

The Paper

Medium For People Of African Descent

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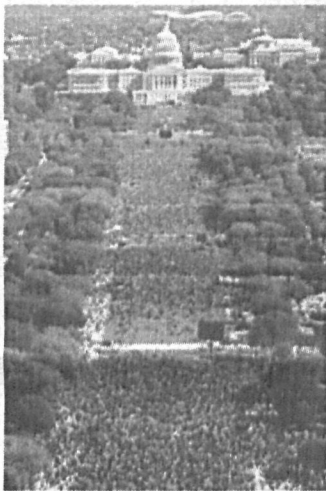
"So We Stand Here On The Edge Of Hell In Harlem And Look Out On The World And Wonder What We're Gonna Do In The Face Of What We Remember..."
— Langston Hughes

Millions More to Overtake Washington

By Orin Abel

October 2005 marks the tenth anniversary of the 1995 Million Man March. In commemoration of the event the "Millions More" movement will be held on the weekend of October 14 thru 16 in Washington, D.C. Like its predecessor the movement focuses on the building up and support of the Black community.

According to the website "millionmoremovement.com" the movement targets many issues in the Black community including, "education, employment and the growing incarceration epidemic." However, unlike the Million Man



March, the movement encourages women and children to attend. In addition to that, the Millions More Movement is open to people of all races and ethnicities.

The event is backed by an array of prominent Black leaders including Maya Angelou, Al Sharpton and Jesse Jackson. According to Jackson, "We march this year, because there are two Americas where gaps continue to exist." The March is a result of the vision of Minister Louis Farrakhan of the Islam Nation. According to an open letter on behalf of the Movement, Farrakhan stated, "We must begin to work together to lift our people



Minister Louis Farrakhan Speaks at the Million Man March a decade ago as thousands of black men converge on Capitol Hill in participation of the event.

out of the miserable and wretched condition in which we find ourselves."

It is clear that if only for this one-day, our differences should not hold us back. Our main focus and priority should be a united front for the benefit of the race.

The success of the Movement is only possible with the participation and support of the entire race. With ample participation, the Millions More Movement is sure to be instrumental in revitalizing the Black community.

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SPECIAL NATURAL DISASTER COVERAGE

Post-Katrina Violence Exaggerated?

Joseph Lemaire Jr.



Evacuees attempt to rest in the Superdome. According to authorities that investigated the claims, reports of alleged chaos and criminal activity that allegedly took place in the Superdome, have been largely unfounded.

More than a month after all of the claims of violence and rape that occurred in the Superdome, police are now re-examining reports to see if there is any basis to the alleged acts of chaos. According to the Associate Press, police have no accounts of rape and no eyewitnesses to any types of sexual assault. Only ten dead bodies were accounted for with only two of them being listed as possible murder victims.

It is believed that one of the victims was possibly killed outside of the stadium before being brought in. In response to these revelations, Captain Marlon Defillo stated that "It was a chaotic time for the city. Now that we had a chance to reflect back on the situation, we're able to say right that things were not the way they appeared."

Mayor Ray Nagin who was quoted as saying, "They (victims that stayed in the superdome) have people standing out

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Was Race a Factor in Hurricane Katrina?

By Lindsie Augustin

Tragedy hits home, and you know your life will never be the same again. You wait in despair for a helping hand, but your waiting is done in vain. Everywhere you turn a loved one, friend, or neighbor floats by you. Helpless and confused you don't understand why no one has come to your rescue. Unfortunately these were the feelings many people along the Gulf Coast harbored after Hurricane Katrina hit, shattering the life they knew. While natural disasters, such as a hurricane cannot be controlled, the recovery efforts can. So, why did it take so long for help to arrive to the victims of Hurricane Katrina?

"Your locked in a nightmare," said Myra Dandridge, a local New Orleans resident. When you turn on your TV set or open your local newspaper images of desperate African Americans suffering fill the pages of newspapers and TV sets nationwide. These people are surrounded by death and are near death themselves. With all these horrific images constantly appearing, many wonder why this situation was allowed to get as bad as it did.

When all your possessions have been

destroyed and its up to you to find a way to feed your family, what would you do? Well, according to certain publications African Americans "loot" and Caucasians "find". Photographer Chris Graythen, who shot the "White find" photo commented on the controversy. In his opinion he believed that they indeed find the items and not "loot" because they were floating in the water. He later stated that they were not busting down windows to get electronics, they were only picking up bread and cookies. While the citizens of New Orleans are in desperate need of assistance, their needs are being overlooked by petty and frivolous issues. A local New Orleans resident, Herman J. Barard Jr. expressed his feelings about the situation at hand; "There are so many things they can be putting on TV than the buffoons down there looting. They could be letting the country see how much help we need."

It's not my intentions to make all African Americans look like victims. There are bad apples in every bunch. Before Katrina hit, New Orleans had a significant crime rate. However the individuals who were "looting" items, should not represent the greater popula-

tion in desperate need of help.

The government has done an excellent job focusing on the criminal activities being held in the Gulf Coast but have disregarded the fact that a majority of victims were black and poor. In the days before the storm hit, it may have been economically impossible for them to evacuate. Almost 30% of New Orleans residents lived below the poverty line. "In term of jumping in the car and going north or west, maybe there was no car to jump into to go anyplace, or maybe they didn't have relatives nearby," said Dandridge.

Hurricane Katrina exposed many governmental flaws. These people lived in such a level of poverty, they would never have had the resources needed to survive in the case of a natural disaster. The government did nothing to assist the citizens of the Gulf Coast before the hurricane hit and delayed assisting them in the aftermath. Many people who survived the hurricane died waiting to be rescued. Why these people were not provided with ways to evacuate days before Katrina hit is a question that the federal government needs to answer. Ron Walters, a professor at the University of

Maryland stated "Black people are mad because they feel the reason for the slow response is because those people are black and they didn't support George Bush, and I don't expect that feeling to go away anytime soon." Whether or not there is truth behind his statement, help was certainly delayed.

Race has played a major part in the relief efforts. While many government officials would like to discredit these accusations, one must look at the facts. Before tropical storm Rita became a hurricane, residents of Florida were evacuated, and after Katrina hit it took several days before help arrived. Now this may have been done to avoid another disaster, but you would have to be the judge of that.

Did the government fail to protect the citizens of the Gulf Coast and were the relief efforts purposely delayed? No one will ever know if or why relief efforts were delayed after Hurricane Katrina hit. We can only speculate and form our own opinions based of the information that has been provided. Its up to you to decide whether the "We'll do whatever it takes administration" did do the best they could in this situation.

Andrew Young's Spirited Conversation at CCNY

By Ernesto Johnson

The Institute for Research on the African Diaspora (IRADAC), The Finley Student Center and the City College Chapter of the NAACP hosted, "A Conversation with Andrew Young" which was an interview styled discussion moderated by CCNY's President, Dr. Gregory H. Williams on September 22. Their discussion touched on a variety of topics but centered largely on Mr. Young's distinguished life, work and his activism.

Andrew Young is prominently known for his activism during the Civil Rights era, where he served as a top aide on the front lines alongside the honorable Dr Martin Luther King. It was during that era that he co-authored the Voting Rights Act of 1964. Young also served as a Congressman, preacher, the Ambassador to the United Nations in President Jimmy Carter's Administration, and he was the former mayor of Atlanta having served two terms in 1981 and 1985.

The event was held in a mid sized auditorium, which filled to capacity in CCNY's Shepard building, room 95. President Williams and Mr. Young conversed to an

audience made up largely of students, professors and some administrators.

President Williams began the discussion by asking Mr. Young about his views concerning the Hurricane Katrina ordeal since "that topic was on the heart and minds" of the world, in addition to the fact that Young is a New Orleans native. The tragedy helped to expose the government's vulnerabilities and the nation's solidarity in a time of need. Young continued, stating that this travesty helped to expose the sad truth about Americas racial and poverty divide, and he emphasized that poverty is one America's biggest social problems. Young added, many opportunities will arise as a result of the damage left by Hurricane Katrina and blacks need to seize this opportunity, even if these opportunities do not openly present themselves. Although poverty has plagued many blacks in New Orleans for some time and the damage left by Katrina seems overwhelming, Young suggested that, "Change is possible."

President Williams followed Young's spirited remark by asking him, "Did we lose the war on poverty?" and Young replied, "No, poverty didn't win, the Republicans won." The audience responded with a booming

applause, in support Young's notion. Young then lamented about the lack of sensitivity demonstrated by elected officials towards both Mother Nature and the impoverished people of New Orleans. He felt that that disregard compromised the integrity of many lives and the levees.

When asked about his childhood, Young responded candidly by sharing that although he was not at the top of his class, he made good grades and more importantly, he was able to contribute to society. Young always knew the value of a good education.

The audience appeared captivated with Mr. Young's broad experiences, candor, and for the innovations which he help to facilitate for his generation and beyond. Gregory Smiley, head of the NAACP chapter at City said that he "Was humbled and honored by Young's life because he helped to facilitate essential social reforms during one of most critical times in American history."

One of the most memorable moments during their conversations occurred towards the end of their conversation with Young sharing a private side of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. not commonly known. Young remarked, Dr. King had a playful personality unknown to the public. Besides his respect for Dr. King's intellect and gifted speeches, he said that Dr. King was one of the funniest people he met and he recollected on an amusing pillow fight waged between Dr. King and other members of their group.

Young fielded questions about his role during the Civil Rights Movement, his time as mayor of Atlanta, his family, the importance of including blacks in the social structure, educational initiatives, his affiliations and various other roles he played and currently holds in the public sector.

