

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

Volume 58 No. 8

A Medium For People of African Descent

November 21, 2002

CITY COLLEGE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Student Attacks Raise Concerns About Campus Security



Courtesy of www.cuny.cuny.edu.

By Sheria McFadden

On Tuesday, November 19th, Anthony Hemphill, 31, a City College student was arrested in relation to an attack of three female City College students. Mr. Hemphill, a Black Studies major and a member of "The Paper," was arrested at a homeless shelter in Harlem and charged with rape and assault. Mr. Hemphill has been enrolled at City College since 1998.

According to the Director of Public Safety, Timothy Hubbard, the attacks happened inside the North Academic Center (NAC) Building. The first attack occurred on Friday, November 8th at 9:30 am on the fifth floor of the NAC. The second and third attacks occurred on Wednesday, November 13th within twenty minutes of each other.

One of the female students identified Mr. Hemphill by searching through a database of photographs for college ID's. Police said they recovered glasses, a jacket and an ATM receipt while investigating the attacks.

On November 14, CCNY Public Safety issued a security alert throughout the City College community. The alert included a profile of the suspect. It warned students about

being alone in unoccupied hallways, and suggested that students walk to an occupied area if they observe any suspicious behavior. Public Safety also issued a second notice requiring everyone in the City College community to wear their ID's at all times while on campus.

On, Tuesday, November 19, a "Women's Awareness Symposium" was held by SLAM (A graduate student club) and the Undergraduate Student Government. Many students, faculty, administration and staff attended the meeting with questions and concerns. The meeting was also attended by President Gregory Williams, Chief Operating Officer Lois Cronholm, N.Y.P.D. 26th Precinct Captain Scott Loos and Mr. Hubbard. Several media sources attended the meeting, including news reporters from NBC, UPN-9, CBS, 1010 WINS and all student media, including S.A.M.E. TV, the Messenger, WCCR, The Paper and The Campus.

Many students were concerned that they were not notified after the first attack. When asked why the College Community was not informed until after the third attack, Mr. Hubbard, replied, "I did not want to alarm people after just one incident." Many students felt that having the

information after the first attack would have probably prevented the other two attacks and given the college community an opportunity to better protect themselves against future attacks.

Others from the college community mentioned the lack of security in certain parts of the campus. Several students were concerned about the lack of security presence in the basement of Baskerville Hall. Some female students said that they went to the bathroom in pairs in order to protect themselves.

Barbara Johnson, COA/Secretary of the Anthropology Department (7/112), stated that her office is located near the seventh floor stairwell and during class time she is basically the only occupant in that area. Ms. Johnson suggested that the college community work together to create a task force to review all buildings on campus with more than one entrance, so that they can determine which entrances are not needed.

After confirming the incident Ms. Johnson called Physical Plant Services (PPS) to request that a peephole be installed in the front door of the Anthropology department. PPS said, she would not be able to receive the peephole until November 23, 2002. At the symposium she stated that, "If I were working in the administration

building or Provost office, they would have installed the peep hole the very same day." On the next day, Wednesday, November 20th, Ms. Johnson arrived to work to find the peephole already installed.

If you feel unsafe contact Public Safety at 650-7777 or 650-6911. Public Safety offers escort services to subway stops. An officer will also escort you anywhere within campus grounds and its perimeter 24 hours a day. Call 650-6911 for this service or ask any security officer. The Security Office is located in NAC 4/201. You can always find security officers at the 3rd floor and Plaza level entrances.

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Editorial

Changes At City, And How We Can Address Them

These days at City College, there are many things happening that makes walking onto campus an experience of its own. Just getting on campus, one would have to watch his or her head and step as they enter the buildings on campus; many of them (and especially Shepard Hall, Harris Hall, Marshak Bldg, and NAC) are either under never-ending renovation or are simply falling apart. The risk is especially heightened when it rains heavily, for anyone who has been here for the last couple of years would notice that there are rooms with either dampened or molded walls, no ceilings, and hallways that are dotted with trash bins collecting all the dripping water. If students were active in school life, they would think that USG is pressing the issue with Physical Plant Services and, by extension, the New York State Dormitory Authority (which oversees the infrastructure of state institutions). They would not think that key members of USG are focusing more on their own needs rather than that of the student body which they represent.

