

BLACKWORLD

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BLACK WORLD

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ONE NATION

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BARAKA

UNDER FIRE

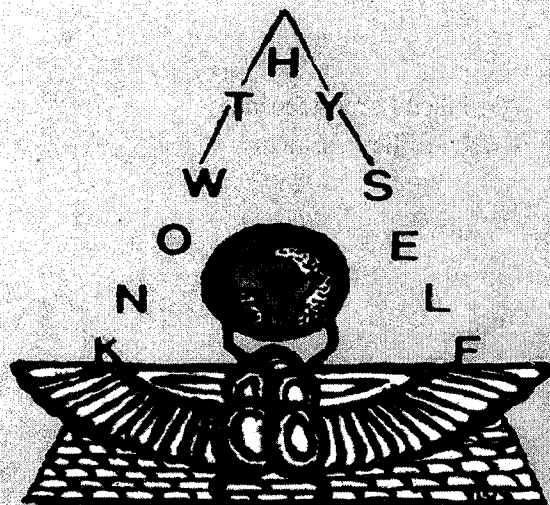
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Though we are half way through the semester I would still like to take this opportunity to welcome all Stony Brook students. I hope you are all looking forward to a year that's exciting and knowledgeable.

Now, let me tell you a little bit about the paper. First published in 1974, BLACKWORLD newspaper is created by students of the Stony Brook University community to be an unbiased source of information to students of color and the campus community at large.

BLACKWORLD has faced many challenges but still continues to persevere and proves to be a very strong driving force on campus when it comes to educating students of color about their history, their present and their future.

The BLACKWORLD staff prides themselves on reporting and writing the truth with hopes that it will make a difference in the lives of their peers.

For those of you who are new to the campus I invite you to come and meet the staff and see what we are all about. I also encourage those of you who have some-

thing to say or just want to educate people through your writings or poetry to feel free to submit your work to BLACKWORLD. Besides covering news we support the artistic talents of many students by printing their poems, short stories and literary works.

In closing, I would like to let you know that the year ahead for BLACKWORLD is one that many of you won't want to miss. Please show your support to the paper and your fellow students by continuing to read it and by letting us know what you want to see and read about.

If you don't like something it's not enough to talk to your friends about it, do something about it, let your voice be heard, join BLACKWORLD, "the alternative voice."

ENHANCE YOUR COLLEGE EXPERIENCE BY BEING A PART OF A NEWSPAPER THAT'S MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Baraka's Controversial Poem

The state of New Jersey has asked poet and activist Amiri Baraka, former Stony Brook University faculty member to resign from his post as Poet Laureate of New Jersey.

The sudden change of heart stemmed from controversy surrounding Baraka's recent poem "Somebody Blew Up America." In his poem Baraka talks about the domestic terrorism America has bestowed on her African-American citizens since slavery. Thus, they should not expect black people to get as "frenzied" as other Americans. Baraka's poem does not support the United States' treatment of people of color and people in third world countries.

Baraka has refused to relinquish his position stating that he would not apologize but instead continue to do the job he was appointed to

do, which is publicize and popularize poets and poetry throughout New Jersey state.

**PLEASE SEE
PAGES 3 & 11 FOR
BARAKA'S POEM
"SOMEBODY
BLEW UP
AMERICA" HIS
REBUTTAL WILL
BE PRINTED IN
THE NEXT ISSUE**

“Somebody Blew Up America”

By Amiri Baraka

They say its some terrorist,
some barbaric
A Rab,
in Afghanistan
It wasn't our American terrorists
It wasn't the Klan or the Skin heads
Or the them that blows up nigger
Churches, or reincarnates us on Death Row
It wasn't Trent Lott
Or David Duke or Giuliani
Or Schundler, Helms retiring

It wasn't
The gonorrhea in costume
The white sheet diseases
That have murdered black people
Terrorized reason and sanity
Most of humanity, as they pleases

They say (who say?)
Who do the saying
Who is them paying
Who tell the lies
Who in disguise
Who had the slaves
Who got the bux out the Bucks

Who got fat from plantations
Who genocided
Indians
Tried to waste the Black nation

Who live on Wall Street
The first plantation
Who cut your nuts off
Who rape your ma
Who lynched your pa

Who got the tar, who got the feathers
Who had the match, who set the fires
Who killed and hired
Who say they God & still be the Devil

Who the biggest only
Who the most goodest
Who do Jesus resemble

Who created everything
Who the smartest
Who the greatest
Who the richest
Who say you ugly and they the goodlookingest

Who define art
Who define science

Who made the bombs

Who made the guns

Who bought the slaves, who sold them

Who called you them names
Who say Dahmer wasn't insane

Who? Who? Who?

Who stole Puerto Rico
Who stole the Indies, the Philipines, Manhattan
Australia & The Hebrides
Who forced opium on the Chinese

Who own them buildings
Who got the money
Who think you funny
Who locked you up
Who own the papers

Who owned the slave ship
Who run the army

Who the fake president
Who the ruler
Who the banker

Who? Who? Who?

Who own the mine
Who twist your mind
Who got bread
Who need peace
Who you think need war

Who own the oil
Who do no toil
Who own the soil
Who is not a nigger
Who is so great ain't nobody bigger

Who own this city

Who own the air
Who own the water

Who own your crib
Who rob and steal and cheat and murder
and make lies the truth
Who call you uncouth

Who live in the biggest house
Who do the biggest crime
Who go on vacation anytime

Who killed the most niggers
Who killed the most Jews
Who killed the most Italians

Who killed the most Irish
Who killed the most Africans
Who killed the most Japanese
Who killed the most Latinos

Who? Who? Who?

Who own the ocean

Who own the airplanes
Who own the malls
Who own television
Who own radio

Who own what ain't even known to be owned
Who own the owners that ain't the real owners

Who own the suburbs
Who suck the cities
Who make the laws

Who made Bush president
Who believe the confederate flag need to be flying
Who talk about democracy and be lying

Who the Beast in Revelations
Who 666
Who know who decide
Jesus get crucified

Who the Devil on the real side
Who got rich from Armenian genocide

Who the biggest terrorist
Who change the bible
Who killed the most people
Who do the most evil
Who don't worry about survival

Who have the colonies
Who stole the most land
Who rule the world
Who say they good but only do evil
Who the biggest executioner

Who? Who? Who?

Who own the oil
Who want more oil
Who told you what you think that later you find out a
lie

Who? Who? Who?

