

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

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A Medium For People of African Descent

December 2001

CITY COLLEGE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

IT'S OFFICIAL!

U.N. DECLARES SLAVERY A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY

*Reparations for Descendants of Enslaved
Africans to Follow*

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EDITORIALS

Let Us Not Forget

When we suffer from social amnesia, we forget the debt we owe to past and future generations –
Amos Wilson

The U.N. World Conference Against Racism officially declared 'slavery as a crime against humanity,' so Reparations for descendants of enslaved Africans should be soon to follow.

The theme for this issue is Reparations, which means 'to repair.' The American government and American people have shown, post-Sept. 11th, that they understand the need for innocent people to be repaired when their lives are altered from an outside evil. Well, Africa & African descendants need serious triage from slavery and colonialism.

If you understand the need for funds, allotments and institutions created to help the WTC victims, then you should be able to understand that almost 400 years of forced labor, lynching, poverty and imprisonment must be worth something.

We have outlined some of the issues surrounding reparations. Read these articles over the intersession to be informed when the Reparations debate escalates in the new year.

To discuss Reparations for the Black Holocaust, we must bring up slavery. Most African-Americans want to forget the institution of slavery and how it transformed and exists today. But

if we forget to bring it up, who will? But as Malcolm X says, "then again, some of you think you got here on the Mayflower."

We also have a new spiritual column reminding us that "Reparations Must Come From Within."

This was truly a challenging semester. City College witnessed a terrorist attack on the World Trade Center, a war in Afghanistan and the crash of Flight 587. Still, students, faculty and staff moved ahead.

The City College community came together during these difficult times. Muslim and Arab students came together after the terrorist attack to teach people about the misconceptions often associated with their cultures. The Dominican-American community came together to honor lives lost.

Even when we stood at ideological ends we came together for peaceful discussion: during a dynamic Teach-in on Oct. 2 and during a spontaneous debate in the NAC Rotunda on Oct. 13. Our students were attacked, our professors were attacked, our school was attacked, but we stuck together.

Now, less than two months since September 11th, holiday season begins, finals begin, the semester ends and we forget. We must not forget these historical events as we move forward. We must not forget the 7 million starving men, women and

children in Afghanistan as we focus on our studies and celebrate with our loved ones.

For those of you who celebrate Kwanzaa or wish to learn more, check out our culture column, "The History of Kwanzaa."

For CCNY News, we question if the FBI has been on campus, report on the tuition increase for undocumented students and show President Gregory Williams being honored in Harlem.

Also in this issue, a scholarship list and an open letter from an architecture student, showing our commitment to serving the student community. We encourage students to send us your letters, comments and of course, to join The Paper in the upcoming semester.

Fall 2001 has shown more student activity than prior semesters. There were a lot of events to promote culture and unity, but not enough activities addressing student issues, such as open admissions, budget cuts and Black Studies.

City College students have a tremendous responsibility, to follow the people who worked, during, before and after the 1969 Takeover, whose sacrifice and vision have given us these opportunities.

Let us not forget

Love, Peace & Struggle
Kahlil Almustafa

Special Editorial from The Campus Newspaper

Zyphus Lebrun
Editor-in-Chief
The Campus Newspaper

Saying that this semester has been turbulent would be an understatement. The events of September 11th rocked New York to its foundations and the consequent tragedy of the American Airlines flight 587 was another world shattering moment. We at The Campus would first like to express our condolences to anyone who may have lost a family member or friend in those incidents or was affected in any other way.

We too have had to deal with trying times at the student newspaper. Our old staff all graduated last year, leaving the paper with no writers. We were consequently

unable to put out an issue this semester. But, if there is anything to be learned from the events of the last few months is that there is always a moment when we must stop, take stock and rebuild. That is our goal at The Campus, to rebuild and be a better newspaper in the Spring 2002 semester.

We have put together a vibrant crew and we encourage interested writers from all departments to reach out to us with ideas. Our staff is composed of Fanny Betances, Vice President, Marlene Peralta, Treasurer and Tehron Freeman, Secretary. Our faculty adviser is Margaret Bates. Special thanks to Professor Jill Nelson and Professor Linda Prout.

While we join the rest of New York in rebuilding, I hope we keep in mind the need to build on stronger foundations. Despite

what New Yorkers have had to bear in the last few months, the city has shown a collective strength. There has been a unity and pride that overshadowed the usual scowling and stoicism of Gothamites. But of course there are those who fall to xenophobia and bigotry. I hope that we all have learned enough about the frailty of humanity since 9-11 to see that we are greater than that. I once read somewhere that the sole purpose of human existence was to kindle a light of meaning into the darkness of mere being. So now as the holidays draw near and we take stock. Let us all resolve to rebuild on stronger foundations, because sometimes there's no justice, there's just us.

Courage

The Paper

CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK
NAC RM. 1/118
138TH ST AND CONVENT AVE
NEW YORK, NY 10031
TEL# (212) 650-5029
FAX# (212) 650-5032

EMAIL:
THEPAPERCCNY@LYCOS.COM

ISSUE EDITORS:

KAHLIL ALMUSTAFA
SHERIA MCFADDEN
KELECHI ONWUCHEKWA

MEMBERS OF The Paper:

CLARE BROWN
CECILY CANADY
MALIK LEWIS
RHONKAE PETERS
KRISHAN TROTMAN
JONATHAN WILSON

COLUMNISTS:

AFRICAN DIASPORA - NSAGHA EFION
TECHNOLOGY - KAHLIL ALMUSTAFA
SPORTS - JUMEL CARLOS

PRESIDENT:

KAHLIL ALMUSTAFA

VICE PRESIDENT:

KELECHI ONWUCHEKWA

SECRETARY:

SHERIA MCFADDEN

TREASURER:

ALECIA EDWARDS-SIBLEY

SPECIAL THANKS TO HONORED ALUMNI OF The Paper:

SANDRINE DIKAMBI
SULAIMAN A. LAGUDA
DESA PHILADELPHIA
CHARLES POWELL
LOUIS REYES RIVERA
JAMES SMALL

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS:

LAURA BOWMAN
ZYPHUS LEBRUN
WAYNE PARCHEMAN
JOSEPH REGIS
GREGORY JOSEPH SINGLETARY
TEREHAS WALTERS

FACULTY ADVISOR:

HARRY P. MARS

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REPARATIONS

The Legal Legacy of White Supremacy

By Sheria McFadden

Have you ever wondered why African people never profited from the American dream?

According to Claud Anderson, author of *Black Labor/White Wealth*, it all began in 1643 with the birth of the Maryland Colony. White Europeans and Blacks lived side by side and with respect for one another. However, that would all change when the Maryland Colony issued a document that encouraged the separation of races, the "Doctrine of Exclusion," clearly stated that, "Neither the existing Black population, their descendants nor any other Blacks shall be permitted to enjoy the fruits of White society"

The Doctrine of Exclusion set the precedent for other laws supporting a system designed to keep land, money, and resources out of the hands of Africans. These laws were created during slavery and continued into post-slavery with the 1705 Slave Codes, the Dred Scott Case, and the "Jim Crow" Laws. The legal exclusion of the Black population and their descendants is the basis for Reparations for African-Americans.

SLAVE CODES

During the 17th century, slave masters could be brought before a court for the mistreatment of slaves.

In 1705, the Virginia General Assembly created the Slave Codes, a declaration that sealed the fate of Africans in America for generations to come. The Slave Codes *required all individuals, churches, businesses, organizations, schools, and all levels of government to teach, justify, and enforce the status of Blacks as "a subordinate, excluded, noncompetitive, non-compensated, managed work force for the personal comfort and wealth building of White society."*

DRED SCOTT CASE

In the 1850's the Supreme Court of the United States declared that African Americans were not U.S. citizens. This ruling came out of 1846 case called Scott vs. Stanford or better known as the Dred Scott case. Dred Scott, a slave living in St. Louis Missouri, sued to prove he and his family were legally entitled to their freedom. His claim was rejected by the U.S. Supreme Court. Chief Justice Roger Brooke Taney concluded that "Blacks are not included, and were not intended to be included, under the word "citizen" in the Constitution." He also said that, "Blacks were so inferior, that they had no rights which the White man was bound to respect."

HOMESTEAD ACT

Claud Anderson states that the

Homestead Act of 1862 represented America's largest great land policy. The government advertised free public land in Europe, granting 160 acres to anyone willing to work on the land for five years. This act remained in effect until 1900 and provided about 26 million White people, 400,000 to 600,000 families with homes and farms. By not extending the offer of land and resources to the newly freed slaves, they were prevented from gaining economic freedom. Many Blacks did not pursue the last minute opportunity because they were threatened.

These properties often remained in White families for generations, and their value was frequently augmented by additional government subsidies and tax advantages. This preferential treatment still exist for example, many White settlers obtained their land and resources from direct and indirect government homesteading assistance. When President Reagan entered office, he increased the Federal Price Support Program (Federal Aid for Farmers) from \$4 billion per year to \$57 billion per year. This program allowed Whites to accumulate a steady source of income that could be passed down for generations to come.

"JIM CROW" LAWS

From the 1880's to the 1960's, many states enforced segregation upon

Blacks through the "Jim Crow" Laws. These laws pertained to such areas as education, transportation, intermarriages, and child custody.

The most apparent case of Jim Crow Laws was Brown vs. Board of Education. The case argued that segregated schools convey a message to Black children that they are inferior to White children. In the case, Dr. Hugh W. Speer an expert witness testified that "if the colored children are denied the experience in school of associating with white children, who represented 90% of our national society in which these colored children must live, then the colored child's curriculum cannot be equal under segregation." Brown vs. Board of Education proved that White society purposely excluded Black children.

Why do African-Americans deserve reparations? According to Dr. Claud Anderson, "Slavery and the Jim Crow system mal-distributed 100% of the wealth, resources, privileges, businesses and control of all levels of government into the hands of the dominant White society." The spirit behind the Doctrine of Exclusion keeps the system of White Supremacy alive in America. Reparations can be the stake through the heart of White racism.

Economics of Reparations

By Kahlil Almustafa

The major issue surrounding the reparations discussion for Africans in America has been the 'paper,' 'the loot,' 'the cash,' the greenbacks,' 'the doe,' commonly called money. Most Black Americans believe that reparations, is about a check in the mail. Those familiar with reparations know that it is necessary to address the economic gap between Black and White Americans, created by the mal-distribution of wealth during and after slavery.

Africa is the richest continent on Earth. Europe was an impoverished continent before setting up a global system of enslavement in Africa. European nations benefited from selling Africans as chattel and related operations. According to Claude Anderson, author of *Black Labor, White Wealth*, "the world saw Blacks and their labor as sources of wealth - black gold."

During the 1700's, slave trad-

ing revenues expanded England's foreign trade by more than 700 percent and annual slave trade revenues averaged nearly \$5 million, which in today's dollars would be nearly \$50 billion annually. Slave trading and the related commercial activities were so lucrative that these activities alone elevated England from a poor nation to the single-most powerful nation in the world.

"Slavery, injustice and inequality are the three principle foundations of America."

Meanwhile the Western world developed from slave labor. According to Professor Leonard Jeffries, "Slavery, injustice and inequality are the three principle foundations of America."

The Constitution laid the legal foundation for the mal-distribution of

wealth, creating a gap between Black and White people in America. The Constitution gave slave owners the legal right to deny Blacks the benefit of their own labor. While Blacks were not benefiting from their own labor, White society was.

An essay by Earl Ofari Hutchinson, "Ten Reasons Why Considering Reparations as a Good Idea for Americans, and Horowitz Too" tells how "major institutions profited from slavery . . . insurance companies made profits insuring slaves as property. The insurance industry was not the only culprit. Banks, shipping companies and investment houses also made enormous profits from financing slave purchases, investments in Southern land and products, and the transport and sale of slaves."

