

The Paper

Medium For People Of African Descent

Volume 9 February 2007

"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 Remeber"
-Langston Hughes

Celebrating

Black History

Month

Barron Stands Up for Students, Tells CUNY:

"BRING IT!"

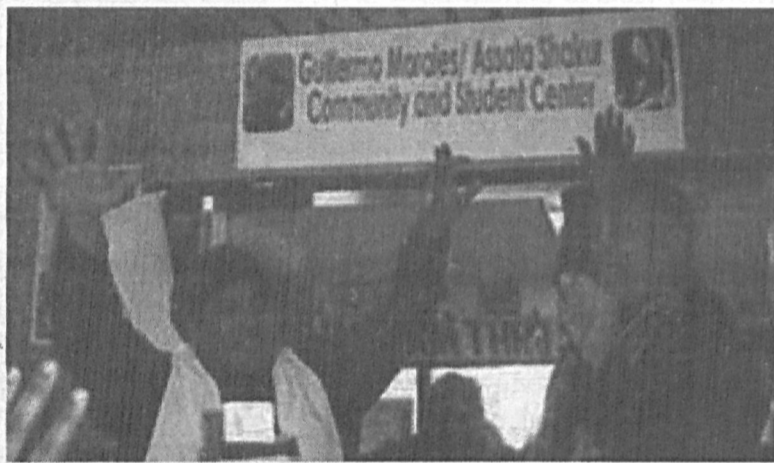
By Easter Z. Wood

"It is hard to believe that it is a coincidence that Assata Shakur is being advertised as a 'cold-blooded terrorist cop killer' just as the police themselves have come under pressure due to their systematic and racist killings [of] and brutality [against] Blacks and Latinos in NYC," wrote City Councilman, Charles Barron, in his letter to CUNY Chancellor, Matthew Goldstein, in reference to the removal of the sign naming the student center located in NAC 3/201 in honor of activists Assata Shakur and Guillermo Morales. Barron echoed the same sentiments on Thursday, February 8, 2007 as he replaced the sign over the center to the cheers of onlookers including students, faculty and staff.

Many present at the rally find it highly suspect that the center, which has been so named since 1989, suddenly came under fire in

the wake of the murder of Sean Bell by New York City Police officers in December 2006. "They're talking about cop killers to take our minds off killer cops," says Barron.

Among those in attendance were long-time CUNY affiliated educator-activists Dr. Leonard Jeffries, Professor James Smalls and Rev. Luis Barrios, who support what Councilman Barron referred to as students' "rights self-determination" and the "ability to choose [their] own heroes." Barron, et al, encouraged the students present to stand up for their rights to educational and intellectual freedom within the public institution that their tax dollars help pay for. They also encouraged the students to not play into the politics of fear that have been espoused around this controversy.



Rev. Luis Barrios and Councilman Charles Barron replace the controversial sign above NAC 3-201

freedom within the public institution that their tax dollars help pay for. They also encouraged the students to not play into the politics of fear that have been espoused around this controversy.

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The Urgency for Black Unity

By Martina Bailey

To be united means to be in a state of oneness; a whole or totality as combing all its parts into one. Black unity is something that African-Americans have desired for decades. Efforts toward unification have come a long way, but it doesn't seem to be enough in communities today. There seems to be more hate among Blacks than there is unity.

In a 1994 issue of *The Virginian Pilot*, an article entitled "NAACP Seeks African-American Unity" speaks out about 'Black on Black crime'. Thirteen years later, the issue still plagues us, and the question of whether Black unity exists at all is heavily contemplated.

Late last month the NAACP held a rally near the McColloh Homes complex in West Baltimore, Maryland. The primarily African-American neighborhood has been afflicted by consecutives homicides very recently and is urging residents to fight back.

In addition to educating young African-Americans and encouraging them to go to school and get jobs, measures should also be

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Omowale Clay Expounds on Black History

By Maurice Selby

Being a "nigga" is a state of mind, not an essential component of black identity, and upon discovering the depth and complexity of black history, African American men and women will forsake this notion and embrace the true nature of their culture. This is the theory of Mr. Omowale Clay, Director of human resources at Harlem Hospital and prominent member of the December 12th Movement, a non-profit organization advocating reparations for blacks on an international level. According to Mr. Clay, black people can continue to make social and economic progress as long as they possess an intimate



Omowale Clay

knowledge of black history. With this knowledge, people can begin to truly understand themselves, and that, according to Mr. Clay, is the first step one must take in order to establish clear goals to be achieved in the future. In comparison to the days of the sit-ins, marches, and

public outcries for political and social equality, and economic equality, it seems that blacks in America have made great progress but there is still work to be done. Below are 2 major elements of black history that Clay feels everyone should know.

1. *The spirit of Willie Lynch is alive and well.* "In my bag here, I have a fool-proof method for controlling your black slaves. I guarantee everyone of you that if installed correctly it will control the slaves for at least 300 years. My method is simple, any member of your family or any overseer can use it..." These were the words of Willie Lynch, an Englishman who owned

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Editorial A Little Bit of Advice

By Lindsie Augustin

February, best known for being the shortest month of the year as well as home to the all-so-special Valentine's Day is also a time when all people of African descent should unite.

Black history month, which originated in 1929, was founded by a man named Dr. Carter G. Woodson. As a student in Harvard University, Woodson was disturbed to see the lack of information available to students about the Black American population. Woodson took matters into his own hands when he launched Negro History Week as a way to celebrate and bring awareness to the achievements and contributions of Black people throughout American History. What began with just week eventually evolved into a month.

As the underdog for so many centuries it only seems right for our month of celebration to be the shortest month, however this February serves as the host to several significant moments in Black history. February marked the birthday of two men that had

a massive effect on the Black American population; Abraham Lincoln and Fredrick Douglas. But that's not all folks: in 1870 the first Black U.S. senator, Hiram R. Revels took office, in 1909 the Nation Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was founded, and February also marked the death of militant leader who promoted Black nationalism, Malcolm X in 1965. Understand that these are just a small portion of the great things that happened during the month of February and we should in no way feel gyped since it is the shortest month of the year.

As a people we've come a long way; however the fight for Black unity remains to be a pressing issue. It is imperative that as a whole we work to bridge the gap that keeps so many of us behind. It is also imperative that we, as a whole, do not undermine the work of those that came before us nor leave behind dismay for those to come after us. Take the time to learn about your history and feel the urge to share the knowledge with others; and not just because it's Black history month, but because it's *always* a great thing to do.

Commentary

NAME OF STUDENT CENTER RAISES QUESTIONS

By Professor Bill Crain

On January 22, I addressed the CUNY Board of Trustees on the controversial name of a student center at City College. Here is what I said:

On December 12, 2006, the *Daily News*' front page story announced that a CCNY student center is named after a Black Panther and "cop killer," Assata Shakur, and a Puerto Rican independence activist, Guillermo Morales. The *Daily News* quoted police organizations that said the sign was a disgrace, and the newspaper demanded its removal.

