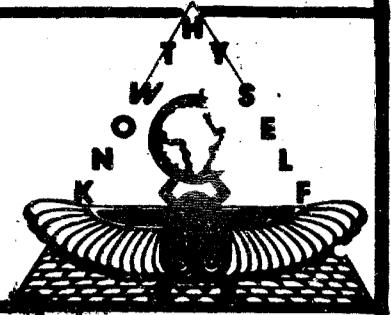


# BLACK WORLD



UNIVERSITY AT STONY BROOK

FEBRUARY 23, 1984

VOL. IX NO. 2



# U.S. Foreign Policy and the Caribbean: A Panel Discussion

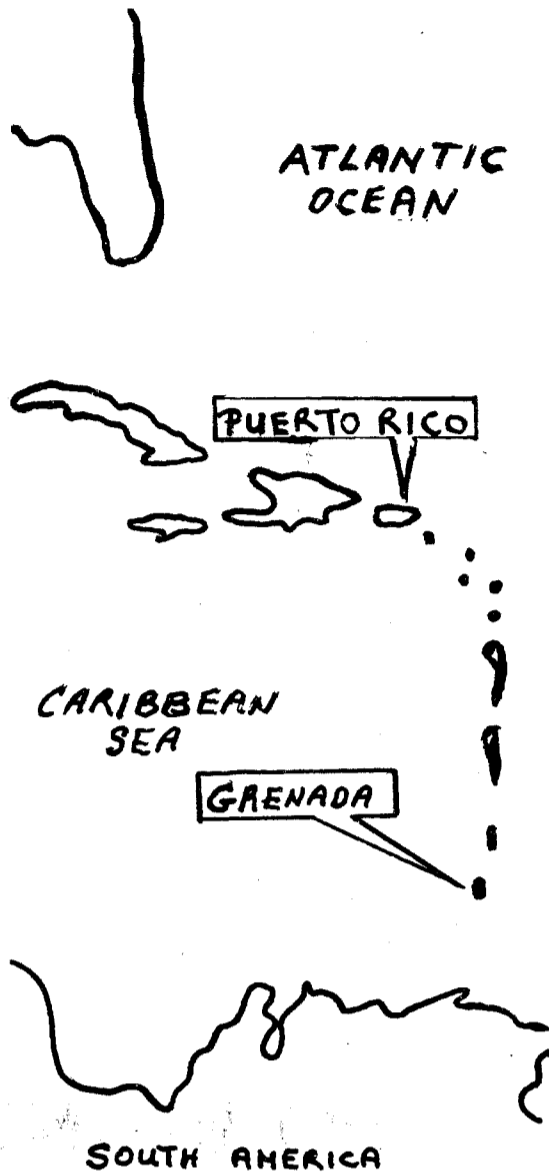
by Caroline Thomas

A panel discussion on the U.S. foreign policy and the Caribbean was one of the many activities planned for Black History Month on the Stony Brook campus. It was held in the newly innovated U.N.I.T.I. center on Wednesday February 8. The three-membered panel concentrated on such topics as South America, Puerto Rico, and Grenada.

The first to speak was Dr. George Priestly, who spoke on the topic of South America. The U.S. foreign policy in South America is to "make it their backyard and if one is progressive, the front yard; and in any case the Yard," stated Dr. Priestly strongly.

The *Monroe Doctrine*- 1823; the U.S. had the notion that its presence in the Western hemisphere should be pre-eminent if not exclusive. They began by displacing the British from South America. They did this by replacing the British as the number one financier and creditor in the area. Later on Britain's declaration of war against Spain led to the takeover of Cuba, Puerto Rico, and Panama by the U.S. The decade of the 1960s through the 1970s found the U.S. sealing off the area from the Nazi's. The problem facing the and friends of the U.S.- the U.S. 'puppet regimes' in South America- is the Marxist-Leninist threat. Social conditions are poor, militarism harsh; the masses were becoming angry. The massive introduction of U.S. currency transformed South America- they were no longer the "banana countries" but were transnational industrial nations. Social conditions remained the same: poverty prevailed. The poor masses began to look for a way out of their dilemma; they found it in the LEFT.

The U.S. is now professing to saving the region from the Marxist-Leninist threat of the Soviet Union via Cuba. They are now waging an illegal war in Central America in order to reassert the control they once had over the region.



The next speaker was Palmina Rois, speaking on Puerto Rico. Puerto Rico is still a colony of the United States. To justify keeping Puerto Rico as a colony, the U.S. has set up Puerto Rico as a model for the other Third-World countries to follow. Operation Bootstrap: the industrialization of Puerto Rico. This may have made a lot of money for the corporations, but the people of Puerto Rico are still poor. At the moment, 35% of the people who can work, do not; 25% are unemployed; 40% have migrated. It's ironic that Puerto Rico is presented as a model country for the region.

Les Payne was the last to speak. He spoke mainly on the news coverage of the Grenada invasion.

Direct press coverage of the Grenadian revolution was not allowed by the U.S. government- instead the government issued statements telling their version of the invasion.

A few reporters found their way into the island during the invasion. One of them was reporter Morris Thompson of *Newday*. He had been sent to the Caribbean to report on the invasion. Upon arriving in Barbados, he learned that all commercial flights to Grenada had been stopped. Thompson and five other American reporters formed a pool and hired a plane to take them to Grenada. They finally arrived in Grenada by boat, having ditched the plane along the way. They scrounged the island for a while, gathering material to send back to their various newspapers, but soon found out that all communication ties to the outside world had been broken. They turned to the invading soldiers for help, who took them on board the USS Guam to use their radio. They were taken to the commanding officer on board who informed them that they would not be able to contact their respective newspapers. They were then detained for 24 hours during which President Reagan gave his version of the invasion in a nation-wide press conference.

## Surinam: The Last Bastion of Real African Culture

by Peter Ward

On the ninth day of February 1984, a film and lecture was shown on the *African Heritage of Surinam*. This event was planned in order to show those among us a part of our African Heritage which we have lost, and it succeeded in doing so.

The main speaker, Arnold Nieuwendam, was an articulate and dynamic orator who never lacked for a precise answer and revealing wit when it came to answering questions or describing his country's heritage. He is a native of Surinam who takes great pride in his African legacy and the fact that his country has retained a great deal of the old ways of Africa.

Mr. Nieuwendam went to great pains to describe his country to those present in the audience. One of his main points was that he wasn't really speaking on the entire country of Surinam, but of those people living in the middle or deep country who still retained the knowledge and the customs of their ancestors and those people who were brought to Surinam over ten generations before. He pointed out further that the ancestors of the people of present day Surinam revolted against their slave-masters and fought them in a war, which ultimately led to a signing of a peace treaty between the Africans and Europeans which has lasted until today.

The film itself, entitled *I Shall Moulder Before I Will Be Taken*, dealt with the visit of those Black Ivy League Professors to the inner country of Surinam. Their interest was to see what they could discover about their own past and learn what had kept the concept of these people embraced in check for such a long period of time.

What they found in the Surinam was a highly or-

ganized society where crime was for all practical purposes, unknown of and where each member of a tribe or village is more willing to help his fellow man because he knows that when he needs something done he can count on his fellows. The film also served to dispell the notion that Africans were not a religious people but were in reality only shown to a righteous path because of the intervention of the Christian doctrines. What the visitors found was a vastly religious society who live in such harmony with the land

they find it necessary to give a portion of everything they were about to eat to the earth for gratitude. To further illustrate the piousness of these people: when the American contingent was brought to where the villiages reside, they had to be purified by the village's Hobia or medicine man, if you will, before they were allowed to enter the village.

If the purification is successful, then the strangers are allowed to enter the village and meet the chief of chiefs, in order to see if they will be given official permission to stay in the village. No one speaks directly to the chief, instead they may speak to an interpreter who states any message to and from the chief. The chiefs show their approval for a statement or a request by clapping their hands which has a great deal of historical tradition going back to Africa.

Welcome dances are performed by the members of the village to welcome the strangers and also display historical events in dance form. Historical events which for the most part deal with the escape of Surinam's slaves and their victory over the Europeans.

In essence, what Surinam is now, is what Africa used to be three centuries prior to our present day

world. This tiny group of villages have succeeded in denying the western world entrance into their own private world. The medicine of the outside world is not sought because it is not needed. To further elaborate, the medicine man for each village has uncommon knowledge of the plants and herbs in the area which help certain ailments. This fact seems to have been quite revealing to the American visitors especially after they tested the plants and found the properties of the plants to be scientifically well suited for the individual ailments.

Furthermore, the narrator pointed out that the members of the village are vigorous, healthy people with very high life spans. There seems to be very little case of hypertension in the village, which many claim to be an affliction found greatly in black men.

The film came down to the ideas of one medicine man who stated that he lived his life through one ideal: "a man has to feel with his heart and deal with his mind to be true to himself."

The finale of the evening was a donation by the speaker to the Cultural Center in Stage XII. This included a reclining chair and some pieces of sculpture of exquisite quality, which were a wonderful addition to the collection.

One point should be noted; the audience at the presentation wasn't exactly what was hoped for. It is a shame that so many people missed an opportunity to see a glimpse of their lost cultures and are continuing to do so all through the month in our celebration of our history. I ask those who have not been taking the time to see a presentation of our legacies to please take the time to see even one of the remaining events; you will not be disappointed.

