

THE PAPER

*So we stand here
On the edge of Hell
In Harlem
And Look out on the world
And Wonder
What we're gonna do
In the face of
What we remember
Langston Hughes.*



CITY COLLEGE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK IN HARLEM

Volume 99 Number 2

A Medium For All People Of African Descent

March 22, 1994

STRIVERS CENTER

About to become a reality

BY DESA PHILADELPHIA

With Strivers Plaza, the first stage of the Strivers Center Development Project already being constructed, the \$14 million Harlem tourism project is on its way to becoming a reality.

The Strivers Center Development Project, conceived by the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce (GHCC), is a revitalization project that seeks to develop centers of culture, entertainment and cuisine in Harlem. The project consists of the renovation of three blocks of vacant buildings on 135th Street, from Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Boulevard to St. Nicholas Avenue.

When completed, the buildings will house ethnic and specialty food restaurants and cafes; shops, boutiques and specialty stores; jazz clubs, a jazz hall of fame museum and a jazz walk of fame; affordable apartments; and travel agencies and an airline ticket office.

Strivers center was conceived as a catalyst for the revitalization of Harlem as a major New York City tourist attraction. Developers hope that the appeal of jazz entertainment will make Strivers center an important tourist center, equal to lower Manhattan's South Street Seaport.

The larger cultural aim is the recreation of the Harlem of the 1920s and 1930s - a Harlem famed for its jazz clubs, "speakeasies" and world-renowned cuisine. A Harlem that was the mecca of Black New York.

Through its Economic Development Corporation (EDC), the city of New York, a major land owner in the project area, is working with the GHCC to make the center a reality. If Strivers Center does

attract tourist dollars, the City stands to boost its income from tourism, which now stands at about \$12 billion. Angela Hendrix Terry, chief of staff for the EDC says the idea is to get tourists to spend their extra dollars in Harlem. "All those tour buses come up to Harlem and just drive around," she said. "The idea is to get the tourists off those buses so they can come in and spend all those disposable dollars."

The project will be completed in two phases. Phase One, called



The projected Striver's Center

Strivers Plaza is already underway. When completed, eight buildings would have been renovated. The building will house 48 residential rental units for families and approximately 11 thousand square feet of ground floor retail rental space.

In the second phase of development, scheduled to begin in September, work will begin on a brand new streetscape, the jazz hall of fame, and other entertainment business. The new

streetscape promises to give the area a much-needed face-lift. It entails the installation of distinctive lampposts, planters, kiosks, benches, banners and musical motifs.

The success of Strivers Center may be the beginning of future investment in Harlem. The GHCC hopes that the center will be the catalyst for a thriving tourism business in the Harlem of the twenty-first century. □

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CAMPUS NEWS

CITY COLLEGE'S CENTER FOR ANALYSIS OF STRUCTURES AND INTERFACES (CASI), HAS BEEN AWARDED A \$5 MILLION GRANT BY the National Science Foundation (NSF), it was announced by Dr. Yolanda T. Moses, President of CCNY.

"This five-year grant will enable CASI to continue its leading-edge research activities, together with its pioneering efforts to increase the number of minority students and women who are trained to conduct vital, high level scientific research," Dr. Moses said. "The grant is further evidence of CCNY's emergence as a major research center. It also demonstrates our commitment to expand the pool of underrepresented students in the sciences, engineering and other fields."

CASI is directed by Professor Daniel Akins of CCNY's Chemistry Department.

ALTHOUGH NEW YORK CITY ENJOYS THE HIGHEST CONCENTRATION OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERY SERVICES IN THE NATION AND provides medical training for 15% of the nation's doctors, there is no strong diversified training program in biomedical engineering in the metropolitan area.

This will change dramatically under the terms of a \$750,000 "Special Opportunity Award" City College has received from the Whitaker Foundation to establish a Center for Biomedical Engineering (CBE).

"SPEAKING OUR MIND, CUNY VOTES!" IS THE MESSAGE TO TENS OF THOUSANDS OF CUNY STUDENTS TO REGISTER TO VOTE DURING March, Voter Registration Month at the City University of New York. All 21 CUNY campuses will sponsor non-partisan activities to encourage students and all members of the University community to register to vote, so they may participate in both the Primary and General Elections in 1994. For the first time, citizenship and naturalization workshops will be held simultaneously with voter registration to assist eligible students in becoming citizens.

DR. NEVILLE A. PARKER, HERBERT G. KAYSER PROFESSOR OF CIVIL ENGINEERING AT CITY COLLEGE, IS THE WINNER OF THE 1994 "Black Engineer of the Year Award for Education, College Level."

Dr. Parker was chosen from over 200 of the nation's top scientists, engineers and technology leaders who were nominated. He received the award at the annual Black Engineer of the Year award ceremony, which was held in Baltimore, Maryland in February. He was cited for his tireless commitment to develop human resources, in the United States and abroad, in and out of the classroom.

CITY COLLEGE HAS BEEN AWARDED A \$600,00 CHALLENGE GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES (NEH) — the largest sum awarded to any college or university in this year's competition. CCNY President Yolanda T. Moses said: "This grant attests to the high quality and extraordinary potential of our humanities programs, and will enable us to build on our many strengths. It will also make it possible for the College to make bold decisions at the frontiers of knowledge, preparing the way for more inclusive, livelier approaches to the liberal arts that can have a profound impact on higher education throughout the country."

Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors,

On December 6, 1993, Special education students participated in a live interactive telecommunications event via satellite with other students, persons with disabilities, agency workers, and University personnel throughout America, including the Continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto-

Rico, The Virgin Island, and other territories. The event, entitled Rehabilitation and Diversity, addressed issues challenges and strategies that facilitate the utilization of the abilities and development of the potential of Americans with disabilities from diverse racial and ethnic populations. The Howard

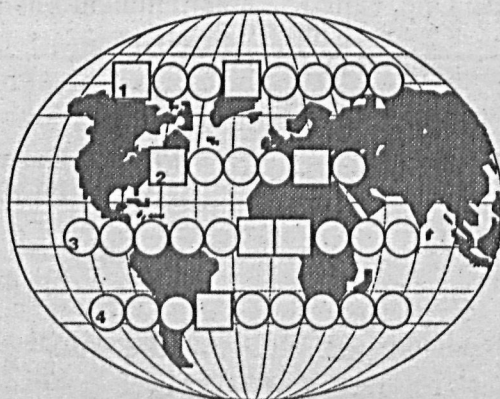
University, Washington D.C. Research and Training Center organized the activity. Dr. Judy Heumann, Assistant Secretary, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services, U.S. Department of Education, made herself available to answer questions.

