

THE PAPER

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



CITY COLLEGE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK ~~IN HARLEM~~

Volume 94 Number 6

A Medium For All People Of African Descent

December 12, 1991

URGENT:

BLACK AND LATINO BROTHERS AND SISTERS:

SINCE THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1970, WE HAVE BEEN APPEALING TO THOSE OF YOU WITH WRITING ABILITY OR DESIRE TO JOIN US. BUT WE'VE RECEIVED A MINIMAL RESPONSE, CONSIDERING THE NUMBER OF BLACK AND LATINO STUDENTS AT C.C.N.Y. SOME OF YOU SIGNED UP, BUT NEVER CONTRIBUTED *ANYTHING*. CONSEQUENTLY, *THE PAPER* IS DYING. WE CAN'T WHIP UP A BATCH OF DEDICATED, PROGRESSIVE ETHNIC WRITERS LIKE A CAKE MIX. **THEY HAVE TO COME FROM SOMEWHERE...YOU!** IF WE DIE, A PART OF YOU **ALSO DIES**. YOU'LL LOSE A VOICE ON THIS CAMPUS. SOUNDS HEAVY? SOUNDS SERIOUS? YEAH, WELL WE'RE LIVING IN HEAVY TIMES, AND WE'RE AS SERIOUS AS A HEART ATTACK. CHECK US OUT AT LEAST. MAKE TIME TO CONTRIBUTE. TO MAKE IT EASY FOR YOU, WE'RE LOCATED IN N.A.C. 1/118.

(This is a paraphrase of a message to the students from the staff of *The Paper*, originally printed November 17, 1977. This is December 1991, at City College, a hotbed of Afrocentrism, conscious raising, and the focal point of a growing movement toward multicultural education. In an era of intense racism and censorship, why should this message still apply to students on *this* campus?)

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Centerfold

EVERY MONTH IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

at

The Langston Hughes Community Library & Cultural Center

Home of The Black Heritage Reference Center
of Queens County

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Queens Borough Public Library

Merry Christmas

&

Happy Kwanzaa

from the staff of *The Paper*

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The Dukes of Hazard

by Mohale Masithela

You can't see who's in cahoots, cause now the KKK wears three piece suits.

from *Rebirth* by Public Enemy.

Several weeks ago on Sunday November 18th., David Duke was defeated by Edwin Edwards in Louisiana's gubernatorial race by a vote of 61% against 39%. That, however, did not mark the end of David Duke. He left behind a wave of Duke-a-mania. While it is true that he was defeated by a wider margin than expected (for every two votes for Duke, three went against him) the numbers do reveal something more when broken down further. Duke won the white vote with 55%, the Republican vote with 56%, and the "Born again Christian vote with 69%, Duke even obtained a significant 27% of the Democratic Party's vote. Duke got support from across economic, social, and generational lines. Duke got cam-

paign contributions from 47 states including contributions from 1,100 people in the New York-New Jersey- Connecticut area.

Duke achieved all of this despite his admittance of his Ku Klux Klan past. He achieved this despite being denounced by his own fellow Republicans, who were embarrassed by his blatant racism. Voters still voted for him despite the fact that many other states, prestigious individuals, business people and other people who would draw money would shun Louisiana, and cause the state economic harm. For people in America to take an action which they know will cause them harm, they must really believe in that action.

But what is it about David Duke that gained him his popularity? It might have been his policies and campaign issues, they worked for George Bush. His politics are all tainted by racism. Hard

on criminals, anti-affirmative action, anti-immigration, and other cheaply veiled racial politics - classic Willie Horton stuff! One of Duke's key messages was an anti-welfare one. This appeals to the European-Americans, especially during recession, because of the misconception that is running around that people of color are out there sucking up hardworking people's tax dollars. The fact is that Aid to Families with Dependent Children or Welfare comprises only two percent of the federal budget. Furthermore, the definition of welfare has been skewed for the very purpose of allowing people like Duke to practice their racist politics. For instance, the typical single welfare mother who receives government money to feed her children is tagged a welfare recipient, whereas the elderly who can no longer afford their expenses and consequently receive state money for their food, shelter, and their full time care-

taker are said to be receiving Medicaid, not welfare. A lot more money is spent on these elderly people than on that welfare mother raising her children. Therefore, it ends up that the people who receive the most federal funding look like Barbara Bush rather than the typical picture of a young sister, which is wrong in any event because there are more White recipients of Welfare money than Black. This is just an example of Duke's politics.

Despite the White House attempts to disown him, they revealed their similarities with the recent handling of the Haitian refugees seeking asylum in the United States. Asylum was originally refused on the grounds that they were escaping economic rather than political hardships. This is disallowed by the shady Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1954 and its subsequent amendments. However, if they were

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Black Beauty

Teacher Fired for Protesting Use of White Mannequins in Display

by Desa Philadelphia

Black women are constantly beautifying ourselves. We're responsible for millions of dollars spent each year on clothes and cosmetics and we are extremely visible as positive, beautiful role models for our little girls who themselves take pride in the fact that they "sure look good."

As little girls many of us were forced to accept the Eurocentric idea of beauty. The blond haired blue-eyed girls that we saw in magazines were never representative of who we were and are, but yet we were brainwashed into thinking that their image was representative of true beauty, never realizing that no matter how hard we tried we were never going to be a Twiggy or a Christie Brinkly.

Well, we've grown up since then, in body and in mind. We're constantly learning more about the Cleopatras and Nefertitis of our past and are enjoying our evolution as truly Black women. As we look through the pages of *Ebony* and *Essence* we can realistically compare ourselves with women that represent our different configurations and hues. We've got our Oprahs as well as our Whitneys.

Yet there are still many black women who strive to attain the figures and facial features displayed on the pages of *Glamour* and *Vogue*. In doing this they are not only robbing themselves of a rich heritage of beauty but they are robbing our little girls of the reality that Black is indeed Beautiful.

We've heard of surveys done in the nineteen sixties and as recently as the late nineteen eighties that show that when asked to pick a doll, either Black or White, the majority of the Black children chose the White doll. Does this mean that subconsciously our children are still being conditioned to think that White is "all right" and that Black should "get back"? You bet it does, and it's because we've glorified Barbie for too long.