CUNY's Chancellor immediately ordered the sign taken down, observing that it lacked the required Board of Trustees approval.

This might seem like an open-and-shut case, but it isn't.

Was Assata Shakur, who has been the controversy's focus, actually a cop killer? She was arrested in 1973, after a shoot-out with the New Jersey state police, who had pulled over her car because of a faulty tail light. Her husband was killed, as was a trooper. She was critically wounded but recovered. She and a companion riding with her were convicted.

Shakur's fingerprints weren't on any ammunition or weapons. Nor was there gunpowder residue on her hands. Medical testimony said her wounds could only have come about if her hands were in the air. She was later convicted of being an accomplice to a murder.

The FBI, under J. Edgar Hoover, was at the time targeting the Black Panther Party. The FBI also was spying on Martin Luther King, Jr. This arrest of Shakur followed seven other arrests that all led to dismissals or acquittals.

The removal of the sign raises several

questions with respect to CUNY policy.

First, the sign lacked Board of Trustee approval, but is this a case of selective enforcement? The sign had been above the door for 17 years, and was only taken down when the *Daily News* demanded its removal. Other signs undoubtedly went up without trustee approval.

Second, do students have the right to name rooms after their own heroes? Or are rooms (and centers and schools) only to be named after people who donate large sums of money or people the current CUNY leaders admire?

Third, could the sign have remained while CCNY, including its faculty governance bodies and the student bodies, discussed this matter? Should such decisions come immediately and directly from the top (the Chancellery), or should local colleges be given time and opportunities to engage in full discussions, reach conclusions, and make their own recommendations to the trustees?

Fourth, this case reminds me of the removal of Susan Rosenberg at John Jay College. Although she had served 16 years in prison for her activism, and was by all accounts a good citizen upon her release, a police organization demanded her dismissal and CUNY accommodated the police. Should police groups, or any external groups, have this power over a great academic institution?

Fifth, should the *Daily News* have this power over us? To what extent does it (and another right-wing newspaper, the *New York Post*) influence other CUNY policies, including our admissions policies? Academic institutions should be places where people freely discuss issues and establish policies without reacting to such outside pressures.

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The Paper

Wants to Hear from YOU!!

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

OUR MISSION

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

Black Unity

Continued from Front Page

taken to find out why there is so much crime in Black neighborhoods. Is it the parents' fault for not instilling proper values and ethics in their children? Is it the government's fault for lack of authority and enforcing of laws in Black neighborhoods? In West Baltimore, residents seem to think it's the latter; they are vexed by the negligence of the local officials.

At the NAACP rally Reverend Willie Ray spoke to the residents of West Baltimore about the main objective of the rally. "You bring about awareness and you apply pressure on the perpetrators... and you show the community how to fight back."

The population of Baltimore is at least 640,000 and only 50 people attended this rally. Although this figure is not only of African-Americans, 50 people in attendance said a lot about the lack of Black unity. Israel Cason, who aims to run for City Council, stated, "We can't police our way out of this... We need to stop looking at symptoms and start looking at us. No one is coming here to change us. It's up to us to change our own conduct."

The point Cason raises is a very important one. African-Americans need to incorporate all of their energy into a single functioning unit. Blacks committing crimes against Blacks is the embodiment of self-hatred. To cause an injury to your own reflection, you have to cause an injury to yourself. There can't be one without the other. The benefits of Black unity are endless. On the contrary, segregation and hatred among Blacks has no benefits, only serious repercussions and self destruction can exist.

In the end of that article from *The Virginian Pilot*, reporter Kevin L. Allen delivers a beautiful point: "We are African-Americans – African by heritage, Americans by nationality. Because of the centuries of oppression and depression, our heritage and ancestry are our greatest possessions. It takes unity to maintain these possessions."

The urgency for unity among African-Americans is at an all time high. We fought to stop the oppression against us, so let's not turn around and oppress one another. Instead let's be in a state of mutual sympathy and share a common positive attitude towards one another. This is the message and plea of the NAACP and the essentials for African-American prosperity.

Nothing in all the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity.

Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968)

Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying to succeed.

Booker T. Washington (1856-1915)

Omowale Clay Expounds on Black History

Continued from Front Page

hundreds of slaves in the West Indies. He was invited by North American plantation owners to lecture them on how to psychologically and emotionally manipulate blacks in order to suppress slave uprisings and dissent. It is Lynch's method that so effectively destroyed any unity that may have existed between enslaved people of Africa. He taught other slave owner to highlight the differences between blacks, and from there they would tear themselves apart and keep them from uniting against their common enemy that held them in bondage.

"...I have outlined a number of differences among the slaves, and I take these differences and make them bigger. I use fear, distrust, and envy for control purposes. These methods have worked on my modest plantation in the West Indies, and it will work throughout the South. Take this simple little test of differences and think about them. On the top of my list is "Age", but it is there because it only starts with an "A"; the second is "Color" or shade; there is intelligence, size, sex, size of plantations, attitude of owners, whether the slaves live in the valley, on a hill, East, West, North, South, have fine or coarse hair, or is tall or short. Now that you have a list of differences, I shall give you an

outline of action--but before that, I shall assure you that distrust is stronger than trust, and envy is stronger than adulation, respect, or admiration."

This is certainly what is going on today as people of African descent continue to ignore the common ground they share in favor of petty, slavery rooted, and divisive identities. It can be seen everyday throughout the five boroughs. The African, fresh off the boat, despises the American born black. He's lazy and has failed to take advantage of the opportunities that are seemingly waiting for him. The West Indian black looks down on the African, for he has allowed another man to enter his homeland and dictate the course of his country, his fortune, his future. The educated one sees himself as better and worthy of joining the elite of corporate America. Had the others worked hard like him, they'd be there too.

2. ***The theft of black labor built the immense wealth of European nations and some prominent corporations that still exist today, and they must pay for what they stole.*** History books will admit that black slaves were perhaps the greatest driving force in building the great wealth that led European nations (and later

the United States) through a period of tremendous economic development. Today the same nations, and some prominent people and companies within them, still benefit from the economic base that was almost literally built by slave labor.

According to Mr. Omowale Clay "black labor was stolen" and the people that benefited from such thievery must pay for their crime just as they would for any sort of commodity or service that is taken without permission. The theft of black labor partially accounts for many of the disparities between blacks and whites in the United States and the issues of civil rights in the U.S. only compounded black people's plight. They key is to look at all this as a human rights issue rather than one of civil rights. From that perspective one begins to see that the theft of black labor and the oppression of black people in the United States and abroad are crimes against humanity that have hindered the cultural and economic development of and entire race of people. In international law, there is no statute of limitations on crimes against humanity, and the groups that perpetuated the suffering of black people around the world, must pay for their crimes.

Help Make TAP More Flexible

An unexpected job loss, a debilitating illness or, some other extenuating circumstance at home sometimes forces students to drop out when they can't get by on one's family income. The Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) should be flexible enough to help students in these situations. Unfortunately, it isn't.