Concluding the interview, Young charged that America's newer focus should be rooted in making America a stronger and united nation.

The interview was an uplifting and engaging experience for the audience since they were given an opportunity to become acquainted with a man who has a very distinguished legacy. Because of time constraints, some audience members felt disappointed with the fact that they were not able to ask Mr. Young any direct questions, but President Williams presented Mr. Young with good, thought provoking questions.



THE PAPER

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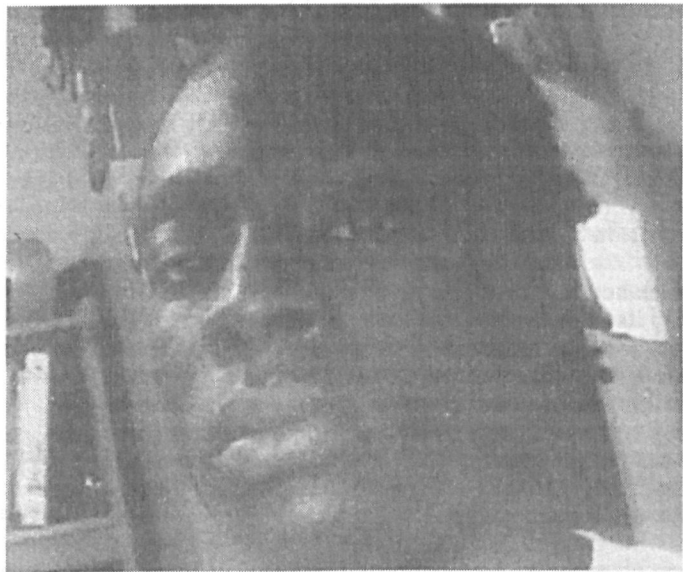
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EJ Williams

Katrina Victim Weighs in on Disaster



What relief agencies provided you with assistance?

A number of agencies helped me with assistance. The Salvation Army assisted me with a \$20 food voucher at Pathmark, \$50 clothing voucher for Salvation Army Thrift Store, 2 30-minute calling cards and 3 \$4 metrocards. The Red Cross assisted me with a \$360 debit card. I was assisted with a \$2000 check from FEMA.

How were you informed about evacuating? Who, What and When did they say?

On August 27, 2005, I was awakened by a knock at the door. When I answered I noticed an RA with a couple of friends. They notified me that Hurricane Katrina was headed for New Orleans and that we were being issued to evacuate. They also told me that the students had 6 hours to evacuate or Dillard (University) would not be responsible held. So I called my parents to inform them about the news. At first I thought it was a joke but their serious faces changed my mind. I was like "stop playin.'" "For about 3 hours I went looking for a place to go. My friend asked me where I was going, I told him I don't have anywhere to go so he told me to ride with him. All 6 of us packed into a car and started our journey to Chicago. It took us about a half an hour to get everything into the trunk. When we all packed into the car and started on our way it was 2:30pm. To complete the ride from New Orleans to Chicago took 12-14 hours. It took us about 4 hours to get out of Louisiana and Mississippi. When we reached Arkansas the tire blew and we didn't have a spare. By the time that happened, it was around midnight. Business hours didn't start until 7am. I damn sure wasn't gonna sit in the middle of nowhere and wait seven hours to get a tire. We all started callin people we knew in the area. I didn't know anyone so that was my time to sleep between rides to and from various stores. We finally got back on the road at about something

close to 5 a.m. Everything else was smooth sailing. When we reached Chicago it was 12 noon Sunday August 28th. I stayed with my boy who invited me on the ride, everyone else stayed with the other Chicagoan in the car. During my stay in Chicago, I was given the grand tour of the city and I had a lot of fun. But anyway, I would receive messages from those students who decided to take the shuttle (bus) that the school provided. Speaking of the shuttle, one of them

caught fire, destroying all the property on board. Good thing the people onboard survived unharmed. The messages that I received were updates on what to do and the proper procedures. At first we were notified with a number to keep in contact with the school to check in to keep account of the students who were safe as oppose to those who were missing and so on. School was set to resume in about a week or two but bad luck reared its ugly head and the levies that hold the water back broke and that was the end of New Orleans and Dillard University all together. We were then told to attend a school of choice. I took it upon myself to return home (to New York) and attend school there. I looked up CUNY schools at the website and did a search of schools which had my major, City College and Hostos Community College showed up repeatedly. Dillard said that they weren't accepting junior college credits so City College is what I went for.

Did they offer any evacuation assistance?

Dillard University provided a shuttle that took students from the campus to Centenary College in Shreveport, La, where I heard they had to sleep on the gym floor.

Have you been in other hurricanes?

Yes I have been in one other hurricane. Last year it was Hurricane Ivan. Last year was more of a last minute thing. New Orleans has a hurricane season that comes around every year between July and October. Last year was the same ordeal. We were in school far about a week before the hurricane came. But Ivan caught us by surprise. We had no idea that Ivan was even coming in our direction. Ivan was no comparison to Katrina. The only damage Ivan did was flood the city with a little rain, but it wasn't enough damage to do any repairs. I couldn't get in contact my mom, so a friend of mine said I could go home with her. Her mother agreed to pay for my flight and when I finally got in

contact with my mom I had her talk to my friend's mom and they made an agreement to pay her (the friend's mom) back when I got to California. I caught the first flight out of New Orleans the next morning and stayed in California for about a week before returning to school and finishing up the semester in New Orleans.

Who has provided you the most assistance?

The people that provided me with the most assistance was my friend and his grandmother who let me stay with them while I was in Chicago. They provided shelter for me when I had nowhere to go. Without them I probably would still be in New Orleans, or worst, dead. So I thank them for everything they did for me. They saved my life and I love them for that.

Who represents you here at City College?

There are a number of people who are looking out for me at City College. Pat Black and Alan Sabal from admissions, Michael Witter, Karen Collander from humanities and myself just to name a few.

Back in New Orleans did people really think of Hurricane Katrina as "just a drill" or were they responsible for their actions?

Yes, they did believe that the hurricane was a drill. (Many people in) New Orleans didn't take Hurricane Katrina seriously. They felt as though the hurricane was going to be a (typical) storm just like the many before Katrina. They have had (so many storms) that it is (hard) to distinguish a serious storm from a regular one. When they hear hurricane they say to themselves "yeah its gonna come here, yeah its gonna rain a lot, but I doubt it will do anything but rain. There is absolutely nothing at all to worry about." Every hurricane season hurricanes would come and go, but no heavy damage was done. Every time it rains in New Orleans it floods the city, which is a normal day-to-day thing. New Orleans floods like New York gets snow, it's just bound to happen. Whenever a hurricane comes, New Orleans rains like any other day. They never would have guessed that this would be the storm of all storms. It kind of caught them off guard. They were expecting it to rain and flood like usual but they were mistaken. I myself didn't think the storm would do this much damage, but I'm going off of what happened in my first hurricane last year. They don't take hurricanes seriously.

Did the school set you up with a point person to assist you through the process of enrolling in another school to finish the

semester?

No the school didn't set us up with a person at a school. You had to find a school all on your own. You had to search for schools (mainly those who had your major) then contact the school and check to see if that school was helping those affected by Katrina. Once all of those factors were settled the only thing that was left to do was get there and start classes before it was too late. By the time we found out that classes at Dillard University were cancelled, all other schools were in their second week of school placing us way behind in our academic semester. Getting into a school wasn't a problem, the problem that troubled us was our financial aid and the tuition money that was paid. What would happen with that? We had no clue, but it was recently said that the money, aid, and all scholarships are to be used for the spring semester hence trapping us in going back to Dillard so they don't loose their students. Dillard thinks they're being slick by not transferring our awards and aids so that we have no choice but come back in the spring semester.

Do you feel like you may need counseling?

I highly doubt that I need any type of psychological help. I don't think that I am crazy or anything like that. If I need psychological help it wasn't Katrina that did it. The Hurricane Katrina didn't really hit me that hard mentally. Yes I lost everything at school, but what I didn't lose was my life and that's more important than anything money can buy. I know without a doubt that I can get all that materialistic stuff back. The only thing that upsets me are the personal things that can't be replaced. I will miss those most of all.

What lessons did you learn from the Katrina ordeal?

I learned that you should always prepare for the worst and wish for the best. To stay on your toes and be prepared for anything that comes your way. Stay with a good mind and even if bad things happen always see the good side of everything.

Who helped you find CCNY?

When I got the news that I had to find another school to attend due to Dillard University closing, I did an online search of CUNY schools to attend. I did all the searching myself. I went to the CUNY website (www.cuny.edu). Then I searched for schools with my major, computer engineering. City College and Hostos Community College showed up. I knew before hand that Dillard wasn't accepting credits from junior colleges, so I knew Hostos was out and City

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Affordable Housing for Female Scholars

Attention Ladies! Are you a matriculated student? Is your GPA at least 3.0? Do you make less than \$27,000? If you answered yes to those three questions, then you might be eligible to receive housing for \$284.00 a month at the Harlem YMCA located on West 135 Street.

Thanks to Shelly Butler, VP of



Development and Institutional Advancement, CCNY has received a \$100,000 grant from the Ladies' Christian Union to assist women with housing assistance. Recipients will be housed in private rooms valued at values at \$784.00 a month. CCNY will pay \$500.00 a month with the grant money, which leaves a mere \$284.00 for qualified females to pay monthly.

For more information contact Carmelo Rodriguez at the Office of Student Services Wingate Hall Room 107. Call him at 212-650-530 or email him at student-services@ccny.cuny.edu.