Webster's dictionary describes a doll as "a child's toy, made to resemble a human being." Does the White doll trend mean that African features are not human enough to be displayed and thus our children must be subjected to manufacturers' constantly flaunting white dolls or white dolls sprayed brown? This is certainly the message that is being relayed, not only by ignorant individuals but as the case of

City College student Rupert Green indicates, by our educational system as well.

On March 8th 1991, Rupert Green, a student of City College until last semester, was fired from his job as Science teacher of Mount Vernon High School for protesting the use of eight white mannequins to teach African American students about beauty and culture. Mr. Green filed a charge with the U.S. Department of Education and on December 9th 1991 was notified that the Department had ruled against him in the case. He is awaiting the decision of the State Human Rights Department with whom he has also filed charges.

It is certainly not justifiable that the needs of our children be ignored. Mr. Green's class consisted of seventeen Black students and two White students, and yet in educating his students about their beauty and culture, he was ordered to ultimately satisfy the needs of the minority of two and thus to relate to his Black students that representations of them would not connote true beauty. The Board of Education in a letter sent to Mr. Green stressed that two nineteen-year old students of the school when asked if they were offended

by the use of White mannequins to express their beauty replied that they were not.

This aptly defines the consequences of the Barbie doll syndrome. When we mis-educate our little girls about what Black Beauty is, they are no longer able to see representations of themselves as beautiful. This leads to an obvious lack of self confidence when they realise that they are striving for beauty standards that they can never attain.

Our duty as positive black role models is to provide representations of ourselves that our children can relate to and be proud of. Rupert Green has done this by starting a manufacturing business that promotes purely afrocentric products - turning his experience into one that we can now benefit from. As Mommies and Big-sisters we have the responsibility of educating the next generation of sisters, so that they can see themselves as what they really are - Tomorrow's women of beauty and color.

NOTE:

Rupert Green may be contacted at the Business Office of C.C.N.Y.

Dukes of Hazard *continued from page 2*

seeking economic opportunity, why were they only seeking asylum after the political overthrow of President Aristede and not before? Even if they were economic refugees, would the United States not have a moral obligation to grant asylum, considering the well known exploitation of Haitian workers by American companies seeking to cut costs? Nevertheless, the military junta which took over for Aristede is repressive in the tradition of former Haitian ruler Francoise Duvalier and his son "Baby Doc" Duvalier. The question was raised by U.S. Senator Charles Rangel: if the same people in the same situation had arrived from Europe, would it have taken a judicial temporary restraining order to allow them temporary haven.

A further example of the Duke-like politics sweeping the U.S. is the criticism Mayor David Dinkins received for his trip to South Africa. Not much of the media covered what his business was in South Africa, they only questioned the cost, the number of bodyguards who carried arms, and other peripheral issues. Dinkins himself swiftly pointed out that when his predecessors, including Ed Koch who was among the very critical, went to their various ethnic homelands (Britain, Ireland, Israel, and Italy) they were not criticized like he was. One of the most vocal critics was U.S. Senator Al D'Amato who suggested that Dinkins should either not go on his "sabbatical" or not come back.

So clearly the hazard is not in presidential candidate and racist David Duke alone, he'll probably never win office. Of course, it might be advisable for people of African descent to avoid the state of Louisiana. The real danger is that there is no tangible difference between the politics of George Bush and David Duke. Senator Al D'Amato, many of the federal policy makers, people in the state legislature, Duke supporters, both explicit and implicit throughout the United States, David Duke himself and George Bush, among others, are the *Dukes of Hazard*.

**Good
Luck
On Your
Finals**

**From The Staff of
The Paper**

Opinion

Subconscious Suicide: The Highest Form of Annihilation Part III

by Brian L. Spivey

Subconscious suicide—a subject that can never be truly closed, is the highest form of annihilation. According to Webster's New World Dictionary Third Edition, the word annihilate is a verb defined as the following: to destroy completely; put out of existence, etc... This writer believes that if African people don't start learning about or looking at symbols and Images on a deeper level, then we will put our own selves out of existence!

Dr. Dona Richards states in her book *Let the Circle be Unbroken*, that "we must learn to look primarily on a much deeper level which is emphasized by the European." Once we take Dr. Richards advice and look at images on a much deeper level, we will soon realize, that most of the symbols and images that this society projects are anti-Black and anti-African. The inspiration for this series came from the pathos that this writer felt a year ago, when African people turned their backs on our children because we believed the heinous assassins that control and write for the newspapers and journals in New York.

The images and symbols that this society projects, and a familiar enemy has succeeded in getting plenty of African people to believe that our children are hoodlums and killers. It is beyond the knowledge of this writer to understand how teenagers (two of which were not even present at the scene), were arrested for raping a European woman, and no evidence—I repeat—not one stitch of evidence was presented in the 'Central Park HOAX.' There was no blood, no sperm, not even a fiber of someone's clothes! They could not even use the mud to link the teenagers to this HOAX; but regardless of this 'lack of evidence,' these teenagers—our teenagers were still convicted. Something is truly wrong when a race of people view their own offsprings as the enemy!

Although this is a tragedy, it is only an example of the White

Supremacist's systematic plan (to destroy people of color by using symbols and images) reaching its pinnacle; but, even a second grader knows what goes up must come down!! We—people of color—must attain the tools to speed up the fall of White rule, instead of being used as tools to contribute to our own destruction.

Symbols and images play a major role in the development of a societies' thinking process. Dr. Frances Cress Welsing, a doctor of psychology, in her book *THE ISIS PAPERS (THE KEYS TO THE COLORS)* states, "A symbol speaks loudly, or even shouts its meaning without uttering a sound. Symbols communicate from one person's subconscious to the subconscious of another..." Dr. Welsing goes on to state, that "White Supremacy is a topic that few can or dare discuss in depth at the conscious level..." Well, the author of this article, is here to testify that he is part of that few that will discuss the effects and consequences of White Supremacy.

Before the analysis of images are presented, the seriousness of the subconscious mind must be realized first. Dr. Joseph P. Murphy in his book *The Power of the Subconscious Mind* states, "over 90 percent of your mental life is subconscious..." Now, if one combines this fact with another fact "...the easiest way and most obvious way to formulate an idea is to visualize it..." then it is clear to see the link between controlling someone's actions through controlling their mind. Carter G. Woodson wrote about controlling a person's mind over sixty years ago in his book, *The Mis-Education of the Negro*. Woodson states, "When you control a man's thinking 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..." There are plenty of books that focus on educating one about the function and the seriousness of the subconscious mind but, an extraordinary book is the one written by Joseph P. Murphy. Dr. Murphy also states,

"...Remember that there is a universal law of action and reaction. The action is your thought. The reaction is the response from your subconscious mind." To help one understand that this theory still exist today, we only have to refer back to the Central Park HOAX! The action in this situation was thinking about the lack of evidence in this case, the logical reaction would have been to stand behind our children but, because someone else controls the images and symbols that enter our subconscious (in turn controls our thought process), we reacted to this situation apathetically.