Once past this problem, one will be accosted by security and the new procedures for dis-

playing identification. While this, in any event, is encouraged for the welfare of the student body, how effective these new security procedures will be is a question many students are asking themselves in light of attacks on three female students in the last two weeks.

These above problems are only partially being addressed in the attempts to makeover the school, much to the detriment of students. In addition, many things are happening which will have implications for future students years down the line, and which stand to further complicate the lives of current students. For instance, an article in the Sunday, November 3rd edition of the New York Times mentioned the pending demolition of Y Building and its replacement with a state of the art building dedicated to the School of Architecture. The questions need to be posed as to how administrative services, such as the Registrar's office and the Financial Aid office, and organizations such as IRADAC, are going to be affected. How are students going to be able to effectively process their necessary paperwork (graduation, transcripts, FAFSA/TAP, etc.)? How will they be able to take part in the

notable research activities that organizations currently housed in Y Building carry out? Moreover, how and where are these organizations going to function?

In addition, there are other potential questions that need to be asked about these changes. Are the Liberal Arts, the Social Sciences, and the Humanities still going to be viable entities at this school? Are cultural studies, particularly Black Studies, still going to be overlooked in favor of disciplines that do not teach students to examine their environments and appreciate them? What do students, and in particular students of African descent, have to do to not just maintain their foothold on campus but also ensure a place for their progeny? Probably something that they should have done a long time ago, and that is come together, work out their differences, and form a united front to articulate their concerns and affect change. The means and the organizations are there; it is only a question of will and time. But if such were to happen, then it would not be as hard as it is now to place the pressure on the proper authorities to address the issues that are currently plaguing the City College student body.

African Fraternity At CCNY

By Atul Sheffey

In the Fall semester of 2002 The Finley Student Center approved the MALIK Fraternity for recognition as a student club/organization at City College. MALIK Fraternity is the first African/Latino based fraternity of its kind. MALIK Fraternity, Inc. is a socially conscious, collegiate-based African fraternity that has for over twenty-five years been working to inspire, motivate and train its members to be "change agents" and soldiers of social, economic and political struggle within the African-American/Latino communities throughout America. MALIK is dedicated to academic excellence, social responsibility, true Brotherhood and the reclamation of the stolen legacy of the African contribution to the world.

Fifteen idealistic young men founded the Fraternity at the C.W. Post campus of the Long Island University in the state of New York on May 13th, 1977 as the Malik Sigma Psi Fraternity (ΜΣΨ). It was these Founders' intention to break away from the college fraternal norm and to create a college fraternity that personified the broadening awareness of cultural pride, activism and moral leadership among African/Latino people that had emerged in the 1960's and early 70's. The "non-traditional" title of "Malik" was chosen for several important reasons. First, it was implemented as a start to more publicly and accurately define ourselves, rather than to completely follow the already existing western template offered by mainstream

college fraternities. "MALIK" is a Swahili/Arabic title that means "King or Ruler." MALIK was also the religious name of the great apostle of self-determination and liberation of all oppressed people, Al-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz, also known as Malcolm X. Our *Black Shining Prince* held a special place in the hearts of the Founders and of the Entire Brotherhood.



Malik Fraternity Emblem

As years progressed, the Fraternity further developed its practice of African Fraternalism. Brothers rejected the popular conception of "Black/Latino Greekism" because of the inferiority complex it promotes and miseducates our people against recognizing Africa as the true beginning of civilization. MALIK chose instead to emphasize our "Africanness" and therefore preferred to be called African Fraternalists. African Fraternalism is the concept that the origin of fraternalism began with

The Paper

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African people, having reaching its highest form with the ancient Egyptians (Kemet). African Fraternalism maintains that the Greeks, through its learned men and the campaigns of its military, stole/borrowed much the wisdom and knowledge of the Egyptians (Kemet) and starting with Aristotle, claimed it as their own invention. Thus, Western civilization marks its beginnings with the Greeks. In honor of the Greeks' "thievery", the academic institutions of America formed study groups that eventually developed into social organizations as well, called fraternities and sororities. These groups were named after letters from the Greek alphabet.

