better name from others.

We need to get ourselves out of the negative columns of the media and into the more positive. We need to understand the point of the Million Man March in order to make that

change. Where will that change start? Well, as Michael Jackson would sing, "Take a look in the mirror" because charity begins at home. Until you have helped yourself, you cannot help another, ... it's like the blind leading the blind. Let us all be our brother's and sister's keeper. Let us prove to ourselves that we can make a positive difference.

Of all the things to forget, let October 16, 1995, the Million Man March not be one of them. Let us continue to pass on the history made that day, be it by our actions or by our words. □

# Blessings From Inner Visions

## Atonement

We give praise and honor to Minister Lois Farrakahn for heeding the call of the Million Man March. In support of his vision, we encourage and promote you to promote the Atonement Principles and process. We offer you this reconstructive of the words spoken and ask that you share them with others and incorporate them into your day to day living. As we believe you must act on faith to put the principles into practice.

ATONEMENT - A more perfect union with God.

### At-One-Me and At-One-Men

Men at one with their God, their self, and nation toward a more perfect union for a common purpose.

Atonement demands us of eight steps:

- 1- **Awareness of wrong** - Someone must tell us of the wrong that we have done in order for us to heal and change.
- 2- **Acknowledgement of wrong** - We must be in a state of recognition of the wrong we have done.
- 3- **Confession** of the wrong to God and the party involved.
- 4- **Repentance** - We must feel the remorse and re-think what we have done.
- 5- **Take Action** - There must be amends made, penance or compensation paid to right the wrong.
- 6- **Forgiveness** - We must seek and give pardon to exonerate the effects of our wrong doings.
- 7- **Reconciliation** - We must restore ourselves to the original position.
- 8- **Perfect Union** - Our soul is at rest, we no longer have guilt or shame.

## MILLION MAN MARCH PLEDGE FOR ATONEMENT

- I ..... pledge, that from this day forward, I will strive to love my brother as myself.
- I ..... pledge, that from this day forward, I will strive to improve myself spiritually, morally, mentally, politically and economically, for the good of myself, my family and people.
- I ..... pledge, that from this day forward, I will strive to build business, to build houses, to build hospitals, to build factories and to enter universal trade, for the good of myself, my family and my people.
- I ..... pledge, that from this day forward, I will never raise my hand, with a knife or a gun, to beat cut or shoot any member of my family and any human being, except in self defense.
- I ..... pledge, that from this day forward, I will never abuse my wife by striking her or disrespecting her, for she is the mother of my children and the producer of my future.
- I ..... pledge, that from this day forward, I will never engage in the abuse of children, little boys or little girls for sexual gratification. I will let them grow in peace to be strong men and women for the future of our people.
- I ..... pledge, that from this day forward, I will never again use the "B" word to describe any female, particularly my own Black sister.
- I ..... pledge, that from this day forward, I will not poison my body with drugs or that which is destructive to my health and well being.
- I ..... pledge, that from this day forward, I will support Black newspapers, Black radio, Black television and Black artists who clean up their act to show respect for themselves, for their people and respect for the ears of the human family.
- I ..... will do all of this so help me God.

### And So It Is!

INNER VISIONS SPIRITUAL LIFE MAINTENANCE  
POST OFFICE BOX 3231  
SILVER SPRING, MD 20918

\* For a copy of our Prayer for Empowerment; or to receive information about our fellowships, workshops and products; or to be placed on our mailing list, please call us at (301) 933-9310.

# Join The Paper Today

## THE PAPER...

- is not just a City College campus paper but also a City College community paper.
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- has and will continue to make a difference & you can be a part of it.
- will help you meet people who come in pretty handy in your field.
- allows you to voice what's going on and/or your opinion & help others do the same.
- would love to have you.
- is actually fun!

If you are interested or need more reasons to convince you, stop by our office in NAC 1/118 & speak to our staff or give us a call at (212) 650-5029/30.

\*You do not have to be a journalism or communications major to join. The wider the variety of majors, the better!

\*All reporters, opinion writers, typists, music & art reviewers, poets, photographers, graphic artists, cartoonists are welcome.

\*No experience necessary.

# What Are We All About?

BY BILL CRAIN

At a time when the Governor and the Chancellor are so intent cutting The College and the university, we must define who we are and what we are all about. We need to do this so we know what we shall fight for.