Prof. J Jiggetts-Special Education Program.

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.



Formerly part of the Russian Communist Bloc, this is one of the poorest nations in Europe.

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □



1. Sea on the west coast of this nation.
2. Capital of Greece, which borders this country to the south.
3. Adjacent nation in which there was intense fighting and civil war in 1991.
4. Soviet leader who allowed nations such as this one to break away from Soviet domination.

Solution: 1. Adriatic 2. Athens 3. Yugoslavia 4. Gorbachev = Albania

In Dedication of Woman's History Month

Citywomen

*there is a small tree
planted in memory
of a citywoman*

*it is an odd shape
a small size
but it survives
all seasons*

*citywomen are
of varied size
and shape
voice and view
professional persuasion
age and hue*

*we make a difference
in the workplace
the community
the world*

*we wear corduroy
and calico
silk and serge
purple jade
and tiger's eye*

*we eat bagels
and biscuits*

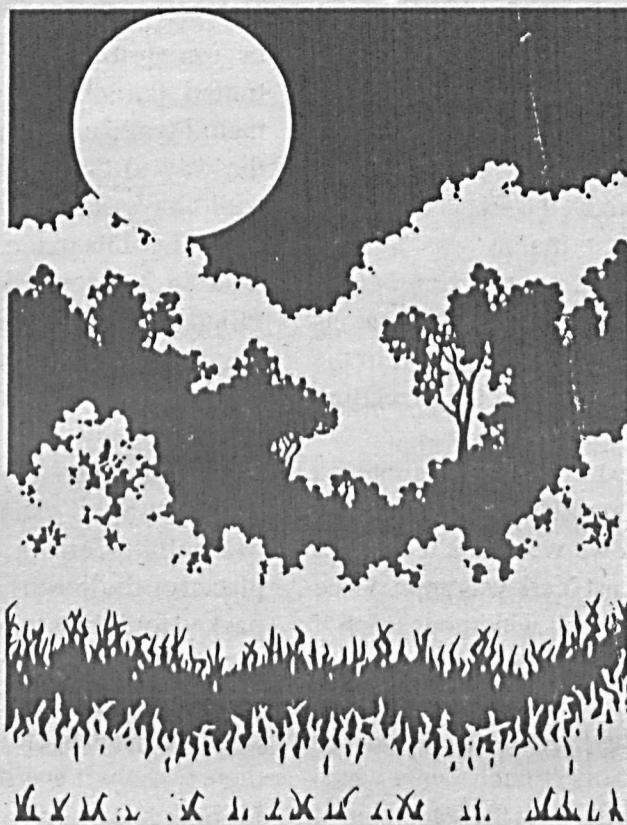
*papaya and passion fruit
haroset and häagen-dazs**

*we are rainbow
and waterfall*

*surviving
all
seasons*

*Copyright, 1985, Jeanette Adams
The City College of the City University of New York*

**haroset - a mixture of apples, raisins and spices served at a traditional Passover seder.
häagen-dazs - a gourmet ice cream*



Obituary



LILIAN WEBER,
Professor Emeritus,
Elementary Education,
Died February 22, 1994.
A memorial Conference
is planned for April 30th.
For Information, Call
212 650-6261.

In Honor of Freedom - In Pursuit of Progress Ghana's Day of Independence - March 6, 1957

BY RENEE STEVENS

On March 6, 1994, the progressive nation of Ghana celebrated thirty-seven years of independence from British rule. As the first African nation to gain independence, Ghana continues to function as a country filled with ambitious goals; as a middle aged country, it is currently experiencing reorganization and other adjustments in hopes of continued and accelerated progress.

The Ghanaian Students Association of City College commemorated the Independence

Day celebration of the African West Coast nation on Thursday, March 17, 1994 with a forum addressing various issues of concern to people of Ghanaian descent. The Consul-General of Ghana to the United Nations, Mr. Adotey Anum was the special invited guest. In addition to the informative historical background given, the students and invited guests addressed the issues outlined on their agenda. Among the specifics discussed were the political changes in Ghana over the last year, freedom of the Ghanaian press, the execution of the

Democratic Constitution, and various economic issues affecting the former Gold Coast. The members of this active campus student association expressed concerns regarding foreign investments and input in Ghana, budget allotment for education, and the need for improved health care facilities.

The Ghanaian Students Association meets every other Thursday in NAC 4/148 from 12:30 to 1:30. The membership consists of students of Ghanaian descent and all others interested in the current

events of the nation of Ghana. This student association also provides academic support for its members through exchange of books and any other help solicited. Meetings consist of varied activities including discussions, invited Ghanaian professionals as speakers and role models, and Ghanaian indoor games. The President, Mr. Henry Osei-Owusu and Mr. Atta Aduboffour may be contacted through the association's mailbox in Finley Center for additional information regarding activities. □

City College Women Basketball Do It Again !!!

A chronicle of the season

BY MATSELISO MASITHELA
FRESHMAN WOMEN'S B-BALL

The most winningest team in the CUNY league managed to win the title again. In the fourteen year history of the women's championship matches CITY has won **eight** times. This time had to be one of the most rewarding episodes.

It was a topsy turvy season with a seasonal record of (14-12, 6-3 CUNY). It began with a disheartening win-loss-win-loss pattern. But the games against the Division II teams were an indispensable part of our learning process. The "...main goal is to finish above .500" stated assistant head coach Larry Lingard in mid-season.

Our few, but faithful, supporters were able to watch us do battle with N.J.I.T., Baruch, York, Hunter, and more. To those who knew us well, and understood the game of basketball, they saw we had the makings of a really good team but tapping into to our potential was our problem. When the entire team came mentally prepared for a game, we were definitely going to win the game. More than half of our losses can be attributed to "mental unpreparedness", but that's the story of most teams, isn't it? When it came down to crunch time, we had finally gotten our act together.

How was the road to the championship? First we had to

secure a decent placing in the CUNY conference. Our 6-3 record (with losses to Baruch, Medgar Evers, and the unbeaten by a CUNY team York), gave us the #4 seed.

The first match was against Hunter. It was a sweet victory (68-57) against the defending champions whom had knocked City out in the semi-final rounds in the preceding year.

