

In The Spirit of Unity



United Together:

*Staff members of
BLACKWORLD and
en ACCION unite to
produce a joint issue.*

By: Maurice Washington

The cultural similarities shared by Blacks and Latinos are always interesting to examine. This is because the similarities among us are so great, yet so distinct, that they commonly seem to be coincidental. But in this instance, there is no such thing as coincidence.

It is no coincidence that Blacks and Latinos live and suffer in the same ghettos or barrios around the world. It is no coincidence that the fight against our historical and our present day European oppressors need a combined effort by us to win this battle. Many of our California Brothers and Hermanas voted for Proposition 209 because they were not properly educated on the voting terminology or united together against our common enemy. It is no co-

incidence that Egypt and Ethiopia have pyramids similar to the monuments found in MesoAmerica. There is also no coincidence in the foods we eat and the music we groove to. When you delete the lyrics from Dominican merengue, Haitian compa, and many of the West African songs, you'll be amazed at the similarities in the rhythms.

Today, you can visit Mexico and find ancient colossal figures carved out of rock that look like Cushite warriors (present day Ethiopians). These historic artifacts of the Olmec civilization predate the genocidal rampage of "El Diablo Apeztoso," also known as Christopher Columbus. Now let me ask you something, "How can one discover a land that had already been populated for hundreds of years?"

The stigmas our people

face from oppressive powers distract us from concentrating on the real issue of racism. We get caught up in the different stereotypical names like spic, chink, and nigger. Meanwhile They are calling us the same derogatory word: insubordinate. Sometimes the only "knowledge" we have of one another are the stereotypes laid down by society that filter through the media. When you hear something long enough, you begin to believe it. This is where ignorance sets in.

The goal of this article is to promote understanding and awareness concerning the roots of Black and Latino cultures. When you blindly accept "his story" without "our story," you miss out on THE WHOLE STORY. Unification is power! Education is the first approach to achieving unity. The only way to

receive education is through a critical thought process and an open mind. You have to start with yourself.

Many individuals, those in the Black and the Latino subculture, believe that by accepting our common African roots we are denying who we have become today (i.e. Puerto Rican, African American, Jamaican, etc.). It is possible to represent your roots and still be a representative of your nation. Marcus Garvey once said, "... A people without a knowledge of its past is as a tree without its roots - it can not grow."

Beware of the "divide-and-conquer method" that we, as people of color, always seem to fall for. We are minorities as Dominican Americans, Haitian Americans, Trini Americans etc. . . , but as people of African descent, we are a vast majority.

Quotable:

I am a black woman
tall as a cypress
strong
beyond all definition
still defying place and
time and circumstance
assailed
impervious
indestructible
Look on me and be
renewed

Mari Evans
1970

Turners Welcome New Faculty Mentor

By: Tischelle George

Last October the Turner Fellowship Program welcomed Dr. E. Anthony Hurley from the French and Italian Department, as the new faculty mentor for the 1997-98 academic year.

Dr. Hurley said he took the position because he knew that "Black students often do not have the opportunity to interact with Black faculty. I know that there are few of us and I wanted to make myself available," Hurley said. "I have confidence in my own political orientation and I would like to contribute in some way."

The Turner Fellowship Program targets under represented students to encourage their enrollment in graduate schools.

The need for a faculty mentor arose when Pedro Gonzalez the former assistant dean of the Turner Fellowship Program, resigned last June to go to San Jose State University.

"There was no time to do a national search, so a faculty mentor will serve in an interim position while a search is conducted to find a permanent replacement," said Dr. Lawrence Martin dean of the Graduate School.

Dr. Martin, fellowship members and the Turner Advisory Committee all met with the candidates who applied for the faculty mentor position. "Dr. Hurley had been through graduate school successfully," Martin said. "He showed an interest in and sensitivity to the Turner Fellows."

As faculty mentor Hurley will chair the Turner Advisory Committee, which selects the incoming class of Turner fellows. There is enough funding in the fellowship to award a maximum of 20 students. This year, however, the fellowship inducted only 11 new students, three of which are African-American.

The low numbers of Black graduate students at the university is of great concern to Hurley. "I intend to put a lot of energy into making contacts with historically Black colleges and universities in many fields of study, to ensure that there is a large enough pool," Hurley said.

"Graduate students have decided not to come to Stony Brook," Hurley said. "The Stony Brook community is not particularly welcoming to people of color. In many respects it can be hostile."

Dr. Hurley has endured racial discrimination in his lifetime as a graduate student, which makes him sensitive to some of the issues that the Turner Fel-

lows are concerned about.

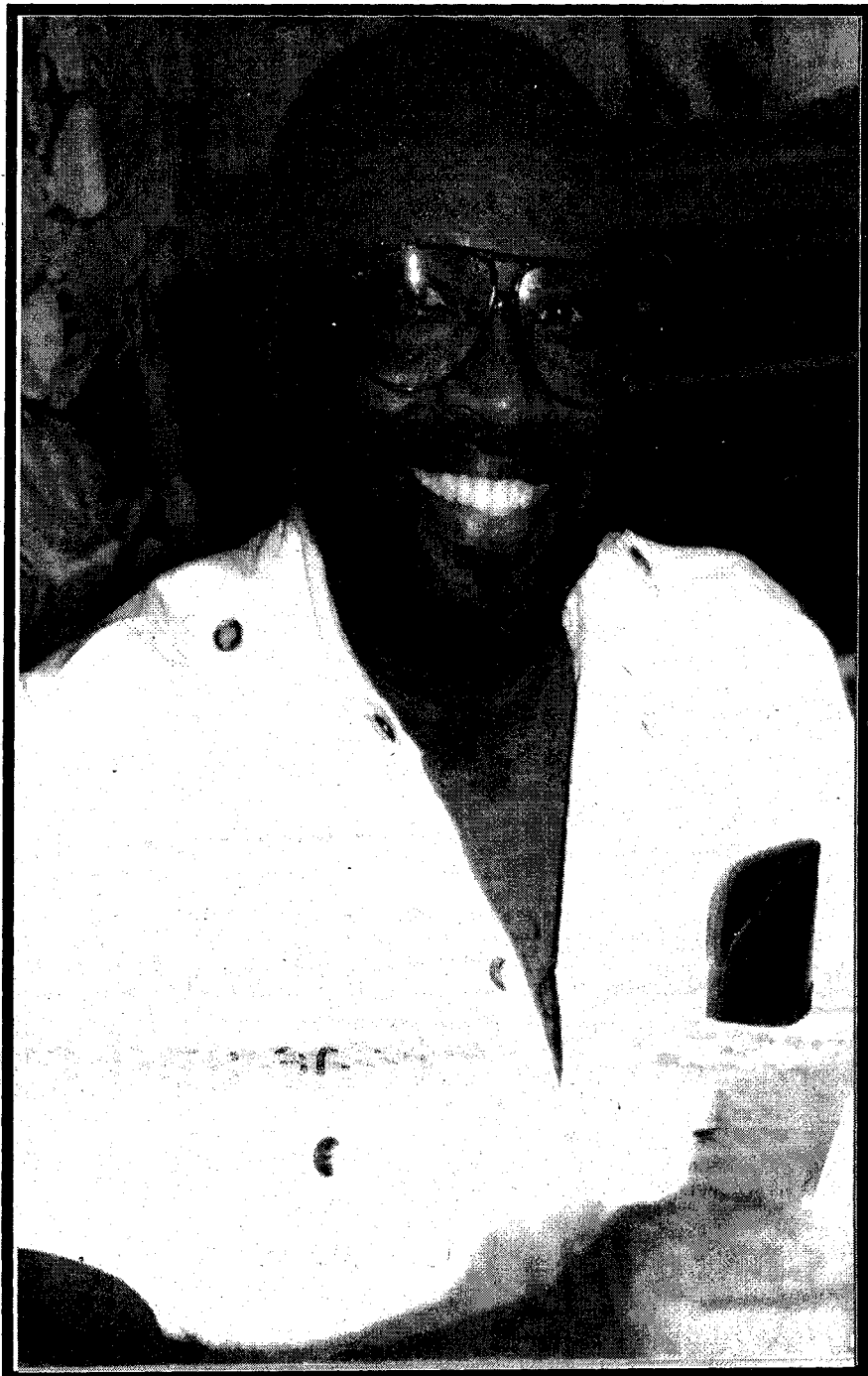
"I was the only person of color in my department as a graduate. I was made to feel inferior to Whites," Hurley said. He had the experience of having a Black faculty member as his mentor. "She saved me. We're still friends to this day."

Although Hurley's new position was created to compensate for the absence of the assistant dean of the Turner Fellowship Program, Martin says "it's not a decision that we have to rush. The national search committee hasn't been formed yet, but we plan to have everyone in place for the next academic year."

"The position for assistant dean customarily is not filled by someone who has a Ph.D.," Martin said. The position would go to someone who has done work on the masters level."

Along with fulfilling his responsibilities as faculty mentor, Hurley also teaches a full course load in the department of French and Italian, where he has recently been given a tenured position along with a promotion. He says he would be interested in becoming the assistant dean of the fellowship program, but the best person for the position would be someone who could devote an ample amount of time to the students.

Hurley says, "The best situation would be to have a faculty person who spends half of his or her time working with the Turners, rather than to have someone in administration who has other duties."



**BLACKWORLD & en ACCION
would like to extend our congratula-
tions to Dr. E. Anthony Hurley on his
recent
tenured position and promotion.**

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

BLACKWORLD

"KNOW THYSELF"

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STRUGGLE IN UNITY

African-American, political prisoner, Black Panther, Communist — George Jackson, during his short and productive life, wrote one of the most powerful texts written behind prison bars, *Soledad Brother*.

In this collection of letters written between 1967 and 1970, up until he was murdered (shot in the back) by prison guards in San Quentin, Jackson writes lucidly and profoundly about the capitalist system and its effects on all oppressed peoples. For him, the only way to challenge imperialism and its attendant exploitation was through unity. He spoke about the ways mainstream education creates divisions between black people. He wrote a letter cautioning his mother about the way this type of education will work on his younger brother: "He will learn... that the Egyptians were white, which is a lie. That the people of India are white under their black skin. That Chinese are yellow, when they range from brown to the blackest black."

At the end of this letter, George Jackson says that history and philosophy should be taught to black people "at home" so that they will know the truth about the way education, in capitalist structures, can perpetuate misinformation and lies to make students into unquestioning capitalist subjects.

BLACKWORLD is the newspaper where students can learn "at home." Yes, true knowledge is in the house!

George Jackson tells us, "We [African-Americans] must establish a true internationalism with other anticolonial peoples. Then we will be on the road of the true revolutionary. Only then can we expect to seize the power that is rightfully ours, the power to control the circumstances of our day-to-day lives... We are on the inside. We are the only ones (besides the very small white [left-wing] minority left) who can get at the monster's heart... We have a momentous historical role to act out if we will" (264-5).

