

THE PAPER

So we stand here
On the edge of hell
In Harlem
And look out on the world
And wonder
What we're gonna do
In the face of
What we remember
-Langston Hughes

Volume 65, Number 1

City College of the City University of New York

February 24, 1987

College Weighs Dismissing Professor While, Engineering School Remains Overburdened

By Phillippe R. Montas
The School of Engineering's faculty and staff are holding hearings to determine whether or not Professor Mohammed N. Afsar will remain on the staff as an instructor. Professor Afsar teaches electrical engineering courses.

Many students who major in engineering are greatly distressed and have rallied around the Day Student Government to persuade the Dean of the School of Engineering, Charles B. Watkins, and ultimately the President of City College, Bernard H. Harleston, that Professor Afsar should be retained.

Afsar is a well-like qualified instructor who is a specialist in microwave techniques. He stays in in the microwave lab in

Steinman Hall to help students with their work. He has also published insightful material in his field.

Dean Watkins refuses to comment on the pending case citing that confidentiality should be maintained to protect all parties involved. "The process of reappointment involves an assessment of a member of the faculty's teaching skills as well as his research and his service activities within the community," said Dean Watkins.

Many students feel that the School of Engineering should keep Afsar on the staff "because he cares about students and helps them understand their work."

According to some of the engineering majors, some of the faculty in the School of

Engineering resent Afsar's approach to teaching. They feel he allows too great a number of students the opportunity to successfully complete his courses, as opposed to their approach, where at least 50 percent of the enrolled students either fail or are dropped from the course.

The dropout rate in engineering courses is frightfully high, especially in the electrical engineering classes. Some of them start with more than 150 students and finish with less than 70. And of the ones left, many get an F or D.

As Associate Dean of Engineering in charge of academic advisement for every department, Shee-Ming Chen meets every day with an average of 35 students who need help

because of various academic problems. His office is overwhelmed by the amount of students who need help.

"This office only has two people, myself and Professor Lehrenbaum, who is in charge of academic warnings," said Chen. "We talk to students and we try to advise them on what to do to remain in good standing."

Last June, close to 800 undergraduate students in the Engineering Department were on academic probation because of their grade point average. When taking into account the other types of probation, remedial,

KAT, Dop and the like, close to 50 percent of the undergraduates studying engineering were on probation, according to Dean Chen.

He also pointed out that the rate of students on probation diminishes as they approach graduation. "Students on remedial probation are usually on the pre-engineering level," Chen said. "We try to advise them to take care of their problems. We also notify them by mail."

Engineering classes are

(Continued on Page 3)

Nursing Prof. Reappointed After Student Protests

By Orlando A. McAllister With Chris West

After student protests, and a "in-house" investigation, the college has reappointed a popular nursing professor after she was dismissed by the school for failing to meet its academic requirements.

Professor E. James, who was reinstated by the college earlier this month, has taught nursing at CCNY for eight years, and was promoted from instructor to assistant professor in 1981. Last fall, she was informed by the "their flocks" into cohesive

Nursing Department last fall that she wouldn't be rehired because she did not have her doctoral degree.

"Prof. James is not being reappointed as professor of the School of Nursing because of her failure to meet the criteria for tenureship at the school," said Neumann, who talked to *The Paper* last December. "Professor James was an instructor in 1978, and reappointed in 1981 to assistant."

At the time, Neumann said that the decision was made by an "executive committee," and that

its decision was being studied after an appeal by James, and protests by students.

Neumann said that the decision to not reappoint James was not racial, as some students had suggested, and told of two white nursing professors who were denied tenure after refusing to meet the "necessary state requirement of receiving their doctorates before teaching."

Neumann also said that since she joined the School of Nursing that the number of minority faculty has risen from 10% to 35%.

Bishop Tutu Fund Merits Support

Established by Bishop Tutu shortly after receiving his Nobel Peace Prize in 1984, the Bishop Desmond Tutu Southern African Refugee Scholarship Fund held its first press conference on October 9, 1985, in New York City.

At that time, Phelps-Stokes Fund President Franklin Williams announced plans to raise \$1 million to finance approximately 100 Southern Africa refugee students through four years of study at U.S. colleges, universities and technical schools.

The program has already selected and placed four students with full scholarships. They include a graduate nursing student at the University of North Carolina, a master's student in special education at N.Y.U., an economics and political science major at Upsala College in New Jersey, and an African Studies specialist in a master's program at Howard University.

A total of 23 scholarships have been donated thus far by institutions around the country. Private corporations and foundations have also recognized the importance of the Scholarship Fund's work through major contributions.

At the October news conference, Bishop Tutu emphasized the urgent need for the scholarship program. "So many of God's children are prevented by the laws of apartheid from attaining their fullest potential," said Tutu. "This program is essential for our future development."

Of the vast number of refugees, most of them young, who are living in surrounding

countries, Bishop Tutu stated, "They are among South Africa's best and brightest and must be educated to take positions of leadership when the horrors of apartheid have finally been put to rest."