The next match was definitely a test of wills, and a test to see exactly how tough we were as a team. The match against York was approached like a game well within our reach if we did all the things we knew we were able to do. We made sure that we came to play! Everyone stepped up their game to meet the challenge which York brought. With the leadership of co-captains Ayanna Parker (center-high scorer 24 pts) and Carolyn Issac (power forward) we beat the undefeated York 63-60 in overtime.

The championship final round pinned us against the #3 seed Baruch. They blew #2 seed Medgar Evers out the frame 69-42. Baruch and us had each come away with a win from our matches during the season. We weren't quick to neglect that regardless of the season, teams will do everything they can to win during the championship matches. We sure did! To take this team lightly would have been meant our end.

It was a tight game from

beginning to end. We hardly ever trailed Baruch, and never trailed them by much. We had made it all the way to the finals and nothing could have stopped us. CITY was up by 3 points in the fourth quarter with 11.2 seconds left. After one failed attempt Sybil hit a three pointer to tie the score. Up until then we had the momentum with a 6-1 run started by forward Rhondalyn Mclean (10 pts.), which wasn't broken by Sybil's shot. Junior guard Marcella Wellington was then placed on the line to hit two pressure packed foul shots to put CITY up by two. Marcella Wellington is a point / shooting guard who averages 9.6 ppg. She had been scoreless until then, perhaps it was destiny that she hit both shots. From there the title was ours with a final score of 41-35.

Was it a fluke? Sheer luck and energy perhaps? I don't think so!! Perhaps it was said best by head coach (former CITY player and 1990 MVP) Stephanie English after the Hunter quarterfinals game. When asked if she thought we could win the tournament she responded "We're not coming in here with any other thought. We're coming in here from the onset to take the whole thing."

I'm not one to brag but... Captain Ayanna Parker, a mere sophomore, was the MVP of the tournament averaging 20 ppg during the conference. Co-captain Carolyn Issac

was an essential part of our victory scoring 22pts against Hunter, and had 9pts and she hauled down 13 rebounds, despite foul trouble, against Baruch. Our senior Thais Palmer held Baruch's star, Sybil Smith, to a total of 10 points. She is definitely the defensive player of the year. Thais leads the **nation**, yes the nation, in Division III female steals with 175 this season! All three women were elected onto the All Star CUNY team.

Then there is our strong supporting crew. Marcella Wellington is arguably the best shooting guards in CUNY. Dilcia Munoz ripped down seven rebounds in the game against Baruch. Well I could go on but, we're just too damn good for words. So Marcey Brown, Christine Woolard, Karyn Morales, Julissa Matias, Edith Pinero, Rhonda, Marcella, Dilcia, Lisa, all stars, and coaches a huge applause for a job well done! Until next season..., when we repeat? ☐

THE 1994 ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM

CAROLYN ISAAC, CCNY
SYBIL SMITH, BARUCH
LAYISA SPRINGER, YORK
THAIS PALMER, CCNY
GIOVANNI LICORISH, BARUCH

MVP- AYANNA PARKER, CCNY

In The Gift Business

BY HUGH THOMAS

It is not too often that one gets to live the "American Dream," taking nothing and making something out of it. We come to City College, in the Harlem section of Manhattan, and most of us go back home without ever knowing or even caring what else there is in Harlem. We are not even familiar with the neighborhood around the college. If I need to buy anything, be it items if clothing or even a calculator, I will think of Brooklyn or lower Manhattan. In the interest of the business community we at *The Paper* would like to feature or put the spotlight on some of Harlem's businesses.

The first of these businesses which I have the honor of presenting to you is called "LITTLEJOHN AND DAUGHTER." Located at 450 W

145th street between Convent and Amsterdam Avenue is Jeanne Littlejohn's dream come true. Jeanne, a Howard University graduate worked for a while with M.C.A.P. Group, a marketing company. Wanting more out of life, she became an entrepreneur. She entered a partnership with her mother and together this mother and daughter team have created a unique gift shop in Harlem which is unlike any other.

This gift shop made its entrance on the scene in October of 1992 and already has taken part in many community events. To name a few: African Street Festival, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Harlem Week Festival, Grant's Tomb and even a fashion show here at City College. The interior design, done by Jeanne herself, gives the shop an antique look. This place would fit in quite well

in Soho. When one enters this quality store the image is a positive one.

The soul of Littlejohn and Daughter is in the marketing of items of the Native American, and Afrocentric heritage. Some of the items that they sell are: jerseys from the Negro League, art figures, some of which are made by Jeanne, jewelry, vests, hats and black arts and crafts. Some of their merchandise is produced locally while others are produced in Africa. There are a wide variety of items to choose from which caters to the college crowd as well as the more mature crowd. For example, the hats range between seventeen and twenty-three dollars, and the bags from fifteen to twenty-six dollars. Vests and tee shirts start at twenty-five dollars and the watches, a

college student's favorite, ranges from twenty to thirty-six dollars.

When speaking with Jeanne, I got the feeling that she gets great pleasure in serving the Harlem community which she calls home. We need more positive business like this in Harlem so that our people can put their money back into the community. The prices in the store are better than lower Manhattan prices so why not pay them a visit. ☐

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Popular Music or Popular Drivel?

BY DAWUD M. GLOVER

In America, our contemporary music is usually reflective of what is occurring in society. In many ways music represents what our current state of mind is, or perhaps what "vibe" we are on at that particular time. I believe this is especially true of rap music, or "hip hop". IT continues to thrive on young people. Many rappers have successfully captured a crossover audience, and artists such as Hammer, Vanilla Ice and Doctor Dre have sold millions of records.

However, the impact of these three artists, I believe, is considerably different on their audiences. There is a current trend in hip hop that has become wildly popular. It is known as gangster rap. This brand of rap is considerably different from that which many popular rap artists-past and present have used. Hammer and Vanilla Ice, certainly not the prime representatives of the hip hop world, nonetheless are a part of the industry that lyrically does not contribute very much to social development. The usually talk of nothing particularly insightful, yet they have thumping bass beats and dance tunes that can be very marketable; it would almost evoke the image of Michael Jackson as a rapper. These artists

are neither politically correct or hardcore street rappers.

Therefore, who are these gangster (gangsta) rappers? There are a few who are not widely known. However, the artists that have popularized gangsta rap is the West Coast conglomerate "Death Row". The prime progenitor of Death Row is Dr. Dre, formerly of the controversial Los Angeles rap group N.W.A. (ask a knowledgeable friend what that stands for) and his self-produced, double-platinum album of 1992, "The Chronic." His protege is Snoop Doggy Dogg, a former gang member, whose much awaited album "Doggystyle" debuted at number one on the pop charts late in 1993. Together they have popularized a style of rap that has inundated the radio airwaves, and captured the ears of millions of young people in America in the progress.