Taking George Jackson's plea for unity to heart, this issue of BLACKWORLD seeks to express unity with the Latin population on campus and in the wider society. Perhaps in the future we can have joint publications with other groups on campus who embrace our progressive cause. Many of us who read the campus newspapers last semester saw the emergence of a new spirit of activism in reporting. After revealing Shirley Strum Kenny's bid for the Presidency at the University of Texas, the Wang conspiracies, and the Affirmative Action scandals, the campus newspapers together created such a humiliating picture of the administration that now, the only thing that will redeem this despised administration in the eyes of the students, will be either a miracle or unexpected commitment to the goals of the university. Unable to win at the bureaucratic game she was playing, our President finds

herself back at Stony Brook this semester. It is a chance for her to clean up her act and become totally accountable to the student community. Know this, Shirley: all eyes on you.

This issue was the final one our outgoing Editor-in-Chief, Curtis Morris, worked on. When Curtis took over as Editor-in-Chief, he led the paper on its current path with fearlessness and dedication. He set an example of just and objective journalism in the service of our black and progressive community without fear of reprisal. We wish to thank him for excellent leadership and we all wish him much success in his professional career ahead. Taking over BLACKWORLD, and possessing an admirable soul and consciousness, is Tischelle George, our previous Managing Editor. We also have an exciting Editorial Board made up of new and continuing members.

BLACKWORLD needs your support. We welcome articles, poems, artwork, and anything else that you may want to contribute. Especially, for our Black History Month special issue. Don't be afraid to voice your opinions, however controversial. As George Jackson says, "Someone may have to get hurt but Power to the People." We also encourage faculty to put aside hierarchical differences and join the students in their worthy effort.

By: Joy Mahabir
BLACKWORLD Faculty Advisor

Dear Editor,

I was appalled after reading the article "NYU gets canned!" that you wrote. What starts out describing a problem in American media turns into a heated opinion of society today. In my opinion, you expressed a lot of hatred. It is true that many of us do not have it easy. Our people are plagued by stereotypes which hinder our success. In many instances, we are our own worst enemy.

We limit what we can do; rather than trying to realize our full potential. There is too much time invested into blaming others for our present conditions. It is important to take action and do something about it.

White people didn't say let's throw them in the ghettos. We created the ghettos. They don't have us killing each other. People are responsible for our own actions. Not all white people are "devils". There are too many white people in this country to make such a generalization.

We can get out of the projects, if we try. It is possible for Latino and African American people to have rich

neighborhoods. The responsibility lies in our hands to influence American society in a positive way. With the proper motivation, our dreams can happen. Latino and African Americans must work hard for what they want and not be satisfied with just anything.

I thank God for my parents. Both of them came from poor backgrounds. They came to this country hoping for a better life. At first, things were really tough. My whole family was living in a basement with seven people in two bedrooms. For several years, my parents worked extra hard to get out of those conditions. It took a lot of effort. Eventually, we were able to find a better place and life.

Although, situations are tough; there are many factors set against us. Many of us, can make better lives for ourselves and our children. Let's stop blaming others for our present state. All of us, must do something to better our Latino and African American communities.

Magaly Lainez

Dear Magaly,

We didn't make the ghettos! Realize that in a capitalist society; you need the poor to complete the structure. (That's capitalism for you.) Yet, no one stated that you have to be that poor person. Therefore, I agree. We can do whatever our hearts desire. Also, I never called whites "devils." Lastly, want to commend my intelligent and freethinking sister! Glad to know someone is thinking on campus!

Editor of En Accion

We Encourage
Your Responses.
Get Involved!

The opinions and views expressed are not necessarily those shared by the Editorial staff. Articles, Viewpoints, and Poetry should be submitted into our Polity Mailboxes. Some articles may be edited for length, clarity, and grammar. Advertising policy does not necessarily reflect editorial policy. Editorials are the opinions of the majority of the BLACKWORLD & en ACCION staff.

RedeFinItion

I am tired of rhetoric. I am tired of people getting together in conferences to discuss the problems in our communities. There is a time for discussion and there is a time for action. What good is a bunch of Latinos sitting around and getting inspired if they don't act on it? I understand that we must all start with ourselves; you cannot help anyone if you are all mixed-up. I absolutely agree; but we have to remember that whatever we just learned is still invisible to our neighbor.

As college students, we think that we have no power; but we really do have power! We have to go back to our neighborhoods and show the kids what a college student really looks like. When we think "college student", unconsciously we envision some kid wearing preppy clothes and listening to Pearl Jam. Stop! College students look like you!

Go back to your neighborhoods and strut your baggy jeans, spanglish tongue, and dark skin. Go back and dazzle them with your \$12,000 SUNY intellect. Let's go back and show the youth that the Egyptians, Aztecs, Incas, and Arawak tribes build magnificent civilizations without the assistance of Europeans. Listen, all the early technological advances and cultural developments that the textbooks state were in-

vented by Europeans were, in fact, stolen from the Africans. See, back in the day, European philosophy students went to study in the Egyptian Libraries.

Who told us that high culture is an European ideal? People, this is a lie. Don't let anyone tell you that you can't like opera because you are Dominican. Don't accept that African Americans cannot dance ballet. Why can't a Guatemalteco win the Pulitzer in Physics? How can you tell Original People not to do what is inherently in their blood? We are artists and scientists!!! Redefinition.

Last semester Phi Iota Alpha Fraternity Incorporated workshop, ("Haitian and Dominican relations") someone asked whether or not Haiti is a Latin American country. Does language determine who you are? Spanish, as we all know, is derived from Latin. Therefore, Dominican Republic (whose national language is Spanish) is a *Latin* American Country. Oh, really? Well, Haitians speak French and the last time I checked, French was derived from Latin. So Haitians can call themselves Latinos too, no? What is a Latino, people? Is a Latino someone who speaks Latin or some form of the archaic language? Latin was spoken in Rome, so wouldn't Italians be the real Latinos? So, when *Fuerza Latina* held a

workshop called "Al Pacino no es Latino," (discussing how Latinos are absent from the media) they were wrong. Al Pacino is, indeed, Latino. (The Blind leading the blind...)

According to Webster's New World Dictionary, Latin is defined as: "1: the language of ancient Rome 2: a member of any of the peoples whose languages derive from Latin." For your information, languages that are derived from Latin include: Portuguese, Galician, Spanish, Catalan, Provencal, French, Haitian Creole, Walloon, Italian, Sardinian, Romanian, Provençal, Romanic or Romansh or Latin. Is this getting confusing for you yet? Well, I'm not finished.

Is a Latino someone who lives in a Latin American Country? Well, according to Webster, he defines a Latin American as: "a native or inhabitant of any of the Countries of North, Central or South American whose official language is Spanish or Portuguese." Therefore, a Brazilian is Latino but a Dominican isn't.

Redefinition. Mexican students protested until the government changed their name to Chicano. They chose their name! How are we going to run around trying to fit into a mold that a Caucasian set? Don't let anybody tell you who you are.

By: Hypatia Martinez

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR EN ACCION READERS:

DUE TO FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES, WE WILL PRODUCE ONE MORE ISSUE (IF ALL GOES WELL) THIS SEMESTER. REGARDLESS, WE PLAN TO EMBARK ON A WORKSHOP SERIES. WE ARE ALWAYS OPEN TO COSPONSOR AN EVENT WITH CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS. FEEL FREE TO CALL PATTY AT 6-4286.

NOW! IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOUR LATINO NEWSPAPER BE THE BEST IT CAN BE, JOIN THE RANKS! AIGHT?

A Unified World: Is it really so hard to achieve?

By Alicia Martinez

Throughout history, there have been great men and women who dreamed of living in a world of equality. In this world, different cultures would unite and relish all that is similar and different. A place where people would look beyond the color of one's skin and into the eyes of innocence and beauty.

As a country we have made some progress, but there is still so much more to be done. We are a part of a new generation, one that accepts our differences and cherishes them. We are also the generation that has created boundaries between these differences that we cherish so greatly. Here at Stony Brook we are divided into our little groups of friends and we rarely go beyond these realms. If we do venture beyond the walls that we have built for ourselves, we only dare step into the adjoining yard of those who are similar.

Groups on campus cosponsor events with other similar groups. The Asian Student Alliance, for example, Hillel and Club India have never cosponsored an event. Nor has the Latin American Student Organization and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Alliance ever organized any joint collaborations.

It isn't that hard to find a com-

mon cause, a common belief or a common goal. As modern as we are, we are still stuck in a world of ancient animosities. In our hearts, I believe that we all want to demonstrate a prototype of what has been considered to be impossible: all the world's cultures reconciled to each other and giving to one another. Giving the gifts of diversity, culture, respect and understanding.

Stony Brook is a microcosm of the world. We have one of the greatest arrays of ethnic and cultural diversity the world has ever seen. We have inherited the wound of the world, the clash of ancient rivalries and the heartfelt suffering of our people. We have inherited a world of miscommunication and misunderstanding. Though these issues and conflicts were thrust upon us without warning, we do not need to push it aside and leave it for the generations to follow. We can begin the healing process and move on.

There should be much more than a peaceful coexistence with justice. There should be a flowering of decorative arts, languages, cultures and dances championed by all who have ever felt different. Everyone should be free to express themselves, their beliefs and their culture in their own way. Everyone should be prepared to embrace one another and the differences that may follow, because without this, we all fall short of apprehending our own identity and destiny.

We hope that this issue helps to bridge any gaps amongst our communities.

We also don't want to exclude other sectors of the Stony Brook community. The Unity Paper does not imply loyalty to one group over another.

We all have more in common than we believe.

Let's continue to struggle for unity on campus and in the world!

INTRODUCING WILLIE PERDOMO

By: Hypatia Martinez

He's young and Puerto Rican. He's from El Barrio and drops madd knowledge with hip-hop lyrics and a touch of salsa. He's not that guy on the corner throwing out tired lines to the Chicken-heads. Willie Perdomo keeps it real.

In a recent interview with the Nuyorican Poetry Slam winner, we discussed literature, writing, culture and drugs. Yes, drugs. Perdomo never lies about his past drug addiction because it has made him the man he was and the man he is today. See, all the "madd knowledge" that he drops is practical.

In his book of poetry, *Where a Nickel Costs a Dime*, he writes what he knows: drugs, violence, young love and lost dreams.

En Accion: Why do you write?

Willie Perdomo: Because I have to. Putting words together to create an image, a moment in time, to celebrate, and to witness, is all a challenge.

EA: How would you define poetry?

WP: Spiritual, blood, soul, real, electric.

EA: Can you teach someone to write

poetry?