The fund is presently seeking commitments on all levels, but corporate and foundation grants are vital. So too is the support of individuals, churches, community groups, and professional organizations needed to sponsor these students during their stay in the United States. To help aid others, please contact the Phelps-Stokes Fund



Basketball Game Attracts Full Force

Malcolm Jamaal-Warner, Don King, the Rev Al Sharpton and members of Full Force were just some of the personalities on hand to watch a basketball game between the Harlem YMCA and the singing group New Edition. See page 8.

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Commentary

A Rat Race of Survival

Welcome graduating seniors and aspiring underclassmen to the "rat race for the survival of the fittest." Are you prepared to hunt in life's jungle for survival? Awaken fellow Beavers to the realities of a disoriented society, where the needed aren't greedy and the greedy aren't needed. We live in a perplexed world full of anxieties and ironies, where thousands upon thousands of atomic bombs exist and the fact of not being able to fight fires exist. Fellow students, in your minds, dwells the preserving creative seed for future generations.

Education will teach and/or train you in four years about problem-solving techniques and the development of critical thinking abilities in a complex world.

But upon graduation, how long will it take you to be given the opportunity by your employers to be promoted to a respectable and motivating position?

Self-confidence in your skills and abilities can instill the needed security in your request for respect and recognition. A cohesive and well-integrated mind will inevitably lead you

into a position of great strength and leadership, allowing you to penetrate and expose the negative influences of those who dare to exploit you and impede your progress. Transcend the wall of inertia and insecurity by being optimistic and committed in understanding the essential characteristics and nature of the work you do.

We, the students of a pioneering age, must seek out teachers of sound mind so that they may lead us on the path of growth and sustenance. Some of you will be exploited by your employers in terms of low pay, excessive overtime, added pressures, trivial pursuits and disrespect. Ask yourself if your employer and his constituent share holders nominate you as a prime candidate for the "Chairman of the Board" post for your devotion, sincerity,

professionalism, and productive abilities displayed throughout your years of employment?

We must not allow our creative impulses and productive skills to stagnate. Let us work together for the development of the community and the world at large, and yes, for "survival." From the Industrial Revolution to the present, modern man has been psychologically brainwashed and placed into the precarious position of never examining the intent and purposes of the global employment apparatus. Ignite the spark of intelligence within your mind fellow Beavers and learn to think analytically, systematically, innovatively, creatively, and most of all, ethically, towards the development of an advanced civilization we can all be a functional part of.

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BY
Orlando
McAllister

Justified Tears

Look at them. They're crying. Their tears are justified, if only they knew just how warranted their tears were.

They're up against a man-made chaotic world filled with biased instituted rules. These children are either born with a key or without one. Those who hold the key may open and shut the door as they please, those who do not die more often than not just attempting to break the lock.

What one needs to ask, and have answered is this: How can

Street Tales By Mwena

we as intelligent human beings be so callous as to breed yet another life into this mess? How can we plague these innocent nurslings with burdens, responsibilities, and growing pains? Why are we so eager to constantly create new life, yet unable to contend with the older more tainted ones? What is so

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Letters To The Editor

Education Is Not Indoctrination Or Training

To The Editor:

I must have missed or at least misunderstood my calling. For I have been teaching philosophy and history for 35 years, and I have never tried to train students to be economically successful or morally better citizens.

I have always believed an education was intrinsically valuable, whether it proved to be useful or not.

Everybody seems to agree that a college education has instrumental value: Technical training in skills to yield a higher income and character training in values to make a better citizen.

And discussion about education revolves around what skills should be imparted and what values should be indoctrinated.

So a college is seen as an advanced trade school and finishing school.

Its function is seen as twofold: To supply needed skills and to reduce antisocial behavior.

I protest.

An education is essentially an

opening awareness of unexpected vistas, new panoramas of possibilities to be enjoyed, analyzed and comprehended.

As such, an education has an intrinsic value—whether an individual turns out to be a Nobel Prize winner or a homeless hobo.

What is harder to grasp is that education is morally neutral. It is not training in "proper values."

Education is not indoctrination.

We can hope a broadened intellectual perspective and a respect for evidence will make an individual a decent human being.

But there is no guarantee.

Witness the Nazi years of Martin Heidegger.

Character formation is a byproduct of education at best. The new call for traditional "values" in education is less noisy and less rowdy than the counterculture's call for radical "ideology" but it is just as misguided on this point.

Professor Willard Hutcheon,

Lecturer in Philosophy at City College.

Dramatic Cuts In Proposed Reagan Budget

To all City College students:

On January 5, 1987, President Reagan released his fiscal year 1988 budget proposal for Congressional consideration.

The budget contains dramatic changes for the student aid programs used by thousands of New Yorkers each year to meet their college costs.