Whereas many rappers in the past have talked about the many struggles of living in the inner city, the crime, the destitution, and racism, Dr. Dre and his cohorts have done the opposite in glorifying the usage of guns, drugs and the disrespecting of African women. There is a skit on Snoop's "Doggystyle" where two young men, strangers to each engage in an

argument over a girl, which ends with Snoop shooting his antagonist in cold blood. Profanity is the norm everywhere these days, yet the expletives and the constant use of certain derogatory terms identifying women are used in abundance on various hip hop albums, not only by Dr. Dre and Snoop Doggy Dogg. With these artists being given considerable air time on radio and television, what is the younger generation learning from these images?

Hally and Ricardo, both music majors at City College, have similar views about the effects of these messages on younger people. "Kids idolize these artists and what they represent," says Hally. "Adults are responsible for what children listen to. These are glorified images, and being of Haitian descent I know that even the kids in my community are affected." Ricardo agrees. "This music has an impact on younger audiences. However, it reflects that society also has a problem. I do not listen to rap, but the same chauvinistic attitudes exists within Merengue music. The same old patterns are reinforced in many types of music."

Therefore, there is a feeling among many people that violent and misogynistic lyrics have no

place in music. Several prominent figures in entertainment and politics have spoken out against gangster rap and some radio stations have begun to stop playing any music with violent and misogynistic lyrics. These may be the first steps in ultimately getting these artists to change their material.

Personally I believe that gangster rap is a dangerous type of music. It promotes and encourages violence and disrespect, primarily among young African-Americans and inner-city youth. I have listened to rap music as long as it has existed. I have also noticed how the soulful and unifying African music of the 1970's by such artists as Earth, Wind and Fire, Marvin Gaye and Minnie Riperton have given way to disco and hip hop. African-American music has always been popular in the United States; it has been used to convey different messages such as love, peace, discontent or heartbreak. However, it has never been used as a vehicle to popularize violence among African peoples or any other group of individuals. It is a frightening and disturbing trend. Would these artists like their children to emulate what they preach?

The acquisition of the almighty dollar is a poor excuse for misguiding the people. □

Zionist Logic

BY EL-HAJJ MALIK SHABAZZ

The Zionist armies that now occupy Palestine claim their ancient Jewish prophets predicted that in the "last days of this world" their own God would raise them up a "messiah" who would lead them to their promised land, and they would set up "divine" government in this newly gained land. This "divine" government would enable them to "rule all other nations with a rod of iron".

If the Israeli Zionist believe their present occupation of Arab Palestine is fulfillment of predictions made by their Jewish prophets, then they also religiously believe that Israel must fulfill its "divine" mission to rule all other nations with a rod of iron, which only means a different form of Iron-like rule, more firmly entrenched even, than that of the former European Colonial Powers.

These Israeli Zionists religiously believe their Jewish god has chosen them to replace the outdated European colonialism with a new form of colonialism, so well disguised that it will enable them to deceive the Afrikan masses into submitting willingly to their "divine" authority and guidance, without the Afrikan masses' being aware that they are still colonized.

CAMOUFLAGE

The Israeli Zionist are convinced they have successfully camouflaged their new kind of colonialism. Their colonialism appears to be more *benevolent*, more *philanthropic*, a system with which they rule, simply by getting their potential victims to accept their friendly offers of economic "aid", and other tempting gifts, that they dangle in front of the newly-independent Afrikan nations, whose economies are experiencing

great difficulties.

During the 19th century when the masses here in Afrika were largely illiterate it was easy to European imperialists to rule them with "force and fear" but in this present era of enlightenment the Afrikan masses are awakening, and it is impossible to hold them in check with the antiquated methods of the 19th century.

The imperialists, therefore, have been compelled to devise new methods. Since they can no longer force or frighten the masses into submission, they must devise modern methods that will enable them to maneuver the Afrikan masses into willing submission.

The modern 20th century weapon of neo-imperialism is Dollarism! The Zionists have mastered the science of dollarism: the ability to come posing as a friend

and benefactor, bearing gifts and all other forms of economic aid and offers of technical assistance. Thus, the power and influence of Zionist Israel in many of the newly "Independent" Afrikan nations has fast-become even more un-shakable than that of the 10th century Europeans colonists...and this new kind of Zionist colonialism differs only in form and method, but never in motive or objective.

At the close of the 19th century when European imperialists wisely foresaw that the awakening masses of Afrika would not submit to their method of ruling through force and fear, these ever-scheming imperialists had to create a "new weapon," and had to find a new base for that weapon.

Zionist Logic
continued on page 10

EXPRESSIONS

...JUST IN CASE2

Since you and I just met,
We really haven't started anything yet.
Let's agree to be friends from the start,
Just in case later we may part.

Let us agree to be lovers,
Therefore they should be no others.
Let's with our hearts cherish,
& spirits comfort our subtle bliss
while reminiscing with our souls,
memories that we caress.

And if by chance either changes their mind,
Please take the moment take your time,
To lift the veils of misconception,
that leads to pain in separation.

For if everything is done, when you've left,
when you've taken flight, our friendship
will be alright. And if by chance
you're reading this later,
Probably I have cared greater.

So call me if change you may find,
Just in case I may be in your heart as
you may be in mine.

by N. Jefflyn King 9T4

JUST LIKE DANIEL

My people was enslaved,
just like Daniel's people.
They took our strongest
our most intelligent, our
best trained, and quick to learn,
just like Daniel's people.
They changed our names,
just like Daniel's people.
They made us pray to their god,
just like Daniel's people.
We rejected their names,
their meat, and their god,
just like Daniel's people.
And our leaders, just like Daniel
is thrown into the lion's den.
And those of us who follow them
are thrown into the blazing furnace of prosection.
But just like Daniel's people,
God is on our side and we will be free!

by Jermaine Grinnage

Trying

I always feel as though I'm alone,
is it because no one understands me,
or is it because I just don't understand anyone,
I try to be as simple as I possibly can,
but yet that doesn't seem to work,
I try to listen and comprehend as much as possible,
but that doesn't work either,
so what am I suppose to do,
just withdraw from everything and everyone,
stay to myself and not let anyone close,
No! I refuse to become a prisoner in an open space,
so I guess I'll have to keep on trying,
until I find something or someone,
that will fill this empty space.

by Marc Tenia

EXPRESSIONS

Dreaming

Fantasy momentarily
suspends reality;
dreams carry my mind away
from the here and now.
With my eyes closed
perhaps I fade into
a dream that is you.

