

# Blackworld

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## CSO HOSTS MOORE AND HEIGHT

By Zachary Dowdy

On Friday, February 26, the Caribbean Students Organization sponsored gospel extravaganza featuring the melodious voices of Melba Moore, the Stony Brook Gospel Choir, and the Gospel Ensemble of the New York Institute of Technology.

Melba Moore started the night by leading the densely-packed Fine Arts Center crowd in the singing of James Weldon Johnson's "Lift Every Voice and Sing," the official Black National Anthem. Dr. Fred Preston followed Ms. Moore with some words concerning Black History Month. Dr. Preston said "Black History Month is a time to reflect on who we are and how we got here...a time to reflect on black pride and black youth." He also stated that "We have gotten where we are as a people who were given nothing." Mr. Preston was followed by the Stony Brook Gospel Choir which sang "Safe in His Arms." After hearing Stony Brook's best, Melba Moore "corrected" Dr. Preston with, "I would have to beg to differ with you when you said 'Black people weren't given anything.' We were given beautiful voices...and we do have rhythm, praise God."

The highlight of the night was Dr. Dorothy Height, President of the National Council of Negro Women. Dr. Height is the fourth president of this rather active women's group. Dr. Height was born in Richmond Virginia and was educated at New York University and the New York School of Social Work. She has held prestigious positions such as serving on the executive board of the Social Welfare Board of New York as well as holding the office of Vice-President of the National Council of Women of the United States. Dr. Height is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated. Her own sisters served as ushers in the extraordinary evening.

Dr. Height's speech focused on a black woman whose actions had repercussions throughout all walks of society, Mary McLeod Bethune, a prime example of the influence a black woman can have. Dr. Height said she worked closely with Bethune and she quoted Bethune as once saying, "I have never regretted my color because if I was born white I would never have been able to do all the things I have been able to do." Dr. Height said Mary Bethune was an achiever who accomplished things from founding a four-year accredited college to becoming the first black person ever to be an advisor to the President of the United States. Mary McLeod Bethune organized the National Council of Negro Women and, according to Dr. Height, was the very first person to raise her fist as a symbol of power.

Dr. Height said Bethune was a "symbol of power, strength and unity." "She knew what she was and loved what she was," Height said. Dr. Height commented on Bethune's bold attitude toward herself by quoting her as saying, "I am beautiful," as Bethune gazed into the mirror. Height informed the crowd that Bethune "was not a beautiful woman" in the physical sense of beauty but she was beautiful insofar as she embodied the power and charisma of a Cleopatra; therein lies her beauty and the beauty of the black woman.

In this month of March, International Women's Month, it is appropriate to honor such people as Mary McLeod Bethune and Dorothy Height as well as Melba Moore. Black women such as these have played an integral part in black people's struggle for equality. Dr. Dorothy Height said it best with, "The black woman is the very backbone of everything in our community."



Melba Moore reads BLACKWORLD!!

Photo by Mia Williams

*This issue  
of  
Blackworld  
is  
dedicated  
to the  
Black Woman.  
We use gold  
color because  
our women are  
precious like  
this rare metal...*



Roman Foster

## Digging for Gold

By Zachary Dowdy

On Thursday March 3, the Caribbean Students Organization hosted Roman Foster, the Stony Brook graduate who has made waves in the film industry with his "Diggers," a documentary about the Panama Canal. But this film does not coincide with our history books concerning the Canal insofar as it concentrates on those forgotten people, black people, who were the very backbone of the entire construction project. Mr. Foster's film centers on the plight of the one hundred thousand black men who devoted over forty years of their lives to the United States by working on the Canal. Mr. Foster asserts that in none of the circulating history is there even the casual mention of those black laborers who are responsible for a rather important device, an historical monument.

The Caribbean Students Organization conducted this film showing in the newly renovated UNTII Cultural Center. A crowd of roughly thirty people attended the event including Professors Michael Bagley, Amiri Baraka and a reporter from the Three Village Herald. But there were no representatives from the SUNY Stony Brook Administration. Mr. Foster was particularly disturbed at the fact that in spite of all the awards and recognition "Diggers" has garnered, the Administration of the University, which was instrumental in the making of this film, did not send one representative to receive Mr. Foster and his remarkable creation.