# Ms. Eleanor Norton

by Lorna Francis

"Remedies to end discrimination have come from the Stone Age of ineffectiveness into a modern era of strength associated with the new techniques of Affirmative Action," Eleanor Holmes Norton said on Tuesday, February 7th in the Fine Arts Center. Ms. Norton spoke before approximately 100 students, faculty, and staff members as part of the celebration for Black History Month.

Ms. Norton delivered a lecture entitled, *Human Rights and Civil Rights: A History of Affirmative Action*. The lecture was co-sponsored by the following: The Africana Studies Program, Department of History, Women's Studies Program and Office of Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action.

"In the early 70's almost everyone in the position to know complained that Affirmative Action was too weak. The Congress, scholars of the subject, and other objective observers of Equal Employment Opportunity in particular were highly critical of the results. The Civil Rights and Womens Rights Advocate spoke of discrimination remedies with something close to division, claiming that the techniques were too mild and the results too scant but the posture of the respective side of Affirmative Action has changed remarkably," said Norton. Ms. Norton feels that there is still an inaccurate tendency to associate Affirmative Action essentially with minorities. "The thinking involved here is not always free of racism. It often assumes that Affirmative Action is a gratuity, a benefit, the functional equivalent of welfare for the purpose of awarding jobs and other benefits to the historically unfit or undeserving rather than a legal remedy," continued Ms. Norton.

"Over and over again, Americans have congratulated themselves that they have come a long way since Black men served in segregated units to fight the great war against bigotry, since Black children went to segregated schools under the federal mandate." She added, "Even though blacks were eager and available for work throughout the period of the great immigration of the 19th and 20th century, and although Blacks had the advantage most immigrants lack of knowing country's language and customs, the country preferred to import workers than to offer jobs to native Blacks whose labor would have been but a supplement."

Ms. Norton is a distinguished lecturer and a Professor of Law at the Georgetown University Law Center. As Chair of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission from 1977 to 1981, Ms. Norton administered Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Acts, the Equal Pay Act, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and Section 501 of the Rehabilitation Act, covering physically disabled individuals. From 1970 to 1977, Eleanor Holmes Norton chaired the New York City Commission on Human Rights and served as an executive assistant to New York City Mayor John Lindsay.

Ms. Norton is a graduate of Antioch College and Yale University Law School. She also holds an M.A. in American Studies from Yale. After graduating from law school in 1964, Ms. Norton served as a law clerk to the Federal District Court Judge A. Leon Higgenbotham, and then served from 1965 to 1970 as Assistant Legal Director of the American Liberties Union. While at the ACLU, Ms. Norton represented, among others Governor George Wallace of Alabama. Ms. Norton also has served as a Senior Fellow at Urban Institute in Washington, D.C. She is the co-author of *Sex Discrimination and the Law: Causes and Remedies*, a text used in many American law schools and colleges. Ms. Norton is pessimistic about the future of the remedies; the remedy will be respected by the American people if more vigorous and responsible leadership is exercised, and greater care is taken to encourage better understanding of the remedies.



Black World/Greg Smith

## The Roots of Black History Month



by Ramona Smith

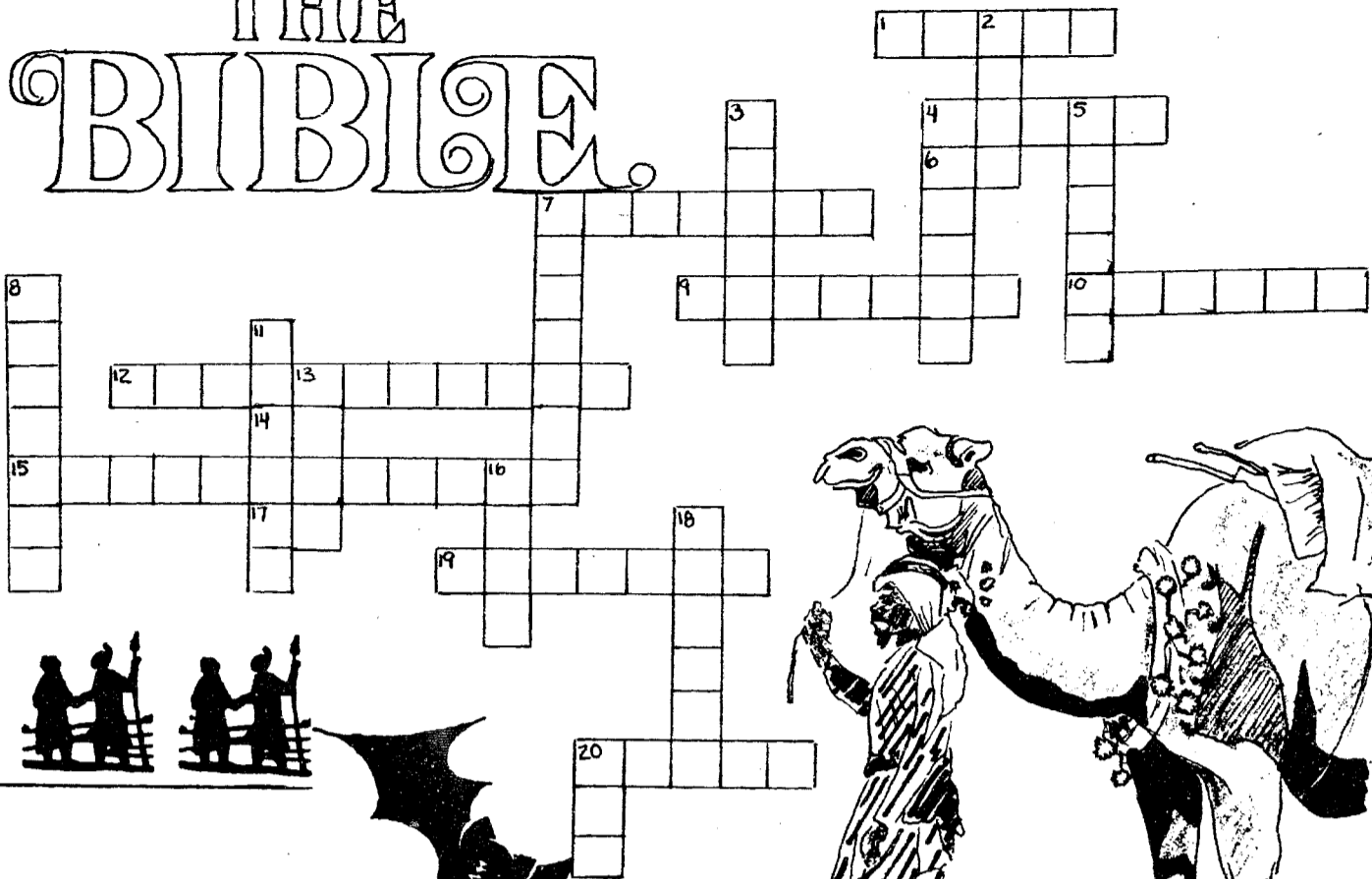
"Not to know what one's race has done in former times is to continue always as a child."

This statement was said by the noted Black historian Dr. Carter Woodson, the organizer of the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History was author, educator and historian. He was instrumental in starting the first Black History Week in 1926. That week was extended to a month in 1976 by former President Gerald Ford. The week was originally set to encompass the birthday of Abraham Lincoln on the 12th and Frederick Douglass on the 14th.

Dr. Woodson conceived the idea for Black History Week as a time to reflect on the heritage, achievements and contributions of Blacks. Black History Week was established as a reaction to American racism and an attempt to de-

fend Black humanity. Black History Week wasn't initiated to only celebrate what many people think is 'relevant' Black history. That is, not only to celebrate the list of 'great Negroes' who have received White credibility and recognition, but also celebrate and acknowledge the creative genius and beauty of those great number of Black folk who have fought the day to day struggle for survival. A serious look should be directed toward the substance of the collective CULTURAL and POLITICAL experience of Black people. Ralph L. Crowder once said, "The observance of Black History Month must be a testimony to those Black pioneers who struggled to affirm the humanity of the African people, and a challenge to the present generation to protect and preserve Black humanity."