Is it a dream, ephemeral fantasy?
Though I reach
for you, expectant,
all that my hands touch
through deceiving obscurant
mists
is your absence.

No!...sense of touch,
does it betray me?
Since, here now
with eyes open
you are in sight..
not a thousand miles away.

Here in my arms,
in my heart,
here in my soul
your beauty is apparent;
your passion clearly
reaches me, touches me.

Feeling so strange, so beautiful
at times akin
to madness obsessed,
at times a vision dreamed
even as I am
clearly awake.

Recollections of your beguiling
beauty, bittersweet
hauntingly painful,
sweetly mesmerizing
consume me, overcome me
in sleep as I am awake
and your eyes radiate, so clearly
their sunlight.
Tasting you lips, as if stained
sweetly by strawberries
your tongue, as if dipped in syrup
so hot
a carnal dessert
as luscious as if
you were melting uncontrollably
now in my mouth.

Feeling your body, voluptuous
encircled by your arms
of subtle strength,
hot skin of your breasts,
burning flesh of your thighs
as if caressed seductively
by gentle tropic breezes, so
passionate
that are your sensuality.

Scenting your honeyed fragrance,
your hair, your breath
the moist tropical forest of curls
of your love triangle.
And I dive into your velvety
depths, so wet,
searching the treasured ecstasy
of your pearl so exquisite.

Caressing heat, contact so tantalizing
of our bodies, soft and hard,
strong and gentle
intensely intertwined so tender.
Friction and heat causing your perfume,
your natural scents
to evaporate and permeate my senses
as if incense diffused in air.

Hearing your laughter and moans,
sighs and words of love, of desire
a melodic play of ballads provocation
and salsas so sensuous
echoing to the core of you and me
reaching a place
where we live in our love.

Yes, it is a dream
as you are fantasy personified,
a dream even as I am awake.
For even though, expectantly,
my hand reaches out
through the absence of you,
now with eyes open
you are here
and not a thousand miles away.

Arturo Arnold

An Alternate Solution

BY WHITNEY DAVIS

Maybe the solutions to a lot of life's problems are not the conventional ones like prisons and other institutions. Perhaps we have been aiming at these problems from the wrong angle and maybe sincerely caring and motivating a person is a better tool.

Crime, drugs, alcohol and homelessness are known problems in the Black community. Now suicide, a dilemma thought of mostly in Caucasian communities is making itself known.

Our major combat for most of these situations have been in use for decades; we see a drug user or an alcoholic, and we have him/her arrested. If they are financially well off, they can get treatment instead of a jail term, which is more than likely what the common person will get. Rehab is usually not an option. These methods are supposed to deter the above mentioned activities. The problem is that, drug and alcohol abuse are still major problems in the Black

community. Most of us are aware of the statistics when it comes to Black men in the prison system. It's obvious that the traditional method of dealing with drug and alcohol abuse is not working.

Homelessness is affecting virtually every city in the country, and in cities like Chicago, New York and San Francisco where the natural elements can prove quite deadly, homelessness can be a fatal problem.

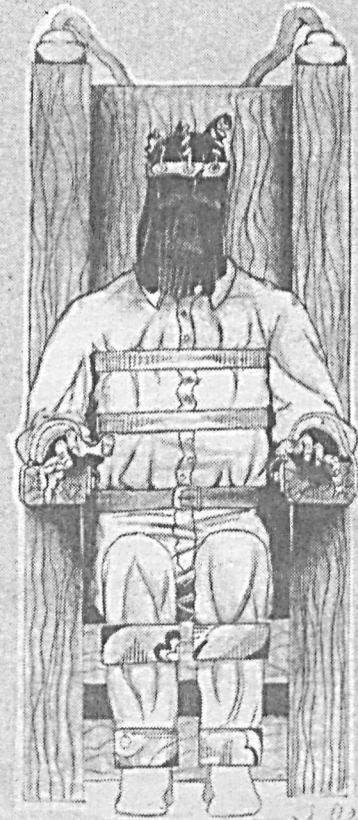
As a rule, the homeless are scorned. Almost every place they create as a shelter is denied to them and destroyed by the police.

Then the people are usually carted off by the police to public shelters where they are subject to inhumane treatment, primarily due to over-crowding. Often, they are even taken to jail. Some are physically attacked and killed. Some time ago in a major city a homeless man was killed when he was set on fire by a group of teenagers.

An Alternate Solution

continued on page 10

THINK ABOUT IT!



Is the electric chair the right solution for a crime such as murder or is it an easier way of dealing with a case that is unsolved?

Is this person guilty?

THINK ABOUT IT!

Moving on up & Branching out

BY NICHOLE J. KING

When you enter college your life begins to change. As you learn to accept more responsibilities, you become independent. Last semester I decided to try living closer to City College in order to be closer to my new job, and to become more active in the community.

My roommate and I moved into what we thought was a quiet apartment, situated almost on the City College campus. We later came to call it "The Apartment from Hell." My friends can testify that every week there was a problem. I soon missed my parents' home, where all I had to do was clean and do some cooking every now and again. My roommate and I lived with alternating schedules, which makes living with a roommate ideal. But although we were able to schedule chores between us, other things plagued us. Rent and Utilities became our major concerns. Now I understand why my father always wanted us to turn off the extra lights. After all those years of thinking that Con Edison was my friend, I was coming to the rude enlightenment that we were just associates. I also

realized that the "nice man" who rented us the apartment was a "business man" first, nice guy later. Rent, rent & Mo Rent was the only thing this man was interested in.

He was definitely not interested in the problems that we were having with the apartment. First we were locked in and out of our apartment because of a faulty door. Then we had to deal with drafty windows... and a rodent problem. As it got colder the inconvenience of NO heat made conditions unbearable, especially when the landlord forgot to order oil for the burner and there would also be no hot water. Sometimes, without notice, the maintenance workers would finally decide to fix something which would result in their shutting off the water while one of us was in the middle of a bath. We were angry at the conditions, for it seemed that only our apartment had these problems. The other tenants seemed so content.