The thought of African people not protecting their own children was very disheartening, but the image that produced the anger that inspired this writer to actually write this article, appeared in New York Magazine's August 5, 1991 cover page (this article is elaborated on in Part I & II). The second image that became the focus of Part II, was a poster put out by the N.C.C.J. (National Conference of Christians and Jews). **This poster is located on the uptown side of the D-train stop at 161 street and Yankee Stadium**

Magazines and posters are not the only damaging images. Images that have motion are just as dangerous as those that are motionless. In this White Supremacist society, it is not very strategic, nor is it wise to televise a Black man (oppressed) on television (major tool used to project anti-African images), with a big gun killing non-colored people (oppressors). It is not coincidental that the television show *Hawk*, only stayed on the air for a half the season even though the ratings were high. It is also no coincidence that the most popular Black man to ever carry a gun and had his own television show in the 1970's (*Shaft*), appeared on a 1991 television show (*ROC*) not only as a homo-sexual, but this homo-sexual came home and married a European man. This is the highest form of character assassination. (**If one takes a deeper look at all Black men in "leadership" posi-

tions, one will be able to see a definite pattern arising**)

Although there are plenty of negative images that appear on the television screen, there are still a few warriors that try to counter these negative images. Many may not agree with the preceding analysis but, a wise man once said, "Leaders will always be in the minority."

If one agrees with the information in Neil Gabler's book *An Empire of Their Own: How the Jews Invented Hollywood*, then it is only logical that if one puts anything positive on the television screen it has to be disguised. Truth is usually disguised in humor and the kings of humor appears every Sunday night at 8:00pm, on Fox television. Although this writer has heard many scholars and pseudo-conscious individuals say many things about this program, this program and this program alone, was the only show that addressed the Central Park HOAX, and showed the narrow-mindedness of all human beings who were deceived in believing that the teenager from the Central Park HOAX were guilty and the "Good ole Boys" from St. Johns were innocent.

The message to all the readers of this article is a short one: keep your eyes and mind open, you will never know what information will enter them and change your whole life. This writer is a firm believer that African women must play a major role in our spiritual, emotional, and psychological liberation. This series began with a quote taken from Dr. Dona Marimba Richards' book *Let the Circle be Unbroken*, and it will be end with a quote taken from Dr. Frances Cress Welsing's book *THE ISIS PAPERS (THE KEYS TO THE COLORS)*. Dr. Welsing states, "Once the victims of oppression accurately and completely decode the system and its objective of oppression and once they fully analyze the symbols and patterns of logic, thought, speech, action, emotional, response and perception (con-

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Opinion

Pseudo-Consciousness

by Alita Carter

How many times have sisters been approached inappropriately by a "positive" brother explaining to her what his capabilities are? How many times has a brother witnessed the continual "playing oneself" in "positive" sisters? Too many times we witness each other "out of character" or what we believe is suppose to be the character of an African-conscious individual. We've all heard ourselves and others say after hearing someone utter words, or demonstrate a particular action, "I thought she was so positive," or "I thought he was "conscious."

Well what is your definition of "conscious" and "positive?" Is a conscious individual one who wears African garb, speaks like an authority on history, wears African jewelry, burns incense, wears oils, is a strict vegetarian, and eats bean pies? Does a positive person attend every rally, participate in cultural affairs throughout the city, become active in some organization, treat women with the utmost respect, no longer judge black men with European standards? Is the person responsible for his brother/sister? Is this the soul definition of consciousness and positivity? If so, we certainly have a problem.

Perhaps if we examine what pseudo-consciousness entails, we can determine who is "truly" conscious. Webster's dictionary defines conscious as being aware, mentally awake or alert; intentional. Pseudo is a word meaning false, counterfeit, fake, mock, shadowy, deceptive and misleading. With pseudo preceding consciousness we have pseudo-consciousness; a false awareness. Many "positive" sisters and brothers fall under this umbrella, unknowingly of course.

The pseudo-conscious individual takes on several characteristics. The first character is the "conscious" brother or sisters who participates in all the beforementioned aspects of positivity and consciousness yet doesn't internalize that which they profess to

believe. At the onset of their "awakening", they attended lectures, read books, and made minor or major adjustments to their demeanor. Their outside appearances, along with all they know and expound on to their audiences, is a surface look at the "new me." It's like that of a candy-coated nut. The nut has a new coating or outer shell but it is still a nut. These people do such a great job of convincing people of their "consciousness" through their outer wear and talk, but truthfully the information has yet to penetrate the individual's mind. They don't live what they preach.

Whether we acknowledge it or not, we are judged primarily on our outside appearances, then the internal factor becomes the next issue.

So consciously or unconsciously, many of us come with contradicting attitudes and behaviors. One brother or sister might say to him/herself "This is what I'm all about...Got my kufe' on straight, my kente cloth wrapped on right and I have my Mis-Education of The Negro in my bag.....Everyone knows just by looking at me, where I'm coming from." The same brother or sister will turn around the next minute and say "Oh, that sister makes me sick, here she comes...Hotep, sister. Man, I had a piece of that last night,.... yeah, I know that's his girlfriend.....Don't mess up my kufe now, you know I have to go to the lecture tonight." Sounds familiar? This is just a small scenario of a larger picture.

The next characteristic of pseudo-consciousness is seen in someone who takes the "awakening" information and uses it to justify his own actions that are known to be destructive. Or someone who has continued to participate in activities known to yield disharmony amongst our people, using certain lessons that they've learned to rationalize their behavior. This speaks to the brother and sister totally down with O.P.P. and who uses the issue of polygamy for advocating their "philosophy." However, everyone is dumbfounded when the other sis-

ter gets pregnant and not your girlfriend, or when the brother refuses to let his girlfriend go for you.