New On-line Club Registration Not a Success

Sydney Jordan-Coolley

The new on-line club registration process is not only less efficient than the old paper method, but it has become a barrier to clubs trying to register. The president of the new Vegetarian Club said that she still hasn't received the email with the link for the registration page, though she went to the Club Orientation Meeting weeks ago. Other club members complain that because the email has to be sent to a CCNY email address, it prohibits them from being a club. "It's ridiculous," says Ysaira Paulino, president of the Dominican Student Association. Her club

tried to register five times before they were successful; Darenne Poyser, treasurer of Student Liberation Action Movement, has tried to register their club three times. Part of the issue is that the process must be filed from a City College computer and completed in one sitting, but, she says, the website is the problem. Paulino figured it out, though. She wanted all club officers to know hersystem: "You have to enter each member of the club one at a time, and press 'Submit' each time," she says. But she posed the question: who is the new process easier for: the clubs or the people in Finley Student Center?

The NAACP on the Forefront In Relief Effort

By Gregory O. Smiley

Many organizations have been proactive because of the unprecedented natural disaster known as "Katrina". The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is one of the many organizations that have been on the forefront of the relief efforts. Bruce S. Gordon, President & CEO, of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People visited the gulf region shortly after the hurricane hit the area. As a result, the NAACP has established a disaster relief fund to raise money to aid the storm victims, while making sure that the distribution of aid is being shared fairly to members of minority of the community. Unlike other organizations, The NAACP has stated that all except 10 (for administration cost) percent of the contributions will go directly to the victims. The

City College chapter of the NAACP in conjunction with other College and Youth Division has also acted in the aid of those in the gulf region. Members of the City College of New York NAACP chapter volunteered their time to help coordinate the loading of two semi-trailers full of supplies, which were sent to Mississippi.

You may want to add this in the advertisement portion of the paper

To volunteer; please contact Gregory O. Smiley, President, of the City College NAACP chapter. 718-314-4897 and or NAACPCCNY@YAHOO.COM

Contributors may make a donation online at www.naacp.org. Checks should be made out to the NAACP Disaster Relief Fund and mailed to the following address: NAACP, Disaster Relief Fund, 4805 Mt. Hope Drive, Baltimore, MD 21215.

Katrina Victim Weighs In on Disaster

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College was my only choice, so here I am.

Who provided you with the most assistance in your transition into this new environment?

I have received assistance from so many people at CCNY its ridiculous. This question is really hard to answer cause so many people have helped me in every which way possible. Even you reading this and hearing and spreading my story is helping me and will help me even further when my story gets printed, so to name just one person would not serve justice to those who helped me just as much as everyone else.

How have people have been treating you since your ordeal and your arrival at CCNY?

People at City College have been treating me very well. They have accommodated my needs to the T. Everything that I need or want, the people here have made it their best bet to make sure that my needs and wants are met. They make sure that the proper procedures get done. Everyone wants to help in some way possible and take care of my needs all at the same time its crazy. The people care so much about me that they are willing to give whatever type of assistance they can to make sure that I am accommodated and that I am happy. Anything I need I get and anything I don't have is given to me. I kind of make me wonder that if I never told them I was one of the Katrina victims would they still care and treat me the same. Would be like "he's just a black boy from Brooklyn" or the poor black evacuee from New Orleans that they see me as now. Would the people I have met still look out for me and connect me with other people that also look out for me not as a victim but as a regular student? If I was just another kid from Brooklyn, would I still have met Gloria Thomas and other faculty members that have been by my side since my arrival. People care more that I am a victim of this hurricane than the fact that I am still a regular person also. I also wonder are there other students who are getting the same treatment from students and faculty as I did. (I know that when you are reading my answer to this question you are gonna take it the wrong way. I can try to explain this in person much better)

How do you feel?

I feel fine can't complain. Yes I have been in a tragedy I do know that, but my life has not changed at all. I am still alive and that's all that matters. Hurricane Katrina has made some things in my life a little difficult, but I am not devastated by it. I do feel some pain for those who did get their lives all torn apart. I feel the same amount of pain as everybody else does. For all those people whose lives were ruined by Katrina I give my heart out to you. I feel your pain. The hurricane just didn't effect me as much. What I think is that I don't feel the situation has hit me as of yet. If it did then I must have missed it cause I'm fine.

How many students came from Dillard?

There are only two students at City College from Dillard University. A

sophomore from Harlem and myself. I can not guarantee that we are the only ones from Dillard that came back home. I know of another sophomore who is from Queens who now attends John Jay College for Criminal Justice. I know that there are a large portion of Dillard students that are attending the prestigious Howard University in Washington, D.C. and various other colleges and universities around the United States.

What are your future plans? Immediate plans?

My future plans are to move on with my life. I will never forget the experience. My plan is to live life to the fullest and die when my time comes. My immediate plans are to finish school get well paying job and begin my start on the future plan. There isn't much to it.

How do you feel the Mayor and the Governor of New Orleans handled the situation?

I personally feel that the mayor and the governor of New Orleans did a great job. They sent out messages telling the people of New Orleans to evacuate cause a hurricane was coming. I know if I received the message then the rest of the city received the message as well. Both the mayor and the governor did their jobs I don't see what the problem is. The people of New Orleans were notified way ahead of time to evacuate. Those who had no way to evacuate then I give my sympathy, but those who had the choice to leave but decided to stay and wait it out anyway, basically got what they deserved. Why would you stay in a hurricane if you had the choice to leave and save yourself. Get the heck out of there. If you have the chance to leave then you should leave like all the others. Then, all of a sudden they want to start placing the blame on the same people that tried to help them. It makes me mad how the people didn't take the initiative to accept the advice that the people were giving out. They didn't take notice of how serious a hurricane can be and when Katrina popped up and showed how bad she was they wanted to be helped and rescued immediately. The mayor and the governor can't force anyone out of their homes, but they can assist with their evacuation, which they did. So if you decided to stay in New Orleans then its all on you and your on your own, seriously. Don't blame someone else for putting yourself in harms way.

What personal message do you wish to share with us about your ordeal?

I am just glad to be alive. Most importantly, be safe at all times, live long and prosper. Always be prepared for the worst. In this day and age nothing surprises me anymore. Life is suppose to let you down sometimes, so when it happens don't stress cause you should expect something like that to happen whatever the case may be. Life always throws you a curve ball and you just have to be able to hit it out the park. Don't ever think no harm can be done to you cause you will be sadly mistaken. The world is a dangerous place and you just have to know how to live in it.

Interview conducted by Ernesto Johnson

Worthwhile Career Advice

By Kevin Salwen and Anita Sharpe

Q: I'm in my sophomore year of college, and have no idea what kind of business I want to go into. How can I figure it out?

A: First of all, welcome to a Very Large Club. By the ripe old age of 18 or 19, most people are just starting to sort through the realities of being a butcher, baker or candlestick maker. Unless you are tracking toward being a lawyer or doctor, you've got plenty of exploration ahead of you. (And by the way, hordes of folks who choose those two professions in their teens have regrets later on.)

So, where to begin? A little subtraction comes first. It's crucial that you start removing other people's expectations of success for you - your parents, friends, professors, dog (OK, you can keep your dog's expectations). None of that really will end up contributing to your happiness.

Now, hat's where the addition part comes in. Begin with a clean sheet of paper and start a list of things that are critical to how you spend your time at work: Do you like to be with other people or alone? Do you need to connect to a bigger cause? Do you need to show a lot of creativity? Do you thrive when there is more structure or more freedom? You get the picture. It's not a certain job we're focusing on here or a specific company or product; it's the make-up of the work that matters.

After you've begun jotting these down, now you can start a list of characteristics that the ideal job might have. Then go to one of the many excellent career books - "How to Find the Work You Love" by Laurence Boldt is very good, along with "What Color Is My Parachute?" which is one of the first of its kind and still one of the best - and try to sort through jobs using your characteristics list.

And don't forget: Never compromise putting passion into the mix. As smarter people than we have put it: It's impossible to have a meaningful life without meaningful work.

Q: I know I'll need to work my way up the ladder to be successful in today's business world. If I end up hating my first real big job, should I stay in my position, hoping for a better one once I'm promoted, or just choose a different career that makes me happy?

A: It's the age-old question, love or money? We'll be unequivocal here: Love lasts, money doesn't. You can try to buy yourself to happiness, but we think it's a path that rarely works.

Here's what we know does work: If you do what you love, the money will almost always follow as you throw your heart and soul into your career. It may not be as much money as the Joe or Jane in your finance class, but what price tag are you putting on the feeling of loving how you spend your time?

Q: When I'm working, or even in class, I always afraid to speak up and voice my opinion. I'm scared that people will laugh at me, or think my idea is stupid, and then lose respect for me and not take me seriously. How can I make this better?

A: We call this the Emperor's New Clothes problem - "I'm naked and everyone else is well-tailored - and guess what, it doesn't go away. It is, in fact, sadly most prevalent among women. Kevin has a friend who was a partner at a major consulting firm; even as a 20-year veteran and the head of a significant piece of the firm, she always wondered when people would discover she didn't really know anything. Of course, she knew as much as almost anyone, but was focusing on what she didn't know. The presumption, naturally, was that others knew things and she was just faking it.

Be confident in yourself. Try speaking when you're not 100 percent certain. Our guess is your new clothes will fit you just fine.