Who found Bin Laden, maybe they Satan
Who pay the CIA,

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Africa: The Cradle of Civilization

By: Wisdom and Knowledge
BLACKWORLD Contributors

History has paved the way for the things we are about to say. To quote from the great Marcus Garvey "A people without a history, is like a tree without a root". It is with this in mind that we ask you to read our article.

At the onset of writing, we had an original topic. The great libraries of Alexandria and Timbuktu were to be the subject of our discourse. As you might know, the Alexandrian library is recorded as being the oldest in the world. Recently historians discovered evidence of an even older library at Timbuktu. We went to the Frank Melville JR. Memorial Library to do our research, but to our great surprise and dismay the books on Alexandria were located in the in the Greek section of the library.

Alexandria is located in Egypt, and anyone who looks at a map can clearly see that Egypt is a part of Africa. The conflict begins. There was no information to be found on the library at Timbuktu. That is an issue in itself. Our findings gave us a new direction in which to take our article.

We began a new research on the birthplace of civilization in general. Our intention is to present

the reader with information that clearly shows that Africa is where civilization began and that Egypt was the epicenter of that civilization.

In an attempt to portray Africa as the so-called "Dark Continent", many historians have disjointed the ancient Egyptian civilization from the African continent. This is an unacceptable falsification of history.

Egyptian society began in about 6000 BC. To illustrate the point that original Egyptians were indeed Black People, note that they did not call themselves Egyptians or Greeks. They called themselves Hamites and their country was called Ham.

The word Ham means "the Black Land" and the word Hamite means "the Black People". This destroys all contemporary beliefs that the Egyptians are a non-black race.

Some historians have gone as far as to say that the pharaohs of Egypt were a white race who imported Egyptian society from Asia.

However the art and monuments of ancient Egypt, which portray the pharaohs as being obviously black, destroys this theory. The historians responsible for instilling these fallacies were travelers. They were not native Egyptians or to use

the proper terminology, they were not native—Hamites.

A European traveler named Domeny de Rienzi once said, "it is true that back in the distant past, the dark red Hindu and Egyptian (Hamite) race dominated culturally the yellow and black race, and even our own white race then inhabiting western Asia. At that time our race was rather savage and sometimes tattooed as I have seen it depicted".

He falls short in his distinction between the dark red Hindi, the Hamites and Black People.

The dark red is simply a subgroup of Black. We have already proven that the Hamites were black. Note the reference to Caucasians being "savage and tattooed". We are not concerned with his labeling. This article is dedicated to the upliftment of Black People. We as a people know that we are a loving and divine people.

If the ancient Hamites were black people, how then does one account for the present decline of Blacks in Ham?

Those non-believers who cast doubt on the

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STRESS

By: Chealynn Feaster
BLACKWORLD Staff

The start of a new school year can be as stressful as finals week. The beginning of the semester is all about running around, getting signed into classes, buying books, returning books, adapting to a new roommate or being stuck with the same roommate, trying to figure out the solar system and waiting in the financial aid office.

The demands of a student can be endless. With all the responsibilities of a student they are constantly being pulled in different directions with schoolwork, jobs, and social activities and as a result students tend to neglect other important aspects of their busy lives.

Stress can cause students to neglect their physical and emotional needs. They sometimes skip meals and do not get enough sleep because we decide to stay up all night studying or spending time with friends.

"Students should strike a balance between, working, playing and resting because usually when people need to take care of themselves the most, like during times of high stress, is when they tend to neglect themselves even more", says Peter Mastroianni,



Health Educator at the CHOICE Center located in the Infirmary.

Mind and body are very closely related and excessive stress and inadequate sleep as well as inadequate nutrition can stifle concentration and weaken the immune system, increasing susceptibility to illness.

Minorities already have high rates of stress related, auto-immune diseases such as high blood pressure, hypertension and heart disease. Heart disease affects 11 percent of the African American population and young adults with high levels of anxiety are twice as likely to develop high blood pressure.

If a student is constantly biting his nails isolating himself from his friends, not eating, eating too much, not sleeping, sleeping too much and getting aggravated at the drop of a dime he may have some stress in his life.

Although change is not easy and does not come quickly, it does not have to be drastic. As the semester rolls on you can keep your health as well as your grades in the forefront of your minds.

How you wake up in the morning can make a positive difference in your day, even if it's just taking a few deep breaths as opposed to jumping out of bed at the sound of the alarm clock, throwing on clothes and running out of the door. The semester can be a good one if you work hard and study but also play hard and rest even harder.

Let your voice be heard.
Visit BLACKWORLD
in the Union Rm072
Mondays at 10PM

Breast Cancer

By: Jennifer Jacques
BLACKWORLD Contributor

The National Cancer Institute report estimates that about 1 in 8 women in the United States (approximately 13.3 percent) will develop breast cancer during her lifetime. Although the overall rate of breast cancer for African-American women is not as high compared to white women, they suffer the highest mortality rate from the disease once detected.

The significance of early detection plays a vital role in the ability to treat the cancer. Early detection and awareness are some of the themes that were raised at the breast cancer and prostate cancer walk held on Long Island in Stony Brook on Sunday September 22, 2002.

According to CDC data published in the October 2000 issue of Cancer Causes and Control, among women receiving their first national breast and cervical cancer exam through an early detection program, 7.7 cancers were detected per 1,000 white women and 6.4 cancers per 1,000 African-American women.

African-Americans are more likely to develop cancer than any other racial or ethnic group in the United States. African Americans are al-

most twice as likely to die of cancer than any other minority group, and 20 percent more likely than Caucasians.

Many of these numbers reflect a lack of awareness regarding the importance of early detection. The rate of pre-menopausal breast can-



cer in African-American women is twice the rate of Caucasians. Studies show that in most instances, by the age of forty the cancer has already spread in African-American women.

As screening programs become more common, more cases of breast cancer are being detected in the earlier stages of the disease when they are more easily and successfully treated. A num-

ber of African-American women discover this disease at a stage where the cancer has been present and growing for years.

Breast cancer is a type of cancer where cells in the breast tissue divide and grow without control. About 80 percent of breast cancer cases originate in the mammary ducts, while about 20 percent arise in the lobules. Cancerous tumors in the breast usually grow very slowly so that by the time one is large enough to be felt as a lump, it may have been growing for as much as ten years.

With all of the information that researchers have been acquiring over the years about cancer, different kinds of plans and methods have been implemented to find a cure. Some of these methods include extensive research, fundraisers and walks.