Also on hand were authentic, genuine Diggers! Mr. Denzil Thorpe and Mr. James Washington Wynter, ages 96 and 95 respectively, were kind enough to grace Stony Brook's campus. Mr. Foster also intimated that these men were paid only ten cents for each hour they worked on the Canal while white workers, who performed clerical duties for the Canal were paid at least one dollar an hour.

Mr. Foster also said that to this day the U.S. government has not rewarded those men for their efforts in building the Canal. He feels it is his duty to correct the injustices inflicted upon these great men by making people aware of their influence—that pressure may be placed on the U.S. government to acknowledge these men for what they did before the last Digger dies. Incidentally, there are less than twelve Diggers alive today, the eldest of which is a striking 108 years of age. This interview with Mr. Foster gives some more information about the film and his purpose in making it. See page 2

Sketches by Sanford Lee of poetry readings by Amiri Baraka, Sonia Sanchez, jazz performances of Jim Anderson and Herbie Morgan Quartets.



# For Your Information

## Melba Moore

On Friday, February 26th at 7:00 pm, singer/actress Melba Moore will be singing and speaking in the Fine Arts Center Main Theater. Recently the National Council of Negro Women of Suffolk County represented by Ms. Florence Joyner approached Norma Mahoney (advisor—C.S.O.; counselor—EOP) about Moore coming up to the school. The Caribbean Students Organization will be sponsoring the event. Thanks to the help of Dr. Fred Preston, Mr. Ray Smith (F.A.C.) Carmen Vasquez (Student Activities) and Allan Inkels, the event is coming off despite short notice and a crunch on time. Mr. Rich Koch of WUSB is to be given credit for the fantastic posters circulating around campus. Public Safety will also be on hand.

The event agenda will include the gospel choirs of Stony Brook and N.Y.T. Dr. Dorothy Height (the national president of the Council of Negro Women). There will be student security along with the Deltas serving as hostesses. The theater of 1100 seats is expected to be filled but only with ticket holders. After the show there will be a VIP reception. To end the night for the students there will be a Phi Beta Sigma, "Give me Body" party in Tabler Cafeteria. Admission is \$2.00 with ID, \$5.00 off campus, \$1.00 off with a green ribbon in honor of Black History Month.

by Sheldon Bassarath

## DIGGERS

A documentary film on the 100,000 black men from the West Indies who built the Panama Canal with their "blood and sweat."

Presented by the Caribbean students Organization on Thursday March 3, 1988 at 7 pm. in the Uni-Cultural Center. The producer, Rona Foster and actual diggers will be on hand.

Blackwomen's Weekend Meeting

Every Monday Night  
10 pm Union  
Non-Smokers Lounge

Help plan:  
Fashion show  
Speakout  
Play&Party  
Picnic

To all Minority Organizations:

The Third World Committee has the task of raising funds to publish the minority graduation yearbook, the Destiny Journal. We also sponsor the Third World graduation ceremonies. These tasks are ones I hope your members feel are worthy of your support and generosity. With this we are asking for some form of donation to assure that this year's Journal and graduation dinner are the best they can be. Graduation should help spark the pride in each of us to be ready for success in the future, and with success there is a future.

With your cooperation we can accomplish this. Meetings will be held every Wednesday at 9:00 pm in the Airm Office. Come out and support what pertains to you!! Thank You.

Sincerely yours,  
The Third World Committee

For more info. Contact:  
Pam Fairclough 6-7271  
Michelle Williams 6-4480  
Norma Mahoney 632-7091



**Blackworld Meets!** MONDAYS—  
8:30pm

Zeta Delta Phi Sorority Inc.  
Presents

## Joy Night

A Gospel Concert Featuring:

Stony Brook's Gospel Choir

C.M. Post's Gospel Choir

C.M. Post's "Voices of Salvation"

SUNY Old Westbury Gospel Choir

New York Institute of Technology Gospel Choir

Plus... Special Guest Singers

When: Sunday, February 28

at 6:00 pm

Where: The Union Auditorium

Admission Free

Come Share the "Joy" of  
Black History Month

**The Caribbean Student Organization  
at the State University of New York at Stony Brook**

in cooperation with

**The National Council of Negro Women (NCNW)  
Celebrates**

# Black Heritage

with

Dr. Dorothy I. Height  
President, National Council of Negro Women

Melba Moore  
National Membership Chairperson

## Featuring

The Stony Brook Gospel Choir  
and

The Gospel Ensemble

New York Institute of Technology

**Friday, February 26, 1988 • 7 pm**

Fine Arts Center Main Stage

SUNY at Stony Brook

### Admission:

Free tickets will be available to Stony Brook Faculty, Staff and Students at the Polity Box Office, Stony Brook Union Main Lobby beginning February 23. Limit - 2 tickets per Stony Brook member.