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Kanye Slams the President

By Maurice Selby

What started out as an ordinary televised fund raising event for victims of Hurricane Katrina, became a controversial firestorm as Kanye West's ad-lib of the year berated President Bush and the federal government for their lack of urgency in providing relief to the millions of people affected by the devastating storm. The event was broadcasted on NBC and aired live on the east coast and most of the Midwest area. Seconds before stealing the show, West shifted nervously as if he had something on his mind that he had to let out, and let it out he did, ultimately saying that "(President) George Bush doesn't care about black people." While many people agree that West may have chosen an inopportune time for his tirade, there is a strong contingent of people that applauded and supported the award-winning artist for his remark.

"I could understand if what he said was a falsehood, but he simply stated the truth," said Staten Island resident Jose Fernandez, a fan of West's and the polo. (what's this polo) "And if it's not the truth, it's his opinion, and he has a right to express that." This is the general

consensus amongst fans of Kanye West and the hip-hop genre, with many saying that a statement of this magnitude in the public eye was long overdue.

Bush was not the only target of Kanye's wrath as he lashed out at various government agencies and the news media saying "I hate the way they portray us in the media. If you see a black family, it says they are looting; See a white family, it says they're looking for food."

In addition to that he expressed concerns about the poverty that millions of Americans suffer through each day saying The United States is set up "to help the poor, the black people, the less well-off as slow as possible.

Featuring various celebrities like Austin Power's Mike Myers and comedian Chris Tucker, "The Concert for Hurricane Relief" was aired on stations owned by NBC on September 2nd to raise money for the people affected by Katrina. Many people feel that West's comments hindered the drive, saying that he shifted the focus of the event from the victims to himself and his now infamous statements. "It was probably a little marketing trick on his part," said Elizabeth Sainte of John Jay College for Criminal Justice. "His album was

released that same week, and although I believe what he said to be partly true, I still think he shifted the focus of the event in the wrong direction."

Ted Joseph of Queens agrees with Sainte and added that the benefit was neither the time nor the place for such comments. In addition to that, he asked what has West done recently to contribute to the relief effort. "It's easy to get upset and point fingers. Anyone can do that, but did he go down there and get on a raft to help rescue people? Did he do anything else besides send money?"

After blasting the President and expressing his view on the social structure of the U.S., Kanye promised that he would donate funds to the relief effort immediately after the event was over.

There are people that believe Kanye West picked the perfect time for his criticisms of the government. Aida Melendez, a sociology major at Florida International University, feels that West

picked the most opportune time to highlight the "known fact that blacks are still, without doubt, the most oppressed and neglected people in America." According to the 5' 7" junior, the event served as the perfect medium to communicate such a mes-

sage simply because of the fact that it would generate controversy. "Kanye knew that when he said that, it would be replayed a million times on every network, and that is precisely what needed to happen. While people might look at him and say, he was wrong to do it at that time, they heard what he said and upon thinking about it later, they will begin to see the truth in his words. The only catch is they might not want to admit that they agree with him in public."

Whether people think Kanye was right or wrong doesn't matter at all, what matters is the fact that people will definitely ruminate on the essence of his words and that may be enough to change things for the better. For Bush, being labeled as anti-black will definitely hurt his approval ratings and it will spur him to do more to negate that image, while the general public will monitor more closely, the government and other institutions for bias according to race and other distinguishing factors amongst people.

Kanye West performing at a concert in his trademark "prep-style" attire. West stirred up controversy with his statements about the delay relief efforts taking place in New Orleans.

"I hate the way they portray us in the media. If you see a black family, it says they are looting; See a white family, it says they're looking for food."

CCNY Alumnus Wins Nobel Prize in Economics

The City College of New York congratulates alumnus (Class of 1950) and professor of The Hebrew University in Jerusalem Robert J. Aumann on his winning the 2005 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences, along with Thomas C. Schelling, for research on game theory.

You can find the New York Times article about his research and an interview with Dr. Auman on the homepage of the College website.

—CCNY BROADCAST

Government Goofs Lead to the Blame Game

By Julia Dodson

Hurricane Katrina was a catastrophe not necessarily because of the actual storm but because of the chaos after the storm. We have all been inundated with the images that hit the core of our humanity. The victims of hurricane Katrina have experienced unnecessary trauma due to a lack of communication amongst government officials. Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Mayor Ray Nagin and President Bush's lack of communication caused even more suffering for victims than the storm initially did. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) not sufficiently providing the necessary assistance added to the calamity as millions of survivors were left with nowhere to turn. Even greater than the lack of communication was the overall carelessness of the power's that be for the well being of the victims of Katrina, most of which were Black.

Governor Blanco, who seems to be completely missing-in-action about the mishandling of Katrina's evacuees declared Louisiana in a state of emergency and asked for federal assistance saying, "...[the situation] is beyond the capabilities of the state..." While Blanco made her unanswered pleas for help, the New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin issued the first mandatory evacuation two days after Blanco declared a state of emergency. According to experts that tracked the storm and its intensity, Nagin should have acted faster. After Louisiana was declared to be in a state of emergency, no one should have been allowed to stay. Nagin should have immediately declared a mandatory evacuation, but he didn't.

While Blanco and Nagin may be leaders over the same groups of people, they were certainly not relating to each other; Nagin seemed to have no idea what role Blanco was playing. In a public thrashing of the negligent response to Katrina, Nagin berated Pres. Bush, the executive branch, and the government disaster aid program FEMA not only for supplying insufficient assistance but also for not exhibiting any real concern for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. In the days immediately following the disaster, Pres. Bush and Condoleezza Rice were on vacation (not with each other, surprisingly) while Donald Rumsfeld was schmoozing around California. The behavior of the executive branch was careless and irresponsible.

For times like these the government has created programs with the specific purpose to aid in preparation, evacuation, rescue and recovery. In a White House document, the

designated program, FEMA was specifically authorized to, "...identify, mobilize, and provide at its discretion equipment and resources necessary to alleviate the impacts of the emergency." FEMA was highly negligent in their response to the destruction of Hurricane Katrina. Louisiana National Guard requested seven hundred buses for FEMA evacuations and only one hundred buses arrived. A request for ambulances was made to FEMA and almost eighteen hours later the request was cancelled.

FEMA was under the tutelage of director Michael Brown. Brown overstated his qualification and extremely under performed in his duties as the director. It was said, that Brown obtained the job as FEMA director through his good friend President George W. Bush. Due FEMA's lack of performance during Katrina, Michael Brown resigned on September 12, 2005. Since then he has been rehired receiving full pay as a consultant to assess the response to Hurricane Katrina; this position is supposed to be for Brown's phasing out. The old adage, 'its not what you know but who you know' could have been the reason for much of the damage done and even more heartache amongst the victims.

Since Katrina blazed her path of destruction, people all over the country and the world have donated whatever they can to the victims of Katrina. The U.S. has received everything from baby food from Israel, to blankets from Egypt and India, and generators from China. The Katrina ordeal has put America in shoes it probably never had to walk in. This situation makes things come full circle and inspires plenty of questions. If we cannot take care of ourselves, how is it that our government expects to go into foreign lands and break down established societies in an attempt to 'rebuild' and forcefully impose western ideas like freedom and democracy? Ideals this country may represent but certainly doesn't always allow. And furthermore, why is it that our government is so lackadaisical in the treatment and well being of its own people?

Katrina has served as a mirror for the people and government of the United States. The images show Americans on rooftops waiting for days to be rescued while their president enjoys his vacation. They also reflect that race relations in this country are still a major problem that must be addressed. The handling of Katrina was a poor image of what this nation is and if ever this should happen again, I'd like to believe the images reflected would be different.

Prime Minister of Antigua And Barbuda Visits CCNY

Lindsie Augustin

On September 17, 2005, City College (CCNY) had a special visitor. Prime Minister Winston Baldwin Spencer of Antigua and Barbuda came for a town hall meeting at CCNY. The event was hosted by the Institute for Research on African Diaspora in the Americas and Caribbean (IRADAC). Although the Prime Minister's main reason for his visit to New York was to address the United Nations (UN) during the 60th session of the General Assembly; he set aside time to speak to the Consulates of Antigua and Barbuda.

During the meeting the Prime Minister discussed several issues concerning Antigua and Barbuda. He expressed his opinion of the UN's World Summit and the Millennium

Development Goals presented five years ago. Among the goals of the Millennium Development Project are efforts to plan is to cut down on extreme global poverty, put a stop to the spread of HIV/AIDS, and to provide all around education by the year 2015. Although the Millennium project has not accomplished all its objectives, it has provided "an opportunity to look at the success and failures of the process and determine how we are going to go forward", as Prime Minister Spencer stated.

Prime Minister Spencer also commented on the continuing problems in Haiti, and criticized many Caribbean nations for abandoning Haiti in its time of need. After pointing out that his government did not abandon Haiti, he later touched on different tax measures that

please turn to page 6

Post-Katrina Violence Exaggerated?

continued from page 1

there, have been in that fr*ckin' Superdome for five days watching dead bodies, watching hooligans killing people, raping people," is now responding differently to the situation, recanting that statement.

His spokesperson, Sally Forman, stated "He [the mayor] was listening to officials, trusting that information they were providing was accurate."

Others have stepped forward against the chaotic claims. Lieutenant Cornel Jacques Thibodeaux of the Louisiana National Guard claimed that his guards received no reports of rape. Thibodeaux was the head of security leading 1,000 military police and infantrymen into the

Superdome on September 2. "The incidents were highly exaggerated. For the amount of the people in the situation, it

"He [the mayor] was listening to officials, trusting that information they were providing was accurate."

was a very stable environment.." Florida homicide detective, Bill Waldron was stuck in the convention

center until September 1. He witnessed fights between young men, but did not witness any rapes. As for people dying, "Those deaths were most likely a result of heat and lack of water."