I decided to change my destiny. I called the Central Complaint Office of the Housing Department. They immediately recognized the owner's name because they had received other complaints. Relieved that we were

not the only ones "with the psychological problem" as the building manager had commented, I decided to find out more about managing buildings.

I signed up for a free building management class that was offered by the Housing Preservation and Anti-Abandonment services. I also went to the State Attorney General's Office and got a tenant's handbook. We found out what our legal rights are and what is expected of the building's management, in terms of upkeep and the like. We made photocopies of this information and distributed it to the other tenants. In addition I realized that Housing Preservation provides a necessary service because they work to prevent building abandonment by stressing proper management, to preserve housing for families with low and moderate income and to pass on the skills of building management to the people within the community.

I need to add that my apartment is livable. Its convenience to City College and 125th Street is definitely a plus. I'm also happy to be a part of the Harlem community. So I'm happy that I've spread my wings and moved

on uptown. But I'm also happy that I decided to improve my situation by seeking information that was empowering. If you have a similar problem, make sure you do the same thing to ensure that your building is improved. Enlighten yourself on your rights as well as your landlord's. It's up to you to make sure that your community is secure. When your community is secure, your neighborhood becomes a better place to live. Either you are part of the problem or part of the solution.

If you are concerned about similar problems, here are some places you can call:

1. Housing preservation & development Office (212) 422-1570.
2. Department of Housing & Community Renewal in your borough or call (212) 961-8930.
3. Attorney General's office (212) 961-4475 (Ask for the Tenants Right's Hand Book).
4. Organize a tenant and block association.

If there are any question you need to ask, you can leave them at the office of this publication, attention: Housing Concerns, and I will refer you to an agency that will further assist you. □

Art/Entertainment

Sacrifice of Mmabatho

BY DESA PHILADELPHIA
AND MALIK SHABAZZ

The Sacrifice of Mmabatho is a bittersweet experience for the informed viewer. Although performed by an all-Black cast that communicates the richness of Black South Africa's culture through action, song and dance, the play is scarred by its presentation of an aberration as the norm.

Drought, famine, disparity... the scene that overshadows Nebo, a newly established village in South Africa's Eastern Transvaal region. Enticing Mother Nature to send rain seems a problem that cannot be solved. Not only is a rain-ritual unsuccessful, but it seems that the ancestors have abandoned the village and its inhabitants. In addition, there is conflict among the villagers that centers around what must be done to ensure their survival. Some advocate that the ancestors must be further appeased, while others endorse the western viewpoint that the ancestors are no longer in control. The primary action of the play revolves around one man's solution to the problem; David Thobela resolves to appease the ancestors by sacrificing his daughter, with the hope that Nebo would once again flourish.

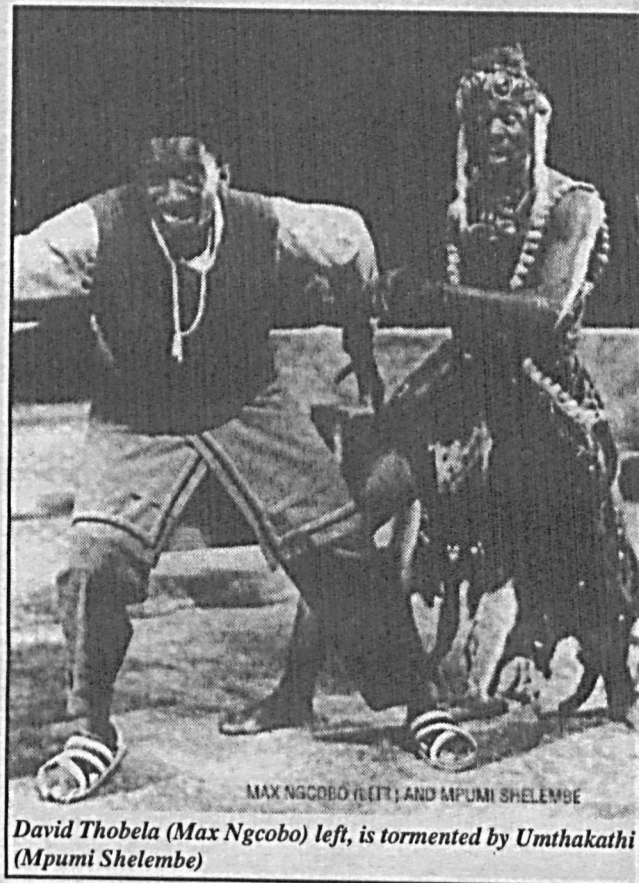
David Thobela has recently returned to Nebo after losing his job

in the city. Like every other villager, he is unable to make a living in Nebo. No longer having a salary, and unable to till the soil, Thobela is unable to provide for his two wives and his malnourished daughter, Mmabatho. He falls into a deep depression, only finding solace in his childhood memories of the festivities that bountiful rain and produce would inspire. Taunted by friends and family for not returning to the city to seek work, Thobela becomes consumed with breaking the dry spell. In his deep introversion, he hears the voices of the ancestors calling on him. Consultation with the chiefsangoma (spiritual healer) of the village, Mogase, reveals to Thobela the ancestor's desire to have him sacrifice a cow in order to appease them. But during the ritual ceremony that Mogase performs, Thobela's soul is consumed by Umthakathi, an evil spirit. After the ceremony, Thobela conducts a frantic but unsuccessful search to find a cow. In his desperation, he is led by Umthakathi to sacrifice Mmbatho in order to finally break the spell. At the final climax of the play, Thobela is turned over to the white authorities for trial and sentencing. A village elder decrees that in order for the village to once again be successful the old customs must be once again

incorporated into everyday life. The ancestors are appeased and it rains.

The resolution of the play suggests that the core issue was the conflict between the ways of the old and the new - traditionalism battling an intruding western lifestyle. Although the play's resolution indicates an endorsement of the ancestral ways, the body of the play indicts traditionalism - it is because of his incessant quest to appease the ancestors that Thobela is led to kill his innocent daughter. In addition, Thobela's act is not presented as an aberration. The action suggests that just about any distraught villager would commit this act if it means that the ancestors would be appeased.