On September 22, 2002 Stony Brook held its ninth annual walk entitled "A walk for Beauty... in a Beautiful Place." This walk was held to benefit both breast and prostate cancer patients. An estimated 4,000 people participated in the walk. Out of the 4,000 people, 200 were Stony Brook students.

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Morning After Pill

By: Chealynn Feaster
BLACKWORLD Staff

"We didn't use any protection", "I forgot to take the pill", "I told him No", "The condom broke," these are just some of the issues that constantly plague the minds of sexually active students, today.

In 1998, fifty-three percent of pregnancies were unintended. The "morning after" pill, is an emergency hormonal contraception. Emergency contraception is birth control that can be used after unprotected intercourse, forced intercourse or failed birth control (condom breaks), to help prevent pregnancy. The "morning after" pill is a set dose of several tablets of birth control pills that can be taken up to 72 hours after unprotected sex.

This type of contraception reduces the chance of pregnancy by 75 percent, however the later the pills are taken within that three-day time period, the greater the chance that conception has already occurred.

Many women do not know about the "morning after" pill or are misinformed on how it actually works, one of the main reasons for this is because the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) just approved the pills for emergency contraception in 1997. The term "morning after" pill

is misleading because it is actually four pills, a dose taken as soon as possible after unprotected sex and a second dose taken after the first. The term is also misleading because it can be taken up to 72 hours after unprotected sex, not just the morning after.

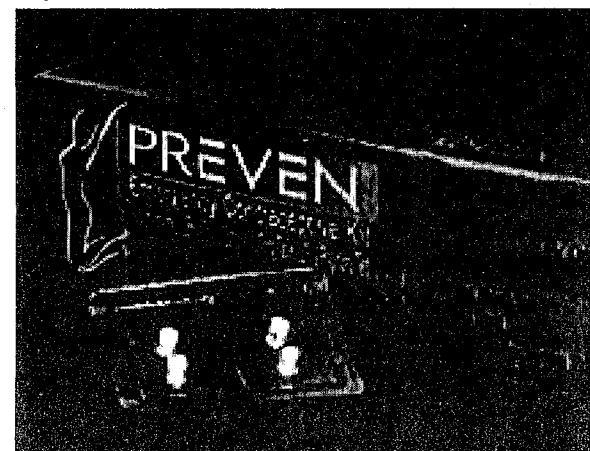
The pills contain a high dosage of female hormones, estrogen and progestin; the hormones interfere with the release of an egg or prevents implantation of an already fertilized egg in the uterine lining. Preventing a fertilized egg from attaching itself to the uterine lining is controversial because most doctors define pregnancy as beginning with implantation. However if a woman is already pregnant it will not affect the fetus.

The "morning after" pill is not an abortive pill. If a period does not come within three weeks, a doctor should be seen and a pregnancy test should be taken. The most common side effects are nausea, vomiting and breast tenderness.

Fifty-three percent of college clinics are offering the "morning after" pill. The Infirmary here at Stony Brook also offers the "morning after" pill. "Students are given all options. They are advised of side effects and must sign a consent form," says Sharon Schull, a registered nurse for the Women's Clinic here at the Student Health Service located in the Infirmary.

A pregnancy test is done first to make sure the female is not pregnant from a previous sexual encounter, she is then advised on how to take the pills, possible side effects that may occur and what to do if no period occurs within three weeks. "We educate them and take it to the next step by encouraging an annual exam which includes a test for infections such as HIV, also at this time contraception options can be discussed," Schull added.

Emergency contraception is not as effective for preventing pregnancy as regular birth control and should not be relied upon for ongoing birth control. The "morning after" pill, is contraception, it does not protect against any STDs or infections. Protecting yourself begins with knowing the facts.



Groundbreaking Study On African-American Women

By: Shaila Mentore
BLACKWORLD Editor

In the first report to provide a full attitudinal and behavioral portrait of African-American women, Essence Communications Partners (ECP), publishers of ESSENCE magazine announced the findings of the WOW Report-Win-dow on Our Women. This major study, conducted by Harris Interactive and commissioned by ECP, also highlights the psychographic differences between African-American and Caucasian women.

The objective of the WOW Report was to uncover the needs, wants and aspirations of Black women; explore her attitudes toward brands, shopping and purchasing; and identify the implications these psychographic and behavioral differences represent to consumer products and services companies.

"African-American women are an important and growing segment of the marketplace," said Edward Lewis, ECP CEO and publisher. "We commissioned the WOW Report to under-score the uniqueness of this audience, which has never been fully understood."

The WOW Report, conducted by Harris Interactive this spring, surveyed one thousand Af-

rican-American women about their self-image, needs, aspirations and lifestyle choices, as well as about specific product categories, such as fashion, beauty, health care and finance. Five hundred Caucasian women were also surveyed to measure psychographic differences between the two audi-ences.

The findings revealed that African-American women are independent, self-confident, in charge, and want a better life. They tend to be the primary decision-makers in their households, and they are committed, knowledgeable and brand-centric con-sumers. African-American women are also active consumers with an emphasis on individual style, who are willing to experiment and pay more for what they want.

The results showed that 61 percent of Afri-can-American women consider themselves the primary decision-makers for major purchases, such as homes, while only 43 percent of Caucasian women surveyed indicated the same.

According to the WOW Report, African-American women are more likely to want to es-tablish their own businesses (38 percent Black women vs. 15 percent White women) and deem getting as much education as possible as a priority

(87 percent African-American women vs. 63 per-cent Caucasian women).

"This report underscores key demographic trends in education and entrepreneurialism," said Michelle Ebanks, ECP group publisher. "The in-crease in the number of African-American women earning undergraduate and post-graduate degrees has increased at nearly twice the rate for Cauca-sian women in the last five years. And one in three minority-owned businesses is started by Black women."

When surveyed about purchasing decisions and branding, 75 percent of African-American women said they are "always looking for new products and services that will help me develop my individual style" as opposed to only 56 per-cent of Caucasian women.

Notably, the WOW Report demonstrates that these attitudinal markers are more mean-ing-ful than traditional demographic measures. The findings of the report suggest several implications for marketers. For example, they should:

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Student Profile: Eusebio Martinez

By: Crystal-Joy Medina
BLACKWORLD Staff

There are many students who do not get involved in campus life because they believe that their opinions, thoughts and ideas do not matter to others. Nevertheless, there are students that take the initiative to let their voices heard and not only heard but also for their voice to be respected.