WP: Yes. You can go into a creative writing program and get your Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing. You can learn how to write sestinas, sonnets, haikus, but still have no soul. The most valuable lesson I learned from any writing teacher was, "Show, don't tell." I love prose poems where rhyme is interjected but I also have respect for the poets who know how to use their tools.

EA: How has poetry affected your life?

WP: When I was in prep school, I knew I wanted to be a corporate lawyer or banker. Once I found Piri Thomas and Langston Hughes, all that went out the window. I knew that I had a story to tell and a song to sing. Poetry helped me put my anger in the right direction.

EA: Why do you think that younger generations, especially Latinos, shy away from poetry?

WP: My experience tells me that they rarely read or hear poetry that speaks to their experience. I know with the fellas it might have something to do with Latin Machismo because poetry was stigmatized as a sensitive, feminine activity. The language might also be a barrier. But I've

met some powerful, young, Latin poets who are eager when it comes to the reading and writing of poetry.

EA: What is the appeal to Spoken Word Poetry?

WP: It's exciting to hear someone who can get on stage and speak to your experience in your language. It makes you say, "Damn! That's what I've been trying to say."

EA: What are the differences between Spoken Word poetry and the Classics?

WP: I always thought that I could straddle the fence between the stage and page. I can read at S.O.B.'s and be published by W.W. Norton Books. Since the African griots and the Odyssey, I heard poetry was meant to be read aloud. Then you have the "academic" poets who think that poetry is a written form and it is meant to be read. That's all good but I've seen a lot of people who have been opened up to writing because they experienced a Spoken Word performance.

EA: Why did you get on the Nuyorican Poets Cafe Stage? Can you tell us about your first experience?

WP: I went down to the Cafe thinking it

was gonna be like the Old Cafe where you had all these Nuyorican poets and artists hanging out. I had been told that there was a "slam" going on which was like a diving competition for poets, except it wasn't always the most graceful poem that won. I went down to the Cafe with two friends of mine and once I saw those judges put those score cards up, I said, "What the fuck is going on here?" and started chugging from the forty ounce that we smuggled into the Cafe. It was wild but I ran with it and won the whole thing for that year.

EA: When you knew you were going to get published, did you have an agenda? Was there any particular message that you wanted to convey? When we think of Willie Perdomo, what should come to our minds?

WP: There was no particular message that I wanted to get across. I had a dream come true. I was finally becoming a bonafide, published poet. I just wanted to paint Lexington Avenue in all it's color, sound, and taste. I wanted to paint loss, life, love, food, fiesta de santero, basketball, hustlers, drugs, music, madres, and padres.

Continued on page 12

-Hey, Willie. What are you, man? Boricua? Moreno? Que? Are you Black? Puerto Rican?

I am.

-No, silly. You know what I mean: What are you?

I am you. You are me. We the same. Can't you feel our veins drinking the same blood?

-But who said you was a Porta-Reecan?

-Tu no ere Puerto Riqueno, brother.

-Maybe Indian like Ghandi-Indian?

-I thought you was a Black man.

-Is one of your parents white?

-You sure you ain't a mix of something like Cuban and Chinese?

-Looks like an Arab brother to me.

-Naahhh, nah, nah... You ain't no

Porty-Reecan. I keep tellin' y'all:

That boy is a Black man with an accent.

If you look real close you will see that your spirits are standing right next to our songs. You soy Boricua! Yo soy Africano! I ain't lying. Pero mi pelo is kinky y curly y mi skin no es Negro pero it can pass.

-Hey, yo! I don't care what you say. You Black.

I ain't Black! Every time I go downtown la madam blankita de Madison Avenue sees that I'm

standing next to her and she holds her purse just a bit tighter. Cabdrivers are quick to turn on their off-duty signs when they see my hand in the air. And the newspapers say that if I'm not in front of a gun you can bet I'll be behind one. I wonder why.

-Cuz you Black, nigger!

Don't call me no nigger. I am not Black, man. I had a conversation

with my professor and it went just like this:

"So, Willie, where are you from?"

"I'm from Harlem."

"Ohhh... Are you Black, Willie?"

"No, but we all the same and-"

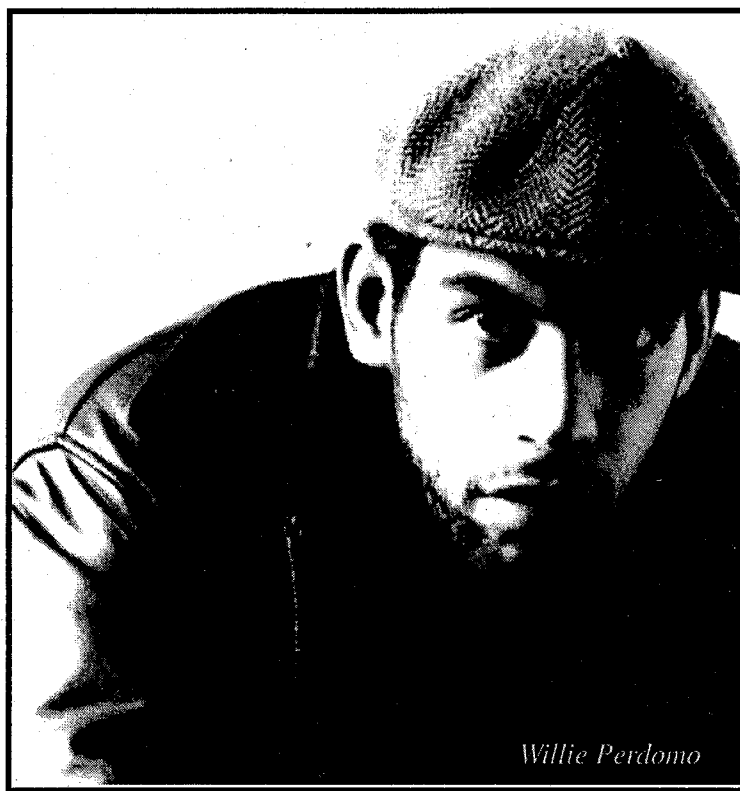
"Did you know our basketball team is nationally ranked?"

-Te lo estoy diciendo, brother. Ese hombre es un moreno. Miralo!

Mira, pana mia, yo no soy moreno! I just come out of Jerry's Den and the coconut spray on my new shape-up is smelling fresh all the way up 125th Street. I'm lookin' slim and I'm lookin' trim and when my compai Davi saw me he said:

"Cono, papo, te parece como un moreno, pana. Word up, kid, you look just like a light-skin moreno."

-What I told you? You Black my brother.



Willie Perdomo

Damn! I ain't even Black and here I am suffering from the young Black man's plight/ the old white man's burden/ and I ain't even Black, man/ a Black man I am not/ Boricua I am/ ain't never really was/ Black/ like me... -Y'all leave that boy alone. He got what they call the "nigger-reecan blues."

I'm a spic! I'm a nigger!

Spic! Spic! Just like a nigger.

Neglected, rejected, oppressed and dispossessed

From banana boats to tenements

Street gangs to regiments

Spic, Spic, Spic. I ain't nooooo different than a nigger!

FLASHBACK!

By: Ivette Laureano and Melissa Almonte

How far back can you remember? Are you one of those who reminisce about the good old days? Then pop a squat and prepare yourself for a flood of memories to return.

NAME CALLING:

1. Flatleaver
2. Tattle-tale
3. Cry baby
4. Indian giver
5. Instigator
6. Back stabber
7. Boogar brain
8. Butt crust

HAND GAMES:

1. Rockin' Robin (the dirty version)
2. Down, down the roller coaster
3. Miss Lucy had a baby
4. Miss Mary Mack
5. Candy Girl
6. We're going to Kentucky
7. Blue bird, blue bird
8. Quack diddley-oso
9. Duck, duck, goose

JUMP ROPE/ DOUBLEDUTCH SONGS:

1. 1-2-3, Up the ladder
2. Teddy bear, teddy bear...
3. 5-4-3-2-1
4. Strawberry Shortcake

JUMP ROPE MATERIAL:

1. Cable wire
2. Telephone wire
3. Laundry rope
4. Extension cords

STREET GAMES:

1. Freeze tag
2. Red light, Green light 1-2-3
3. Man-hunt
4. Scullies
5. Heaven
6. Telephone
7. Truth, Dare, or Consequences
8. Catch & Kiss
9. Hop Scotch
10. 7-Up
11. 7-11
12. Craps
13. Touch football
14. Stickball
15. Marco Polo
16. Jaws
17. Mother, may I?

PHRASES:

1. No backsies!
2. You got cooties!
3. Circle circle, dot dot...
4. Now I got my cootie shot!
5. Your mamma! Your father!
6. Your whole generation! To Infinity!
7. Oooh! I'm telling!
8. Liar, liar, pants on fire!

9. Girl and Boy sittin' in a tree..
10. Fine! Be that way!
11. How much you wanna bet?/ Bet?
12. Dag!
13. Why you did that for?
14. Wanna Race?
15. I'll race you!
16. Doy!

TV SHOW:

1. Good Times
2. Different Strokes
3. What's Happening
4. Happy Days
5. The Jeffersons
6. Facts of Life
7. Benson
8. Incredible Hulk
9. The Bionic Woman
10. Million Dollar Man
11. Gimme A Break
12. Little House on the Prairie
13. One Day at a Time
14. C.H.I.P.S.
15. Charlie's Angels
16. Dukes of Hazzard
17. Fantasy Island
18. Gilligan's Island
19. Webster
20. Alf
21. Benny Hill
22. Odd couple
23. Batman & Robin
24. Starskie & Hutch
25. Family Ties
26. Alice
27. Valerie/Hogan's Family
28. Growing Pains
29. The Cosby Show
30. Too Close for Comfort
31. Night Court
32. Electric Company
33. 3-2-1 Contact
34. Captain Kangaroo
35. Fame
36. Punky Brewster

TOYS/GAMES:

1. Atari
2. Nintendo
3. Uno
4. Pogo ball
5. Legos
6. Rubex Cube
7. Twister
8. Cabbage Patch Kids
9. Jacks
10. Click Clacks
11. Frogger
12. Centipede
13. Pac-Man
14. Barbie Dolls
15. Transformers
16. Trouble
17. Candy Land
18. Shoots and Ladders
19. GI Joe
20. Hot Wheels
21. Thundercats
22. Brite-lite
23. Hungry, Hungry Hippos
24. Operation

25. Shoots & Ladders
26. My Little Pony
27. Yo-Yo
28. Playing in the Johnny pump
29. Racing
30. Garbage Pail Kids Stickers
31. Bike competitions/Who can make the longest skid mark?
32. Skateboarding
33. Roller skating
34. Spin the bottle
35. Hand ball
36. Brake the chain
37. Kick ball
38. Dodge ball
39. Cops & Robbers

MENUDO:

Charlie, Johnny, Miguel, Ricky, Xavier
(Original Members)