This type of pseudo-consciousness is most detrimental because people act upon their misinterpretation and then sell their ideas so eloquently to seriously unaware individuals. "The justifier" can also be the one who speaks to everyone's spirit and mental health but eats every breathing animal and plant on the earth. Their body is ignored because "early Africans weren't restrictive in their eating habits." So it should have nothing to do with your mental capabilities. First off, we are not early Africans, and we buy our foods from groceries etc., nor are our bodies as physically equipped to digest these foods. Lastly, everything that enters one's system effects the inside, including the brain. It seems for every action made they'll be someone who said something or wrote it in some book that people use to justify their behavior.

The saddest aspect of one having come into a "consciousness" is the arrogance that often prevails in their presentation of their new found Africaness. Meaning, those who possess the necessary information to bring about growth in yearning hearts and minds act as those these "lost" individuals should have the information already at hand. These "veterans" present an attitude of looking down upon their fellow brothers and sisters for not having grasped the information yet. The attitude is "you don't know, well I don't have time to tell you." This attitude is most prevalent in arenas where a prominent scholar is speaking. The faces of many in the audience change when a person precedes to ask the scholar a question most in the audience know the answer to. The reaction is quite disturbing to this writer, simply because most of the audience hasn't done any major research, outside of reading a few books on the question posed by the brother or sister in attendance.

How do we begin to define words like conscious, positive, on

time, and righteous? In essence none of us are truly conscious. And if so, what are you conscious of? Being conscious of history and various aspects surrounding African peoples doesn't make one conscious of everything. *Are you conscious to your own inconsistencies, contradictions, insensitivity, shortcomings, destructive behavior, lying, cheating, jealousy, envy, foolishness, arrogance, etc.?* If not, then how can one truly be "conscious" with all the information at hand, and not be conscious of self?

When we hear someone is "positive," is it positive that he isn't stealing someone's pocket book? Or is she positive if she appears to be living right? These words have been established in our present vocabulary on describing those who we think "got it going on." However, these words don't do anything but add confusion and make the "conscious movement" seem like a fad.

Words such as "aware" and "striving" are best suited for individuals who recognize their shortcomings, realizing they will fall short of the many expectations. An aware African brother or sister is one who can truthfully admit their faults to themselves and others, who is of the fact that they're still striving to maintain some consistency in life. Understand that you will continue to grow. Think of yourself realistically. All information that you learn must remain a part of your conscious mind. You must obtain more information, but having information alone doesn't make you aware.

Subconscious Suicide ...

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sciously or unconsciously determined) that constitute the system, the oppressed will be able to reorganize their own behavior effectively. This reorganization will result in self/group-respect and support, and thereby end their oppression."

EXPRESSIONS

LET ME GO!!!

I used to be a babe in your arms.
You burped me and tied my hair in
pretty bows
You dressed me in pink with frilly white
lace panties and everybody thought my
butt was so cute when I bent over.

Then I went and did an awful thing to you.
I grew up and didn't like pink.
My breast budded and my womanhood poured
from me before you were ready.

I was your baby.
But now, because of my budding beauty,
you have tried to re-define your own femininity
before you thought necessary.

My mother, be my friend.
Whisper in my ear the secrets I
need to know to survive.
It's a strange, new world I face out there.

Share your fruits of wisdom with me.
Please don't cage me
because of your fear.

Mama,
Let me go and show me how
to savor the essence of me.

-Marcia Kelly

FAMILY LIFE

The son asked his father
"Why you hit my mother"
The pressured feeling moves to pain
"All that matters is we both love you"

A daughter cries
"I don't want my daddy to leave"
Through tears she cries
"I love daddy- don't go"
He fights back tears
"Have a great weekend with mommy
and I will see you tomorrow. I love you"

Mother and Father
Look at each other
No words to say
No hugs to feel
They move away

The silence has deafened
their smiles
And another day has taken
years of bittersweet love away

- James Gallishaw

EXPRESSIONS

FRIENDLY GOODBYE

At first I thought I had found you
But now it seems I have lost you
In the midst of suspense, my thoughts were intense.
My state of condition has seen a solution
That creates a vision with explicit precision.

You've nurtured your pride with a golden stride
You're joy and laughter to a tearful heart
You're pleasant with compassion in a strange old land
But that was then, goodbye my friend.

I'll recall the times we've shared
The timely flares that seemed so rare
Before it was so, but now we must go.
At times I asked why lovers should part
When all can be right beneath their hearts.
Why should one break a broken heart,
When all it seeks is a brand new start.

Deep down inside I sighted a light,
Drifting away with all my frights.
And there I see glorious plan
A promise land where I shall stand.
And there I received my courage and my strength,
To be the friend I promise to be,
Though within my heart I've set you free.

One must do what's best to do.
And this I must do for friendly sake.
But make no mistake it's based on faith
We musn't cry not even a sigh
Fir I'll always try to be so dear,
To be so neat, to cease your fears

-Landy Guevara

BEFORE SHE LEAVES

Everyday
I like to peek at her
She is aware. I know.
Perhaps, that is why
showing off her splendored
beauty, she struts.
I smile and she
intensifies her brightness.
I think she wants me
to peek at her tomorrow.
You see, before she leaves
still Dawn
grants me a new day.

- Angel Moreno

Health

A Quest to End Infertility Proves Fertile

by Andrew Daley

We take for granted the act of sexual intercourse, that we presume will result in pregnancy which with time will bring forth another human being into the world. This is an account of joy and love for innumerable parents. Unfortunately, this procedure does not work all the time. In fact, with the sexual revolution now in full swing, individuals are now exposed to more than one sex partners if not, several. This brings about a sharp rise in sexually transmitted diseases and other infections that may impair fertility. Also, there are thousands of women in the United States today who have malformed reproductive systems because their mother had used the drug DES (Diethylstilbestrol) to prevent miscarriage during the 1940's and 1950's.

An incredible 1 in 7 couples have trouble conceiving. And, in 1990 over 1 million new patients sought treatment. Fortunately, modern medicine is now able to manipulate every aspect of the reproductive cycle. To put it in a generalized sense, families can be pieced together with borrowed sperms, eggs or even a borrowed womb. Women can have babies long after their prime child bearing age. a case in point is Arlette Schweitzer, 42 of Aberdeen, S. Dakota who is expecting to give birth to her own twin grandchildren, acting as a surrogate for her daughter, Christa who was born without a uterus.