# THE BIBLE

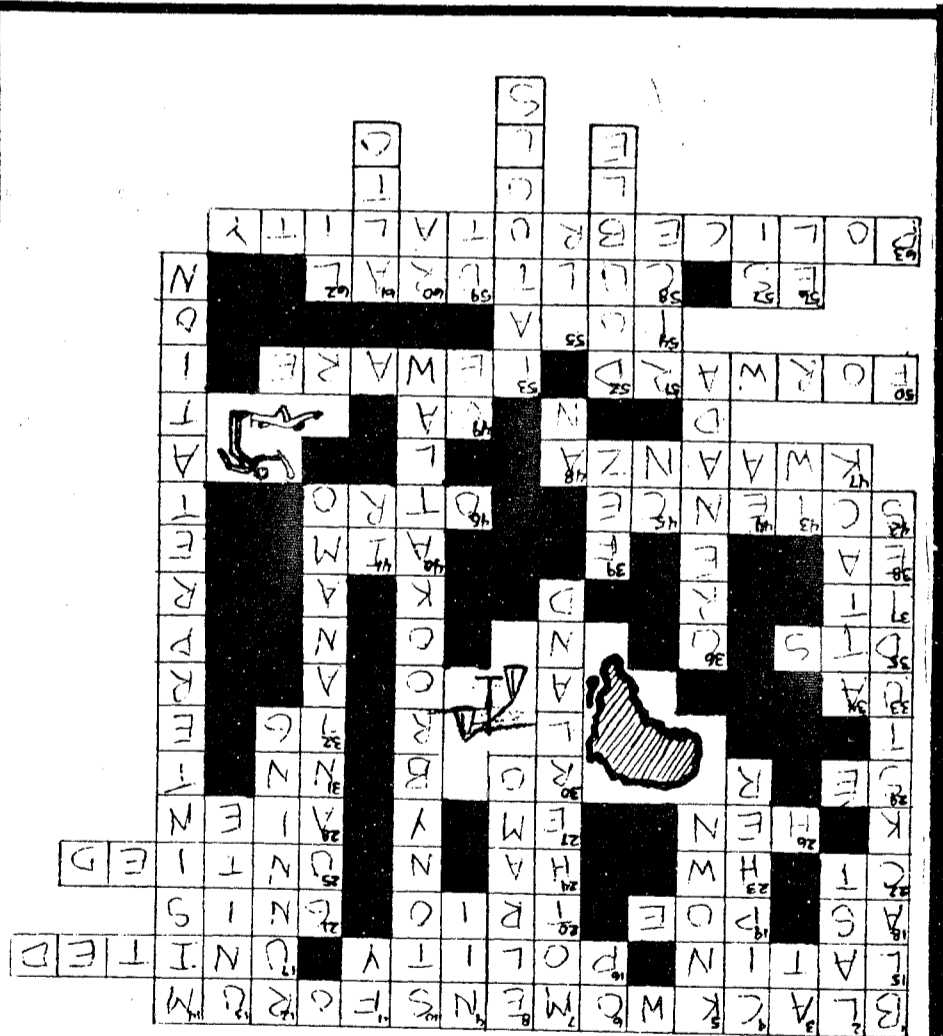


## Across

1. Psalms is the longest book - with 100 and \_\_\_ chpts.
4. David, youngest son of \_\_\_\_.
6. Old Testament. - Abbr.
7. "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the course of the \_\_\_\_."
9. This fowl shall not be eaten. (by man)
10. In this book, Moses destroys the tablets holding the ten commandments.
12. This creature as its cousin the locust, may be eaten by man.
14. Athiest Optimist. - Abbr.
15. The Great Period beginning with the Creation and ending with the flood.
17. After the death of Christ. - Abbr.
19. He said "I am black, but comely... the sun hath looked upon me."
20. \_\_\_\_, but comely. - See 19 Across.

## Down

2. The measure 1 reed equals 9 \_\_\_\_.
3. Moses led his people through this body of water.
4. The period of wandering is from The Exode to the passage over \_\_\_\_.
5. 1 Gold \_\_\_\_ equals \$9.60.
7. Not only swine, but the hare is also \_\_\_\_ to eat.
8. David slays \_\_\_\_ in the Book of Samuel.
11. The 23<sup>rd</sup> Book of the Old Testament.
13. In Genesis, Joseph was \_\_\_\_ by his brethren.
16. He clearly saw that the sins of Israel could not go unpunished.
18. Moses' successor.
20. Man shouldn't eat this nocturnal 'fowl'!



## AN UPDATE

The above solution to "An Update", from Black World's last issue had been printed with its mistakes: 9 Down (unresolved); and 52 Down should be 53 Down & visa versa.  
- Yaa Sewee

Answers Will Be In The Next Issue

# Viewpoints . . .

## Secret to Life

Greetings through the most high to all brothers and sisters. It gives me great pleasure to share a few words with you. What I come to tell you about is Life and not Death.

All man on the earth was created equal. Your skin color is only skin deep and plays no role in life. We all breathe, eat, pass waste, have a heart, a mind, two legs, two arms, one and one body.

Taking it a step deeper, there are two things that make up a man. One is his flesh and the other thing is his soul. The elements of the flesh is a man's five senses. He is able to see, smell, taste, hear, and touch. The heart, lungs, brain, legs, arms, and head are also elements of the flesh, but they are support mechanisms. With these five senses and one other important thing man is able to Live life. The other important thing is his Soul. Like the flesh, the soul is an element. It also has a support mechanism. The support mechanism is the creator. You ask how is this

possible? If you do not see it, here is an analogy to help you. The Soul is like the wind. The wind bloweth where it listeneth and we hear the sound but can not tell where it comes from and where it goes. Like the soul we know that the wind is present.

Man is able to survive life without one or more of his senses. We know this as true because in the world we have deaf people, blind people, dumb people, people who can not smell, and old people who lose their sense of touch. Man cannot live life without a soul. For he will be a robot then and not a man.

Every man is created equal and placed on the earth with his own choice to live his life revolving around the flesh or the soul. If we worship the flesh we inherit the treasures of the flesh. If we worship the soul we inherit the treasures of the soul. One of the treasures we get from worshipping the flesh is Life. This life of the flesh only lasts

as long as its support keeps it going. Looking at the span of time, a man's life is a very very short time compared to time itself. The reason for this is that things of materialistic value will not be here for everyone because moth and doth does corrupt it. Here is the secret to Life, the Soul. For the soul is not seen but is present. Things that cannot be seen will exist for eternity. For the soul cannot be rotted away like the flesh and other things that can be seen. Knowing about and living of the soul is Life, but living of the flesh is eventual death. So brothers and sisters seek and you will find. For whoever seeketh finds what he went looking for. What we are all looking for is life and not death. Now the time is ripe for us where we can seek Life through the soul before death of the flesh overcomes us. Life is a tricky thing; let's overcome the things of the world today that might bog us down from the world of tomorrow.

by Marvin Duncan

I  
ART  
AN  
AFRICAN



## EDITORIALS

### Yes, This is Black History Month

by Tracey A. Bing

Yes, this is BLACK HISTORY MONTH. This is a time when the accomplishments of African-Americans are honored. Well, I am glad. I feel in my heart that every month is BLACK HISTORY MONTH. While thinking about our past, we must also look at our present situation and also look towards the future.

While we have benefitted immensely from the dedicated efforts of our heroes, we must not forget that the struggle is not over. Oppression has not been eliminated, only its form has changed. We as college-educated individuals have our work cut out for us. We must not forget where we have come from.

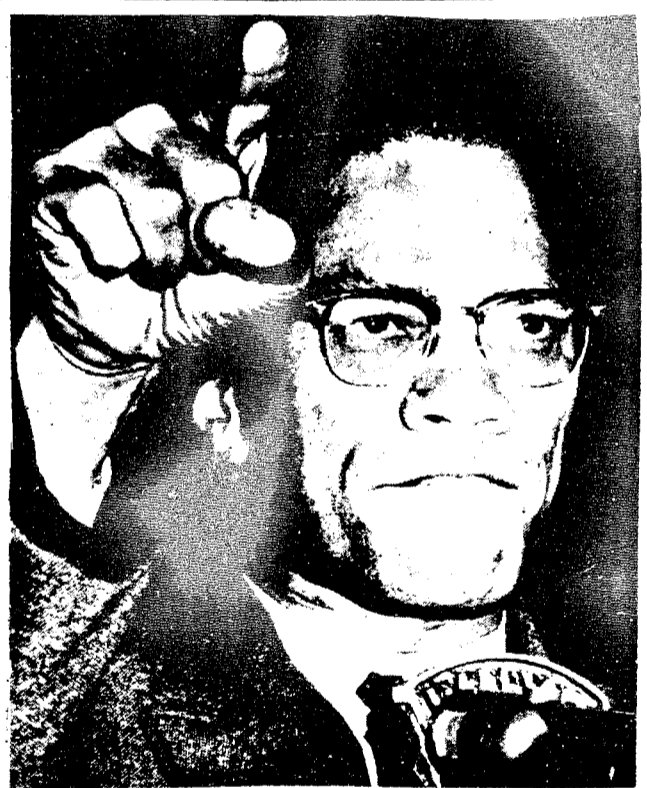
I am not talking about whether you grew up in Brooklyn or on Long Island, I am talking about ancestry. Although we have been brainwashed, lied to, socialized to the White Anglo-Saxon Protestant culture and robbed of our culture, the truth still remains. Yes, we come from a proud people full of intellect, strength, and beauty.

The intellect, strength, and beauty of African-Americans is criticized daily. In this land of the free, we are not free. I am still enslaved under a system which perpetuates racism, capitalism and inequality. Every aspect of my life is regulated by someone who does not know what I need to survive, who I am, nor does this person care to acknowledge my presence.

In a society such as this, we must realize the seriousness of life. We are here for a reason, we have work to do. By this I mean we should take advantage of the opportunities bestowed upon us, which in turn will create opportunities for those less fortunate.

I want to express my concern about taking a college education seriously. It is here that we can question what we have been taught. It is here, at Stony Brook, where our attitudes about our future are formed. It is also here, where we are exposed to the harsh realities of life, that we learn what it is to be "young, gifted and Black." Education is a means of dealing with reality. The reality that I have learned here is that everything I want is what society does not want me to have. But that's just too bad, because I will succeed in my endeavors, but not without a serious struggle, which I hope will set an example for the many people who are going through the same cruel, harsh realities of pursuing a dream.

Unless we understand and realize "we're all in this thing together," we will all drown in the waters of oppression. I suppose what I would finally like to express to you is, do not wait until Black History Month to realize, "where there is no struggle, there is no progress!"