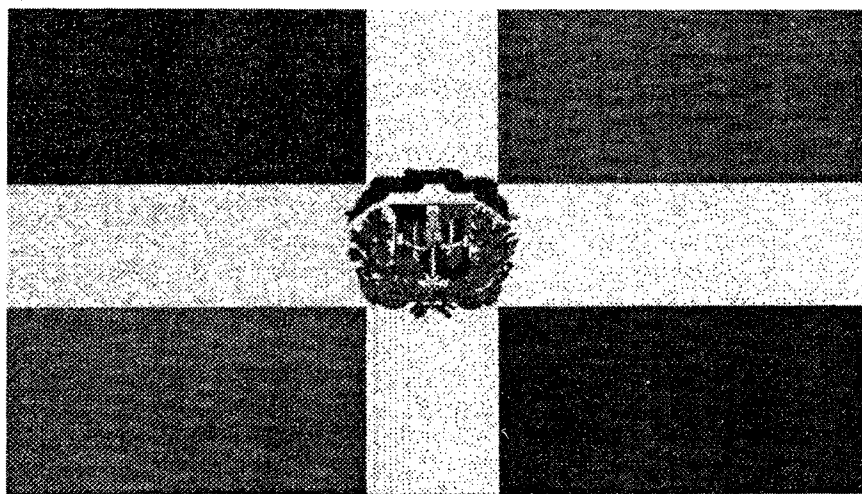
CARTOONS:

1. G.I. Joe
2. Transformers
3. Thundercats
4. Voltron
5. Smurfs
6. He-Man
7. She-Ra
8. Care Bears
9. Jem
10. Fat Albert
11. Super-Friends
12. Woody Woodpecker
13. Tom & Jerry
14. Loony Toons
15. G-Force
16. The Little's
17. Plastic Man
18. Charlie Brown
19. Scooby Doo
20. Mighty Mouse
21. Rainbow Brite
22. Monchi-chies
23. Inspector Gadget
24. The Jetsons
25. Josie & the Pussycats
26. Snorks
27. Alvin & the Chipmunks

WWE WRESTLING:

1. Hulk Hogan
2. Andre the Giant
3. Captain Lou Albano
4. Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka
5. Coco B-Ware
6. Rowdy Roddy Piper
7. Jake "The Snake" Roberts
8. British Bulldogs
9. "Macho Man" Randy Savage w/ Elizabeth
10. Demolition Man
11. "Hacksaw" Jim Dugan
12. Tugboat
13. Mr. T
14. Heart Foundation
15. Tito Santana
16. Brutus "The Barber" Beefcake
17. Ricky "The Dragon" Steamboat
18. Scary Sherry
19. Million Dollar Man
20. Mr. Perfect
21. Bobby "The Brain" Heenan

The Dominican Republic Flag & Coat of Arms



By: Elpidio Rodriguez

The Dominican Republic flag is representative of the history of the country. The flag that we are familiar with, which dates back to 1839, is not the original flag. The original flag was created after Santo Domingo declared its independence from Spain in 1821. Both flags were influenced by Haitian and French flags.

The first Dominican flag had the same color and design as the Haitian flag. The Dominican flag had a unique design of a small white cross surrounded by ten white stars. This design was changed by enlarging the white cross and inverting the blue and red into separate corners. The present flag of the Dominican Republic was created by the liberating father of the country, Juan Pablo Duarte.

During time spent in Spain and America, Duarte was inspired to create a flag for his native land. He knew that his native land needed a symbol to inspire the people to fight against oppression and establish a sovereign nation.

When he returned from his stay in Spain, he formed a secret society: *Los Trinitarios*. This secret society was founded by Duarte along with Ramon Mella and Francisco de Rosario Sanchez. These three founders were called the Trinity. The society was split up into cells of three people in order to maintain secrecy. The password used between the Trinitarians were three words: "Dios, Patria, y Libertad" (God, Country, and Liberty). These words are inscribed in the flag. The use of a Trinity or multiples of three has a very strong religious connotation. In the Christian religion, the trinity represents the union of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

In 1839, the flag was designed by Duarte's sister Rosa Duarte. The use of this flag did not become official until shortly after the Dominican Republic gained independence from Haiti in 1844.

The flag is representative of the Dominican revolution and what it stood for. It has the same colors of the Haitian and French flags but with different meanings. The red in the Haitian flag represents the mulattos of Haiti and also the struggle for independence. In the Dominican flag the red stands for the blood shed in the struggle and the fire in the blood of

the revolutionaries. The blue stands for the freedom gained from the Haitians. The white cross represents the sacrifices of the people and their strong faith in God. The cross symbolizes sacrifice because Jesus died on the cross. That is how the Dominican people died, at the hands of the Haitian oppressors for their fellow men.

The strong religious background of Dominicans is apparent all over the flag. There is a bible in the center of the shield, which is open to the gospel of Saint John, chapter 1. Religion was of central importance to the designers of the flag, Juan Pablo and Rosa Duarte.

Another example of the importance of religion is in the golden cross right above the bible. This golden cross represents the struggle and triumph out of slavery that was enforced by the Spanish. This is a similarity they share with Haiti.

On top of the shield, there is a blue ribbon which has inscribed in it the words, "Dios, Patria, Libertad." This is a reminder to the Dominican people of the struggle that the Trinitarians went through to win the war of independence against the Haitians.

There are two leaves surrounding the shield. One is a laurel leaf and the other is a palm leaf. They are both the national trees of the Dominican Republic. The laurel leaf symbolizes peace and prosperity for the Dominican Republic. The palm leaf symbolizes the tropical environment of the Dominican Republic. They are tied at the bottom by a red and white ribbon symbolizing the Dominican Republic's hold on peace and prosperity. There are also ten berries on the laurel leaf, which take the place that the ten stars of the original flag had. There are also three Dominican flags on spears on each side of the bible within the shield. The pattern of three (trinity) is apparent in the number of flags.

The final part of the emblem is the red ribbon at the bottom with the name of the glorious republic inscribed in it: "Republica Dominicana." This is a reminder to the world of the greatness of this proud country. It is a flag that many display with pride, but don't know what it stands for and represents.

Stony Brook Students Speak out on Interracial Relationships

By: Simonette David

Interracial relationships is the topic which I chose to speak on. I conducted a survey and questioned various Stony Brook students, to learn how they really feel about this issue.

The questions which I addressed are the following: 1. Are you in or have you ever been in an interracial relationship? 2. If not what prevents you from getting involved in an interracial relationship? And 3. How does your family feel about interracial relationships? Do they support it or do they favor more traditional relationships? The answers were scored out of 100.

Thirty-four people answered "no" to the first question. Sixty-six people answered "yes," which exhibited an openness that some students have towards other cultures.

As a whole community, Stony Brook students exemplify a new era of broad minded individuals who are ready to break loose from the conservative outlook they have been exposed to by their families.

The second question had a range

of different answers. Some people felt that at some point in the relationship there would be a clash of opinions, values, ethical views, and interests. All of these reasons stem back to the cultural issue of how people have been raised with morals which in essence distinguish them from others. However, others just feel that they haven't found anyone to share an interracial experience with. For those of you who feel the same way, don't give up, someone out there probably feels the same way you do.

The third question was split between families who totally opposed the issue and those who felt indifferent to it as long as their child was happy. Most of the reasons for the opposition was due to religion. Muslims, for example, are not in favor of interracial relationships because they feel the need to preserve their culture, by only marrying within the culture.

One can learn a lot from other cultures and from interracial relationships. Diversity stems from experience and it is these experiences that help people to grow and mature as individuals.

WELCOME
BACK!
GOOD LUCK
THIS
SEMESTER!

LASO's REPORT CARD: A+

By: Melissa Almonte

The LASO Executive Board was very busy last semester. On October 7th, LASO held two events: Merchants Day and the Latino Professional Forum. For Merchants Day, they showcased Urban the Latino Magazine and Stress Magazine. Also present were vendors, such as: Johnny Lima and his South American Crafts, Earl Blaze with Afro Latino designs T-shirts, Evan Gold, a Cartoonist, and Joseph Cordero from Renaissance Man Productions selling dance tapes. The event was well planned out, however not much was sold.

For the Latino Professional Forum LASO had four speakers. This event, in conjunction with Hispanic Heritage Month, was very inspiring and informative. The attendance was pitiful. The Latino community on campus missed a great presentation. Linda Ayala, who works at Stony Brook's Pharmacology Department, represented Latinos in Administrative positions. Jorge Cano-Moreno the Publisher of Urban the Latino Magazine, represented Latinos in Media. Edgardo Miranda Rodriguez from El Puente, represented social services, and Edwin Mojica from the Republic National Bank, represented the business field.

LASO's annual Copacabana Night was held on October 17th. The

Stony Brook Latino community showed up but it was a party; so what do you expect? It was a night where homework and tests were left outside the door and "todo el mundo a mover el esqueleto." Well, the ladies were dancing up a storm; most of the men on this campus just stand around trying to look cute. There were more women, than couples, dancing together. Guys, stop leaning on the walls; they won't fall. Be brave and ask a girl to dance! The salsa contest was nerve wrecking for the competitors and the audience. Elisamuel Rivera and Natalia Maldonado won \$50 by the audience's applause.

On October 25th, LASO, in conjunction with the Latino council, built a float and banner for the Homecoming parade. Acknowledgments go out to Maria Mancero for working very hard on the beautiful banner!

For those of you that are oblivious to LASO business, here's an update: Jaydith Matias resigned as Vice president on October 28th. She was an active member of LASO for many years and we all thank her for her dedication. Helen Arias resigned her position as treasurer when she was voted as the new Vice-President. Rodney Morandi is the new Treasurer.

In conjunction with Phiota

Month (which was held in November), LASO and Phi Iota Alpha Fraternity Incorporated held a workshop: The Bernado Rivera show: *Machismo in the 90's*. Members of both organizations put on a mock talk-show. Everyone in the audience had a great night. The panelists were very funny and imaginative.

The annual Thanksgiving Dinner was on November 19th. Homeless families, living in nearby shelters, came to enjoy a hot meal. The Dinner was cosponsored by many organizations; LASO was amongst them. This event was not only to provide the families with food, but to put smiles on their faces. The volunteers played musical chairs with the children. After the children were done, the adults ran around the chairs when it was their turn to play. LASO bought a pinata for the kids. At the end of the evening, LASO gave each child a bag of goodies.

LASO had a successful action of services where Debbie Luther helped raise a heap of money by auctioning cleaning and massaging services! (Thanks Elvis!) The last meeting that LASO held was a social. The editorial-board bought some pastelitos and drinks for the general body. I must say that the New editorial-board has done a marvelous job so far!

Good job, LASO!!