That being said, BLACKWORLD had the opportunity to interview a student who has been involved and continues to be in-volved in many aspects of campus life. Eusebio Martinez, a.k.a. Junior or as some people call him, Papi.

This is Martinez's fourth year at Stony Brook, and not only does he concentrate on school he also focuses his on being apart of important organizations, where his voice can be heard. He is the Editor-In-Chief of En Accion newspaper, Treasurer of the Bushido Club, Engineer/Co-host of WUSB and Street FM and he was the Editor-In-Chief of BLACKWORLD in the fall of 1999.

Martinez sat down with BLACKWORLD to share some of his Stony Brook experiences.

BLACKWORLD: Describe yourself

freshman year. What has changed since then?

Martinez: I was naïve, curious and ex-cited and I needed a quote on quote reality check. As a result of a reality check I be-came more independent, I take less for granted while striving to be more in control of things around me. I am definitely more ambitious and more on track with goals. I am more success oriented and I have a profound desire to leave my mark on campus. **BLACKWORLD:** Describe how you bal-ance all the activities with schoolwork and is it easy?

Martinez: Not at all easy. Time man-agement is part of being more independent. Setting priorities straight, setting schedules, and planning less spontaneity with activities on campus. I have a more systematic ap-proach to the way I do things.

BLACKWORLD: What are some guidelines that you would give to students on how to get involved and network effectively at Stony Brook?

Martinez: 1) Be open-minded. In life you will meet people from different places and with different backgrounds, all of whom have different work ethics or a lack thereof.

2) Know what you are getting into. If

you get in with the wrong crowd who have no initiative in the group then it will trickle down to the members. You have to know what you are doing and streamline. Also have confidence in the job at hand so that you do better at it.

3) Don't be afraid to express opinions. With so many different people working on a project conflict can arise. You have to voice your opinions to let people know what's going on. Speak your mind, you will be sur-prise how far things will go. These things are the foundation or bases to get involved. There are other things that are evident but you need these three qualities to start. **BLACKWORLD:** What program would you like to see implemented at Stony Brook?

Martinez: I would like to see some-way annually or organizationally an outlet for students to give all the ideas, opinions, and information on grudges. There should be a place where concerns can be expressed in an orderly manner where certain groups can voice their opinions and where the animos-ity towards certain groups will lessen. I be-lieve the student turn out will be great. Ev-

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Student Profile (cont'd from pg.6)

everything will need to be documented; the forum will not isolate anyone. Then the information documented can then be taken to a higher authority to find a solution.

BLACKWORLD: What is the biggest challenge you have as a minority trying to get involved in Stony Brook activities?

Martinez: Apathy and credibility. Student apathy is rampant and common on campus. It is disgusting, especially when students will support an organization when everything is going great but as soon as that organization is in the hot seat or needs to rally support for an event, students are not to be found. The lack of support on campus is sickening. As a minority this makes things harder by default. Our backs are already against the wall, and then we can't even look to each other for support or assistance. It makes things more difficult to achieve. Credibility, as a minority my attempt to do something good on campus or elsewhere is always questioned, it is also looked at as if we are trying to be equal. This is not always true but people always see it this way. This hurts our credibility especially when making

a new organization or change without people thinking that you are trying to be better. This does not mean that we are inferior but we can have our own opportunities. Many people do not think we have valid viewpoints or ideas, so it is hard to convince people that we are valid. However, apathy does again play a role in this, as it is a hindrance towards progression.

BLACKWORLD: What do you believe will be the newest challenge to freshman and minorities looking for comradery and family with current organizations?

Martinez: The newest challenge is intimidation. Most organizations have as their President and E-board members juniors and seniors. These people already know the rules and know what they are doing. As a freshman you have to make an impact while respecting these positions. However, it is hard because most of the officers may not take into account what a newcomer has to say or think. The formula for impact is to have a voice while respecting the people who have been there. Intimidation can lead to apathy, as people who are afraid to talk and are disregarded

are not going to participate.

BLACKWORLD: What encourages you?

Martinez: Knowing that I am paving the way for people to come after me and knowing that I am making my mark on campus. Anyone reading this is already a step further than they know by supporting organizations such as BLACKWORLD is part of the bigger picture—transcending above all biases and negative expectations of minorities while increasing our awareness of the issues that affect our everyday lives. Opportunity cannot knock on a door that does not exist. Only with ambition, persistence and perseverance will that door ever be able to be constructed. With these words, do not be afraid to get involved or to let people know your ideas, thoughts and opinions. We only live once and what we do reflects on our character. It reflects on the person that no one really sees unless they have had the opportunity to witness your true self. Explore your horizons, cause some else will.

Discussing Reparations

By: Patrick Blemur
BLACKWORLD Contributor

Let's play a game. Suppose someone were to punch you in the face, kick you in the stomach and give you a harmful blow to your mid section that leaves a permanent scar that's only visible to you.

This scenario all but sums up the topic of reparations, which is defined as *making amends for wrong or injury done*. To date there is an ongoing debate in the African-American community regarding reparations. It is no secret that through slavery and its aftermath, people of African descent were robbed of their identity, history, and compensation for their labor.

Slavery's injustice and cruel practices along with the dilemma within the black community continues to be evident and ongoing. Blacks are still denied the right to a good education and have limited access to resources and have little to no representation in the political infrastructure within the U.S. economy.

Supporters of reparations speak of the destruction of the African continent, and of slavery itself, where more than 300 years of uncompensated black labor helped build America and other nations within the African Diaspora, most notably the Caribbean, and both Central and South

America. One consistent point when discussing reparations is that the results of slavery, racism, and segregation continue to disenfranchise the black community. Slavery has left a plague in the black community consistent with black poverty, violence, and the existence of two separate and unequal societies.

Randall Robinson, a scholar who further discusses the issue of reparations, in his book, *The Debt*, focuses on the tragedy done to black Americans and the continent of Africa and its lingering effect on the peoples. According to Robinson, "slavery obliterated everything", that "it (slavery) was a crime without precedent and that the cost has been enormous."

The theme of slavery and its lingering effects on the black community was discussed with Professor Floris Cash, Ph.D., an associate professor of The Africana Studies Department.

