

# Blackworld

Published bi-weekly by students at SUNY Stony Brook



A SUNY STUDENT PUBLICATION—UNIVERSITY AT STONY BROOK Week of April 10, 1989 Vol. XIX No. 5

## TROUPE CASE POSTPONED



Mason, Rev. Calvin Butts, Quincy B. Troupe and his parents at a forum in support of Quincy Thursday night (from right to left)

### EDITORIAL

#### Divided We Fall

*The media's report of the much celebrated Quincy B. Troupe case have all hinted at the same condition: that the campus is torn between its hatred for the act of rape and its sympathy for the victim of a rape. But though some forms of media have been accurate in this respect others have used the circumstances to foster the illusion that there*

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By Zachary R. Dowdy

The case of Stony Brook student Quincy Brandon Troupe was postponed Thursday after presiding judge Joseph Klein granted the request of Troupe's lawyer and the District Attorney.

C. Vernon Mason, Troupe's lawyer, had come to an agreement with the District Attorney that a postponement would allow the case to be thoroughly investigated. The case is scheduled to appear on May 10, 1989.

Mason said, no investigation had been conducted as of yet, at least not a complete one. "The District Attorney will investigate the case from beginning to end, from A to Z," he said.

Nearly 200 Stony Brook students came to show support for their fellow schoolmate who is facing charges of first degree rape in connection with the March 24 alleged rape of a 20-year-old Stony Brook co-ed. The woman accused Troupe of raping her after offering to help her open a door at Douglass College, the dormitory at which she resided.

Troupe has repeatedly denied the charges and has given authorities and the press a complete hour-by-hour outline of his whereabouts from Thursday, March 23 through Sunday, March 26 -- with solid verification from nine witnesses.

"I'm innocent," said the 22-year-old Stony Brook senior. "Justice will be done."

In a press conference after the hearing Troupe said he was "dumbfounded" at the student support and he thanked the

students emphatically.

C. Vernon Mason added that Troupe is an innocent man. He also commented on the new developments in the case which might make it impossible for Troupe to have been the man whom the victim said had attacked her.

Newsday reported that the woman recently stated that her attacker was wearing a stud earring in his left ear and that she had managed to scratch him on the chest during the attack. Troupe's ears are not pierced and his chest is also unscarred.

The woman had also said the rapist had a part in his hair and no facial hair. Troupe sports a flat top fade while his face displays a goatee and a noticeable moustache.

After the alleged rape the victim said she had showered and reported the incident more than 12 hours later. After she had been examined by a physician, the University Hospital officials said there wasn't enough forensic evidence to perform a test which would help authorities locate the attacker. This type of test was recently performed on Kathryn Hinnant, the Bellevue Hospital surgeon who was found raped and murdered in the hospital. The test, which compares genetic properties of sperm to blood, is believed to be extremely accurate.

Mason and Troupe's parents offered their sympathy to the victim during the press conference. Mason said in an earlier interview, "We're not denying that a rape did occur," and stated Thursday, "Quincy is not someone who is a rapist but someone who is innocent."



Composite sketch of alleged rapist.

# Guilty Until Proven Innocent?

## Tones of Sediton A Column By

Dwayne  
Andrews



Quincy B. Troupe, Thomas Dunbar, Ernesto Giraldez, Alvin Knight and Paul Lewis. These are different people from different backgrounds, but they all have one thing in common: the "justice system" or those who enforce this system has screwed them one way or the other. Whether it's the University Justice System or the Suffolk County Police, what is prescribed by law and what is actually done are two different things. The statement "All men are created equal..." is a big lie in America. Due process has not been served in either of these cases. Is this justice? These men have the "privilege" of being guilty until they prove themselves innocent.

By now Quincy's case has been well publicized and most of us know what happened in his case-how he was arrested on allegations and not released without bail on his own recognizance. That's the way the justice system operates with people of color. It's known that a Black male is an endangered species in America and the justice system makes life worse on them. Thomas, Ernesto, Alvin and Paul's story may not be known to too many people and theirs is also one of guilty first, ask questions later.

The four men are members of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. and they were suspended from the campus because a young man accused them of hazing him. Heath Banks, who was interested in the fraternity, reportedly had a personal gripe with Alvin Knight. On March 3, 1989 Heath called the Kappa Hotline and stated that the four men hazed him on February 22, 1989. This incident was reported to Public Safety shortly after. On March 7 the four men received letters from John Marburger that they were suspended from the University until their hearing on March 27 at 2:30. This meant no class, no campus life and no Kappa activities for the rest of the semester because of an accusation. Pack up and leave at 2:30p.m. because we heard something about you. What kind of justice is this? Where's the other side of the story. Dunbar, Giraldez, Knight and Lewis sent letters to Marburger and Bill Fornadel, head of Students Activities that day complaining about the way Gary Mis was handling the situation. They then went to Fred Preston who explained that if the University felt the allegations were serious enough that they could be suspended. The four men then asked the question that has rung through this campus for the past couple of days--where's the evidence? They were told that a medical examination was in the works and the results were pending. Up until this day the medical evidence has not been brought forth. ... vice-president of Student Affairs, to hear their appeal. They told him they didn't do it and they had no reason to do it and since two of the four were seniors in the midst of midterms and forming a pledge line and they should not be suspended from the University. Mr. Chase told them to see him the next day and when they did he told them their appeal was denied and they were to leave the campus immediately.

On March 25, Gary Mis notified Knight that Bank's grandmother had passed away and that their hearing was postponed until April 17. They were still on suspension at this time, without giving a statement on their side of the story, just because of an allegation. On March 28 Knight's parents were informed by Mis that he was to get in touch with him about going back to their classes, but not their dormitories. That day they confronted Mis about the charges and got no reply. They then met with Chase, who told them to come back later

that day because he had to confer with Preston. At 4:30p.m. Chase informed them that they can return to their dorms as of March 28. He told them he allowed to return to class because he felt a week wouldn't hurt their academics, even though it was a midterm week, but three weeks would.

These four men have lost valuable time in school because they were treated as guilty parties to something say they haven't done. What really stinks about the matter is that they still don't know what could happen to them because their hearing is now on April 24. How does the Administration expect them to concentrate with these charges hanging over their head. Is this how it will be from now on; I accuse you, you get suspended, just because I said so? Here's a classic experiment. Go to the Public Safety office tomorrow morning and accuse someone you don't like of assaulting you. I bet you they'll be suspended from school by 2:30p.m.

Kappa Alpha Psi has a good community service record on this campus and is in good standing with Public Safety. They are incensed at the fact that they were suspended without their reputation being taken into consideration, but they are more upset at the lack of support from the Black community. Even though these four don't have choir-boy images, they feel that the Black community believed the Administration's allegations without hearing their side. Everybody got the message when due process was denied to Quincy, but you must realize it happened to them first. We must stand together!

There are those who question C. Vernon Mason's tactics because he doesn't work with the system. Why should we? we know that this same system has not worked with us. Mason knows that justice will not prevail if he follows the rules because those who enforce them don't follow them themselves. He is not an attention-monger either. He is just bringing the problems of our people to the forefront of America's conscience. If you have a negative perception of him, change it. He's making the system work for us as well as it has been working for whites. When something does not work, change it. That's the way it is and I commend Mason for all that he has done for our people. Now that he's on the job maybe Quincy will get due process and maybe so will Alvin, Thomas, Ernesto and Paul.

## S.A.I.N.T.S.: A Tradition of Community Service

by Katherine McCalla

There are many organizations on campus that cater to the minority community, one of the oldest and most prominent is the S.A.I.N.T.S. I spoke to Josee LaRoche who is the president of the S.A.I.N.T.S. and a senior. "...The organization started thirteen years ago, under the direction of Lloyd Sargent," LaRoche said. S.A.I.N.T.S. which stands for Scholastic Achievements for Non-Traditional Students, was originally called Scientific Achievement but with the coming of minorities in other areas of studies the name was changed to Scholastic Achievement. "The purpose of the organization is to provide academic incentives for Black and Hispanic students," LaRoche said. Some of the academic incentives include mock exams, field trips and scholarships. LaRoche has been a member of the S.A.I.N.T.S. for three years. When asked why she got involved with the S.A.I.N.T.S. LaRoche replied that upper classmen encouraged her during her freshman year to "Get involved with the S.A.I.N.T.S." Eventually she did join as did many of her friends.

"S.A.I.N.T.S. used to be one of the most highly recognized organizations on campus," LaRoche said. "So this year what we're trying to do is to get things back in the limelight." The members of the organization have been working to update literature and attract more members in a wave of effort to make the organization more resourceful to the students. LaRoche said that one of the problems she ran into this semester is a lack of participation. "We had a lot of really good workshops... about ten..." said LaRoche complaining that students don't take advantage of these workshops. "I felt that a lot of the programs were going to waste," added LaRoche, hopeful that there will be an increase in interest next year. LaRoche said that apart from the low level of response to the workshops there were no major problems this year. "I have a very efficient board so I was fortunate," said LaRoche.

For the S.A.I.N.T.S. the end of the year scholarship, according to LaRoche, is the "grand finale." Much of the scholarship money comes from fundraisers done in the year. "It gives us a kind of a good worth...to see that our hard work is giving people scholarships...it's the most important night." Some of the workshops that the organization sponsors before the dinner include financial aid, study skills and lectures given by faculty. The S.A.I.N.T.S. also sponsors field trips one of which was a trip to Cornell Medical School this year for a medical conference. They also had their First Allied Health Forum this year.