Nuestras Progenitora

By: Gaudys Sanclemente

Como es el edicion de la unidad de los Latinos y los Africanos, doy mi mensaje como Latina que soy. Para que todos mis hermanos entiendan lo que esta sucediendo en el clan de la familia Latina y Africano.

Me he dado cuenta que todos nosotros, los jovenes, nos estamos concentrado en nuestros estudios, en nuestras actividades, y en nuestros futuros. Pero nos estamos alejando de nuestras progenitora.

Yo me pregunto y les hago la pregunta a todos los jovenes. Que pasa con nuestra progenitora? En que categoria la ponemos? O es que en realidad nos estamos alejando de lo mas sagrado que tenemos que es la madre? O es que no nos damos cuenta que entre todas las cosas, la madre es primera y despues viene lo demas. Ellas nos dirige y nos sigue dirigiendo por el camino del bien y del mal.

Es por eso que yo como hija opino que debemos venerar a nuestras progenitora por vernos traído al mundo. Que piensan ustedes?

Playing Devil's Advocate:

Should There be Only Latin Music at LASO Parties?

YES

NO

By: Melissa Almonte

The Latin American Student Organization holds two major parties each year. One party is thrown during Hispanic Heritage Month in October, and the other at the end of April. One question that has been brought to the table recently is: should LASO parties play other than Latin music? This issue was brought up at a past LASO meeting and caused quite a debate.

One side argues that even though LASO's parties are Hispanic parties, a variety of music should be played. Those that agree with this say that people of different backgrounds attend so LASO should accommodate them. No group on campus is allowed to discriminate against any sector of the campus population. Therefore, we should accommodate everyone that would like to attend LASO's events.

I, however, and many others feel that at least 90% of the music should be Latin. I would say that only 75% of the music at LASO parties are Salsa, Merengue or Bachata. More than 90% of the parties thrown on campus already play Hip Hop, Reggae, and House. There are many students who just want to listen to Latin music. Also, other campus parties don't accommodate people who prefer Latin music, so why should we accommodate them? Never forget that LASO (which stands for the Latin American Student Organization) is dedicated in the promotion and celebration of the Latin heritage. Is it so bad to dance to merengue and salsa all night? Am I asking too much? Am I being unreasonable?

At previous LASO parties, American music has been played. Consequently, American music is jumbled up into a long block of time. If you are going to play American music, why not have it in intervals of ten minutes every hour and a half? If I go to LASO to dance salsa, then why am I forced to listen to American music?

The Latinos on campus should appreciate that so many people of diverse cultures want to join our celebrations; but I think that before we can make others happy, we should be satisfied ourselves.

By: Vanessa D. Marrero

Copacabana Night 1997 is a celebration of empowerment, unification, joy, and love of the Latino heritage. Now what better then to spread this fantastic culture with everyone? Whether it be Black, White, Asian, or Latino, hermanos y hermanas, we have to understand the as people we are a whole. What is the big deal if we play different types of music? I understand and sympathize that it is a Latino celebration but if a little bit of reggae will make our Caribbean sisters and brothers feel comfortable, then why not? (I think sometimes some of us forget we are too from the Caribbean.) We should play other types of music to show that Latinos are open to any and everybody. Let me enlighten you on the experience I had at COPA -97.

I was tired, cranky and just not feeling it. A friend and I went, instead, to the bi-weekly Black Caucus meeting. After the meeting, I felt better. I was feeling love for ALL people of color. I felt that the people in that room with me were my brothers and sisters. Monique Maylor asked me if I was going to Copa. I said, "No." She said she was going to dance "salsa." I laughed and asked myself, "Why wasn't I going? So I turned to my friend and asked her if she was down to go. She said, "Yeah, lets do it."

I turned to Monique and told her that I would see her there. I asked Lorraine Lowe if she wanted to go. At first she was hesitant. She said, "They're only going to play Spanish music. I don't know." I informed her that LASO parties usually accommodate everyone and play various styles of music. Before you knew it, we were off to the party!

Not only did Lorraine accompany my friend and I, but other members of Black Caucus joined us. Entering the Union Ballroom, I saw students represent I never imagined would attend a "Latino" party. I think what made the evening so enjoyable was the fact that everyone was able to dance and enjoy themselves openly. Everyone felt comfortable because we were able to dance together in unity. The mixture of various styles of music ultimately represents the unity within all of us, regardless of race. I rather compromise and enjoy myself with everyone then be selfish with the richness of my culture.

RESIST

AURORA LEVINS MORALES FROM GETTING HOME ALIVE

I AM NOT AFRICAN. AFRICA IS IN ME, BUT I CANNOT RETURN.

I AM NOT TAINA. TAINA IS IN ME, BUT THERE IS NO WAY BACK.

I AM NOT EUROPEAN. EUROPE LIVES IN ME, BUT I HAVE NO HOME THERE.

I AM NEW. HISTORY MADE ME. MY FIRST LANGUAGE IS SPANGLISH.

I WAS BORN AT THE CROSSROADS.
AND I AM WHOLE.

Beauty and the Beast

There was something in your voice
that awoke me from my hundred year
slumber.

The bet was in the air
to see if indeed my heart heard correctly.

I saw your wings
from beneath my closed eyes
and worshipped every flap of air
you engulfed in your perimeter.

My heart stood still-
with every second you came closer-
anticipating-

the horrific look on your face
upon seeing the Beast!

And I called out,
I warned you of the impending danger
yet you proceeded to call me false

until that moment
when the only air left

was the breath between us.

You fainted and fell

and all I saw were your angelic wings
until your depth grew deeper and deeper
from my feet

and I saw no more.

And when I fell into the abyss
all that was left were the floating remain-
ders

of your last bright feathers.

Hypatia Martinez

INDIFFERENCE

A TRAPPED
DOVE SINGING A SONG

YET, DEAF
EARS ARE WHERE THE NOTES
TRAVEL TO

THE SWEET
SOUNDS OF KNOWING

AND

CRIES OF
SORROW ARE ALL MISTAKEN
FOR MATING CALLS

AFTER THE
SONG ENDS, A SEDENTARY
SLEEP IS THE ONLY EXERCISE
THAT
CONSUMES ITS EXISTENCE

IN
PEPPERMINT SCENTED
DREAMS, THE DOVE DREAMS
OF ESCAPE

AS, ITS
BLOOD RIDDEN BREATH
MATERIALIZES ON THE
BARRED CAGE

IZOLA

Diamonds

What is a diamond? "Diamond" comes from the Greek word *adamas*, which means "unconquerable." It is the hardest of all known substances. It is a rare stone with exceptional hardness, and at times the presence of a delicate color. The beauty and hardness of the diamond gives rise to the notion that they enabled their wearers to acquire certain virtues.

In the past the diamond was supposed by some people to impact invulnerability to its owner and to protect a warrior in battle. These crystals range from white or colorless, to brown or black. These atoms are organized in a close-packed cubic arrangement that gives the stone its hardness. A diamond is mined, graded, cut, shaped and polished.

The qualities above are a representation of you. You are my diamonds and in turn I am yours. Strong and yet your beauty is your overwhelming external feature. We are graphed with our own shades, we come in different styles, shapes, and sizes. Those of wealth want to own us and those of less fortunes long to behold us. What intelligent beauties you are! How I stand in awe of thy intelligence and accomplishments. Bless you in your future endeavors and may your brilliance shine forever.

I Love
Dedicated to my sisters,
Annette Flores- GCU

Please Submit All Poems
and Works of Creative Art to
the BLACKWORLD and
en ACCION mailboxes in
the Polity Suite

Shrouded Security

By
Donald W. Willis

In your white world,
I stand out.
A dark smudge,
in a sea of light.
In your language,
purity and innocence is white.
I am dark and sinister.
Blackmail, Blackball, Blackheart.

In the afterlife, you say,
all this will change.
Do you know, how right you are?
Then my blackness will shield me,
from the anger of your God.
In the darkness of eternity,
I will escape his wrath.
Eyes closed, mouth shut,
I will blend in.
No pop eyes or huge grin,
not this time boss.

As your God grabs those,
who have pissed him off,
he will grab those he sees.
The first to be condemned.
You will glow and shine,
against the ebony of forever.
Then your angry god,
will pluck you, and judge.
And me, eyes closed,
mouth shut, I'll stay hidden,
and camouflaged, forever.
Safe in my blackness.

PERDOMO

(continued from page 6)

EA: How has your father affected your life? What role do male figures have on our young Latin men?

WP: On one hand, I have pleasant memories of my father, like when he used to take me to baseball games or to the barbershop. On the other hand, I know he was a drunkard who wasn't very nice to my mother. I have some resentment for my father because I know his not being there had some affect on the kind of man I became. It's hard for me to generalize about the role of fathers on our young Latino men. I do know that some of our Latinos grow up to become womanizers because it is macho to have more than one woman. But I have seen that in other cultures too. I've seen both positive and negative.

EA: And your mom?

WP: My mom had a big influence on how I regarded women. My mom spoiled me to death so I would find myself in a lot of co-dependent relationships. I don't know if I can say that's the role of the Latin woman but they have been just as strong as the Black woman in holding families together.

EA: How did you get into drugs?

WP: I wanted to belong. It was a quick and easy way into the streets. I was always picked on and too scared to defend myself so I would just do drugs. I was able to write poetry and still able to hang out with the fellas. That was my way of carving out my own "rep." It was obvious to me that the fellas and the girls would talk about me because they would say, "That's that kid who be writing those poems."

EA: Did your literary success have any bearing on your addiction?

WP: It was hard for me to see the bottom when I could sell drugs in the morning and then eat lunch at a french restaurant with my editor. My literary success fed my drug addiction and vice versa. Part of the high was being able to come from Uptown, after doing drugs, and blowing up the spot. It made me feel like I was in control.

EA: What drugs were you abusing?

WP: I used to sniff heroin and smoke crack. I am also an alcoholic and pot-head.

EA: Did you admit yourself into rehab willingly?

WP: On the heels of being arrested four times within one year, yes. I had been to detox four times and it wasn't working. I had tried relocating to another city but that didn't work either. So it was either jail or a place where I can work on being a recovering drug addict. I was losing too much: work, love, relationships, trust, respect and all of this at the hands of my addiction. It was taking its toll physically

and emotionally.

EA: What have you learned in rehab?

WP: The ability to confront and talk about my feelings without worrying about how you might perceive me. I am a good guy with flaws but willing to work on them, and that I can have fun, laugh, and love without drugs.

EA: When you leave treatment, how do you plan to continue to stay clean?

WP: Never forget. Realize that I am willing to stay clean by any means necessary. That before I am a poet, I am a recovering drug addict. I am learning to assume responsibility and follow through on it. I am learning to hold myself accountable for whatever action I take. I have learned that drugs have fucked up so many of the most beautiful, intelligent, talented, brothers and sisters I know. When I go out on the road, I'll include my recovery as part of my presentation.