I believe that the primary purpose of a college education is the development, expansion, and ennobling of minds. College is a major way of helping people grow. This is why access is so important. Everyone should have this opportunity—not just those who have money.

But a college cannot help students develop, expand, and ennoble their minds unless it has certain resources. I mention three resources—all of which the Governor and Chancellor are more than willing to take from us.

1. We must have sufficiently small classes for students to engage in discussions and debates. It is through these interactions that students generate ideas, consider the limitations of the ideas, and come up

with better ideas. Through this process, their minds grow.

We also need classes small enough for the assignment of lots of writing. Writing not only is a valuable skill, but it also promotes thinking.

2. A college must be able to provide a comprehensive liberal education. Students must be able to take courses in anthropology, physics, theater and dance—a wide range—without having to go elsewhere, to another campus. Students must be able to explore new intellectual horizons on their own campus. Otherwise it will be too difficult for them to do so.

3. A college must have, among many other resources, a good library. The library must be a place that is open to students when they need it and a place that provides them with the books and journals they need. I mean good, up-to-date books and journals, as well as classics. And faculty need such a library to develop their scholarship and research, and bring the excitement of their own work to their classes.

Albany and the Chancellory are trying to take all three of these resources from us. They are trying to drive up our class sizes; they are trying to retrench departments (telling students who want to explore new courses to "Go to another campus"); and they are trying to create a centralized library service which will be cheaper, but no substitute for a good local library.

So far, City College has been subjected to most budget cuts. Why is this? Some of the reasons may be economic; City College has had some programs and departments that are somewhat more expensive than those on other campuses. But I also have the sense that the Chancellory believes that City College, with its greatness and fighting spirit, must be subdued to make way for a more centralized, cost-cutting, downsized university system.

Let us consider City College's greatness and fighting spirit. City College is CUNY's first and flagship college. We have produced some of

the greatest minds in U.S. history—people such as Jonas Salk, A. Philip Randolph, Bernard Malamud, and Felix Frankfurter. More recent graduates include trailblazers such as the novelist Oscar Hijuelos, the artist Faith Ringgold, and General Colin Powell.

Also, City College has traditionally been in the vanguard of social protest and social change. And a very special factor is our location—Harlem. This can be a significant source of strength. Harlem is unique in U.S. history. The Harlem Renaissance probably contributed more to American culture than any other event, in any other place. And the Harlem experience can reemerge, with City College promoting and advancing it—in the arts, scholarship, and critical thought. If this happens, it would be very difficult to make City College part of a centralized, homogenized, downsized bureaucracy.

So we at City College have a great tradition to uphold and a critical fight on our hands. We must fight for the survival of this great institution. □

## BOB MARLEY — A Black History Month Profile

BY HARCOURT FULLER

February 6th of this year would have marked the 51st birthday of Robert Nesta (Bob) Marley. This article is a tribute to his birthday and Black History Month. I hope you enjoy the info.

Bob Marley was born on February 6th, 1945 in the parish of St. Anns, Jamaica. He was the first child of his mother Cedella Booker, and the son of Captain Norval Sinclair Marley—a white British officer in the colonial army, who was stationed in Jamaica. Bob's parents eventually got married, but his father left him and his mother because of societal and family pressure. Marley had few contacts with his father since.

As a poor youth, Bob faced many tribulations, and his music often spoke of his plight, in such songs as Trench Town Rock and Duppy Conqueror. In talking about his rough life, Bob said "I remember when me mada work fi tirty shillings a week, and on that she had to send me to school but buy me shoes, and lunch." He was also frequently harassed for his philosophical beliefs and practices by police officers.

Bob's mother, Cedella, in an interview once with the New York Amsterdam News, confessed that Bob was "great, obedient, willing, kind and good...He never frowned at me, never got vexed with me, never wrinkled his brow—he always listened to me," she said. In time, Bob and his mother moved from St. Anns to Trench Town,



Bob Marley

Kingston, a notorious ghetto, in a time when it was bombarded with much political and civil unrest. Bob, being new in the community had few friends, among whom were Bunny Wailer and Peter McIntosh, who would later become members of the Wailers, Bob's backing band. Because of his street fighting techniques, Bob was known as the "Tuff Gong," which was the name he later gave to his recording studio and record label.