Sacrifice of Mmabatho is written by celebrated White South African Playwright/ Director, Hilary Blecher. The play is based on the true story of David Tshethia who cut his two year-old daughter's throat in order to use her body for



MAX NGCOBO (left) AND MPUMI SHELEMBE
David Thobela (Max Ngcobo) left, is tormented by Umthakathi (Mpumi Shelembe)

medicine. In the play, and in real life, the murderer is only sentenced to 12 years in prison. The lenient sentence indicates the Pretoria court's belief that Tshethia really believed in witchcraft and the supernatural. In her representation, Blecher fails to communicate that it is only Thobela and not the traditional culture that is to be

Sacrifice of Mmabatho
continued on page 10

The Ref

BY HUGH THOMAS

The Ref is about a marriage gone to the dogs and how a cat burglar helps put it back on track. Caroline and Lloyd Chasseur played by Judy Davis and Kevin Spacey respectively, were having marital problems and seeing a marriage counselor. They had gotten so used to arguing that they argued just because they hated to agree. Caroline always had one opinion and Lloyd another, neither wanting to change or bend. They argued just for the sake of arguing.

Amist all this arguing, enters the thief Gus, played by Denis Leary. He made the wrong move by kidnapping this very angry and frustrated family. He is left to keep score like a referee as Caroline and Lloyd relentlessly try to upstage

each other with verbal abuse. But surprise, he too has his problems. Enter the son Jesse, played by Robert J. Steinmiller Jr., this boy is so mixed up that he gets into all sorts of trouble. To him running away is the only solution. This kid hates being with his father and mother so much that he grudgingly goes home for Christmas break after being away at military school. And last but by no means least, enters the extended family. The grandmother Rose played by Glynis Johns is rich and tries to manipulate everyone's lives around her. In short, she is the classical bitch. Also with her is her other son and wife and their two children to add to this mess. With the cops looking for Gus he too is trapped in the house and you are not sure who is torturing who.

What is especially good about *The Ref* is that it took a very serious situation about life's problems and gave it a funny twist. It deals with human fears, uncertainty and people's unwillingness to admit error

and compromise. In a strange way the constant argument opens the lines of communication when all parties meet with the interjection of Gus to moderate.

This film is full of adult humor and you will just love it when Rose



Denis Leary (right), Kevin Spacey (left) and Judy Davis (center) star in *The Ref*

"gets h-ers". This movie is a Touchstone production and is rated R because of its language and the mature subject matter. But, I give it four stars for its ability to make me laugh, (or then again, maybe I'm just sick). □

Zionist Logic *continued from page 5***DOLLARISM**

The number one weapon of 20th century imperialism is Zionist-Dollarism, and one of the main bases for this weapon is Zionist Israel. The ever-scheming European imperialists wisely placed Israel where she could geographically divide the Arab world, infiltrate and sow the seed of dissension among Afrikan leaders and also divide the Afrikans against the Asians.

Zionist Israel's occupation of Arab Palestine has forced the Arab world to waste billions of precious dollars on armament making it impossible for these newly independent Arab nations to concentrate on strengthening the economies of their countries and elevate the living standard of their people.

And the continued low standard

of living in the Arab world has been skillfully used by Zionist propagandists to make it appear to the Afrikans that the Arab leaders are not intellectually or technically qualified to lift the living standards of their people...thus, indirectly "inducing" Afrikans to turn away from the Arabs and towards the Israelis for teaching and technical assistance.

They cripple the bird's wing, and they condemn it for not flying as fast as they.

The imperialists always make themselves look good, but it is only because they are competing against economic cripples—newly independent countries whose economies are actually crippled by the Zionist-capitalist conspiracy. They can't stand against fair

competition, thus they dread Gamal Abdul Nasser's call for Afrikan-Arab Unity under Socialism.

MESSIAH?

If the "religious" claim of the Zionist is true that they were to be led to the promised land by their messiah, and Israel's present occupation of Arab Palestine is the fulfillment of that prophecy: where is their Messiah whom their prophets said would get the credit for leading them there? It was Ralph Bunche who "negotiated" the Zionists into possession of Occupied Palestine! Is Ralph Bunche the messiah of Zionism? If he is not their messiah, and their messiah has not yet come, then what are they doing in Palestine ahead of their messiah?

Did the Zionists have the legal or moral right to invade Arab Palestine,

uproot its Arab citizens from their homes and seize all Arab property for themselves just based on the "religious" claim that their fore-fathers lived there thousands of years ago? Only a thousand years ago the Moors lived in Spain. Would this give the Moors of today the legal and moral right to invade the Iberian Peninsula, drive out its Spanish citizens and set up a new Moroccan nation...where Spain used to be, as the Europeans Zionists have done to our Arab brothers and sisters in Palestine?...

In short the Zionist argument to justify Israel's present occupation of Arab Palestine has no intelligent or legal base in history....not even in their own religion! **WHERE IS THEIR MESSIAH?** □

An Alternate Solution *continued from page 8*

Each year, more and more people end up for unemployment, we have become colder as people. If we see someone addicted to drugs or alcohol we generally say something like "I don't give a f**k, 'That's his problem,' or 'I don't want to be associated with that.'" That attitude may be acceptable if you don't know the person. But when the person in question is a friend, common reaction is to disown him/her or to join him/her. Both reactions are wrong.

If a friend has an addiction are we not obligated to occasionally step out of our way to detour them from that path? To simply scorn them or join them, aren't we failing in our duties as friends?

Maybe people turn to drugs, alcohol and even suicide out of loneliness. Maybe the fun of a high is a substitute for a good close friend you can confide in that is not there or in the 90s, don't want to be there. Think about it. With most of you true close friends, do you feel the need to get wasted every day? Perhaps with people becoming less personable and

acting strictly for self, a void is opening that will give you the illusion that drugs or alcohol can fill it.

If more folks would extend themselves instead of either being so aloof or burning bridges, people may not be as inclined to turn to the bottle, the pipe or God forbid, put a bullet in his temple.

I would like to think of it as pleasant experiment. Maybe some people have to be led by the hand. Aren't some of us a little insecure from time to time? Isn't it worth it if a life is saved from drugs, alcohol or crime? Wouldn't it show that we actually cared and were more like brothers and sisters instead of just saying that we were?

With the homeless, wouldn't it be better to be a little more sympathetic towards them and physically help them from time with whatever we can give instead of pretending they don't exist or by saying they should just get a job? Would an employer hire you if you smelled badly and had no home?

Finally, with our friends we know

are out to rob, car jack or worse. Or will go to a club and start a fight or kill just for status, if possible, wouldn't it be better in the long run to calm them

down or walk them away instead of promoting bloodshed and giving another Black man to the prisons? Think about it. □

Sacrifice of Mmabathjo *continued from page 9*

blamed for such a horrible act. The non-South African audience member immediately believes that appeasing the ancestors at any cost is the hallmark of Black South African traditionalism.