Now that possible truths are possible urban legends, further investigation into the Superdome will now be used to find the absolute truth. Sides will be taken, but one thing is for sure, Katrina's aftermath leaves no doubt that many things went wrong. Lives were affected. Rebuilding New Orleans must be a priority.

All interviews held by the Associated Press via CNN.com.

Prime Minister Visits CCNY

continued from page 5

would be used to help stabilize the economy. Prime Minister Spencer ended the meeting on lighter terms, expressing his joy of hosting the ICC's Cricket World Cup in 2007.

According to many CCNY was the ideal location for hosting the town hall meeting due to the large amount of students from Antigua and Barbuda that are currently enrolled. This meeting was able to provide them with information that they were able to relate to and directly affected them.

Please fill out this survey and return it to the office of The Paper located in room 1/118, or email us at thepaper@ccny.cuny.edu. This survey is designed to measure the performance of instructors and professors to help ensure that every student is receiving a quality education here at CCNY. The results of this survey will be publicized to help students select the right professor.

CITY COLLEGE INSTRUCTOR EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Class _____

Instructor _____

- 1. Did you receive a written syllabus at the beginning of the class?
(A) Yes (B) No

INSTRUCTOR'S PERFORMANCE: Using the grading scale below, how would you rate the instructor's performance using the following dimensions?

- (A) Excellent (B) Good (C) Fair (D) Poor (E) Unacceptable (F) Not Applicable

- 2. The clarity of information provided about the course requirements and assignments. _____
- 3. The promptness with which tests and assignments are graded and returned. _____
- 4. The instructor's knowledge of the subject matter of the class. _____
- 5. The instructor's ability to be understood when speaking. _____
- 6. The instructor's ability to stimulate interest in the subject. _____
- 7. The instructor's ability to encourage independent thinking. _____
- 8. The instructor's ability to generate effective class discussion. _____
- 9. The instructor's ability to organize ideas and materials for the class. _____
- 10. The instructor's ability to adhere to the time schedule of the class. _____
- 11. The instructor's willingness to listen to students' questions and answers. _____
- 12. The instructor's availability to students outside of class. _____

HOW WOULD YOU RATE:

- 13. The number of reading assignments in this class:
(A) Too many (B) Too few (C) Just right (D) Not applicable
- 14. The difficulty of reading assignments in this class:
(A) Too difficult (B) Too easy (C) Just right (D) Not applicable
- 15. The usefulness of reading assignments in this class:
(A) Useful (B) Not useful (C) Not applicable
- 16. The number of examinations in this class:
(A) Too many (B) Too few (C) Just right (D) Not applicable

CAMPUSevents

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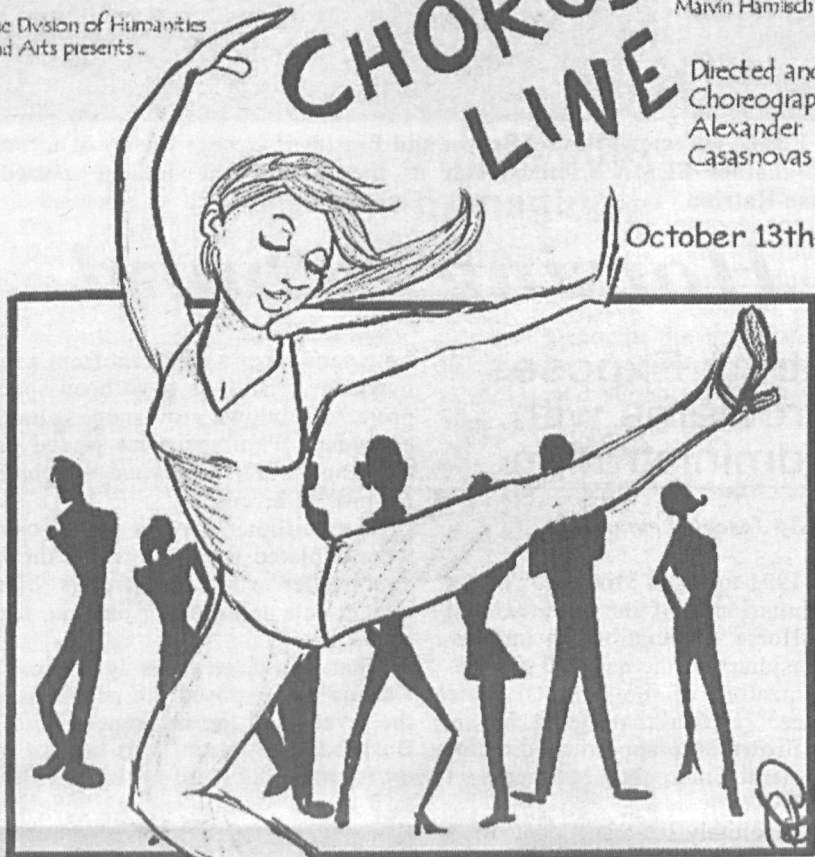
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Music and Lyrics by
Marvin Hamlisch

Directed and
Choreographed by
Alexander
Casasnovas

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Thurs Matinee - 12:15 PM

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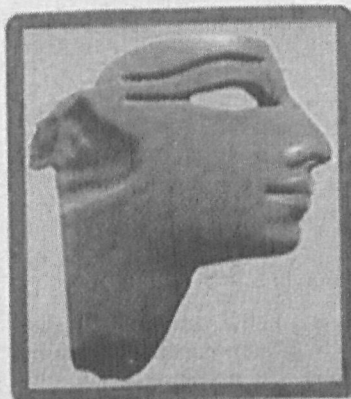


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9:30am - 2:00 pm

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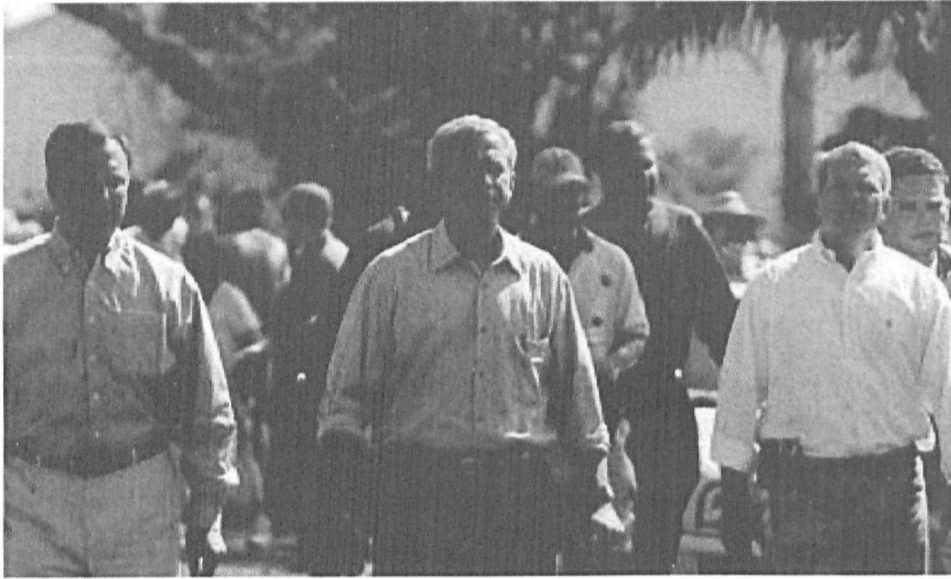
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Former FEMA Director Michael Brown and President George Bush are accompanied by another FEMA administrator as they survey the damage caused by Hurricane Katrina.

Horsing Around

Katrina Exposes Problems with Administration

By Joseph Lemaire Jr.

From 1991 to 2001, Mike Brown was the Commissioner of the International Arabian Horse Association, an international subsidiary of the national governing organization of the U.S. Olympic Committee. With that being in his resume, Brown was appointed director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

It is absolutely amazing that in a country where there are prerequisites for everything from sanitation work to mall security, Mike Brown would have been given a position of such importance. Now if this doesn't prove it's all about who you know when it comes to getting high positions in this system, then nothing will.

FEMA, once upheld by President Bill Clinton's Cabinet, was folded into the Department of Homeland Security. Thus one would speak to a secretary as opposed to the president himself. With delegation not going all the way to the top, the blame game comes into play. Bottom line no one is safe from harsh criticism due to a lack of time management for a proper evacuation.

According to the BBC News, A CNN/USA Today Gallup poll said that 42% of Americans rated the president's response as "bad" or "terrible." Homeland security chief, Michael Chertoff, faced criticism over the department's focus on terror attacks and funding cuts imposed on FEMA since it lost its independence and cabinet-level status.

The only person to get released from his duties was Mike Brown. Chertoff called for his resignation. As rightfully so or so it seems. FEMA reports, in 2001, ranked a hurricane in New Orleans as a likely catastrophe facing the country. This was placed along with a terrorist attack in New York and an earthquake in San Francisco.

The New Orleans Times-Picayune, in 2002, wrote a five part series that stated, "It's only a matter of time south

Louisiana takes a direct hit from a major hurricane. Billions have been spent to protect us, but we grow more vulnerable everyday. Warnings were issued about the rising water levels and the potential for broken levees.

The "billions" over a period of time were depleted for aid towards the fight against terrorism. Officials blamed budget cuts and the war on Iraq, for the losses.

That was three years ago. Now that Katrina has exposed the problems with the levees and the incompetence of the Bush administration, it is best to bring up front the flaws of each individual in this chain. Mike Brown's negligence however, is suffice.