Cash acknowledged the need for reparations to Black Americans but also to all people of African descent within the Diaspora (the Caribbean, and South and Central America). She also supports the argument of Robinson. "His book inspired a great deal of discussion on formulating a strategy by which blacks would receive compensation; not in terms of money, but by rebuilding black communities and providing better educational

opportunities, health care, land and better housing, especially with the recent attack on affirmative action."

Although Cash is an advocate for reparations she doesn't think that reparations "will alleviate all the problems within the black community, but it still should be considered." The idea for reparations has been the oldest forms of black protest in America dating back to the David Walker appeal," she added.

David Walker wrote the pamphlet, *Walker's Appeal ... to the Colored Citizens of the World*, in Sept. 1829, which called on African American slaves to revolt against their masters to gain their freedom. Besides advocating for the violent overthrow of slavery and the formation of black civil rights and self-help organizations, the *Appeal* called for racial equality in the United States and independence for the peoples of Africa.

Cash does not believe that funds should be given to blacks to offset the ills of slavery because according to her "individual monetary reparations into the hands of blacks will only return in the initial financial structure of the country. Something more durable will benefit all black citizens whose ancestors worked without compensation

continued on pg.14

TO BE A LEADER

By Traxx

I'm not in a clique-
 I'm not in a group-
 And guess what: there's no peer pressure-
 That's how I'm living: individual-
 I realize that I'm an endangered species-
 Because I choose to lead, do my own thing-
 And not follow-
 I do not make friends based on hollow ideals-
 Such as: "she's not pretty enough"-
 "he's not strong enough"-
 "We don't dress alike enough"-
 As a leader, if you don't like the point I'm trying to make: tough-
 Is it my fault that I have my stuff together?
 That I know where I am headed-
 That I can walk anywhere on this campus without being dreaded-
 Because I have no beef-
 Don't have to worry about waking up with knocked out teeth
 Am I to be faulted because I don't smoke?
 And I'm in a situation where the clique's smoking and I'm not-
 Or the Clique's drinking and I'm not-
 Or the Clique's engaging in sexual promiscuousness and I'm not-
 And then I don't fit in-
 Thinking about Clique's and groups just make my head spin-
 Leadership breeds success-
 A mind of your own-
 Thoughts fully grown-
 Otherwise known as maturity-
 Leadership stunts ignorance-
 False truths-
 Lies and myths-
 Leadership gives you the strength not to quit-
 But to be your own person-
 I'm an individual-
 Soaking up all the residual benefits-
 And effects-
 Because I lead, I can come up here and
 Be direct-
 I have no clique to say "what you're doing is so not cool..."
 I'm up here reading because I-
 Think it's cool-
 And that's all that really matters-
 Leadership does not have to be outspoken-
 But often times the little things lead to the right paths being chosen-
 To lead, or to follow?
 To follow, or to lead?
 I hope these few lines of poetic flow have caused u to take heed-
 Leaders are remembered-
 Followers are forgotten-
 Which one-
 O, Which one-
 Which one will you be?

Seeking Justice

By Adekemi Akingboye

Shackles and chains
 In the past
 Were
 Iron cast,
 But now they are
 Seamless:
 Ignorance
 Spite
 And
 Hate.
 How long can we live this way?

 We came here
 Side by side
 And
 Hand in hand.
 We were enslaved
 Then enraged
 After which we finally engaged
 In prayer
 For
 Justice,
 Like a stone cast in
 Water
 It has sent ripples and waves
 Of Hope
 Through generations and generations
 Of us

 We

 are

 divided.

 Too dark
 Too light
 Too ghetto
 Too white.

 So we will proceed;
 Searching
 Seeking
 In a maze
 Of Light and then Darkness,
 White and Black,
 Confusion and then Surety;
 Until the break of dawn and
 God's warmth has found us.

 We will be
 Side by side,
 Hand in hand,
 With all spite set aside,
 And we will seek Justice
 No
 More.

Unnamed

Impotent this society has castrated my intelligence
Causing the premature birth of an entire culture of ignorance
No value for each other's lives
No more respect for women-the bearers of life, your sister, your wives

So you believe that it is the Man that has caused you to be downtrodden
Yet, you continue to indulge yourself in his mind game
Playing on his team yet you are outcastes, disfigured and womanized

Should we stand by as a people and let these wakeful dogs lie to us?
Spy on us, create diseases that make us die on us, lie on us
Send police officers to kill us, to maim us, to crush us
To decapitate us and hang us
To frame us, to rape us!
Damn their goal is to tame us, to take us.
And with all this, we still believe that we can never be an US

So tell me what should I do?
What could I do?
When a society has crippled my peoples way of thinking causing them to develop in disabilities and disbeliefs
Disbelief's that we once ruled ourselves without interruption
Without corruption
We stood as no other people did
Wooly hair, image making hands
Kings and Queens branded upon our foreheads
So tell me...tell me what they have taught you
What have they taught you in your white textbook pages
In your white washed world of weariness and woe
They have taught us to hunt each other down
They have taught us to kill us because deep in their hearts they know their once was an us; in a continent that
was surrounded by God's warmth
Deep down imbedded within their own minds we can be an us
More powerful, more potent than they could ever be
Yet in that us we have to find our ghost selves, our ancestor guides
Only then will we understand that the Man was made from us and not for us
That all his strength lies in abomination and annihilation

So this society has made us impotent but those who really know will tell you
That through their premature birth, an entire self awareness was born
That through their prematurity they have entered into the world behind the doors
The world many have forgotten, so impotent many are not
Soon the children from this birth will be the ones to realize the potential of the colored ink
So continue to write on the white walls
The journey has begun...

By Crystal-Joy Medina

Africa... (cont'd from pg.4)

wisdom and knowledge we are propagating might pose this question. This is a silly and simple matter to dispel. The decline of Blacks in the Hamite country can be explained in the same way that one explains the existence of Bi-racial people in today's society—Crossbreeding.

The Macedonians, the Romans, and the Arabs to name a few conquered Ham. All of these people intermingled with the Hamites, which resulted in a lightening of the Hamite's complexion.

Furthermore, the country rests at the northern tip of Africa, just across from the middle-eastern region. Cultural, as well as racial, diffusion was bound to occur.

These are the facts. They need not be disputed.

Hamite civilization diffused throughout the rest of Africa. This is an important fact to note - all of Africa (not just Ham) has a distinct history to be proud of.

The ancient societies of Nubia and Kush are two such examples. Ethiopia is the oldest existing empire in the world today, with a lineage that dates back to biblical times.

We as a people should know these things. We should know that our history did not start

through slavery as it is depicted in the many literatures of our time.