TAP's rules don't allow students to apply for mid-year financial aid adjustments because the program uses last year's income to determine this year's award. For students who need more help now can't apply for more help until the next tax year. NYPIRG is working to change that. If your family has had to deal with a sudden change in income and you're struggling to remain a student please contact NYPIRG at 212-650-5047 or via e-mail at jalleyne@nypirg.org. Your story, if you're willing to share it, may help thousands of students get the TAP they need, when they need it.

Commentary

Students Respond to Attack on Moarles/Shakur Center

By Lydia Shestopalova

Since Councilman Barron replaced the sign above the door of NAC 3/201 on February 8, 2007, the CCNY administration has responded out of fear. Very simply, the sign says that the space is named The Guillermo Morales/Assata Shakur Community and Student Center and features the photographs of the two CCNY students it honors.

The idea of a liberated space (free from interference by the administration and run by a coalition of students and community members) is seen as threatening. It is so threatening that the NAC was

completely locked down and students at the Center were escorted out of the building so the sign could be removed without witnesses after 11pm. Also, the celebration and acknowledgement of Black and Latino movements for autonomy and justice is so frightening to City College that there is new security detail watching our doorway, whose job is to videotape people entering and exiting the space, grease the walls so that we can't repost our sign, and to generally harass students by their very presence. While we certainly feel "safer," being watched so carefully, we will not stop organizing to teach real history or advocate for student and human rights.

To get involved, come to the Town Hall meeting on Friday February 23, 2007 in NAC 0/201, from 2pm to 4pm. There, we will discuss the loss of student space, the installation of dangerous equipment, and harassment by security, among other issues. In the context of African Heritage Month, we want to assert that this is our history we are making and celebrating, and our school that we are fighting for and protecting.

For more information, come to NAC 3/201, call (212) 650-5008, or email harlemslam@gmail.com. La luta continua! All power to the people!

Get Active!
Have Your Voice Heard!
Join *The Paper!*

Come see us in
NAC 1/118

or email

thepaper@ccny.cuny.edu

Visit us online @
www.ccnythepaper.com

Barron Stands Up for Students...

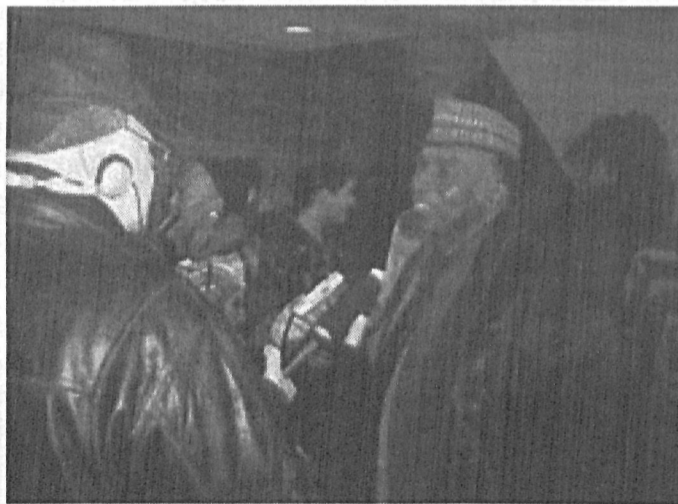
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"If they are able to keep us fearful, we'll never be free," said Barron of the threats of arrest and suspension that were hurled at any students attempting to replace the sign. Barron came to replace the sign himself to help shield the students from repercussions and said plain and clear that if they wanted to come and arrest him for his actions, they should "Bring it!"

Rather than confront Barron and the protesters directly, the administration's representatives chose to come like thieves in the night and remove the sign several hours after the rally. They did, at least, call and give Roldolfo Layton, the center's Director, the opportunity to remove the sign himself which he refused.

Racial tension is, unfortunately, at the heart of the debate over the center's name which was sparked by a white student's letter to the *New York Daily News* expressing his dismay at the center's name because the establishment touts Assata Shakur

(nee Joanne Chesimard) as a "cop killer" and "terrorist." Despite this designation, there are many Blacks and non-Blacks alike who hold the mindset that Shakur was framed because of her position as leader of the Black Liberation Army, as were



Dr. Leonard Jeffries voices his opinion on the Student Center controversy

many prominent Black leaders of the time.

Similarly, Guillermo Morales was — some say wrongly — convicted of bomb-making and manslaughter. However his involvement in the CUNY takeover of the 1960's was instrumental in opening enrollment to students of color and establishing the Ethnic Studies programs now in place at CUNY, which is the reason for

his name being attached to the center. Interesting enough, many of the Ethnic Studies programs and departments have been dismantled in recent years, a move that Barron and others refer to as the "gentrification of CUNY" which they feel also intensifies this issue.

Dr. Leonard Jeffries, former chair of the now defunct Black Studies department which has since been reduced to a program, pointed out that while some are offended by the honoring of Shakur, an alleged killer, no one seems the least bit offended by the honoring of known slavers, such as Thomas Jefferson. Jeffries added that he and many others consider slavery murder, not only of the physical body, but of mind, spirit and culture of a people.

As the rally wound to a close, Dr. James Smalls addressed the crowd saying, "If you want freedom, you fight for it," and encouraging the students to continue to stand up on this and other issues that they feel strongly about. He advised: "If you want to live, live free. If not you may as well be dead." Morales and Shakur certainly agreed with

this statement as both escaped their bonds and now reside in freedom in Cuba.

For now, a sign proclaiming the center the "University of Harlem" has been replaced above the door of NAC 3/201 while the controversy continues to rage. Rather than engage in a never-ending



Professor James Smalls advises students to "live free" and fight for their rights

tug-of-war with the administration, it has been suggested that the center be renamed in honor of victims of police violence such as Amadou Diallo, Abner Louima and, most recently, Sean Bell, as another form of protest and to raise awareness and activism around the issue. Whatever happens, both sides of the debate are sure that this will not be the final chapter.

Commentary

Black Is Beautiful, but What About Our *African* Identity?

By Farahly Saint-Louis

Though we come in various shapes, sizes, and shades, we are all of African descent; as science has proven time and again, the first hints of life as well as the first civilizations established were from Africa. We are one race, the human race, which is the African race – black, white, yellow and brown are all colors. With such a rich inheritance to look back at for inspiration, I wonder: what is going on with our black brothers and sisters, those who are considered part of “black” community?

We have no identity due to the lack of knowledge of our rich history as Africans. Because of these so called “educational institutions” teaching us that we are nothing but slaves, for that is where the history books begin, we do not understand that people used religion to mentally enslave us, learned our philosophies and claimed them, and stole our natural resources because they did not want to obtain them through honorable means. We are largely unaware that we did not begin as slaves, or even as “Coloreds” or “Negroes,” but that as Africans, we were the most knowledgeable people since the beginning of time, excelling in mathematics, science, spirituality as well as philosophy.