The coupling of egg and sperm has been the most straightforward step in embryology. If researchers can decipher the events happening before and after that step, then the issue of infertility can be addressed more effectively. For a woman, the root cause of infertility may have occurred 7 months before she is born, when microscopic eggs begin to form in the buds that will become her ovaries. A woman is born with approximately 2 million eggs and by the time puberty is reached, natural degenerative factors will re-

duce this number to less than 1/2 million. Each month hundreds of eggs will go through a maturation cycle where only one will establish itself as 'fit'. The egg will enter the Fallopian tube to be possibly fertilized by a single sperm. About 1000 will wither away and die during this cycle. And, to make matters worse, the older a woman gets, the less viable her eggs become. Her reproductive organs seemed not to be perturbed by age.

The sperm of the male is quite prone to defects. A typical sample is riddled with 'pinheaded' sperms that lack a full complement of DNA. This is attributed to the assembly line production of sperm in the testes. Scientists have methods where they can increase production, increasing the numbers of the functional variety.

Other methods have, in the past, been instituted to tackle the difficult problem of infertility. The sequence of events leading to conception are governed by hormones and researchers have found ways to use these hormones to our advantage. For instance, a woman whose ovaries do not release eggs properly may be given the hormone Human Chorionic Gonadotropin (HCG) which triggers ovulation. Also, women who tend to miscarriage are usually given progesterone which helps to soften the uterine lining, making it more receptive.

Still, hormone treatment have its limitations and there are numerous fertility problems that do not respond to hormonal therapy. A blocked Fallopian tube may be due to a pelvic infection, sexually transmitted disease or even endometriosis (Bits of tissue leaking out of the uterus). On the part of the male, his sperm may lack specific enzymes needed to digest its way to the egg. Blocked Fallopian tubes may be cleared by laser surgery or inflating a tiny balloon within the blocked passage. Sperms lacking specific enzymes can be put in direct contact by injecting (microinjection) into the egg.

These treatments, as intriguing as they are, are now overshadowed by a group of techniques known as in vitro fertilization (IVF). This technique allows the doctor to take many key reproductive events and perform them outside the body, in vitro (in glass). Mature eggs are removed from the body and mixed with sperm in a Petri dish. The resulting embryo is introduced into the uterus, bypassing many biochemical junctures which may have interfered with normal conception. Ten years ago, IVF was a hit or miss situation, having a success rate of less than 5%. Today, the case is quite the contrary. This is due to the development of two variations of IVF, GIFT and ZIFT.

The major problem that stands out in the reproductive process is that the embryo fails to adhere to the uterine wall (implantation). Where hormone therapy fails, a process developed by Dr. Ricardo Asch's laboratory at the University of Texas at San Antonio took root. Instead of fertilizing the egg in a Petri dish, he loaded the sperm and egg (each considered a gamete) in a micro pipette and inserted them into the Fallopian tube. Fertilization took place along with a very high success rate for implantation.

You see in GIFT (Gamete Intra-Fallopian Transfer), the embryo drifts quietly into the uterus as it would naturally, whereas in conventional IVF the embryo is squirted rather violently into a reproductive tract that has undergone various hormonal treatment that proves to be quite harsh on the womb. The procedure has been further improved by fertilizing the egg (now termed a zygote) in a lab dish and introducing it into the Fallopian tube, a process known as ZIFT (Zygote Intra-Fallopian Transfer).

Clinics utilizing these procedures have doubled and tripled their success regarding implantation. For a couple where sperm quality is not a factor, pregnancy may be had 40 to 50% of the time. This is enormously significant because a healthy fertile couple has a 25% chance of getting pregnant the natural way!

The latest clue to the mystery of implantation was realized by scientists working on the problem of 'lazy' sperms --- Sperms lacking the ability to penetrate the egg's outer membrane. These sperms came about as a result of testicular injuries or exposure to toxic chemicals. To solve this problem, microinjections (as *continued on page 9*

MONEY FOR COLLEGE

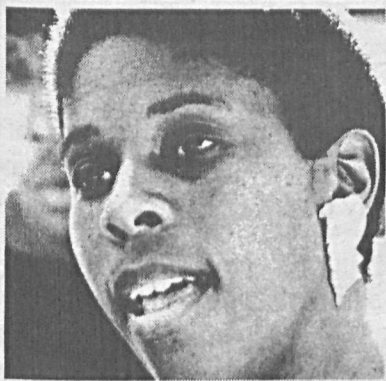
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Anita Hill, a heroine in the eyes of liberal America has gone home. Clarence Thomas, the right wing's latest trophy, has been given the job of a lifetime. Now the the hullabaloo is over, those of us who are serious about carrying on the far-from-finished struggle for civil rights in America can get back to business.

I have spent the last ten years working to build an independent electoral party, and a movement, in which women of color are at the forefront in the fight for political power. I am extremely proud to say that my political mentor and ally is a radical Jewish man whose name is Fred Newman. As an African American woman, I have taken a lot of flak from the feminists (the predominantly white,

official women's movement which has been locked in an unhappy marriage with the Democratic Party for way too long) for following Dr. Newman. And I have had to deal with a lot of nastiness from the nationalists (the overwhelming male, official Black liberation movement which keeps one foot in the Democratic Party and the other in its mouth) for the same reason. But since I am committed to exercising power — real political power — on behalf of the broad masses of people rather than to winning the approval of folks who have proven themselves to be politically impotent, I decided years ago that Fred Newman is by far our best bet.

Dr. Newman is the leader of the left political tendency that pro-

duced the New Alliance Party which I chair — the political heart of a community of independent, women-led institutions that include the Rainbow Lobby, the Castillo Cultural Center, the International People's Law Institution, the East Side Center for Social Therapy and the Barbara Taylor School.

Under his leadership we have created all kinds of environments in which women can contribute what we have as women (rather than as imitation men). Now at first sight that may not seem like much, but it's actually an extraordinary achievement. In most organizations — even those that call themselves radical — women are permitted to contribute only in ways that are so "mas-

culinized" (authoritarian, rigid, competitive) that we never become a threat to men.

It has taken years of long, hard work to create such an environment. That work has made it possible for us to have and continue to build a community in which the development of women as leaders is the bottom line. It is a community in which women have power — so much power that when women try to do "consciousness raising" (stopping our work to make the brothers aware that what they are doing is oppressive) it's a step backward! We don't have to challenge every instance of sexism (if we did, we would have to close up shop — since women run into sexism

Continued on page 10

Quest for Fertility ... *continued from page 8*

scribed earlier) as well as partial zona drilling (PZD, drilling a tiny hole in the egg's protective shell) have given lazy sperms some lee way.