Brother Malcolm (1925-1964)

## BLACKWORLD

### "KNOW THYSELF"

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# Prescription fo a Legal Career

by Tracey A. Bing

Pursuing a career in the legal profession is not as glamorous as you may think. To begin with, there are many obstacles to overcome before you see the courtroom. Consequently, overcoming the obstacles of professionalism does not guarantee a successful legal career. The only person that can guarantee you anything is yourself: IT'S YOU, ONLY YOU!

Only you can make it happen. In the application process, the impact of the G.P.A. and L.S.A.T. performance of the applicant can not be overlooked. Out of 253 applications received at Georgetown's Law Center, only 11 applicants were accepted.

This is a very distressing fact, but don't be discouraged. There are ways to enhance your chances. There are many review courses for the L.S.A.T.'s. If you involve yourself in such a workshop, you must realize this is a commitment for your future. If you can not afford to enroll in such a course, there are alternatives.

One such alternative is taking

advantage of fee waivers. Talk to an admissions counselor about this if you are interested. Another alternative is taking advantage of free workshops. Check out the *Village Voice* for dates, times, etc. They are usually sponsored by the *Little Red Schoolhouse*. New York University also has intense workshops; FREE OF CHARGE. These workshops are sponsored by the Puerto Rican Legal Education Defense Fund for all interested persons. Address all inquiries to: The Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc., 95 Madison Avenue Room 1304, New York, N.Y. 10016.

There are numerous agencies dedicated to enhancing and encouraging your struggle for a career in the legal sector. Another such agency is the Council on Legal Education Opportunity. You can write to them at: CLEO, 818 18th Street, N.W. Suite 940, Washington, D.C. 20006-3578.

Utilizing your resources and working together to combine resources is a sure method for success in your endeavor. Another sure method is the use of persuasiveness in your

speech, as well as your written expression.

A personal statement written by the individual, about the individual, accompanies the application. This autobiography should display your strengths, as well as your weaknesses. Here is your chance to explain your aspirations and achievements. In short, this should paint a portrait of yourself as a student, as well as a person.

The application should deny all wrongs. By this, I mean, your personal statement should explain the impact of excruciating circumstances on your academic achievement. (For example, working during and 18 credit semester.)

I could continue until eternity, but I won't. If you want to know more about pursuing a legal career, come to Stony Brook at Law's meetings, held on Thursdays at 5:30. We are a group dedicated to combining resources and working together a common goal: A SUCCESSFUL LEGAL CAREER. There is strength in numbers, as demonstrated by Stony Brook at Law.



## Do You Qualify?

An R.A.'s (residence advisor) or an M.A.'s (managerial advisor) job is a rough and demanding one. A student is required to put a lot of time and energy into the job.

The R.A. is responsible for the hall in which he/she lives. She is required to be in school two weeks before the rest of the students return from summer vacation. During these two weeks the R.A. goes through a training session, in which she is required to go to workshops. In these training sessions the R.A. is taught how to deal with students who are locked out of their rooms, fire safety, death of a relative or friend and many other personal problems. Once every eight days the R.A. is expected to be on duty, on a weekday it is for twelve hours and on weekends, it's for twenty-four hours. The R.A. is also expected to attend weekly staff meetings and hold a hall meeting once every two weeks. In addition to these things, an R.A. also has to hold an educational workshop once every semester; the R.A. is given total freedom to do whatever she wants for this project.

The M.A.'s job, though not as intensified as the R.A.'s, is also very demanding. He has to go through the two weeks training session in the same way as the R.A., although the workshops might be a little different. He is required to take care of the technical aspects of his hall or halls. This includes recording maintenance difficulties, keeping inventories, checking fire extinguishers, and making sure the rooms are fire hazard free.

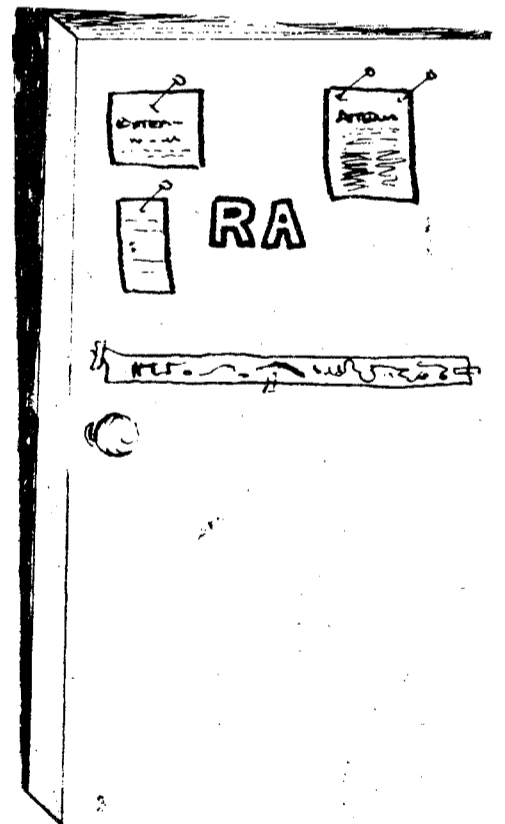
The financial benefits of being an R.A. or an M.A. are very few. The R.A. or M.A. is given a

bed waiver (which is a free room). Stage XII allows them singles. They receive a discount on the meal plan and in some stores that offer faculty and staff discounts.

Kim Clayton, an R.A. in Cardoza College, said that an R.A.'s position offers a person much greater personal rewards than financial ones. It teaches a person to be assertive and it also helps improve a person's leadership skills. She said it can also be very inconveniencing because it is very time consuming and many non-R.A. problems get dumped on the R.A. She also said that "the growing and learning experience of being an R.A. is worth it and anyone interested in having a career that requires dealing with people should apply for a Residence Life staff position."

The founding member of The Black Historian club, Charlene Wineley, who was an R.A. for three years said that she would "encourage minorities to apply for an R.A. job because it's a worthy experience and it gives minorities a say in what happens in their building." She said the financial reward does not fit the job, but the personal rewards outweigh the negative aspects of the job. The job requires dedication, sacrifice, and compromise. An R.A. is also expected to be a role model for the students.

"I strongly recommend that minorities get involved in R.A. and M.A. positions on the university. The positions open key avenues for students to deal with residence life and other staff and faculty on campus." She said that an M.A.'s position is as difficult as an R.A.'s but not as intensified. The M.A. is also required to serve



Cont. on p. 7



# "The Graduation Dilemma: Can We Go Home?"

Last Friday, the tenth of February, the Caribbean Students had a panel discussion entitled **The Graduation Dilemma: Can We Go Home?** Here to speak on the topic were former presidents of the Caribbean Club: Kelvin Daly (from Nevis), Martin Farrell (from Jamaica), and Harvey Nelson (from Trinidad).

Every year students born in the Caribbean come back to Stony Brook. Some come directly from schools in the Caribbean, while others previously attended American high schools. In the thoughts on most of us when we come here in hopes of receiving a Stony Brook education, we plan to return to our homes in the Caribbean to help develop it. Is it as easy as it seems to be? Well, we talked to the Stony Brook graduates to find out.

In asking the guests what the problems were in returning home, the total consensus among them was preparing oneself physically, emotionally and academically before going home. According to Kelvin Daly, "To pull up stakes here, and go home, while thinking you are a President Reagan and the people will welcome you with open arms, is just not so." He explained that, on arrival the people there will expect things from you. You can't go home and pretend you are loyal to your country and say you are here. A typical response will be: "What are you here for?" or, "Can you contribute something to us that we don't know about already?" You have to make sure that you are prepared, both in your mind and soul; that you are committed to doing something for the progression of your country.

You also have to disassociate yourself from the things in America which you take for granted. Things such as infrastructure, home born running water, heat, washing machines and dryers, television with multiple channels, telephones, air conditioners, transportation 24 hours a day and the means of attaining basic necessities will be absent in the Caribbean will frustrate you. For example, if you want to use the bathroom you have to get accustomed to using outhouses. Also, you may have to change the style of food you eat here. There are no hot dog stands on the corner or McDonald's down the road. If you are not accustomed to eating *root food*, yams, greens and dumplings, you will become accustomed because those are some of the basic food you will encounter. He emphasized that even though you have gotten used to things that the Western civilization offers, you can overcome these with your mind.

Kelvin also suggested that we should first go back to spend some time to see if we will be able to fit in and function in the system before giving up everything we may have here. "Your preparation is in your mind; are you going to let a hamburger or running water keep you from going home? You yourself have to know your own capabilities. Your efforts in America are lost in the competition, but they are seen more at home," he said.

A question was raised by one of the thirty people in the audience. He asked what field of study was in demand in the Caribbean. Harvey Nelson indicated that computer technology, engineering and

economics were the leaders. Harvey continued, "but as far as Grumman, IBM and other big companies you won't find many of them, but there are many things that can and need to be started down there by people with almost any skill. An exception is Social Science; because they have a lot of it already and it is not relevant. You have to take the things you learn here and apply it down there. When you go home you have to use your knowledge efficiently towards the success of any job you are doing. You can't just wait for someone to give you the diagram to build the bridge; you have to think up all these ideas and implement them in developing whatever you are doing."

He explained that sometimes people go back with big ideas and persuade the government to buy expensive, modern equipment and when it breaks down there is usually no one with the knowledge to repair it. He also warned about going home and bragging to the people about your academic superiority. "You have to deal with the people on common sense levels. You can't go home with just the skills; you have to have leadership skills and help make the people committed." Martin Farrell interjected that making a big salary must never be a priority. "If it

is big money you want, stay here and make it."