Today we are struggling with ourselves in a society that doesn’t acknowledge anything black or “African,” the pejorative definition of African, not the proper definition. We struggle with image; we put chemicals in our hair as well

as faux locks to alter who we are because we are not seen as “beautiful” in the Euro-dominant society. Sisters, we want to be Beyonce, Rihanna, and Lil’ Kim why can’t we be more like Jill Scott, and India Arie at least as far as image goes? Brothers rather than a Diddy, why not be a Marley? We must embrace our natural beauty.

Amidst the mass confusion of who we are as a beautiful people there are a few spurts of individuals who are aware of who they are and what they stand for. These people don’t hide behind other images and try to be things they were not born to. Some even go as far as taking initiative and begin an organization, such as the All African People’s Revolutionary Party (read more about them in the next issue). This party specifically confronts our capitalist and imperialist society that would create a country such as this one which is a so-called “super power” yet can’t even feed its poor. We live in a society where in order for one individual to be on top, another has to be on the bottom. Guess who’s on the bottom right now and who has been since this country’s inception?

Brothers and sisters we are shooting one another and slinging crack on the corner just to gain some paper, and that’s a sad state of affairs. We can’t even have a stable house hold because of money issues – the black family is almost extinct. Is money really worth it? Because when you do gain the money and you do get on “top” you become this Negro so scared to lose the hard earned money they worked for and never turn

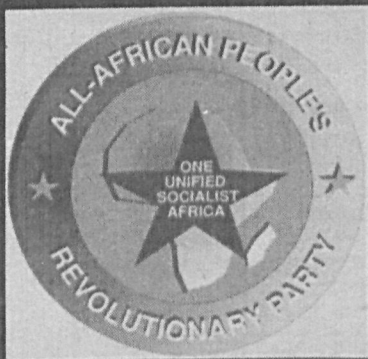
your head back to where you came from because if you do help you know the government got you. They will make sure you do not have a dime left. So what is the sense in gaining the dollar? We must learn to first work together as a unit and not be afraid to help one another. Fear is holding us back. Why? Maybe because we’ve come so far in generations without knowing exactly who we are we are chasing after the wrong thing, and because of our identity crisis and not knowing where we came from, we can’t move forward as a people.

Why is it that other groups of people can establish and maintain unity through social and economic means and even go as far as make money off of us (for example, some of y’all know you eat Chinese food like every day) but we can’t establish and maintain ourselves as a unit? We are the number one consumer in the US so why are we at the bottom if we have so much money to spend? Think about it. All of that money can be going into our communities and we could be growing instead of being fooled by the media and thrown off track. We have to enlighten the parents to know what is best for their children so that they don’t stick to those tainted ideologies of getting your children Jordan instead of buying them a desktop PC to better their education. We have to get out of this hole before we dig ourselves deeper and deeper. Please think about it. Think. Read. Analyze. Happy African History Month.

Umoja. (Unity)

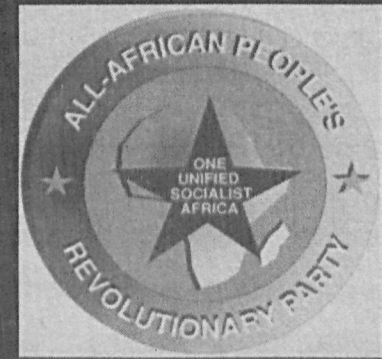
ALL-AFRICAN PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

*Transforming African Students Into
Revolutionary Organizers for
African Liberation*



“Black-American”
“Jamaican”
“Brazilian”
“Dominican”
“Nigerian”

AFRICAN ✓



Unity is Our Only Hope - Join Us!

aaprp.nypa@gmail.com
347.678.2951

Look Out for:
AFRICAN LIBERATION DAY - MAY 2007

Nunez

Academic Report

Professional Development Workshops

The Career Center will be holding valuable workshops throughout the month of February. If you need a cover letter or valuable pointers to take on an interview, visit the career center because it has you covered. The Career Center is located in NAC 1/116.

College Wide Career Fair

Thursday March 8th, 2007, there will be a career fair open to all students who would like to find employment or internship opportunities. The event will take place in The Great Hall, located within Shepard Hall, at 12pm. For more information visit NAC 1/116.

Media and Communications Scholarship - Straightforward Media

This \$500 scholarship is only for MCA majors. The current deadline is March 31, 2007. Visit <http://www.straightforwardmedia.com/media/>.

Citizens for Global Solutions

Like making flash videos? Well, this scholarship gives you the opportunity to showoff your skills and win up to a \$2000 award. The film should inspire, amuse and activate people out to realize a better world. This scholarship contest is open to all majors. Deadline is April 1, 2007. Visit <http://www.globalsolutions.org/flash.html> for more information.

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"I for one believe that if you give people a thorough understanding of what confronts them and the basic causes that produce it, they'll create their own program, and when the people create a program, you get action."

Malcolm X

Touched by An Angel *Maya Angelou*

We, unaccustomed to courage
exiles from delight
live coiled in shells of loneliness
until love leaves its high holy temple
and comes into our sight
to liberate us into life.

Love arrives
and in its train come ecstasies
old memories of pleasure
ancient histories of pain.
Yet if we are bold,
love strikes away the chains of fear
from our souls.

We are weaned from our timidity
In the flush of love's light
we dare be brave
And suddenly we see
that love costs all we are
and will ever be.
Yet it is only love
which sets us free.

Still Here *Langston Hughes*

I been scared and battered.
My hopes the wind done scattered.
Snow has friz me,
Sun has baked me,

Looks like between 'em they done
Tried to make me

Events @ City

Event Art Education Exhibition
Date February 19 – March 2
Time -----
Telephone 212.650.7433
Address 160 Covent Ave/ Compton
Goethals – Rm. 133
Admission Free
Description Annual exhibition of work by Art Education students.

Event Health Insurance Fair
Date February 22
Time 11:00am – 2:00pm
Telephone 212.650.8222
Address 160 Convent Ave/ NAC Rotunda
Admission Free
Description Bring proof of age, address, and income to ensure you get the best information available.

Event Ceramics Exhibition
Date March 5 – March 16
Time -----
Telephone 212.650.7435
Address 160 Convent Ave/ Compton
Goethals – Rm. 133
Admission Free
Description Come see the achievements of CCNY's ceramics students in the annual exhibition.

Event The Billy Wilder Film Festival
Date February 13 – April 24
Time 2:00pm
Telephone 212.650.6388
Address 138th St. and Convent Ave/ NAC Building Rm. 6/316
Admission Free
Description Celebrating the 20th anniversary of The Simon H. Rifkind Center. Films every Tuesday for nine weeks.

Juke Box Love Song *Langston Hughes*

I could take the Harlem night
and wrap around you,
Take the neon lights and make a crown,
Take the Lenox Avenue busses,
Taxis, subways,
And for your love song tone their rumble down.
Take Harlem's heartbeat,
Make a drumbeat,
Put it on a record, let it whirl,
And while we listen to it play,
Dance with you till day--
Dance with you, my sweet brown Harlem girl.