PZD has made implantation all the more successful (5 times better than conventional IVF). One theory for this success, postulated by Dr. Jacques Cohen, may be that the embryo had trouble 'hatching' the shell housing the original egg. The tiny hole helps the sperm get in and the embryo to get out.

It is startling the dynamic level this area of embryology has achieve. But, with all the sparks of good hope, there are limiting factors that serve to dampen all this. The high costs for such procedures is one to consider. A single in vitro cycle can run \$6,000 to \$8,000 which most health insurance companies are reluctant to deal with. However, laws have been passed in 9 states requiring insurance companies to foot these bills.

The Federal Government has placed a ban on funding IVF research. This has knocked a few dents in the U.S. research efforts.

According to Dr. Kenneth Ryan of Harvard Medical School, "Britain and Australia are surpassing us in research because of present Federal restraints." He charges that the U.S. had created a 'moral vacuum' by not assisting in formulating vivid boundaries where modern embryologic medicine can be practiced. This is a matter of ethics--- without any that can be a universal guiding light, there will be chaos when litigating such cases.

One such case involves a wealthy couple who died in a plane crash leaving two frozen embryos as their direct heirs. A court decides however, that the embryos could not inherit the estate. In another case, a divorced Tennessee couple are battling over whether the woman has the right to make use of the frozen embryos created while the couple was still married. These are fantastic, yet serious situations we face as a result of man's gift of reason, curiosity and his acquired ability to experiment.

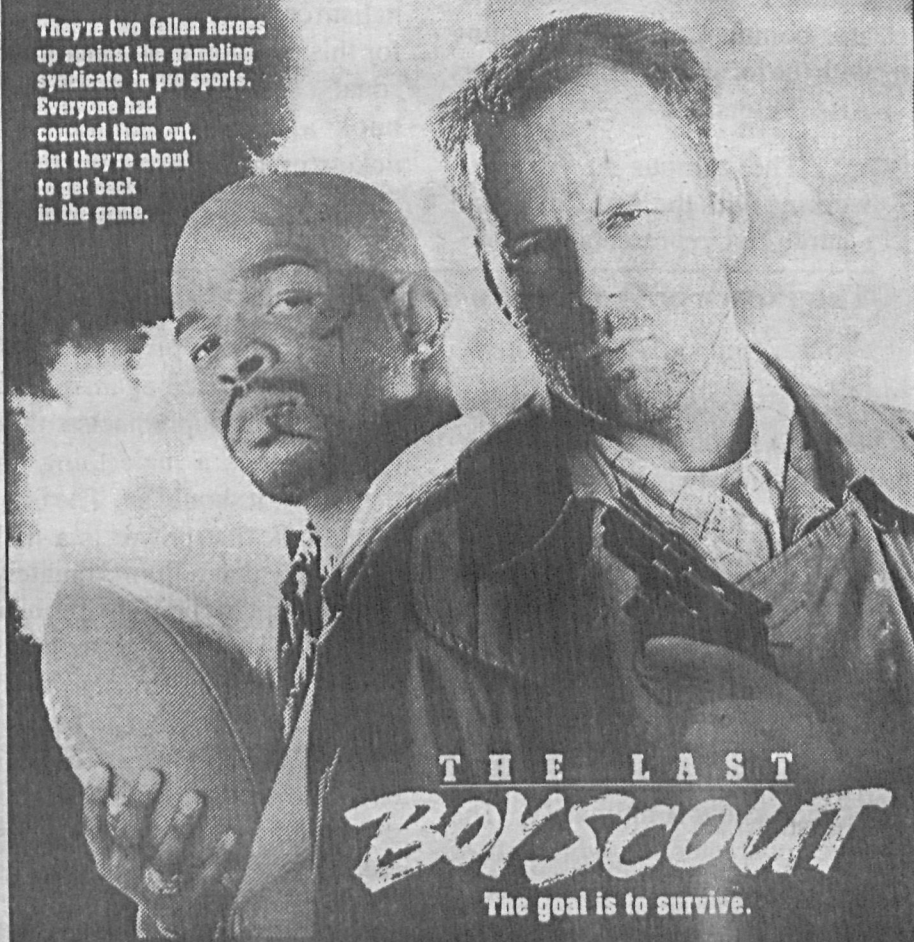
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Elmer-Dewitt, Philip. Making Babies. Time. September, 30th. 1991. pg. 56-63.

BRUCE WILLIS

DAMON WAYANS

They're two fallen heroes up against the gambling syndicate in pro sports. Everyone had counted them out. But they're about to get back in the game.



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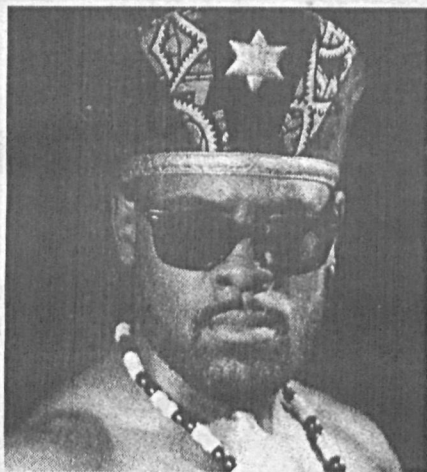
City Talent

by Desa Philadelphia

Yo! City Rap fans. As you walk around campus, look for this face - he just might be the next big thing to hit the rap scene. He's on a quest to earn your "Respect".

Let me introduce you to SHIAN. With his first recording on the store shelves and the video to the title track "Respect" about to be released, this brother is definitely on his way towards earning himself a following.

This release, though inevitable, has been in the making for quite sometime. This brother has paid his dues. He's been around since rap was called M.C.-ing and his music has evolved into a hype upbeat rhyme that's definitely designed to keep you on the dance floor. Beginning as D.J. Ruby Dee,



Shian

Shian moved with the rap movement, first performing with the group The Untouchable Force Crew, then moving on to The Together Brothers and finally receiving marginal success with the Brooklyn-based group The Brass Crew.