Many African-Americans believe we have progressed in America since slavery, but that progress is an illusion. According to Anderson, "on the eve of the Civil

War, in 1865, records indicate that more than 50 percent of free blacks were paupers; all free blacks collectively held less than one-half of one percent of the nation's wealth. More than a century later, after the 1960's, known for progress for Blacks, still more than 55 percent of all the blacks in America are still impoverished and below the poverty line. And Blacks barely hold one percent of the nation's wealth."

"Out of all the wealth that slavery mal-distributed to the dominant White society, 87 percent is frozen," Anderson says, "that 87 percent shows up in their communities, churches, organizations, and schools. When a White child is born he will run into what he needs to succeed over and over again."

"The socioeconomic inequalities that existed between Whites and Blacks during and shortly after slavery are now structural." The wealth acquired by White families is passed

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REPARATIONS

Reparations Youth Conference

By Kelechi Onwuchekwa

City College played host to the Reparations and Mobilization Conference that took place between Nov. 2nd and 4th. Reports from the World Conference Against Racism (WCAR) formed the starting point for the conference. Several workshops dealing with the legacy of slavery, colonialism, and current resistance movements ran throughout the weekend. One of the workshops had to do with mobilizing youth into activism in the reparations movement.

The workshop was spurred on by several notable activists: Ron Gibbs, All-African People's Revolutionary Party; Onaje Muiid, Malcolm Shabazz Human Rights Institute and N'COBRA; Kenneth Williams, Undergraduate Student Government; Dave Daniels, December 12th Movement; and Rahima Patricia Sect., Lunetha Lancaster, Executive Secretary of USG, moderated the workshop. After introductions, Kahlil Almufasta, President of The Paper, kicked off the event with a rendition of his poem "Normal" with an added twist: a sarcastic lullaby aimed at President Bush. Following him was Tyrene Wright who kept the mood

with her rendition of "Pan-Africanism or Perish." Later, Professor M.A. Samad Matias was invited to speak, and she referred to these poems as a way that hip-hop culture can be used to better communities of color. In her words, "We're a sleeping, drugged and



Panel at the Reparations Youth Conference

Photo by Kelechi Onwuchekwa

alcoholic giant" that can be a force to deal with if well organized.

Dave Daniels of the December 12th Movement linked up youth movements to the international stage, focusing on the WCAR. He advised that the "code of conduct" in communities laid out by the late rap artist Tupac Shakur should guide the youth movement. He also advised that youth not be "pimped by politicians," espe-

cially at a time that "fascism is alive and well" and when the Sept. 11th attacks are being used as an excuse by the U.S. government to pass laws that may jeopardize their future and their communities.

Ron Gibbs of the A-APRP came out with a direct, pointed opinion: "The African Student has a mission to get people conscious." He advised that students of African descent "make every effort to make their fellow people see how resources support terrorism upon themselves." He also advised "there was 'no excuse' for any person of African descent to not be a part of an activist organization." He backed this argument by giving the statistic that only 1% of African people are part of an activist organization, a tell tale sign that a very small group of people are doing the work of fighting for the masses of Africans against increasingly hostile Western governments.

USG President Williams followed up Mr. Gibbs' argument by stating "no matter what type of African

you are, you're still part of the same oppression." He then went on to show how youth are programmed into thinking they amount to nothing in this globalizing world by explaining how African history is omitted from textbooks by a "racist political and social system." He went on to show how history is fixed so that European history will look more favorable than the history of the rest of the world, and later explained that African studies is the only discipline that reflects the struggle of the African mind (particularly that of students) to overcome such distortions.

Other activists came by this workshop and offered their input on ways youth can contribute to the reparations movement. Most of the advice was useful, but unfortunately there were very few people in attendance at the time. This was a disappointing fact, especially since youth had the most to gain from the advice being given would help them in their daily struggles. The advice would have been especially helpful for City College students, since topics like the laws being passed after Sept. 11th tie directly into the weakening of this school.

The Miseducation of the Negro

By Cecily Canady

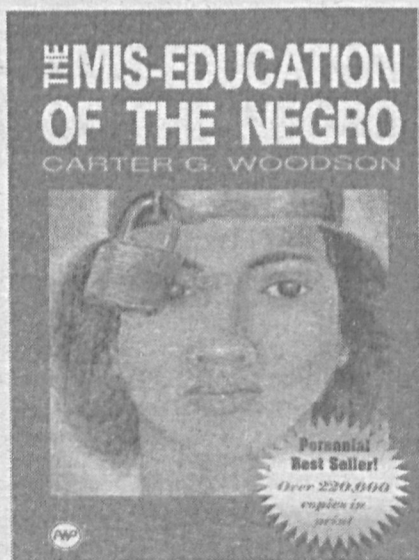
"When you control a man's thinking you do not have to worry about his actions. You do not have to tell him not to stand here or go yonder. He will find his 'proper place' and will stay in it. You do not need to send him to the back door. He will go without being told. In fact, if there is no back door, he will cut one for his special benefit. His education makes it necessary."

Carter G. Woodson an educator, historian and author of the Perennial Best Seller "The Miseducation of the Negro" tells the history behind the mind of the African-American. The title should sound familiar to many of us, the multi-platinum singer and songwriter Lauryn Hill was inspired to use the title on her 1998 album "The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill."

A captivating cover of a black woman with a shackle on her head explains the story so vividly of how 'the Negro' mind was trained to think. This

great image represents how the thinking of Blacks is to remain in the state of believing that they are inferior and preventing them from taking their rightful place as an important part of the World's history.

The prefix "mis" used in the



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title represents how much we missed in being educated about our culture and ourselves. The reason for our miseducation is because we were misunderstood, misjudged and misplaced by

a White race.

Education is an intellectual stimulant that allows people to become contributing, functioning members of society. This seems like it is a great advantage, but the education of African-Americans was used against us, not for our benefit. The primary purpose of educating Blacks was not to develop us but to transform us.

Woodson describes how the education system was developed to convince newly freed slaves that they were inferior. After slavery the educational system shifted from industrial to liberal. The areas of sciences, mathematics and literature were introduced. Students were denied learning about their own culture's contributions to these subjects. They did not study how Africans were a part of science, literature and the fine arts. Everything that was studied in school was of the European culture. Woodson states, "the thought of the inferiority of the Negro is drilled into him in almost every book he studies."

The technique used to educate the Africans after slavery has an effect on how we think today. Although this

book was written seventy years ago, the education system has not changed much. The history books are still filled with credit to the white race acknowledging Christopher Columbus with discovering America and Shakespeare as the greatest influence to literature, but the African culture has been denied their discoveries and influences.

Learning about the history of the African culture is usually gathered outside of the classroom yet, this culture has dedicated and given as much support in building this society as the European culture.

Carter G. Woodson also explains in depth about the position that Blacks have in politics, economics, leadership and business which all stem from how we are educated.

This book gives great insight into what is missing in the mind of African-Americans and it has great examples and concepts about education. In order for us to change our conditioned minds we must reevaluate our culture.

REPARATIONS

The Global History of Reparations

By Krishan Trotman

"Reparation is given to an injured party from the party who perpetrated the injury. Reparation is given to restore the party that has been wronged and is used to compensate for that loss. Reparation is used to restore the injured party to a place where he or she was before the wrongdoing. International law defines this as reparations. International law recognizes that those who commit crimes against humanity must make reparation."

Reparations has been embedded in international law throughout time and conflict. Governments receive reparations from other governments that have committed wrong acts. Art Serota, author of *Ending Apartheid in America* discusses the many acts of reparations awarded to victims of wrongdoing.

Germany, after great reluctance, was forced to pay reparations to the Jewish victims of the Holocaust. German reparations contributed to the Nation of Israel where many Jewish refugees went to live after World War II. They paid reparations after both

World War I and II. Germany's first reparation was to its neighbors and the second to the millions of people who had suffered.

The government of Poland approved reparations to those whose land, houses, and businesses were confiscated by the Polish government between 1944 and 1962. Reparations have been a part of international law so the violation of humanity would be accounted for.

The United States awarded reparations of \$20,000 per person and a formal apology to Japanese Americans who were kept captive because during World War II. The United States also paid reparations to Native Americans to repair broken treaties and stolen land. The Native Americans reparations came in the form of land and money, something that could never restore all the people who died and the near extinction of a culture.

After the Civil War, Rep. Thaddeus Stevens proposed a bill to give newly freed slaves 40 acres and a mule, but it was never passed. Even slaveowners were given compensation for loss of slaves in Britain, France, and in one American state.

Many have made efforts towards slavery reparation. In 1969 at the National Black Economic Development Conference, Black Manifesto, a church affiliated organization demanded reparations from White churches and synagogues in America. Serota mentions Lincoln's support of reparations for the newly freed slaves but Lincoln was assassinated before anything could be accomplished and the new President Andrew Jackson opposed it.

During the World War I era, in an attempt to attract Black voters, Republicans drafted a bill in 1890 to provide a small lifetime pension to be granted to any person who had been held as a slave. The bill failed but it helped make the people ready for Marcus Garvey and his 'Back to Africa' followers.

In the twentieth century Marcus Garvey argued for the independence from White colonial rule, especially from the U.S. government. Garvey urged reparations but in addition the construction of independent Black states in Africa.

Finally, reparations were awarded to the victims of the Rosewood Massacre of 1923. Rosewood was a Black township that was destroyed by a White riot. The

people of the town of Rosewood were compensated for the town's destruction and death of eight people. The Massacre of Rosewood was a product of slavery and the hardship it created for Black Americans.

The U.N. World Conference Against Racism, held in Durban, South Africa, August 21 through September 7 of 2001, declared 'slavery as a crime against humanity.' Therefore if slavery is a crime against humanity, why is there no talk of reparations for slavery? The crimes against humanity committed during slavery were equally as important as the Jewish Holocaust or Japanese American racist detention. Even the American government has received reparations. The United States received reparations from Iraq because of the Persian Gulf War and Iraq's interference with Kuwait.

With all this in mind, one must question the absence of discussion approving reparations for descendants of African slaves in America. An answer could have been found at the World Conference against Racism, but the U.S. withdrew early. Now that slavery has been declared a crime against humanity, which is a means for receiving reparations, the U.S. cannot run from the discussion any longer.

Making a Case for Reparations City by City

By Malik Lewis

In March of last year Chicago Alderman Dorothy Tillman (3rd Ward) introduced a resolution in the Chicago City Council to begin hearings to examine and devise an equitable method for the payment of reparations to people of African descent by the United States government.

Alderman Tillman's resolution came to a vote before the Chicago City Council on May 17, 2001, and won by an overwhelming margin of 46-1 in a city of more than 1.5 million Blacks.



City Council member Dorothy Tillman

The two-hour debate prior to the resolution's passing, blessed by Chicago Mayor Richard Daley, incorporated voices from both the Black and White community in the spirit of "racial healing". However, in spite of the resolution's unwavering support in the City Council, the Chicago initiative has not avoided the criticism of some members of the press, and society at large.

Much of the attack on reparations in this instance hinges on a statement made by Alderman Carrie Austin (34th Ward), also of Chicago, who said in the weeks following the City

Council vote. "I want 40-acres a mule and a Lexus."

Columnists like John McCarron of the Chicago Tribune have taken such an opportunity to seize on this issue and discredit the discussion of reparations as being inherently unrealizable in today's

America where middle class Whites feel no culpability for the atrocities of the transatlantic slave trade, and bourgeois Blacks would rather realize the pastoral American dream, than revisit the not-so-distant American nightmare.

That is less a justification for putting reparations back on the shelf than it is a reason to push further.

In the process of pushing the Chicago resolution Black intellectuals from all over the nation were consulted including Randall Robinson author of "The Debt: What America Owes to Blacks", Dr. Wade Nobles, President of the National Black Psychologists, and City College's own Prof. James

Small and Dr. Leonard Jeffries.

The unsettling process of describing the brutal nature of American slavery left many in the Chicago City Council in tears, and moved one White councilman to issue an impromptu, albeit unsatisfactory apology.

Supporters of the Chicago resolution don't seek the apology of individual whites, although their emotional understanding of the crime of transatlantic slavery is key to this process; they seek the apology of the United States government.