Stop laughin', stop lovin', stop livin'--
But I don't care!
I'm still here!

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In Honor of Black History Month

We, The Paper, Salute....



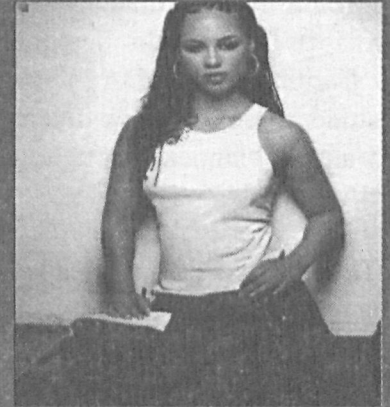
Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five



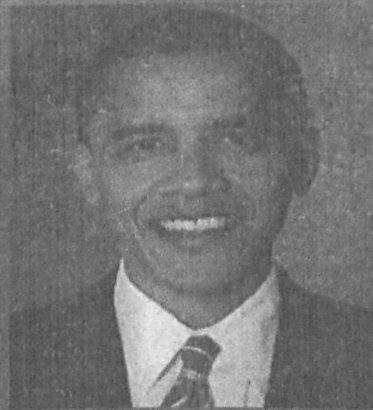
Maya Angelou



Fredrick Douglas



Alicia Keys



Barack Obama



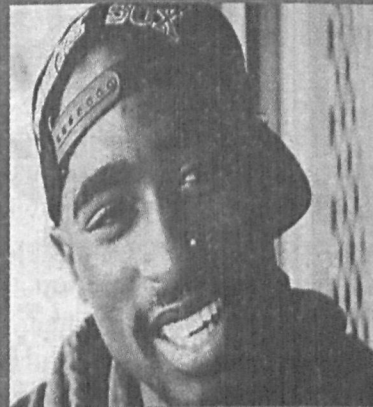
Oprah Winfrey



Martin Luther King Jr.



Madam C.J. Walker



Tupac Shakur



Marian Anderson



Malcolm X



Coretta Scott-King



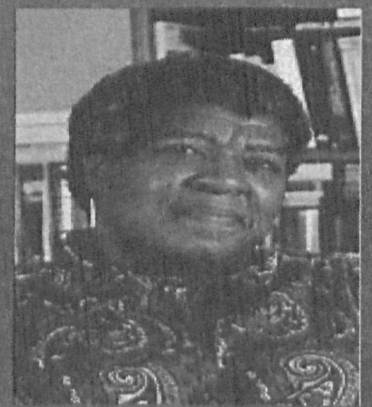
Langston Hughes



Shirley Chisholm



Bob Marley



Octavia Butler

CCNY Celebrates Black History

Compiled by Orin Abel

This February marks the 31st year in the celebration of Black History that has become Black History Month. Black history has been celebrated in this way since Black History Week; the predecessor was first initiated in 1926. In celebration of Black History Month, The Institute of Research on the African Diaspora in the Americas and the Caribbean (IRADAC) and the Finley student center has a diverse set of celebrations planned throughout the month.

- There will be an African dance performance in the Rotunda of the NAC building on **February 22nd**. The performance, which will take place during club hours, will feature African drummers that will surely entice all students.

- Keeping in touch with the celebration of black history beyond one month, the Black inventor Museum/Latino History Museum will be on campus on March 1st. The traveling museum features profound insight into the contributions of Blacks/Latino in history. Many such inventors remain unknown by common knowledge. The museum's founder Loretta Moore established the museum after stumbling across a book detailing the extensive

contributions Blacks made to society. She set up the Museum currently located in St. Louis Missouri. In addition to the Museum, a sort of "traveling museum" will extend to all students the chance to experience scores of unrecognized black inventors who have been an integral part in the success of America. Among them George Carruthers and Philip Emeagwali inventors of the far-ultraviolet camera and the spectrograph refrigerator and fastest supercomputer software in the world respectively.

- MAPS in affiliation with IRADAC will also host Dr. Muriel Petioni of Harlem Hospital. Petioni, a pioneer of African American women and medicine, has been a staple of the causes of Blacks. Amongst her many accomplishment is the Susan Smith McKinney Steward Medical Society for Women, which she founded to further the place of African American women in medicine. She was also awarded the John H. Finley Award in October 2006 by the Alumni Association of CCNY.

For further information of any of the events mentioned contact the Finley center for student Affairs or IRADAC.

A day Without

Black Inventions

Can you imagine living life without utilizing the many inventions created by African Americans? Before you answer, take a close look at the list below and see what life without these inventions would've really been like.

Marie Brown
Charles Brooks
Burridge and Marshman
George Washington Carver
Madam C J Walker
Tom J. Marshall
Garrett Morgan
W. B. Purvis
G. T. Sampson
Henry Sampson
Frederick M. Jones
John H. Jordan
J. Standard
T. W. Stewart
J. B. Winters
Granville T. Woods
Granville T. Woods
Paul E. Williams
Augustus Jackson
W. A. Lavalette
Lyda Newman
Percy Julian

Home Security System
Street Sweeper
Typewriter
Peanut Butter
Hair Relaxer
Fire Extinguisher
Traffic Signal
Fountain Pen
Clothes Drier
Cellular Phone
Air Conditioning Unit
Clothes Dresser
Refrigerator
Mop
Fire Escape Ladder
Telephone System
Roller Coaster
Helicopter
Ice Cream
Printing Press
Hair Brush
Cortisone Synthesis

Black History Moment - IRADAC screens

Negroes with Guns: Rob Williams and Black Power

By Easter Z. Wood

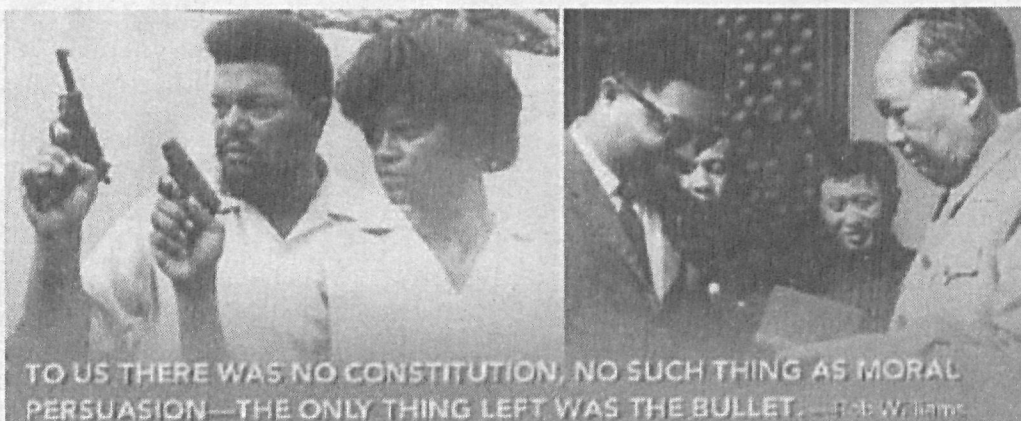
On Thursday, February 8, 2007, the Institute for Research on the African Diaspora in the Americas and the Caribbean (IRADAC) hosted a screening of the powerful PBS documentary *Negroes with Guns*:

Rob Williams and Black Power which chronicles the life and times of activist Robert Williams.