Currently waiting to break the new year with his sound, Shian is doing a few shows here at City College and aspires to making it at the Apollo 'cause as he puts it "if you can make them shut up then you know you large."

Proud of his music, Shian advises that in order to project a positive attitude one has to be "true to (one's) art form." He says that he feels that his music is positive because not only can the teenage rap crew get down with it but his mom, and yours, could listen to it as well. And the brother is multi-talented. He's also the C.E.O. of Chill Mode Recordings Inc., the recording company that he co-owns with his brother. Shian professes that owning his own recording company gives him creative freedom as well as educates

him on the technical aspects of the business - "It's time for me to do my own thing" he says.

As I mentioned before the album is very danceable. From "Respect" (that calls for brothers to love and respect sisters) to "Pay-back," you'll find some familiar rap beats accompanying Shian's philosophy.

As a rapper and businessman, who's working towards a double major in Black Studies and Technology Education here at City, Shian is just beginning to recognise his potential.

So head on down to Sikulu Records on 125th Street (across the street from the Apollo) and check SHIAN'S album out for yourself. He's cocked and ready to earn your "RESPECT."

C. U. N. Y. Theater Network Experiment Begins

by Rob Walters

Ahh, the life of an actor.

Well, not for me. But if you want to be a real actor, then you must go on the road. The new C.U.N.Y. campus's student theater community by cooperating with the local student newspapers Arts Editors.

The campus newspapers, working with the Arts Editor and Central Net representatives pro-

mote touring productions and solicit needed local campus liaison agents.

A liaison agent is a student on a C.U.N.Y. campus involved in student theater, the arts, journalism or politics. What is needed for this position is the many personal connections necessary to book a theater and help sell tickets (or arrange other financing).

Fortunately, it would seem that talent individuals such as this can be found on each C.U.N.Y. campus. The local newspaper, through generous free ad space, lures this workaholic into the net.

Once established, any student theater company, if they wish, may easily continue to stage their performance along a C.U.N.Y.-wide tour. Ideal senior campuses for such a project are C.C.N.Y., Lehman, Queens, Brooklyn and

Hunter.

If the Net proves to be successful, expansion can take place in any one of many directions (e.g. S.U.N.Y.). Interested parties must call 212-772-4270 and ask for Rob Walters. With luck, frequent plays will be shown to more packed houses throughout the C.U.N.Y. system.

The Power of Women *continued from page 9*

about 50 times a day before breakfast).

The women in the NAP tendency have two very important things in common. One is our oppression as women. While there are certainly differences between the oppression which a poor woman of color must endure and the oppression of her more privileged white sister, sexism is so deep-rooted in our society that all women know it intimately. The other characteristic which all of us share is that we are interested in exercising political power. If we weren't we wouldn't be here, since that's what the NAP tendency is about.

Women typically are conflicted about exercising power, which isn't surprising. It's not just that women in our society are bad

at exercising power; we're counter-socialized against doing it. The male supremacists think that power is a male thing and that's how it should be. The feminists think that power is a male thing and that's (unfortunately) how it's got to be. The problem is, they're right — if you operate in a male environment, that is. It's impossible for women to be powerful in the absence of creating environments in which we are supported to do so — otherwise we're made fools of, and worse.

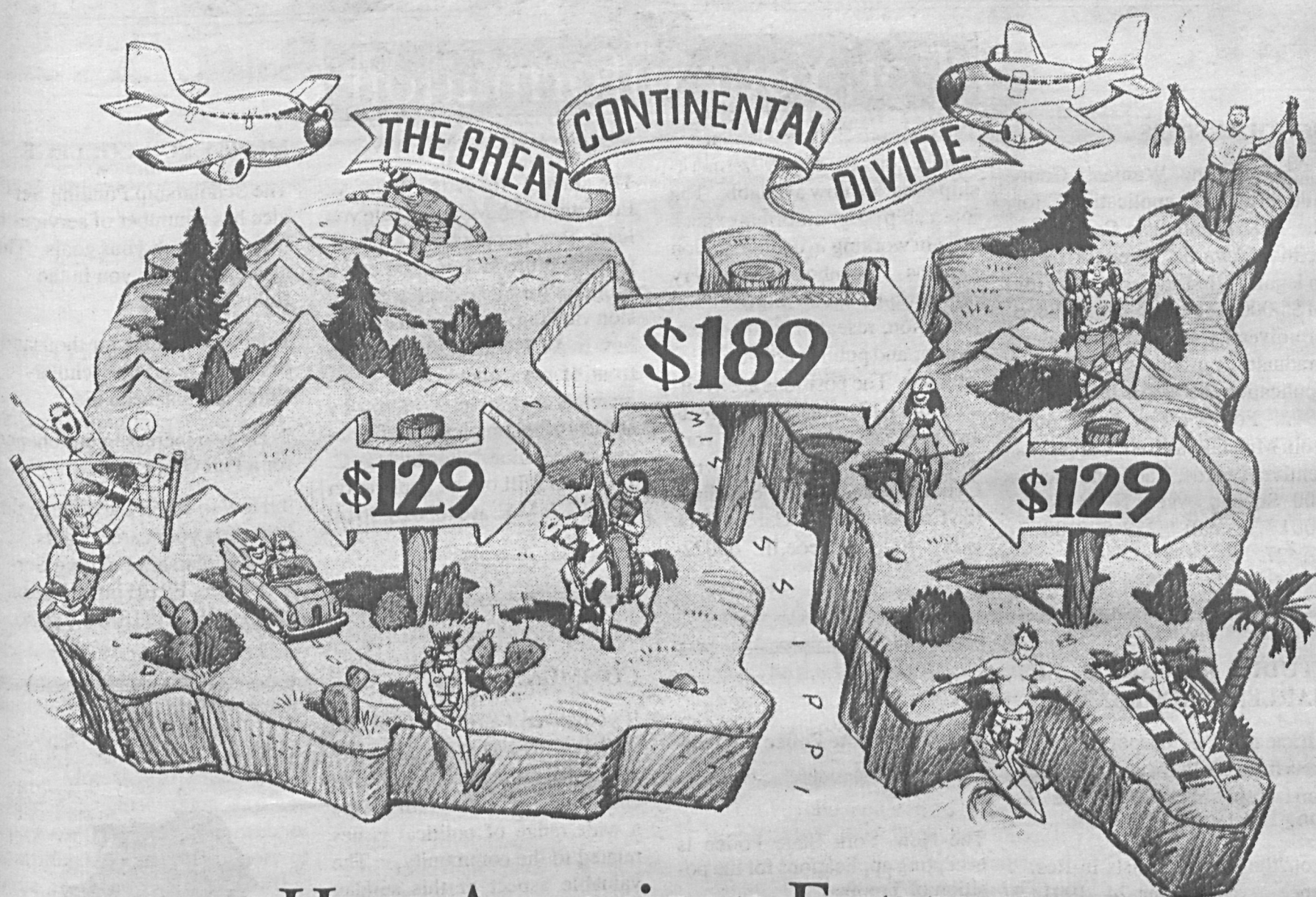
A lot of women in the Black community are very conflicted when they first hear me speak. I'm "too profane." I'm "too outspoken." But at some point they begin to respond very enthusiastically — especially when they realize that I'm saying some things they can't imagine saying. You