EA: How has this experience changed your writing?

WP: I can't find a voice to write about this experience. I mean, I'm trying to write with as much power and rhythm as I did in *NICKEL* but sometimes I can't find it. I'm not pushing it. If there is anything I have learned from being in treatment, it is patience.

EA: Do you think that tragedy and poetry have any common links? Why do you think that so many artists have lived or are living sad lives?

WP: I used to think that tragedy and poetry had a common link. For me they were like rice and beans; you couldn't have one without the other. It was a challenge to squeeze beauty out of the darkest hole. They have a saying in the street that says, "If it ain't wrought, it ain't right." I think it's possible to live clean, confident and write with a powerful voice. I've seen it done before. I was definitely falling into the "Tragic Poet" mode. My first book was kind of dark but so was my life. I think a lot of artists fall into that self-destructive mode and use it as an excuse to kill themselves.

EA: Why stay clean?

WP: So I don't have to live dirty.

Willie Perdomo redefines what a poet is. Poetry is you, me, Washington Heights, Flatbush, and Corona. Poetry is battling the elements and living to tell about it. Willie Perdomo uses poetry to talk to a generation and a people who believed that art and beauty was an eurocentric thing. We have to take back the poetry that lives in our "grandmother reciting a quick prayer over a pot of hot rice and beans." This poet reminds us that there is no story like the one we live.

New York Undercover: New Horizons??

By: Hypatia Martinez

It has been confirmed! *New York Undercover* (NYU) will resume for the Winter 1998 season. But, don't become too excited because we probably won't be able to recognize the new NYU.

The show is still under reconstruction. Recently, I have heard that the show has been retitled: *New York Undercover: Manhattan Manhunt*. The setting of this police drama will no longer be set in Harlem. Now, the Detectives of the Fourth Precinct are moving downtown.

DeLorenzo and LaPaglia are still off the show! Patty D'arbanville-Quinn has been booted off the set leaving behind a disgruntled Malik Yoba. Lauren Velez has not commented on the reconstruction of the show. According to recent rumors, Yoba is in the process of nulling his contract.

Three new characters have been added to the show. Thomas Mikal Ford, from the former sit-com *Martin*, has been assigned to be Yoba's right-hand man. The musical segments and backdrops have been removed for a more NYPD-blue, grittier look.

In other words, *New York Undercover* is back, but not really!

I BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW . . .

1868

The Fourteenth Amendment to the US Constitution is adopted, declaring all people of Hispanic origin born in the United States US citizens.

1937

General Rafael Trujillo orders the military to kill as many Haitians as it could find, along the western frontier of the Dominican Republic.

1961

Dominican dictator Rafael Trujillo is assassinated and the turmoil increases immigration to the USA.

1963

Dominican President Juan Bosch is removed by a military coup.

1964

The Supreme Court reversed the conviction for murder of Daniel Escobedo. The police violated his constitutional rights by refusing his request to see a lawyer before he confessed. The landmark decision established a suspects right to legal counsel during questioning. Moreover, it laid the foundation for the Miranda decision two years later that required police to inform suspects of their rights.

1967

Dominican American fashion designer Oscar de la Renta becomes the first Latino to win the Coty American Fashion Critics' Award. De la Renta goes on to become one of the most important designers in the world.

1968

Luis Walter Alvarez becomes the first US born Latino to win the Nobel Prize for physics.

1971

Deganawidah-Quetzacoatl, the first Native American and Chicano University is founded near Davis, California.

1982

The Plye vs Doe case is won giving the children of undocumented workers in Texas free education

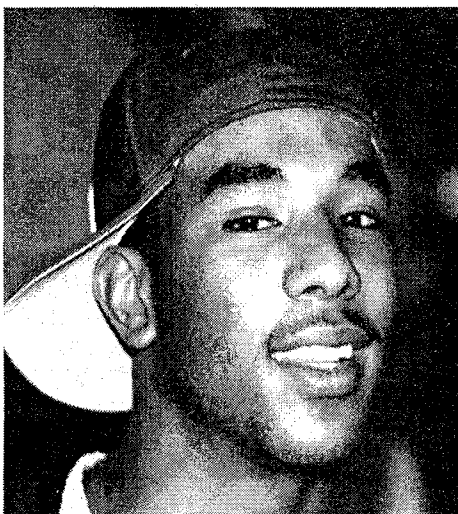
1991

Oscar Hijuelos becomes the first Latino to win the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction.

1996

Antonia Pantoja is the educator and founder of ASPIRA. This organization counsels and provides support services for students pursuing a degree in higher education. Pantoja becomes the first Latina to receive the Medal of Freedom, which was presented by President Bill Clinton.

How would you rate Polity on a scale of 1-10?



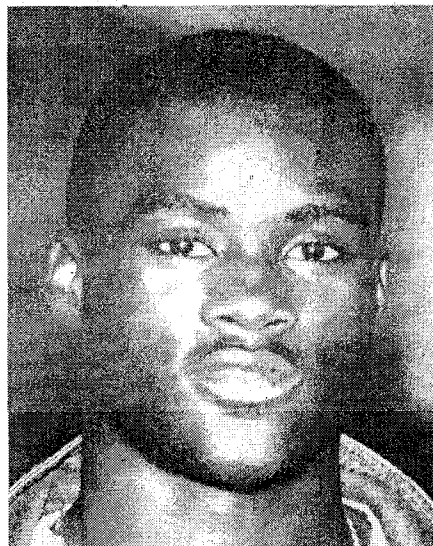
Orlando Gonzalez, Fr. Undecided - I think the Student Government here is about a 7. I really haven't been at this school for too long but what I see so far is, that while it isn't great, everything isn't chaos or disorder either. . . everything seems to run smooth so that's why I gave them a descent rating.



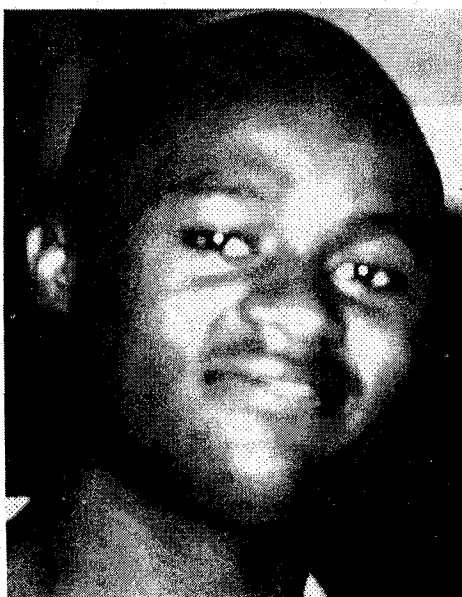
Bernice Villalba, Jr. Economics and AMS majors - I would rate them an 8 because they are really diverse as a group and they get involved in a lot of cultural issues on campus. They also support the campus clubs & organizations, like mine, LASO.



Latoya Forrester, So. Clinical Laboratory Sciences major - I would rate Student Polity an 8 because I see that they are trying. They put a lot of effort into helping the school run better. They help my organization, Gospel Choir, with funds and support so I'm glad that they're there.



Avery Sanford, Fr. Computer Science major - I feel like the Student Government isn't doing too much here because I don't know too much about it, so that shows that they can't be doing very much in their offices. On a scale of 1 to 10, I would give them a 4.



Kevin Donaldson, So. Political Science major - I think that Student Polity would rate a 7 on a scale of 1 to 10 because they are for the people. . . at least I believe so. Polity has a lot of services for students but the reason that they can't have a "10" rating is because a lot of people don't know about them.



Catherine Lee, Jr. Political Science major - On a scale of 1 to 10, I would give them a 5 because I really don't see them affecting me that much. I see them doing a lot of activities but I guess I'm not that interested in what they're doing.

A HARD DAY'S NIGHT

By: Hypatia Martinez

When I heard DLG (short for Dark Latin Groove) was going to be performing in the Union Ballroom, I flipped. I knew that the salsa concert was going to sell-out. After negotiating advertisement terms with Minority Planning Board President, Elpidio Rodriguez, we were promised an interview with DLG. Well, Elpidio came through with two press passes. Ivette and I walked behind Elpidio who was leading us to DLG's dressing room.

Once upstairs, we sensed increased anxiety, which told me that DLG were on their way. I saw a rush of people head into the dressing room. In all the confusion, SPA pushed Ivette and I aside. They said that if DLG wanted to be interviewed that one of their managers would come and get us. "Well, make sure they know we're here," I yelled to deaf ears.

Ivette and I sat down and waited for two hours. I got up and tried to get a peek into the dressing room when Ivette began to wonder what color was Huey Dunbar, the lead singer's, hair tonight. Huey is known for having outrageous hair-colors.

After trying to get past security, Elpidio ran over to us and said, "Did you guys get to go in yet? You could've gone in anytime." Oh, really? Ivette and I crossed the security lines and walked into DLG's dressing room. James Da Barba, the deep-throated sidekick, was the first member of DLG I saw. From previous pictures I've seen, he appeared thinner in person. He was singing to one of the groupies with a dying-cat like voice. Frangancia, the Dominican reggae comrade, comes by with a gold/brown velvet jacket and a skintight black shirt. Frangancia's skin was flawless: think creamy chocolate.

While James and Frangancia took some photos, I spot Huey in the corner of the room. Ahh! Huey! This is who I was looking for! Ladies and Gentlemen; his hair was yellow. Not

blonde but yellow! Before I could even register the fact that Huey and I were in the same room, he walked towards us. He looked at Ivette and I, smiled and then picked up a bottle of water. While hyperventilating, I could not help but notice that every curl on this man's head was distinct. Huey was sharp! Very Sharp!

After locating the real manager amongst the sea of imposters, I collected myself to do the interview. Well, their manager said, "Not now. After the show!" He must've been smoking crack or something! After hours of getting bench-butt marks, this jerk was telling me that I have to wait again? I was fed up with the incompetence of the DLG management and went downstairs. As I was passing through security, I was stopped for possession of a nail clipper. Oh, great!

I walked into the Ballroom to see a room with fewer than 120 people. My mouth dropped. I could not believe that Stony Brook Latinos sold us out! I didn't even want to imagine the faces of the DLG band members rushing onto the stage with such a small amount of audience members. I saw Polity treasurer, Marjorie Eyma, and asked, "Is this it?" She slowly nodded her head. We stood together in total disbelief.

As I held my breath, a spokesman for *Urban*, the Latino Magazine introduced DLG. Huey was the first to come on stage. I saw no extraordinary emotion on his face; he went straight into singing. For those of you who missed it... well, you missed it! Huey sounded great! DLG performed all their smash hits, including two reggae numbers, one was a rendition of Sade's *Ordinary Love*. DLG tore up the Ballroom!

