

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~~

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A Medium For All People Of African Descent

March 16, 1992

SHATTERED DREAMS: Budget Cuts Dismantle CCNY

by Mohale Masithela

City College is stuck in a dire fiscal crisis which only promises to get worse for the 1992-93 budget year. New York State has imposed \$90 million budget cut on the City University of New York (CUNY) educational system.

New York State government has itself neglected public higher education as a priority.

City College President Bernard Harleston said New York state ranks only forty-eighth out of all the states in terms of the proportion of the total budget it allocates to public higher education.

Furthermore, New York State only allocates 6% of its total budget as opposed to the 13% national state average, Harleston said. As a result, City College has suffered crippling budget cuts.

At the start of the 1991-92 budget year, City College took a \$3 million budget reduction. The college was subsequently informed that it had to absorb an additional \$1.3 million cut for the same budget year as its share of another \$13.2 million cut the state imposed on the CUNY system.

The college responded to the cuts at the beginning of the semester by "extreme belt-tightening measures," Harleston said. These measures included "a partial hiring freeze, sharp reduction in all OTPS (Other Than Personnel Services) and all temporary service allocations,

the use of non-tax levy monies to help cover the deficit and extremely tight control and reporting requirements regarding all expenditures," he said.

The result has been a reduction student on-campus hirings and financial support for student services.

Departments have felt the pinch in terms of machinery repairs, office supplies and the like. They have been asked to use their own non-tax levy money (monies that are not obtained by state funding) to pay for routine tax levy expenditures including basic supplies and faculty salaries.

Despite these measures, the school will still need to defer over \$1 million of the shortfall to the 1992-93 budget, as the result of a one-time commitment of non-tax levy money, where there will already be a \$5.9 million budget reduction. The total budget reduction will be at least \$7 million, which is over 10% of the total City College budget.

Vice President of Finance and Management Jon Yellin said CUNY will absorb \$52 million of the total \$90 million 1992-93 budget cut with a \$500 tuition increase.

The remaining \$38 million will be cut from all the CUNY senior and community colleges.

City College faces cope with 1992-93 academic year. The \$500

tuition increase will be intensified steadily decreasing by financial aid. In a February memo President Harleston warned the college community about next year's budget cuts, "I regret to inform you ... that unless we receive significant budgetary restorations for 1992-93, City College will face the prospect of large scale personnel reductions. There is simply no other way these massive budget cuts can be absorbed in a manner that will minimally preserve the quality of our ongoing programs."

A nine person steering committee, made up of the provost, six faculty members and two students, was comprised to figure out ways in which the college could save money in 1992-93 while minimizing damage.

The steering committee's report was released on Feb. 11, 1992 and their findings are still under consideration.

The committee's report suggests cuts in five categories:

- academic administration
- non-academic administration
- central services
- non-academic personnel
- academic programs.

If all the committee's findings are followed the committee would project a \$2,061,000 savings for 1992-93 and an additional \$157,000 in future years.

Some of the Academic Administration cuts would take place in the architectural, nursing, engineering and education department administrations.

Cuts under central services include the reduction in duplicating services and a per semester increase of \$15 in parking fees for faculty and students.

Most crucial were the committee's suggestion for cuts in academic programs. The committee has suggested:

- transferring of the Technology department to New York Technical College
- combining of the Education Technology and Secondary Education departments
- eliminating of the Speech department (which is already being reduced)
- formulating a single language department comprised of now separate departments (i.e. Classical languages, Hebrew, Germanic and Slavic languages, and Romance languages)
- combining World Humanities and World Civilizations 101 and 102 core courses into lecture-recitation mode and
- replacing only 25% of the faculty and staff who vacate positions.

The steering committee recommendations were discussed at a

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Editorial

Women's History Month: A Celebration of Spirit and Strength

March is designated as Women's History Month.

Like other groups who have been given their day, week, or month to be the object of gawking curiosity in the midst of an otherwise blind, deaf and dumb society — women have taken this time to validate their multitudinous existence. However, their voices will not be silenced come April 1.

The his-story of western society is riddled with omission, convolution and boldfaced lies. The predominant group of scholars and the texts they produce would have us believe the only people that had any historical significance in the world are rich, white men who have the power to destroy anyone that can potentially get in their way.

That "anyone" has frequently been in the form of women. Their voices, however, have never been totally silenced while this global war has been waged against them.

Maria Stewart, Ida B. Wells, Angela Davis, Susan Rosenberg, Freida Kahlo, Queen Lilioukalana and Ella Baker are names foreign to the everyday person as well as the academic scholar. Yet their contributions have significantly impacted history and the way many of us interpret the world in which we live.

They and many unsung she-roles have weathered the storms of indentured servitude, slavery, racism, sexism, rape, mutilation and torture, infringed reproductive rights, denied human prerogatives, undeserved blame for world degeneration and exclusion on every level of power.

Through all this pain and struggle they have left a legacy of resistance to generations of daughters.

Daughters who will help create a worldspace of equality and equity they never knew.

Daughters who will hopefully heal the wounds of our debilitated psyches and provide a foundation of hope and spirit for the children to come.

Children who will blaze trails into a progressive future.

From reverence as goddess to defilement as bitch; from the front-lines of the plantation to the front-lines in El Salvador, Vietnam and New York City; from images of self-sacrificing mothers to pornographic pinups; from prostitute to Ph.D. — the stories of women have been hidden under a deceitful cloud of patriarchal dominance.

The time has come to permanently remove it and let their voices speak without interpretation throughout the world.

Their herstory is our story and it will be heard every day, every week and every month with or without permission.

Recommended Texts

Non-Fiction

When and Where I Enter: The Impact of Black Women on Race and Sex in America by Paula Giddings

Women, Race and Class by Angela Davis

Women, Culture and Politics by Angela Davis

This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color ed. by Gloria Anzuldúa and Cherrie Moraga

Mad at Miles: A Blackwoman's Guide to Truth by Pearl Cleage

Backlash: The Undeclared War Against American Women by Susan Faludi

Black Women in White America by Gerda Lerner

Making Face, Making Soul: Writings by Women of Color ed. Gloria Anzuldúa

The Paper

City College of City University of New York
Convent Avenue & 138th Street
NAC Building, Rm 1/118
Harlem, New York 10031
(212) 650 - 5029

EDITORIAL COLLECTIVE COMMITTEE

Managing Editor: Tammie V. Lacewell
Campus Affairs Editor: Desa Philadelphia
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Donald C. Perry

Staff & Contributing Writers

Tammie V. Lacewell Desa Philadelphia Mohale Masithela
Joan Morgan Keith A. Mayes Andrew Daley
Rab Bakari Omar P. L. Moore Victoria Baecher

Photographer: Paul Barrera

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But Some Of Us Are Brave: Black Women's Studies ed. by Barbara Smith, Patricia Bell Scott, and Gloria T. Hull

Home Girls: A Black Feminist Anthology ed. by Barbara Smith

Sister Outsider by Audre Lorde

Crusade for Justice: The Autobiography of Ida B. Wells ed. by Alfreda Duster

A Gathering of Spirit: An Anthology of Native American Women ed. by Beth Brant

The Hidden Face of Eve by Nawaal el Saadawi

Fiction

Brown Girl, Brownstones by Paule Marshall

The Friends by Rosa Guy

Daddy was a Number Runner by Louise Meriwether

The Bluest Eye and Sula by Toni Morrison

Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston

Joys of Motherhood and Second Class Citizen by Buchi Emecheta

The Color Purple by Alice Walker

The Women of Brewster Place and Mama Day by Gloria Naylor

Dessa Rose by Sherley Anne Williams

—Thandekile Shange

A Blackwoman's Guide to the Tyson Trial: Rape, Racial Tension, And The Will Of Desiree Washington

by Joan Morgan

The rape of a colored woman is as common as a fish in the sea.