Williams, the author of the controversial 1962 book entitled *Negroes with Guns*, began his journey

in the humblest of ways and never really wanted to be a leader, according to those closest to him. However, as a resident of Monroe, North Carolina, which was particularly fraught with racial tension, he felt that he could not stand by and watch injustice occur against his people.

Considered the single most important influence on Black Panther Party founder Huey P. Newton, Williams' *Negroes* encouraged oppressed African Americans to engage in armed self-defense against the violent onslaught of attacks on their neighborhoods and personhoods largely led by the Ku Klux Klan and other racist groups.

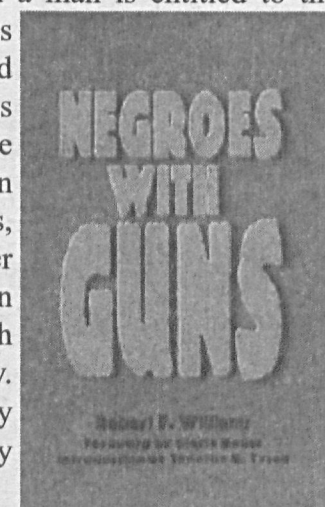


Left: Williams and his wife; Right: Williams and Mao Tse Tung -Courtesy pbs.com

Described as a man who challenged "the establishment and mainstream civil rights leaders," Rob Williams dedicated himself to earning "respect, dignity and equality for all Americans" even at risk to his life and freedom.

Williams was falsely accused of kidnapping in 1961 and fled to Cuba where he founded Radio Free Dixie and supported Che Guavera and the Cuban Revolution, among many other activist activities. He then moved to China, where he lived until his return to the United States in 1969.

One of Williams' most notable quotes came when he was being threatened with treason charges. To that, he answered defiantly: "Treason can only come when a man is entitled to the rights and privileges of his country and then he betrays his country." In light of the continuing oppression despite great strides, one wonders whether any Black man can truly be charged with treason even today. Williams passed away in 1996 but his legacy lives on.



Williams' controversial 1962 Book

Denial: Friend or Foe

By Martina Bailey

It has long been argued whether denial is a completely negative thing or whether it can be useful in certain circumstances. Is it a snare that some of us get caught in? Or is it a tool that can be utilized for survival?

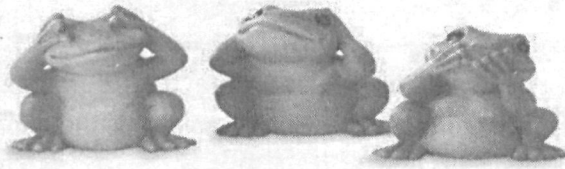
Denial is defined as refusal to acknowledge or recognize; a refusal to accept or believe something, such as doctrine or belief. Although its definition is simple, some of us do get trapped into a continuous pattern of denial, which can be difficult to get out of.

Let's be clear about the difference between denial and optimism. When I travel on the subway, I don't deny that something could go wrong with trains. When my boyfriend tells me I'm the only woman in his life, I don't deny the fact that he could be cheating. I also don't deny that my best friend could at any time stab me in the back. By not denying the negative possibilities in every situation and choosing not to dwell on them, but keeping them in the back of my mind, I am thinking positively. If I were to block out or choose not to acknowledge the possibilities

of failure, divorce, disaster, or anything else that doesn't appeal to me and simply focus on the positive and charming parts of life, then I'd be in denial. This is where some of us get corralled.

Denial is a choice, whether conscious or subconscious. It's not something we get tricked into or bribed into. Some may claim that they are forced into denial because of their circumstances and that it's the only way they can persist. Others may in turn agree with that statement, saying that it's an even better approach to thinking positively and that it allows them to concentrate on the things that make them happy.

The truth is denial is the first step to self-destruction and should be avoided at all costs. It is crucial to be aware of everything and give acknowledgement where it is due. Do think positively and do not dwell on the detrimental. But do not be naïve. Be aware.



Recycling Textbooks: A Time Honored Tradition

By Orin Abel

As a new semester begins CCNY students and other college students begin the textbook pursuit. At this time jargon more synonymous with Real Estate or auctions such as bid, reinvest or decreased value become acquainted with the textbook quest. In this manner, Collegians, unknowingly acquire a basic lesson in capitalism, the best bang, or in this case "book" for your buck. The plight of acquiring newer texts whilst being rid of obsolete texts confronts all students each semester. According to CUNY, students should set aside \$800 per year for the purchase of texts. Attempting to reclaim a substantial amount of the cost price creates a challenge. Furthermore a newer edition or change of text may greatly decrease the value or render the text obsolete. The CCNY student has the fortune of having access to a number of textbook resources including the Bookstore, the Book Xchange, and the internet. For students without Pell or similar financial aid, newcomers, or those just plain perplexed, all the information concerning the sale and purchase of texts are presented. Take advantage and save money in this semester and those to come.

The best option for any CCNY student is the Book Xchange. The Xchange is located in the former Guillermo-Shakur center in room 3/201. Students are provided with the option of selling the book at a reasonable rate and thus obtaining a substantial amount of the cost price. Buying texts from the book Xchange also provides the opportunity for students to purchase an affordable book of good quality. However buyback or the availability of books is not guaranteed. In addition, the Xchange

is only open for a few days at the start of each semester. Nonetheless it remains a fast profitable exchange between CCNY students.

The CCNY Bookstore offers students the opportunity of buying and selling their books all yearlong. Students can purchase used books, which are in limited supply, at a discount price. The buyback price is predetermined by the bookstore in affiliation with other bookstores. As a result the buyback price is likely 50% or less of the purchase price. For the most precarious, those willing to live on the dangerous side, the bulletin boards around campus or classroom doors provide the best means and no doubt the likely students. Though the practice is against school policy, clearly a few students opt to take the risk in lieu of retaining unneeded textbooks.

Finally, if all else fails, the internet provides the most extensive, though not safest transfer. Regardless of text edition or widespread availability, renowned sites such as Amazon.com or enable students to curv the textbook loss. Online your text has the greatest audience as well as the greatest availability. Purchasing a book online doesn't allow for thorough inspection. Instead, confidence is placed completely on the integrity of strangers.

Regardless of your choice, making a most profitable loss is an essential skill that should be learnt by every college student. Though a fiscal loss is inevitable, but reducing the gap between buying price and selling price in the hastiest, most advantageous way is the insurmountable task that the college student on a budget must master. In retrospect students can rest assured that in spite of their textbook acquiring skills, the road being paved ahead is well worth the costs.