It would be simple to just go ahead and attack the local governor and mayor, but Homeland Security lawfully must take the stand. Before the implementation of

Homeland Security, the state had to ask the Federal Government for help before aid is given. That all but changed, when Bush stated that in the case of any emergency, the federal government can come to the rescue.

With that being said, Chertoff should come clean with this matter, but this does not mean Brown is a pawn. It still is a matter of fact that this Horse Director told the National Guard they have 48 hours to go in and help the people. 48 hours when in a second, another dead corpse is lying around.

For him to sit back and not rush aid to the people of New Orleans and not be reprimanded in the highest of courts, Brown would get the biggest pat on back in the pro 9/11 era. Well Bush did say "Brownie you are doing a good job." Another article would have to be written on that statement alone.

According to CNN/Associated Press, Mike Brown has been named a consultant for FEMA. He is there for advice and support for any further solutions for Katrina. This is insane. The man is clueless, but yet he gets a pat on the back from the administration.

Fortunately, the mishaps have been made public. So Americans are aware of what has transpired. Hopefully, they will not forget, because another let's move on with life ideal will lead to another disaster ignored, while more vacations are taken at the ranch.

Donors Be Cautious!!

Givers Should Review Company History First

Maurice Selby

Days after Hurricane Katrina ravaged the South, countless ads and commercials began soliciting the public to donate money, food, medicine, clothes and other essential supplies for those in need. Even the media got involved with the soliciting.

The Red Cross is known as an International powerhouse when it comes to raising money in the wake of tragedies.

Upon learning of the devastation caused by the tsunami last year in parts of Asia, millions of people around the world immediately donated money to the Red Cross and didn't think twice about doing so. "I donated through a link I found online with my cell phone," said Trevor Dash, referring to a link on Sprint's home page. Whether it was through the churches, canned food drives, or through the links that appear online with major search engines, people willingly gave money to the worldwide organization without taking into account its history.

Following the battle of Solferino in 1859, Swiss businessman Henri Dunant, horrified by the destruction and human suffering caused by the fighting, Dunant

had the combatants of both sides brought into a small village to receive medical attention in barns and the homes of villagers. When he returned home, Dunant encouraged people to set up voluntary aid organizations to help deal with various tragedies throughout the world. In 1863, the International Committee of the Red Cross was founded. Other relief societies sprang up in other parts of the world and after World War I, many of these came together with the original Red Cross to form The League of Red Cross Societies, which is today known as The Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of which the American Red Cross is a member.

Although the society had a very humble beginning, recent reports of misappropriation of funds have hurt the society's credibility in the past few years.

Executive officers of the organization were accused of taking kick backs and making exorbitant sums of money while presiding over the organization a couple of years ago. "These people shouldn't be flying in private jets or riding in limousines," said Eyon Flament, a former volunteer for the Red Cross. "However things have gotten a little better as they've been somewhat righteous as of late. However this is why I don't give them money, I give them my time instead. They can't misuse that without me knowing."

Be cautious of who you donate to.

"...this is why I don't give them money, I give them my time instead. They can't misuse that without me knowing."

**"Brownie you are doing a good job."
—President Bush**

The Launch of the Millions More Movement

By Teshaka Bond

Earlier this month, black leaders such as former presidential candidates Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton, joined Nation of Islam Leader Minister Louis Farrakhan in Washington, DC to make plans for the "Millions More Movement". It is the 10th anniversary celebration of the historical Million Man March. This march has been one of the most talked about marches since the October 1995 march because conveners are encouraging women and gays to attend.

The Million More March will take place the weekend of October 14 in Washington, DC, where blacks will have the opportunity to do something greater for their community. This march will help strengthen the voice of black people to help them deal with the prevalent issues they face in their communities. Most of these issues deal with poor education systems, high unemployment rates, and the increasing incarceration of blacks.

Leaders of the Million More March are asking for a "Day of Absence", which will be observed on Friday October 14. Leaders are

encouraging people not to go to work or school in addition to suggesting that they close businesses. "It should be a day to look forward and focus on the meaning of the Million More Movement and the necessity of spiritual and ethical grounding in our families, communities and organizations," says one of the leaders. This event will draw a lot of attention because so many men, women, and children will be attending this time showing that blacks will fight for what they believe in. "Millions More," Minister Farrakhan explained, "means that we are reaching for the people who carry the rich on their backs."



The first Million Man March took place in Washington DC in October of 1995.

Helping Children Cope With Disasters

(NAPSA)-Seeing the devastation of Hurricane Katrina on the news every evening has left us all feeling helpless and anxious. The intensity of the disaster is inescapable for adults and children

alike. As adults, we are able to manage our feelings and continue our lives despite any anxiety we may feel, but children may react differently.



Photo courtesy of Knowledge Learning Corp.

"Children have little experience coping with tragic events and may have a more difficult time managing their feelings," said Sharon Bergen, senior vice president of education and training for Knowledge Learning Corporation, the world's leading early childhood care and education company. "They look to adults to understand how to react to challenging situations."

Bergen offers the following advice to parents on how to help children cope with disasters.

Continue daily routines. Following a disruptive event—such as a natural disaster—children like to know things are return-

ing to normal and are within their control. Children are comforted by the predictability of daily routines, so emphasize those things that remain the same.

Shelter children from unnecessary exposure. Repeated exposure to disaster-focused media coverage may cause children to relive the experience. Young children who have trouble understanding what is real may believe the event is happening again each time they see it on television. Limit conversations about the disaster when children are present.

Expect anxiety-related behaviors. Very young children may not have the verbal skills to talk about their fears or anxiety. Children under stress may be unusually physical, act out, be withdrawn or stop demonstrating skills they have previously mas-

tered. Activities that allow children to positively show emotions, such as drawing, painting or modeling clay, all offer outlets for their feelings.

School-age children benefit from activities that allow them to feel they are helping. Develop ways in which children might participate, such as selling lemonade or cookies to raise money for relief agencies. Even small acts, such as

making cards for children in affected areas, let children feel they are making things better.

Show children they are loved. Most of all, during challenging times, continue to show children the same love and concern you usually do.

Although the news of the day may present a distraction, your time, attention and support are invaluable to your child.

"Children have little experience coping with tragic events and may have a more difficult time managing their feelings."

Tips for Staying Healthy

(NAPSA)-Clean teeth can help people avoid infections, have fresher breath and—in the case of one new program—even fight cancer. The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation recently partnered with Orawave. The toothbrush maker will donate 10 percent of the sales made from its "Pink Ribbon" toothbrush to the foundation. For more information, visit www.orawave.com.

Studies show black tea may lower cholesterol levels. A new fashion show called The Red Dress Collection may help spread the word on tea and heart health. Co-Sponsored by Celestial Seasonings and The Heart Truth Campaign, it will showcase celebrities modeling red dresses created by the fashion industry's top designers. For more information, visit www.celestialseasonings.com/reddress.

A national survey has revealed that most American men age 50 and over do not recognize the symptoms of enlarged prostate, also



known as benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH), as health issues unless they pose a "very severe" disruption to their lives. Men and their partners can learn more about BPH and its symptoms by calling 1 (866) 543-6461 (MHN1), ext. 116 or log on to www.nointerruptions.com.

In honor of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, shoppers can show their support for the cause by purchasing and wearing a \$2 limited-edition "Taking Steps" brooch available at Payless ShoeSource stores and on payless.com. Payless will donate 100 percent of the net profit from the sale of the brooches to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

Using a potentially lifesaving technology, expectant parents can now collect and save the newborn stem cells in their babies' umbilical cord blood. Banking these cells could save that child's or another family member's life someday. For more information on cord blood banking call 1-888-CORD BLOOD or visit www.cordblood.com.

The American Cancer Society estimates that one-third of all cancer deaths are related to poor diet and inactivity. Individuals who regularly eat sauerkraut may have a reduced risk of developing cancer. Visit www.krrrisprkraut.com for healthy sauerkraut recipes.

Short Stories Hit Home

By Leslie Ducena

"Hoodlore." It's a collection of short stories about urban American experiences dealing with issues such as sex, drugs and violence. The stories speak for themselves and surprise with unexpected endings. I believe that my book "hoodlore" is a perfect fit for the 21st century. "Hoodlore" is the youth of today in urban America speaking on how they live in the street. If you're interested in controversial, honest stories that satisfies the readers curiosity to know, read "Hoodlore." The short stories are meant to teach and illuminate the reader while keeping them engaged.

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X BOX Is Coming

November 22nd, Mark Your Calendars!



By Andrew Chappell

Let the competition and sales begin. We have entered into the new generation of video game consoles, which consists of Microsoft's Xbox 360 and Sony's Playstation 3. Both companies have stepped up to the plate tremendously with their new sexy, sleeker and futuristic consoles. If you remember, Playstation 2 launched their console first in February of 2000 with Microsoft's Xbox following in November 2001. This time around Microsoft's Xbox 360 will stock the shelves first on November 22nd in North America, Europe, and Japan. This is an excellent strategy employed by Bill Gates and Microsoft to release their consoles just in time for the holiday season while Sony has opted for a spring 2006 release of their PS3 console. The starting price for the new Xbox 360 is \$400. Sony hasn't determined an official price as of yet.