-Yella Mary, *Daughters of the Dust*

And visions of skeezers danced through our heads, Niambi, Indigo, and I. They haunted us way back in August, as we tried to reconstruct the rationale of a woman who could wander into the bedroom of a man who spends his life waxing ass and disrespecting his dick-without expecting to give up the punanny. As creatures of the nightlife, we'd seen to many groupies riding the snoopies of the largest rapper/reverend/athlete/dealer in search of the vicarious power so many of us associate with status and dollars. It was also hard to maneuver our feminist consciousness around the protective anonymity that surrounds an alleged rape victim. She was Lady X, and he Mike Tyson. Suspicious neutrality was the best we could muster.

Admittedly, we did not want it to be so. As survivors of urban ghettos and inner-city public schools, we recognized Mike Tyson as the kind of boy who threw his chair at the sixth-grade teacher. For me, that boy was my ex-classmate Troy Canty, a brother from the Boogie Down who would only get his two minutes of fame by catching a bad one in a subway car, a present from Bernhard Goetz. But Tyson's longstanding ability to escape both jail and death was a lovely, indelible Nike print deep in the crack of urban malaise's ass. And I loved him for it.

Later on I would come to understand why Niambi, Indigo, and I could not immediately identify with Lady X's victimization. Searching for the skeezer was a means of emotional distancing. It was less painful than focusing on the 14-year-old who got dragged into the apartment of a neighbor she liked well enough to kiss but not enough to sex. Or remembering the young woman who once lay silent and motionless under a lover who turned threatening and ugly the first time she dared to refuse him—a man, she found out soon after, who beat his own mother with sickening regularity. It was also easier than remembering the little girl who shared her parents'

bedroom. "No," said the mother. "Stop it." Then, "Dammit, just take it if you want it so bad." The father was snoring, the mother was crying, and the little girl lay awake trembling and fascinated by the swiftness of their shadows and the violence of their motion. In time, she would grow into a woman who repeatedly engaged in sex she did not want to have primarily because she could not recognize her right to resistance.

Among the cadre of streetwise Nubian women I call my friends, the number who have been raped or sexually assaulted far outnumbers those who have been mugged or attacked on dangerous city streets. Their assailants were all brown men whom they knew. Scarier yet, if one could ignore their proclivity toward rape and the sexual domination of their "sister," these men were usually, in all other capacities, considered what is known in our community as positive, productive, even righteous brothers. By dismissing the incident as a star-groupie thing, we were trying to avoid acknowledging Tyson and Lady X as players in the ongoing, sexist war that the "brothers" have launched on the women of our community. While the media and black men alike justly lament the insidious way American racism (in the form of drugs, crime, inadequate education, etc.) has turned black men into predators who feast on each other, they turn a blind eye to the conditions that make us the unsung casualties of black-on-black crime. We are often disproportionately represented in these very real statistics: In the U.S., five women a day are killed by husbands, ex-lovers, and boyfriends in so-called crimes of passion; before this year is out, more women will be hospitalized for being beaten by men than they will for cancer, heart attacks, or childbirth.

In spite of this, the men who define black women's struggle encourage our complicity by convincing us that issues of race must precede those of gender. They have engaged us in a silent, cruel war that dictates its victims speak not of their persecution so that we can all remain one Afrocentric nation under a groove. But some of us cannot buy the illusion. Our inability to swim the stormy sea between our

blackness and our womanness, our race loyalty and our humanity forces us to ask the disturbing questions that black womanist author Pearl Cleage so bravely asked when she took Miles Davis's sexist brutality to task:

How can they hit[rape] us and still be our heroes?...How can they hit us and still be our leaders? Our husbands? Our lovers? Our geniuses? Our friends? And the answer is...they can't. Can they?

For the darker fabric of the provincial quilt that is the soul of Indianapolis, God is a black man. On January 31, 50 or so of his shepherds locked arms with the Nation of Islam and the 7.8 million-member National Baptist Convention USA to show their support and offer prayer for Mike Tyson. The vigil at the Christ Missionary Baptist Church, called to protest the alleged racism of the jury selection process, drew hundreds to the city's northwest side. The crowd was so big that it spilled out onto Eugene Street; big-screen video monitors were set up outside, providing a stark contrast to the abandoned parking lots and timeworn frame houses of the neighborhood's working poor. Bow-tied battalions from the Nation kept the peace while beautiful young brothers sold buttons demanding JUSTICE AND FAIRNESS FOR MIKE TYSON. Others in X caps handed out American flags.

Inside, state senator Billie Breaux spoke melliflously for the women, reminding us of our duty "to stand behind our beautiful black men." Tyson sat onstage suited down and surrounded by ministers; glowing and full of the gospel, he seemed visibly moved by the peculiar love of a selective God. Preacher after preacher expressed his anger at "the racist state of Indiana" and asked the assembled to "remember what they did to Martin Luther King and Malcolm X." Reverend Dr. Henry Payne, Tyson's personal pastor from Cleveland, took to the pulpit. "Mike Tyson is not a criminal," he reminded everyone. Then, in his rich baritone, he broke into a melody. "Go down, Moses." sang Payne. "Let my people go."

Throughout all of this, not one moment of prayer was offered for

the young woman. Only Reverend Dr. Theodore Jemison, president of the National Baptist Convention, reminded us to hold no animosity toward the girl, "because like David Duke, she is a child of God." The evening ended traditionally with the Negro National Anthem and Tyson's victory pledge to a sweaty congregation. "I fight with god," he said, "and with God I can't lose."

The church vigil took place five days after the trial began. It had been called by the black clergy of Indianapolis not just to show support for Tyson, but to protest the alleged racism of the jury selection process—even through three of the 12 original jury members were black, a ratio that actually exceeded the overall representation of blacks in the population of Marion County.

But what these leaders were really doing was playing the race card in order to distract our attention from the issues of gender that lay at the core of the case. They were confronted with a situation like Hill versus Thomas; one of our heroes was in danger of being brought down by one of our women. But this time, instead of allowing the community to be divided, they gave the enemy a familiar white face and ensured Tyson's status as both hero and victim. The message was unspoken but clear: in a community that desperately needs to hold onto its few living heroes, a nameless, faceless black woman was certainly expendable.

There goes Round 1/There goes Round 2/Now tell me what the fuck am I supposed to do/Well what do you know when the meow was completely/Girlie girlie cried rape-I didn't really mean it

-A Tribe Called Quest's "Classic Example of Date Rape"

The media viewing room in the basement of the Marion County Courthouse, conspicuously devoid of color, had a drab, industrial feel. Here some 100 representatives from newspapers around the world, after passing through a gauntlet of security that one usually encounters only at airports or rap concerts, sat watching the proceedings on four large TV monitors. For two weeks I would be surrounded in this room by the

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Salute To Black Literary Genius

by Tammie V. Lacewell

With the strains of "Lift Every Voice and Sing," the Black National Anthem, in the background, the audience at the Fourth Annual Tribute to African Writers and Poets initiated an evening of culture, love, unity, and brotherhood.

The event, sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Eta Chapter, was held February 29, at First Baptist Church in Harlem.

Nine-year-old students Gerald King, Fatima White and Andrea Fowler read brief biographies of authors and poets. King told the audience about Mark Mathabane, author of Kaffir Boy. White chose Alice Walker, author of The Color Purple, Temple of My Familiar, and several other novels and collections of poetry. Finally, Fowler informed the capacity crowd about James Weldon Johnson, lyricist, poet, and author of Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man.

City College student Emmanuel Gay read a poem by Haitian poet Antoine Dupre, in French. Dupre was killed for writing about free-

dom and independence for Haiti. City College students Desa Philadelphia and Alita Carter paid tributes to Jamaica Kincaid and Gloria Naylor, respectively.

Kincaid was born Elaine Potter Richardson on the island of Antigua. She writes about family and feminism. Her works include Annie John and Lucy. Naylor is a native New Yorker who writes mainly about family, unity, and collective vision. Among her novels are Mama Day, and The Women of Brewster Place.

Timothy Eatman, who started the annual tribute four years ago, sang a song he wrote called "A Family in Love."