Hello everyone, and welcome back! I hope that everyone has had a relaxing and productive winter break and is excited to begin the 2007 spring semester. My name is Jason Alleyne, and I am the NYPIRG Project Coordinator at C.C.N.Y. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the New York Public Interest Group (NYPIRG), we are the state's largest student directed voter empowerment, students' rights, environmental protection group and government reform organization with 21 chapters across the state. NYPIRG aims to instill in students the practical skills and tools needed to be politically and socially active on their college campuses. We also firmly believe in the concept of cooperation in advancing our mission, as we consistently work with campus and community groups on our local and statewide campaigns.

Last semester, NYPIRG at City College ran successful campaigns centering on such issues as Homelessness and Hunger, Higher Education, and the environment. Our environmental campaign garnered over 300 petition signatures from CCNY students for more stringent New York State laws against mercury pollution. On our Higher Education campaign, which we will be continuing in the spring semester, over 30 CCNY clubs and organizations signed on to join NYPIRG's coalition to fight for more affordable higher education in New York State. Our most successful campaign, however, was our Homelessness and Hunger campaign, which culminated in early December with a Hunger Banquet that was attended by over 150 CCNY students.

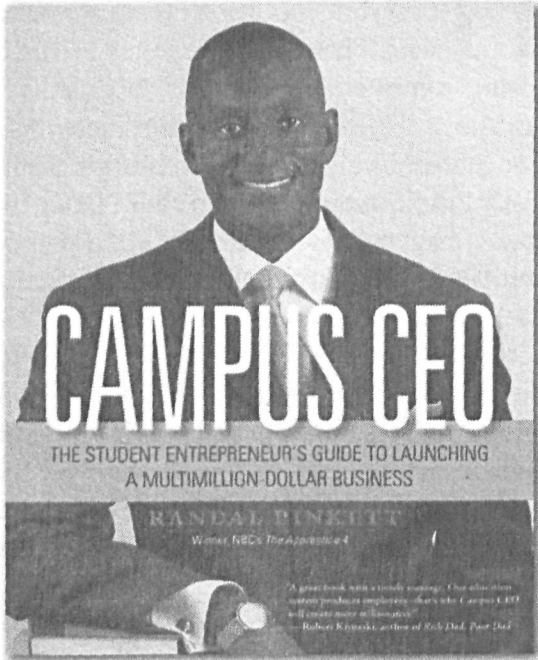
This semester, NYPIRG at City College will look to further build on last semester's success in an attempt to further benefit the CCNY campus and New York State as a whole. We have a semester full of events planned for environmental awareness, homeless and hunger outreach, consumer action and higher education. We will maintain on-going projects, such as the Student Book Exchange, which will allow students to save much needed funds by selling and buying books from each other, avoiding bookstore markups. We will be holding a Student Action Meeting in February to inform students of our agenda and to provide opportunities for internships and volunteerism. I am eager and excited to continue the strong presence and tradition that NYPIRG has maintained at City College.

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A. Philip Randolph (1889-1979)

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—Donald J. Trump

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James DeJongh, Director of IRADAC (left) and Samuel E. Farrell, Director of CAAN preparing their notes for their welcome address

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www.bigbrothersbigsisters.org



Featured

For Your Entertainment

by Julia Pierre-Louis in Entertainment

Are you aware of the great variety of minority student clubs available here on campus? To name a few, there is the CCNY Salsa Mambo Club, Pakistanis at City College, Bangladesh Students Association, United Nigerian Student Association, Women in Islam, Ghanaian Students Association, and the Caribbean Students Association.

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Spring 2007 Academic Calendar	
February	
2/28/2007	Last day for proof of immunization for NYS residents
March (Career & Majors Months)	
3/01/2007	Deadline for filing Application for Degree for June Graduation
3/15/2007	Last Day to submit proof of immunization for non-NYS residents
April	
4/02/2007 – 4/10/2007	Spring Recess (College Open)
4/16/2007	INC/ABS/ETC. for Fall 2006 undergraduates and Spring 2006 for graduate students to convert to FIN & FAB
4/20/2007	Last day for "W" grade
May	
5/12/2007	Last Day of Saturday Classes
5/17/2007	Last Day of Classes
5/18/2007 – 5/25/2007	Final Exams
5/28/2007	College Closed (Memorial Day)
5/31/2007	Last Day for grade submissions for Spring 2007
June	
6/01/2007	Commencements
July	
7/02/2007	Deadline for filing Application for Degree for September Graduation

Hispanics Have Healthier Ways Of Managing Stress

(NAPSA)-A recent national survey shows that while Hispanics are turning to healthier behaviors to manage stress, it still poses a major health problem. The survey, conducted by the American Psychological Association (APA), looked at how people deal with stress and its effects on mind/body health across racial and ethnic groups. The survey was released in partnership with the National Women's Health Resource Center and the National Alliance for Hispanic Health.

According to the survey, Hispanics engage in healthy behaviors to manage stress-such as exercising and seeking support from family and friends-more than the general U.S. population, but stress is still a major health concern.

The survey also found that, when dealing with stress, Hispanics are less likely to rely on unhealthy behaviors, such as smoking (8 percent), compared to the general population (14 percent). Yet Hispanics feel the effects of stress in both body and mind. Among the most commonly reported symptoms are having trouble sleeping (61 percent); feeling nervous or sad (64 percent); feeling irritable or angry (52 percent); and headaches (47 percent).

Sources Of Stress

While they report many sources of stress, both Hispanic men and women report stress is most often related to

concerns about the health of their family members. In comparison, the general public reports work and money as the top stressors. Meanwhile, nearly three-quarters of Hispanic women say they make the health decisions in their family versus one-third of Hispanic men and slightly more than half of the general public.

Ironically, although Hispanics are more likely to seek professional mental health care than the general public (22 percent vs. 15 percent), only 41 percent say they have mental health coverage, over 20 percent less than that of the general population.

"Stress is unavoidable. The key is how effectively people deal with stress," says Russ Newman, Ph.D., J.D., executive director for professional practice, APA. "Exercising and seeking support from family and friends are good examples of healthy ways to manage stress. People who are not taking proactive actions to manage stress or who are dealing with stress in unhealthy ways can actually cause more health problems for themselves, which leads to increased stress in the long run."

For more information on managing stress and mind/body health, visit the Web site at www.apahelpcenter.org. Concerns about their families' health is a top source of stress for Hispanic men and women.

Managing Stress and Anxiety At Work

(NAPSA)-Not surprisingly, the majority of American workers suffer from stress and anxiety in their daily lives. However, according to a new survey by the Anxiety Disorders Association of America (ADAA), close to half of U.S. employees report experiencing daily anxiety that is persistent and excessive. And while only 9 percent have been diagnosed with an anxiety disorder, almost one-third have taken prescription medication to manage stress, anxiety and related disorders.

A certain amount of stress and anxiety is normal-at work and at home. A looming deadline, an unpaid bill or other pressures can cause anyone to suffer physical and mental symptoms of anxiety, which usually subside after a short period of time or after the problem is resolved. However, "persistent, excessive and irrational anxiety that interferes with everyday functioning is often an indication of an anxiety disorder," explains ADAA President & CEO Jerilyn Ross, M.A., L.I.C.S.W.