When asked what else is she involved with LaRoche responded, "I don't have time to be too much involved." LaRoche is on the Third World Graduation Committee but because of an intense academic year is unable to get as involved as she would like to. "My main purpose is to make sure I graduate. I'm taking twenty-five credits...it's suicide." LaRoche said that though her schedule is time consuming her vice-president, Crystal Avery, has often played the role of a second president to the



The S.A.I.N.T.S. Board

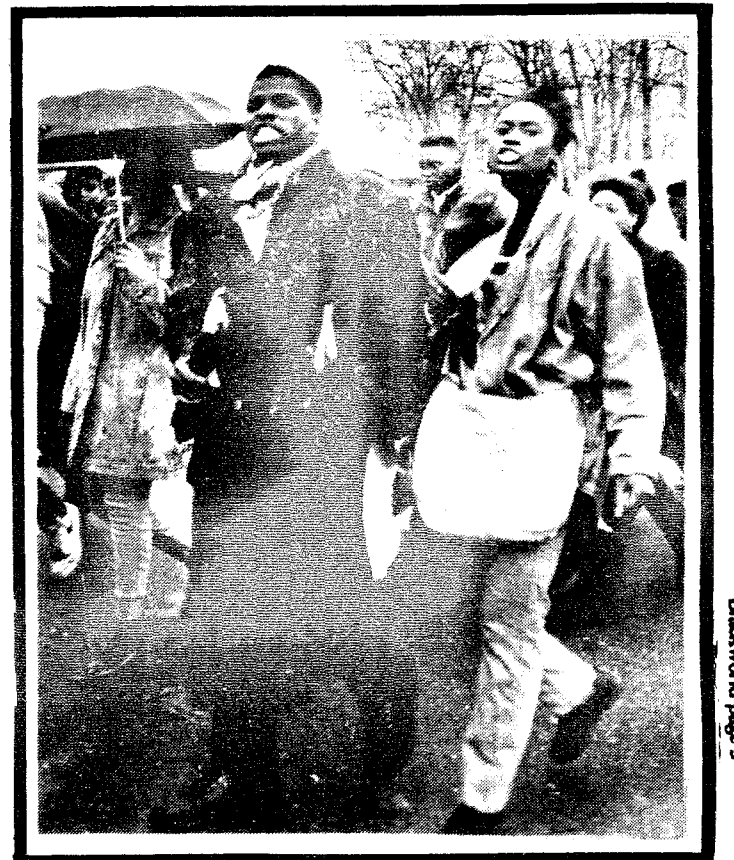
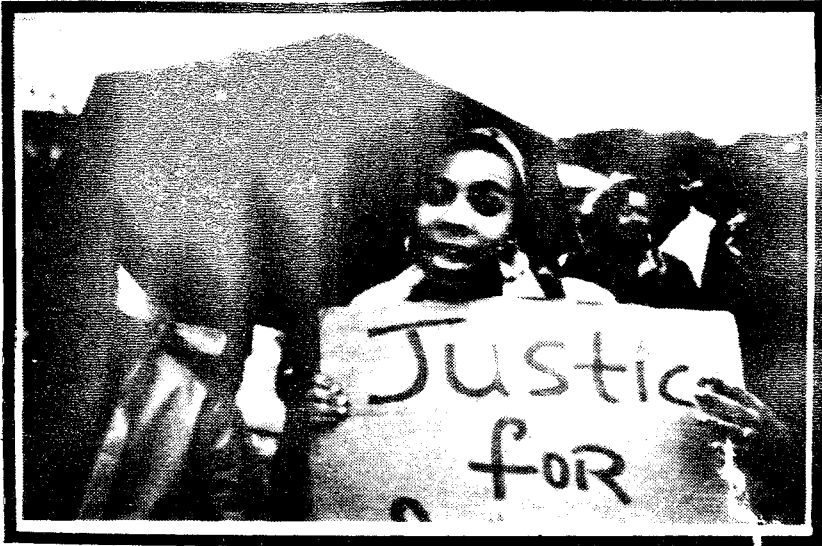
S.A.I.N.T.S. "I have a very good and supportive board...that all alleviates from the stress," said LaRoche. When asked if she had time for a social life LaRoche responded by saying she made time for it. "I'd be stressed out if I didn't," said

The scholarships given at the end of the year has usually about 100 applicants. Ten scholarships are given by the S.A.I.N.T.S., by Phi Beta Sigma, one from Delta Sigma Theta, one from N.A.A.C.P. and one from Minorities in Medicine, fourteen in all. Board members are also allowed to apply. The application deadline is April 11, 1989

Also this semester is the elections for the S.A.I.N.T.S. board for next year. To vote or to enter one has to have attended at least two S.A.I.N.T.S. meetings which are held every Wednesday at 7:30p.m. in the basement of the Student Union. The student body is the body of the organization according to LaRoche and anyone is allowed to vote or run for office after attending two meetings. One misconception LaRoche said is that many students feel the S.A.I.N.T.S. is not for them. "S.A.I.N.T.S. is for everybody...Anybody can come to the meetings and have an active voice," said LaRoche.

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# RALLY FOR QUINCY *April 4, 1989*



Collage by Mia Williams



# Black Woman's World

by Salimah Aminah McCallum

Traditionally Black parents have been giving their children European names. However in the last twenty years, many Black parents have been giving their children African and Muslim names. Although some have chosen African and Muslim names, recently many Black parents have been giving their children "made-up" names.

An article entitled, "Names Can Hurt," by Cathy M. Jackson, appeared in the April 1989 edition of Essence Magazine. In her article Miss Jackson suggests that such names as Zohnitha, Equila, Lakeisha, Neumonisha, LeDomona, and Zanguisha are burdensome to the child, and often lead to behavior problems.

Miss Jackson disapproves with parents who give their children such, "cumbersome, unpronounceable, phonetically awkward" names. In her article, Miss Jackson cites the findings of several psychologists. According to their research, "Behavior problems occur much more frequently among people who have peculiar names," and "criminal misdeeds

are four times as frequent among those with unusual names." The findings of the psychologists may have some validity. Although I have done a study of my own, and have found that most of the Black youths that were recently convicted of crimes had common European-American names.

According to Miss Jackson, educators say that, "it is mostly poor, very young Black mothers who give their children fanciful names. It appears that the brighter the parent, the more intelligent the selection of the name." Therefore Miss Jackson has chosen the name, Adrian Gerard for her son because it means, "the dark-haired one who bears a strong spear." Miss Jackson claims that such a name as this is going to allow her son to gain opportunities that perhaps a boy named LaQuan probably would not receive. She says that she chose this name for her son because, "I'm striving to give him opportunities to become a strong, decent man." Give me a break, Miss Jackson can't possibly believe that because she names her son Adrian Gerard that that alone will enable him to become a strong, decent

man.

Miss Jackson says, "The only reason I've heard for giving such peculiar names is the inane excuse: 'I wanted my child to have a special name.' She asks, "What is the meaning of these odd names?" She appears to be very concerned with the meaning of names. I wonder whether or not Miss Jackson can tell me what her name, Cathy means, or what names like Richard, Keith, Sandra, and Barbara mean for that matter.

These peculiar names may not have a direct meaning. However indirectly these names have a lot of meaning. These names have come to mean uniqueness. Many people who have these names take pride in them. These names become something that they can claim as their own. It becomes their identity.

I don't see any harm in Black mothers moving away from the common traditional names bestowed on Black children. What these women have done is provide a cultural identity for their children. When you hear the names LaKeisha and Zohnitha, one can automatically identify the ethnic group as Black American. In

America, Blacks have developed their own unique culture. This is evident in our music, dance, art, and food, to name a few. Imagination and Creativity has made our culture what it is today. So why is it so strange for Black parents to create names for their children?

## Learn about Black Women with Blackworld's



Salimah Aminah McCallum

## Mandela Causes Uproar



Winnie Mandela

by Rama Vidyasagar

Things are looking bleak for Winnie Mandela, heroine of the South African Revolution. At a press conference some weeks ago, she was read out of the anti-apartheid movement by fellow activists who said that she had "violated the spirit and ethos of the democratic movement." As wife of Nelson Mandela, the imprisoned-for-life black nationalist leader, Winnie has been very active in the anti-apartheid movement. She is a sympathetic figure since she fought so strongly for the cause despite her loneliness (separation from her husband), solitary confinement sentence and banishment.

She has a reputation as a strong-willed person who is known to ignore the wishes and policies of other black leaders. Organizations such as the outlawed United Democratic front and the African National Congress disapproved when Mrs. Mandela built a luxurious home in the shantytown of Soweto. They were also against her advocacy of persecuting blacks who worked for the apartheid government by "necklacing" (burning gasoline-filled tires hung around these people's necks.)

Anti-apartheid activists were most outraged by the Mandela United Football Club, a street gang who lived at Mrs. Mandela's house and acted as her bodyguard. The team was accused, by neighbors, of many criminal activities,

including larceny, car theft and physical violence. The Soweto township residents retaliated by burning Winnie's luxury home. Mandela also refused to cooperate with a crisis Committee set up to better her relations with the community and to break up the football team.

It was the last straw when the Mandela team was named the main suspect in two related murder investigations. In mid-February, South African police launched an investigation of the murder of a 14-year old boy Stompie Mokhele, a well known youth leader, and Mrs. Mandela's Physician, Dr. Asvat. Dr. Asvat could have testified to the savage beating of three other abducted youths, but was

*"Anti-apartheid activists were most outraged by the Mandela United Football Club, a street gang."*

shot in his office by two men pretending to be patients.

Officials of the Methodist Church from where the boys were abducted accuse the football team of these atrocities. According to the boy's attorney, the children were assaulted after being taken to Mrs. Mandela's residence. Mrs. Mandela claimed that the youths had been sexually abused by a minister. She also denied charges made by the youths that they were forced, by beatings, to accuse the minister of the assault.

In a police raid of the Mandela house, blood-stained clothing and other objects were confiscated for forensic tests and four team members were taken for questioning.

Although a lot of evidence points towards Mrs. Mandela's football team, no conclusions have been reached. Meanwhile, Mrs. Mandela has agreed, upon her husband's request, to disband the team.

## Bits and Pieces: Information For You

compiled by Rolande Merisca

\* District of Columbia Metro Organization of Black Scientists  
Area: Natural Sciences, Physical Sciences  
Offered to: College undergraduate  
Amount: 1,000  
Deadline: None Specified  
Apply to: District of Columbia Public School  
Division of Student Services  
415 12 Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20004

\*S.E. National Scholarship Service and Fund for Negro Students Referral Service  
965 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.  
Atlanta, Ga 30314 (404) 577-3990  
Open to all areas of study.  
Helps minority students locate funds  
Requirement: U.S. Citizen or legal resident.

WORDS OF INSPIRATION:

\*"The best cure for insomnia is a Monday morning."

Sandy Cooley

\*"...to sit back and let fate play its hand out and never influence it is not the way man was meant to operate."

Sen. John Glenn

\*"Goals are dreams with deadlines."

Diana Scharf

\*"The work of the individual still remains the spark that moves mankind forward."

Igor Sikorsky

\*"Nothing makes a person more productive than the last minute."

The Cockle Bur

†Scholarships, Fellowships, Grants and Loans--The College Blue Book, 21st Edition.

††Quotes taken from 1988 issues of Readers' Digest.

\* Financial Aid Forms for the school year 1989-90 must be in to the College Scholarship Service at the very latest May 1, 1989.

\* Stony Brook Institutional Application for financial aid must be submitted to the Office of Financial Aid and Student Em-

ployment no later than April 17, 1989.

\* Prime Time for Students begins Wednesday April 5 thru Thursday April 13, 1989.

\* Advance registration for fall semester begins Monday April 10 thru Friday April 28, 1989.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

\* Before moving to its present location in Suffolk County in 1962, the University was founded at Oyster Bay, Long Island as a State University College to prepare Secondary school teachers of mathematics and science.

8 Stony Brook is Long Island's Fifth largest employer with more than 7,000 people (full-time and part time) on campus payroll exceeding \$100,000,000.00 annually.

\* University Hospital is Suffolk County's only tertiary care facility.

\* Stony Brook's current enrollment is about 16,200 students (11,300 undergraduates and 4,900 graduate students).

SCHOLARSHIPS

\* Title: United Methodist Ethnic Minority Scholarships

Area: None Specified  
Award granted to: College undergraduates

Requirement: Citizen or Permanent Resident, member of an ethnic group, member of United Methodist Church  
Deadline: May 1, 1989

Apply to: United Methodist Church Board of Higher Education  
P.O. Box 871  
Nashville, Tn 37202  
(615) 327-2700

\* Title: National Black Nurses Association Inc.