The lyrics illustrated the theme of this year's event, "Healing Through Love: Family, Unity, and Vision." The song brought tears to the eyes of Master of Ceremonies Brian L. Spivey.

Darrell Porcher, Alvin Young, Jr., Christopher Comma, and Hans Serrao performed a skit about the contrast in values between the Black working class and middle class, and

the racism all classes face. The skit addressed our Black leaders' failure to find solutions to such problems as the lightskin vs. darkskin issue, and the importance of money.

Anthony Blake played a "Who's Who?" game with the audience. He described the short, drug-plagued life of one of our most prolific and controversial writers—Donald Goines. Goines and his wife were murdered in their home, in front of their children in Detroit.

"The D-Train Poet," Richard Barte, performed his spiritually uplifting "Royal Vision Song" for the first time in public. He also told a hilarious short story, a prelude to "The Creation" called "Something About Nothing—Parts I-III." His bluesy music and philosophy took the chill out of the cold night air that filled the sanctuary. His oft repeated philosophy: "More huggin', less muggin'. More huggin', less druggin'."

C.C.N.Y. professor Edward Culvert, pastor of the First Baptist Church, gave a seemingly inappropriate lecture about the role of Black

laborers in America. However, the information was well received by the young, African crowd.

Ernestine Walker Jones gave a brief promotional talk about her forthcoming book, "Black Relationships: Mating and Marriage."

Poetry was read by Monica Fowler, and a member of the congregation. This sister read a beautiful but bittersweet elegy to her mother.

And Terrance Jackson, author of "Putting it All Together," explained why he wrote his political expose' and revealed valuable information to those who have not yet read it.

Finally, the brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha inc., sang their fraternal song and to close the program. No one exited quickly. People remained to congratulate the participants, hug, kiss, exchange addresses and take pictures. The sanctuary was warmed by the spirits of those who braved the cold to embrace their past and look forward to their future.

Young, Gifted & Black: The 1992 Lecture Tour

edited by Keith A. Mayes

Who is Daniel E. Walker? And what does it mean to be young, gifted, and black. Well, Walker who began the lecture series knows all about what it means.

A childhood laced with poverty and prejudice coupled with a strong desire to be "somebody" shaped Daniel Walker's ambition towards community and personal development. He uses an optimistic attitude and a belief in the internal strength of individuals to create the type of positive environment which allows actualization to occur.

Understanding that his relative success was the result of a legacy of political dissension, social upheaval and sacrifice, Walker has used every opportunity available to him to continue that tradition.

To that end he is compelled to seek economic, political and educational justice for the forgotten in society.

As he says "we must

bare the cross of quality activism in urban communities because we have been lucky enough to escape poverty's mental prison. It is our responsibility to build upon the accomplishments of the Toussaint L'Overture's, David Walker's and Shirley Chisolm's of the world. We must strive to make life better for those who lack the knowledge but maintain the will to fight."

If you ever have the pleasure of hearing Walker speak, you will be informed on topics ranging from Economics and Community Development, Leadership and Politics, and Youth and Education. Walker truly believes in spurring economic and neighborhood development activities in communities of color. He provides technical assistance to small businesses which include locating financing, writing business plans and creating business incubators.

He developed The New York City Procurement Network, which links small

businesses with contracting institutions, served as a project manager with the New York City Economic Development Corporation and Brite-Star Enterprises (an African-Owned Contractor).

Additionally, he has worked on projects worth almost \$1 billion and sat on the board of directors of several multimillion dollar corporations.

Daniel Walker has always recognized the link between politics and other facets of life.

To assure that others realize the significance of their own relative power, he has served on several local and state election campaigns, helped create the Twenty-First Century Leadership Committee, and was co-founder of the African-American Students Leadership Conference.

Walker has worked with the Jesse Jackson presidential campaigns, California's African/Black Student Statewide Alliance,

The Black American Political Association of California and the New Democrats.

In 1988, Walker was elected student government president of San Diego State University. During his tenure, he increased the number of students of color in decision-making positions five fold, raised over \$20,000 for AIDS research and successfully lobbied against statewide budget cuts in education. Walker also created a multi-cultural political coalition which in 1991 elected students of color to every executive position while only constituting a combined 15% of the total student population.

The many negative realities facing urban youth and the limited number of conscious activities available to them caused Daniel Walker and partner Shawn Ginwright to create Leadership Excellence. The non-profit organization, now five years old, has created the "In Search of

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And Now With The Sports...

by Desa Philadelphia

No it's not Ahmad Rashad or Carl White. His name is Daren Jaime, and he's from the new school.

Daren periodically attended City College from 1986 to 1990. He left to attend the Centre for the Media Arts in order to fulfill his dreams of becoming a sportscaster. Not only has he graduated but he's already made that first step into the field of sports broadcasting and is determined to become as successful as Ahmad Rashad of Sports Entertainment.

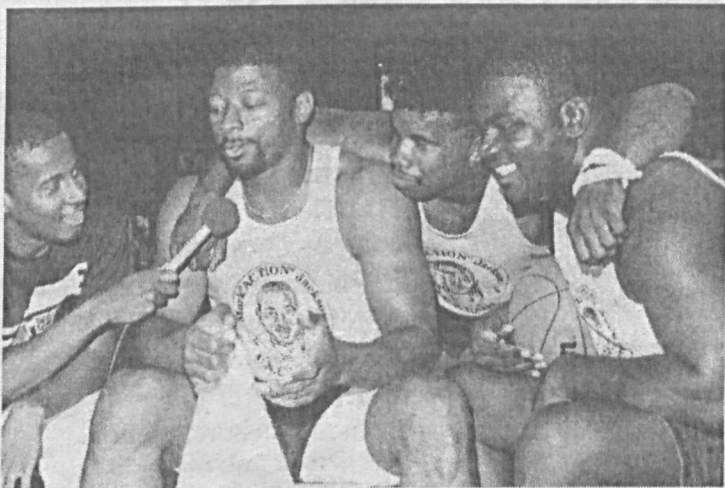
Daren has been a professional sportscaster for about three years and has worked at several cable stations and networks. I spoke with Daren about his dream and its realities.

PHILADELPHIA: How did you become interested in sportscasting?

JAIME: I started when I was young. Rather than hang out on the streets, I wanted to play many sports. But I realized that I would not excel at any of these sports on a professional level, so I thought that the next best thing to do would be sportscasting.

P: Why did you leave City College. Was it to promote your skill?

J: Yes. I was a CFV (Communications, Film and Video) major here at City but I left in 1988 to go to the Center for the Media Arts. I left because I realized that I wanted to do sportscasting, but City didn't have any on-camera training programs, so I went to the Centre for



Daren Jaime with l-r Carl Banks-NY Giants, Paul Anthony-Full Force and Pepper Johnson-NY Giants

the Media Arts.

Some people here had recommended that for what I wanted to do, I should go to another school, whether it was a college or a vocational school.

P: How did you break into sportscasting?

J: After I graduated from the Center for the Media Arts, I got an internship with the Madison Square Garden Coca Cola High School sports week tournament. Through the people that I met there, I was able to make some contacts. I sent my tapes to some small radio and T.V studios and got my foot in the door.

P: So what are you doing right now?

J: I just finished doing CUNY (City University of New York) Games for CUNY cable. On March 21, I'm doing the High School Basketball Championships for WNYE. I am also working as a youth counselor at Nepperhan Community Center here in Harlem.

P: So you're doing two jobs?

J: Sportscasting is freelance work. If somebody needs me I'll do it but right now I'm working with the kids at the Community Center.

My bosses at the center, Mary Gaines and Barbara Jacobs are very nice. They allow me to pursue both my careers. Sometimes there may be a schedule problem but they are very supportive of my career and it is a lot easier to have two jobs when you have a boss that allows you to be flexible.

P: I know that you've had some special moments in your career so far, please share a little of that with us.