see, I won't let Black men walk all over me — I am not afraid to tell them where to go when they tell me that my skirt is too short, or my politics are too radical. The women love it. They love it because I'm always standing up for women without ever putting down men! You see, I'm not playing a feminist game — I'm not about chopping men up. I can be absolutely straight with my brothers because I'm there for them — unconditionally — and everybody knows it.

As a scientist and an activist, Dr. Newman believes that the leadership of women is absolutely necessary if we are to make fundamental, racial social change — to ensure not just the survival, but the continued development, of our people and sisters and brothers throughout the world. This means

reorganizing all aspects of people's lives, including the most "personal." The struggle to do this has allowed the tendency to engage in all kinds of battles — psychological, cultural and otherwise — that the white male-led left would never and could never touch.

The NAP tendency is thus not only the place where women can exercise power, it is the only movement that I know of whose daily (very womanly) activity is about the continuing development of the human race. It is my privilege, as well as my responsibility, to share the work that we do with all of you.



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For Your Information

SCHOLARSHIPS

Lighthouse Inc. Women's Committee invites applications for the 1992 Lighthouse Career Incentive Awards, given for merit to legally blind students. Awards of \$5,000 are available for college or university study at the undergraduate or graduate level. The application deadline is January 31, 1992. Forms are available now from Mrs. Gilda Gold, Career Incentive Awards, The Lighthouse, 800 Second Ave., N.Y., N.Y. 10017 or call 212-808-0077 X1427.

STUDIO MUSEUM IN HARLEM PROGRAMS

Africa and the Diaspora: Selections from the Permanent Collection. September 18 - June 7, 1992.

From the Studio: Artists-in-Residence. November 24, 1991 - March 1, 1992.

Admission: Adults-\$3, Children (under 12) \$1

Museum Hours: Wednesday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday 1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.; Closed Monday and Tuesday. Call (212) 864-4500 for information.

DISCOUNT MOVIE TICKETS!!!!

Finley Student Center now sells movie tickets for \$5.00, good at all Cineplex Odeon theaters. Don't hesitate! Act fast! Drop by and cash in on this great deal (you're saving \$2.50 on each adult movie ticket!). Available to all students, faculty, and staff with **validated** ID cards. Come to N.A.C. 1/210A or call (212) 650-5010.

The Chicago Botanic Garden has applications for the 1992 Internship Program now available. The internship program offers experience in working in demonstration gardens, greenhouses, nursery productions, urban horticulture, education, research and conservation, and public garden administration. The positions are available in 3-12 month increments and provide for a 40 hour work week. For more information write Cynthia Baker, intern coordinator, Chicago Botanic Garden, P.O. Box 400, Glencoe, Ill. 60022-0400.

COME JOIN SAME T.V.

The student for Arts, Media & Education (S.A.M.E) will help you learn how to operate a camera, manage a production, and edit a program for close circuit television viewing. You can also learn how to ACT, and deliver news in front of the camera, write commercials and scripts. Drop by and learn the complexities of Television operation. Stop by N.A.C. 1/117 and fill out an application or call S.A.M.E. at 6405028, 5014.

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The Scholarship Funding Service has a number of services to help you reach your goals. The agency can help you in the following areas:

1. How to qualify for thousands of dollars in grants, scholarships, and financial aid.
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New York State Police Recruitment Section

The New York State Police is accepting applications for the position of Trooper.

You must have at least 60 college or two years of active military and 30 credits to apply.

For an application or information please call the information please call the Recruitment Section at (212) 912-4300.

COMMUNITY NEWS

If you haven't already, tune into 98.7 WKRS-FM radio's Sunday news program called *The Weekend Review*. The program covers a wide-range of political issues related to the community. The valuable aspect of this Sunday morning news program is that the newsroom staff (Bob Slade, Joe Bragg, Ann Trip) usually discuss issues that were previously presented in a biased fashion by the mainstream print and broadcast media. Time: Sundays, 8:00 - 9:00 am.

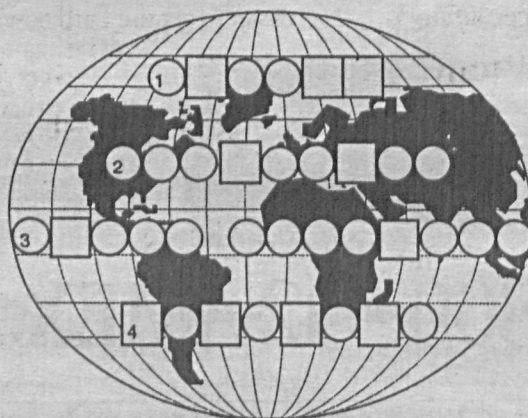


PEACE CORPS WORLD WISE PUZZLE

For further information about Peace Corps, write Box 896, Washington DC 20526

INSTRUCTIONS: The Peace Corps has volunteers serving in more than 80 nations around the world. By solving this puzzle, you will learn about one of these countries.

Solve the four numbered puzzle words and then unscramble the letters in the squares to produce the name of the country darkened on the map at the right.



West African nation about half the size of Illinois, the coastal area of which was once used as a home for blacks discharged from the British armed forces.



1. A beverage made generally by percolation, infusion or decoction from the roasted and ground beans of a plant of the same name.

2. An oily flammable bituminous liquid that this country must import.
3. Title of the chief executive in a parliamentary system.
4. Ocean on which this country lies.

Solution: 1. coffee 2. petroleum 3. Prime Minister 4. Atlantic = Sierra Leone