Overall, the President's budget would eliminate an estimated 350,000 Federal Awards worth \$500 million for New York students. The Guaranteed Student Loan Program (GSL), the largest financial aid program, would be particularly HURT by proposals to increase interest rates and fees paid by students, and reduce government support provided to lenders and guarantee agencies. The GSL program, which now provides nearly \$760 million annually to New York students, would be reduced by an estimated 45%.

Several other Title IV financial aid programs would be eliminated entirely, and the budget proposes to stiffen

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THE PAPER

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EDITORIAL

What It Means To Be Black

Black History Month brings an awareness of cultural identity and kinship within the African community in America. After all, the history of Americans of African descent did not start on the slave ship that brought our ancestors to the American shores. It starts with the rich and epic struggle of a continent that stood and fought for nearly a thousand years before succumbing to the guns and cannons of Europe.

Here at CCNY, we are forever involved in the rat race for survival. Dealing with a full load of classes, we bury our heads in the sand dunes of knowledge while the outside world rages with fire and destruction.

Lest we get sidetracked on issues that may feel foreign to us, we ignore the constant existential struggle of living in the "heart of the beast" that constantly gnaws at our African identity.

Rather than emulate the strong kings and beautiful princesses that originated and carried the seeds of our culture and struggled side by side, we concentrate on the degradation of the constant rat race for meaningless survival in a cocoon of neatly packaged commercial ideas promoted by sincere charlatans.

Behold CCNY students! A new day is at hand. An age of enlightenment is slowly creeping to the fore of our thoughts. Rather than conjure images of a well paid job in the corporate monster, we begin to envision images of a fulfilling effort to rally our community around the essential needs for strength, justice and economic self-sufficiency.

These words may sound like the crazy rantings of a wild-eyed neo-Black Panther, nevertheless, Black History Month should mean more than merely realizing the color of one's skin. It should bring forth wonder, pride, anger, raging passions, suspicion, exalting intellectual interplay, rejoicing, sadness, sorrow, doubt, despair, understanding, and then finally love and respect for the motherland that brought us to fruition on the other side of the world...Hail to Mother Africa.

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is looking

"Join us"

for a sports editor, sportswriters,
general assignment reporters,
feature reporters, and copyeditors.

Haiti, After Baby Doc: A Quagmire of Problems

by Phillippe R. Montas
Saturday, February 7, marked the one-year anniversary of the fall of Haitian dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier, who fled mass uprisings in Haiti for the comfort of "golden exile" in France.

Most Haitians at CCNY did not celebrate. Very few did in New York, a marked contrast to the wild and exuberant rejoicing that marked the hated dictator's downfall.

Virtually no one celebrated because Haiti is in a quagmire of problems that seem insoluble.

In Haiti, the National Government Council (CNG), declared a holiday even though many people do not work on Saturdays anyway.

Prior to that, according to informed sources, many people were arrested in a continuing campaign by the present government to control popular unrest.

The church has been at the fore of recent popular demands for better wages, schools and living conditions. Militant priests have literally "shepherded

political entities to demand just and democratic treatment for everyone.

On the 7th, Haitian cabdrivers and transport workers held a symbolic strike to show their solidarity to the struggle being waged for a better Haiti.

Criminal incidents are rising alarmingly in Port-Au-Prince, the country's capital. Everyday, new stories emerge about people losing their valuables and their lives, sometimes in daring house raids by armed bandits.

Many take advantage of the gripping fear to carry out sinister political strategies while citizens huddle together behind closed doors. Many of the former supporters and officials of the Duvalier regime are still living in Haiti. They are reported to be plotting a return to the "good old days" when they wielded power and earned riches.

"I thought about Haiti that day and I felt sad," said Errol Laraque, an engineering student here at CCNY. "I thought about the rest of the world, and I saw problems everywhere, including Haiti."

Bio-Med Program Receives \$500G Support Grant

By Luis Salinas

City College's Minority Biomedical Research Support Program has received \$578,438 from the Division of Research Resources of the National Institute of Health.

The Minority Biomedical Program, designed to increase the number of minority students entering graduate and professional schools, intends to pursue research careers in the biomedical sciences.

"City College is one of the few institutions which provides broad based support of this kind at the undergraduate level to enrich, motivate and encourage students to enter research careers in the biomedical sciences," said Dr. Myer Fishman, the program director.

Minority Biomedical Research Support Program students participate in research projects which have been approved by the National Institute of Health.

According to a press release

from the City College Public Relations office, the projects involve a variety of subjects including: anti-tumoral agents and environmental pollution.

City College was selected to participate in the National Minority Research Program, now in its eighth year, because of its strong programs in the sciences as well as an historic commitment to educational opportunity and academic excellence.

According to the report, highly qualified students are supported during their junior and senior years at City College, or as graduate students, with salaries of up to \$5,000 per year.

Tuition is paid for graduate students, and Ph.D. candidates also qualify for additional financial assistance.