J: I was a reporter for Mark Jackson's (N.Y. Knicks) UNCF (United Negro College Fund) celebrity basketball game. Mark is a friend or mine. I used to work for the Knicks years ago and that's how we met. I told him I was interested in doing a video on the game and he asked me to cover the game. He also asked us (the crew) to be his personal videographer at his marriage to singer Desiree Coleman.

Also, while at City, I was president of S.A.M.E. (Students for Arts, Media and Education). That

gave me the opportunity to test the waters in terms of my sportscasting. From that I tried to develop a style. The first show I ever did at SAME went to CUNY-TV. It was called "Sportsbeat". It was a sports variety show. It was directed by Malcolm Jamaal Warner of the Cosby Show. We did three "Sportsbeat" shows, and CUNY-TV ran all three.

P: Doesn't it make you feel a little special to be handling two careers at once?

J: No, not "special", because I realize that some parents have to work two or three jobs. That's not being special, they do it because they have to survive. I'm doing it in order to achieve my career goals. At the community center, I get the satisfaction of seeing youth achieve. I'm not satisfied yet in terms of my sportscasting because I haven't achieved my goals yet. I'm always criticizing myself to try to be better and when I stop doing this, it's then that I am going to have a problem.

P: So what's next?

J: I guess I would like to be an anchor at a major network sooner or later but I would have to be patient because I have a lot of work to do. But anything you work hard at, you can achieve, so I don't have any doubts that I can do it. I just have to work very hard at it.

After our talk, Daren left to go to work. At the rate he's going, it won't be long before we hear the phrase he longs to hear on a regular basis — "and now with Sports, here's Daren Jaime".

A Black Woman's Guide ... continued from page 3

mostly white male faces responsible for reporting and interpreting this black-on-black drama to the world.

Past experience with the media and its depiction of African American images left me with my own set of race anxieties. The thought of watching two white men—chief defense lawyer Vincent J. Fuller (if Don King and the men with the big voices had really believed that only black faces could deliver justice in this case, there would have been more tan on Tyson's lily-white, \$5000-a-day defense team) and special prosecutor Greg Garrison—vie to shape the identities and fates of Mike Tyson and Desiree Washington brought on an eerie case of ra-

cial déjà vu. Like most African Americans, I have lived my life as alternately observer and actress in the bizarre theater of racial misidentity that inevitably occurs when America is entrusted with the scripting of black lives. Not even the Harlem Renaissance, civil rights, or Black Arts movements, Nationalism, or the Afrocentria of hip-hop have been strong enough to completely kill off Sambos/Mammies/Toms/Hookers/PimpMacDaddys/rapists/castrating evil bitches that lurk not so deep in our collective African American psyche.

Tyson's defense team argued to keep a black man out of jail by cashing in on racial/sexual stereotypes. They cast Tyson as King

Kong. In pragmatic *Paper Chase* style, Fuller juxtaposed Tyson's brilliant boxing career with his lack of sophistication and his supposed low level of intelligence. "He only has a 10th-grade education," said Fuller. "He only knows how to do one thing," Read: you can take the primate out of the jungle but you can't expect to civilize him. Since Judge Patricia Gifford ruled that the size of Mikey's johnson was inadmissible as evidence, the defense team built their archetype by describing the voraciousness of his sexual appetite. Witness after witness was called, from Miss Black America contestants to Tyson's homey Johnny Gill, to testify to Tyson's uncontrollable bouts of groping, feeling, and general disre-

spect for females. It was clearly a shaky strategy, to depict a man as incapable of rape because his unabashed lechery made it clear that any woman who would enter his hotel room could only be a skeezin' gold digger out for one thing.

Fuller's depiction of Desiree Washington, as a lascivious, hot-blooded, willing young thing who could not wait to screw the savage, used a characterization of African American female sexuality that has plagued us since slavery. And indeed, it almost seemed to have been lifted from the 19th century. As Paula Giddings wrote in *When and Where I Enter: The Impact of Black Women on Race and Sex in America*,

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South Africa Now

by Mohale Masithela

One way or another, March 17, 1992 should prove to be a historic date for South Africa. On this day an all-white referendum, called by South African President F.W. De Klerk, will be held. The referendum will determine whether or not white South Africa supports De Klerk's reform measures which aim to lay a foundation for a new "non-racial" South Africa, where opportunity for political and economic participation will be open to all.

De Klerk has vowed to resign as president if his reforms are not supported by the results of the referendum. This will effectively turn power over to the reactionary, pro-apartheid, all white

Conservative Party (CP).

De Klerk took this drastic measure when white South Africa voted a member of the Conservative Party into a vacated parliamentary seat which was traditionally filled by a member of National Party. The National Party has ruled South Africa since 1948. De Klerk disappointed by the loss of the parliamentary seat, then announced his plans for the referendum. Ironically, the National Party which formalized the segregationist policies into the doctrine, philosophy, and legal principles known as *Apartheid*. South African polls show the white voters taking a supporting stance for the reforms in the referendum. Hopefully, De Klerk is intelligent

enough a politician not to ask a question to which he does not already know the answer. Some South African commentators feel that De Klerk is simply sending the message to white South Africa that there is no alternative — either adapt to the reforms or perish. Others cite history and maintain that no ruling people have ever given up power without a violent revolution.

Therefore, if Black South Africa expects to peacefully gain political power it would be taking a naive stance. This school of thought speculates that perhaps De Klerk never intended on long term "irreversible" change, and now that he has weathered the storm of sanctions and had them lifted, his priority has changed to pacifying

the fears and anger of white South Africa.

Black political parties and organizations, including the African National Congress (ANC), immediately denounced the measure as granting white people veto power over progress in South Africa. Regardless of the referendum's result, its very introduction has made many people skeptical of South African governmental reforms. If the whites vote to maintain apartheid then the repercussions may result in an extremely volatile situation as Black South Africans, other South Africans, and their international supporters would not allow South Africa to regress to the Apartheid of years past.

Organizing in Self-Defense

by Victoria Baecher

ALEXANDRA, South Africa — Since March, 1991 over 300 people have been murdered in Alexandra township due to state sponsored violence.

This violence comes in many forms, from random attacks by Inkatha members on Alexandra residents to hit squads targeting key liberation movement leaders. The Alexandra community resides and travels in fear of their lives.

The Mass Democratic Movement recognized the inability of Alexandra residents to fight back against an often hidden enemy without being organized. Consequently, the community was forced to form a self-defense unit to protect themselves and the community of Alexandra, irrespective of their political affiliations, against gangsters and killers.

On September 21, 1991, Philemon Mauku was arrested and charged with illegal possession of firearms. He is an African National Congress member and Vice Chairperson of the Alexandra Civic Organization's Nobuhle Hostel committee.

In a statement applying for Legal Aid (which he was refused) he wrote: "I was carrying the people's weapons. I have been mandated by the members of the

Mass Democratic Movement to serve as an organizer, and even mandated to get materials for defense because they are not secure.

"On top of that the African National Congress National Executive Committee gave the right to people to defend themselves. I strongly feel that it is the right of human beings to protect themselves if they are not secure. I cannot allow the state to charge me," Mauku said.

The National Peace Accord recognizes the right of individuals to "...defend themselves and their property, and to establish voluntary associations or self-protection units in any neighborhood to prevent crime and to prevent any invasion of the lawful rights of such communities. This shall include the right to bear licensed arms and to use them in legitimate and lawful self-defense."

In the rich, white suburbs surrounding Alexandra, whites have no problem getting firearm licenses, which are issued by the police. The government makes self-protection for the townships virtually impossible by refusing licenses to ordinary black residents.

This is why many responsible members of the community such as Philemon Mauku, who pose no threat to their neighbors, are forced to obtain firearms illegally and run the risk of arrest.

In many cases the police, who are issuers of firearm licenses, have proved to be behind the violence. The South African Police and the South African Defense Force have been supplying arms to Inkatha and turning a blind eye to criminal gangs. It is these thugs who have licenses to bear arms while the ordinary working people are disarmed. A report by the Community Agency for Social Enquiry (CASE) says that since the start of the killings in the Johannesburg area, in July 1990, Inkatha and the police together have been responsible for 74% of the acts of violence. Over 2500 people have died in this period.