Affecting approximately 40 million American adults, anxiety disorders are serious medical conditions that fill people's lives with overwhelming anxiety,

worry and fear. They include generalized anxiety disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, panic disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, social anxiety disorder and specific phobias. Although serious conditions, these disorders are treatable.

Other key findings from the Stress & Anxiety Disorders Survey include:

- Almost three-quarters of people who have stress or anxiety say it interferes with their lives at least moderately.
- One in four employees reports persistent stress or excessive anxiety has impaired their ability to function in the past six months. Almost half of people diagnosed with an anxiety disorder say their condition affects their performance, quality of work, and relationships with people at work.

Stress Management at Work

The demands of the workplace, including deadlines, presentations and interactions with many different people, are major sources of stress for everyone. However, for people with anxiety disorders, these demands can make their symptoms worse. The ADAA offers these tips for everyone for managing workplace stress and anxiety:

- Practice time management.

Make to-do lists. Prioritize your work. Schedule time for each task. Take a time-management course if necessary.

- Plan, prepare and don't procrastinate. Get started on major projects as early as possible. Anticipate problems and do what you can to prevent them.
- Be realistic. Don't overcommit yourself by volunteering for projects you don't have time for.
- Communicate with your boss. Speak up-calmly and diplomatically-if you have too much on your plate. Your boss may not realize you're overextended. If you feel overwhelmed by stress and anxiety, and stress-reduction methods are not working, speak to your doctor or a mental health professional.

To learn more, visit www.adaa.org. Stress and anxiety are a normal part of life, but persistent and excessive anxiety may be an indication of something else.

Sports

Dungy and Lovie Make NFL History

By Deborah Daneliz Rivera

On Sunday February 4th, Tony Dungy of the Indianapolis Colts made NFL history by becoming the first Black head coach to win the Super Bowl. Just two weeks after both he and Lovie Smith of the Chicago Bears made NFL History as the first Black head Coaches to in the 41 year old history of the NFL to reach the Super Bowl.

After the Colts victory against the New England Patriots 38-34 in the AFC title, Dungy stated, "I'm very proud of being African-American. I'm very proud of Lovie. It's going to be special."

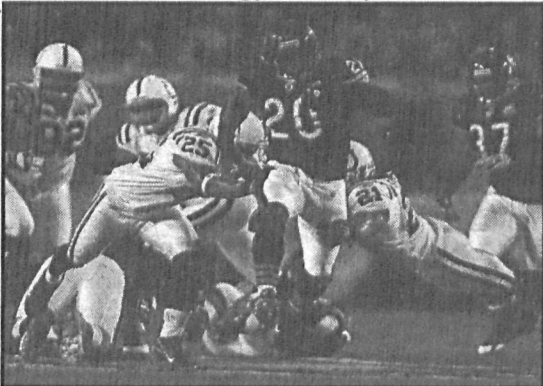
No doubt the game was a memorable one, especially when the Bears were defeated by the Colts 29-17 in Dolphin Stadium.

On that rainy night in Miami the Bears defense was no match for the Colts' running attack and failed to put the pressure on Quarterback Peyton Manning. Add five turnovers by the Colts, and the Bears' bid for a championship was trampled.

Nonetheless both Smith and Dungy have created a clear path for Black coaches, just as Doug Williams did for Black quarterbacks in the 1988 Super Bowl. This game was more than just a win for the Colts but a massive victory for minorities.

It wasn't that long ago that the best NFL jobs were unobtainable to Blacks. The progress over that last 20 years was at a snails pace. Taking longer than it should have. Former Commissioner Paul Tagliabue took an active hand in pulling the progress along.

Dungy took the progress made by Art Shell and Dennis Green even further. He was never the type to attract attention, always modest. Knowing that his success would go a long way in paving the path for others, he was always honest about the injustices in the NFL.



Super Bowl XLI

Smith, Dungy's protégé in Tampa Bay, walked along that path, he too led by example. Dungy and Smith both deserved a better shot, but instead of griping about life being biased, they did what they had to do to ensure that the road is not as bumpy for those who follow in their footsteps.

These very worthy and commendable men have blown the doors wide open for men of color. Both Smith and Dungy have removed a slice from the big cake of prejudice.

Dwight Freeney, Defensive End for the Colts, said "Its something I've heard all week" referring to Dungy and Smith making history, "I hope we get to the point we don't have to hear about it. I'm happy for both coaches just being there to represent. Represent."

Upcoming Games

(all games are scheduled to change)

Men's Basketball			
2-21-07	CUNYAC Championship	TBA	(H)
2-23-07	CUNYAC Finals	TBA	(H)
Men's Volleyball			
2-22-07	Medgar Evers	7:00pm	(A)
2-24-07	Leman @ Hunter	TBA	(H)
2-24-07	Baruch @ Hunter	TBA	(H)
2-26-07	Polytechnic	7:00pm	(H)
2-27-07	Brooklyn	7:00pm	(A)
3-01-07	York	6:00pm	(H)
3-02-07	Bard Tournament	TBA	(A)
3-03-07	Bard Tournament	TBA	(A)
3-06-07	Hunter	7:00pm	(A)
Women's Basketball			
2-23-07	CUNYAC Finals	TBA	(H)
Women's Fencing			
2-25-07	Stevens Invitational	8:30am	(A)
3-03-07	NIWFA Championships	8:00am	(A)

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"NFL's Football Players Are Not So Tough"

By Wei-Nee Sung

Andre Waters, a tough-hitting football defensive player for the Philadelphia Eagles committed suicide in November of 2006 after. He was 44 years old. It took another football player and wrestler--Chris Nowinski, 28 years old who had to end his own football career in 2004 due to brain trauma to bring awareness to the dangers of brain trauma brought on by repeated concussions in the football playing arena.

Nowinski has published a book--*Head Games: Football's Concussion Crisis* to level the field for safety for the players; especially, the younger football players. After hearing of Water's suicide and death, Nowinski went at lengths to contact his family to obtain permission for a sample of Waters brain. Forensic pathologist, Dr. Bennet Omalu who tested the brain sample concluded that Waters had a brain of an eighty-five year old with Alzheimer's disease. Nowinski who tracked Waters's football career discovered that he

had at least 15 concussions since 1994. Dr. Omalu's results revealed that Mr. Waters may have suffered from Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy. One symptom for this condition is major depression which can lead to suicide. There is no definite conclusive evidence that concussions can lead to suicide; however, Nowinski had developed migraines and depression after sustaining 6 concussions.

There is a growing body of scientific studies which indicates that there is a strong correlation between the number of times a player sustain brain trauma to developing depression, and dementia.

A recent study done by NFL's Center for the Retired Athletes of 2,500 former NFL players show this trend. One criticism of this study point to the fact that only retired players werestudiedandnotactiveplayersintheleague. Young football players who exude toughness need to know the danger from concussions, even just 2 or 3 concussion and prolonged exposure to head trauma can be deadly.