Any minority Biology majors wishing to take advantage of this opportunity should contact Dr. Meyer Fishman at 690-4142.

U.S. Constitution Celebrates Bicentennial, 1787-1987

By Luis Salinas

Many people consider the United States the greatest country in the world because of the kind of government it has.

Our government is based on the Constitution, which was until it was changed 100 years ago, the Articles of Confederation.

The constitution offers the freedom they want, and equal

opportunity to vote, bear arms and to live as they choose.

the first constitutional convention took place in Philadelphia Pennsylvania, 11 years after the 13 colonies became a independent nation in 1776.

The constitution is the highest law. It prohibits,

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Students Study Albany Politics

A dozen students, led by Assemblyman Angel Del Toro, visited Albany this past January to meet with legislators and learn ways to make public policies.

The program was sponsored by M. Rosenberg and H. Humphrey from the college Public Affairs Office.

Eddie Mark, Jose Crespo, David Casona, and Anthea Myaugitun were among the CCNY students who visited the Capitol in Albany.

School Of Engineering Facing Serious Problems

(Continued from Page 1)

usually too large, and as a result, both students and faculty suffer. Students cannot get the individual attention they need even though most lectures have at least two graduate assistants helping them with the class.

According to some students, they must learn on their own using their own resources and ingenuity because they cannot get help from their professors.

"More sections should be added by either hiring more teachers or offering certain classes in both the fall and spring semester," said Leon Scott, president of the Society of Black Engineers.

According to Dean Chen, students wind up losing whole semesters having to wait for these courses in order to graduate.

A prevalent attitude is that many faculty members in the Engineering Dept. are not sensitive to their students' needs.

"I believe it is true that some teachers don't care about the needs of the students. They are not sensitive to the students' problems," said Chen. "On any given day, I have to help students because the professors don't help."

Chen feels that there are many reasons for this attitude. Classes are too large, and teachers have to research, publish, and try to get grants, besides doing their teaching.

Dean Watkins believes "there is a sense that we do need to sensitize the faculty to the needs of the students." Since he is new to the position, he has an open mind, and is willing to listen to all complaints, and analyze the problems of the School of Engineering and implement solutions that will be of help to everyone.

"We need to develop better

relations with students," said Watkins. "I have met with the faculty and expressed my concerns, but it is difficult to deal with individual students with so few faculty."

The School of Engineering suffers greatly from a shortage of qualified instructors. It will receive six more teachers for the up coming fiscal year although Dean Watkins noted the school asked for 12 more faculty lines.

It is difficult to understand why Professor Afsar may be laid off since the department suffers from such a shortage. Although Watkins says that if necessary the school would hire someone with similar credentials as Afsar if he is not retained, he noted that the school has a hard time recruiting personnel because of competition with the industrial market.

In light of this, it would appear that students will lose a qualified teacher for reasons that have yet to be divulged. The DSG is coordinating a campaign to organize concerned engineering students to fight to maintain Professor Afsar on the staff.

With the problems of the retention rate and probation facing the Engineering Dept., the dismissal of Afsar will only serve to have engineering students question the quality of the services they are paying for.

In addressing the retention problem, a new program primarily for freshmen will be headed by Ramona Brown, a newly hired staff member, said Dean Watkins.

"Here at CCNY, we have a very good group of students who deserve attention and care from the faculty," he added. "There are some legitimate complaints and I will try to correct them through a dialogue between faculty and concerned students."

NEWS BRIEFS



City College Student Missing

Janet Martinez, a City College student and a teacher at the Mable Dean Bacon High School, is presently missing and her family is deeply concerned.

She was last seen on December 1 at 5:45 pm in front of the train station located at 136th Street and Third Avenue.

Janet is 20 years old. She was last seen wearing a beige blouse, black stretch pants, and a black and white coat.

If you have seen her, please contact anybody at *The Paper*, college security, or call Detective Del Nuovo at 212-579-9532.

Greece Is Clean In Arms Sale Issue

by Luis Salinas

Greece's Foreign Minister, Karolos Papoulias, contradicted media reports which claimed Greece sold armes to Iran in exchange for Iranian oil during a speech on U.S.-Greece relations while in New York City recently.

Papoulias stated that such reports are "fabricated" and "unreal." Last month, he said, Greece would have earned about \$1.5 billion if his government had accepted a 1983 request by Iran's government to fix, repair and maintain military aircraft.

EXPRESSIONS

DARK WOMAN

Come dark woman
naked as the earth itself
with your color
relecting of the mother earth.

Shine your ebony
overpower the mere shades
of the other entitled mankind.

You dark woman have
undergone many hardships
yet you have still managed to preside
Your love to live has increased
your will to survive
not by chance or hearsay
but by the urgency for the
attainment of better things
greater things.....the best of things.

Stand tall dark woman
the time is now
secure all you can from life.
Make life live for you.

Build your kingdom, many kingdoms.
If they crumble
recollect and be strong
Strive black woman
build again not a kingdom...
...not a world...but a universe.