The Alexandra Civic Organization has founded a Defense Campaign Fund to raise funds and support for residents like Philemon Mauku, who are victimized for defending their communities. Alex residents are also collecting petitions that demand that the govern-

ment must:

—Drop all charges against Philemon Mauku, and other on trial for organizing community self-defense.

—Immediately release and indemnify all those being held for organizing self-defense.

—Issue firearm licenses to all members of genuine community defense units.

Victoria Baecher is the former co-chair of The Chicago Mozambique Support Network. She is living in Alexandra, South Africa until June 1992, working with the Alexandra Civic Organization.

(Printed with the permission of the author. The article originally appeared in *All Chicago City News*, January 26, 1992.)

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A Black Woman's Guide ... continued from page 5

the widespread belief in plantation-era white America was that black women were morally obtuse, openly licentious, and "did not 'foster chastity' in their own daughters, [and] were not only responsible for their own denigration but for that of the entire race. Even the black man's alleged impulse to rape was the black woman's fault....He would have to be potent, the thinking went, to satisfy such hot-natured women."

With all this foul race play in effect, Greg Garrison was forced to do what perhaps no other white attorney in history had done: send an African American male to jail by dispelling racist stereotypes. During the cross-examination, he would have to reveal Tyson's intelligence and his capacity for discerning right and wrong. And then, after granting Fuller's ape his humanity, he'd have to turn it all around and show that in the case of Desiree Washington, Tyson behaved like a Grade-A asshole. It was a tricky business. The line between abolitionist and master was thin; one wrong move and Garrison risked appearing to the jury as the mean white man making intellectual mincemeat out of the mentally ill-equipped dorky. But Garrison walked it successfully, letting Tyson outsmart himself. At one point Tyson asked to check his taped grand jury deposition before answering a question ("because," he reminded Garrison cagily, "you're a lot smarter than I am."). Ironically, contradictions on that same tape, played back to the jury just before it retired for deliberations, helped convict Tyson.

The task of dispelling the skeezer myth Garrison left to Desiree Washington herself. Pretty, petite, well-mannered, and mercifully void of any sexual sophistication, Washington spoke in tones that revealed a composed young woman whose speech sometimes displayed the involuntary upward inflection that betrays the insecurities of adolescence. When she gave her account of what happened that night in Room 606 of the Canterbury Hotel, her voice never broke, she never cried.

When they got there Tyson invited her in to watch TV. She came out of the bathroom and Tyson was sitting in his underwear. He grabbed her and stuck his tongue in her mouth. *It was disgusting. I pulled back...Don't fight me. Come here, he said. I tried to fight but it was like hitting a wall....I kept saying please*

get off me, please stop. I just froze. I didn't know what I was going to do. He struck his fingers in my vagina. I screamed...I felt excruciating pain. Ow, it hurts, please stop but he just laughed like he thought it was a game. I tried to get him off me. I was begging him, please I have a future ahead. Please, I don't need a baby...He'd said, so, we have a baby. I mentioned diseases hoping that he'd get up and put on a condom. He said that he didn't have any and I know you don't. When he noticed I was crying his voice got normal for a second. Do you want to get on top? I said yes, hoping that I could get away. He grabbed me and held me down. Don't fight me Mommy, don't fight me, he said. He stayed on top of me until he ejaculated. "See I told you I wouldn't come in you. Don't you love me now?"

With her testimony, Washington may have knocked the skeezer image out of the box for the jury, but she represented a version of African American womanhood that left the roomful of journalists perplexed and divided. Several of the older white male reporters remarked that her type "didn't seem real. She was too accomplished, too composed." She contracted too sharply with the typical media catalogue of unwed mothers, crackheads, and videohos. For others she was an enigma. As with Anita Hill, they marveled at her poise and intelligence and paid her the definitive white-American backhanded compliment: "She doesn't seem black at all."

But for the small enclave of black women journalists who know that class, gender, and ethnic diversities make the notion of a monolithic black community a way tired myth, there was nothing "white" about her. With her black middle-class breeding in full effect, the Miss Black America Pageant contestant was also a BAP, a Black American Princess. And in her, Tyson had found a most worthy opponent.

BAPS are raised with a sense of entitlement and privilege that arrogantly defies the widely accepted premise that black women are born to be the mules of the world. Hence the existence of an woman who could wander into the bedroom of that particular man without expecting to give up the punanny. With her heightened sense of self-esteem and autonomy, a BAP would honestly believe that it is her right to be

able to say "No" and "I'd like to leave now" to a wall of sculpted muscle more than twice her size and expect to have her wishes respected, the same way Donald Trump's daughter would.

If white defines black and good defines evil, then men define women, or women, scientifically speaking, define men.

-Nikki Giovanni, *The Women and the Men*

The BAP sensibility, however, can be at odds with other attitudes in the community. One day I accompanied Audrey, the only sister I saw with a natural (Indy is a sea of walking, talking Dark 'N Lovely ads), to Floyd's Barbershop on North Bosart.

There were a lot of men at Floyd's that day, but Jimmy was the head prophet in charge. Dressed in black leather riding boots, black Levi's, and a cropped white leather fringed jacket, Jimmy is fiftyish and dangerously fine. Bright, dark, unpredictable, and wickedly self-possessed, his eyes are the eyes of a black man who has alternately given unlimited pleasure and endless grief to the women who have crossed his path.

Tyson, said Jimmy, "is the sacrificial martyr for every man who has ever been too full of cognac and his own power in the presence of a beautiful woman." He had no doubts that Tyson did what his accuser said he did, but he also believed that Tyson shouldn't go to jail because "she is 50 per cent responsible for whatever happened in that room."

In response to Jimmy's contention that "Tyson's got damn fool written straight across his forehead," I asked him playfully if all men are damn fools. His voice turned paternal and serious as cancer. "Yes, every last one. By the legal definition of rape I've raped quite a few women, every man in this room has or will." Not one denied it.

I surveyed this room full of men who could be my brother/uncles/cousins/lovers/father. Among them: Tawanaka, a chocolate-brown cutie with honey-colored eyes who speaks of a deep desire to learn both his African and Indian heritages; soft-spoken Robbie with the sweet Southern lilt and the gold oozy pendant; and Floyd, who confesses his passion for Nubian women with nose rings and tells me how he used to drive from Indy all the way to New

York just to party at the Paradise Garage. All have given me a warm homegirl welcome. The enemy could not be blessed with more beautiful, familiar faces.

"Men are brought up and faced with situations where a no from a woman doesn't always mean a no," said Jimmy, who has three daughters himself. "Some women say no and mean no. Others are taught that you have to say no when you mean yes in order to retain some semblance of respect. Women do not always speak the language of resistance honestly. So some men push and some push harder than others. Women cannot go through life thinking we speak the same language. It's not safe.

"Pretty one," he said to me, "it's about survival. I'll tell you and every woman the same thing. Any man you invite to your house is a potential rapist."

Pearl Cleage drops the same ominous science in her book *Mad at Miles: A Blackwoman's Guide to Truth*. "All men are capable of abusing women, no matter what they tell you or what they call it, so don't kid yourself about this one or that one being different. It takes years of love, work, and trust to eliminate the probability of violence in relationships between men and women. ...Strangers are always dangerous and friends can be too, when they are angry, frustrated, confused or crazed by a sexist desire for possession and control of you."

It is a strange thing when the pimp and the feminist speak the same language.

Less than nine hours after the end of closing arguments, we were summoned back to the media room one last time to witness, on the four TV monitors, the disposition of the fate of Michael G. Tyson. He arrived first and took his seat in the empty courtroom. It was a sad sight, this large man who is always surrounded by a posse, yet now, alone, he seemed almost to shrink in size, as if he knew what was about to come.