While in school, Bob was an excellent soccer player. But it was his interest in African History that most influenced his life. He compared conditions affecting Jamaica in the 1950's to history lessons, and decided that little had changed since slavery; the white and fair skinned still got greater privileges and rights than the brown and blacks. This led him to have the desire to work for the oppressed, uniting everyone with love and harmony.

### The man, his achievements and beliefs

Bob was a very considerate and generous person. The Soho Weekly

News, in a 1981 article said that, being the kind and thoughtful man he was, Bob would gladly provide food for any hungry person. He would feel insulted if he invited a friend to his home, and they did not ask for food.

Whenever he came back to his homeland from tours abroad, he always brought clothes and shoes for the poor ghetto youths. When his recording studio (Tuff Gong) was built, he made sure that less-fortunate youngsters got cheaper recording facilities.

In a time span of about ten years, Bob Marley and the Wailers had made Jamaica's native music, Reggae, into an idiom that was accepted internationally. In the United States, he familiarized thousands of people with Reggae Music when he performed at Madison Square Garden with The Commodores and Kurtis Blow. In Europe, Bob broke attendance records of some of their most prominent countrymen such as Abba, Paul McCartney & Wings, The Eagles, Elton John, Led Zeppelin and the Beach Boys.

He also achieved many great honors and awards during the latter part of his life:

In 1978, he was presented with the U.N.'s Third World Peace Medal. The Order of Merit, the third highest honor of Jamaica, was bestowed upon him in 1981 by the island's Prime Minister, in recognition of his civic and cultural contributions to the people of the island. Bob Marley was a Rastafarian

by faith. This is a religious/philosophical body indigenous to Jamaica. Bob adhered to certain practices and beliefs: The NY Amsterdam News in an article on May, 1981 declared that "Marley believed that Haile Selassie, former Emperor of Ethiopia, is God and that he Bob Marley was the 'son of God'..." Bob practiced the Rastafarian dietary laws, "which forbade all meats, predatory species of fish and lowly crustaceans, all dairy products, white-flour breads, alcohol, sweets and sugar-based beverages, anything containing salt." Salt free foods are referred to as "Ital" amongst Rastas. Bob also grew dreadlocks, or "dreads" to use a more modern term. He frequently cited Leviticus 21, verse 5 in support of the philosophical reasons for not cutting his hair, which states:

"They shall not make baldness upon their head, neither shall they shave off the corner of their beard, nor make any cutting in their flesh."

### Solution to racial chaos

A very intricate and volatile topic, namely racial inequality is the main focus of modern America. Over the decades, racial injustice has been battled by such great Americans as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X. Incidents such as the Rodney King case, which sparked the Los Angeles "riots," the Crown Heights (Brooklyn) case, which resulted in growing tension and hatred between Africans

*Bob Marley, continued on page 14*

**Bob Marley, continued from page 13**  
 ("Blacks") and Jews, along with numerous other cases of racial tension, has aroused more concern about racial hatred and violence. In addressing these problems, including their prospective solutions, Bob Marley endorsed Emperor Haile Selassie's (of Etheopia) speech to the United Nations in 1968, in a song titled War:

Until the philosophy,  
 That holds one race superior,  
 And another inferior, is finally and  
 permanelty discredited  
 And abandoned, everywhere is war

Until the basic human rights  
 Are equally guaranteed to all without  
 regard to race  
 Me say war

Until the color of a man's skin,  
 Is of no more significance, than the  
 color of his eyes  
 I've got to say war

Cause until that day  
 The dream of lasting peace,  
 World citizenship, and the rule of  
 international morality  
 Will remain but a fleeting illusion  
 To be pursued, but never attained

Now everywhere is war, rumors of  
 war  
 War in the East,  
 War in the West,  
 War up North,  
 North down South,

War, War, rumors of war  
 Cause until that day, the African con-  
 tinent will not know peace, We  
 Africans will fight, we find it neces-  
 sary  
 We know we shall win, for we are  
 confident  
 In the victory of good over evil..."