Marjorie whispered in my ear to run back upstairs before DLG's last musical number. She warned me that 3TV also wanted an interview with them. I thanked Marjorie for the scoop and ran upstairs with Ivette still by my side. SPA guards were visible but obviously tired when we ran into the empty dressing room. I whispered to myself, "Damn, they left!" After five minutes of sulking, Elpidio ran in and



told us to follow him. We all ran downstairs trying to catch up to DLG. We found DLG signing autographs and taking photos. James, who was drenched in sweat, was standing by his compadre, Frangancia (did I tell you his skin was flawless? OK.) And Huey, well... sharp is the operative word here.

I tried to get into the crowd but 3TV beat me to the punch. After 3TV was done, the manager saw me, rolled his eyes, and said, "C'mon give this girl some time. She's been waiting." I walked up to DLG and introduced myself. James held out his sweaty hand and I shook it. Huey grabbed my hand and squeezed my bones to near destruction. After releasing my damaged fingers, I greeted Frangancia. What did I observe? Well, Huey had tiny pink pimples sprinkled all over his face. James looked like he was melting and Frangancia was just chilling

with his million dollar smile. *Chi-ching!*

I knew James and Huey spoke English but I was surprised to discover that Frangancia had no accent. All of the guys were very cordial. I do have to emphasize that amidst all the commotion around us, Huey was very attentive to the questions I asked. The Manager grabbed the camera from Ivette, who was taking photos from the side and told us to get in the picture. I hate taking pictures so I quickly stepped aside until I saw Huey hold out his arm. So there I was with Huey breathing in my ear. Flash! (Note: the picture we took is not here because Ivette won't let go of it. Nevertheless, she is charging \$5 for those of you who want to see it.) I thanked DLG for their time and said good-bye. Huey thanked me with a hug just as ferocious as his handshake. I whispered in his ear, "Stay strong, Papa." He looked at me and smiled.



From left to right: James 'Da Barba', Huey Dunbar, and Frangancia

The Five Minute Interview

EA: What do you think about Latinos not recognizing their African roots?

James: They just don't know. If you don't know who you are, how can you expect them to identify with another group?

Huey: Some people look at Frangancia and think he's Babyface. Frangancia is Dominican but you can see Africa in his face.

EA: How would you address the problem of student apathy?

James: I like this school! (wiping his head) People should support their clubs. You're all lucky to be here.

Huey: I think we forget how lucky we are sometimes.

EA: Did you know that mixing salsa and reggae would work so well?

James: Yes. Salsa and reggae make you dance, right? Why not mix it?

EA: What are your future plans?

Huey: Uh...we're working on an English album. I don't know exactly when it'll be out but look out!

EA: Really? Is it going to be like an R & B album or what?

Huey: It'll be like a DLG album.

C.O.C.a

COMMITTEE ON CINEMATIC ARTS SPRING 98' MOVIE SCHEDULE

JANUARY

Kiss The Girls

1/30 - 2/1

FEBUARY

Devil's Advocate

2/6 - 2/8

Soul Food

2/14 - 2/16

I Know What You Did

2/20 - 2/22

Mortal Kombat: Annihilation

2/27 - 3/1

MARCH

The Rainmaker

3/6 - 3/8

Starship Troopers

3/13 - 3/15

TBA

3/27 - 3/29

APRIL

Gattaca

4/3 - 4/5

Scream 2

4/10 - 4/12

Tomorrow Never Dies

4/17 - 4/19

Jackie Brown

4/24 - 4/26

MAY

Amistad

5/1 - 5/3

Showtimes: Friday and Saturday 8:30pm and 11:00pm Sunday 7:00pm and 9:30pm

Location: Student Activities Center Auditorium

ADMISSION: \$1 W /Stony Brook I.D. \$2 W /out Stony Brook I.D

*****Times, Schedules, and dates are subject to change without notice, please refer to 632-9278
for further information.

*****Tickets are sold in the student union ticket booth one hour before the first show.

Opinions:

GIULIANI'S IN BECAUSE WE WENT OUT

By: Mike Wilson

Learning that Mayor Giuliani had defeated Democrat Ruth Messinger in New York's Mayoral election was earth-shattering news.

The city of New York has been cursed with another term of the right-wing racist, Giuliani as Mayor. Why, do you ask, because African-American's did not come out and vote. Most of us didn't make the effort to get him out of office. I voted for Ruth Messinger not because she is the savior of Black people, not even close, and not because she's a Democrat. Most Democrats are almost as racist as the Republicans.

Does anyone remember when Bill Clinton attacked Sista Souljah at the

Rainbow Coalition meeting? That was like lynching a Black man in NAACP headquarters. I considered it voting against Giuliani.

Giuliani has never done anything substantial for African-Americans. Showing up at churches for photo opportunities doesn't cut it. Every time a White police officer shoots a Black man in cold blood or there is a charge of police brutality, and there have been a lot of these cases during his term, he has leapt to the defense of the charged officers before and after hearing the facts. He doesn't care. Those racist police are his hand, and his permissiveness showed he is the head of institutionalized racism in New York City. He should be held accountable. We had

the chance to do this and we passed it up. Giuliani's strength comes from the national political backlash of having a Democrat as president.

Republicans are coming out in droves to the ballot box to keep Democrats out of office. The "Angry White Man" is making his vote count. Personally, I think the term "Angry White Man" is a joke. Comparing this "Angry White Man" to the angry Black Man is like putting a wet firecracker next to a hydrogen bomb. I've got something to be angry about, I've got your "angry" right here... but I digress.

What I found staggering is that Giuliani won by a large margin. That shows that we as a people did not even

put up a fight. I'm sure those of us who didn't vote had really important things to do, like getting our nails done or buying a new CD. All of us have something to say when Giuliani or his administration does something that outrages us, that's fine, but make your feelings count and vote.

I applaud the Million Man March and the Million Woman March for helping black people to register to vote. After that, it is up to you to use that right or you are turning your backs on the memories of all the African-Americans who died due to police violence, and the brave Black people before them who died for our right to vote.

The Big Bully

By: Hugo Cantor

Colombia is being bullied by the United States government. (Please notice the 'o' and not the 'u.' It is very annoying when people write it "Columbia.") The United States blames Colombia for the drug "problem" but the U.S. . . is, in fact, the World's Leading Cocaine Consumer (W.L.C.C.) The WLCC fails to realize that buying cocaine is, in reality, creating the problem. The WLCC blames others for problems that have been self-induced. The WLCC fails to realize that cocaine is not the problem. The real problem is the drug addiction that is overwhelming its own society.

The WLCC has a serious superiority complex. The WLCC believes itself to be righteous and humane. It stands

by the theory that it has the most efficient justice system. Mind you, the WLCC has the world's largest debt and a justice system that acquits cases like that of Rodney King? The WLCC has taken the role of international police.

Typical of this arrogance is a web page by John P. Sweeney of the Heritage Foundation. The web-page is quite critical of Colombia. The web-page begins by stating that since 1986, the WLCC has passed judgment on the counter-narcotic efforts of Colombia. It is quite ironical that the WLCC passes judgment on other countries for *their* drug problem.

According to the web-page, Colombia received a failing grade. A failing grade? Colombia has been fighting a courageous and bloody war against drugs!

Colombia has lost many government officials, journalists and ordinary citizens in its fight against drugs! (I wonder what grade the WLCC would get? It would be quite a shameful report card!)

Sweeney alleges that various high officials in the Colombian government have taken money from the Cartels. However, there is no mention of the officials in the WLCC who have been drug consumers themselves. For example, the Mayor of Washington D.C. was convicted for soliciting illegal drugs. The United States President, himself, has admitted he smoked marijuana but didn't inhale. Sure! The WLCC forces itself into Colombian internal affairs. The WLCC even tried to make the Colombian President resign.

The page also states that the WLCC should "get tough" on Colombia. Sweeney suggests that Colombia should be isolated from the rest of the world. How about "getting tough" on consumption and demand? It states that Colombia is a threat to the hemisphere's security! However, the *real* threat is the powerful demand for drugs by the WLCC!! This demand is the driving force in the world's drug industry.

If the WLCC is so concerned with dissolving any desire for mind-altering drugs, they should spend their tax dollars at home rather than storming onto our beaches! However, I know Colombia will *never* be intimidated by the big bully.

Feedback

All letters to the editor should be addressed as such. Please submit any and all letters to
BLACKWORLD & en ACCION
 in our mailboxes
 located in the Student Polity Office,

Opinions:

LOST MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH

By: Rosslyn Grijalva and Yvette Lopez

When we were younger, many of us hated middle school (some of still do). Can you remember being seated alphabetically and those damn spelling quizzes? I am sure that you are grateful that you made it. Sadly though, many students are finding it harder to make it through middle school than ever before. There are many who attribute the student's academic difficulties to laziness and just too much "hanging out." Well, for those of you who believe that archaic theory, we have an experience that might enlighten you.

As part of Hispanic Heritage month, we had the pleasure of dancing at Milton Olive Middle school. We danced two music numbers: a merengue and flamenco dance. The students were the most energetic audience members any performer could have. After the show we spent a day with an English as a Second Language class.

The students in the ESL class were brilliantly alert and very talkative. Looking around the classroom, we were astonished to discover that the textbooks laying about were dated back to 1969. Needless to say, the world has gone

through many changes. We asked if there were any updated textbooks on the library shelves that can be incorporated into the lessons. We were told that Milton Olive had no library or computers. In one of the small desks, sat a girl who was fourteen years old. This young girl was barely able to read or write. What hurt us the most was looking around at the sea of African American and Latino faces that were in this ESL class.

How can anyone learn in these conditions? We could not stand around and let this go on without doing anything about it. So, we decided to develop a mentor program. Every Friday we will travel to Olive Middle School and tutor the students that need assistance. Each volunteer will be assigned two students. Aside from educational assistance, we hope the students to feel open to discuss any personal problems they may be having. We will act as brothers and sisters to these children in order to help and motivate them to prosper. We hope this program will be successful. All we want is for the wonderful kids at Middle Olive to get the love and help they need to make it through this harsh world. If you want to join us, call us at 516-216-3962.

Realism Today

By: Vanessa D. Marrero

This is a new en ACCION column. This is the place where women can say what is really on their minds. This month, I am going to try and not overburden you with so many issues. Yet, I feel compelled to discuss a few things that have been bugging me lately.

MEN: There are many imposters who call themselves "men." All women want is a Genuine Man. You see, this "Dishonesty Thing" has to stop. Men must understand that lies won't get them anywhere with a real woman! They tell us what we want to hear and screw another woman. Words like, "She's just a friend" or "You know you're the only one" are tired. Oh wait! Don't forget, "I love you baby!" What we really want to know is: if we're just friends, why do you call me, pick me up from class, invite me to your room, and just keep eyeing me? Men say that they want a woman who has personality. Let's look at the evidence: On one hand, they have that woman who takes care of you, listens to your boring stories and worries about you when you don't call. Then, you have the woman that you told us never to be. You flirt with the woman who you just told me last week was a "ho."