The guilty verdict was read on the second anniversary of the Buster Douglas upset, so many people's minds wandered naturally to that unthinkable moment when Tyson went down, his retainer tumbling across the canvas. I thought about it briefly and remembered how this remarkable young man erased all of

continued on page 10

Opinion

Pan-Africanism Or Micro-Nationalism: How Do These Ideologies Relate To African Students Life During And After CCNY?

by Rab Bakari

The student life at City College is diverse and multi-cultural. The people of Africa and their descendants add greatly to this diversity. However, there is an underlying problem at CCNY.

It is the inability of Africans to network with each other. African students attending CCNY are not able to agree on a common objective that will benefit all Africans worldwide. The problem surfaces when students try to divide the worlds into nationalities instead of continental unity. The influence of global politics creates a widening gap between students of african descent. The students are stumped when it comes to the choice of Pan-Africanism or Micro-Nationalism. What is Micro-Nationalism, and How does it affect students at CCNY? Which choice will benefit all Africans?

I am dealing with an inquiry where the answer must be Pan-Africanism. The unification of all Africans around the world is absolutely

necessary. Why? The problems facing Africans are serious and must be combatted with a locus of energy. We have power in a collective. It cannot be tied to any specific geopolitical area.

Micro-Nationalism or small allegiances, poison the best minds of future African leaders. The life at CCNY is divided into many micro-nations. These micro-nations have a small, if any, strategic outlook on the future development of African people. Political knowledge needs to be shared by all Africans to construct the road toward progression.

The question I am asking to pertains to an answer that amounts to power. I am certain that it is power that we all individually seek. If you break the masses of students down to people of African descent, then you are dealing with potential power. Many people have a problem when it comes to using the term "African" to describe a person descended from African who was born in the western hemisphere. The word "African" is unconsciously equated by many students immigrated to the

United States from that great continent. It is not generally understood by many students that the millions of so-called "black" people from the U.S.A., the Caribbean, Central and South America are also African.

There should be no debate about this statement whatsoever. The European-designed African slave trade, imperialism and white nationalism has confounded Africans all over the Earth.

Let us weigh the situation at hand and come to a decisive conclusion to determine a nucleus of power at CCNY now and in the future.

I doubt that there will be any African progression after CCNY if we Africans do not implement our education toward an improved Pan-Africa. Micro-Nationalism or even tribalism leads to an enclosed dead end! The history of hundreds of years prove my assertion to be correct.

For example, Haiti became the second republic in the western hemisphere in 1804. It now ranks

well as one of world's most severely underdeveloped nations. It could have been a shining star for Africans. The same goes for Ethiopia.

Thousands of years of glorious history has been reduced to corruption, famine, war, disease and poverty in the latter part of the twentieth century.

Have the people of the Dominican Republic gained anything from the thousands of Africans who are attending and have attended CCNY? No! The fact is the majority of the Africans for the Dominican Republic regurgitate the idea of even being considered an African. Nature tells no lies.

Has Africa benefited from the African engineer who was born in Guyana? Hell no! If we are lucky, maybe Micro-Nationalism played a part in helping Guyana obtain an engineer from the halls of CCNY.

There should be no confusion as to who you are. Just because you speak a Latin-derived language does not mean you are not African.
continued on page 9

Young, Gifted & Black ... *continued from page 4*

Excellence" leadership camps for African-American high school students, the "To be Young Gifted and Black" youth day camps for elementary students, the "Teach the Children" educators lecture series and the By Any Means Necessary anti-drugs and gangs rally.

"Leadership Excellence" sponsors academic supports programs in math, science, history, writing, and leadership. "The Leadership Excellence Network", an on-going role model interaction program is responsible for over 90% of its graduates being accepted to four year colleges. Leadership Excellence also serves as consultants to several California school districts regarding "at risk" youth and self-esteem.

Walker has given over 500 presentations and keynote

addresses extolling the virtues of positive thinking and cultural pride as a basis for success.

He has addressed students, professionals, politicians and community activist throughout the U.S. and believes that the means to social equality are through community efforts in the arenas of politics, education, economics, and cultural uplift.

To schedule Daniel Walker's Young, Gifted & Black Lecture Tour '92, telephone (212) 459 - 4108 or write Leadership Excellence/Optimism, 410 West 53rd St. Suite 505, New York, NY 10019.

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Health

Lead in Children

by Andrew Daley

It is hard to explain how a deadly yet common malefactor still exists. I am referring to everyday houses and homes contaminated with lead paint. The average Joe and his family are usually unaware of this problem and will live, breathe and consume this toxin in minute yet cumulative amounts.

The unfortunate situation is that the toxicity affects greatly our children more than adults and may lead up to mental retardation.

Helene and Bruce Tackling bought their family home in New London, Conn. about three years ago. It had enough room for their 2-year-old daughter, Jessica, and another child already on its way. The house needed some minor repairs and Bruce was handy with a Spackle knife and sand paper.

He scraped and sanded the walls to the bare wood, removing the old paint that was there. Things were beginning to shape up.

After a few months went by the Tackling's children became increasingly irritable. The new baby, Nicholas, cried unceasingly — often times going into high pitched screams. Their pediatrician diagnosed him as having colic. Jessica complained of stomachaches. The symptoms were dismissed because the doctor could find nothing wrong.

One day while cleaning out a file cabinet Helen found a pamphlet on lead poisoning and the listed symp-

toms matched her children's. She contacted her doctor where the nurse told her not to worry, if she was sure her kids had not eaten paint chips.

Once she confirmed her children had not eaten paint chips, Helen made sure to vacuum any visible chips and peeling. However, the vacuuming whipped up dust which contained paint particles.

After the appropriate tests were done by doctors, Jessica and Nicholas were diagnosed with lead poisoning. The damage from lead poisoning is irreversible and usually curtails a child's mental development.

You see, once lead is ingested, the body mistakes it for calcium and will incorporate it into the brain and other tissues.

This, in turn, disrupts the functioning of essential enzymes in the brain and other cells. Because lead is in its elemental form, it is tolerated in the body. And, although lead can be removed from the body by a process known as chelation, it is virtually impossible to remove it from the brain. The lead usually resides there for the lifetime of the individual.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) defines lead poisoning as having blood lead levels of 25ug/dl and above. An extremely small dose of lead is needed to induce a toxic effect in children. A child develops severe lead poisoning by eating 1mg (60-80ug/dl) of lead dust (about 3

granules of sugar) a day during his childhood.

Children between the ages of 6 months and 6 years are more likely to be exposed to lead; whether from carpeting, toys or the floor, which finds its way into their mouths. Fetuses are at the greatest risks. Sometimes mothers subject their children to lead by eating, drinking and breathing lead during pregnancy. It is speculated that women may store lead in their bones and withdraw it along with calcium during pregnancy and pass it along to their fetus. Sandra Roseberry of Portsmouth N.H., probably passed on lead to her child by stripping wallpaper during pregnancy. Her child was born with blood lead levels as high as 100ug/dl.

To make the situation more complex, our drinking water may also have considerable amounts of dissolved lead. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimate that this may attribute 10-20% of the overall childhood lead exposure.

Lead is the number one environmental threat to children, according to the Bush administration.

The EPA said that one in nine children under age 6 has ingested enough lead to place him or her in the risky zone. In inner cities the ratio may be as high as one in six.

According to the Office of Housing and Urban Development, 75%

of all private houses built before 1980 has some lead paint in it. About 20 million of those houses have an excess of lead chips or dust and 3.8 million of these houses have children living in them.

Despite this alarming news, very few states have introduced mandatory lead testing in homes before being sold. Massachusetts is one of the few that has implemented such a law.

Removing lead from your home can be quite costly. Fees can range from \$7,000 to \$70,000.

Parents or guardians can have their children screened for lead ingestion. Screening is recommended at 12 months and then at 24 months. The CDC advises that doctors use the "Blood Lead Test" which gives accurate blood lead levels.

The test costs about \$30.

The U.S. government has realized the harmful potential of lead in our children, its effects on the brain and the child's ability to learn.