We have a lot to be proud of, as the late great Marcus Garvey said, "Africa has held up the torch of civilization, the Negro was the teacher of the age, the blessed man of the continents. Of the many continents of the world, Africa stands out the most prominent as the leader. All the other countries copied their civilization from Africa".

That said, we are appealing to our fellow black youth to be unwavering in your judgment, steadfast in your convictions and stand firm like

the seeds planted on the banks of the river Nile in the Hamite society.

Quote of the week

"A people without a history is like a tree without a root"

Marcus Garvey



African-American Women (cont'd from pg.6)

* Recognize and reinforce African-American women as decision-makers.

When portraying an African-American couple, marketers should acknowledge the woman's greater role in the decision-making process.

* Approach African-American women in the positive way they see themselves. Use language and imagery that recognizes their strong self-image.

* Help African-American women achieve a better life through home ownership, education and entrepreneurship. Her optimism and self-confidence lead her to expect a good life in the future for herself and her family.

* Pique African-American women's curiosity for new products.

African-American women are constantly experimenting to find brands that address their unique needs. Marketers should develop promotions that

lure them to trial.

* Help African-American women identify themselves through brands. Rather than buying a brand out of a desire to conform, African-American women are often compelled to purchase a product to create their own unique style.

"The WOW Report offers a psychographic profile of African-American women as independent, self-confident, decision makers who have a strong relationship with brands," said Lewis. "When understood and acted upon, marketers can more effectively tap into the billions spent by African-American women."

Essence Communications Partners (ECP), a privately held joint venture between Essence Communications, Inc. (ECI), and Time Inc., a subsidiary of AOL Time Warner, was formed in 2000. ECI is the parent company of ESSENCE magazine, which after 32 years continues to be the pre-eminent lifestyle magazine for African-American women. Its corporate headquarters is in New York City, and it has offices in Atlanta, Detroit, Chicago and Los Angeles. The ECP family of companies and licensing ventures comprises diverse media properties, including ESSENCE magazine,

essence.com, Essence Entertainment and Essence Licensing.

Source: Essence Communications Partners



Breast Cancer (cont'd from pg.5)

An anonymous member of a Greek Organization on campus explained that, "It's great that there were so many people there, but I'm sure we could have had more people involved in the walk. It's mandatory for Greek organizations to attend the walk. It would be nice to see other organizations participate as well." Debra Schreifels, Director of the Community Relations Department at Stony Brook Hospital felt that this was a vast improvement compared to the first year that the walk was held, where an estimated 500 people came out.

The amount of money raised on September 22 has yet to be released, but Schreifels believes that the "most powerful aspect of the walk is that it raises awareness among young people. It becomes a time to acknowledge the people with family members who have died or who are surviving with breast or prostate cancer," she said.

There are many other ways to raise money for breast cancer, "but it is a great feeling to see a community mobilized to walk to find an answer" said Schreifels. It is also exciting to see students of different ages, backgrounds, and schools coming out and trying to see how they can be a part of trying to find a solution. Awareness is a vital part of cancer research.

"Somebody Blew Up America" (cont'd from pg.3)

Who knew the bomb was gonna blow	and ok'd the yellow stars	Who knew the World Trade Center was gonna get bombed
Who know why the terrorists		
Learned to fly in Florida, San Diego	Who killed Rosa Luxembour, Liebneckt	Who told 4000 Israeli workers at the Twin Towers
	Who murdered the Rosenbergs	
Who know why Five Israelis was filming the explosion	And all the good people iced,	To stay home that day
And cracking they sides at the notion	tortured, assassinated, vanished	Why did Sharon stay away?
Who need fossil fuel when the sun ain't goin' nowhere	Who got rich from Algeria, Libya, Haiti,	Who? Who? Who?
	Iran, Iraq, Saudi, Kuwait, Lebanon,	
Who make the credit cards	Syria, Egypt, Jordan, Palestine,	Explosion of Owl the newspaper say
Who get the biggest tax cut		The devil face cd be seen
Who walked out of the Conference	Who cut off peoples hands in the Congo	
Against Racism	Who invented Aids	Who make money from war
Who killed Malcolm, Kennedy & his Brother	Who put the germs	Who make dough from fear and lies
Who killed Dr King, Who would want such a thing?	In the Indians' blankets	Who want the world like it is
Are they linked to the murder of Lincoln?	Who thought up "The Trail of Tears"	Who want the world to be ruled by imperialism and national
		oppression and terror violence, and hunger and poverty.
Who invaded Grenada	Who blew up the Maine	
Who made money from apartheid	& started the Spanish American War	Who is the ruler of Hell?
Who keep the Irish a colony	Who got Sharon back in Power	Who is the most powerful
Who overthrow Chile and Nicaragua later	Who backed Batista, Hitler, Bilbo,	
	Chiang kai Chek	Who you know ever
Who killed David Sibeko, Chris Hani,	Who decided Affirmative Action had to go	Seen God?
the same ones who killed Biko, Cabral,	Reconstruction, The New Deal,	
Neruda, Allende, Che Guevara, Sandino,	The New Frontier, The Great Society,	But everybody seen
		The Devil
Who killed Kabila, the ones who wasted Lumumba,	Who do Tom Ass Clarence Work for	
Mondlane,	Who doo doo come out the Colon's mouth	Like an Owl exploding
Betty Shabazz, Die, Princess Di, Ralph Featherstone,	Who know what kind of Skeeza is a Condoleeza	In your life in your brain in your self
Little Bobby	Who pay Connelly to be a wooden negro	Like an Owl who know the devil
	Who give Genius Awards to Homo Locus	All night, all day if you listen, Like an Owl
Who locked up Mandela, Dhoruba, Geronimo,	Subsidere	Exploding in fire. We hear the questions rise
Assata, Mumia, Garvey, Dashiell Hammett, Alphaeus		In terrible flame like the whistle of a crazy dog
Hutton	Who overthrew Nkrumah, Bishop,	
Who killed Huey Newton, Fred Hampton,	Who poison Robeson,	Like the acid vomit of the fire of Hell
Medgar Evers, Mikey Smith, Walter Rodney,	who try to put DuBois in Jail	Who and Who and WHO who who
Was it the ones who tried to poison Fidel	Who frame Rap Jamil al Amin, Who frame the	Whoooo and Whooooooooooooooooooooo!
Who tried to keep the Vietnamese Oppressed	Rosenbergs,	
	Garvey,	
Who put a price on Lenin's head	The Scottsboro Boys,	Copyright (c) 2001 Amiri Baraka. All Rights Reserved
	The Hollywood Ten	
Who put the Jews in ovens,		
and who helped them do it	Who set the Reichstag Fire	
Who said "America First"		

Feenin' for Fendi

By: Jonique Richardson
BLACKWORLD Staff

Young black girls have a habit of comparing themselves to one another. Even if parents take the time to ease a child's conceit, they seem to always be in competition. Things like, my hair is longer than yours, you're so fat, you're dirty, my mother is rich, etc., are things they fall victim to.