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The Paper



A Medium For People of African Descent

THE CITY COLLEGE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Correction:

In this issue of *The Paper* (November 21, 2002) the charges against Mr. Anthony Hemphill were incorrectly stated. Please note, according to police sources, Mr. Hemphill was charged with “attempted rape” and not “rape.” *The Paper* apologizes for any misrepresentation or misunderstanding.

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African Students Unite!

by Kelechi Onwuchekwa

The United Nigerian Students Association held a food sale back in late October. According to club officials, this event was relatively successful; "the food was actually finished," according to the Ije Abanobi, the Public Relations Officer. "It showed people that we are many in this school, enough to cook food," said Ijeoma Alily, a member of the organization. Yet another said that, "People came out in support." There was also talk on the attire that people wore, and the Nigerian music that was played; "The people who wore the attire made impact," said the PRO.

This was just one example of the fruits that come out of the attempts at connecting with other students, especially by and for those of African descent; they exemplify pride in one's culture and identity. It brings out the best in people, and inevitably attracts others. Ultimately, respect is commanded. This is what is needed to get people to hear your issues; such is what the UNSA is ultimately trying to do, given that the political situation in Nigeria is less than stable right now because of the issues over the corruption in the federal legislature and the

International Court of Justice's recent ruling ceding the long held Bakassi Peninsula to neighboring Cameroon ignoring the historical links between the areas, which was more of a sign of disrespect to Nigeria and its history (and, by extension, Africa and its history) than anything else.

Students of African descent need to come together and hear each other out, and understand their histories. Club events like the one described above are one example of how to achieve this, but forums are also needed. They need to settle whatever divisive issues exist among them. Running to the powers-that-be, which are responsible for driving them apart to begin with, is a tactic that brings disaster. The aforementioned situation between Nigeria and Cameroon started because two colonial powers, France and Germany, ceded territory between each other without the consent of the locals, warred, and finally dictated to Nigeria what its borders should be without any regard as to its national sovereignty or security.

Students of African descent need to come together if we, as a people, intend on being a force in the 21st century. The thinking

that forces in the power structure that exist right now in the US can help us in one way or another is nonsense; all that has happened so far is that a slate of people has been presented to us as "leaders" that we should vote for and look up to, even though they may be very corrupt and functionaries in the system that is oppressing us as a people. Now is a better time than ever to look among ourselves, be it as Africans of Haitian, Jamaican, Nigerian, or American descent, for solutions to our problems, because the politicians are increasingly not doing so, like they are supposed to.

There are ample opportunities to accomplish this. We interact daily in our classes, over, lunch, and in study groups. Meetings among the respective clubs take place regularly. Events are hosted in which several clubs ally with each other to ensure success. There are even organizations that come if offering to help. If all these efforts can be pooled together, the results and lots of African students here will dramatically improve.

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African Diaspora

History of the Reparations Movement

by Kahlil Almustafa

The Reparations Movement for people of African descent has gained much mainstream attention over the last two years. But the struggle for Reparations has been ongoing since the end of chattel slavery. Here is a brief history of the events which have contributed to the current momentum of the movement.

In March, 1865, a law was proposed in Congress allowing "every male citizen, refugee or freedman," [...] "not more than forty acres of land." Also in 1865, Union General William Tecumseh Sherman would issue Special Field Order No. 15, allotting the abandoned Confederate plantations to the newly freed slaves.

By the end of the year, Andrew Johnson would veto the "forty acre" law passed in Congress, ordering the return of plantations to the former slave-owners if they pledged loyalty.