To that end Dorothy Tillman and others support Congressman John Conyers' HR-40 bill, which brings the reparations discussion to the national level. This positive political energy has also spread across the nation to other big cities.

On April 4, 2001 a New York City Council candidate Charles Barron mounted a downtown demonstration near the African burial grounds on Duane and Reade Streets with the help of the Descendants of the African Burial Grounds, N'Cobra, and Sankofa Roots of CCNY, asserting that, "slavery wasn't just a Southern atrocity; New York City had its own brand of legal chattel slavery."

In his hand, candidate Barron

carried a resolution he wished to give to the then speaker of the New York City Council, Peter Vallone, which in both form and spirit echoed the Tillman resolution that succeeded in Chicago.

Make no mistake, the reparations movement was an uphill battle before September 11th. In today's social and political climate such talk is considered subversive. It will take a more steely resolve than ever to see this struggle to the end.

Challengers will also strengthen their position as one New York Times journalist, Brent Staples, did in a September 2001 article in which he argued that the reparations movement encourages the "rhetoric of victimhood" while obscuring the extraordinary achievements of people of African descent in America.

Opponents of the reparations movement fear it for all the obvious reasons: it's too expensive; it's too late; it's too vague. These concerns are the product of a mind afraid to be free and self-actualized. Evidence of our victimization is not found in the horrific accounts we retell of American slavery, but in our unwillingness to do so.

REPARATIONS

Slavery Never Ended

By Jonathan Wilson

We are not free. In the Thirteenth Amendment, Section I of the U.S. Constitution, it states, "Neither Slavery nor involuntary servitude except as a punishment for a crime where of the party shall be duly convicted, shall exist in the United States or any other place subject to their jurisdiction."

If a person is convicted and sentenced of any crime the government can legally contract them to work for little or no pay. According to Section II of the amendment, "Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation," the terms of conditions of that work is also left up to the government. These two sections of the Thirteenth Amendment have given rise to the slave labor used inside the modern prison system or the Prison Industrial Complex (PIC).

During Slavery, the vast wealth of our country was built on the backs of Africans who were compen-

sated with minimal food, clothes and shelter in exchange for loss of culture, disintegration of the family structure and inhumane work hours. This free labor in addition to free land and free resources accounted for the high level of agricultural production which our free enterprise was founded on.

After the abolition of slavery, newly freed Africans were left to function in an institutionalized racist society. Safiya Bandele, who is featured in a prison documentary, "No More Bars/Extended Embraces," says, "in 1866 they invented laws, such as 'no standing on the corner' to ensure that slavery would continue. So prior to 1865, there were no penitentiaries for Black people because Slavery was the large penitentiary. After 1865 they invented laws, such as 'no standing on the corner.'"

During the 1980's the advances that people of color made were drastically cut back. During a national recession, the Supreme Court and the Federal Government began slashing low-income housing, job

training and welfare, creating a wave of crime and drug infested communities. The answer to the problem became clear, paint poverty with a racial brush and change legislation to single out people of color with mandatory minimum sentences and drug laws.

While 80% of drugs user are White, 80% of those convicted of drug offenses are African-American. For every White man incarcerated there are seven African-American men locked up. This 1 to 7 ratio is extremely troubling, considering that there 75% of White Americans compared to 12% of African-Americans, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Funds are spent on building prisons instead of other proactive strategies to decrease the rate of incoming prisoners. Ruth Wilson Gilmore, professor of Geography at UC Berkley says, "California has spent more than \$5 billion building and expanding more than 23 prisons in the last 20 years, while only one new university has been built from the

ground up."

Private Prisons are the new frontier of slave labor, becoming the hottest commodity on Wall Street Corporations such as Victoria's Secret, Starbucks, Mecca, IBM, Chevron, Compaq and Microsoft, contract below minimum wage penal workers being paid (between 30 to 95 cents an hour before reductions) to assemble their product. In 1998, private prisons boasted over 60,000 inmates in over 68 locations in the U.S., Puerto Rico and the U.K. with a 58% increase in revenue from \$293 million to \$462 million.

The same type of individuals that benefited economically from enslaving African people are now reaping the spoils of legalized slavery, 21st century style. If we continue to allow these injustices to continue, then perhaps there will not be anyone left to tell you about it. Slavery never ended, they just replaced your slave name with a penal identification number.

Zimbabwe Moves Toward Self-Determination

By Malik Lewis

If you don't know anything about the Zimbabwe Democracy Economic Recovery Act of 2000, don't consider yourself uninformed; most Americans don't. In fact, if you know very little about the history of Zimbabwe you are no worse off than your average U.S. senator; or so it seems.

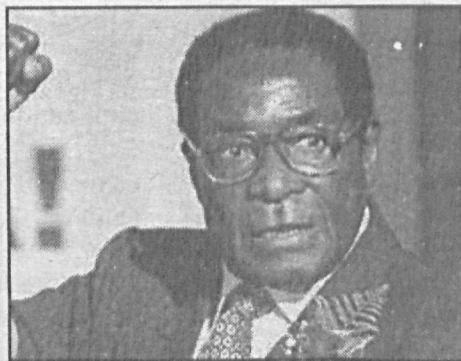
On everyone's mind, but noticeably missing from the realm of public debate is the issue of reparations. The question of whether or not black Africans can finally own their own land, and shape their own governments.

The ZDERA (Zimbabwe Democracy Economic Recovery Act) was authored in part by Senator Hilary Rodham Clinton (D-NY) to address the growing economic crisis in the nation of 11 million, and the "totalitarian" rule of president Robert Mugabe, who's regime has endured since independence in 1980.

In no uncertain terms the act requires that the rule of law and free press be restored; British observers monitor future elections; the "land redistribution" campaign pushed by president Mugabe be abandoned; and all military support in nearby Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo be suspended. In exchange for

compliance the United States offers in excess of \$200 million in grants to encourage democratic stability and economic growth.

Likewise the IMF and World Bank, based on their own subjective standards, will determine to what degree Zimbabwe's \$4.1 billion accrued debt may be deferred.



President Mugabe Photo courtesy of BBC News

The conditions of ZDERA make Zimbabwe's slip back into minority white domination virtually inevitable. In an effort not to make Zimbabwe's history its future, Mugabe has organized a rally in Washington D.C. for October 30th to prevent the act's passage in the House of Representatives.

From a not so removed history of British colonization, Mugabe has attempted to return his country to its pre-colonial state through land redistribution, removing mostly White cap-

italist farmers from their vast technologically advanced tobacco plantations, and replacing them with impoverished Black subsistence farmers.

At present 4,400 Whites own 70% of the most arable agricultural land, with roughly one million out of 11 million Blacks owning the last third.

Mugabe's land reform policy has so far bought 50 White owned farms to be divided between half-a-million Black families. But critics of the ZANU-PF party claim many more farms have been appropriated through military coercion, and bureaucratic corruption. These and other charges against Mugabe are at the core of the ZDERA act which by its passing implies that the United States does not respect the right of African nations to reclaim their ancestral birthright of land.

Tony Blair, Prime Minister of the once colonizer of Zimbabwe, Great Britain was quoted as saying about the ZANU-PF regime, "there will be no more excuses for dictatorship and abuses of human rights."

If that irony eluded you, President Bush, who was elected following what may become the most irregular election in American history, will be ultimately responsible for judging the "fairness" of the 2002 presidential election in Zimbabwe in com-

pliance with ZDERA.

If that isn't enough consider America's relation to England not two and a half centuries ago, and how time makes all the difference.

Public perception in America is that Mugabe's tenure has been shrouded in secrecy, mired in inefficiency, and drowned in failure. But for a people that have had to fight for every right they now enjoy, any alternative would be unthinkable.

The official position of the ZANU-PF is that land redistribution is the right and duty of any ruling party. They also feel that the bulk of the nation's debt amassed before independence should be expunged, and aid from the U.S. should be unconditional.

When compared to the billion-dollar tobacco, cotton, and gold industries of mostly White capitalists in Zimbabwe annually, that's a small demand to make. In the end, after America's experience with colonization, independence, and civil rights it's hard to believe that they could be so misdirected in their worldview. Either our legislators are ignorant to African history and struggle, or they simply don't care. If the conference in Durban this year is any indicator of our government's outlook, it's easy to see which is more accurate.

CCNY NEWS

The Crash of Flight 587: Its effects on CCNY's Dominican population

By Kelechi Onwuchekwa

Much has been said about the way the tragedy that took place on November 12th has hurt the Belle Harbor neighborhood of Far Rockaway, a neighborhood still grieving over the loss of several of its residents to the terrorist attacks on the WTC. There has also been much speculation over the ways the jumbo jet carrying 262 passengers never made it past the Jamaica Bay refuge, from the so-called "wake turbulence" to the possibility of a terrorist sabotage. Yet, there have been only a few stories done on the effects this tragedy had on New York's Dominican-American population.

The crash has profoundly affected the Dominican-American students here at City College. There are several students who have lost loved ones or who knew people who have lost loved ones on that flight. As a result, several community and aid organizations such as the American Red Cross and Alianza Dominicana have come down to the college to provide grief counseling for students. A makeshift candlelight memorial with poster boards listing the passengers on the flight was set up in the Lewishon (NAC) plaza so students can see and gauge the impact of the tragedy, if not search to see if anyone they knew was on the flight. In addition, the C.C.N.Y. Dominican Studies Institute worked in conjunction with the college and community groups to set up a memorial

service on campus on December 4th.

There are a number of Dominican-American students here at City College who are pleased that the community organizations are working to help them cope with the tragedy, but there is also the feeling that more can be done. However, in the words of one student I spoke to, Wilfredo, "Enough is enough. There's not much more they

can do, especially with families already in the Dominican Republic."

There is frustration and anger at the way that some of the community leaders and politicians have handled the situation. "I didn't see Guiliani and other leaders go to people's houses and try to comfort them," in the words of Carlos, a student in one of my classes. Others shared

the same sentiment, such as Yesenia Herate, the President of LAESA-SHPE, who said that "others should be leading, especially those from the Dominican Republic. That way, there would be more trust between them and the community." There are a few, however, who are willing to give local leaders the benefit of the doubt. Take Nelcida, who speculated that the leaders "may still be waiting for results from the investigation."

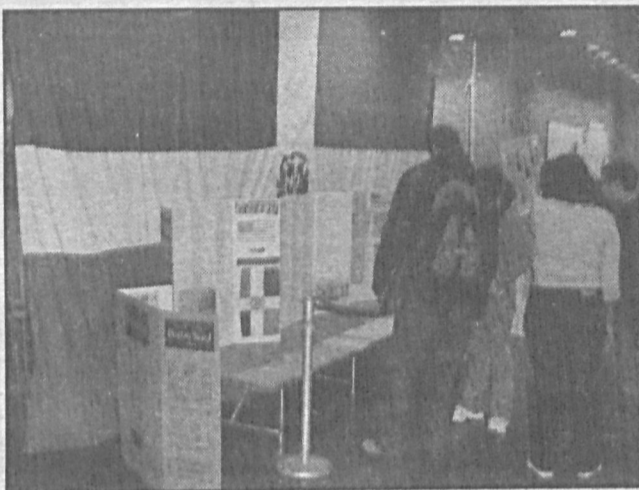
The investigation itself has become the subject of controversy among the Dominican-American stu-

dent population. Maria, a student in one of my classes who lost loved ones on the flight, commented unfavorably on one of the theories: "the 'bird in the engine' theory threw me off." Other students were more disgusted by the investigation. Wilfredo said that the NTSB did "a poor job. How can you believe that the engine would just fall off the plane, especially due to a

because there were minorities on the plane. All the focus was on the ground victims and the firefighters at ground zero who used to live there."