It seems black women should be on a higher level of competition by the time they reach college. We have, sadly, adopted our kindergarten habits and have incorporated them into our college lifestyles. It is no longer my hair is longer but my weave is less noticeable, my shoes are Christian Louboutin, I can wear a mid drift, my man is the one all the girls want... the list goes on.

We continue to embarrass ourselves and ridicule the success many African American women have outside the fashion and entertainment world. We have lost professional focus and strive to be more like Wendy Williams and Lil' Kim, who are not bad examples of black women who have actually made it, but realistically 1 in every 974

women actually do.

We should learn to participate in healthy competition. If we engage in healthy competition involving, school work, internships, and our savings we would not only grow as women but those feline feelings would be less likely to be held and we may actually be able and comfortable working together in the future (hold your breath).

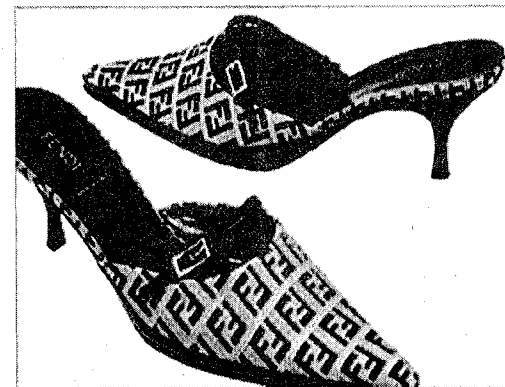
While some of us genuinely hold our Fendi addictions close to our hearts, is it not true that somewhere deep in the back of our heads we're getting dressed to out do "the next chick." I've had grown women stare me down at the hair salon to see if I was official, I felt violated and disrespected.

We've fallen way too deep in love with these designers whom (I hate to have to do this but recognize all the same) don't care whether or not we kill each other in the process of buying their clothes. We've lost touch of ourselves and the fact that we can develop wonderful friendships with those who share our interests.

Don't misunderstand me, we don't all have to be friends solely based on the color

of our skin or because of our physical structure, that would be limiting our experience and advancement, however, this competition stemming from our kindergarten habits has been taken too far.

Black women; "relax, relate and release." Don't be confined to unhealthy habits because other women seem to be that way



CREDIT CARD DEBT: SUCCESS STORY

By: Donovan Davies
BLACKWORLD Staff

Recently I have reached a point in my life where I need to wise up—financially. Over the summer I made a conscious decision to become totally debt free, and in charge of my personal finances. I paid off all my credit card balances through a 1.78 percent interest rate on balance transfer from Discover credit services.

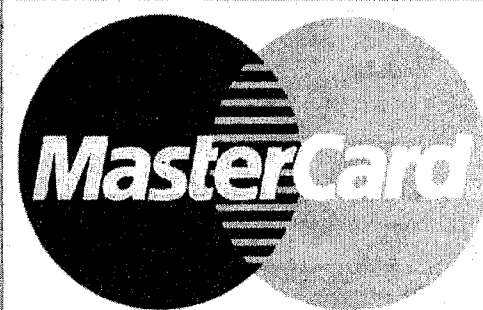
This proved to be a very good move considering I owed approximately 1800 dollars to CitiCards MasterCard on an account with close to 22 percent interest rate. Using balance transfers cleaned off one credit card and was able to systematically pay off my \$1800 balance partially each month. I paid off all other miscellaneous bills with higher interest rates and then concentrated all money in the \$1800 balance. Without having to worry about all those high finance charges I paid my bill off at about a minimum of \$300 every month, but averaged around \$600 per month.

Black Enterprise magazine suggests that a person should have one charge card (American Express) and one credit card (Visa). This infor-

mation gave me the courage to call each credit card company and requests lower interest rates and higher credit limits. Any company that refused to raise my credit limit, or lower my interest rates got cut up and cancelled immediately. It is surprising to see what you can get once you tell these companies you want to cancel your account.

After all of my calling and canceling was done, I was left with my CitiCards MasterCard, and my American Express Student card. My MasterCard gives periodic no-haggle credit line increases for good customers and lowers interest rates to 14 percent. American Express carries an annual fee due to the fact that they have no interest rates and you pay your bill in full every month.

Now that I have taken control of my finances, I have begun to gain more knowledge. My purchases have been smarter and my "untouchable" savings account has been growing like never before. I highly recommend that you take a look at your personal finances and see what you can do to improve it. My financial decisions have empowered me, I can now look to the future with a positive attitude.



VENT

September 11, 2001—Probably the most visible tragedy in America's history has been nothing short of George W. Bush's blanket against criticism. Terror became synonymous with any entity that was anti-American or had the nerve to disagree with Bush's aggressive military stance. Any domestic dissent was immediately hailed as unpatriotic, stifling the democratic process.

On September 10, 2001 many Americans were debating the legitimacy of Bush's presidency and after September 11, 2001 George W. received some of the highest ratings of any president in history. Pause. A question to ponder—With feelings of safety at an all time low, the economy in shambles, and in the wake of the biggest cooperate scandal in history, how is Bush staying afloat?

Blowing shit up! The military, especially the military's long range artillery systems seem to be Bush's chief diplomatic tactic. When confronted with the problem of Osama Bin Laden and Al-Queda instead of sending troops to effectively deal with the situation and preserve civilian life, he chose to drop some of the military's most inaccurate bombs (cluster bombs) and food. So when a young Afghani hears a plane overhead he is choosing food or death.

After capturing Osama Bin Laden lost its feasibility it seems that Bush has found another situation to distract the public from his lack of leadership at home. Bush has been aggressively campaigning for an American offensive against Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq. The catch phrase of this whole situation has been "Regime Change." Pause. Some questions to ponder—When does one sovereign nation have the right to determine who the leaders are in another country? Doesn't this at all seem to smell of imperialism? Is Iraq at all potentially threatening to America?