Area: Nursing  
Requirement: Recently enrolled in a Nursing Program

Amount: \$1,000-4,000

Deadline: April 15, 1989

Apply to: P.O. Box 18358  
Boston, Ma 02118  
(617) 266-9703

# EDITORIAL

## Divided We Fall

continued from front page

is heated racism here at Stony Brook. They have insinuated that those who support Quincy Troupe are subsequently opposing the woman who has claimed to have been raped. Blackworld may represent the entire population of people of color in saying that we deplore the crime and do in fact believe that a rape did occur, but we cannot allow Quincy to fall prey to a racist justice system without his guilt being proven by a preponderance of evidence. Thus far, the evidence that has been disclosed is flimsy at best and at worst, inconsistent.

This is the reason for our almost monolithic protest of Quincy's arrest. We are not protesting because the accused is black, for that is making a decision along racist lines. Nor are we protesting because Quincy comes from a prominent black family, for that would be elitist. But we are protesting against an apparently duplicitous society which will instantly move to arrest a black person, especially a black male, and impose the penalty "to the full extent of the law" while when whites are arrested they are frequently treated in a kinder, gentler fashion.

We think our fears are justly felt when looking back at recent history because never have law enforcement agencies been helpful to black people, but the history of our relationship has been one of the oppressor and the oppressed. Frequently, it was the police who beat peaceful black civil rights marchers to death. Frequently, it was the police who donned white sheets at night and rode with burning torches to terrorize the black citizens of a southern town. In short, it has been the police who have played a major role in preventing black people from all the comforts of society that are so generously afforded whites.

We feel this case may be another instance where a black person is not given due process simply because of what he is, a black person. We are behind the woman who has claimed she was raped insofar as we deplore the act of rape but we still believe due process must be carried out in order to be sure. We will not allow our people to be railroaded behind bars without substantial proof. This issue has the black community outraged on two levels. We cannot forget the historical hegemony that police forces have practiced over us and are wary when a black person is arrested but at the same time, our sympathy goes out to all victims of the system. In this case a woman is the victim of a patriarchal society that does not respect the rights of women, and violates her at will. Do not misunderstand our stance for we would like to see the culprit before justice as much as anyone. We salute justice but we denounce unjust means of applying "justice." This is the reason for our outcry.

Do not let the forces of the mass media pit our two powerful groups, that is people of color and women, against each other. There are many flaws in the system which serve to subjugate both of us. Only as united forces may we overcome them. Join us in our struggle against injustice everywhere and on all levels.

## Blackworld "KNOW THYSELF"

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## Letters

### Cops made it racial issue

To The Editor,

Since the Quincy Troupe case has come into the campus community knowledge I have heard people say many things about it to me. One of the things that I have heard most is that they hope it isn't turned into a racial issue. I do not find any fault in people saying this because I myself believed that it should not be a racial issue. It should have instead been a purely rape issue. But unfortunately this is not the case.

In Quincy's interview to Blackworld, which I personally heard the recordings of, he said that the police asked him if he knew it was a white girl and he said yes, they then said to him, you know your going to have a "hard way to go". This seems to me whichever way I look at it that the police themselves are turning this into a racial issue.

We like to think blacks have come a long way since the riots of the sixties but statements like this prove that people still think along the lines of a white woman being raped by a black man. We cannot in our right minds close our eyes to our society and just say I hope it never happens to me. There are apparently more people out there with this white/black mentality and we cannot ignore them.

As I conclude this letter I must remind every reader that things cannot happen unless people act, and if you're not a

part of the solution you are part of the problem.

Submitted by Dawn Cotter  
a member of Malik Melody  
Sweetheart Club

### Let's be concerned about prevention

Dear Students:

We are greatly disturbed over the various explosive incidents that have occurred at some of our most prestigious student-sponsored cultural/social events. Such incidents must stop now!

In all our fifteen years of service to students on Stony Brook's campus, never have we heard of such disturbing incidents. Personally, we are pleading that you do not allow our many fine events and traditions to ultimately be curtailed or even eliminated due to unsavory individuals. If necessary, take precautionary measures and consult the appropriate sources on campus to address this most pressing matter. In essence, let's be about prevention-not after the fact!

Historically, we have overcome in our past, and it is up to us now to continue to overcome for the sake of our future!

We remain . . .

Yours in Service,

Lucia Rusty  
Minority Students Concern Committee

## Writers' Public Statement

February 4, 1989

We are a group of Concerned Black and Latino Citizens, Intellectuals, Activists, Politicians, Academicians, Artists, who deplore the way in which we are being exploited and divided by the current negative developments in Miami, New York and elsewhere. . .

We are not enemies, in fact, or at heart. We are Peoples who have been portrayed by the media as antagonists, but we are not!

We, the intended victims of this age old "divide and conquer" power scenario, understand that this division is being orchestrated and projected to distract us from our common historical and cultural bonds and political goals!!

But our common struggles for Self Determination and Economic Power will continue to unite us. We will not be pitted against each other by our enemies.

So we call upon our communities, especially the political leadership, to stand together in the shared spirit of our historic and collective struggles for freedom, justice and equality (including black reciprocation of Latino political support through the years), to struggle for even greater Unity!;

(Partial listing)  
MIGUEL ALGARIN, AMIRI BARAKA,  
RUDOLFO ANAYA, CLAUDE BROWN,  
NURUDDIN FARRAH,  
AMINA BARAKA

## The public is speaking

Everyone talks about the lack of spirit that the black community of Stony Brook Campus has. I am sick of hearing about what the problem is. I instead want to know what we're going to do about it.

Last month in the UNITI Cultural Center (Roth Cafeteria) there was a panel discussion on organizations and their affect on the black community. The panel consisted of three Stony Brook students who take pride in their community and are not afraid to have a voice and take the initial step in trying to bring the community together and trying to build enthusiasm. For this, I must give the NAACP a hand. This is the second time Sheldon Bassarath (Pres.) and Patrick Jenkins (Vice-Pres.) have tried to bring together the black community in this kind of setting, each time bringing us closer to our goal of unity.

The one major point that was brought up at this discussion, was that we as individuals need to get up and take the first step. We cannot do it because somebody else wants us to, but only because this is what we know would be best for us all as individuals in the long run. . .

Each club on Stony Brook's campus appears to be a separate entity unto itself. Hardly anyone from one organization supports any one else's functions. The only thing that seems to bring them together is a concert by MPB. There is no unity, unless people are forced

continued on page 7

# Black Theatre Enters Stony Brook Stage

by Lisa Payton

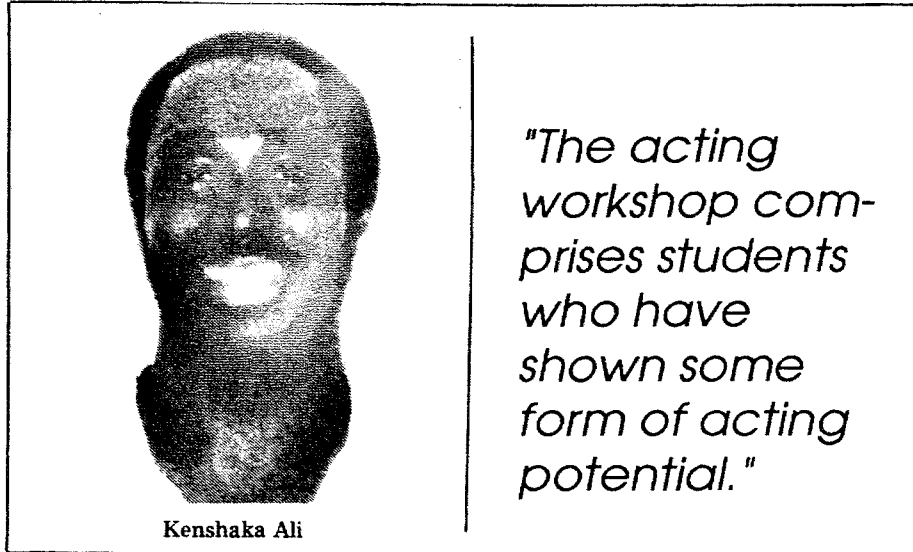
Black Theatre Ensemble is a new student run organization, that was founded in response to the lack of professional calibre black representation in theatre here on Stony Brook's campus.

The club was founded and formed by a group of students who all have an interest in a form of art or performance. The founder and major force behind the organization is Kenshaka Ali, a graduate student and teacher in the Theatre Arts department. Ali is obtaining his graduate degree in directing/playwriting the same as his undergraduate degree. Kenshaka, born and raised in Harlem in the midst of the black revolutionary movement, said he became an artist to "propagate the revolutionary cause."

Upon graduating college, he worked with theatrical companies like the Billie Holliday Theatre, Owen Dodson Lyric Theatre and became Producer/Artistic Director of Mind Builder's Creative Arts Center's Positive Youth Troupe, a group which toured plays he wrote and directed for seven years.

Ali proposes the club produce major plays from the black idiom, therefore performing works of black playwrights and directors. This will give Stony Brook students the opportunity to gain experience in all aspects of theatre.

The club consists of an executive board and an acting workshop. The executive board makes all the decisions as to which plays will be chosen, budgeting, and public relations. Ali works as Artistic



Kenshaka Ali

*"The acting workshop comprises students who have shown some form of acting potential."*

Director, which means he will be working directly with the actors in the company. The President is Paul Pittman, a junior and co-founder with Kenshaka. Other officers are Lisa Payton, Vice-President, Denise Fairclough Treasurer, and Penzola Mitchell, Secretary. Each officer is in charge of a different committee—production, operations, public relations and finance. The club is open to students to help on the committees or to audition to become a part of the acting workshop.

The acting workshop comprises students who have auditioned and shown some form of acting potential. Kenshaka Ali works directly with the actors to help

strengthen their performance abilities. The auditioners then try for roles in plays which are produced during the semester. Auditions for the club have already been held and a company established, but interested persons may still audition and be added to the crew.