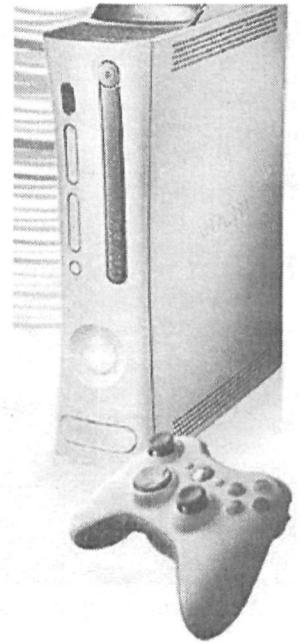
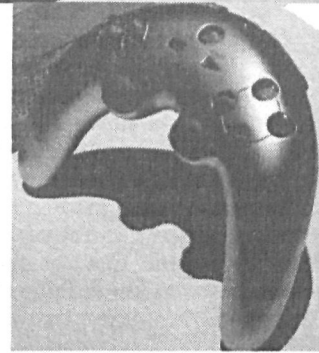
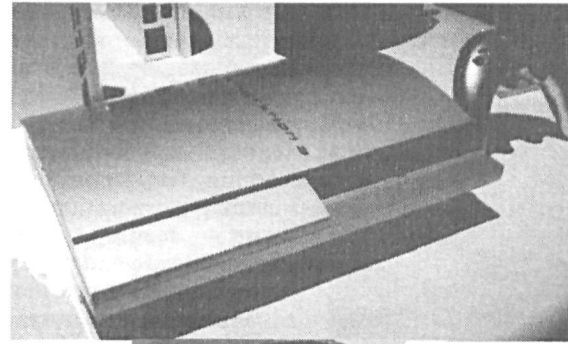
Sharif Anthony, a staff member from

the Student Disability Services stated that the new "Xbox 360 is more powerful, weighs less, looks better and supports more formats. Microsoft just upgraded their system to a new level."

"The visual effects for the new games look a lot more real," said Sean Kennedy, a junior here at City College. Surprisingly he isn't too crazy about the design because it looks like something from Star Trek. However, he is (Kennedy) "excited about the technology and the fact that it can upgrade."

Conversely, Playstation 3 will launch in spring 2006. Sorry Sony fans. Despite the long wait for launching time, we can expect a top-notch system from Sony. For all of you Sony fans, are you willing to wait until spring 2006 for the PS3 release, or will you cheat and buy Xbox 360? Then again, you can always purchase both and fight the inclination altogether.

Sharif Anthony, who commented above on the Xbox 360 comments on the new PS3, stating how "Sony will defi-



nately give Microsoft some competition, but if he had a choice, he would choose Xbox 360, simply because he already owns the first Xbox system. Sean Kennedy said he was uncertain about PS3 because he wants to know more specifications for the new system. David Wu, a student and work-study participant for the Student Disability Services, prefers to purchase the new PS3 because

Sony is very reliable.

It is without question a competitor's market out here between the two multi-billion dollar industries. However, the choice is yours. Will it be Xbox 360, or "the old reliable" Playstation franchise? If you have not already done so, go to your local video game stores (Ebgames, GameStop, etc.) and reserve your copy today.

Reggaeton Takes CCNY And Nation by Storm

Deborah Daneliz Rivera

As a relatively new genre of dance music, Reggaeton has become popular in Puerto Rico and the United States over the last decade. The name is derived from the reggae music of Jamaica which influenced reggaeton's dance beat. Reggaeton was also heavily influenced by other Puerto Rican music genres and by the urban hip-hop music craze in the United States.

Last year, the US sales went up 5%,

while Latin music CD's jumped 24%, because of reggaeton. In New York 80% of all Latin records sold are reggaeton. Reggaeton is the hottest thing in the music industry. Three US hip-hop labels have caught on to the craze and have added Latino labels: P. Diddy's Bad Boy Latino run by Pitbull, Jay-Z's Roc-A-Fella Latino run by Hector "El Bambino" and Wu-Tang Latino run by Ray Acosta. Hispanic artists like Daddy Yankee, Tego Calderon and Don Omar are all over radio and television. Their music can be heard on many radio stations and their videos seen on MTV.

Though they were all born on the same island, their music is different. Sure its reggaeton, but listen to the lyrics and really hear the rhythm of the beats, and you will notice a difference.

Tego Calderón born in Loiza, Puerto Rico, developed a unique style among rappers; his lyrics are a mixture of modern and 1960's slang, that tell the story of barrio life; speaking the struggles of a Puerto Rican life, including racism and inequalities. Tego has created his own style of music combining salsa, bomba y plena, dancehall, Latin pop, hip-hop, and jazz influences.



Daddy Yankee

Raymond Ayala known as Daddy Yankee and El Cangri in the music world was born in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico. Daddy Yankee is the most respected and influential reggaeton artist. His songs range from love to social commentary on the everyday Puerto Rican culture. Many of his hit songs are concrete in the club scene and are considered reggaeton classics. The lyrics to his club banging hits focus on sex and girls. Singles like Gasolina, No Me Dejes Solo and Lo Que Paso, Paso, talk about girls and sex. Gasolina is a slang term for sex. Break the lyrics and you get the girls like a lot of sex, so give them more sex. Why can't we bump to Daddy Yankee's socially saturated lyrics on culture in the club?

Don Omar born William Omar Landron was born in Villa Palmeras, Puerto Rico. He is one of the most loved and recognized Reggaeton singers in Puerto Rico; his popularity is rapidly spreading throughout the present musical scene along with the grow-

ing popularity of the genre. This former minister sings about life and love. His latest hit Reggaeton Latino is about life and la cultura while Pobre Diabla is about love. His video for Reggaeton Latino is a collage of Hispanic and Latino culture.

Their cross over into the United States has given them more exposure to English-speaking reggaeton fans, making Don Omar, Daddy Yankee and Tego Calderón the more recognizable faces of Reggaeton. These three men recently came together at the MTV awards, where they each a few bars of their hit songs. Don Omar sang Reggaeton Latino, followed by Tego Calderón who sang El Abayarde. Daddy Yankee was the final reggaeton performer, and finished pumping up the crowd with Gasolina.

Reggaeton is a strong part of the music industry right now. It has just begun its break through and will be here for a long time coming. Reggaeton is here to stay!

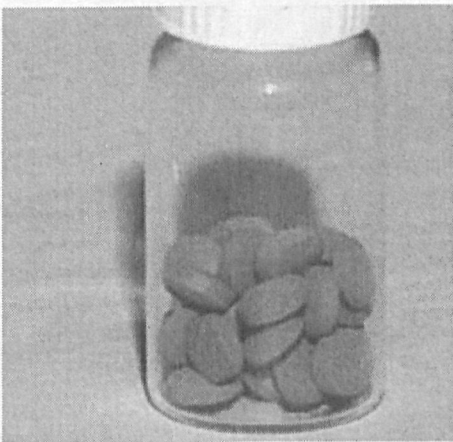


Tide May Turn in Fight Against Heart Failure

FDA Approves Drugs for African Americans

By Maurice Selby

End-stage heart failure, which is a gradual weakening of the heart muscle, has emerged as one of the leading causes of premature death in the United States, with more than 5 million sufferers nationwide. Even more alarming is the fact that African Americans suffer at disproportionately higher rates than other ethnic groups, baffling researchers and physicians alike, with many experts citing things like socio-economic status, lifestyle, and a lack of access to medical care as possible causes for this disturbing trend. It has also been shown that once diagnosed with heart disease, blacks didn't improve much with standard heart therapy



Pictured above, the new heart disease medication BiDil is the first drug approved for a specific ethnic group in the by the FDA. Experts believe hope the drug will help blacks diagnosed with heart disease.

medications. However, according Nitromed, a small Lexington Massachusetts based pharmaceutical company, that may soon change, as a their recently approved drug BiDil (Bye-Dill) has been shown to improve both mortality rates and the quality of life in African American heart failure patients. This marks the first time in the history of the FDA that a drug was approved for the treatment of people of a specific race.

While many are hailing BiDil as a potential tide turning weapon in the fight against heart disease, many opponents see the drug as a lackluster solution that inspires false hope in patients, in addition to serving as a new basis for racial discrimination and other controversies. "I wouldn't trust it," said 19 year old Brooklyn native Kashiff Alexander. Even though Kashiff, 19, isn't a sufferer or even at risk of heart failure, the fact that he views BiDil with as much skepticism as any of BiDil's expert critics, is significant. "There are shady things that happened in the past in which black people were duped into serving as guinea pigs."

Among the most infamous examples of that are the Tuskegee experiments that lasted from the late 1930's into the 1970's. In these trials, blacks were intentionally infected with Syphilis and left untreated for years as doctors monitored them to test the long term affects of the disease on the human body. According to Dr. Theodore Addai of Nashville's Meharry Medical College, simply convincing patients to participate in the African American Heart Failure Trial "A-HeFT" (the study that was conducted to test the effectiveness of the drug on black patients) was difficult. "We had to try to persuade them that this was not another Tuskegee."

BiDil, a combination of two older, widely used drugs, helps the heart pump blood more efficiently. Hydralazine helps the heart supply the body with blood more efficiently by

dilating arteries carrying oxygen rich blood. Isosorbide dinitrate harmonizes with hydralazine and together they help the arteries stay dilated longer by increasing a patient's nitric oxide levels. In early studies of this combination of medications, the majority of heart failure patients (of various ethnic groups) didn't respond to the therapy as expected. However, researchers did notice that self-identified Africans Americans responded better than people of other ethnicities. Nitromed, the small biotech company that will manufacture BiDil, immediately moved for FDA approval, but was encouraged to further investigate the benefits of BiDil in the African American Heart Failure Trial (A-HeFT). The African American Heart Failure Trial (A-HeFT) was commissioned by the FDA after it was first discovered that BiDil could be a potentially life saving drug for African American heart failure patients. This was done to further evaluate the drug in blacks, and in 2001 the study was halted early due to very convincing results that confirmed its effectiveness in blacks. On June 16th 2005, BiDil was officially approved by the FDA and coined a drug for self-identified African American heart failure patients.