Guest Passes/Tickets for non-Stony Brook members will be issued by NCNW Regional Representative

### Directions

#### BY CAR

Take the Long Island Expressway (Route 495) to Exit 62; follow Nicolls Road (Route 97) north for nine miles.

#### BY RAILROAD

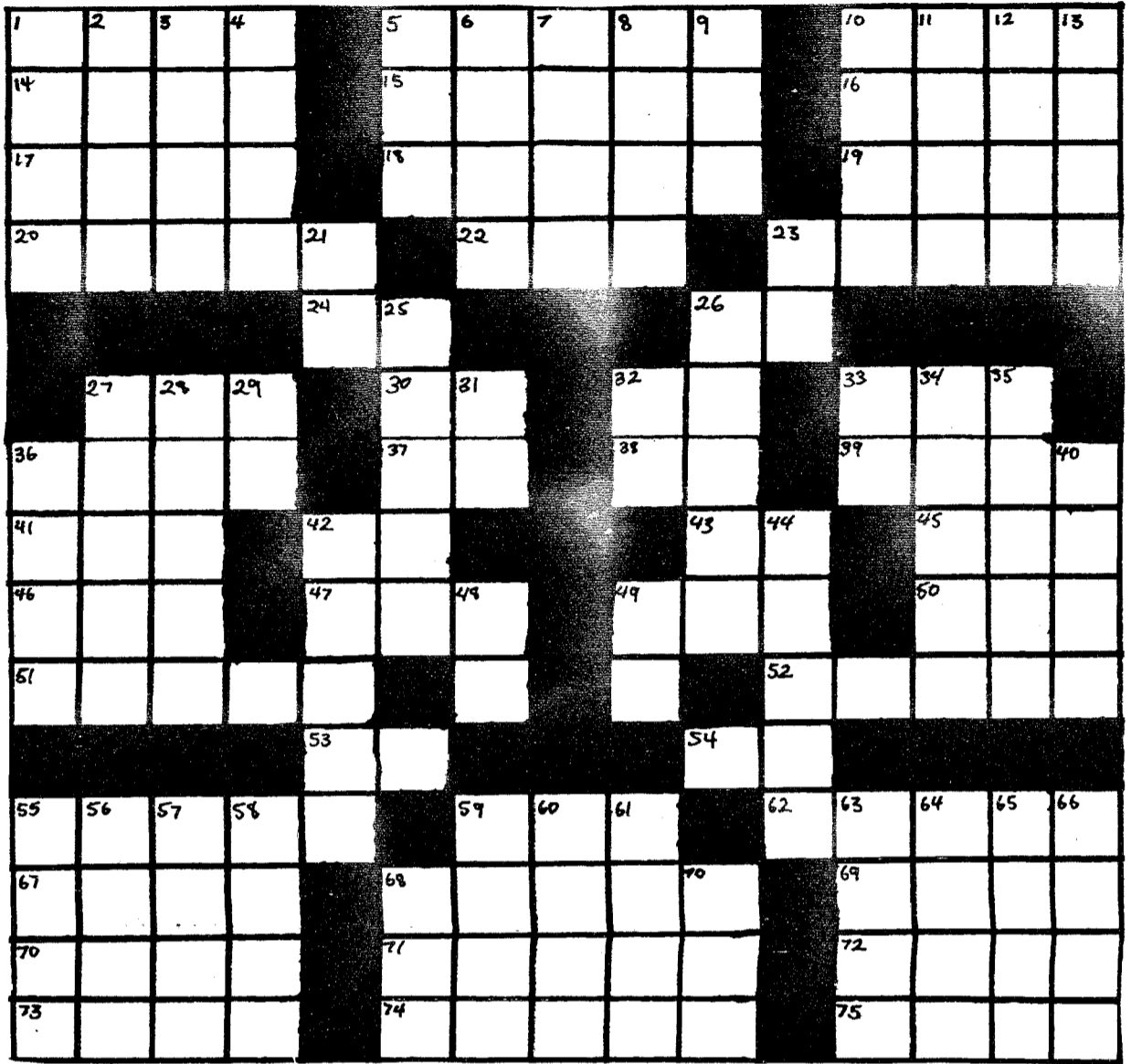
Take the Long Island Rail Road's Port Jefferson line to Stony Brook. Cross tracks for free campus bus.