Bush has yet to deal with problems that lie within the United States. It seems pretty evident that Bush wants none of running America for Americans but seems to be using his seat of power to militarily establish America as the leader of a worldwide empire.

&

I hate fucking Uncle Toms. Not just some of them or a few. I hate them all. As if it isn't hard enough for the few of us caught in the struggle to fight oppression against blacks. We don't have time for race traders.

From Collin Powell to Clarence Thomas, all house Negroes. Modern-day Toms. Only difference is that they substituted their old clothes for some new suits and their present plantation house is the office given to them by their masters.

Revolution requires that Tom's life be extradited. The whites don't like him. We don't want him. He is expendable. Fuck him.

Stony Brook's campus has it's fair share of Toms. They're everywhere. Even in our classes. Just the other day a friend of mine was arguing with one of these Toms.

This particular Tom is an individual who always participates in class. Regardless of the topic he would have something to say, that day in class the lecture was on slavery.

My friend was expecting Tom to make quite a few comments but to his surprise Tom was lukewarm. He had nothing to say. This triggered an argument between the two. My friend told Tom that he would be the first to get shot when the revolution begins.

Tom responded in a typical cowardly fashion. Being the person he is, he has no idea of what a revolution is. The militant person my friend is; he wanted to slap Tom across his face with a copy of Malcolm X's speech the "Ballot or the Bullet."

That never happened on that particular day. But it could. With that being said, black people wise up and open your fucking eyes. We don't need Tom. He's only holding us back. Shed the excess weight and Move on. Move on.

RESPOND

To respond to these comments email us at:

blackworld74@hotmail.com

Responses will be printed.

Anonymity suggested.

The comments on this page do not necessarily reflect the opinions and views of the BLACKWORLD Staff.

Reparations (cont'd from pg.7)

for close to 300 years.

Africans themselves should be given some form of reparations as the overall slave trade disrupted the internal affairs of Africa to date and has caused a great debt to the African continent and its peoples. The U.S. government itself is not eager or willing to address the issue," professor Cash noted, "it has never been done, a bill has been introduced but has been tabled each time dating back to 1989."

John Conyers Jr., a democrat from Michigan who first presented the reparation bill, calling for Congress to examine the impact of slavery on the African-American community and to make recommendations to Congress on appropriate remedies, introduced the bill in 1989. The bill to date has been bypassed and overlooked, however, this past August there was a Millions For Reparations rally held in Washington D.C. Unfortunately, the event was unsuccessful and fell short of what the name suggested. "Although the event was unsuccessful, it was still necessary," Cash said. One of the reasons for the low turnout was the lack of publicity that was given to the event by mainstream media.

The concept of reparations is not a new one. Other groups of people have been compensated for evil acts committed against them. The fact that

other groups have received reparation packages has reinforced the idea of legitimizing its allocation to black Americans.

Most notably and most recent disbursement of resources to a specific origin/class of people occurred with the Japanese interned in concentration camps during the years of World War II for posing as a threat to the American government and people after the attacks on Pearl Harbor. In 1988, congress apologized to the Japanese Americans and awarded payments of \$60,000 to the individuals.

Undoubtedly, the call for reparations has been fought for by many of the black community's chosen leaders, Frederick Douglass, Martin Luther King Jr. and Al Sharpton are just a few.

Many people have suggested that reparations is racist and black people will be paid on the basis of their skin color and not on the basis of what happened to them. They even say comparing the situation with the Japanese Americans is inaccurate because the dividends were paid to the direct victims and their immediate families, not their future generation of descendants.

For black Americans to be successful in America is to establish stronger community structure built on self-reliance and self-enhancement. This means protecting the black communities, teaching,

running and funding black schools and using resources effectively and wisely.

Given the aforementioned scenario how much does your self worth cost? What is the price of your families' heritage? How much are you willing to take to forget who you are and where you came from? Can you forget? Think about it.

Righteous dollars for the unpaid labor of our ancestors

Education critical to use our wise use of dollars when they come

Purposeful focus of our energies until we get them

Action-oriented strategies collectively implemented

Reclaiming our heritage — its lessons and inspirations

Agitate, agitate, agitate

Tenacity born of Kujichagulia- Self Determination

I's into we, as united we stand, divided we fall

Overcoming odds, obstacles and the ostrich-like behavior of our people

No to Negroism, Niggerism, Materialism, and other self-defeating acts

Seeking the Spiritual Source guaranteeing Success

"Unificacion a traves de la Educacion."

By: Shaila Mentore
BLACKWORLD Editor

October is the month when Latinos celebrate the richness of their culture and the glorification of their people. The Hispanic Heritage Month Committee along with student groups like the Latin American Student Organization joins in the festivities of celebrating and educating people about their history.

The festivities began on Sept. 25 with food, a Mariachi performance and the committee's anticipation for a successful celebration during the month. "There are a lot of educational events," said Tania Ortiz, Chair of the Hispanic Heritage Month Committee. "We want to educate the campus about the Latino culture," she added.

The theme for this year's celebration is "Unification through Education." The committee is going to sponsor events like the luncheon where awards and scholarships will be given to students, faculty and staff who in some way have helped to improve the Latin culture on campus. "We want to recognize different individuals who contribute to the culture," said Ortiz.

SOME EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TOO FOR THE REST OF THE MONTH!

Monday, October 28

One Culture, Why Not One Love?
8:00p.m. - 10:00p.m. SAC Plaza

Tuesday, October 29

2nd Generation Latinos- Are We Losing Our Culture?
10:00 p.m.-11:30p.m. Colours Café

Wednesday, October 30

Hispanic Heritage Month Closing Ceremony/

13th Annual Awards Luncheon
12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. SAC Ballroom A

Friday, November 1

Special Event
5 p.m.- 7 p.m. Latin American & Caribbean Studies
Conference Room (SBS N-320)



Quotable:

“ Being black is more involved than just wearing an X cap. It means being committed to furthering our race and nurturing our children. It means possessing a history of more than three hundred years of fighting for freedom and equality.” —

**ELIZABETH
RIDLEY**

JOIN BLACKWORLD

THIS IS A CALL TO STUDENTS OF
COLOR AND ALL OTHERS INTERESTED

BLACKWORLD NEWSPAPER IS
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PHOTOGRAPHERS

AND JUST IN CASE YOU ACCIDENTALLY GLANCED OVER THE WORD

WRITERS