In Congress in 1866 and 1867, lawmakers such as Representative Thaddeus Stevens introduced reparations bills.

In 1915, Cornelius Jones sued the United States government for \$68 million, profits the government made from unpaid slave labor. He did not win his suit.

In the early 1960's, Queen Mother Moore, known as the mother of the modern Reparations movement, formed the "Reparations Committee of Descendants of United States Slaves" to demand Reparations. She traveled state to state to get over a million signatures to petition the government and was successful in presenting the signatures to President John F. Kennedy.

In 1963, a Detroit Activist, Roy Jenkins, known as Reparations Ray, formed a one-man organization called Slave Labor Annuity Pay. He distributed leaflets, made speeches and sent letters to leading African organizations and personalities, ultimately convincing Conyers to introduce his House Resolution 40 into Congress. He proposed a million dollar payment for every African American.

In October 1966, the Black Panther Party Platform and Program authored by Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale stated: 3. . . . We believe that this racist government has robbed

us and now we are demanding the overdue debt of forty acres and two mules. Forty acres and two mules was promised 100 years ago as restitution for slave labor and mass murder of black people. We will accept the payment in currency which will be distributed to our many communities.

Imari Obadele has been described as the father of the modern Reparations movement. He organized the Republic of New Africa (RNA) and his Malcolm X Society associates in 1968, demanded payment of \$400 billion in "slavery damages."

In 1988, Obadele and his associates formed the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America (N'COBRA). N'COBRA initiates litigation, publishes a newsletter and sponsors national and regional conferences.



Queen Mother Moore, known as the mother of the Reparations movement.

Courtesy www.hierographics.org

In January 1989, Congressman John Conyers introduced Bill HR-40, in the House of Representatives to create a Presidential Commission to examine the impact of slavery on Africans in America and recommend remedies. He has re-introduced HR-40 into Congress every year since.

In June 1999, N'COBRA adopted the "Six Down-Payment Demands on the U.S. Government," which demanded that a billion dollars each be given to ten black colleges, that a billion dollars be placed in a black economic development fund, that \$20,000 be awarded to

each black family, that a billion dollars be given to black farmers, and that all "political prisoners" be released.

In 2000, Randall Robinson helped popularize the issue of Reparations with his book *The Debt: What America Owes to Blacks*.

In September 2001, the Durban 400, a group of activists and activist organizations, led by the Black United Front and the December 12th Movement fought at the United Nations World Conference Against Racism (WCAR) to declare the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade a "Crime Against Humanity," giving Reparations advocates international leverage.

March 2002, Attorney Deadria Farmer-Paellman was the lead plaintiff in the first Reparations lawsuit filed against Fleet Bank, CSX Railroad Corporation and Aetna Insurance Company on behalf on 35 million descendants of enslaved Africans in America.

In May 2002 New York City Councilmember Charles Barron introduced the Queens Mother Moore Bill to create a commission to explore Reparations to New Yorkers of African ancestry and to come back with recommendations for compensation.

During the same year, New York Assemblymember Roger Green introduced a Reparations bill designed to compel the state government to formally apologize and atone for its role in the slave trade.

The Reparations Coordination Committee, known as "The Big Six," including Attorney Charles Ogeltree, Randall Robinson, Johnnie Cochran, Cornel West and Manning Marable to launch a number of lawsuits to attain Reparations in the Fall of 2002

On August 17, 2002, Marcus Garvey's 115th Birthday, a national mass movement of African people will make their demand known in the Millions for Reparations Rally in Washington D.C. called by the Durban 400.

The Reparations Movement is the most critical movement for people of African descent in the 21st century to gaining the liberation of African people. It will take a sustained effort from our generation to ensure its longevity and success.

Kahlil Almustafa can be reached at kahlilalmustafa@yahoo.com.