American Airlines, who has the disgrace of losing three jets in as many months (two of which were involved in the 9-11 attacks), was reported to have offered free flights for the victim's families back to the Dominican Republic for burial. There are mixed feelings among the students concerning this. Maria, for example, feels that American Airlines made this gesture, "so that it could regain its reputation." Sosa, a student who lost a friend on the flight, said that American's gesture was "a way of coping out, a way of putting a price on lives." Yesenia of LAESA-SHPE saw it differently; the actions of American Airlines were "obligatory."

The sense of community has definitely increased since the crash. When walking along Broadway, one can see flags of the Dominican Republic flying from traffic lights, light poles, balconies, and storefronts. There is a candlelight memorial dedicated to the victims of the tragedy on every other block. In conversation, solidarity with the passengers is expressed, like that between Beverly Garrido of S.A.M.E. TV and myself: "All my people were on that flight. The whole community was affected." The sense of community and feelings for the families of the victims can be summed up best with these words from Maria: "My condolences."



Memorial Display on NAC Rotunda

Photo by Kelechi Onwuchekwa

pigeon flying into it? There's something more." Some students would go so far as to say that because of the racial makeup of those on the plane, the investigation would not be as thorough as that of the 9-11 attacks. Take Carlos again, who stated, "There will probably not be a probe, unless there were White folks on the plane." Karen Hernandez, another official of LAESA-SHPE, commented on the lack of media attention to the investigation, "There was either very little or no media attention. That's probably

President Williams Honored in Harlem

By Sheria McFadden

Under seriating music, dim lights, candles and clear glass the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce celebrated its "1st 2001 End of the Year Reception" and the grand reopening of the "Green House" at the Terrace In The Sky restaurant in Harlem. Senator David Patterson and Congressman Charles B. Rangel hosted the event. The evening's honorees were President Gregory H. Williams and newly elected N.Y. Comptroller William Thompson.

Many of Harlem's top business people joined in the festivities. Like Lloyd Williams President/CEO of the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce, Inez Dickens of Lloyd Dickens and Company, Luther Gatling, of Budget Credit Counseling



Compt. Thompson, Pres. Williams, Sen. Patterson and Luther Gatling
Photo by Sulaiman Laguda

Services, Paul Williams of 100 Black Men and Anderson Glover, Sector Manager for Remy Amerique, the sponsor for the event. President Williams received an official welcome from Senator David Patterson and

other members of the Harlem Community.

On behalf of the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce, Paul Williams, Inez Dickens and Luther Gatling presented President Williams and William Thompson with a captain's clock, as a representation of their new titles.

In his remarks, President Williams said that, "While growing up in Indiana his father told him of the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920's and he never imaged that he would be a part of the history of the second Harlem Renaissance."

The event made host to a

pledge campaign for the Vulcan Society and the Black fire fighters lost in the World Trade Center tragedy on 9/11. The donations collected will go to the families and loved ones of the fire fighters.

The Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce is an association comprised for leaders from business and civic organizations that are committed to the improvement and prosperity of the Harlem community. In addition to sponsoring the famed "Harlem Week" and the Harlem Jazz and Music Festival activities, the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce sponsors education seminars, charitable functions, cultural events and networking opportunities.

CUNY NEWS

9-11 Backlash Affects Immigrant Students

By Kahlil Almustafa

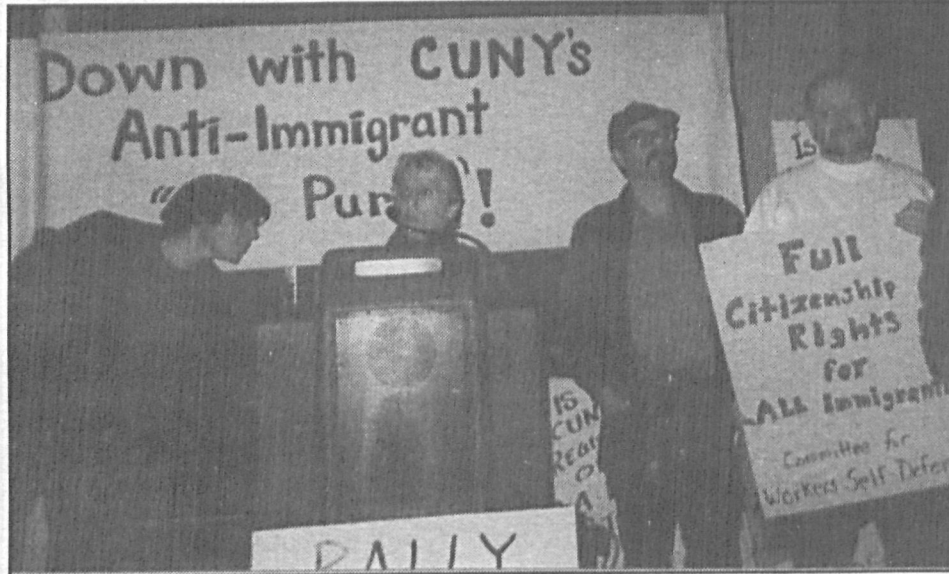
Wednesday, November 28 – A couple of hundred students gathered outside Hunter College to protest tuition hikes in CUNY. Students in CUNY have been receiving letters from their Registrar informing them of a tuition increase for undocumented immigrant students from \$1,600 to \$3,400 per semester effective Spring 2002.

The CUNY General Counsel Frederick Schaffer made a determination that CUNY was not in compliance with the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Act of 1996. The law suggests that a public university could not treat undocumented immigrants as New York State residents for the purpose of tuition if it does not offer the same lower rate of tuition to U.S. citizens or documented immigrants who are not New York State residents.

CUNY's mission toward immigrants, like America's, has supposedly been to produce self-reliant individuals who positively contribute to society. CCNY Psychology Professor Bill Crain said the change in policy is "a betrayal against everything CUNY stands for, a betrayal against its mission to provide opportunity for poor and immigrant students to get an education they could not otherwise afford."

CUNY has not officially linked the tuition increases to the September 11th terrorist attack or the

current economic recession, but it follows a recent surge of anti-immigrant sentiment and practices. On October 31 in the New York Times, Senator Frank Padavan told CUNY allowing "illegal immigrants" to study at CUNY was a "national security" issue



Hunter College Protest

photo by Kahlil Almustafa

and "an insult to every U.S. citizen."

Immigrant students make up between 10 and 15 percent of the CUNY student population, according to Gnoleba Seri, Director of the CCNY Immigrant's Center. Approximately five percent of those students are undocumented. CCNY Professor Bill Crain says the estimated 173 City College students affected is actually closer to three-to-four hundred. He states the CUNY-wide estimate of 2,800 students is probably also significantly higher. Thousands of immigrant

students who are currently attending High School will be affected in the Fall 2002 semester.

In an information session held in the NAC Ballroom, Jim McGovern, Director of CCNY International Student & Scholar Services, warned

students that not everyone who received a letter has to pay the increased tuition. The specification for undocumented students is still unclear. Alan Wernick, chair of the University Citizenship and Immigration Program, says that undocumented students include students who have overstayed their VISA, are working without approval or are illegally present. The Immigrants' Center has been advocating to expand the definition of undocumented students to include students who have files pending.

There are alternatives CUNY could pursue to comply with this federal immigration law without the tuition increase.

Prof. Crain said, "that the law could be interpreted to mean that undocumented students can obtain in-state tuition on the basis of attending and graduating from an in-state high school. Both California and Texas apply this interpretation."

CCNY Professor Walter Daun said, "the law apparently requires [that] undocumented immigrants be treated no better than American citizens, so lower the tuition of American citizens who are out-of-state." Money lost out-of-state students will be offset by increased enrollment.

There is one piece of good news. Any documented or undocumented students that have been a New York State resident for at least one year are eligible for in-state tuition for this current semester. Students can find out if they are eligible for tuition reimbursement at The Immigrants' Center before the end of the Fall 2001 semester.

Students can go to The Immigrants' Center located in NAC 1/206 or call (212) 650-6620 for confidential counseling. Students may also contact Allen Wernick at (212) 502-2904 or visit www.cuny.edu and click CUNY ALERT. Professor Crain has also extended help to students. You can contact him at (212) 650-5650.

BMCC and CUNY in Harms Way

Special to The Paper
By Wayne Parcheman
Editor-in-Chief

Voice of the Voiceless, BMCC

Not since the rally days of anti-apartheid movements in the early eighties around campuses in New York, or the cuts in the late nineties has there been a need for a serious counterstrike. BMCC and CUNY are in serious peril, for Mayor (glad he's going) Guiliani and Governor (he has no clue) Pataki are condemning the City University of New York to fast and expedient death. The tragedy of September 11 has left us with pain and grief as we lost many loved ones but it also left us with serious fiscal problems. According to the Mayor, New York City is broke (yes the financial giant of the world is broke! According to him) and he has instituted a 15% budget cut across the board on every city agency. As (I hope) you know,

CUNY is a city agency and that means we stand to lose close to 19.2 million dollars.

BMCC has endured its share of struggles since the fight to get the school built in Tribeca (because to be honest, this community did not want it here), to the 11 day closing of the school by conscientious students who had enough of the massive cuts being imposed by New York State. Now this struggle is being shared by our fellow CUNY brothers and sisters and we must fight back!!! CUNY is an institution made up of intellectual minded students studying and working together to make New York City a better place to be educated in. We are still a respected community and deserve to not only keep CUNY open but expand it as well. The disaster on Sept. 11 has crippled BMCC, for we lost Fiterman Hall, a satellite building three blocks away in which classes for 400 were being held, housed a bio-lab that

employed 3,400 and was a \$22.5 million gift. We here at the college are forced to build classrooms that take at least 60% of criteria space and 90% of space from the student hall.

Classes are being conducted in trailers outside of BMCC, the gym and the weight room. To add insult to injury counselors once available at the beginning of Oct. 1 to help traumatized and grief stricken students are being laid off till the school can afford to bring them back. Chancellor Goldstein had once stated that every president of CUNY colleges is responsible for the fundraising of their institution, so now Pres. Perez of BMCC along with the Faculty are asking students to get involved and help raise 300 million dollars. If you plan on registering for classes this spring semester, then plan on taking them at City College (whom I want to thank for their support), 136th and Convent Ave

in Harlem. If you plan to register online, forget it because Verizon is giving our telephone lines to businesses that need them.

As you see BMCC and CUNY colleges will be affected some way or the other, so we realize that this affects EVERYONE!! The good news though is we can stop the slaughter of our budget if we build together a grass roots organization that will get students to rally against budget cuts to CUNY. Already the Voice of the Voiceless and the SGA of BMCC are working together to alert students CUNY-wide the necessity of their involvement.

To my brothers and sisters at City College (especially The Paper) you have been the example of the word led fight against oppression and I commend you for that. To my other CUNY institutions, Get on the Bus and join the Fight!!!! Peace and Love.

CCNY NEWS

Has the FBI Been to CCNY?

By Kahlil Almustafa

Early in November, The Paper was startled when we were contacted with information that the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) requested and received confidential student information. The source says the FBI came on campus, requested and received student records for Chemical Engineering majors and students of Arab descent. The impassioned source went on to say that they saw the documents with their own eyes.

Timothy Hubbard, head of CCNY security said, "no student information has passed on through him or anyone in his office." Mr. Hubbard said "the FBI has not contacted him or any of his CUNY security colleagues so he must dispel it as a rumor." He states any personal student information given out would have to go through a process, including a court

order. Members of The Immigrants' Center also said they have not been contacted.

Changes to U.S. Patriot Act, passed shortly after 9/11, reduced the need for subpoenas and court orders to obtain personal records, detain or deport suspects, eavesdrop on Internet communication, monitor financial transactions and obtain electronic records of individuals.

An article from The Chronicle of Higher Education, on October 12, stated lawmakers were adding student-privacy protections to proposed legislation. "The new provisions further limit who can request confidential student records, require those officials to get a judge's permission to view those records, indicate generally how the information from students' files may be used, and add legal protections for individuals and institutions who turn over the records."

Students should be aware that

there has been a trend at more than 200 campuses, including Columbia University, of administrators handing over foreign students' file to the FBI and Immigrant Naturalization Service. George Hill, the Registrar of Auburn University at Montgomery, handed over a list of about 89 foreign students and their countries of origin the morning of September 11th.