He also indicated that it is to our advantage to work a few years here in America before going back. This way we will be more familiar with our abilities so when the time comes for a certain realization, we will be able to deliver. He also told the audience of an anecdote about why being trained in America is an advantage for us. "The Trinidadian Government was buying cattle from Texas. They had no one in Trinidad who was able to look at the cattle when they arrived in Trinidad to see if it was getting its money's worth. Because of a certain disease rampant in the cattle industry, someone from the United States Department of Agriculture had to come and check the cattle as it came off the boats." This aroused laughter from the audience.

Harvey Nelson noted that if one was going home socialist in thinking and capitalist in action, it would not work. You cannot go home to live in a big house, have a BMW, and then come out and preach to the people. The people will get *Red-Eye* (jealous). "You have to adapt to the system of the people living there and not elevate yourself to a higher class. You

have to be committed patriotically, nationally and sacrifice everything for the development of your country. You will run into many barriers where you have to be very motivated and committed in what you are doing."

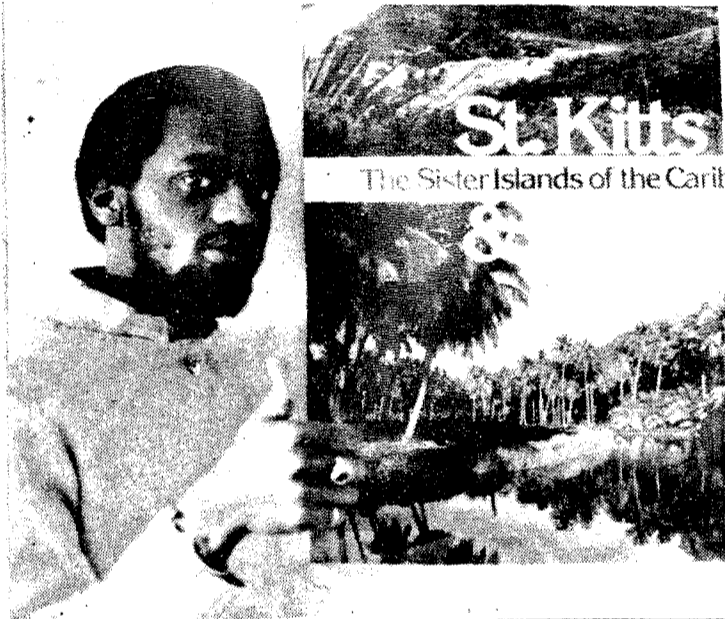
According to the graduates, a sense of leadership must be adopted since when we go home we may be asked to perform leadership roles. In the Caribbean for instance, everyone knows that when you say meet at nine o'clock, that means ten o'clock. One must be careful in how he/she implements his/her plans. The progressive political way of thinking we may have grown accustomed to here creates another barrier when we go home. The barrier is that when the people back home see us doing something against the normal practice the of government, they may label us as communists. To overcome this barrier, we have to show films to educate them of the truths, show the history of America and how the economy operates, and be **patient**. We must never act hastily in whatever we do, they agreed.

What are the chances of getting employment if you are White, Black, women or a Dreadlocks (Rastafarian)? Does who you are play a role in your being hired? The question was answered again by all three. They agreed that years back, who and what you were played a decisive role in your being hired, but today the people are passing this stage and now are looking more carefully at what one can do. The only place your physical appearance might play a role in your employment is in the private sector.

In private businesses they are more likely to look at these features. The private sector of employment is comprised of only a few compared to the governmental employment. On the other hand, the governmental employment overlooks this and looks at you based on what you can do. There is a lot of employment available for women in the developing Third World countries.

There have been many people who went back and formed progressive developments independently of the government and the private structure. There are many things needed to be done by everyone. The chances of you going back and developing something depends upon many factors. You have to have family that is well-known where you are going to do your work, and you have to do something that people down there did not realize they could do with the raw materials they have around them. For example, you could take bambu and use it to build houses. There are many things that can be done back home, but innovative thinking along with commitment and determination are needed. Patriotism not materialism is required of those who desire to repatriate.

It is easier to go back in numbers. It makes the barriers you face easier to overcome. All that is needed for us to develop our homes back in the Caribbean is a commitment from everyone who goes back to do just one thing. Our countries can use all the skilled people to help develop independently of foreign rule.



cont. from page 6

## Do You Qualify

as a role model and is an official representative of Residence Life. The job also entails many responsibilities other than those officially stated; this includes counseling, and helping plan hall activities.

Affirmative Action has put a certain amount of pressure on the different dormitories to interview minorities for R.A. and M.A. jobs. However, there is no favoritism in hiring people for the job. There are certain qualifications that you need to become an R.A. or M.A. Some of these qualifications are endurance, patience and involvement in building activities. It is also very helpful to be on the R.A.-M.A. selection committee because it helps you get experience and it shows you what is required for the positions.

Before applying for an R.A. or M.A. position think it over very carefully, weigh the advantages and disadvantages. The competition is less when you apply when there are vacancies in the buildings during the semester rather than at the beginning of the semester. If there is more participation on the parts of minorities as residence staff members and as participants in hall meetings and ledge meetings there will be fewer questions about the three hundred dollars being spent for beer and rock parties.



# POETRY



## THE HISTORY

### Black Woman

by R. M. Dillon

Black woman I have seen you  
I have seen you on the ships.  
I have seen you in the markets.  
I have seen you on the plantations.  
Black woman I have seen you.  
I have seen you sweat.  
I have seen you beaten.  
I have seen you bleed.  
I have seen you raped.  
Black woman I have seen you.  
I have seen you give birth.  
I have seen you smile.  
I have seen you cry.  
I have seen you die.



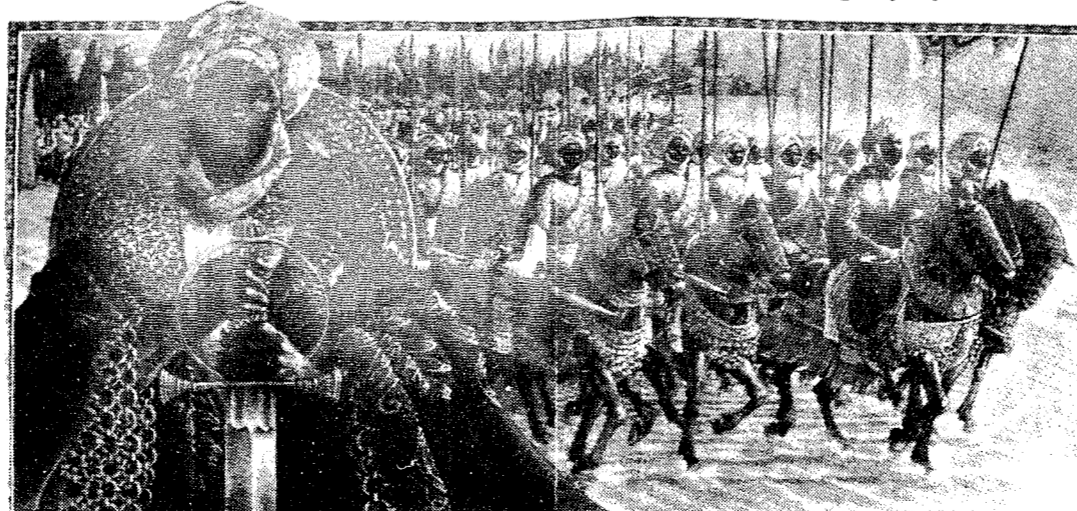
### To Be Truthful Black Woman

Black woman,  
I would like to,  
whisper,  
the glory of your name,  
and spread  
the flame of your beauty,  
on every rotting tree,  
praising,  
the sun for your strength,  
the earth for your stand,  
and the creator for your wisdom,  
to some of you, I would be justified,  
but,  
to others, it would be untrue,  
for there are filth among you,  
some of which might be called bitches,  
knowing,  
nothing of honesty,  
knowing,  
nothing of beauty,  
you walk on people,  
as if they were rubbish,  
and your smile is at it's best, false  
how could I call you sapphire, beautiful  
and most of all mother or wife,  
when at best you stand,  
a parasite,  
a phony,  
and a user,  
Sapphire, beautiful, mother for some,  
bitches, filth, parasite for others,  
Black woman, you are human,  
As my good friend say,  
in the reggae rhythm,  
who the cap fit,  
let them wear it.