Reparations Now

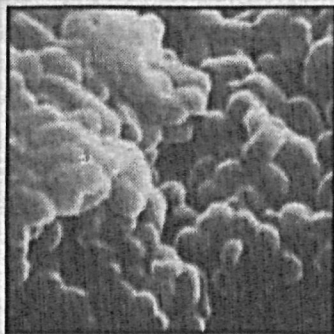
Listeria Hysteria

by Chinonyerem Omeokwe

News about food contamination and poisoning are becoming a more frequent occurrence. The most recent outbreak of food poisoning has been traced to Wampler Foods, a meat processing plant located in Franconia, Pennsylvania where a strain of the deadly Listeria bacteria has been found. This strain is an exact genetic match for the strain of Listeria responsible for the outbreak that has spread across the northeast this year and caused at least 40 illnesses, 7 deaths and 3 miscarriages in Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. Wampler Foods had issued a recall of all its cooked deli foods, 27.4 million pounds of poultry to be exact. This was the largest recall in history and follows a recall of 294,000 pounds of poultry issued by the same company a few days before.

Listeriosis is disease caused by the food-borne pathogenic bacterium *Listeria monocytogenes*. Listeria can be found everywhere in the environment including the soil and vegetation and is therefore easily contracted by herd animals. The bacterium is often isolated in cattle, sheep, and fowl, and is also found in dairy products, fruits, and vegetables. Listeria is a unique bacterium because while most bacteria do not grow well at temperatures

below forty degrees Fahrenheit, Listeria's optimal growth temperature is between 0 and 50 degrees Fahrenheit. Consequently, foods such as dairy products and deli



Listeria bacteria

Courtesy www.extension.iastate.edu

meats that have been properly refrigerated may still harbor this dangerous bacterium.

Listeriosis is not contagious and is contracted by ingesting foods that are contaminated with the bacteria. Pregnant women and their unborn children are most at risk for this disease, for they are about 20 times more likely than other healthy adults to contract the illness. The disease can pass to the child and/or cause spontaneous abortion, stillbirth, or other complications with the pregnancy and birth. Other individuals at risk are people with compromised immune systems, in which case the disease grows in the nervous system and causes meningitis and/or encephalitis. A person with listeriosis usually has fever, muscle aches, and gastrointestinal symptoms such as nausea or diarrhea. If infection spreads to the nervous system, symptoms such as

headache, stiff neck, loss of balance, confusion, or convulsions can occur. Infected pregnant women ordinarily experience only a mild, flu-like illness. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Listeria is the cause of 2,300 hospitalizations and 500 deaths per year. Listeria may be treated early with several antibiotics, though about 20 percent of people infected with the disease die.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has come under attack for not informing the public about the source of this most recent listeria outbreak. The public must not depend on government agencies like the USDA to care for its health because where capital and profit is involved, health will always be secondary. It is up to the consumer to inform him/her self as to the quality and goodness of foods although admittedly, it is quite difficult these days. The public must put pressure on agencies like the USDA and companies like Wampler Foods to take greater care in insuring that that public is provided with healthful food. Everyday more support is generated for better practices in the production of food in this country. All the more reason to shift to natural diets that include organically grown fruits and vegetables and less meats.

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Yosef Ben Jochannan; award winning TV journalist Gil Noble; the popular activist-minister, Rev. Dr. Herbert Daughtry; former members of the legendary Young Lords Party, Latino journalist Pablo Guzman and educator Richard Perez; and national orator/organizer, and former member of the Black Panther Party, NYC Councilman Charles Barron.

MALIK Fraternity, Inc. looks forward to working with the City College community. For the remainder of the Fall 2002 semester we are planning to work with several organizations to put on informative socially conscious programs for the upcoming Spring 2003 semester. In addition, next semester we will be having our first MALIK Open House presentation to formally introduce ourselves to the City College campus. This presentation will explain who we are, what we are about, and why we are unique. It will be open to all students, faculty, staff, and organizations.

For further information on who we are and upcoming events you can go to www.malik77.org and/or contact Atul Sheffey at azikiwe@malik77.org. We look forward to establishing a productive and rewarding future with the City College community.