I hope upon examination the policy makers will try to enact a program, or series of programs to safely rid our homes and schools of lead before it puts an irreparable kink in the country's educational sector.

Source

Waldman, Steven. Lead and Your Kids. Newsweek, July 15th, 1991.

Pan-Africanism ... continued from page 8

I am not Germanic because my father's last name comes from the English language. I am not Germanic because I speak a germanic language. We must work toward the unification of all Africans at CCNY.

Breaking up into little "tribes" on the second floor rotunda will not solve the global problems facing Africans today or tomorrow.

Africa and its people are severely underdeveloped on a world-wide because of a lack of power. Clubs designed for afternoon gatherings in not needed. What we need is organization that will equate to power. We as Africans must estab-

lish an African Engineer Corps and a African Architecture Corps. An African History, Political, Environmental, Economical and Social Corps must also be implemented.

These organizations need to include Africans from Brazil, Belize, Grenada, England, France, Ethiopia, Senegal, Haiti and the U.S.A. There are many representations of Pan-Africa at CCNY. The "tribal" politics of the existing clubs lead to a dead end for Africans as a whole.

CCNY is famous for its cultural aspect but I believe that we are culturally ignorant of each other. A

Pan-African organization would integrate the vast cultures of Africans spread around the world. Some Africans born in Haiti could care less about what is happening in Burkina Faso. Some Africans born in the United States could care less about what is happening in Surinam.

Pan-Africanism would clear up these attitudes. Pan-Africanism is not a new doctrine. Wake up, you sleepy heads! Where are your minds roaming? What better place is there to practice this doctrine than at CCNY? The world is deteriorating. Give your African self a chance to make amends for the better. Do not wait for other people to give you

permission to make a change. I challenge all Africans (and you know who you are) to obtain power and maintain it.

Micro-nationalism at CCNY has movement but no *progression*. Micro-nationalism after CCNY is doomed. Our individual countries will be choked to a slow death if we do not reinforce our strength with the millions of African souls worldwide.

I challenge ourselves to form engineering and political organizations to revolutionize Africa into a world power to be reckoned with. The choice is Africa. The solution is Pan-Africanism now and after City College.

Arts/Entertainment

"Mississippi Masala"

by Omar P.L. Moore

Starring Denzel Washington, Roshan Seth, Sarita Choudhury.

With Charles S. Dutton, Joe Seneca and Tico Wells.

Written by Sooni Taraprevata.

Produced by Michael Nozikand, Mira Nair

Directed by Mira Nair

Running time: 1 hour 57 mins.

A Samuel Goldwyn Company release. Rated R. 1992.

Mira Nair's direction of "Mississippi Masala" is near top notch, Ed Lachman's cinematography of colorful images and rich texture is eye-opening, and L. Suriamaniam's is excellent, but the story?!!?

What starts as an insightful drama about a family of Asians being expelled from Africa's Uganda turns into a comedy where that family arrives in Greenwood, Mississippi. Maybe if they had gone instead to Dubuque, or Bensonhurst, the film wouldn't have fallen apart. When the family of Asians, which includes the father (Roshan Seth in a good performance as a constantly anguished native Ugandan) and

daughter Mina (Sarita Choudhury) arrive in Mississippi they meet up with their madcap relatives, and later - before an eyewink- the desire for Uganda is pushed into a subplot.

In Uganda the Asians were harassed and blamed for the decline of the country. Escaping that climate, the family arrive in Mississippi and shortly after a car accident involving Mina that develops into a love affair with a Black tow-truck company owner Demetrius (Denzel Washington), blame African-Americans for their situation as it centers around Mina. After the love between Mina and Demetrius blossoms; the Black family are introduced to Mina and accept her with open arms.

Willie B. (Joe Seneca in a nice support role) as father introduces, along with Demetrius, Dexter (played with fun by Tico Wells) and Tyrone (Charles S. Dutton), a fellow worker. Tyrone makes, or tries to make an impression on Mina, but makes her and the audience laugh.

Eventually Mina's family finds out what has been doing on, and the typically racist responses, some hilarious, others predictable, begin. The couple gets into trouble and they are arrested. They go their separate ways and the resentment on the part of Demetris' family sets

in. When Mina declares that she loves Demetris, she is rebuffed (temporarily) by him. It is clear, as Mina mentions to him, that he never loved her, he chose to be involved with her to try to make his former love jealous.

Meanwhile, Mina's father's hard-fought appeals to return to Ugandan soil has been granted and this seems to interrupt whatever Mina and Demetrius have left between them. When Mina and her mother decide to stay in Mississippi (and Mina staying with Demetrius), there is no pleasure of sadness. There is an emptiness. Unfortunately, the emptiness of the love affair clouds much of "Mississippi Masala" and gets in the way of the far more interesting story of an Asian's return to his "native" land.

The final scene where Mina's father is back in Uganda is quietly touching and triumphant. The symbolism of Nair's film is that Mina will stay with the Black men she loves in another land, while her father will go back to the country he loves and will try to erase the resentment he had for the past regime in Uganda.

Beyond that, there is nothing more that bonds the two parts. Some good dialogue about the way new

immigrants (especially those who aren't much lighter than the African dark-skinned population) elevate themselves by attacking and disrespecting America's Africans is interesting and perhaps the only other effective connection.

Denzel Washington, the Oscar winner for "Glory" is given top-billing, but it is really Roshan Seth as Mina's father who should get that title. For worldwide audiences, it is wise to put Denzel at the head of the cast because of his star appeal and Academy triumph. As Demetrius he is as bitter at times as he is hilarious. Sarita Choudhury is good as Mina, But Seth is great as her father. It is his plight (and in his performance) that we care about the most.

"Mississippi Masala" is much more simplistic and much less serious as a love story than last year's "Jungle Fever". It is interesting to note that Denzel decided to jump ship on Orion Pictures' much-delayed inter-racial romance film "Love Field" with Michelle Pfeiffer to go international with Mira Nair in her inter-cultural love story. After the heat that Wesley Snipes got from many sisters for "Jungle Fever", Denzel probably didn't want to take the chance.

Shattered Dreams... continued from page 1

Faculty Senate meeting on Feb. 27, 1992.

There was adamant faculty opposition to some of the cuts. President Harleston, who has the final word on the steering committee suggestions, said that many of the suggestions were "unworkable."

Vice President of Finance and Management Yellin, noted that even though drastic measures have been taken they were in non-academic areas.

No funding was removed from the adjunct instructors' allocation in the budget, nor were measures such as the reduction of library hours taken, Yellin said.

As far as the college's working its way through the budget, Yellin said that greater communication between the administration

and the students would be very helpful. He invited any student organization that might want to speak to him about Administration issues to feel free to do so.

Yellin and Harleston, said the most prudent and practical avenue the students and administration could embark on is applying political pressure on state legislature.

To that end, a meeting was held involving the president and vice presidents, the provost, faculty and students was held March 5 to plan a lobbying trip to Albany on March 8.

If all proposed cuts are put into action and there is no budget restoration, City College will lose faculty (at least over 100 faculty and staff positions) and will be forced to compromise its dual goal of "quality and access."

A Black Woman's guide... continued from page 7

Uptown's traditional dissonance and had everybody—doctors, dealers, bhos, b-boys, Dominicans, black folks—speaking the same language.

But I thought more about Troy Canty and reexperienced every bit of the pain I felt 10 years ago, after being robbed at knifepoint and seeing a face that looked like his in a book of mug shots. In fact, it featured so many of our ex-classmates' brown male faces that my mom joked sadly that it could have been my yearbook. Black women's lives are like that. Even when the brothers have clearly fucked up we have great difficulty writing them off. In part, it is because we recognize their victimization.

Mike Tyson should be recognized as a victim. His life has been visited with nothing but opportunistic mother-fuckas from D'Amato to King who claimed to love him yet allowed him

to remain sick and undereducated for the sake of riding a \$100 million gravy train. Yes, Tyson was born of the racist circumstances that snatch away most young black lives. But mostly, he is the victim of an African American community that still maintains racism is a more pressing issue than sexism and refuses to engage in the discussions that are necessary to save black women's lives.