Render your sorrows
in the stone of walls
you shall construct for the future.
This will be your defense from all discrepancies.

Bear in mind your people
through your emmitence of power
not only in materialistic treasures
but through the endeavouring of your essence.

Strive dark woman
you have come this far,
but not far enough.
You can not...nor will you ever go back.
Only ahead.

You are creating an indentation
on this world
do not stop there.
You have come from too far away.

Burn a hold Dark woman.
Let the flames kindle
the passions of all other black women
to unite.
Unite for a better precedence of all that is sure
to not only come to us, but belong to us as well.

Belong....a word so foreign yet so familiar...

Dark woman do you belong?
You belong because you were born
You belong because you live.
You will always belong for the mere fact
that you exist.

No longer is your tone of skin
a canopy for your failures.
No longer can you waddle and cringe in yesterday's pain
and expect to survive today, and build tomorrow....

Your color can never be a handicap, only your state of mind
only your state of mind

You have come too far. You must go further.
Stand tall be proud, as you have always been.

I bid you strength and love
Dark Woman of today.

IBINGIRA

One Man After by Simon Cruz

Past poured through to present time
mind, mechanically started, distorted,
disarranging lump sums of now
as they rose then pass too.
Sunk even deeper to a moment of when
the earth was green and birds did sing
cries for the knowing
things remember'd
Many years after the nuclear disaster-
messed of mind and going insane-
partially limbless from the chemiel'd rain
the brain did tick of another time
while he cry'd and pray'd too.

Drumming Spirits

Drumming heartbeats that thump
infiltrating your inner conscience
Manifesting egos that appears
to be there
Not sure
It might be positive energy controlled
or coincidentally running wild in despair

drumming heartbeats
Mathematically and meticulously
paving the road of the righteous
Expressing love and happiness

Sating observing
understanding little
and really knowing nothing
but something
Thinking positively
Realizing negatively
why...

By Ray Sauer

EXPRESSIONS

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Page 5

A Moment At The Beach

The waves are swaying
to and fro

My skin is darkening
now it glows

The sand is white
the air is crisp

The smog in New York
I will not miss

I feel a dew
it's ocean spray

Oh, I wish I could
stay here everyday

but

back to reality
I wasn't really there

however my mind took
me far enough to smell the air

mind
over
matter

By Gina Marshall

Poem I

This poem like TV
can't be taken
too seriously. Pre-
everything and not a
thing sprung from
moments, or on the
spot. It isn't even
live. This poem is
like stillbirth, or each
word a corpse in disguise
To be read or not,
but buried or burnt
This poem O.D.'s and
was DOA, won't
accept the simple fact
and keeps coming back
This poem, that poem
and the one after
that can't be stopped;
give a word a break,
the rest come along
and take over the page
This poem if read
wrong will explode in your
face, and disappear
without a trace
We interrupt this
poem to bring you
a special bulletin.

Simon Cruz

by Debbie/86

You've trusted me once,
and I betrayed your trust
Now you've trusted me again
I have learned from the past
and will do better in the future
As long as we stay together
forever & ever!

Kiss
dark
making love

fight
cold black

Scared
help

I want to live
no!

Not now
But why? it's not my fault
that's what we
all say.

By Debbie Schatten

Revulsion

the streets were all blank.
just pave and pebbles
wherever you'd look--
Police-people had come,
arresting things of worth
& growth, dozing the remains--
spread far on the church, library & park,
hot wind carried torn out feathers
& torn sheets of poetry
crashed against their blue banner
as they stood it in the desolation

Simon Cruz

Man Ponders

Just how far emotions will go
man ponders to himself
Love seems to be an invention
of the mammals
We're surely not like the insects
like a female mantis
who often will respond to
earnest courting
by decapitating her suitor
then celebrating her repast
by dining her lover.
Maybe a lesson against
sexual repression?
But as you notice
we need to understand all things
on our land
Man ponders to himself.

By Ray Sauve

The Homeland

The homeland
of all peoples
Dust where flowers used to grow
Pain where joy used to be
The maiden of paradise Raped of her virtue.
Oh how I weep for thee
Yet her children stand unconquered,
Proud,
Though their bellies are empty,
And their tears are that of ancient
rivers which flow no more to the Nile.

The rapist sprinkles water on the dust
Proclaiming for all to see what a
Wondrous thing he has done for thee.
Conveniently, forgetting all that had come
before and since.
Yet he does not see the bile of
anger which boils in bellies yet unfed
That once let loose can never be contained.
The rapist wishes even to strip
the heritage off our backs.
If only for once the rapist could
see the scope of evil he has done
he will surely weep for me.