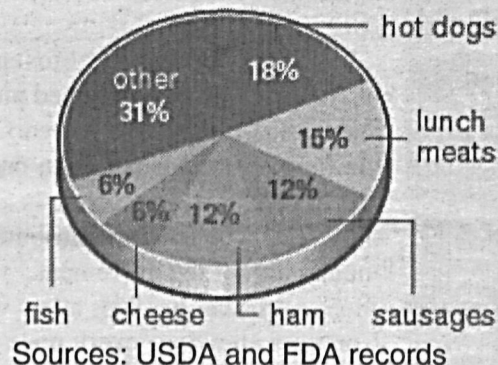
Prevention is better than a cure.
The CDC offers these tips for avoiding contamination:

- Thoroughly cook raw food from animal sources, such as beef, pork, or poultry.
- Wash raw vegetables thoroughly before eating.
- Keep uncooked meats separate from vegetables and from cooked foods and ready-to-eat foods.
- Avoid raw (unpasteurized) milk or foods made from raw milk.
- Wash hands, knives, and cutting boards after handling uncooked foods.
- Avoid soft cheeses such as feta, Brie, Camembert, blue-veined, and Mexican-style cheese. (Hard cheese, processed cheeses, cream cheese, cottage cheese, or yogurt need not be avoided.)
- Leftover foods or ready-to-eat foods, such as hot dogs, should be cooked until steaming hot before eating.

FOODS RECALLED FOR LISTERIA

Listeria monocytogenes can contaminate a wide range of foods. Nearly all recalls have involved ready-to-eat foods, which consumers are less likely to cook to a temperature that would kill the bacteria.

Here are the foods involved in listeria recalls between 1996 and 1999:



African Fraternity

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We are proudly and boldly, a fully functional African fraternity. A Brotherhood practicing the concept of African Fraternalism that embodies all cultures and embraces the desire to uplift all members of the African Diaspora. African-Americans, Latinos, Arabs, Asians, etc., are not Greek, so why use Greek letters to define ourselves? Continuing to follow this unfair and misrepresented template only denotes an unconscious (and sometimes conscious) inferiority complex of one's self and one's culture. This mentality has to change. With such knowledge, we should all begin to define ourselves accurately, as who we really are, with pride and work towards the liberation, education and self-determination of all oppressed people.

MALIK prides itself in being a fraternity of the people, devoid of any elitist mentality. We have an obligation to work side by side with our community to better lives and elevate the state of humanity. Among some of our projects on the national level are the *Reparations Awareness Movement* and the *NYC*

Community Service Initiative where MALIKs are organized throughout the NYC boroughs and are involved in educating, building, tutoring, organizing, and mentoring in their local neighborhoods/barrios ranging from the South Bronx, Harlem, to Bushwick. On the collegiate level, aside from the already monthly cultural workshops implemented, each MALIK chapter (Kingdom) has established a pro-active community service project specifically tailored to their school and surrounding community. And finally on the individual level, each MALIK man must carry out his life following the principles of *Keys of the Kingdom: Manhood Achievement, Leadership, Integrity, and Knowledge*. Each member aspires to live by these principles daily. Every Brother contributes to improve himself and to positively impact his surroundings and society in which he lives, "each one teach one".

The MALIK Fraternity has its headquarters in NYC and has chapters throughout New York State and has expanded to New Jersey and Virginia. The Fraternity counts among its membership the renowned African historian Dr.

Spoken Word Design Exhibition

Experience:
-The exhibits of the Instant Museum
-Talented Graphic Artists

Come Share your Poetry & Talent FREE

Guest Speaker: BABA Andrew Henderson, Community Activist

Topic: The Cultural Train to Freedom

**At: The City College & Convent Avenue
The North Academic Center
Aronow Theater
Harlem, NY**

Friday, December 13, 2002

Presented by:
The Designers Guild
Info: (212) 650-6516
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