The Black Theatre Ensemble proposes to produce two plays per semester. The first production is presently in the works, it's entitled "The Last Passion Play," written by Ali himself. The play features a man, his wife, and his mistress, trapped on a remote desert and forced to come to terms with themselves as blacks in an oppressive culture. According to Kenshaka, the play is relevant to

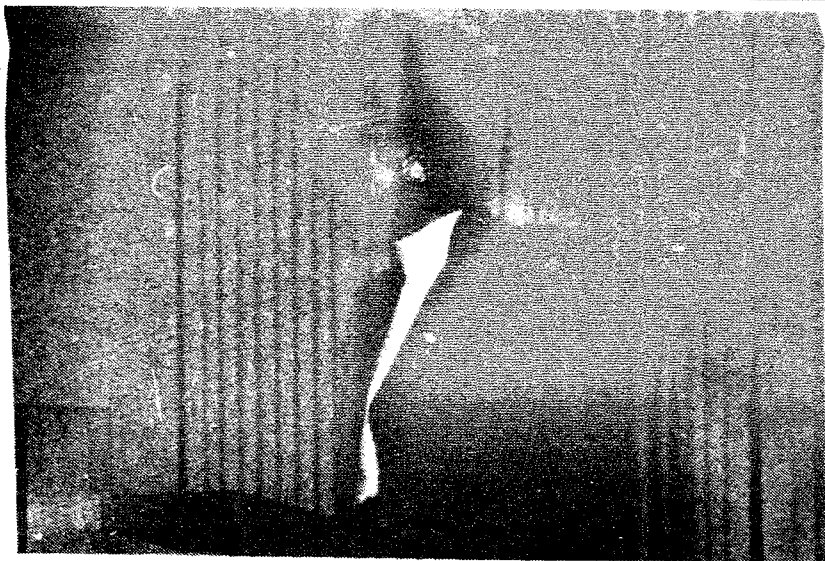
students because it deals with issues such as self-acceptance, self-determination, and personal transformation, despite the seemingly insurmountable odds. He feels that the play will allow the students to examine themselves and their responsibilities and portray a message particularly to black students, among whom there are statistically more undecided majors in ratio to other groups.

The foundation of the Black Theatre Ensemble is one which is dedicated to black enlightenment in the art of Theatre, something which the Ensemble's founders feel has been neglected by the Fine Arts department. Unfortunately, Polity feels it would be repetitive to start such a club, and has denied funding despite the many petitions submitted by students supporting the club. The club has been forced to solicit funds from other organizations such as MPB, GSO and the Fannie Brice Theatre. So, even though they have been denied they are still moving forward.

The Black Theatre Ensemble consequently hopes to keep black aesthetics fully and rigorously exposed throughout the school term, and not just have a sudden outburst of activity during Black History Month, only to be followed by neglect and apathy afterwards.

Anyone interested in joining the Black Theatre Ensemble's workshop or committee can contact Kenshaka Ali, 2-4668 or Paul Pittman, 2-3648. "The Last Passion Play" is scheduled for May 5, 6, and 7 in the Fannie Brice Theatre located in Eleanor Roosevelt Quad.

## The Essence of Cole



Harriet Cole

by Dora M. Abreu

Harriet A. Cole had many words of wisdom to offer today's women when she spoke at the UNITI Cultural Center on the 15th of March at 6 p.m. "You can have anything that you want as long as you always go forward and never backwards" was what Ms. Cole had to say to all women of this decade.

As women Ms. Cole feels that we are living between two eras, at the edge of time where racism is always going to be present. I agree with the advice she left to us all - to manage time, money, people and our health. We must learn to set our priorities straight so that we can better handle the different situations that arise. I feel that with all the things that are occurring today, one cannot be too careful. We must learn to put aside our prejudices and fears in order to succeed.

Looking out for our own interests isn't the only thing that is important. It took other people to help you get where you are today. Getting ahead doesn't

mean forgetting who and what you are. It means that you are in a position to help others, not as fortunate as yourself, to believe in themselves and obtain a goal.

Cole graduated with an English Major from Howard University and went on to write for Essence Magazine in New York. She has done stories dealing with food, home furnishings, electronics and parenting but now she mainly edits final drafts of stories.

Harriet Cole spoke from the experiences she has had so that others could learn from them. She mentioned an incident in 1986, Arlington, Virginia where Cheryl Tatum, a divorced mother of two, was fired for wearing a professionally styled braid to work. Ms. Tatum stood out on her own to defend what she believed in even if it was going against the accepted "norm." Women of today - live to achieve all that you can but never forget who you are. Look for a better future, even if it takes you to a new and strange road, because it will always be within your grasp if you want it to be.

## International Update

### Angola Breathes Easier as S. Africa, U.S. Exit

by Shayne Trotman

In a previous issue of Blackworld, I submitted an article concerning the recent Angolan crisis. The article explained how the exodus of Cuban troops from Angola that has recently been agreed upon, has affected not only Angola but it's surrounding countries.

As I stated earlier, Angola claimed it's independence in 1979. Three groups then came into power, MPLA, FNLA, and UNITA.

Portuguese colonial authorities tried to create a transitional period during which a semblance of peace was to be fostered. This period only succeeded in creating hostilities that turned into bitter civil war. The bloody conflict of the three guerilla armies has not stopped since.

The MPLA had popular support and enough military manpower to overwhelm the other "super powers." The UNITA turned to South Africa while the FNLA found support in CIA funds and military hardware. On Nov. 11, 1975, the Portuguese pulled out of Angola completely, leaving it in a state of utter confusion.

The U.S. has many economic investments in Angola's natural resources (minerals and oil). Therefore, she made it her business to perpetuate this civil war. Why, do you ask? It's because America believed that her interests would suffer under the socialist regime of the MPLA. Due to this fear both the U.S. and Britain turned their backs while mercenaries were hired to fight the MPLA rule in Angola. The UNITA has become an effective smoke screen from behind which South Africa continues to occupy parts of Angola and commit acts of violence

and sabotage which result in millions of deaths and is creating irreversible damage to Angola's economic structure.

In 1979 the FNLA became extinct and the UNITA became Angola's only obstacle to peace. Because of the UNITA's South African manpower, the MPLA called Cuba to it's aid. These Cuban troops have occupied and supported Angola for many years.

Recently, under the Reagan administration of course, the Cuban and South African leaders have agreed to remove their respective armies from Angola and try to give it a chance to find it's own freedom. American intervention has been a major stumbling block to Angolan independence even before they claimed it. Hopefully, without South African and U.S. influences the Angolan people can find peace.

*"American Intervention has been a major stumbling block to Angolan Independence."*



# Date Rape Center of "X" Lecture



by Nadine Palumbo

Rape Awareness Week could not come at a more opportune time, considering the rape of a S.B. student between residential buildings in Tabler Quad, with another student standing accused. This violates any false sense of security that people, especially women, feel on campus. Of course, this is not the first rape here, nor will it be the last.

Laura X's lecture, sponsored by Student Polity Association and Center for Womyn's Concerns on Monday April 3, focused on a certain kind of rape, acquaintance rape. She adopted the 'X' symbolizing the legal ownership of women and a stripping of women's history. She noted Malcolm 'X' and his similar ideas on the last name as a symbol of ownership. She is most well known for her work on the spousal rape-Greta Rideout case in Oregon in 1978. Since then she has taken the lecture circuit, discussing both marital and "date" rape. She is also Executive director of Women's History Research Center and Director of National Clearinghouse on Marital and Date Rape.

In Monday's presentation a videotape was shown featuring a heated debate between Laura X and an

attorney over marital rape on CBS's "60 Minutes." The N.Y. state attorney felt a man had a "legal" right to have sex with his wife, whether or not it was voluntary on her behalf. Laura X later quoted a mid-western governor who stated "if you can't rape your wife, who can you rape?" At the time the tape was made, 1981, the majority of states did not have a law prohibiting husbands from raping their wives. Today, thanks to Laura X and many others, forty states have laws against marital rape.

This mentality over ownership of women's bodies is deeply embedded into our society. Ms. Magazine conducted a survey concerning rape. The results are staggering. Of the women surveyed, one in four were victims of rape or attempted rape. Of those instances, 84 percent knew their attacker, and 57 percent of those rapes occurred on dates. Clearly this shows the attitude that men feel they have privileges to women's bodies and to dominate them. Women are viewed as objects, whose sole purpose is to please men. They are no longer considered people, but objects to be taken against their will. In fact, one myth about rape is that women actually like it. One wouldn't say someone enjoyed a mugging

Just Something I Overheard at Dartmouth One Night

Jeni Anderson

"How'd you like to rape a woman tonight?" he asked off-handedly, off-mindedly. Her footsteps crunching gravel one direction. his steps mixing with his buddy's. "That's a terrible thing to say," she caught as her still-shocked ears lingered in the growing distance between them.

What is the fear being a woman alone, in the dark? It is the spaces between street lights, and the having to pass a tree broader than a man's body. It is any movement that walks without speaking, any car that slows down and nears the sidewalk.

It is exactly between where she is coming from and where she is going. It is without a telephone, without a flashlight, without a knife because she hates violence. It is being locked in a box of infinite space where the top is a star-filled sky? the cell bars are the trees rustling sleepily. And within this claustrophobia, she is suffocated by smells of autumn foliage and the aroma of New England night air.

A man can enjoy this. She cannot until he understands what she fears.

(Reprinted from Womyn's review)

or another crime, and yet rape is seen as something that may have been asked for. Additionally rape is an extreme form of oppression which keeps women subordinated. Because of the fear of rape, women's options are lessened; where they can live, where they can work, and a fear of pursuing a normal love life.

There was a panel discussion after the videotape comprised of members such as Laura X, Head of Public Safety, Richard Young, Public Safety detective Jeanette Hotmer and VIBS member Sue Brown. They discussed some shortcomings and progresses of Suffolk County law. One progressive change is that there is no longer the need for corroboration of a rape. This is a great advance, since most rapes, especially date rape do not have witnesses beside the victim. Also, it is now considered rape, by law, if a woman was too intoxicated to consent to sexual intercourse, challenging the rationale that it wasn't rape because the victim was drunk. These are some legal victories, but a true victory will come when women feel safe walking alone at 11:00 at night, living in any neighborhood, or taking a date without a second thought.

continued from page 5

together. As there is no 'umbrella' organization as of yet every club should do its part in promoting community togetherness.

Some think that MPB is supposed to be that 'umbrella' organization, but it cannot be because it would put in jeopardy their Polity funding which in turn helps fund many of the other minority organizations on campus. One suggestion at the meeting was that perhaps Blackworld could be that 'umbrella' that we need. Blackworld could also lose their Polity funding but for the black com-

munity as a whole to replenish these funds may not be impossible if we want it badly enough. We cannot be afraid to fight for what we want just because of economical reasons.

This, of course, cannot be done by Blackworld staff only. If you have an opinion write it and sent it to Blackworld. I am sure they will be happy to put it in. Do not be afraid to be involved in your community. Join clubs, associate with new people and I know from experience, that your horizons will open up and you will feel much better for it.

Submitted by Dawn Cotter  
a member of Malik Melody  
Sweetheart Club

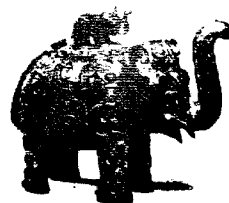
## Brutality in Public Safety?

"The public safety officer would not stop punching the student, he had to be pulled off by another officer," said a witness. At a recent party in the union, a handicapped freshman student was a victim of a public safety officer. The student is black, the officer is white.