**Assassination attempts**

Bob's popularity as a musical rev-  
 olutionist; spokesman for peoples of  
 African origin, and political assailant,  
 was so bothering and threatful to  
 some, that a few attempts on his life  
 were made. He summarized his ordeal  
 in the song "Ambush in the Night:"

See them fighting for power  
 But they know not the hour  
 So they bribing with their guns, spare

parts and moneyh  
 Trying to belittle oru intergrity  
 they say what we know  
 Is just what thsy teach us  
 We're so ignorant  
 Evertimne they can reach us  
 Through political strategy  
 They keep us hungry  
 When you gonna get some food  
 your brother got to be your enemy

Abush in the night, all guns aiming at  
 me  
 Ambush in the night, they opened  
 fire on me  
 Ambush in the night, protected by  
 His Majesty..."

Bob Marley left us on May 11,  
 1981 after a battle with cancer. His  
 spirit is still with us, though, in his  
 music. □

**Giuliani, continued from page 1**

called "A change is gonna come." and a  
 change did take place at 102 West 116th  
 street. A new sound emerged, that  
 exploded and charged the atmosphere.  
 The new label, "The Nation of Islam",  
 the subsidiary Muhammad Temple of  
 Islam #7 and the headquarters of Hon.  
 Elijah Muhammad, a spiritual leader.  
 His speeches and books were like lyrics:  
 Message to the Black Man, How to Eat,  
 Live, Honor and Respect Your Black  
 Woman. He taught us how to dignify

ourselves with the new clothing of  
 morality and responsibility.

So, with the help of the few pen-  
 nies, dimes and dollars from the Harlem  
 community and his followers, Mr.  
 Muhammad was able to buy that old  
 dance hall, and eventually the whole  
 corner.

The area that we called "Murderer's  
 Row" changed from despair in 1975  
 when Mr. Muhammad died. □

**March, continued from page 6**

seem to want to tear us down, or  
 events such as the "Million Man  
 March" and "Waiting To Exhale",  
 which cause us to pause for intro-  
 spection, we can certainly make sig-  
 nificant steps for the road ahead. It's  
 time to stop dwelling on these issues  
 and begin taking strides towards  
 using all these experiences to our  
 advantage. The lessons we have

learned are what will help bolster our  
 pride and confidence for tomorrow.  
 It would therefore be in our best  
 interest to take what we can from our  
 experiences and quickly move on to  
 implement the lessons we have  
 learnt. Time is of the essence. In  
 order for us to move strongly into the  
 21st Century, we need to live and  
 learn, and **move onward!** □


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## CITY COLLEGE CELEBRATES AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH FEBRUARY 1996