College administrators are not liable if they pass on records to the FBI. The Department of Education advised college administrators that they could provide the data without breaching the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The FERPA, which is commonly known as the Buckley Amendment, prevents colleges from releasing students' personal information without their written permission.

Lindsey Kozberg, an Education Department spokesperson

said several colleges have contacted the department for guidance after being approached by law-enforcement authorities who were investigating the terrorist attack.

Under normal conditions, a subpoena would have to be obtained in order to get student information, however numerous colleges said subpoenas have not been used.

Jim McGovern, CCNY International Student and Scholar Services said, "since City College is a law-abiding institution and it must conform with the law, if we are contacted by federal authorities, we will release student information." Mr. Hubbard made a similar statement.

Most CCNY students, faculty and staff are aware of the rumors. Many students are concerned. We call on the City College administration to officially address these concerns.

Letter to Architecture Dept.

To: Professor Lance Brown, School of Architecture, Chairman CCNY

From: Gregory Singletary

Dear Professor Brown,

It was my expectation, after relocating to New York from Texas, to study architecture at one of the nationally recognized institutions of higher learning. It was my expectation, upon registering for my first classes, to be trained in an environment adequately equipped with the necessary tools of learning (desks, chairs, lockers/storage space). It was also my expectation to bear witness to an administrative body sympathetic to the quality of student life at its campus and willing to move toward the resolution of problematic areas. So then, imagine my reaction, after spending a significant amount of time on campus, when I realized the shortcomings of the school, and the administrative body's seemingly apathetic and/or lethargic responses to student grievances.

My focus is on the quality of the learning environment of the City College School of Architecture. The beginning weeks of both fall and spring semesters were spent scavenging for and "borrowing" drafting tables suitable for use... tables provided by the college, most of whose tops are delaminated, missing vinyl, riddled with deep gouges and/or drill holes, or completely detached from the body of the table itself. If manual drafting skills are indeed part of the training for architecture and landscape architecture majors, having adequate

tables on which to draft will improve the output of these students. I am not of the opinion that the only resolution to this problem is the purchase of completely new tables. A more economical solution would be the refurbishment of the tables we currently possess.

The second grievance has to do with storage space. The School of Architecture subscribes to the belief that the output of its students belongs exclusively to the school. While I vehemently disagree, I have to wonder at how student projects are stored, and where. Lockers and shelves for student projects are in comically short supply. The results, of course, are damage to projects unable to be stored in lockers, and the dangerous build-up of student projects in architecture organizations' small offices—a fire hazard. If the belief that student projects belong to the school is indeed true—and I shall challenge that even after I have passed through graduation—there should be a permanent gallery for these projects, or at the very least, enough lockers and shelves in/on which to store them.

The school must be commended for its recruitment and retention of highly qualified faculty members. However, in order to regain its recognition as the "poor man's Harvard," it must focus on the quality of its current student's learning environment. Just try to convince a candidate to attend City College by telling them that drafting is done with your vellum taped to the floor, and projects

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Interns Speak

By Kahlil Almustafa

On Thursday, October 18th, eight City College students spoke about their summer experience while interning in Washington DC and New York. The students were part of the eight week long Rosenberg/Humphrey Program in Public Policy that has sent



CCNY Intern Students Speak photo by Kahlil Almustafa

over 130 CCNY students interning in an extensive and diverse list of agencies in NY and DC. Students interned in the offices of Senator Hillary Clinton, Representative Charles Rangel, the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the National Urban League, and several other governmental and non-governmental agencies. Ray Ann Farris, an economics major, told students that the Rosenberg/Humphrey staff helped her choose the program that would benefit her most. All the students echoed her remarks about the support provided from the staff.

The CCNY students' responsibilities went well beyond faxing letters and getting coffee. The students attended press conferences and

Congressional hearings, performed extensive research, aided constituents, presented presentations and wrote reports. Nsagha Efiom, an Urban Legal Studies Major, gave a presentation about the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Africa. She helped her group, the Constituency For Africa, prepare for the World Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa. Aline Solange Santos, an International Studies Major, considered herself "Assistant Researcher" instead of an intern. Fariha Khaliq, a Computer Science major, redesigned the Subcommittee on Government Efficiency's Hearings web page during her internship. The students also met important people and made connections with key people in their respective fields. Oscar Warren Hunter, a Political Science major, got to meet former President Bill Clinton as well as Senator Hillary Clinton, during his internship in her office.

Students spoke about the pleasure and challenge of working with other interns from schools such as Yale, Harvard and Columbia. In fact, they had no problem holding their own amongst the other interns. Igor Povolotskiy, an Urban Legal Studies major, was awarded the Arnold Aronson Fellowship, given to the most promising intern.

Most of the students stayed in a dorm at George Washington University. Magundo Touray, another International Studies major, enjoyed

continued on page 13

POETRY

STILL WE MUST RISE

*(In Continuation of Maya's Ode)*by: *Laura Y. Bowman*

We will drown
 In the waters of God's spiritual sea
 If we fail to own up to
 Who we have come to be.
 We must
 Rise to meet the expectations of the uni-
 verse
 Rise to meet our genius
 Rise to meet our creativity
 Our spiritual heredity
 Rise to meet the Blue Print of our souls
 No Longer can we afford to wallow
 In the dank, murky waters of past despairs
 Give way to hatred, hopelessness and fear
 We must ride the wave of change
 Release the blame
 To Constantly call out the dominator's
 name
 Allows him like a star
 To rise in fame.
 We no longer have time to graze
 In the pastures of anger or hate
 It's time to fulfill our own destiny
 Claim our blessed fate.
 We must now affirm who we are
 And have always been
 A people who have always
 risen above adversity
 Triumphed in the face of tragedy.
 It's time for us to do more
 Than just survive.
 We must now move
 towards self mastery,
 Succeed in this we will
 For God is our ally.
 We must allow the God within
 To illuminate our path
 Show us what is to be done
 How best our battles in life
 Are to be won.
 Before there was earth
 there was "Spirit."
 We are the first breaths of God
 We are the people of "Spirit"
 "Spirit" is coming to teach
 When "Spirit" speaks we must listen.
 We must go inside
 To the seat of our a priori knowledge
 Contact our higher selves
 Use our innate, intuitive ability,
 Re-connect to our dormant telepathy
 Continue the pursuit of excellence
 Live life through our integrity
 Only godliness will keep us alive

Without his energy
 This world will not survive.

On earth,

We were the first to give praise to God
 To recognize our divine connection
 To God's perfection.
 We break this blessed chain
 If we do not claim
 Who we are.
 Within darkness shines the brightest light
 Thus it is time to ignite
 The flame of God within our hearts
 We have withstood the test of time
 Must leave behind
 The pain lessons brought
 Live by what they taught,
 That we can never be separate from God.
 The universe is all one.
 There is no separation
 Thus the laws of correspondence
 Govern all reparations.
 If we are reach the visions in God's eyes
 Still must we rise.

SHHH, BEHAVE...OUT OF LOVE

by *Jonathan Wilson*

The FBI killed my cousin
 and the pigs told me to behave.
 Youth burned in the flames of progress
 and the pigs told me to behave
 Malik shot in his back 7 times
 and the pigs told me to behave
 Gloc 9 shoved in my mouth
 and the pigs told me to behave
 Souls are eaten daily in the name of the
 beast
 and the puppet said shhh
 Baby's arms severed for diamonds
 and the puppet said shhh
 The voice of the voice less sits on death row
 for more than twenty years with dignity
 and the puppet said shhh
 The suckerboy oil prince stole our country
 and the puppet said shhh
 The last straw broke the people's backs
 And
 they
 hanged
 the
 king
 and the pigs
 and the puppets
 were never seen again.

DON'T CHOKE ON THE WISH
BONEby *Jonathan Wilson*

consume
 consume
 consume
 follow the herd
 never mind if what you been told is a two
 thousand year old lie
 to blind the eye
 and deafen the brain
 who you think benefits when we hooked
 on baking powder based cocaine?
 this a slave mainframe
 complete with concrete minimum wage
 plantations
 and stolen names
 so why not cop some new jordans for a lit-
 tle block fame
 eat some mcdonalds to ease the pain
 wash it down with a mouthful of escalate
 range rover created acid rain
 so who remains to call out the demons of
 our world
 rockefeller, whitney, ford, rothschild, bush,
 hitler
 remember who so graciously saved the sav-
 ages with
 small pox in blanket thank you notes
 try not to forget
 our racist president's grandpa
 did business with the nazis
 then smuggled them to the west
 to help the destiny of evil manifest
 so what's next?
 don't believe the hype that killed Radio
 Raheem
 the type that cursed Amadou Diallo
 with 41 hollow tip amerikkkan dreams
 revolt against the follow follow
 wake up out the dream you lived since birth
 recognize its been war...
 all the time

KILLERS OF YOU

By *Sheila Robinson*

Abortions are legalized,
 but not televised,
 so you can visualize
 those being victimized.
 What makes you say "okay"
 to end a life that way.
 How can you dare to pay -
 'Killers of YOU!'

THE HARLEM COMMUNITY

Africana Age: Exhibit on African triumphs on display at the Schomburg

by Rhonkae Peters

The current exhibition of the same title Africana Age: African and African Diasporan Transformations in the 20th Century is the last exhibition of the yearlong celebration of the 75th anniversary of The Schomburg Center.

The museum space is lined with more than 350 photograph images accompanied by documents and artwork from the Schomburg's research collection. The complete exhibit spans two floors.

Africana Age is a culmination of the Schomburg's mission: to collect, preserve, and provide access to the public history of the global African experience. Spanning from 1880 to 1999, this showing gives a human face to the events in African

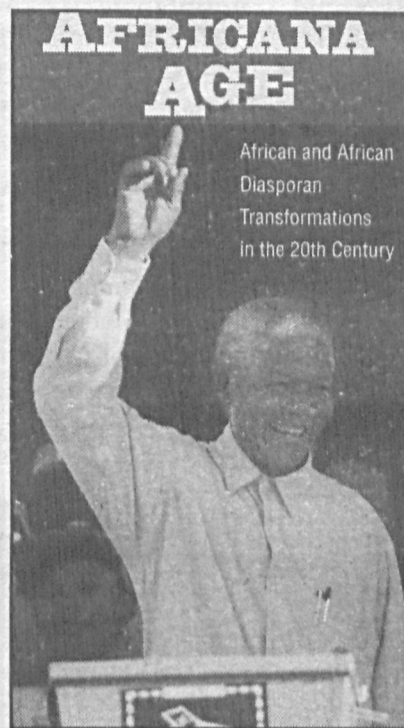
history. It educates, and enlightens.

The rich collection of photography shows Africans in our glory, joy, pain, struggle, and achievements. It chronicles the African struggle for freedom, social justice, and political freedom from the white supremacists systems of colonialism in Africa and the Caribbean, and Jim Crow in America.

We are shown proud Black men and women serving in the war-fronts of World Wars I and II, and on the home-front during the war periods; Caribbean migrant workers, arriving at Panama for their work on the Panama Canal; famed musicians and actors at work; and bits on the Rastafarian culture. As a result, we see that world history has directly impacted African/African global history: from the Ethiopian victory

against Italy in 1896, World War I and II, the Great Depression, to the formation of the United Nations, Vietnam War, and the fall of apartheid in South Africa.

Africana Age: African and African Diasporan Transformations in the 20th Century is modern Black African history come alive in photography. It is world history come alive. The exhibit continues until the end of the year. Exhibition hours are from Monday to Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture is located on 515 Malcolm X Boulevard. More information can also be found on the website at www.nypl.org and click on the Schomburg center link, or call 212-491-2200.



Schomburg flyer shows Nelson Mandela

Home Sweet Harlem

by Sheria McFadden

Located on 135th Street between Adam Clayton Boulevard and Frederick Douglas is Harlem's very own "Home Sweet Harlem Café." Its pottery artwork plates, antique potbelly stove, and eclectic range of music make for the perfect eatery.