# Have Fun Learning Black History

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1. Congress on Racial Equality
5. ——— Baraka ( poet )
10. A paper size
14. Olive genus
15. Of Rome
16. Oriental maid
17. Famous beach
18. Campus periodical ——— World
19. Peruvian tribe
20. An African Country
22. Genetic Substance
23. ——— Cultural Center ( acronym )
24. Halfback ( abr.)
26. Stony Brook (Init)
27. Everybody's Uncle
30. Egyptian Sun God
32. Zeta Phi Beta ——— Delta Chapter
33. State of Matter
36. Popular Dance
37. Ossie Davis (Init)
38. Hewlett Packard (Init)
39. Eating activity
41. Woman's name
42. James Worthy (Init)
43. Popular SB major (hint: Eng)
45. Revolution
46. Hunting match
47. Apartheid busters
49. This puzzle's maker (Init)
50. First woman
51. Editor of Amsterdam News
52. Below
53. Is (spanish)
54. Doug Williams' position
55. Narrow road
59. West Germany
62. Popular black magazine
67. Dry
68. Reading to others
69. Eurythmics song: "Would — — — to you?"
70. Civil Rights Leader
71. Campus periodical : Black ———
72. One of Columbus' ships
73. Robert ——— (Famous general)
74. Land of pyramids
75. Achiever



DOWN

1. A stopper or bottle top
2. Col. ——— North
3. Used to steer a horse
4. Not difficult
5. Arbitrator (abr)
6. To shape
7. Black supermodel
8. Reproach (Biblical)
9. Writing substance
10. Ache
11. Science magazine

12. Skill
13. Native of Thailand
21. Author of Roots (Initials)
23. University of Buffalo (Abbr)
25. Godfather of Soul
26. Great
27. Poetess: ——— Sanchez
28. ——— He-i-d (Racist ideology)
29. Military personnel (Abbr)
31. Advertisement (Abbr)
32. "Marvelous" boxer (Init)
33. Great Britain (Init)
34. Televised
35. ——— Biko (Apartheid fighter)
36. Unit for light bulbs
40. "Forward ———, Backward Never"

42. Mr. Baldwin's first name
44. SB professor recently denied tenure
48. Compact disc (Init)
49. Babylonian God of Wind
55. Body of water
56. Seed coating
57. IX
58. "Close to the ———"  
Lyrics from Mele Mel's "The Message"
59. To beat severely
60. Man's name
61. To swallow
63. To tie up
64. Highly seasoned dish
65. Before 10
66. Unit of time

68. Fascination
70. A pesticide

Puzzle by Zachary R. Dowdy

Solution will appear in the next issue of  
*Blackworld*

# TRIVIA MATTERS

Questions:

1. Name a TV cartoon series based on a rock singing group.
2. At San Juan Hill, who said "I want no better troops beside me in battle than these Colored troops showed themselves to be."
3. What ex-pro-football star became known for Hertz-Rent-A-Car commercials?
4. Who led Michigan State University to it's first NCAA basketball title?
5. Which state in 1664, Maryland or Georgia, made a law enslaving free white women who married black male slaves?
6. In what profession is the white man seen most in the black community?
7. "To crash" means what?
8. "Putting the make on a broad" has what meaning?
9. Who was nicknamed "The Greatest."
10. *From Slavery to Freedom*, acknowledged as one of the most comprehensive studies of black history, was written by what historian?

Answers:

1. "The Jackson Five"
2. Col. Theodore Roosevelt
3. O.J. Simpson
4. Earvin "Magic" Johnson
5. Maryland
6. Policeman
7. To go to sleep
8. To capture a woman's attention
9. Muhammad Ali
10. John Hope Franklin

Read **Blackworld**

# BLACKWORLD

IS BACK!

FROM:  
THIS DAY  
ON, WE  
WILL  
END...  
ALL  
RACISM  
SEGREGATION  
OPPRESSION  
WAR  
AND  
HATE!