—Michael Grimes

You can scream, bawl, fight, go out of your mind  
and be sent to mental institution  
But that won't change anything unless you do it  
with a million people.  
For that is the way history is made.  
You can even threaten to jump out the window of  
a 747 to prove your point  
But that will only hold their attention for awhile  
Until they seize you, and put you to sleep, and  
operate on your nerves,  
And even then you will wake up screaming, bawling  
and fighting  
As these emotions are forms of relief, though  
temporary, and protest against.....massive  
doses of racism, prejudice and discrimination.  
And this process is an ebyrnian piece of history  
coming together.  
You can worry until your blood pressure blow up  
the machine  
Or your stomach tie itself up in a complicated  
knot.  
Or you can love and sympathize until you die  
But that will neither change nor modify the hearts  
of those who were born with the genes of indifference;  
Outstanding and obnoxious pre-concieved notions against  
another race, against another people, against another  
nationality who have all the rights and reasons to be  
present in the Universe as they have.  
You know it and they know it, but still some luni who  
has carried the burden of segregation from the  
distant past will look at you on a crowde' train and  
tell you "Africa for the Africans".  
And this is what our history begins with.  
Any one can hate, despise, and be prejudice'.  
But that won't change the colors of the Universe,  
For so long as our history trails behind us so is the  
infinite existence of the Black people.  
Black is here to stay and not only today but forever.  
The history is one of an incredible artistic and  
decorative matrix,  
The further you go back the more you learn of  
extraordinary things that make the Black race so  
unique,  
Things that surmount in you: the need to express all  
the emotions of the human race  
To this history each second, each minute, each hour,  
each day, each week, each month, each year, each decade,  
each century something new is added  
Making it richer, fuller, thicker, more interesting.  
The history of the Black race can never get boring as  
it contains in greater parts: wonders, adventure, spiritual  
enrichments and success.  
Yet between all the wonders and success were pain,  
long suffering and hell.  
You may not achieve all the full richness and things to  
come in life  
However; the satisfaction and contentment in trad by  
the work of those who have laid down the foundation of  
this history is truly gratifying.  
To them we must extend all due gratitude and praise  
In moments of pride and remembrance for the perpetuation]  
and expression of the history of Blackness

Sunni Ali Ber -- King of Songhay by Leo Dillon



### Rise

by Lancelot Walker

Here I am after all the oppression and fight,  
Right Here! Look at me today,  
See me here today,  
See me half a century ago,  
See me work in the scorching sun,  
See me trod over great rivers,  
See me climb mountains so high,  
See me decend valleys so deep,  
But see me rise.  
See me beaten until I am weak,  
See me slain by illiterate hands,  
See me die but remember me when I arise.  
See me lose my culture in shame,  
See me captured and carried on boats like grain,  
See me King of my African lands,  
See me taken from my throne with bound hands,  
But see me rise again.  
See me in Africa, America, Europe, the world  
See me succeed and see me fail,  
See me thrown innocently in jail,  
But see me burst from my cell and rise.  
See my feet bound with chain,  
See me left out in the rain,  
See me cold, soaked and see me shiver  
But after the storm is past, see me rise with strength.  
See me old, tired and bent,  
See my body marked by whips that were lent,  
See me today as leader in the world,  
See me no longer in chains while you in pearl.  
See me overcome the past,  
See me anyway, you can, but see me rise.



Osei Tutu -- King of Asante by Alfred J. Smith

THE BLACK COLLEGIAN February / March 1982

### Just the Thought

by Lancelot Walker

Just the thought of you loving him makes me want to  
die,  
Just the thought of you wanting him makes me want to  
cry  
Just the thought of you kissing him makes me insane.  
The thought of you letting him make love to you hurts  
me deep  
down inside  
Just the thought of you being his bride.  
To love him, to be close to him, to want him, to feel him,  
to lie  
in his arms, not mine, to feel him inside of you is enough  
to make  
me commit a crime,  
Just the thought of you sharing your life with him  
Carrying his child within your womb, not mine  
The thought of you feeling warm inside for him,  
The thought of you accomodating his needs, his desires  
not mine  
but another man's turns all my days into darkest nights.  
Just the thought of you loving another man darling,  
cripples  
my mind



# A Rape

by Lancelot Walker

It was a very hot summer in London. Usually the summers are bleaky and chilly and by the time the morning fog cleared up it would already be sunset. This one however, was usually hot and sticky.

Sylvia Elliston is the eldest girl in the Elliston family of three girls and two boys. She was born in Birmingham but her parents moved to Tottenham, London in the early seventies.

After completing high school, as most Black English girls did, she got a secretarial job at a law firm in downtown London. Sylvia was planning on going to go to college but she wanted to earn some money first.

She had three dreams throughout high school. One was to visit her aunt in Paris. She planned to spend a whole month there doing everything and seeing everything, but most of all the Parisian culture fascinated her. She had a passion for beautiful clothes and she had all the reasons to. She was definitely a potential asset for high class fashion industry and magazines someplace in the foreground of Europe. Sylvia, beautiful and shapely was all her titles! Men would always whistle when she went by or say something juicy and smart.

Another of her dreams was to visit the West Indies where her parents hailed from. She was aching to soak her beautiful brown body in the crystal clear waters that she was so often told of. Her two younger sisters who had gone back to the West Indies on visit with their mother several times always came back with exotic stories of their Island enchantments. Sylvia was admittedly envious of them. Their visits all climaxed with discotheques in a cave, rafting on hugh rivers, white sandy beaches, fresh fruits and more. It all sounded like a tropical paradise amidst a sea of adventure to her.

Before she goes to the West Indies, she absolutely must visit America. Her most cherished dream was to see New York City by night. She had watched with opened mouth all the best pictures about New York on telly. She never missed an American movie. She thought the New Yorker's accent was simply fascinating. She even tried to imitate them while jollyng with her two girlfriends who lived down the street.

The two girls down the street were her high school chums and they had gone to New York City for three consecutive summers. The heavy set one, Charm, had an uncle who lived in Brooklyn.

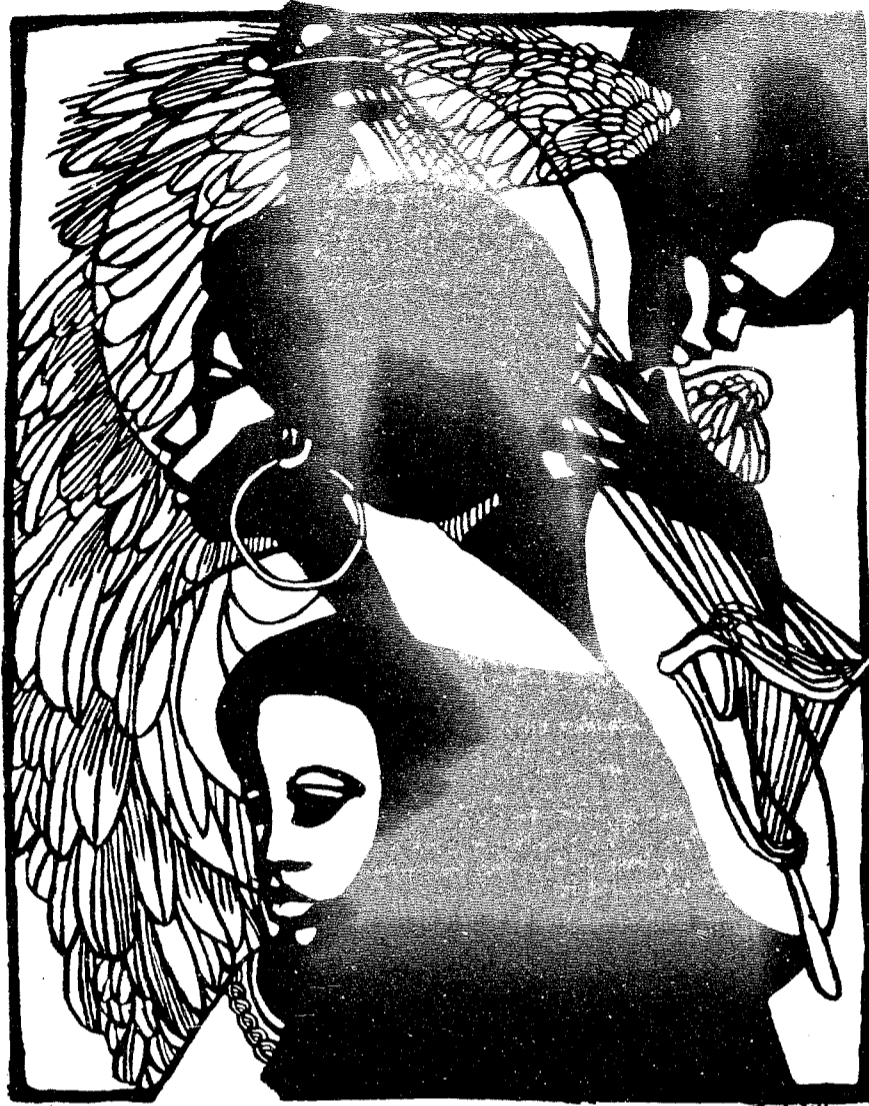
The light skinned, skinny one, Priscilla, had a half-sister by her father living in Boston.

Each Fall when the girls returned from the States they would both murder Sylvia with the juiciest things that happened to them. Priscilla had found a boyfriend in Boston who would give her the world and more. He wanted to marry her, and wanted her to come live with him in America. Whenever she thought about it her entire body shivered with anticipated excitement.

Sylvia saved a list of all the things she would do and see when she got to America. She wanted to see the Empire State Building and the Statue of Liberty. She wanted to see a play on Broadway. She even wanted to see the famous 42nd Street. She wanted to do and see everything. The chilling excitement in the thought of visiting America and actually seeing all the things in the movies in real life made her nipples harden.

In six months she would have saved enough money for her fare on British Airways and have adequate spending money left over. The entire of the next summer she would spend in New York.

# Fiction Corner



She arranged with charm to stay with her at her uncle's in Brooklyn.

She thought to herself. Going to America means she would have to renew her expired passport and work later at the office to make extra money. Her parents did not worry too much when she came in late for supper as they knew she needed the extra Pounds for the trip. Then again she was twenty-one. She smiled at that thought. Twenty-one and never gone steady with a guy. She had never had sex in her whole life but that was not very uncommon for most girls like her.