The congenial staff serves up the best soups in Harlem and the sandwiches are prepared with fresh baked bread. To complement its

menu, "Home Sweet Harlem" offers an array of vegetarian and poultry dishes.

Many local residents, businesses and even City College students find the establishment a delight. It serves up a daily "one pot" meal Monday-Fridays and patrons can reserve seats to mix and mingle (BYOB or wine) on Friday's nights (after 8pm). If you desire a cozy quaint atmosphere, great meal and affordable prices Home Sweet Harlem is the place.

HOME SWEET HARLEM CAFE

270 W. 135th Street, Village of Harlem ☎ 212-926-9616
 Open Monday thru Friday 8:00 am - 8:30 pm/Saturday 9:00 am - 7:00 pm/Sunday 10:00 am-4:00 pm
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Made with whole milk and any combination of fresh fruits	\$2.50	\$3.50	\$5.00
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FRESH CARROT JUICES			
-with your choice of Celery, Beet, Ginger, Garlic, Cucumber	\$3.00	\$4.50	\$6.00
BOTTLED WATER	\$1.00		
GOVERNMENT COFFEE (THE BEST IN HARLEM!)			
Strong, Mellow, Flavored or Decaffeinated	\$.95	\$1.35	\$1.75
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DESSERTS			
FEATURED LOAF BREAD			
Banana, Lemon Pound Cake	\$2.25		
		SLICE OF SWEET POTATO PIE	\$3.00/Special
SLICE OF CAKE		SLICE OF PIE	
Carrot, Red Velvet, Chocolate	\$3.50	Pecan, Sour Cream Apple Walnut	\$3.75

Dr. Fulani Speaks

By Kelechi Onwuchekwa

On Thursday, November 1st, Independence Party Chair Dr. Lenora Fulani gave her views on the New York Mayoral election, at the request of the Sankofa Roots club. She made it immediately clear that New York's African-American community must distance themselves from the Democratic Party if they hope to be successful, since they undermine key issues in the. She reinforced this by explaining how the Democrats pitted local leaders against each other for small gains, as well as how they "always play[ed] the race card." She concluded by saying that Democrat Mark Green's campaign tactics against Fernando Ferrer and Rev. Al Sharpton should finally convince African-Americans to split from the party.

Dr. Fulani also spoke about African-Americans using their votes in ways that do not blindly support either of the two major political parties. In addition she recommended that the community build an independent political movement that addresses it needs, saying it's "the most radical and revolutionary thing" they could do.

Dr. Fulani then explained her controversial support for Mike Bloomberg, saying that he came to the Independent Party because he felt that he had no chance to win if he ran as a Democrat. She was confident in Bloomberg's chances to win, saying that "we're the closest we've ever been to upset," especially with disenchantment among African-Americans and Latinos over Green's tactics. During a brief Q & A session, she spoke on gentrification and on why she did not run

for mayor herself. On gentrification, she said that the Harlem community should stop electing leaders like Charles Rangel who "do the same thing to us." On why she herself did not run for mayor, she stated: "Bloomberg has a million dollars, and I have \$14.13." She explained that both she and Bloomberg share the same campaign issues, and that she would run herself only if there was too much controversy. Judging from how Green lost the election, she didn't have to.

Architecture

continued from page 9

lugged from school to home and back end up belonging exclusively to the school. It must be said that real knowledge of student life comes from students, not from a glossy brochure or smiling staff member. If candidates for the City College School of Architecture were to speak with current students, and they often do, you would find the number of entering students in decline. Those holding the power to do so must act quickly to resolve these grievances and others in order to bolster and eventually repair the shoddy reputation surrounding the school.

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AFTERMATH OF SEPTEMBER 11TH

Who's to Blame?

By Kahlil Almustafa

November 27 - Ralph Schoenman, Author and Human Rights Activist, stunned a group of City College students and faculty, with his presentation about what really happened on September 11. After a brief introduction, he peeled off document after document indicting the United States as the primary facilitator of the terrorist attack. Schoenman weaves factual information, published statements and reported information to tell a story that will make you think twice about 9/11. Here are some of his remarks:

It wasn't but moments when authorities let us know they were

pretty sure it was Osama Bin Laden and the Al-Queda network linked to the Taliban. This reminds me of the Kennedy execution when the biographical profile of Lee Henry Oswald was released and published in New Zealand prior to the event.

The SFC reported on September 14, that a State Department memo warned of terrorist threat. Former U.S. Secretary of State George Schultz said he was startled by a State Department memo he had received a week before warning about attacks on New York and Washington critical buildings by groups linked to the Al-Queda organization.

According to Alex Standische, the Editor of the James Intelligence Review, published in London, Moscow's permanent mission at the UN submitted an unprecedented detailed report six months before.

Like Brother Dick Gregory says, "every 9 year-old knows where the heroin man is, but the FBI can't find 'em." (Schoenman also provided information about India, France, Russia Israel and Britain warning the



U.S. Soldier aims gun

Photo courtesy of AP

U.S. prior to the attack.)

On Friday, September 7, Florida Governor Jeb Bush issued a National Guard executive order in which members of the Florida National Guard were activated for the purpose of training law enforcement support for emergency management personnel for eminent "civil disturbances" and "natural disasters."

On September 17, CBS revealed that President Bush's closest associates had inexcusably and inexplicably sold all of their airline stock days before the terrorist attack.

Do you know that FEMA (Federal Emergency Management

Association) sent the urban search and rescue team to New York the night before the attacks occurred. FEMA official Tom Kennedy told Dan Rather on September 11, "that we were one of the first teams deployed to support the city of New York in this disaster. And then he said, "we arrived on late Monday night." Now that's preparation for you.

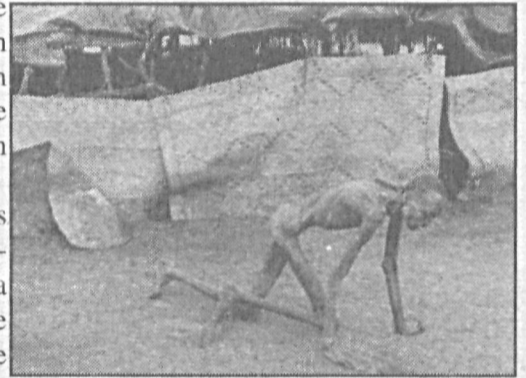
The CIA is no stranger to Osama Bin Laden or the Taliban. At the time when a Marxist government began to distribute land in the countryside and remove restrictions from women, the CIA gave \$6 billion to Osama Bin Laden and an associate to create a terror network. They funded it, they armed it, they organized it, they put it into play and it ravaged Afghanistan. There are 7 million people starving in Afghanistan. Almost 2 million people killed in the outcome of the terrible savage war of destruction inflicted on the Afghan people.

In an exclusive UN Press interview with a fundamentalist general, "it is now clear that there was a plot between the US Air Force & the US facade. The Twin Towers were first attacked at 8:45 AM, four flights were diverted from their assigned air space but the Air Force jets didn't scramble until 10am. It is standard operational procedure. You cannot send a seagull over the White House or the Pentagon without clearance and even then it's all intradicted space. They are under stand by order to scramble and shadow the plane and if it does not respond, to shut it down. They have an hour and 40 minutes.

That's call a stand down order"

(The interview with the General continues) "The US spends \$40 billion a year on its intelligence agencies that's-\$400 billion over 10 years. But the Bush administration is saying it was taken by surprise. Don't believe it. Within 10 seconds of the second Twin Tower being hit, CNN said that Osama Bin Laden had done it. This is a planned piece of disinformation by the real perpetrators. It created an instant mindset and it put public opinion in a trance which prevents even intelligent people from thinking for themselves."

Many will dispel Ralph Schoeman's remarks as nothing more than a 'conspiracy theory.' His presentation is powerful because the com-



Starving Afgan man. Photo courtesy of AP

ments he makes are well cited and the information given is highly detailed and thorough. Observing the vagueness of the information coming from the White House, it is hard to see Schoeman's remarks as anything but true.

Corporate Welfare

By Clare Brown

Since the September 11th disaster, the government and big business have taken advantage of the American people, more so than ever before by preying on our patriotism along with their greed. President Bush and Congress have decided to take from the working class people to give to the rich through tax breaks and industry bailouts, thus comes the corporate welfare.

Pharmaceutical Robbery

Since the scare of Anthrax, the antibiotic drug Cipro has become the drug of choice for treatment. A 60-day supply would cost about \$700, which is costly for most people. Overseas, a 60-day supply of generic Cipro costs

about \$20. The government negotiated a price reduction with Bayer Corporation, instead of offering generic companies a chance to manufacture the drug for a cheaper price.

Unsurprisingly, the pharmaceutical industry spent \$197 million on campaign contributions and lobbying in 1999-2000, more than any other industry, not to mention they have more lobbyists, 625 than there are members of Congress. These lobbyists have urged Congress to pass a legislation that will give a six-month patent extension to Cipro and other drugs, thus monopolizing the market. Furthermore, adding to the drug industry's reputation to always turning a tragedy into profits.

Corporate Bailout

The Sept. 11th aftermath, has left over 130,000 airline workers unemployed and a greater amount in the hotel industry as well. "Congress gave the airline companies a cash and loan guarantees bailout of \$15 billion. Congress gave laid off aviation workers and hotel industry workers nothing," said Theresa Amato, President of Citizen Works. It leaves the taxpayers to shoulder the burden for the troubled airline industry.

President Bush plans to repeal the corporate alternative minimum tax. "The Alternative Minimum Tax law required hugely profitable corporations to pay at least some federal income tax each year, no matter how many loopholes they can exploit. If

this law is repealed, some multinational companies will be able to pay little or nothing in U.S. income taxes forever," said Rev. Jesse Jackson. Some of the companies who stand to gain from this are, IBM \$1.4 billion, Ford \$1 billion, GM \$833 million and American Airlines \$184 million.

Corporations are allowed tax breaks and write-offs. What do the poor and working class people get? As the saying goes, 'the rich get richer and the poor remains poor.' With this upcoming holiday season upon us, it won't be the usual Salvation Army or the Red Cross relying on your holiday spirit of generosity, but the government and big business who will use your patriotism to rob you blind.

TECHNOLOGY

Get Your Serve On!

By Kahlil Almustafa

Interview With Nate Causley, Co-Founder of Black Cyber Space and columnist in Afrikan Business and Culture

The Paper Please Provide a Brief Background of Black Cyber Space.

BCSOL Black CyberSpace OnLine, Inc. (BCSOL) is an Internet development company that creates and markets Internet projects to the African-American Internet community world wide through its flagship web site: blackcyberspace.com.

In 1997 Black CyberSpace OnLine, Inc. established blackcyberspace.com to take up residence in CyberSpace on the world wide web.

Black CyberSpace OnLine, Inc. will provide the first true Black Internet network to "Build the World's Largest Black Community in CyberSpace."

The Paper What is your company doing to bridge the technological gap between African-Americans and other Americans?

BCSOL We plan to "Build the World's Largest Black Community in CyberSpace". Currently, 82% of

African-Americans are not yet on the Internet. Through an aggressive marketing strategy that focuses on empowerment and education, Black CyberSpace OnLine plans to impact the Black community with the power of technology. Given the infancy of the Internet, an opportunity exists to establish a dominant presence on the World Wide Web that is created by Blacks for Blacks.

The Paper When African people in America are awarded Reparations, what institutions and programs should we implement to bridge the technological gap between African-Americans and other Americans.

BCSOL Because of the circumstances upon which the Afrikan has been dealt with in this country, we MUST implement institutions and programs that will educate US in knowing who we are, and how we fit in (or don't fit in), i.e., our legal status, within the United States government. If we do not know who we are, how can we expect others to know?

Knowing and declaring Nationality is critical to any progress that we'll be able to maintain after Reparations are received. See: <http://www.theawaregroup.com>

The Paper With Kwanzaa around the corner, discuss the African principle of Ujamaa or Cooperative Economics. What is the importance of "Buying Black?"