C. Edwards

Black Princess

Dressed in black
to show her pride
walking proud
holding her head up high
She knows that black is beautiful
in her reflection

She shouldn't go unnoticed
she deserves all attention
as the Mother of our Earth
She shouldn't be taken for granted
we should thank her for nourishing
the seed that was planted

She gave birth to Africa
therefore, giving birth to mankind
She gave me my own frame of mind.
She gave me the courage
to make a stand

She gave me the power to cry "I am"
so let's give credit where credit is due
Black Princess we salute you.

By Gina Marshall

ARTSPACE

If You Go To One Movie This Year, See "Platoon"

by James Dascoli
Platoon

(Orion) Rated-R

Written and Directed by :
Oliver Stone

Starring: Tom Berenger,
Willem Dafoe, Charlie Sheen,
and Kevin Dillon.

Before I write anything else, I'd like to say--see this film. I know that many people might feel that the Vietnam War is a chapter in America's history that is better off put to rest, but the fact remains that there are many questions still left unanswered. Platoon is an ambitious film that gives us answers by plunging us into battle with its young protagonists.

Sure we have had movies

before giving us glimpses of how the war was really like, or so they claim. For the first time we have a film that gives the audience a full view of what the ordinary combat soldier was experiencing in Vietnam. We feel the bugs and the raw earth on our face, unlike the poetic Apocalypse Now or the cartoon-like Rambo.

Cinema is at its best when it takes us places, and shows us things we never would have seen otherwise. This highly-entertaining film does this with startling brutal images that linger in our minds long after the film has ended. Director Oliver Stone, himself a Vietnam veteran, doesn't hold anything

back. He gives us powerful insights and a tense feeling that will make you want to question yourself. (What if I weren't sitting here safe in my seat? What would I do?)

Stone is primarily known for his script for the 1978 film Midnight Express. One look at Platoon and you realize that he has brought another intense story to the screen. There are flawless performances from its three principal actors, Tom Berenger, Willem Dafoe and Charlie Sheen. Sheen is the innocent enlisted man who sees the war close-up for the first time. The effect it has on him and the rest of the men is disturbing and changes them

forever. But it is the film's ultimate message that may change you. As Sheen tells us, "It wasn't a war where we fought our enemies, it was a war where we fought ourselves."

If you must see one film this year, see Platoon.

"Adventures of the Mind" Explored By Cuban Artist In Eisner Hall Show

By Celia Frederick-
Cordoba

Gilberto Lopez-Espina will be presenting his audio-visual art work "Adventures of the Mind" at the Gallery in Eisner Hall on Tuesday, February 24, at 3:00 pm.

Mr. Lopez-Espina is the renowned Cuban artist known for his technical mastery in applying acrylic paint to canvas with an air brush. *The New*

York Times has proclaimed him in recent reviews as "breathtakingly accomplished, a technician that one would like to see more of his work."

The presentation is being sponsored by the CCNY Art Department. Professor Wyatt, Assistant Chairman of the Evening College Continued Education in Art will be the Master of Ceremonies.

Lopez-Espina was graduated

from Jersey City State College with a BA degree in Fine Arts Education and is presently a teacher at Bloomfield High School in New Jersey.

"Adventures of the Mind" is a series in photorealism -- a style of art in which photographs are used as a source. Lopez-Espina is one of the few artists who has successfully incorporated film as a creative art process.

Hispanic Art & Culture in "Museo Del Barrio"

By Luis Salinas

Hispanic art and culture is as rich and diverse as the people who are Hispanic, and those riches are preserved by a museum for hispanics, under the direction of a woman devoted to her culture.

Petra Barreras Del Rio, director of the "Museo Del Barrio," located at 1230 fifth Av., is well known within the hispanic community for her efforts to keep alive the arts and culture of her people.

Graduating Magna Cum Laude from the University of Puerto Rico, and receiving her masters from the Institute of Fine Arts at New York University, Del Rio, a Puerto Rican native, has been a well known lecturer and popular writer about hispanic arts and culture.

Before taking on the responsibilities of museum director, she taught at a

community college, and was a bilingual lecturer at the Education Division of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Del Rio has been the recipient of numerous state grants for the Arts and History of Latin America.

After working as Assistant Museum Educator for two years, Del Rio worked for six years at the New York City Council for the Arts, as a analyst for its Visual Artist Program, before being named to head the "Museo Del Barrio," where she has been director for 12 years.

A former member of the Arts Affirmative Action Committee, Del Rio adds to her already active lifestyle, as a member of the Interdisciplinary Grants Panel for the National Endowment for the Arts, and membership on the advisory board of "Taller Boricua,"- The Puerto Rican Shop.

Slavic Cultural Club--CCNY Presents:

A Reading of Excerpts from the Works of Alexander Pushkin



Date: Thursday, February 26, 1987
Time: 12 Noon to 2 p.m.
Place: NAC Room, 4/221

In honor of Black History Month and the 150th Anniversary since Alexander Pushkin's death, this lecture will focus on the Afro-Russian poet's works in connection to his Black Ancestry

Spring Art Exhibit Featured April 6-29

The third annual Spring Art Exhibition, featuring mixed media art works by members of the City College community, will be on display from April 6-29 in the Atrium of CCNY's Cohen Library, North Academic Center, 138th Street and Convent Avenue.