The last guy she dated, Richard, never got past a kiss. After the movies he had driven her to the outskirts of London where it was very quiet and peaceful. One could do almost anything out there without being caught. He pulled her close to his warm body and kissed her several times, deep kisses to which she responded passionately. But when he got his fingers into her blouse she pulled away from him. He was getting too warm and she noticed how uncontrollably swollen he was. She became nervous and ordered him to take her home. Richard was furious at this.

He wanted her badly and she knew it but she was not ready for that yet. It was not the way she had planned it in her head about the first time she would do it. She wanted to get married and the entire act would be done the old fashioned way. She imagined the night of her honeymoon, he would carry her in his arms like a great big giant. She would be so helpless and panting as if having a respiratory attack. He would lay her on the silk sheets and remove her clothes like a big bad, but decent beast and then. . . .

When they got to her house that night, Richard barely allowed her to get out of the car before he sped off like a mad man and slammed into the Willis' new fence. He was alright but that was the last time he spoke to her.

Mr. Crawford, her boss had consented

to her working overtime at the office. The firm normally closes at half past four but he allowed her to work until 8pm. There was quite a bit of documents to file into the newly installed system so that would provide something for her to do.

Sylvia left the office at half past eight one Friday night. She took the underground to St. Paul's Station where she got onto the Tottenham north bus. It was so hot on the bus that she thought she was going to faint. It was a good thing she was wearing a mini skirt and the short sleeve, silk blouse her mom gave her for Christmas past. She was the only one on the upper deck and one of three passengers on the bus. The other two fat ladies on the lower deck spoke so loud in cockney that her head ached. She figured they worked in some factory in London by the way they carried themselves and talked.

When she got to her stop it was very dark. She was the only one who got off. She had to walk for about twenty minutes down the main street before she got to Clide Road. She could call her 18 year old brother, Bath, to meet her but the call box was all the way across the street. Moreover, he was probably watching *Soul Train* from America on telly and she really didn't want to disturb him.

So instead of going all the way down Main Street to Clide she thought walking up Hope Road, down Price by the old delapidated mattress factory and then over to Clide would be much shorter. The bus was well out of sight and Sylvia began walking. She reached to remove her high heels but changed her mind.

She walked up Hope and was turning the bend to go down Price when she heard footsteps behind her. The street lamps on Price were very poor. However, when she turned around she saw two chaps. They were walking towards her. The one with the white sneakers was awfully big. He must have been around six feet high and odd and probably 195

pounds (or in equivalent kilos 88.6) He probably played rugby for some local team in London with all that muscle he sported a sleeveless ganzi. The other one was just as big. He wore a pair of short jeans, sneakers, no socks and a striped t-shirt. They were both twenty. From the way they walked and their appearances, one could easily pick up that they were street boys. The kind of guys that hang out downtown London and steal, sell marijuana and often get into fights.

Sylvia's heart and feet rates quickened simultaneously as they got close to her. her high heels delayed each of her footsteps and the two men were now almost caught up with her. She continued walking briskly. One of them called after her in heavy street cockney, "Hey pri-i laidy wha cha doin' out so lait?" Sylvia did not respond. She was getting to the old mattress factory when they caught up with her.

The one with the white sneakers laid his hand on her shoulders to slow her down. She yelled at him to keep his bloody hands to himself. He yanked her to a complete full stop out of her shoes. She was shaking with fright. "Gimme mi a little peck on mi lips," he said in joking tone. His friend chuckled with uncontrolled excitement. He pulled Sylvia close to his body and kissed her fully. She bit her lips together, pulled herself away from him and kicked him in the knee. "A live tiger you are hey?" he exclaimed. The other one with the short jeans grabbed her from behind and she began screaming but he quickly covered her mouth with his hand. They pulled her through the broken gates of the factory and into the empty building. It was very dark and hot inside and Sylvia was sweating from the heat.

There was a hugh table in one of the rooms with a little lighting. They tore her clothes off and laid her on the table. She was screaming and kicking hysterically, while they were both running over with joyous thrills. They tied her to the legs of the table as if preparing her for dissection. Her mouth was also securely bound so that her screams could not be heard in case someone was passing by. They both wanted to go first but the one with the white sneakers was more powerful so he pushed his buddy away. The other watched with burning anticipation as his friend forced himself into Sylvia. He went for his turn soon after. When they had finished they unbound her and scattered off like ejected torpedos.

Sylvia managed to pull herself together after laying on the table for a while crying her heart out. She was terrified, hurting and ashamed. How was she going to tell her family what had happened? It would be easier for her to tell her two girlfriends but they might sympathetically tell someone else and so on until the entire neighborhood knew. Then people would stare at her, the kind of stare that people in London give someone when something is wrong. The other girls would whisper when she passed by.

Oh no! she thought, she would tell no one, not the police, not her family, not her girlfriends. But what if she got pregnant? She just couldn't bear the thought of carrying the child of those monsters inside of her. She couldn't love it, couldn't be a mother to it. No way! As she thought about all this, more tears came down.

Sylvia Elliston's high school dream came through, but when she exits that old mattress factory that night she left the memory of her nightmare behind. Like many young ladies who have unfortunately fallen pray to savages in the darkness of London, her story was never told for the sake of pride.

# In Honor of Our 'King' and 'Prince'

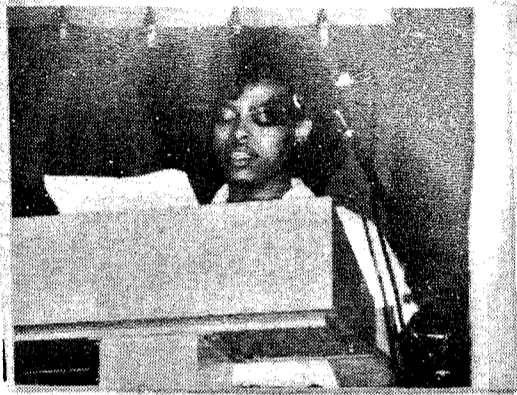


Photo essay by Mike Lucienne



**PERSONALS**

Lance: When will Diana and I find out the truth? We're tired of waiting.

Jackie G.: Why don't you ditch him and come to me? It would be so heavenly. Love you always, Me  
P.S.: Happy Valentine's Day you gorgeous woman you!!

To the Africana Studies Department, We love you and support you. Without your intellect and strength Stony Brook would not stand.

Gillian, you did it! Have faith, I know you will very soon get all that you desire. You deserve the best. Congratulations Graduate! Luv ya!  
Tracey A. Bing

As Salaam Alaikum Terrie

Cookie: You're part of the JUICE CREW. Here's to a good semester. Luv ya! C.C. + Tracey

CALL FOR HELP: Support all you clubs/ organizations on campus. They cannot be run without help from you. Marvin D.

Katanga, You're my Egyptian Prince. Yaa

To everyone who never received a personal: Here's to you.

To Maxine M.B.: I Love You - No Longer Dear.

To the Kelly B Posse: Abbakha, Tony, Dereck & Norman, Good luck this semester! Tracey & C.C.  
*Juice on the Loose!*

Hi Theresa you juicy editor

C.C.: Here's to another semester. And by the way my last! Sure we'll have fun, you know the business as usual! Luv ya! Tracey

To all the Black Heroes of the past, you are remembered today and everyday. The Progressive Group.

To me and you, Please use the method of DRV glue!!! We cannot afford these mistakes. -Serwaa

Sharoya: We've been through a lot! But despite everything, I love you because although we may not always understand each other, we'll always be friends. I'M SORRY! Tracey

To that lil' fat girl in James C2: Here's your personal. Love, Me  
To Gillian, Congratulations on your graduation! Let's hope med school is also smooth sailing. From a sailor, Love SKZ (55)

To Marcia, He is gone but he didn't take all his love It's all here with you. Big Brother

Good work Tracey Bing! We need your input. Black World

To Greg (Bloated Stomach), When you want to fart, just do it. T.

Lance, Your eyes wander so much in the company of women. . . I don't even think you're aware of it. Watch it.

To Theresa, My world wouldn't be the same without you. P.H.

Terrie Smith, I am still waiting for our long and well deserved conversation. Greg

To Renee, No one does it like you! Greg

Denyce, You are a sweet heart. Stay sweet! Greg

Melanie, Girl I am very proud of you. Keep up the good work! Greg

Curtis, Don't worry we will get that 175 by Spring. G.

Theresa, I would love to run with you at night. P.H.

Theresa, I can see the results. Keep up the good work, Lookin' good. P.H.

Kathy, I hear you are taking care of that body. Looks good to me. Admirer

Theresa, It's been one year, one beautiful year! Love, P.H.

ON DECEMBER 11, 1983, WAYNE MURRAY WAS INDUCTED INTO PHI BETA SIGMA FRATERNITY INC. MU DELTA CHAPTER. WELCOME TO THE FAMILY, FRAT.....  
SINCERELY, THE BROTHERS OF MU DELTA CHAPTER.

SHADEED: HAVE A NICE WEEKEND AT THE BROOK.  
RAMONA.

TO ALL OF THE DEDICATED SIGMA SWEETHEARTS, THANK YOU FOR ALL THE HELP YOU HAVE GIVEN US NOT ONLY IN THE PAST, BUT ALSO THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO WELCOME ALL THE NEW SWEETHEARTS INTO THE COURT. BRO. SOLITAIRE.