It is our responsibility to change our present circumstances. Mike Tyson is a rapist and he, like all men who hurt and abuse us, must be held responsible for his actions. Saying so doesn't mean that we love black men any less; it simply means that we are not willing to let race loyalty buy us early tombstones.

(Reprinted from *The Village Voice*, March 3, 1992 issue, with permission from the author and *The Village Voice*.)

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Pianist, composer, educator Valerie Capers combines emotion and technique, striking a rare balance in her performances as she taps a broad background with imaginative selectivity. Ms Capers has appeared with some of the biggest names in jazz - from Dizzy Gillespie to Wynton Marsalis.



Dorothy Donegan

Jazz legend Dorothy Donegan masters the keyboard with her technical brilliance every time she's on stage. With a penchant for moving freely between classics and jazz, she keeps delivering high-energy performances in her own inimitable way! Ms. Donegan has appeared on club and concert circuits in the United States and Europe, including the Kool Jazz Festival in New York City and the Berne Jazz Festival in Switzerland with Dizzy Gillespie, Ella Fitzgerald and Betty Carter.



Carrie Smith

More than a singer, Carrie Smith is an extraordinary entertainer, electrifying her audience with her vocal power, her joie de vivre, her riveting appearance. a featured star in *Black and Blue*, Ms. Smith has also worked with Mahalia Jackson and Benny Goodman.



**The Spelman College
Jazz Ensemble**

A stunning combination of female vocalists and instrumentalists, the 17-member Spelman Jazz Ensemble features orchestral sounds and instrumental solos with vocalists harmonizing and scatting jazz standards. Under the direction of jazz artist Joseph W. Jennings, the Ensemble has appeared in the Capitol City jazz Festival and at colleges and universities around the country.



Vi Redd

Acclaimed as the greatest alto saxophonist since Charlie Parker, Vi Redd plays the alto with a drive and invention that many a man would envy and with the warmth and expressiveness of a real woman! Originally inspired by Parker, Ms Redd has appeared on festival programs worldwide with Kenny Burrell, Benny Carter, Bobby Hutcherson and numerous other jazz greats.



Geri Allen

Keyboardist-composer Geri Allen's music crosses decades and oceans - salsa speaks with the blues, African folk mingles with free jazz, and gospel converses with funk. ms Allen has performed and recorded with Dewey Redman, Wayne Shorter, Arthur Blythe and Joseph Jarman.

Tickets for single performances: Members \$12; Nonmembers \$15

Tickets available at The Shop. For ticket charge: (212) 491-2206 (Ticket charge hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday Noon - 6:00 P.M.; Sunday 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.)

The Langston Hughes Auditorium
Schomburg Center For Research in Black Culture
515 Malcolm X Boulevard (at 135th Street)

For Your Information

ART MOVEMENTS

New York's newest talk show, **The Jane Pratt Show**, is looking to have you in their studio audience. This show starring Jane Pratt, the editor-in-chief of "Sassy" will be airing on **FOX Five**. For FREE tickets at the Times Square Studio, 1481 Broadway at W. 43rd St. call (212) 730-8001 or (212) 730-8011. No one under 17 permitted.

The **Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble** will be performing at Aaron Davis Hall, April 1-5 1992. For further information call (212) 650-7100; charge by phone (212) 307-7171; for group sales (10 or more) (212) 767-0590 Ext. 326.

BLACK COMEDY on BROADWAY

INNOVATIVE PRODUCTIONS presents a night of comedy featuring top performers from the Uptown Comedy Club and other New York comedy clubs. Hosted by **98.7 KISS FM's own KEN WEBB**

Every Thursday from March 12-26 at **INDIGO BLUES** 221 West 46th Street, NYC. There is a 6 pm after work show and a 9 pm dinner show. Cost of show is \$15.00 (Discount w/ college ID) Tickets are available through Tower Records/Videos, HMV, Boomers, Ticket-Master, and more. For Ticket information call (212) 307-7171.

CELEBRATE WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The New York Black Women's Health Project is presenting a series of community health education workshops "LOVE, INTIMACY AND SEXUAL HEALTH". The workshops will be held every Wednesday from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the 115th Street Branch Public Library, 203 West 115th Library, New York, N.Y. Sessions 1 - 4 will be held March 4-25.

Attention Job Hunters!!!

The C.U.N.Y. Big Apple Job Fair welcomes the C.U.N.Y. Class of 1992 and Recent Alumni to attend a Job Fair, on Thursday, April 9, 1992, from 11:00-7:00 p.m. Graduating students have to register at their college career services/placement office, and Alumni are to bring their resume to the fair. This Fair is going to be held at the Ramada Hotel (across the street from Madison Square Garden) Mezzanine Level, 7th Avenue, between 33rd and 34th streets, Manhattan.

Money For College

The Scholarship Funding Service has a number of services to help you reach your goals. The agency can help you in the following areas:

1. How to qualify for thousands of dollars in grants, scholarships, and financial aid.
2. How to increase your chances for a Pell Grant.
3. How to select the college that best suits your career goals. The Scholarship Funding Service offers FREE information. Call NOW at (718) 257-4086.

THE STUDIO MUSEUM IN HARLEM — Exhibits

Africa and the Diaspora: Selections from the Permanent Collection. Now through June 7, 1992.

Museum Hours: Wednesday — Friday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday 1 - 6 p.m.; Closed Monday and Tuesday. Call (212) 864-4500 for information.

THE EIBSCHUTZ SCHOLARSHIP

The Eibschutz Scholarship will be awarded to the person that writes the best 3,000 word typewritten essay on "WHAT THE JEWS HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES."

Candidates are advised to concentrate on one aspect of the Jewish contribution (e.g., music, literature, law, the labor movement).

Submission Deadline is **April 1, 1992**. For further information, call the Department of Classical Languages and Hebrew at (212) 650-6722.

JAZZ ARTS

Jazz Uptown at the Schomburg Research Center on Black Culture in celebration of Women's Month presents **JAZZ ARTS: A Women's Jazz Festival**. March 9-30. For further information call the (212) 491-2206.

Join S.A.M.E.-T.V.

The Students for Arts, Media and Education (S.A.M.E.) want to help you learn how to operate professional audio and video equipment, manage a production, and edit programs for closed circuit television viewing. You will also learn how to ACT, deliver news in front of the camera, and write commercials and scripts. Drop by and learn the complexities of television operation and production. Stop by N.A.C. 1/117 and fill out an application or call S.A.M.E. at 650-5028 or 5014.

SUPPORT THE STUDENT MEDIA!!!!

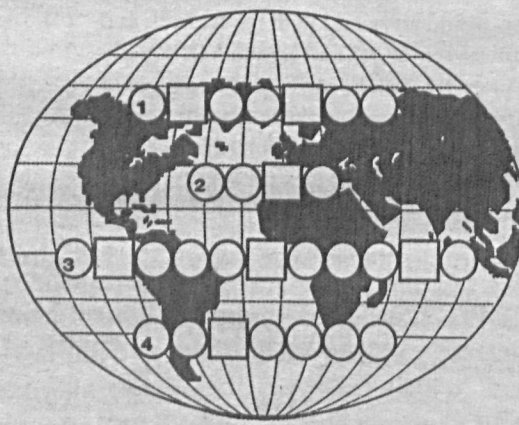


PEACE CORPS WORLD WISE PuZZLE

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.



This South American country rests on the southern tip of Brazil, east of Argentina.

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □



1. The customary beliefs, social forms and material traits transmitted to succeeding generations.
2. A hairy annual Asian bean grown for its protein and oil-rich seeds and for forage and soil improvement.
3. The science of cultivating the soil, producing crops and raising livestock and preparing these products for man's use.
4. The most common language spoken in Latin America.

Solution: 1. culture 2. soybean 3. agriculture 4. Spanish = Uruguay