Sponsored by the Library, the exhibition will include paintings, drawings, sculpture, photographs, needlework, pottery and other works by CCNY students, faculty, and staff. Works will be selected by a jury of three City College faculty.

Those who wish to submit their works for consideration should bring them to the Audio-visual office, Cohen Library, first floor, 1/340 between March

23 and March 31 from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm.

Art works must not exceed the following size limitations: two-dimensional work - 3 -1/2 feet wide, by 3-feet high; three-dimensional work - 4-feet high, by 3-feet wide, by 3-feet deep.

Professor Robert A. Kuhner, who is coordinating the project for the library, noted that the last two exhibits were highly successful with many works shown. "This is an exciting opportunity to display the breadth and depth of artistic talent in the City College community," he said.

For further information, please contact Professor Kuhner, Cohen Library 5/332, Tel. x4267.



The U.S. Constitution Celebrates Bicentennial

Continued from page 3

excessive fines, promotes free speech, and provides a basis of unity for all of the people in the 50 states.

The U.S. constitution's preamble declares that..."We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessing of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, to ordain and establish this constitution of the United States of America."

Any regulation that does not agree with what the constitution says is considered to be unconstitutional.

The patriots who wrote it wanted the American people to have fair laws, equal justice and freedom to worship as they wish.

The constitution was created by George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, and James Madison, some of the great men who helped write the laws which govern our nation.

The constitution was written in Philadelphia between May 14, and September 17, of 1787. And became law two years later in 1789.

Since then, our government has been divided into three

branches: Legislative, Executive and Judicial. The powers of each branch keeps the other two branches in check.

The constitution can be changed as time and circumstances turn about.

For example, years ago, blacks and women were forbidden to vote. After changes were made in the constitution, both groups were given the right as changes in the constitution took place.

Changes in the constitution are called amendments. An amendment takes place when three-fourths of the country agree that the new law should replace the old one.

The first ten amendments to the constitution are called the Bill of Rights.

Amendments are rights which guarantee citizens the right to privacy, the right to work, and the right of people to a fair and speedy trial.

By 1791 there were 10 amendments to the constitution, 13 in 1865, and 26 as of today.

The most recent amendment, passed in 1971 states, "A U.S. citizen shall not be denied the right to vote because (his or her) age if (he or she) is 18 years of age or older."

Throughout this year, the government has planned to celebrate the 200th birthday of our constitution. From Maine to Florida, and from New York to California, all of the 50 states will help celebrate the anniversary.

Some of the ways students can help keep the constitution alive are by obeying the law, exercising their right to vote, and by keeping informed about new events at all times.

Fight for your rights whenever you feel they are being violated. And remember: the constitution protects all of us. We should all be proud to have a constitution.

"The god who gave us life, gave us liberty at the same time." - Thomas Jefferson.

The Life Of The Blackman

Continued from page 2

disconsolate about this whole situation is the way these kids came about. Let's analyze these children a bit closer, perhaps the answer lies in the type of children they would have to be before they came into being.

The love child is the child that was created for totally selfish reasons. The mother needed someone to love, who could untaintedly love her back. The victim.....is the baby. There is also the ego child. This child is bred by a male, or birthed by a female for supremacy reasons, or for show and tell. The man is fit to be compared to all kings and gods, and the woman can hold her own against all queens of the motherland. Last but not least out of the shadows creeps the insurance baby. This baby is used as a red banner to wage war against both partners. It is the only common tool they share.

Wake up!

Our destiny lies in your hands. These children can either become someone, or just another statistical figure used to serve governmental purposes. They may even be used to encourage social stereotypes of the blackman's stagnation. Is this what we want?

It all goes back to the beginning in regard to knowledge, wisdom, understanding, and culture. If these were instituted early enough, perhaps this dilemma of fatherless children wouldn't be so prevalent in our community.

The majority of black households are being run by females. What we need are a few good men to act accordingly. It seems to me the term father has been trashed, excuse the expression.

Education is derived in many different ways. Aside from regular teachings from the institution itself, the bulk of a black child's education in the city is from his surroundings.

Since there is no male figure dominating the household, the streets provide them with these figure heads. Such was the case for Steve Cole, Gregg Thesa, and "Snake," just to name a few. These are all students currently attending CCNY, pursuing an education in the professional fields. When asked what was the most influential factor leading to their present stance, their answers varied as did the characters themselves.

Gregg Thesa, a pre-law major, said the other fatherless fathers at the street corner persuaded him into more positive actions. He went on to say that all they ever did was flash dated photos and say what their kids will one day become. Yet for all their worthless preachings they would do nothing to insure their children's future, or the present. "I was fatherless myself, but hey, I guess I was one of the lucky ones. I'm in school, I work, and....I have no kids...yet." The same holds true for "Snake" and Steve.