**Name:** Stacey McIntosh  
**Place of Birth:** Brooklyn, New York  
**Birth Date:** August 24, 1963  
**Sign:** Virgo  
**Major:** Economics **Minor:** Business  
**Year:** Junior  
**Goal in Life:** To become a contributing factor towards the expansion of knowledge and awareness among the black community. To become prosperous in the field of business and to contribute my expertise, wealth and experiences towards the community.  
**Philosophy:** Hard work, perserverance and never losing sight of one's goals will ultimately lead to success for the future.  
**What do you find the most rewarding at the Brook?:** The activism and involvement of students concernig equality i the campus community.  
**Activities:** Former SAINTS board member, served on the rules revision committee, Hendrix College RA, Building Manager for the SB Union.

Black World/Mike Luscienne

Note: Features Coordinated by Althia Barrow



Black World/Greg Smith



Black World/Mike Lucienne

**Name:** Sandra Valencia Williams  
**Place of Birth:** Brooklyn, New York  
**Birth Date:** May 4, 1962  
**Sign:** Taurus  
**Major:** Economics  
**Year:** Senior  
**Goal in Life:** To be a counteractive stimulant to the oppression, exploitation and genocide plaguing the Third World community by becoming significantly influential in the national or international policy making process.  
 To be the mother of four to six children.  
 And build a home in St. Croix for my mother.  
**Philosophy:** Nothing comes to a sleeper but a dream.  
**Activities:** PURSUE (People Uniting for Recreation and the Sharing of Unlimited Education), Federated Learning Community Human Nature Program, African American Students Organization, Caribbean Students Organization (public relations officer), Resident Assistant (Whitman College), United Front (student activist, organizer and spokes person).  
**Message to the Community:** {1} Our books are our weapons . . . our primary reason for being at Stony Brook. *They should not be used as a tool to repress student activism.*  
 {2} Think for yourself at all times . . . but not only for yourself.  
 {3} One person makes a difference.  
**Hobbies:** Singing, playing the guitar, chilling out in Gershwin B24 and parties.



**Name:** Craig A. Waterman  
**Place of Birth:** Harlem, New York  
**Birth Date:** November 9  
**Sign:** Scorpio  
**Major:** Social Sciences Interdisciplinary  
**Year:** Senior  
**Goal in Life:** I've set so many goals for myself that to settle on one would do no justice to the others. However, I do plan to be successful.  
**Philosophy:** Learn form your past; take advantage of the present; plan for the future and only then can hopes and dreams be truly realized.  
**Activities:** Black Historians, Manager of the Rainy Night House, and wherever my services are needed.



Black World/Mike Lucienne

# Notices

## UNITED FRONT MEETING

Thursday @ 10:00 pm  
in the  
U.N.I.T.I. Cultural Center  
FEB. 23, 1984

Caribbean Students Organization  
*Present*

**A Fund Raising Jam!**  
*FOR*

*Caribbean Wknd.*

Date: March 3, 1984, SATURDAY  
Time: 10:00 pm. - until

Donation: \$1.00 w/ID  
\$1.50 wo/ID

*Reggae*  
*Disco* *Calypso*

Refreshments will be sold.

SUPPORT C.S.O.!

ATTENTION ALL THIRD WORLD GRADUATING STUDENTS  
(MAY AND AUGUST GRADUATES)

LOOKING for student speakers for third world awards dinner  
which will take place on MAY 12, 1984 at 4:00 pm.

We would like speakers representing B., A., M.S., and P.H.d., levels.  
We need samples of proposed essays no later than MARCH 22, 1984.

It is necessary that we hear your presentation representing the class  
of 1984 on MARCH 22 following the general body meeting for the  
Awards Dinner at 7:00....CULTURAL CENTER (UNITI).

Contact Rene 6-3927  
Terrie 6-4831  
Denice 6-3710 for further info. Thank You.

C.S.O. meetings are every Tuesday night @ 8:00pm  
in the Fireside Lounge at Stage XII, Come one, come all.

COMING SOON:

AMIRI BARAKA'S  
(LE ROI JONES)

## " THE DUTCHMAN "

Directed by Prof. Glenda Dickerson

OPENING NIGHT:  
FEBRUARY 29, 1984 @ 7:00 P.M.  
IN THE  
FINE ARTS CENTER  
THEATRE III

SYMPOSIUM to FOLLOW

DON'T MISS THIS!

Performances are Feb. 29 and March 1-4, at 8 p.m., in Theatre III  
at the University's Fine Arts Center. Reservations, at 43, may be  
made by calling the Fine Arts Center Box Office, (516)246-5678.

DON'T MISS IT!

## JOIN AN UP ..AND

## COMING...

## NEWSPAPER

## BLACKWORLD

## NEEDS:

- \* WRITERS
- \* REPORTERS
- \* TYPIST

BLACKWORLD meets @ 8:00pm on Wed. nights  
in the Union Basement, Rm 060.

# Scarface is a Winner

by Michael Grimes

In the subways, in the newspapers, and all around the streets of Manhattan and Brooklyn, one face stands out; Scarface. A face with a scar on it and the appropriate name accompanying the advertisement. Who the hell is Scarface? What's the big deal about Scarface? The answers to these questions came when *Scarface* opened up at theatres all over America. No, Scarface is not the devil or a pastor, he is the star of the movie.

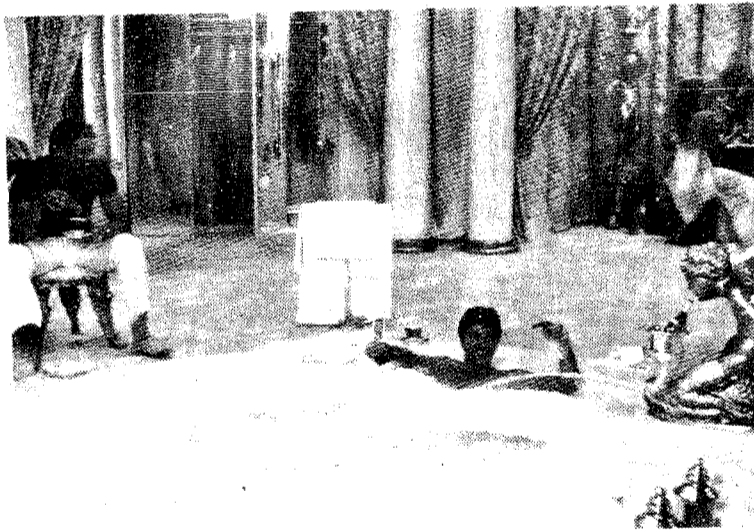
"Yo man, you got to check out Scarface, it's wicked." I was getting comments like these from many of my friends. After getting all these good reviews about *Scarface*, I decided to see it for myself. "Yo man, let's sit on the end," I said to my friend as we walked into the theatre. It's always safer to sit on the end in the movie houses on 42nd St; the 95% of you getting shot in the theatre is cut down to 90%. After all, there are not many people in the latest 1983 cars coming on 42nd St. to see two movies for \$4.50. The different smelling smoke coming from the audience as the no-smoking sign blinked told you that Vicks is not the only thing that penetrates a stuffy nose. The faces around you told you that there are many Scarfaces in the audience. They however, were not in the movie and their scars were not the wondrous trick of a makeup artist.

The lights dim and hands lower to the knees of girls' skirts. "Take that shit off," a radio playing Malcolm McLaren's song *Do you like Scratching* was immediately turned off. The movie started with Al Pacino as Scarface, a Cuban refugee who came to America to find the 'American dream.'

He soon finds out that he would not find it by being a dishwasher. Scarface has a goal. He wants to own the world. With that control he could get anything he wants, and not have to worry about anything. "Yeah, you got the money you got the women," he tells his best friend. Scarface soon gets himself involved in a Miami drug connection and in



## Scarface



the opening fifteen minutes he watches his friend chain-sawed to death. But, this does not phase Scarface, as he is determined to get what he wants. One might scorn at the film's bloodied spots, but they are quite necessary to show the ways of the people that try to control the drug trade. Many times a person might read in the newspapers that a person got hacked to death or gunned to death, and many times these killings are drug related. To leave these scenes out of the movie would be converting a 'theatre' movie into a bullshit television movie. "Oh shit, he blew his brains out," my friend next to me said as we watched Scarface kill the man that chain-sawed his friend to death.

No one stops Scarface as he sniffs and kills his way to the top of the drug world. He shuns his mother, loves his sister too much, curses his wife, kills his best friend, and sniffs as much cocaine as he sells. Scarface's speech is sluggish and his favorite words are F--k you, and he tells them to the world nearly every two minutes of the film.

Scarface is a film about having dreams and turning them into reality. We all have goals, many people are too cowardly to go for it. Scarface is the opposite, he wants something and he goes for it. If he doesn't like what he gets, or if he does not like what he has become that's too bad. If death would take us after we obtain what we want there would be a lot of smiling faces going to the grave. This film is about wanting something and finding the best way to get it. The methods are not advisable but the end is the same.

If you don't want senseless violence like that found in horror movies, or the sentimental-emotional feelings that you get from movies like *Terms of Endearment*, you should go and see *Scarface*. Brian DePalmer has outdone himself in directing this movie. Al Pacino deserves an Oscar nomination for his performance in this movie. The other nominees compared to Pacino are just "soft."

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