According to the victim, he was being assaulted by a non student and was defending himself, when he was pulled away from his attacker. The student said he looked and saw the brown jacket of a public safety officer and gave up his struggle. The officer then repeatedly beat the student in the face. This allegation is substantiated by at least three witnesses. The victim incurred several bruises from this incident of which he had pictures taken of when he returned to his room. The student also said that the officer knew he was handicapped (he continued on page 14

Hail to the Black Beautiful Black Prince Malcolm X

Malcolm X  
 who gave his life in trying to rise  
 our Black beautiful Black consciousness  
 Malcolm X  
 will there ever be one as great as he was  
 our shining Black Prince El Hajj Malik Shabazz  
 He who saw the true nature of the devil  
 from the white house to the lowest level  
 saw the problem and was correct  
 in his solutions he frighten the white man  
 cause his words were true like bullets aimed direct  
 hitting it on the nail  
 We shouldn't integrate with that thing who's pale  
 Malcolm in his great Black intuition  
 a follower of the Honorable Marcus Mosiah Garvey  
 H was for reparation  
 sooner if not immediately  
 Malcolm X truly loved us  
 saw our self preservation  
 and self determination  
 as an absolute must  
 Malcolm wanted us to grow  
 and that we may show  
 what we can become  
 when with our Blackness we the many would stand as one  
 Yes Great Black Prince  
 rest in peace we've been growing since  
 Malcolm who taught us self love  
 self respect and self defense  
 in the face of white hatred  
 white oppression and white violence  
 for this he had to be silenced  
 Teaching us to hold proud to our skin  
 and to love our African  
 to walk proudly as great Black women and men  
 for this is what we are  
 Malcolm who is now but a shining Black star  
 Carlos Montrevil



# POETRY



"Keys of Freedom"

Dark, damp is my prison, I see my way out,  
 yet, rapped am I unable to follow the  
 Lighted path of the pioneers of freedom.  
 Visions upon time, an eternity be thy  
 tomb, locked are a people, with the  
 keys to freedom.

In remembrance, I see a race of  
 Kings entrapped in dens, shipped, as  
 cattle are shipped. Yeh strong we  
 came, docile we are now?  
 No chains visible to our sight  
 holds us for we have taken a key,  
 Freed many cried, rejoice and support  
 thyself, thank thy protector. So  
 deep rooted be this evil, that blinds  
 many to the cancerous oppressor and  
 blatant carnage of black people.  
 Freed our body, yeh not our minds.

Knowledge is our second key to freedom,  
 for sight will be given to the blind,  
 Light to those in the dark, this  
 can only be done by you ebony,  
 Creator of life. The torch has  
 been lit, education be the key, need  
 not depress thyselfes with the  
 superficial rewards for these are  
 the chains he enslaves you with.  
 Reach for the key, fear not his  
 bark, for where one may fall many  
 will stand.

Hear me, I beg you, youths are our  
 future, envision your potential, yet  
 through your journey, remember the  
 suffering of your people, this not  
 be fuel for hatred but the realization  
 of the need for a change Looked  
 upon as a new agenda, for  
 some it will be a black agenda,  
 for all it's destiny. Be ordained  
 destined, means, all that is tumorous  
 to this goal must be eradicated.

In sight of the ebony kingdom--  
 In remembrance of King and X---  
 With hope for all that is yet to come--  
 Keep on with thy struggle--  
 For struggling are the oppressed  
 insight of the true mean to freedom.  
 Yeh once achieved, lavished will your  
 Kingdom be once again for all to  
 see. For you are Black, Ebony, keeper  
 of the torch of knowledge, reach,  
 reach for the key, your key to  
 Freedom.

by SAJO

Many Lives of The Brother

Living in the shadows was my style  
 They say it still is, all the while  
 I just stand there laughing  
 I AM A MAN OF COMMITMENT TO THE BEING;  
 A person of who they say,  
 only to be what I actually am.  
 Doing those things they'd never suspect,  
 because they do not live in my real state;  
 Only I know, when dreaming at night,  
 Seeing those faces in the light.  
 They bait themselves to be caught  
 and I know, I truly know how to do it



"My Midnight Summer Dream"

Time upon time my midnight summer's dream  
 Sweet soul rest your head upon me.  
 The stars peek upon us jealously  
 the moon look in envy, unable is it to  
 Savor your ebony treat.

Time creeps on my midnight summer's dream  
 Never have I met one of your liking  
 Short be our time spent together but  
 Quality makes up for quantity.

Time spent at labor goes by slowly  
 but coinciding with thought of one  
 as sweet as you. Smile ebony for me  
 as a blackman I want to know your  
 caring ways. Hold black woman for you  
 are the true light, shine upon me and  
 let my life's path be paved with your  
 pleasure.

These are my thoughts my midnight summer dream

Sean Joe (SAJO)

HOT MAHOGONY

Hot, be it but a feeling of pleasure,  
 Mahogany, purest of all that is black and beautiful.  
 Often I think of you, words bring no comparison to  
 One whom up a touch subdue the greatest beast  
 Of all. Black woman you are the bearer of  
 The Torch, keeper of the golden light. Your wisdom  
 aids me, your touch, mellows my soul. If  
 But for a look, sent into a spell is a man  
 A black man to the purest of all pleasure.

Hot mahogany, I see you, free as the day  
 We were blessed with your birth, sensual woman  
 naked covered by mass. Is it yes with smooth, caramel  
 Sweet honey, coating her treasures. How smooth  
 Is her ebony skin, my heart races on end. I hold  
 Her breast with my tongue, tip at end, nipples at  
 Peek. How sweet, my adventure takes many turns.  
 The hair on her stomach stand on end. Dripping  
 with moisture from my tongue. Oh how I long  
 for you.

Hot mahogany I see you on a snowy day.  
 Radiating heat, causing all to melt. For never  
 Have I encountered such a peaceful, beautiful  
 Woman. I have to admit, that you are very  
 Special, as to say unique, for your eye liquid  
 Black, drive my deepest erogenous zones.  
 Yes black, help me, teach, love me for  
 I am fascinated by you. I am  
 Captivated by your charms.

By SAJO

Stalked

by Dwayne Andrews

Loaded 12 gauge shotgun  
 Held in his right hand  
 Looking like a Native son  
 this blond-haired, blue eyed man  
 his uniform is clean and pressed  
 He has a certain swagger in his walk  
 For the hunt he's dressed  
 His prey, he is ready to stalk  
 upset from a senseless attack  
 Another animal perpetrated  
 All he knows was its fur was black  
 And any black animal will be terminated  
 A panther glides into his view  
 a graceful, noble soul  
 He whispers "I'm going to kill you"  
 Because revenge is his goal  
 See his daughter received an animal bite  
 In an animalistic attack  
 Now he's stalking the panther  
 just because he's black  
 No evidence needed in this case  
 Retribution is the only goal  
 The blame has to find its place  
 On this poor noble soul  
 as he attacks the hunter smiles  
 Two bullets to the panther's head  
 The noble panther is dead  
 Just because he was black.  
 Stalked for another animal's  
 A crime he did not commit  
 but in this day and time  
 I refuse to go for that shit.

Standing female figure  
 Akan peoples, Baule group, Côte d'Ivoire

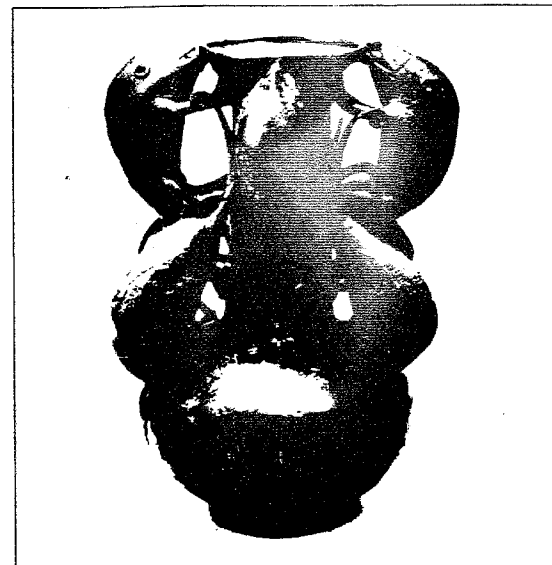
The Judicial Process

Now I am in court  
 cause i got caught  
 actually i was sought out  
 cause i have no clout  
 what this case is all about  
 they haven't a clue  
 Plea bargain you  
 to incriminate you  
 to incarcerate you  
 So i am under paid  
 give me legal aid  
 and watch justice already lacking  
 start to completely fade  
 the D.A. looks at me filthy  
 you have to prove yourself innocent  
 we think you guilty  
 you will be prosecuted to the fullest extent  
 of the law  
 especially if your half a shade brown or more  
 justice is blind  
 except towards Blacks and the poor  
 crime does pay  
 politicians when they get away  
 with some stolen jewels  
 time put away  
 by some hungry D.A.  
 for breaking the rules  
 crakas gets a break  
 cause their fools  
 the judge rides the throne  
 can't leave himself alone  
 he's never on the bench  
 we haven't moved an inch  
 its really just a myth  
 that justice is fair and swift  
 if what you did was shoplift  
 its pulled to its greatest width  
 They would tell you to your face  
 that they can't do nothing for your case  
 cause your guilty by reason of race  
 for you've already been tried  
 arrested beaten and tied  
 then sprayed with a can of mace.

Carlos Montrevil



By Sean Joe & Jaime Turton



Mask  
 Chokwe peoples, Angola

Ebony Lover

by Dwayne Andrews

True to the word  
 In it to win it  
 Kindness and love is always heard  
 I'm always in awe when you're around  
 Let's stay together  
 even though we're oh so far  
 I long for the day to be with you  
 And be there where you are  
 Sometimes we aren't getting along  
 But life has its ups and downs  
 Sometimes I'm right but often I'm wrong  
 Which I admit from time to time  
 Ebony Love should be strong  
 And creative and sweet  
 Just like a Luther Song  
 A note matched to a perfect beat  
 It's perfect and I love it  
 Let's never end it.



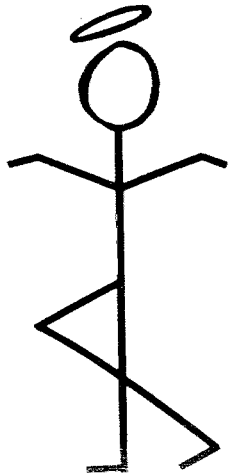
## Check Out The Message

Keep up to date with what's  
happening in the  
Minority Community

We are on Sundays at  
11:30 pm - 12  
on 90.1 F.M. WUSB

## S.A.I.N.T.S.

Scholarship  
Deadline  
Extended To  
Tuesday, April 11th



### "Art and the Political Crisis"

24 day conference of African, Caribbean, Puerto Rican, and African American Writers.

Site: Stony Brook, The Schomburg Center, Newark, and Rutgers Univ.