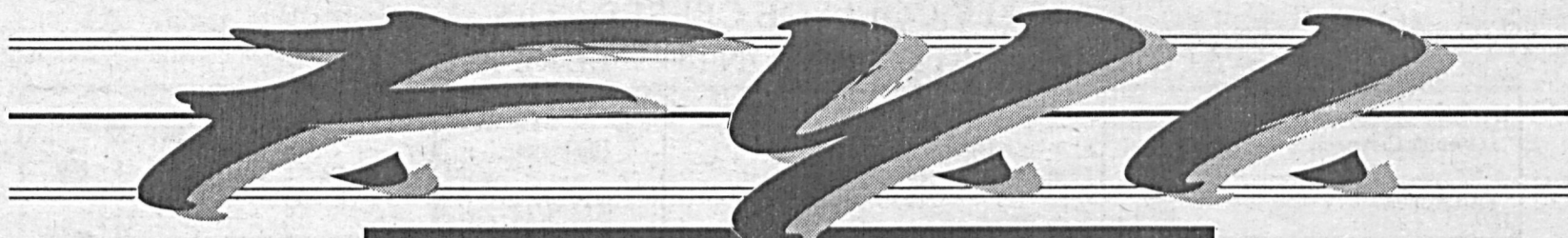
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Events:	Date / Time	Place	
• Opening Ceremony	12:00-2:00 / 6:00-8:00 pm THURSDAY 1	(Ballroom)	
• Art Exhibit	4:00 - 7:00 pm	(Y307)	
• Discussion: Brown Bag	12:00 - 2:00 pm WEDNESDAY 7	(Y307)	
• Discussion: "Fate of Mumia Abu Jamal"	12:00 - 2:00 pm	(Ballroom)	
• Speaker: Dr. John Henrik Clarke "West African Culture"	12:00 - 2:00 pm THURSDAY 8	(Ballroom)	
• Play: "Nobody Loves...a Black Little Girl When She Becomes a Woman."	3:00pm & 8:00pm SATURDAY 10	(Aaron Davis Hall)	
• Film: "Million Man March"	12:00 - 2:00 pm & 7:00 - 9:00 pm TUESDAY 13	(Ballroom)	
• Exhibit: "African Inventors and Achievers"	12:00 - 3:00 pm	(T125)	
• Speaker: Booker T. Coleman "African Origin of the Universe"	11:00 am - 12:00 pm / 12:00 - 1:00 pm WEDNESDAY 14	(Ballroom)	
• Conference: Iyana Laso "Crisis In Nigeria"	12:00 - 2:00 pm THURSDAY 15	(0/201)	
• Speaker: Edgar Epps			
• Conference: Iyana Laso "Crisis In Nigeria"	FRIDAY 16	(0/201)	
• Film: "Million Man March"	12:00 - 2:00 pm & 7:00 - 9:00 pm TUESDAY 20	(Ballroom)	
• All day teach in: Memorial to Malcolm X Speaker: El Haj Hesham Jaaber	10:00 - 6:00 pm WEDNESDAY 21	(Ballroom)	
• Live Dance: - Seventh Principle Performance Company - Kids Bay Boys & Girls Dance Troop Poetry Reading and Dance - Grass Roots A Cultural Celebration of Poetry	12:00 - 3:00 pm THURSDAY 22	(Aaron Davis Hall)	
	6:00 - 10:00 pm	(Ballroom)	
• Egyptian Exhibit: Meet at The Metropolitan Museum of Art Sponsored by The Black Alumni Assoc. • Conference: ASPIRA of N.Y.	1:00 pm SATURDAY 24		
	10:00 - 3:00 pm		
• Discussion: Budget Impact on Financial Aid	WEDNESDAY 26		
Dominican Republic Independence	TUESDAY 27		
• Discussion: Brown Bag	12:00 - 2:00 pm WEDNESDAY 28	(Y307)	
• Black Inventors Museum Sponsored by NSBE & ROUSE	10:00 am - 7:00 pm	(NAC Ballroom)	
• Concluding Ceremony - African Fair (Vendors) - Health Fair - Voter Registration • African Drummers & The African Students Association	12:00 - 2:00 pm THURSDAY 29	(NAC Rotunda)	
• Panel Discussion: Manning Marable "Budget Cut Crisis"	6:00 - 9:00 pm	(Ballroom)	

The City College of New York would like to thank all our sponsors for their generous support.

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For More Information Contact: The Finley Student Center at (212) 650-5002



# For Your Information

**BARNES & NOBLE on 600 Fifth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, celebrates Black History Month:**

**Theme:**  
**"Where do we go from here?"**  
**Thursdays and Fridays 12:30 - 1:30 pm**

**Thursday, February 22:** Author of *Fist Stick Knife Gun*, Geoffery Canada is also one of the country's leading advocates for children. He is president and CEO of the Rheedlen Centers for Children and Families in Harlem.

**Friday, February 23:** Gracie Cornish joins us to discuss our theme in relation to her new book, *Radiant Women of Color*. This seminar is not for women only; rather, it focuses on how a caring man can be part of his partner's fascinating trip to self-discovery, self-enhancement and self-fulfillment. So men are welcome, too!

**Thursday, February 29:** Susan Taylor, Editor-in-Chief of *Essence* magazine has been a major source of inspiration to millions of readers through her popular column, "In the Spirit." Susan is author of a new book of faith and spirituality, *Lessons in Living*.

### HIGHER EDUCATION CCNY BUDGET CUT SPRING 96 AGENDA

**Thursday, February 22:** "CUNY Awareness Day": CUNY to inform the campus community of issues affecting the City University.

**Friday, February 23 - 25:** Student Solidarity Conference: (Higher Education) Conference in Albany

**Monday, February 26:** NYPIRG Higher Education Lobby Day in Albany

**Tuesday, February 27:** "How Can We Save City College?" Manning Marable; Head of African American Research Institute at Columbia University, author of *How Capitalism underdeveloped Black America* speaks out in forum on budget cuts @ 6pm in the CCNY NAC Ballroom.