BCSOL A 1998 Nielson study reported that there were approximately 6



courtesy of www.blackcyberspace.com

Nathaniel Causley million African-American Internet users representing a 53% increase over the previous 9 months. If these figures were correct, that means that as of 2001, there are now over 15 million users. Access to the Internet is now as common as televisions and microwaves. With this explosion in the African-American online presence, the opportunities for commerce have increased exponentially. The African-American market is a powerful economic base of over 34 million people with spending power of \$469 billion.

Some experts state that the purchasing power of the African-American community would make us the 5th largest country in the world.

Unfortunately, even with this enormous economic potential, African-Americans control less than 2% of all the resources and wealth in the United States. Moreover, we continue to bring 95% of what we earn to businesses outside of our own community instead of doing business with our own people. It's now time for us to stand out from the crowd!

The Paper How do we get hooked up? **BCSOL** If you already have Internet access and would like to switch to our service, simply logon to our web site at: <http://www.blackcyberspace.com>, download the BCS dialer, and choose a plan that fits your needs.

If you do not have Internet access, simply call: 1-866-GET-BCS-1 (1-866-438-2271) and we will have a NEW BCS-7.0 CD-ROM shipped to you. You will be taken through a short series of Web pages that will set up your BCS account and help customize it for you. When signing up use referral code: BAPINK.COM. Limited supplies of CD ROM's are available at the The Paper in NAC 1/118.

Interns speak

continued from page 9

having her own room, cooking and the freedom to come and go as she pleased. Along with drafting press releases and media follow-ups for the scholars at The Brookings Institute, she looked forward to ice cream socials on Fridays and made "friends for life." Christine Appah, a joint major in International and Urban Legal Studies, said that dorm life was "kind of like family." Ray Ann enjoyed shopping the most. She was

worried if the 13 extra pairs of shoes she bought would fit in the car. Along with learning about civil rights, Igor learned how to cook.

Many students expressed excitement about learning something new. Wendy Prudencio, an International Studies major, said she learned a lot about immigration while working in Congressman Rangel's office. Nsagha expressed a new commitment to spreading awareness of the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Africa. Ray Ann learned how to use STATA, a sta-

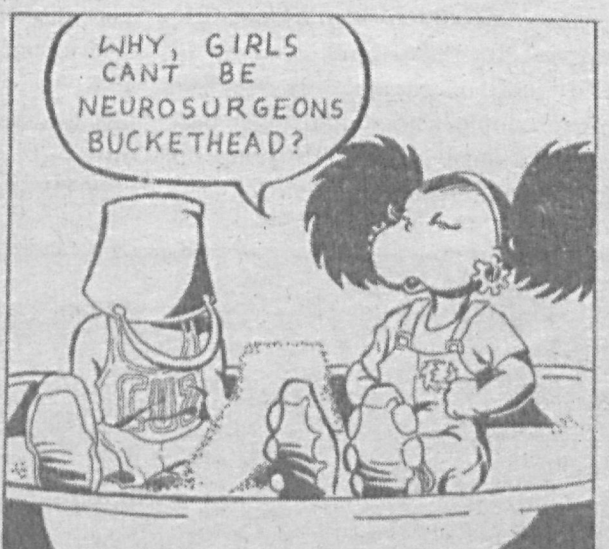
tistical research program. All the students talked about learning interpersonal skills as well as about themselves.

All of the students carried themselves exceptionally well as if they had completed a 'real-world' boot camp in their respective majors. Wendy said, "in the past I was often timid, but after this internship I learned how to handle many different kinds of people - in many situations. Fariha said, "One of the things I learned about myself is that even though I'm not a

Political Science major, I wouldn't mind becoming a Senator or a Congressman."

The interns described their summer as a "life-changing experience," and suggested students to submit an application. To apply to be a Rosenberg/Humphrey intern for summer 2002, contact Felicia Roff, Program Manager, (212) 650-6809, email froff@ccny.cuny.edu, NAC 6/140. Applications will be available online at www.ccny.cuny.edu/rh in January and are due in February.

KITA by Joseph Regis



CULTURE/SPIRITUAL

History of Kwanzaa

By Terehas Walters

The origin of Kwanzaa is rooted in Africa. In Africa we have an agricultural celebration called the first fruits or the general harvest celebration.

The name Kwanzaa comes from the Swahili phrase "matunda ya kwanza." Matunda means "fruits" and ya kwanza means "first."

The first fruit celebration goes all the way back to ancient Egypt and Nubia, and it still continues today in other classical African civilizations. The first fruit celebration was also used as a time for all the people of the village to come together, strengthening the bond between them.

In 1966, Kwanzaa was brought forth into the African-American community by Dr. Maulana Karenga. The 1960's was the time when Black people reaffirmed who they were. Kwanzaa restored pride in our African heritage and culture.

Kwanzaa introduced and reinforced the Nguzu Saba which means

the seven principles.

Umoja means unity. The unity is for the family community.

Kujichagulia means self-determination. This principle represents defining ourselves, speaking for ourselves.

Ujima means collective work and responsibility. In order to rise and uplift the African community a collective process is needed.

Ujamaa means cooperative economics. This principle deals with the sharing of social needs. It's the respect for human labor and making nature an ally not an enemy. Also, with cooperative economics we will be able to build our own businesses.

Nia means purpose. The purpose is to restore African-Americans

to their traditional greatness. Many of us have forgotten that the Nile Valley civilization was a rich society where people came to learn.

Kuumba means creativity. This principle is for the African community to recognize the divineness in every one of us.

Imani means faith. Imani is believing in ourselves, our leaders and our parents. Having faith is the righteousness and victory of our course.

In Africa we used certain things to represent aspects of life. In Kwanzaa we have:

Mkeke is a mat. The mat represents the African tradition and history that is the foundation of our being. Therefore all other symbols are placed on the mat.

Kinara is the candle holder. The kinara represents the continental African people's origin and roots.

Mishumaa Saba represents the seven candles represent the Nguzu Saba. They are red, black and green. The black candle is placed in the center. To the left are the red candles and to the right are the green candles.

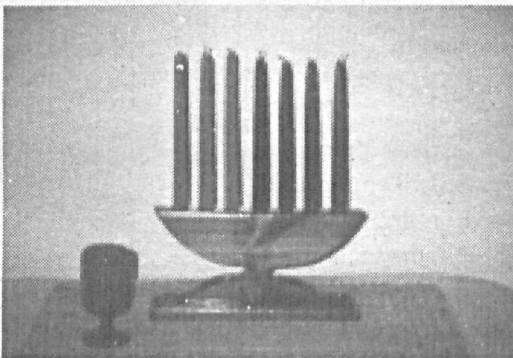
Mazao represents the crops for the first fruits. It symbolizes the first fruit celebration.

Muhindi is the corn. The ear of corn represents the children.

Kikombe Cha Umoja is the unity cup used to pour libations for our ancestors.

Zawadi are the gifts. The mandatory gifts given are a book and a heritage symbol, normally given to children. A book is mandatory because this lets us know that education is the key. The heritage symbol is given to remind us of our roots.

There is a saying, "I am because we are and because we are therefore I am." Unity is strength.



Kwanzaa kinara

Reparations Must Come From Within

By Laura Bowman

A Heart cannot be purified unless it holds a desire for truth. Yea though it be pinpoint of light in a darkened universe, that desire will bring forth the birth of a star.

Reparations must first begin with ourselves, and within ourselves. If we seek reparations, should we not first ask ourselves what is it we truly need? Shouldn't we ask why we have allowed others to tell us that we are poor, making us reach for a fool's gold; making us reach for finite treasure when infinite abundance lies within the spirit of ourselves?

There is no fortune on earth expansive enough to buy the courage, integrity, fortitude, faith, tenacity or self-reliance of our ancestors. We were once a people who sought inner purpose, not outer pleasure. Striving for outer wealth and the symbols of its

power has left us physically, emotionally and spiritually bankrupt. The quest has so weakened us that we are no longer desirous of making the sacrifices necessary to repair the inner damage we sustained to our souls. We stood upon the backs of our forefathers to gain freedom, yet, now the backs of so many of us have become so infirm that our character can no longer hold up our youth.

We are a people who understand "Spirit." Thus why have we forgotten that our true power comes from our innate intuitiveness; our ability to listen to and be guided by the inner voice? We are slipping into the darkness of spiritual ignorance because we have been blinded by artificial light. The measure of a man's worth is not determined by what he has, but by who he is. "... What does a man benefit if he gains the whole world, and loses his own self or suffers damage?" (Luke 9:25.) What we seek is seeking us. The

laws of the universe govern all men. All things come and go in accordance to its timing, so says the Hermetic Law of Rhythm, "Everything flows out and in; everything has its tides; all things rise and fall; the pendulum-swing manifests everything; the measure of the swing to the right, is the measure of the swing to the left; rhythm compensates. (The Kybalion)

What we seek is in alignment with the timing of the universe. No one can keep us from our good. We lack nothing and contain everything we need within ourselves. The universe was not created via the physical, but via the invisible through the power of Thought. "I think, therefore I am" what I think. If we refuse to acknowledge limitations, if we continue to educate our minds and our spirits, if we continue to strive for the perfection of self-mastery, then we can say to closed doors "MOVE," and they shall open unto us. It is of no import if there are

those who believe they can hold back the hands of time, so long as we do not subscribe to that belief. Did not Nelson Mandela become president in the very country that had held him prisoner because of its racist doctrines? How quickly we forget the miracles God has shown us.

We must begin to bless all that has occurred because its pain has served to plant the seeds of character, courage and compassion in our hearts. Madeline Peters, Metaphysician and Founder of The S.E.L.F. Help Foundation, Inc. teaches that, "No one is ever poor. The only poverty is the poverty of spirit." Thus we become poor only when we can no longer hear the voice of God within our hearts telling us to reach beyond the bondage of the physical into the realm of the invisible where the true wealth lies.

"If there is no struggle,

there is no progress"

Frederick Douglass

IN THE AFRICAN DIASPORA . . .

HIV/AIDS in Africa

By **Nsagha Efiom**
Guest Columnist

Since the first cases of HIV/AIDS were reported twenty years ago, nearly 58 million people worldwide have been infected and 22 million have died. HIV/AIDS is having a disastrous impact on the social and economic development of countries most affected by this epidemic. Being born and raised in Nigeria, I am writing as a concerned African whose interest in the well-being of our beloved continent has reached an unbearable peak. This immense concern for the Motherland occurred during my internship this summer at the Constituency for Africa (CFA), a non-profit organization based in the Washington, DC area.

During my internship at CFA, I worked extensively on a number of projects ranging from preparing a policy paper on the role of CFA at the World Conference on Racism that took place at Durban, South Africa this year to aiding in organizing a workshop for interns in the DC area to discuss what my colleagues and I gained through working at CFA. While working on one of my projects, I noticed that while many Africans living in the United States are doing their best to address the plight of millions of infected and affected HIV/AIDS victims in the continent, a huge majority of the African body here either have no knowledge of the severity of the epidemic or simply put, are "unconcerned."

The HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa is currently of the gravest degree. Africa alone accounts for 70% of all HIV/AIDS cases in the world although it represents only 10% of the world's population. HIV/AIDS is a disease that is rapidly destroying the continent of Africa. According to Secretary of State Colin Powell, HIV/AIDS "respects no man, woman or child. It knows no race, religion, class or creed." Doctors, lawyers,

teachers, and other hard-working citizens in different African nations have fallen victim to this deadly scourge. Everyday thousands of families lay to rest a loved one who has died a painful death at the hands of this merciless disease.

Currently, 25.3 million HIV positive individuals live in Africa. The life expectancy of Africans in the continent has dropped from an average of seventy years to thirty years of age. Since HIV does not kill its victims as soon as it is contracted, most victims do not know they are infected. UNICEF estimates that only 5% of infected Africans are aware of their HIV positive status, "meaning millions of people unwittingly continue to transmit the disease." The toll is devastating especially in the enormous number of children who now have to fend for themselves. AIDS has orphaned more than 13 million African children. Many of these children have lost not only both parents but also other members of their extended families. Without the support from their families, these children are faced with a life full of uncertainties.