For more information contact the APS Dept. 632-7470

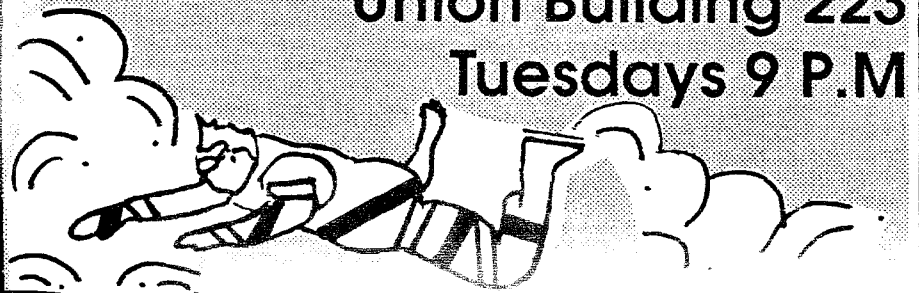
Featuring: Toni Morrison, N. Farah, A. Baraka, G. Laming

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## Malik Sigma Psi Fraternity Inc. 5th Annual Basketball Tournament

April 8th, 12:00 p.m.

Stony Brook Gymnasium

\$2 w/Stony Brook I.D.

\$3 w/out Stony Brook I.D.

Dunk Contest

3-Point Shoot Out

- NAACP Meeting
- Panel Discussion

Monday

April 24th

Both at 9:00 P.M.

Place:

Uniti Cultural  
Center

# "Brewster Place," A Compelling Drama

by Crystal Avery

On the evenings of March 19th and March 20th, ABC presented the two-part made-for-television movie, *The Women of Brewster Place*. The movie was based on a novel of the same title written by famous black author Gloria Naylor. It was both touching and realistic as it focused on the different lives of seven women living in the neighborhood of Brewster Place in an American city. Though each woman's story was unique, all of their experiences were woven together by the same thread; the thread representing being a black woman sometimes struggling for survival.

The movie starred various well known black actresses including Oprah Winfrey, Robin Givens, Jackee, Lonette McKee, Paula Kelly, and Lynn Whitfield. Each gave an outstanding performance in her respective role. Oprah Winfrey starred as a woman who, after being seduced by a young farm boy, is left pregnant and forced to leave home alone. She works hard as a beautician to make a decent life for herself and her son whom she focuses all her emotions on. Her son later betrays her after becoming involved in a murder by jumping bail after his mother, Mattie Michael, has used her home as collateral. Losing her home and son, Mattie is left with nothing and is forced to move to the neighborhood of Brewster place. It is here where the heart of the story begins, in a run down forgotten neighborhood which is closed off from the rest of society by a brick wall built by the city to control traffic. This wall symbolizes a stunting of growth, intellectually and spiritually, for the people who live behind it.

One tenant of the building in which the seven women live, a young woman, Kiswana Brown, is determined with the help of her live-in boyfriend to make a difference. Originally from the middle class area of Linden



Robin Givens (left), and Oprah Winfrey

Hills, she struggles to transform this neighborhood into a community of people fighting for a common cause. At first she meets a great deal of indifference but in the end all are triumphant in spirit.

The movie also focused on the personal tragedies and obstacles faced by other women in the story. One character, Cecilia is faced with a husband who, unhappy with the hard life he has dealt her, constantly blames her for his misfortune. He abandons Cecilia and their child Sarina once, only to return and abandon her again. This time however he leaves her in a terrifying state, as she

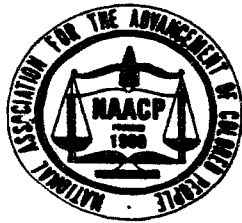
has lost their daughter to a freak accident, and she has recently undergone an abortion which she thought would keep her husband from leaving her and give her a renewed sense of hope. Though this woman is almost destroyed by an emotional breakdown, which eventually causes her to run away, she returns at the end of the story with a renewed sense of self worth and motivation.

Finally, the movie tells the difficult lives of two women who are lesbians. They move to Brewster Place after fleeing from other neighborhoods which would not accept their preferences and made their lives unbearable. Lorraine and Theresa seem to fit in as expected until rumors mount causing the two women to question themselves and each other, only to reaffirm and accept their preferences in the end. Unfortunately, others do not find their preferences as easy to accept, namely one C.C. Baker, a neighborhood street punk. He affirms his toughness and manhood by brutally raping Lorraine. Ironically, this attack occurs during a neighborhood block party put together by the residents of Brewster Place who had finally joined together to raise funds for a housing lawyer.

The ending of this movie is both powerful and symbolic. As the ambulance speeds off carrying Lorraine, Mattie expresses her discontent with the bad things in life which all too often disguise the good. Her realization prompts her to finally confront life for what it is. She begins to chisel on the wall with strength and fiery determination illustrating spiritual growth and freedom. One by one the other neighbors gather to help her tear down that barrier which has been present in their lives and the lives of their ancestors for so many years. Together they begin to break down that wall which has separated them from the rest of society and closed them off from opportunity, growth, and freedom. Together they initiate a new beginning.

## Speakout Unites Community

by Troy Callahan



The NAACP's chapter at Stony Brook held their first Speak Out of the spring semester at the UNITI Cultural Center in Roth on Monday, March 13. The purpose of the speak out as told by the chapter's vice president Patrick Jenkins was to "address the many problems and issues that blacks face on campus" and to more importantly "receive input from the people of the campus community on these issues."

The panel that led the evenings discussions consisted of one of Blackworld's top columnists Dwayne Andrews, as well as Blackworld's photographic editor Mia Williams. Also included on the panel was David Greene, a freshman at Stony Brook. The three panelists covered a variety of topics dealing with student activity on campus, but the main focus of attention seemed to be on students getting involved on campus, or rather the lack of this. Campus unity was also a central part of the discussion.

Andrews began the discussion by focusing on apathy on campus. He addressed the need for more students to participate in functions as well as the need for more people to stand up and be leaders on campus. The Stony Brook community suffers from a definite lack of enthusiasm for the programs given on campus.

According to Andrews, "Those who don't participate are usually the ones complaining." He pointed out how our very own black fraternities and sororities did not participate in our homecoming parade while most other Greeks did. Andrews said "like it or not, we attend a mostly white university" and went on to say "We must be our own driving force in making things happen."

Mia Williams went on to say that much of the apathy on campus is due to

freshmen. She asked, "If freshmen won't get involved, then who will be our future leaders?" Williams also targeted the many black organizations on campus. She acknowledged that while there is a need for different organizations on campus, she also questioned the need for so many different organizations as well. She pointed out that a major problem with having all of these different organizations is that they deduct from the unity among black people on campus. Williams emphasized that "we must come together underneath one umbrella," and suggested a black student union to coordinate the black community and its organizations. David Greene added to this by pointing out the need to "network and come together" on issues that pertain to the black community.

Upon the closing of the speak out, I asked the chapter's president whether or not he thought the meeting was a success. He stated that "as long as we can get people to come down to our meetings, offer their ideas, and get involved, we can't fail."

What many people don't understand is that for there to be a campus life, it takes people to get involved. There are plenty of followers on this campus who look to others to insure that there are activities, shows, and parties to go to. What we need are people to help organize these functions and become active members in the organizations on campus. Many of you may be complaining now about the quality of life at Stony Brook, and how things are so boring around here, but what have you done to help the cause lately? Just think how life would be around here without these organizations.

Now that you know the problem, will you become a part of the solution? We must all GET INVOLVED.

## The Devaluation of Black Studies

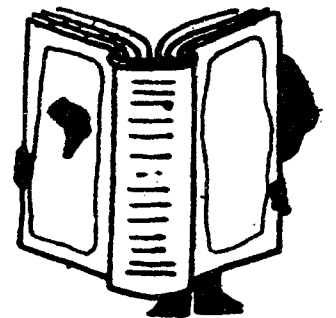
by Cynthia Robinson

The plight of Black Studies, the direction and expansion of the program has been in question since its limited inception into university curriculums. "A wealth of Black Studies was spawned in the politically charged environment of the early 1970's." (Save Black Studies! Ebony, March 1989) Since that time, these programs have enjoyed second-class citizenship status. Politically, because minorities in general, and people of African descent in particular, are not considered a vital part of the society, any such programs or studies of their cultures and customs has in the universities received minimal appreciation.

The academic community's devaluation of Black Studies programs, is evident in its reluctance to accept it into the realm of legitimate education. Unlike the sciences (natural and biological), mathematics, business, which are for economic reasons more important to the "establishment," Black Studies is in many instances looked upon as an "extra-curricular" activity. It certainly does not enjoy the same status as any Western and European history programs. The latter being more valued. Many colleges are more inclined to accept these European history courses to fulfill graduation requirements, while in some institutions, Black Studies courses, if accepted to fulfill graduation requirements, are done so only on a limited basis. "If you want to learn about Black history, do it on your own time." (Save Black Studies! Ebony, March 1989).

Black Studies at SUNY campuses are threatened next year by Governor Cuomo's proposal to leave SUNY's budget \$55 million short. Black Studies, suffers much the same plight of uncertainty at Stony Brook. With the proposed SUNY budget cuts, the Africana Studies department stands to fall prey to the surgeon's knife. Would a department that unfortunately enjoys the status of the Africana Studies department be immune

to the effects of these budget restrictions? It is unrealistic to believe that the department will not be partially or even completely altered. Stony Brook president John Marburger has as the buffers of the proposed cuts, "every department that does not play a central role in the instructional mission." (Stony Brook and the 1989-90 Budget Process. Campus Currents. Feb. 15, 1989). Unfortunately AFS does not fit into his exclusive category. While governor Cuomo, has noted the significance of disciplines like that of the Africana Studies department, his actions and those of the Stony Brook administrators, in my opinion, speak for themselves.



As a graduating senior, I have for the past four years enjoyed the presence of the AFS department. The quality of the departmental faculty, and subsequently, the quality of the material presented has always been challenging. I personally believe that the lessons I have learned in my AFS courses are far more valuable than the ones I "memorized" in those classified as more legitimate. "The ideal curriculum in classrooms around the state is one that would transmit values and "a spirit that builds bridges between diverse groups and break down barriers that stand in the way of an integrated, pluralistic society based on mutual respect and understanding." (Ending Black Studies May Raze Racial Bridges, Newsday Editorials, Sunday, Feb. 26, 1989).



# "You'll See" 5 Jazz Up 30

Trevor Bailey and Sheldon Bassarath

You'll see! You'll see what? Well, you'll soon see, the sensational jazz quintet, you'll see! They recently gave a dynamic, exhilarating, and inspirational performance at the UNITI Cultural Center. Despite the stormy weather, the quintet, composed of a vocalist, saxophonist and a blind pianist, drummer, and bass player, was welcomed by approximately a 30 member audience.

The group began the night with a mellow selection entitled "Blue Monk" under the guidance of the pianist Alan Kamen. "Blue Monk" set the mellow but exciting tone for the two hour performance.

The second selection "On the Spot" (an original by Alan Kamen) featured the group's vocalist Betty Shirley. Ms. Shirley displayed her talent right away. Her warm romantic voice put the audience in a trance. Her style of improvisation of no words but sounds in the likeness of Al Jareau, was fantastic. The next few selections were original pieces composed by the members of the quintet.