These fatherless children, however, are being poisoned right before our eyes. They're constructing their foundations on

anger, and a bunch of males trying to be men hanging on to a street corner. All they can do is brag about how many children they have and from how many women. This is a shame....a dirty shame. Where is the bravado, I can't see it. If you do, you're more pathetic than the issue at hand.

No one is condemning children. they are a classic for the purity of man in his natural form, before he becomes corrupt by this system.

Today's blackman is creating today's blackchild, who not only will, but must become tomorrow's blackman...

You may not belong because you were born but you belong because you live.... You will always belong for the mere fact that you exist.....

.....They bled you for what you could give...now bleed them for what they owe you....

.....

LETTERS

Continued from page 2

student eligibility requirements and increase family contribution rates. Congress must now review the President's proposals and act on them, including authorization and appropriation legislation, before any of the President's budget can be implemented.

I URGE you to use this time period to contact your elected representatives and express your opinion of the [new] proposals.

Sincerely,
DOLORES E. CROSS
President of Higher
Education
Services.

THE PAPER,

A Good Place to Visit,
A Great Place to Work

Get Involved in City College
by becoming a member of the staff.
See Kerri in NAC 1/118

SPORTSWATCH

YMCA DEFEATS NEW EDITION, 112-98

by Luis Salinas

For one special night, beginning at 6:00 p.m. on January 31, City College became the home of a historical basketball game and the capital of the new "rap" sound. Harlem's youth enjoyed the company of Disco Jockey "Heavy Dee and His Boys," Malcolm-Jamaal Warner (Theo on the Cosby Show), Don King, the famous boxing promoter, Full Force, and the New Edition and Harlem Cheerleaders. They all gathered

to give life and color to a meeting between Harlem's YMCA and the New Edition's basketball teams.

The event was organized by Sandra Caillo and Cherre White of S.A.M.E., representative of KISS-FM, and Harlem's YMCA.

More than 1,000 spectators filled the Nat Holman Gymnasium and brought heat and rage to this game which New Edition was favored to win.

New Edition struggled from

beginning to end against a tight defense by the Harlem team. New Edition players showed great ability to handle the ball, but Harlem's YMCA walked out of the game with a victory, 112-98.

"Although my favorite group lost the game, I still think New Edition is the greatest group with the handsomest guys I've ever met," said Christel Edwards, a teenage fan.

Ronnie could not play in this game but he was bombarded

with kisses and applause from many fans. New Edition.

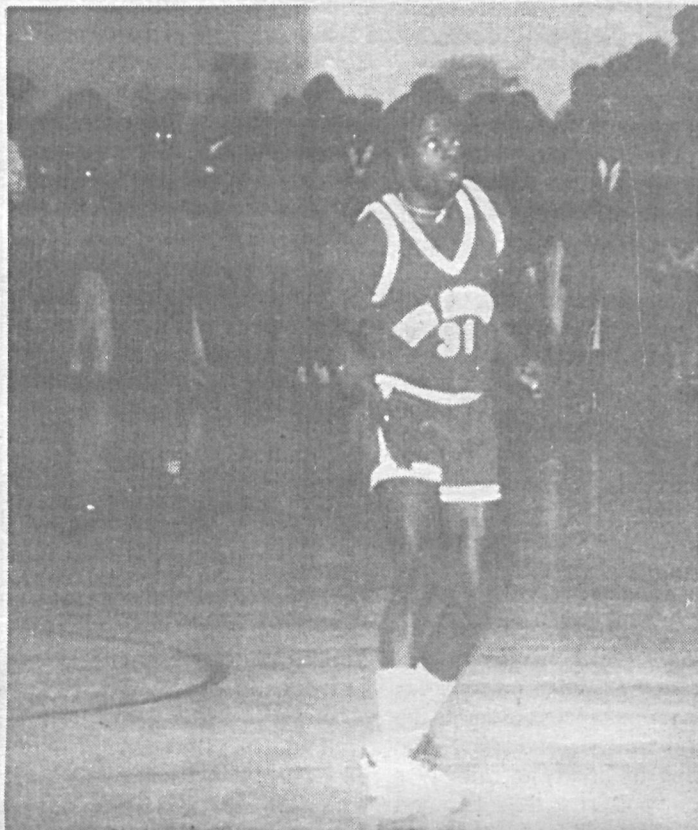
For Shaunita Wilson, 16, Michael is the one who does the best for the New Editions. She stated that her room is full of pictures, banners and drawings that show all the members of the

Security was tight at the gym as many celebrities attended. All monies collected went to help the young people living and working at the YMCA of Harlem.



Malcolm Jamaal-Warner, Rev. Al Sharpton and boxing promoter Don King take in the action from courtside.

PAPER photo by Luis Salinas



Ronnie DeVoe heads upcourt during a game against Harlem YMCA.

PAPER photo by Luis Salinas

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City College of the City University of New York

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