Also, it is worth noting that the high increase in HIV/AIDS cases in Africa is also tied to a number of reasons such as poverty, poor healthcare systems, unavailability of anti-retroviral drugs, cultural lifestyles, and a host of other reasons. The extent of impoverishment in the Motherland is

heart breaking. The groups of people highly affected by poverty are African women and girls. Women and girls in Africa are unduly represented among the poor. According to the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), poverty aggravates other fac-

tors that heighten the vulnerability of women.

Since most African women are poorly educated, those who cannot fend for their families take part in "sexual networking", which provides them with the opportunity to sustain their families thus contracting the virus and spreading it to their unborn child.

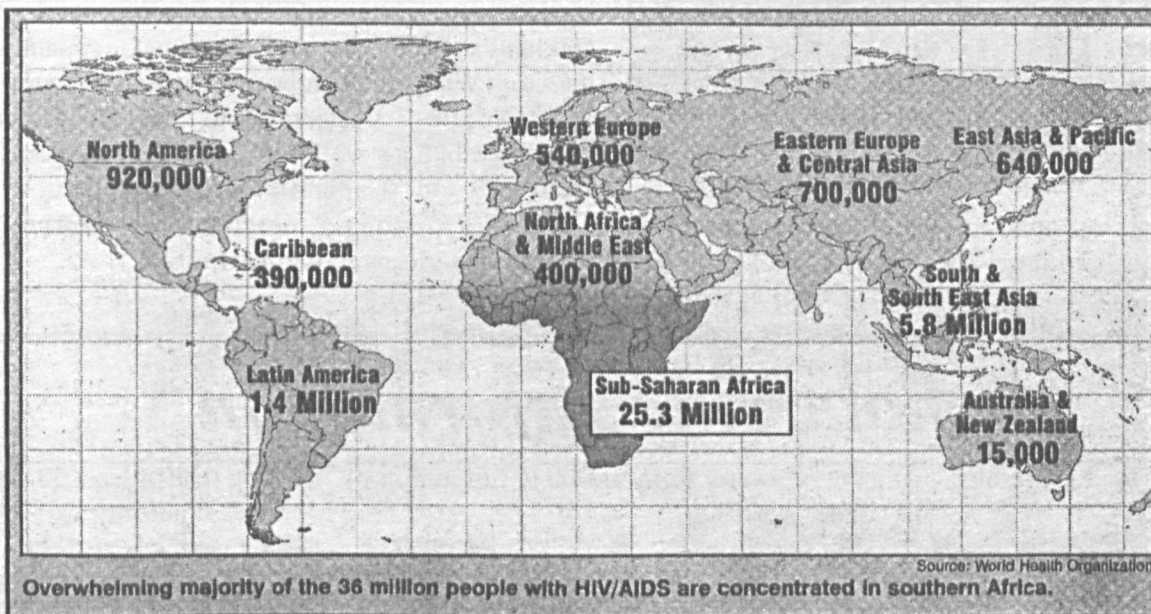
Besides poverty, the lack of good healthcare systems in many African nations is a causative factor in the spread of HIV/AIDS. In many African countries, the money allocated for healthcare annually is so minimal that it cannot sustain treatment or prevention programs for HIV/AIDS. The inadequacy of resources for services, specifically for AIDS in most African countries, has put a horrendous pressure on healthcare systems, hence eroding the quality of care that HIV/AIDS patients receive. This to a great extent is due to the enormous amount of debt African nations must repay to mostly highly developed countries.

The unavailability of anti-retroviral drugs on the continent also has contributed to the loss of many

HIV positive Africans. Treatments that allow many HIV/AIDS patients in the United States and other industrialized countries live moderately healthy lives are unavailable to a great number of HIV positive individuals in Africa. Even though the price of anti-retroviral cocktails in Africa has dropped to \$350 a year from \$10,000 a year, most HIV positive Africans still cannot afford these drugs.

Cultural lifestyles have also facilitated the spread of HIV/AIDS in Africa. Since men are seen as the dominant figure in the society, they can choose to have as many wives as they want. Men who work in the field for weeks or are in the military tend to sleep with whomever they choose, thus contracting the virus and spreading it to their wives. Women are not in a position to negotiate "safe sex" with their partners for fear of being called unfit wives or, even worse, sent back to their parents.

We (members of the African community) must work together to bring recognition to the plight of Africans back home. We can work with non-profit organizations such as CFA. CFA's mission is to strengthen the U.S. public awareness and understanding of African affairs and to organize an informed activist community strongly centered on support for a progressive U.S. policy towards Africa. We can also create outreach programs in our different communities to educate the public on the severity of the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Africa. We can aggressively lobby the "politicians we put into office" to support bills for funding HIV/AIDS research and providing treatment and prevention programs in Africa. Africans are the best advocates for Africa. Our brothers and sisters back home are in desperate need of our help. We have no choice than to join hands in the fight against this deadly disease that is destroying our beloved continent.



Economics of Reparations

continued from page 3

on generation to generation. After slavery, the American government has continued to set up programs to benefit white society. In *The Debt*, Randall Robinson, says, "Until 1950 the Federal Housing Authority provided subsidies to White mortgage holders

who were required to exclude Blacks from further ownership."

Controlling less than two percent of the nation's wealth – primarily in the form of a primary residence, an automobile and a miniscule savings account – Blacks have little to pass on to their children. Most Black heirs inherit nothing more than debt and a funeral bill.

There's a direct cost for slavery's legacy. Economist Larry Neal, adjusting for infiltration, calculates that unpaid net wages to Blacks before emancipation amount to \$1.4 trillion today. Former Federal Reserve Board Chairman Andrew Brimmer estimates that discrimination costs Blacks \$10 billion yearly through the Black-White wage gap, denial of capital access,

inadequate public services and reduces social security and other governmental benefits. This has been called the "Black tax."

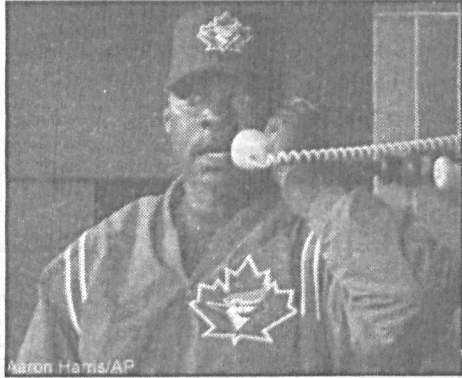
Richard America, an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's business school, says, "Reparations is not about guilt. It's not about blame. It's not about a lot of emotional stuff. This is a problem of accounting."

Baseball Season Not Over

By Jumel Carlos

Yeah I know what you are thinking, the baseball season is over. The Arizona Diamondbacks beat the New York Yankees so let's move on to the basketball season and Michael Jordan. Not yet, there is something I must discuss. Do you remember Dave Stewart? He was a four time 20 game-winning pitcher in his baseball career. Stewart, an African-American was the assistant general manager of the Toronto Blue Jays until recently when he resigned because he was not promoted to the general manager's position.

"They think that only people capable of doing these jobs are White



Former Blue Jays Coach Dave Stewart

people, not minorities," Stewart said in an interview. "Why is it okay to hire

me to manage his club but not okay for me to be his general manger? It's just little signs that's it's perfectly acceptable for me to be on the field but there's discomfort with me being in front office management."

Blue Jays president Paul Godfrey denied that race was a factor in the decision to go outside the organization and hire J.P. Ricciardi, Oakland's former player personnel director. While other clubs such as the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Cleveland Indians are promoting their assistant's to General Managers. There has been no progress for African-Americans in the front office.

Did you know that there is only one African-American general manger in the major leagues in Kenny Williams of the Chicago White Sox. This is out of 30 major league teams. Stewart is among several minority candidates bypassed for general manager positions in favor of White candidates since the end of the season.

Where are we going with this situation? Who knows, I don't have the answers but I do have a question. With African-Americans being 40 percent of the players on the baseball field, when will we make up a similar percentage in baseball's front office?

Scholarship Information

Ron Brown Scholarships: Awards for Leadership, community service.

www.RonBrown.org

Deadline: usually January

Jackie Robinson Foundation: \$6,000 per year, renewable awards for Academic merit, leadership, community service.

www.JackieRobinson.org

Deadline: usually April

Project Excellence \$4,000 or higher awards for academic merit, leadership, community service.

www.project-excellence.com

Deadline: Feb. 1

United College Fund awards for varying amounts and qualifications

www.uncf.org/programs

Deadline: usually December

NACME (National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering)

Amount of award: amounts to \$20,000 You must be an engineering student.

www.nacme.org/sch_index.html

Deadline: usually February

NSBE (National Society of Black Engineers).

Awards generally range from \$1,500 to \$3,000 for members of NSBE.

www.nsbe.org/scholarships

Developmental Fund for Black Students in Science and Technology

http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/dlhinson/dfb_sch.htm

Renewable \$2,000 awards for science or engineering students at HBCUs.

Deadline: June 15.

Ronald McDonald House Charities and the United Negro College Fund.

www.mcdonalds.com/countries/usa/community/education/scholarships/index.html

Students must be studying at a HBCU which is a member of the UNCF.

Amount of award: from \$1,000 to full tuition

Deadline: April 1

Society of Women Engineers

These scholarships from \$200 to \$5,000 are targeted for women who are majoring in engineering or computer science.

www.swe.org/SWE/StudentServices/Scholarship/ brochure.htm

Deadline: Feb. 1

American Institute of Architects Minority Disadvantaged

www.e-architect.com/institute/scholar.htm

This is a scholarship award from \$500 to \$3,000 for minority students enrolling in architecture programs.

Kodak varying amounts to \$5,000 awards for those studying in film/cinematography at U.S. colleges.

www.kodak.com/US/en/motion/programs/student/Scholarships.html

Xerox Technology Minority Scholarship

www.xerox.com up to \$4,000 for students studying in areas like chemistry, engineering, physics, and "tech" areas.

Deadline: Sept. 15

NCAA Scholarships—(National Collegiate Athletic Association)

www.ncaa.org/about/scholarships.html

Awards for \$3,000 to \$12,500 are given in all sports categories, also available are sports related study (like sports journalism).

Intel Science Talent Search

www.sciserv.org/sts

Deadline: December

Gates Millennium Scholarships

www.gmsp.org/SOW4/

Deadline: March 15.

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA).

www.aicpa.org/members/div/career/mini/smas.htm Up to \$5,000 for undergraduates studying account-

ing with at least 30 credits.

Deadline: July

Ambassadorial Scholarships

www.rotary.org/foundation/education/amb_scho/

For juniors and above who can speak another language and want to study abroad in the "host" country of that language. Award amounts: from \$10,000 to \$23,000 for a 3 month to full year of study abroad.

National Alliance for Excellence

www.excellence.org/programs.html

Harry S. Truman Scholarship

www.truman.gov

For juniors who intend to pursue a career targeted to public service or government A "nomination" package must be created from the College

Amount of award: as high as \$30,000 over the years

Deadline: February 1

National Association of Hispanic Journalists

www.nahj.org/student.html

\$1000 - \$5000 for students interested in journalism as a career can apply

Deadline: Feb 28

Hispanic College Fund Scholarships

www.hispanicfund.org/hcf-scholar.html

Deadline: April

National Association of Black Journalists

www.nabj.org/html/studentsvcs.html

\$2,500 for students majoring in journalism-print, photography, radio or television.

Deadline: March 31

Arts Recognition and Talent Search Awards

www.artsawards.org

\$100 to \$3,000 awards are granted to high school or college students (17, 18 years of age) who show talent in dance, voice, music, art, photography, jazz, visual arts, writing, or other creative areas. You must audition or submit a portfolio or tape

Deadline is June 1 or April 1 (for registration in specific regions).