An especially compelling moment, was when the group combined the song "God Bless the Child" and a piece, "Rockabye Child." The pianist played a solo that brought tears to the eyes of some of the audience. The group seemed opportunistic of this emotional moment and continued with another original



You'll See

piece entitled "Good Morning Heartaches."

The quintet ended with the jazz favorite "A Train" by Duke Ellington. Everyone in the audience took part by clapping their hands.

The music of You'll See is typical jazz, but at the same time, carefully thought

out jazz. Each member had a solo, but the quintet always seemed to be connected in a spiritual way. One instrument never drowned out another. They displayed a power of presence. It is a shame that more students did not come out for this enriching, meaningful experience.

## Ancient Black Civilizations

From "100 Amazing Facts About the Negro With Complete Proof"

\*\* The Grimaldi, a Negro race, lived in Europe as late as 12,000 years ago. Two complete Grimaldi skeletons are in the Museum of Monaco, near Monte Carlo, abundant traces of their culture have been unearthed in Southern and Central Europe.

\*\* Elam, a mighty Negro civilization of Persia, flourished about 2900 B.C. and is perhaps older than Egypt or Ethiopia. One of its later Negro kings, Kudur Naktu, conquered Chaldea and Babylon and brought back to his capital, Susa, rich treasures among which was the famous statue of the goddess, Nana. Later it became the capital of Cyrus the Great and Daruis. Susa is the Shushan of the Bible where Esther, the Jewess, sought the favor of King Ahaserus of Persia and Ethiopia.

\*\* Cheops, a Negro, built the Great Pyramid, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. It is 451 feet high, has 2,500,000 blocks of granite, each two and a half tons, covers 13 acres, took 100,000 men thirty years to build and was completed in 3730 B.C.

\*\* There were at least eighteen Ethiopian or unmixed Negro rulers of Ancient Egypt, the best known of which is Piankhi. Leaving his country in Central Africa, Piankhi conquered all Egypt to the mouth of the Nile in 750 B.C.

\*\* The Ganges, the sacred river of India, is named after an Ethiopian king of that name who conquered Asia as far as this river.

\*\* The most ancient lineage in the world is that of the Ethiopian royal family. It is said to be older than that of King George VI's by 6130 years. The Emperor Haile Selassie I, ruler of Ethiopia, traces his ancestry to King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba and beyond that to Cush, 6280 B.C.

\*\* Negroes lived in America thousands of years before Columbus. Central American show numerous carvings of them as gods. When Columbus came to the New World, Negroes had been crossing from Africa to South America a distance of 1600 miles. The first white men to reach the American mainland, tell of seeing Negroes. Columbus who visited South America said that he had heard of them there.

\*\* The present Negro race of Africa perhaps did not originate there, but Asia and Oceania. The earliest inhabitants of Africa were not black but brown. Today the peoples of mixed and unmixed Negro descent living in Asia and Oceania probably exceed in number the present Negro population of Africa. India has millions of Negroes. The purest Negro types are in Southern Asia. In 1923, Dr. Joseph Rock, United States Department of Agriculture discovered a hitherto unknown Negro race, the Nakhis, 200,000 in number, in Southern China. In 1934, E. W. P. Chinnery discovered an unknown Negro people in New Guinea, near Australia. He reports that they have a civilization superior to their neighbors, who live under white rule.

\*\* In the United States Army Drafts in World War I, the Negro proved physically qualified for general military service was substantially higher than the ratio of the white men by just five percent., namely 74.60 against 69.71."

## False Media

by Regina Young

On Wednesday, April 5, at 7p.m. the Red Balloon coalition sponsored a talk entitled "The Role of the Media in Misrepresenting the News," which focused on how the news media, which is supposed to educate and inform the people, is used as a tool of the elite to maintain their hold on society.

The first speaker was Alexander Cockburn, who in addition to being a writer for several radical publications, which include The Nation and In These Times, a left wing weekly publication, also writes a column for the Wall Street Journal. Mr. Cockburn started out by saying that the press is really the 'mainstream corporate press,' partly because the 1600 mainstream newspapers, like the Daily News and the New York Times are privately owned by corporate executives with mainstream conservative views, partly because television has been, in his words, "captured" by the business world, meaning that the news is largely used to glorify the actions of those in big business. He cites how the reporters report only what the government wants to hear, and how the public is, time and again. Kept in the dark about the real motives behind the actions of government officials. The news media uses several methods of deceiving the public which include; only reporting the part of a story that suits their interests, the use of false information to "verify" their point of view in printing a story with an undertone that suggests something what they're supposedly reporting. He urged the audience to be aware of what the press is trying to do and to try to get it to serve its original purpose, which is "freeing" the minds of the public, instead of putting more chains on them. "Boredom" according to him, "is an important part of ideological oppression. People need to take an interest in politics instead of letting others govern what they think."

The second speaker was Utrice Leid

managing editor of the City Sun. She, like Mr. Cockburn, spoke of how the media reflects the interests of those in power, but her talk focused on one big way in which it does this: RACISM.

Miss Leid talked about how most of the people who give out news come from an elite class, where people of color are not integrated into their lives, except in a negative sense. "one of the most interesting forms of racism," Miss Leid said, "is the way in which issues concerning blacks are reported." According to her analysis, blacks are treated as a sort of strange, exotic "bacteria," taken out once in a while to be examined and put on public display, and once the white world is reassured of our powerlessness, put back and left alone until something else about us catches their eye. This is known as "negative reinforcement," where false views of blacks held by whites are subtly put forth and over and over again by the news media. The media writes patronizing views of blacks while at the same time suppressing stories of black achieving. Miss Leid blasted what she called the "sanctified racism" of the press, and called it a particularly overwhelming problem in New York City publications, like the New York Times. The press in NYC largely serves to suggest that blacks have no idea of what they themselves are all about.

The press, in general serves the largest role of "whilting away" chances for empowerment for blacks and latinos. Issues become unimportant because certain personalities involved become the focus (she cites one of the biggest examples, the Tawana Brawley case). "Blacks," said Miss Leid, "are predestined to be powerless," and will continue to be so as long as what is reported in the media is used to keep us in a position that makes white society feel comfortable. She urges us to "read very carefully between the lines what is given to us as news," and to watch for little innuendos disguised as "objectivity." The "objective" reporter, she says, is our biggest enemy.

**MINORITY  
PLANNING  
BOARD  
ELECTIONS  
MAY 1ST, 1989**

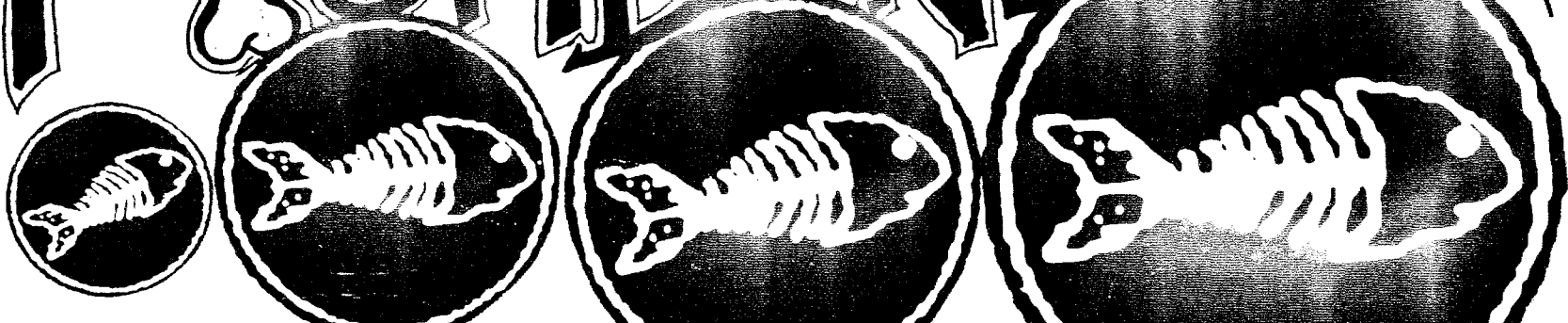
**SUBMIT NAMES  
TO  
ORIN ROBERTS  
2-3359 BY  
APRIL 24TH**

**Malik Sigma Psi  
presents  
"The Last Poets"  
by the  
Brothers  
April 14, 1989  
Uniti Cultural  
Center  
9:00 P.M.  
FREE!**



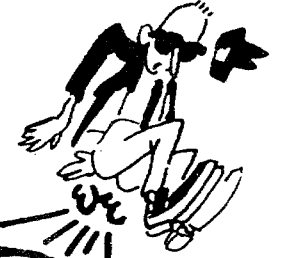

# FISHBONE RETURNS

SAB CONCEPTS



## FOR A BALLROOM

# SLAMMING



FRI. APRIL 14  
UNION BALLROOM DOORS OPEN @ 9:00  
STUDENTS \$8 PUBLIC \$12 (Bring Any Form of I.D.)  
ADVANCE TICKETS @ UNION BOX OFFICE

Special GUESTS: "SLAMMING WATVBSIS"

Alto C. Pina

# Viewpoint: Caught, Can I Get A Witness

by Sean Joe

Niggers, that is all that is left to be said, in Gary Mis Decision in the suspension of four minority students here at Stony Brook. You know how trials were held in the 60's Blacks were guilty until proven guilty, but this is not the 60's but the end of the 80's and we're still unable to get due process.

Bothers and Sisters, on March 6, 1989 Ernesto Giraldez, Paul Lewis, Thomas Dunbar and Alvin Knight four members of The Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. were suspended because of a hazing investigation brought against them by the student judiciary. The investigation began when the National Headquarters of the fraternity called the administration in response to the alleged hazing of Heath Banks, The University replied that they had no case against Kappa Alpha Psi. They never heard this before, so nationals did not acknowledge the accusation. Now alarmed to Heath's complaint, the administration in return opened an investigation and contacted Heath to get a statement. After receiving his testimony over the phone, the university suspended all Kappa Alpha Psi activists on campus. Outraged members of Kappa Alpha Psi went to Gary Mis asking for justification of his actions. They were told that their activities were suspended until his investigation was completed and they should come back on Wednesday March 1, 1989. After days of repeated trips to Mr.

Mis' office, they were finally told to come back at 10:00 on Friday March 3, at which time he would have the outcome of the investigation.

During this time, Gary Mis called Heath to continue his investigation. Mis questioned students here at the university that Heath claimed as witnesses, the outcome being that no one knew anything about Heath. Unable to get evidence to indict the fraternity, Mis still suspended the four men. Understandably, the students appealed the decision. They even wrote a letter to president Marburger complaining about the manner in which Gary Mis handled the situation. They received an answer all right. They were told that they have to be off the campus by 2:00 p.m. on March 10, and if they are seen on campus, they will be arrested. They were unable to attend any classes and they are graduating seniors in second week of midterms.