Men have the best excuses like, "You're not on my level" or "Why do I have to tell you that I am dating someone else?" And all you can say it, "You're right. I'm not on your level; I'm above you!" Why can't men be honest? Much

respect to those men who are honest; big up to those men who don't "play" their women, those men who are up front with their women, those men who are not insecure.

WOMEN: Woman keep your eyes open. Love yourself before you love anybody. Remember, if you stay real, one day you will get what is rightfully yours.

To all the "schiestiness" on Stony Brook. Stop! If you have a problem with anyone on campus: confront them or shut up! Talking behind people's back doesn't make you look good. If you're part of a club or organization, remember that any and all actions represents your organization. If you act "schisty", then that shows on your organization. A bad attitude won't get you anywhere in the real world. And remember, the minute you leave Stony Brook, nobody cares about your Greek letters. So, don't depend on it.

REALISM: To all those that can't stand fake people, don't stress it! Remember everything comes back two folds. What ever you do, don't avoid your enemies. Instead, look at them and smile. Go where ever you want to go and hold your head up high. When they see the confidence you have, they become powerless.

UNITY: We have to learn to unite. The disunity on campus is appalling. As brothers and sisters, we have to understand the importance of unity and make it our duty. So, lets be real for once and finally come together.

Big up to Unity!

By: Annette Flores and Special writer: Nellian Vidal

Can unity be created by outsiders? Well, according to rumors and outlandish actions done by two new sororities (who are trying to get recognized on campus), these organizations are creating unity amongst the organizations of the Inter-Fraternity and Sorority Council (IFSC).

One of the new organizations received a "shout-out" at a party before any recognition was given to any existing organizations. A few of IFSC's organizations weren't given recognition *at all*! The other organization already had an informational. From what I've seen, the two organizations are multi-culturally based. However, the new organizations seem to be gearing to the Latino and African American communities. Statistically speaking, there is a shortage of Latinos and African Americans on the Stony Brook campus. Therefore, why should preexisting organizations have the difficult task of attracting perspective interests made more difficult?

Every organization currently on this campus, both male and female alike, have various things to offer: diversity, culture, academics, social criteria, and bonds with one another. On the Stony Brook campus, we have El Concilio Nacional de Hermandades Latinas (C.N.H.L) consisting of: Lambda Upsilon Lambda, Phi Iota Alpha, Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternities, Sigma Lambda Gamma, and Sigma Iota Alpha Sororities.

Stony Brook also has a few organizations who are part of the African American Greek Council called "The Divine Nine": Alpha Phi Alpha, and Kappa

Alpha Psi Fraternities, Theta Phi Alpha, Sigma Gamma Rho, Delta Sigma Theta, and Zeta Phi Beta Sororities.

There are also individual organizations such as Malik Sigma Psi Fraternity Incorporated (which is a brotherhood of Afrakan descent), Lambda Fe Uson Sorority (which is African American and Latina based), and Gamma Ce Upsilon Sorority Incorporated (which is a Latin based organization.) To the women who say that none of these organizations offer what you are looking for, I say that you are not looking hard enough!

As for Administration, they should be assisting the established organizations in unifying the campus. Rather than admitting *more* organizations on campus, they should screen these groups. These two sororities should be asked questions, such as: what are they going to do differently on campus and what benefits can they offer Stony Brook? I also strongly suggest that these organizations come in front of IFSC (like all other organizations have done in the past!). I mean, really! These women should meet with the people that they are going to be dealing with! They should give IFSC recognition and respect!

As far as unity goes, **BIG UP** to all the organizations who have cosponsored programs, forums, lectures, charity events, and parties this semester! **BIG UP** to all of those who represented at each event!

In all honesty, these two new organizations have created a sense of unity amongst the established and recognized organizations on campus.

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Leaps And Bounds

Senior Profiles

Jarvis Watson

By: Joyal McNeil

Jarvis Watson, better known as the "Reverend," serves as the tight end for the USB football team. He was brought up in Piscataway, New Jersey where he was a two letter varsity athlete excelling in football and track and field.

Watson came to Stony Brook because he wanted the freedom to be different and the freedom to make a difference. Watson is an English major, who wants to get involved in the administrative area of teaching. He wants to be influential in the school curriculum and in the classroom. Watson hopes that this will bring him the kind of success he defines as "getting the kind of results that make you happy."

Watson describes his football career at USB as a positive experience. "I got a chance to see how the world works through the game." He learned the importance of teamwork, a concept that demonstrates strength in numbers.

While he admits that any extracurricular activity has the potential to hinder school work, Watson realizes that the constant struggle can make you stronger and more determined.

Watson's motto is "if your going to do it, do it to the finish." His father once told him that you can't eat an elephant all at one time, you have to eat it piece by piece. During his time at USB he has been eating that elephant and now he's ready for the next one.

Jarvis Watson is not a jock but a student athlete. He challenges the stereotype that football players are dumb. According to him, sports is just another challenge pushing him to do better in school.

John Harris

By: Alicia Beckford

Some students think that excelling in both athletics and academics is nearly impossible, but John Harris doesn't. The only difficulties that this inside linebacker for the Seawolves football team has experienced while at Stony Brook, didn't cross his path until he decided to change his major from business to computer science. He finds that computer science is more challenging.

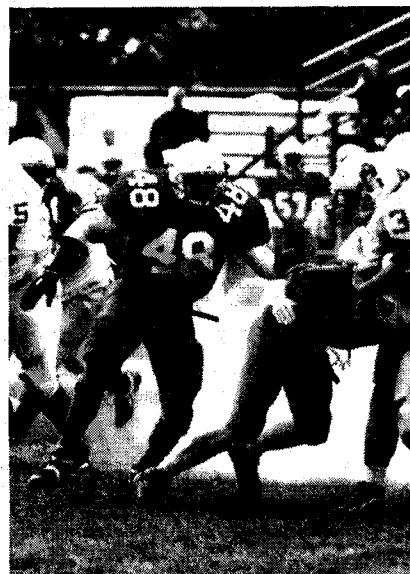
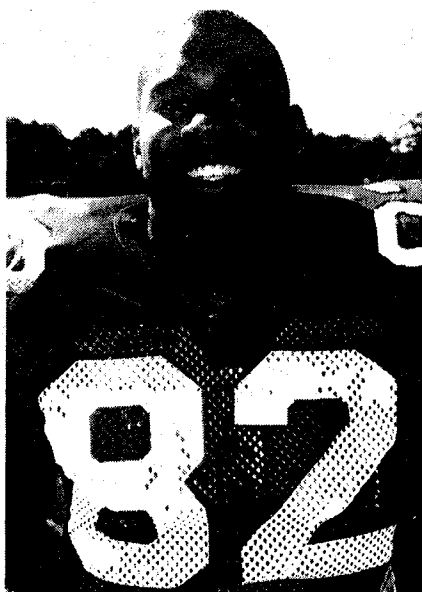
Harris is an exceptional athlete, who has been recognized by the Stony Brook Athletic Media Relations Department as "athlete of the week" on numerous occasions. "I have a pretty good, normal life, like everybody else," said Harris modestly.

Harris has a pretty hectic schedule on an average day. Typically, Harris goes to his classes in the morning, then it's off to the training room by 1:00 P.M., which is followed by practice from 3:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. and then he's off to class again from 7:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.

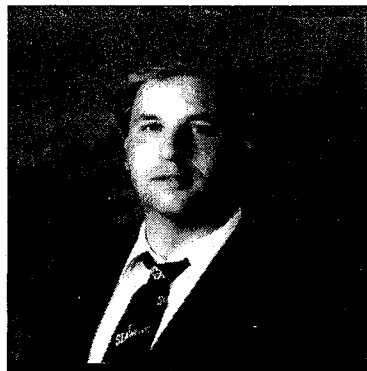
He of course takes time out to eat, to do his homework and to weight-lift. Harris surprisingly appreciates his busy schedule. "It keeps you active and out of trouble," he said. "But leaves you with no time for a real social life."

Many believe that this All-American is fast on his way to surpassing the USB record for tackles in a single season, which is currently held by James Leach (106, 10/24/97).

Harris said he is disappointed that more students don't support athletics, especially minorities. He also thinks that more money should be generated for athletics.



No Kids Allowed



By: Tischelle George

The women's basketball team has undergone many changes since last semester. There are some new faces and the absence of old ones.

Kathleen Hoskins, former center/forward had shoulder surgery last summer that prevented her from playing in the fall, but would allow her to play in the spring semester. "Kathleen is registered, but she will sit out for the year," said new head coach Bill Zatulskis, who will be in place for the 1997-98 season. "We're keeping our fingers crossed that she'll come back next year, but that's up to her."

Although Hoskins continues to go to rehabilitation to strengthen her shoulder, she no longer considers herself to be a member of the team. "I planned to go to rehab during the day and go to practice regularly," she said. "But there was no other way for me to be at practice without Malachi being there."

Besides being a student-athlete, Hoskins is also the mother of her two-year-old son, Malachi. In the past it was customary for Malachi to be present at some of the practices.

"No coach ever came to me last year to say that Malachi was a distraction," Hoskins said. This year, however, Hoskins says coach Zatulskis told her that her son distracts the other players during practice and that he could get hurt. Coach Zatulskis asked her to find someone to take care of Malachi during practice.

"We talked about it in pre-season," Zatulskis said. "She said she would try to get a sitter because we couldn't have him at practice. I can't



have my coaches baby-sitting."

Coach Zatulskis said Hoskins' decision to leave the team "really put a damper on things," but Malachi is "a young child and he needs his mom."

Hoskins was very upset with her coach's request to find a baby-sitter to watch her son during practice. She feels like he put her in an unfair situation. "Why would coach think it would be easy for me to find somebody to watch him," she asked herself. "Where do you think this option is coming from? I used to run into a lot of problems trying to find a baby-sitter during games. Not everybody can deal with a two-year-old kid for four hours. People on campus aren't consistent. I can't afford it and they're not helping me."

Hoskins believes that her coach knew that she would have to leave the team if her son couldn't be present at practices. "I never, ever expected him to say anything like this," she said. "It was the decision that made me upset. It was the fact that I had to make one. I never wanted to make that decision."


Basketball was an outlet for Hoskins who is bogged down with the pressures of balancing her time amongst her son, her education and her job. "I love basketball. I wanted something for me and that's what basketball was," she said.

"I'm ready to cry every time I look at the arena. I know I won't ever play on that floor again," said Hoskins with a nostalgic look in her eyes. "I'm not going to stop playing basketball, but I won't be playing for Stony Brook anymore. I think I can safely say that my career at Stony Brook is over."

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