Nitromed acknowledged in a press release that getting BiDil approved by the FDA was only half the battle, and that it will be even more difficult making this medication more accessible and appealing to blacks. "Nitromed is pleased to be able to make BiDil available within one year of the African American Heart Failure Trial (A-HeFT) being halted and within only two weeks of FDA approval. This speaks to Nitromed's sense of urgency and to the importance of BiDil to the patients who need it."

At \$1.80 per tablet, BiDil is relatively expensive and may be hard to acquire for patients lacking deep pockets or adequate health insurance. Mrs. Annet Jones of Staten Island, a petite woman approaching her late forties, recalls the days when she had the energy to work, care for her kids, and enjoy life altogether. An episode of congested heart failure changed all that and she has been bed-ridden ever since. News of BiDil gave her the hope of maybe regaining some of her strength and being able to live the life she once knew. However upon finding out how much the potentially life-saving medication would cost, she immediately became discouraged. "You see, that's the catch," said Mrs. Jones. "How is it supposed to help us when most of us won't even be able to afford it (BiDil). "Their basically going to hold it hostage."

According to BiDil's launch plan, a payment plan will be instituted to help ensure that BiDil is available to those that need it and not just those sufferers in the upper-most tax bracket. This is being done to help those that need BiDil the most. While the rate at which people suffer from heart failure isn't solely dependent upon one's economic status, statistics do show that the majority of heart failure patients are people of lower income. This is why a payment plan is the most important aspect of BiDil's launch and distribution. "The trick is to get this medication to the people that need it most," Said Darnell Williams, a victim of congestive heart failure in 2002 "Forget all the racial stuff, if it can help sufferers of heart failure, you must get it to those that will benefit from it. It has to be available to people like myself."

Linda Stevenson of Camden, New Jersey knew of Frenchie, the gentleman described in the beginning of this story. Although she believes that BiDil will be a huge asset in treating heart failure in blacks, she doesn't feel that the proposed payment plan will help in getting this vital medication to all that require it. "Even with the payment plan, these people are still taking other medications that are extremely important and when you add it

all up, it may not be feasible. Mr. Frenchie wouldn't have been able to afford it."

Another thing that may have been overlooked is the fact that people at risk of heart failure are often sufferers of various other ailments and must take medications for those as well. Danny Hernandez, a New York State Emergency Medical Technician, transports numerous heart failure patients weekly hopes that there are other plans being made as well. "Most heart failure patients don't suffer from just that condition alone, many of them suffer from various other things like diabetes, hypertension, and even gastrointestinal problems, so the amount of medications they're on is unbelievable. But even worse, they're expensive."

BiDil is still fresh out of the gates and it will take time to see if it can live up to the hype. However there are many experts that

see this drug as an omen of better thing that have yet to come. The Association of Black Cardiologists have given the drug the nod as they were impressed by the results from extensive research that BiDil endured during the A-HeFT. In an article that appeared in The Black Voice News, Dr. Ernest Levister Jr. responded to a letter in which a black heart failure patient asked if the drug would be good for him. He indicated that BiDil is indeed a great new alternative but cautioned the gentleman to get his physician's approval before looking to acquire the drug. Some side effects include dizziness and headaches and could lead to serious problems for some. "There is no such thing as a drug that works for everyone," said Physician's Assistant John Mullen. "For some the effects of the drug can be far more problematic than the actual condition being treated."

MCI Boycott and Demonstration Announced

New York, NY—On Wednesday, November 16th, 2005, in New York City, the New York Campaign for Telephone Justice will gather with the families and loved ones of prisoners in New York to call for an end to the unjust contract between MCI and the New York State Department of Correctional Services. All over New York State, students, family members and concerned citizens will boycott MCI for their shameful role in charging family members more than six times the market rate for a call to speak with their loved ones in prison and sharing the profits with the State. Organizing efforts are well under way to spread the word to achieve maximum participation.

The New York Campaign for Telephone Justice is a multi-faceted effort launched last fall by the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR). The campaign's public outreach will be centered around the exposure and defeat of WorldDom Telecommunications. WorldDom is a fictitious name for the real-life joint venture of MCI and the New York State Department of Correctional Services (DOCS).

Single-carrier collect call systems are the norm for telephone service in prisons across the United States. Prisoners call collect, and loved ones who accept the calls must accept the terms dictated by the chosen phone company.

Currently, under New York State's monopoly contract with MCI, the average prison phone call is billed at 19 minutes, costing over \$6 and adding up to monthly phone bills of up to \$400 (630percent over the market rate). New York State gets a 57.5 percent kickback on MCI's profits, providing no incentive for regulation of the current alliance.

The same system has been implemented in most states across the country, and has made it extremely difficult for families to speak with their loved ones in prison. In fact, according to the Florida Prisoners Legal Aid Organization, the correctional phone market is worth well over \$1 billion a year nationally. CCR's campaign will serve as a precedent case that hopes to influence other states with similar telecommunications alliances.

"At a time when prisoners are increasingly housed in facilities hundreds of miles away from their home communities, telephones become for many the only way to stay in touch," says Telephone Justice Campaign Coordinator Annette Dickerson. "Disproportionately, prisoners come from poor communities, so the cost of communicating falls heaviest on those with the least ability to pay - the elderly, grandparents and

foster parents who are guardians, single mothers... The families of the prisoners are not incarcerated; they are tax-paying citizens and should not be punished!"

So far, the Campaign succeeded in passing a bill in the State Assembly (the Family Connections Bill, A.7231-A, on June 23, 2005). And, on August 30th, 2005, attorneys with the Center for Constitutional Rights announced another major victory: The federal trial court in Byrd v. Goord issued an opinion upholding the constitutional challenge to the inmate telephone system in New York designed to provide the Department of Correctional Services with millions of dollars in "commissions" or "kickbacks."

NEW YORK CAMPAIGN FOR
TELEPHONE JUSTICE



CCR attorney Rachel Meeropol, lead counsel in a companion lawsuit in state court, stated that "based on this decision and our evidence in this case, we are confident that the court will find that the surcharges imposed by the Department of Correctional Services on inmate calls are an unconstitutional infringement on the rights of prisoners and their families to keep in touch."

Although the Byrd v. Goord lawsuit challenged the restriction of calls to collect only, the limitation of statewide service to one provider only, and the 60% commission/kickback taken by the State, the federal court upheld only the challenge to the State's kickback. The court gave approval for the First Amendment, due process, and equal protection claims to go forward.

But to encourage final bill passage in the State Senate and a favorable outcome at the Supreme Court level, CCR will hold a boycott and demonstration in New York City (location tbd) on November 16, 2005, using WorldDom Telecommunications as its public awareness platform.

"WorldDom represents big business alliance and corporate profiteering at the expense of hundreds of thousands of innocent people already struggling to fight their way out of a cycle of poverty," says M1 of the group Group Dead Prez, who is also a key supporter of CCR and the Telephone Justice Campaign. "We have to begin to recognize this as aggression against black and brown people. We need economic justice and self determination and the only way we'll find that is by organizing at the hands of our own people."

Email Funnies :)

You Know You're From New York City if:

- You was callin' Air Force 1's uptowns way before Nelly came out with the song.
- You shop at S&D, M.O.N.Y, Jimmy Jazz and Hyperactive.
- You know what a Dollar Van is.
- You be at the Puerto Rican Day Parade even though you aren't Spanish.
- You love Beef Patties w/cheese and Coco Bread.
- You love Quarter Waters.
- You pay no more than \$10 for a wash and set at the Dominicans.
- If you've ever been to Club A, Speed or Exit.
- You've ever brought a metro card from a bum for half price.
- Your projects get their own special recognition holiday. (ex. Marcy Day, 40 day)

- You think Angie Martinez and Funk Flexx are celebrities.
- You've been to the Skate Key or Empire.
- You'd rather eat Crown Fried than KFC.
- The people at the Chinese Restaurant know who you are when you call.
- You used to steal strings off a Jansport.
- You've ever been to Yogi Bear (Brooklyn only)
- You used to go to free lunch during the summer.
- You've watched flex on beat.
- You've ever been to night school.
- You go all the way to Forty-Deuce just to chill in McDonald's.
- You've ever been to a Basement Party.

- You don't answer your door on Sundays because you know it's a Jehovah's Witness.
- You've worked for Summer Youth.
- You eat Boars Head Turkey and Cheese sandwiches from the Bodega.
- You know handball, double-dutch and Skelly are hood classics.
- You call a fire hydrant a Johnny Pump.
- You live by c-town, associated or key food.
- You shop on Jamaica Ave., Pitkin, Knickerbocker or Fulton St.
- You eat White Castle even though you know it makes you use the bathroom.
- You think Coney Island is the jumpoff.
- You've ever rode in a pissy elevator or hung out in a pissy exit.

- You only go to 3rd period to get your attendance so they don't send a cut card home.
- You were scared to go to school on Freshman Friday or Halloween.
- You know who Brenda Blackmon and Ernie Anastos are.
- You couldn't pass that Math A Regents.
- You remember the Blackout of 2003.
- You went to school with mad balloons on your birthday (girls)
- You've ever given someone a Gill or played Timeout and took someone's food.
- You've ever cut up money and put it on your nails. (Girls)
- You've ever pumped someone on the swing