Is this what you call justice? How can you say you're conducting a hearing to build a case and at the same time your sentencing the accused party based on a God damn phone call. You can't do shit like that and think we are going to tolerate it from you or anyone. Then to make remarks like "Hazing goes on in black fraternities" quoted by Gary Mis, to justify your decision. When Thomas Dunbar asked "Why he was really here?", you told him "You're to explain why you should remain on campus," and "We know what goes on in these kinds of fraternities." This is outrageous! This is not Dixie, nor

South Africa, you can't convict people based on your personal feelings.

Brothers and Sisters, this type of ignorant mentality is dangerous. You have to see through their schemes. You're in jeopardy because they might feel you're threatening to the environment. It makes you wonder! The only thing that these four men had shared in common was that they were all Kappas. Suppose they were each unaffiliated black individuals then what will they do? In reality, you have to ask yourself who is threatening who? This same situation can happen to any organization or individual. All of the money these men have been paying for classes will be going to waste. All of these men are seniors, and you're going to suspend them in mid-semester based upon alleged accusations. This did not happen by accident, the black male is an endangered species. We are not going to stand for the blatant carnage of our blackmen.

I remember when Michael Draper and another brother were attacked by two white males and went before the Judiciary, found guilty, and were dismissed from residence halls for only two semesters, while continuing their attendance at the University. The system is not designed for us Brothers and Sisters, so we must make a stand and support our people in their plight. These men are being used as an example and we let the administration know that we're not to be made an example of.

## Viewpoint: Are Today's Minority Youths Safe?

by Freddy Martinez

It is the belief of many that the minority youth of today is not safe. Many people will say that the society we live in today is extremely corrupt and is geared solely for the white middle class. Some will go as far as saying that it is not possible for a black or hispanic man to succeed in this white supremacist world. In other words, their main belief is that society is structured in a manner in which the minority is expected to fail when attempting to climb the social ladder. This statement has some truth, yet, it is my opinion that it is somewhat exaggerated.

In this day and age of yuppiehood, it has become more difficult for the minority to be labeled a success. There are various requirements which must be met in order to be crowned a true yuppie. Two of the main requirements are the BMW and the house in the Hamptons. Anything less is considered unsatisfactory. A great deal of the time, minorities fall short of achieving this state of success. When this happens, many minorities resort to other lifestyles which can be rewarding, mainly drugs and crime. However, many individuals fail to realize that this rewarding life is short-lived and most of the time leads to catastrophe. Then, these individuals begin to blame the rest of society for their downfall. They decide to believe that a conspiracy to destroy minority youth exists.

In true perspective, the first and most important step in order to better oneself is education. These days, a college degree is a prerequisite for just about any good paying job. If getting ahead is so

important, why do so many minorities drop out of school? We must ask ourselves what influences them to do so? A University of Michigan study in 1985 showed that the three most influential factors in the development of a child are 1) the home 2) the peer group, and 3) the media.

It is obvious that the peer group and media can usually provide a child with a set of negative values. The media tends to stereotype any social class too much. This will give children only one type of role model. When was the last time you saw a black or Hispanic doctor on television? Minority children, when in search of role models, are allowed to only choose from actors portraying villains or professional athletes. This is why I believe that the educational system cannot be solely blamed for the lower performance level of minorities in the classroom. The home must become more important in child development. Parents should become role models for their children and not only count on teachers. A child's development must be monitored in order to make sure the child is behaving properly. A child must receive a good idea of right and wrong in the home. The child must receive a code of values which he or she is to follow.

In closing, it is obvious that minority youth need positive influences to help guide them in critical situations. An example must be set by elders. Also, we as minority college students must take it upon ourselves to succeed so that we can also assist in developing youngsters and serve as good role models.

continued from page 7

has a noticeable limp) because he was talking with the officer before the beating occurred. The student has acquired a lawyer and there is an investigation going on, an inside source said.

(As this case unravels, BLACKWORLD will provide complete information.)

## UNIFIED!

Brothers and Sisters,

It was exhilarating to see the unity displayed during the recent rally for Quincy Brandon Troupe. There must have been close to 500 people outside in the pouring rain at one point. That is Unity in its truest sense! Now that we have

gathered around this issue, let us stay focused on it. Certain forces outside our community would like to see us lose sight of our goal in the support of Quincy. That goal is to see that he is given due process under the law and his rights are not violated anymore than they already have. The media, controlled by the rich white man, has attempted to pit African Americans against those opposed to rape on our campus. They want that to happen, but it is my belief we will not allow that. Remember, we are strong. We are black!

The support of Quincy in his struggle is the foremost concern. They may watch us, they may tap our phones, but we are Strong, Focused, Unhindered, and we stand together in love.

C. Sheldon Bassarath

continued from page 2

Along with the twelve board members there are three advisors to the organization; Lucia Rusty, Angela Joseph, and Judy Berhannan." If I have any questions or concerns I could just go to them...they play key roles," Laroche said. The basic goal for the organization this year was to get back into the "main stream" of things on campus. "I would have liked to have done more programming...but there has been a lack of money," LaRoche said. The S.A.I.N.T.S. is a polity funded organization with a budget of \$2,800. They are requesting a budget of \$11,000 for next year. "...we are not properly funded," said LaRoche explaining that throughout the year they often rely on other organizations for money.

LaRoche ended the interview by saying that she found the S.A.I.N.T.S. to be "a blessing" besides all the problems. "...I thank my board. I praise them. I really do. I couldn't have done it without them," LaRoche said.

*The Caribbean Students  
Organization  
presents, April 14-16,  
our annual  
Caribbean Weekend Celebration.  
Anyone interested in participating in the show  
should contact:  
Alicia Phidd 2-3305, Maurice Bryan 2-  
4321 or Barbara Beckford 2-2012*

## NSAN

**Northeast Student Action Network  
SPRING GATHERING 1989  
is being held at Hampshire College  
April 14-16**

**Local Contact:  
Shoshanna Wingate  
2-4173**

**Hampshire Contact:  
Alex Vitale  
P.O. Box 876  
Hampshire College  
Amherst, MA 01002  
(413)549-4600  
Ext. 212**

—For Your Information—

# C.S.O. WEEKEND

## April 14th - 15th

### Friday:

Parade

Starting at  
11:00 A.M. in  
Eleanor

Roosevelt Quad to  
Student Union

Fire Side lounge events:

Food & Shirt Sale, Reggae  
& Calypso dance contest,  
African Dance Troupe Co.



### Saturday:

**FREE**

Cultural Show  
in Union Aud.

Starting at 7 p.m.

Party to follow

in Bi-Level

Music by...

D.J. Brad &

D.J. Bruce

#### ARTIST

- 1) Seduction
- 2) Vicki Martin
- 3) A Guy Named Gerald
- 4) De-La Soul
- 5) Maurice
- 6) Ten City
- 7) Sandee
- 8) Inner City
- 9) Baby Ford
- 10) Todd Terry

#### CUT

- 1) Seduction
- 2) Not Gonna Let You Go
- 3) Voodoo Ray
- 4) Jenifa
- 5) This Is Acid
- 6) That's The Way Love Is
- 7) Notice Me
- 8) Good Life
- 9) Chikki Chikki Ah Ah
- 10) Hard House

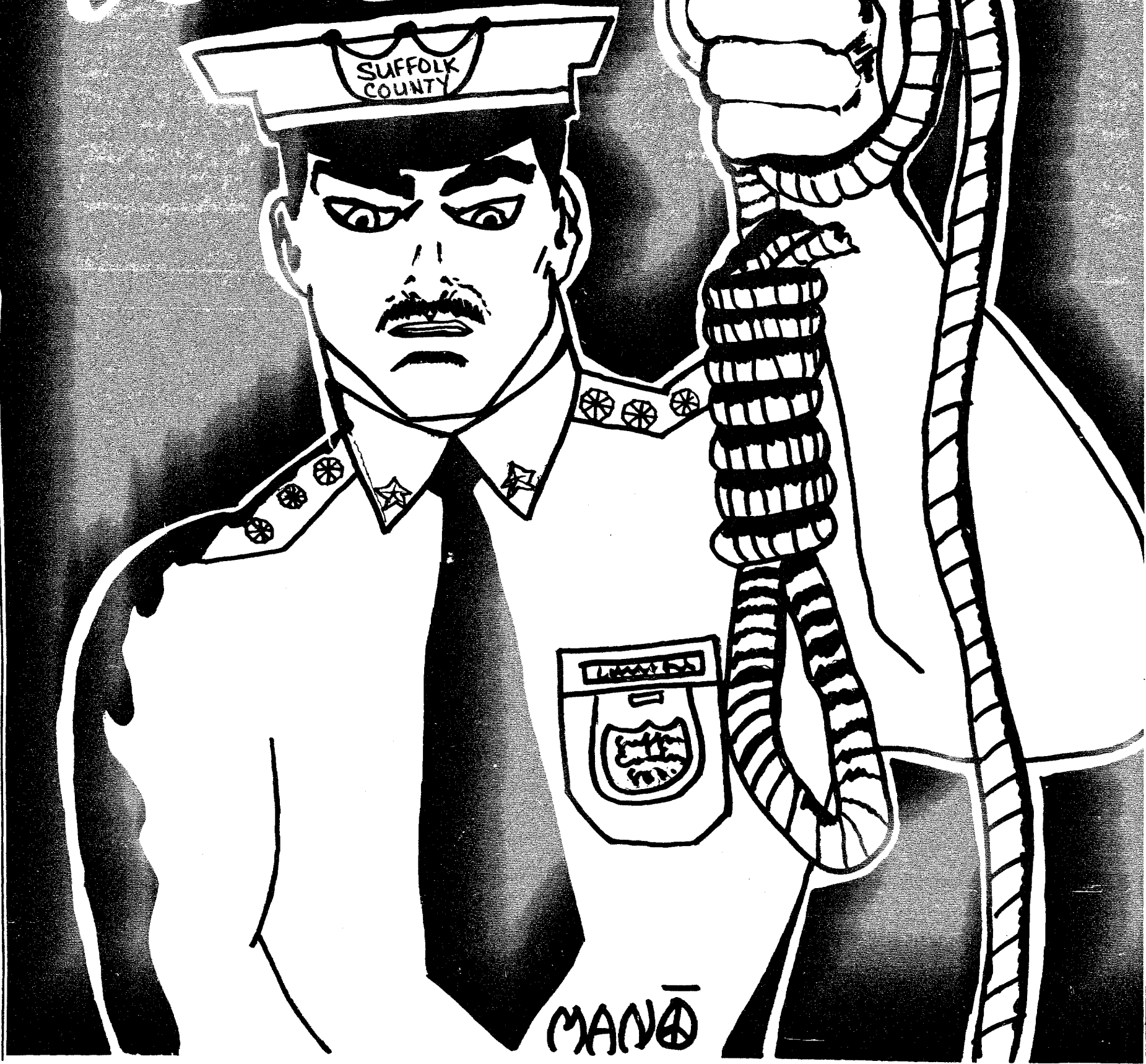
## CLUB USB TOP 10

Remember, if you want the best in House, Club, & Rap with a  
taste of Acid, Listen to Club USB every Thursday Night from  
12-3 a.m."





FOR AND JUSTICE  
FOR ALL?



MANO