**Thursday, March 7:** "FUNK THE CUTS" - Higher education party @ 12 - 2pm in the CCNY NAC Ballroom.

### FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, NEW YORK

#### IMMUNIZATIONS NO LONGER AVAILABLE FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS AT SOME CLINICS

Beginning February 5, 1996, the NYC Department of Health Bureau of Immunization will be reducing the number of walk-in clinics devoted to adult immunization.

College age students can receive immunizations only at the Chelsea Health Center and the Washington Heights Health Center, addresses below:

**Chelsea Health Center**  
303 Ninth Avenue (28th Street),  
Manhattan

**Homecrest Health Center**  
1601 Avenue S, Brooklyn

**Washington Heights Health Center**  
600 West 168th Street, Manhattan

**Hillside Avenue Health Center**  
164-21 Hillside Avenue, Queens

College age students will not be seen at the:

**Corona Health Center**  
34-33 Junction Boulevard, Queens

**Fort Greene Health Center**  
295 Flatbush Avenue Extension,  
Brooklyn

**Morrisania Health Center**  
1309 Fulton Avenue, Bronx

Clinics operate from 8:30am - 3 pm. Students may call (212) 349-2664 for the days when services will be available at the above sites. The Department of Health encourages colleges to provide immunization services for students. The DOH Bureau of immunization has distributed MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) vaccine to colleges without charge, and will expand this distribution to colleges willing to enhance their vaccination efforts.

Students, especially those with insurance coverage, are encouraged to seek immunization from their health care provider

## Manning Marable Speaks FORUM ON THE BUDGET CUTS HOW CAN WE SAVE CITY COLLEGE?

Last year Governor Pataki raised tuition by \$750 and cut TAP by 10%. Enrollment at City College dropped by 2,500. Dozens of faculty were laid off and six departments were closed. Today, Pataki wants to cut an additional \$50 million by cutting 22% from TAP. This will mean a \$1,170 reduction to students receiving TAP and could result in forcing 11,000 more students out of CUNY. Pataki's plan is pure poison. Come to a meeting to discuss what these cuts will mean, and how students, faculty and staff can organize to stop them.

**SPEAKERS**  
**Manning Marable**  
Head of African American Research Institute, Columbia University, Author of *How Capitalism Underdeveloped Black America* and numerous other books.  
Keeanga Taylor  
International Socialist Organization  
Representative from Professional Staff Congress  
Representative Welfare Rights Initiative.

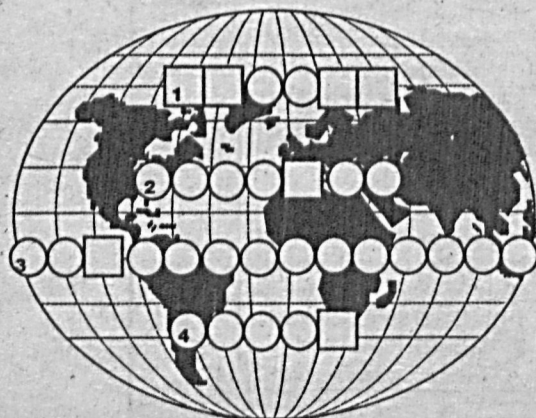
**Tuesday  
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6:00 pm**  
First Floor Ballroom, NAC  
CCNY  
For info call (212) 862-7951

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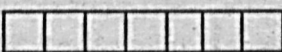
## PEACE CORPS WORLD WISE PUZZLE

For further information about Peace Corps, write Box 896, Washington DC 20526

**INSTRUCTIONS:** The Peace Corps has volunteers serving in nearly 90 nations around the world. By solving this puzzle, you will learn about one of these countries. Solve the four numbered puzzle words and then unscramble the letters in the squares to produce the name of the country darkened on the map at the right.



The breadbasket of the former Soviet Union



1. The largest of the former Soviet republics which borders this nation to the east.
2. Nation bordering this country to the west whose leader Ceausescu was executed after a rebellion in December 1989.
3. Nation on small portion of western border whose president was a former playwright.
4. Sea on the southern border of this nation.

Solution: 1. Russia 2. Romania 3. Black 4. Czechoslovakia = Ukraine