Although the story failed to deliver, the cast did. Led by Max Mgcobo (who received recognition when he toured with the Tony-Award winning production of *Sarafina!*) as David Thobela, they attained a realism that must be acclaimed. Extremely memorable were Baby Cele who played Mmakhudu, Thobela's first wife and Thembi Mtshali who dominated the stage as Ma Thobela, David Thobela's mother. The most laudable achievement of this production, however, was its music.

The music composed by Victor N'Toni with Rashid Lanie was

executed by only two musicians who occupied a small part of the stage. They employed drums, calabash, chymes and triangles to provide accompaniment that perfectly complemented the dialogue. The vocals were simple but explicit. Repetition of lyrics connoted the importance of whatever message was being conveyed. Mthandeni Mvelase and Mduduzi Nzuza, the two musicians responsible for the enchanting sound that was the produce, captured the ambiance and essence of Azaania in a way that was truly unique. The two constantly switched instruments between them - each displaying their dexterity. Asked how they were able to attain and communicate such spiritual sync, the two brothers replied, "through prayer and patience all music is possible." □

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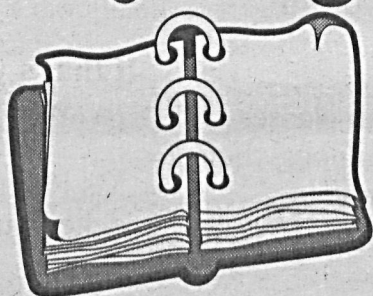
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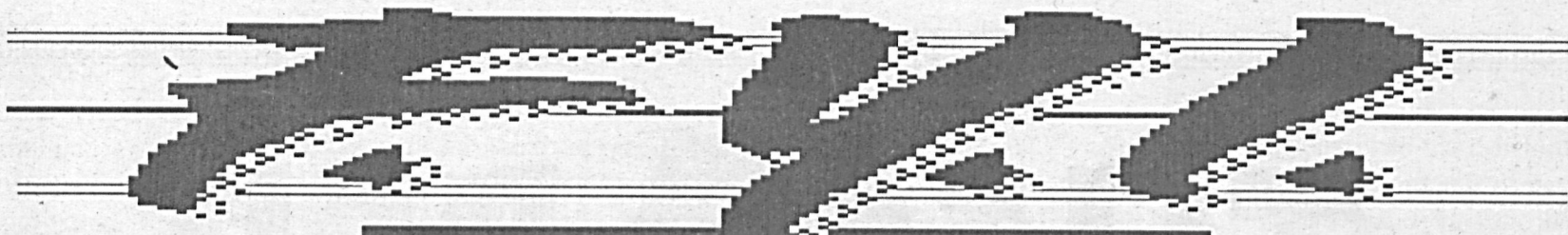
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For Your Information

STUDENT COMPUTER GRAPHICS EXHIBITION

In the Compton/Gallery. March 14
- 28 at 10 am. Free admission.

WOMEN'S HEALTH FORUM

A discussion of women's roles in
policy making. In the faculty
dining room-Amsterdam Room.
March 31 1:00-3:00 pm.

THE HYSTERECTOMY HOAX

Dr. Stanley West, M.D. talks in
NAC 6/311, at 8:00-9:15 am.

JAMAICAN ARTIST EXTRAORDINAIRE

Sculpture of Edna Manley. NAC 4/
105E on March 24 at 6:00-8:00 pm.
Reception and photo exhibition.

DAYTONA BEACH FOR SPRING BREAK

Hotel package is \$144 and the full
package is \$234. For details and
info contact Millie at (917) 706-
8880 or (718) 842-6451.

FELLOWSHIPS

Send nominations or nominees for
fellowships to NAC 6/316 by April
12. Undegads, for info. call Prof.
Brody at (212) 650-8388, NAC 6/
316.

RESEARCH IN WOMEN'S HEALTH

Ms. Diana Godfrey, National
Black Leadership Initiative on
Cancer and more to speak. NAC
1/203 2:00-5:00 pm.

SUMMER INTERNSHIP

For info on internships go to career
service in Shepard 154 or call
(212) 650-5342.

TRIBUTE TO THE ARTS

Featuring performances from
members of Alvin Ailey, Juilliard
School, CCNY African Dance and
more. NAC ballroom March 25,
6:40 pm. Students \$3, w/o ID \$5.

GLIMPSE OF FOUR AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN ARTISTS

Slide presentation. Location TBA.
On March 23, 1:00-3:00 pm.

Boosters

Ice,
Next Season!!
Toe-S

Kev,
Stop playing hand games
with Jillian.
Always watching.

Happy Independence
Ghana!! March 6th, 1957

Thai,
I still owe you my piece of
corn cake.
Tseli

Hi Boo-Boo;
Miss you!!
Love,
Your Pineapple.

To Mark,
Love your little ears!!

Welcome Malik,
Didn't think you would
have so many groupies,
hope you know how to
deal with it.

Communal Boyfriend:
We miss you and love you!!

To the wannabe basketball
player!
Love you Jill!

Renee,
Stop wearing your glasses
when you play dominoes, they
can really see your
dominoes!!
Love Nix.

To all the men in the date
for charity, hope you are
worth the dollar!!

To Jillian
You big lazy rass!!
Do your damn work yourself.

To Kendall:
Kiss my left butt-cheek and
the right cheek and all the
cheeks in between. And
anything else you can think
of.

To Jillian: Please name the
date, time place and don't
forget the and I most
definetly will be there!!

To Diane
If that's your boyfriend, he
wasn't last night!!

Ms Philadelphia: Hope you
kicked butt in Philadelphia!!

To Kristine:
Hope you get better soon!!
Your partner in crime!!

Jillian:
Speak English and stop
cheating!

Renee:
Ferme la bouche, salope.

Sandra:
Zaijin!!

Sandra:
Smile you look cuter that
way!!

To R.O.U.S.E.
ya'll better clean up yuh act
yuh hearrrrr.....

To The Phi Beta Sigma
Amazing
Avenging
Almighty
Alpha Delta Chapter
Peace & Love Sugar Baby

To My Dove Sisters
OOH KOO
Sugar Baby

To Angel,
April 15, I'm Gonna Buy
You Baby
Umoja

Peace and Lounge!
Love to the Lounge Posee

Umoja!!

Zai jian to all you tired men
out there!!

All you DSG girls —Leave
them guards alone!!