



A STUDENT PUBLICATION -STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

BLACKWORLD



March 2007

ONE NATION

Volume XLV, Issue 2

SBU Returns to the Motherland



Students of the Study Aboard Program

BY KELLEN FELMINE
EDITOR IN CHIEF

During Stony Brook University's 2007 winter session, 25 students (including 1 from MIT and 1 from St. John's University) participated in a study abroad program to the University of Ghana. I was lucky enough to be one of the 25 students to embark on Stony Brook's first ever study abroad program in West Africa. While taking part in this program, the students went to several lectures based on the topics of Afrikan Literature, Culture, Traditions, Dance, and Drama. Each of these lectures was given by some of the best Professors that the University of Ghana had to offer.

The typical routine of the day for us started with waking up and eating breakfast. Afterwards we'd gather onto the bus to get dropped off at the lecture room. After arriving at the room, we would first be greeted by the University of Ghana's program director. He would then introduce us to the Professor and the topic of the lecture.

In the lecture on Afrikan culture, beliefs, and traditions by Professor Elom Dovlo, we discussed how the culture and traditions of our people in Afrika was quickly associated with evil and devil worship. Missionaries who came to Afrikan countries would set up schools in local communities and start, what I would refer to as, a brainwashing process. In these schools, Afrikans were prevented from speaking their own languages. If anyone was caught doing this, one of the following would happen. They would be publicly humiliated and embarrassed and/or receive a physical beating. This was one of the ways that began the methods of getting our people to stop from practicing our own traditions.

This was very damaging (one can still see the remnants in the present-day). These schools taught students from very young age. They were alienated from their way of life, and their people and heritage. When students went back home to their respective communities, they looked at their families and neighbors in a

different light. This was due to the inferiority complex that they were taught, and eventually internalized, at the missionary schools. (This is why I refer to it as a brainwashing process). It turns a person against his/her culture, his/her people, and him/herself. Dr. Walter Rodney stated in his book *How Europe Underdeveloped Afrika* that "Colonial schooling was education for subordination, exploitation, the creation of mental confusion and the development of underdevelopment."

The perversion of Afrikan culture and history was also done through the heavy use of religion. In our lectures at the University of Ghana, we also learned about the gross misconceptions of Afrikan religion, specifically regarding the issue of polytheism. We learned that Afrikans, rather, knew and believed in one God and not various gods. What we hear in the West is that Afrikans believed in various gods, like a wind god, a water god, an earth god, etc. However, this is not true. Afrikans believed that God is omnipotent. Therefore, if one praised

the wind, the water, or the earth one is praising God.

We also learned that even though there is one God, Afrikans believed that there were other gods or lower divinities. This is not at all out of place with Judaism or Christianity or any major monotheist religion that we are accustomed to. In the same fashion as those religions that have divinities that were appointed certain duties by God, (i.e. Angels, Holy Ghost, Prophets, etc) the same belief was there in Afrika. There was always an understanding that there was one almighty, all powerful God.

In one of our other lectures, we learned about Afrikan Literature. Professor K. Anyidoho was our lecturer for the two part series based on this lengthy topic. He began first by trying to get the students to look at literature from a different perspective. The societal norm is to think of literature as writing or text. However, in these lectures we learned that this is not necessarily true.

Continued on Page 3

FROM THE DESK OF EDITOR

Blackworld is Back!!

BY KELLEN FELMINE
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Welcome back everyone! Blackworld is back in business this semester with our Black History Month edition. I can say that this Black History Month here at Stony Brook has been an interesting one. Definitely a time with its pro's and con's. However, the major issue that has kept reoccurring to me is our status. "Where are we?" and "Why are we here?"

This is an issue that our people have been trying to tackle for many decades now. Some would say that we're on a road to salvation where all we need to do is "pick ourselves up by our boot straps" or that we're forever doom and we will never be able to change our situation. However, I agree with both and none at the same time.

We are at very dangerous times right now. The danger is the illusion of misperceptions. With the celebration of Black History Month, there is a focus on the Civil Right Movement and the accomplishments of that era. This is something every beneficial. However, the danger comes in when we belief that the fight or war is over. This also pertains to the Democratic presidential nominee, Barack Obama. The Black/Afrikan Senator from Illinois is been view as a serious and strong competitor for not only the presidential nomination, but also the presidency itself. Many may believe that with this happening that it would prove that the U.S. really has turned a new leaf in terms of its race relations and has become a racially equal society and

country. This is a very dangerous belief because it will without a doubt further lull our people deeper into sleep from the reality of our true situation.

So what is the reality of our situation? Are we really that bad off? My answer to that is yes, we are really that bad off. However, I do firmly believe that whenever a people decide to change the situation that they are in, they can generate the will and power to do so. The problem is that there is a division in our decisions, there is a division progression and movement, and most importantly there is a division in our unity.


As of my experience at Stony Brook, I have seen a lack of true unity among Black/Afrikan people. And as much as it has been told to all of us, it's shocking that there is a lack of caring about this. There is too much of this individualist "Do for myself only" mentality which is the reason why when the minuscule few of us who do "make it" never open doors for us "at the top". We can see this very easily on campus that we are not a lot of people and yet we walked divided without a sense of belong or brotherhood between ourselves.

At the ending of last semester it came to my attention that three Afrikan students from Nigeria were not allowed to participate in a Caribbean Pageant that is to be held in the spring of 2007 at Stony Brook. The organization in their defense stated that they wanted to keep their pageant "Caribbean" and it was something for them to celebrate their Caribbean heritage. The defense of the organization is valid and has points to it. However, I don't agree with it. When you break it down and analyze it, what is

Caribbean or Caribbean heritage without Afrika? What we know as the Caribbean (West Indies) culture, customs, heritage, etc... are basically Afrikan. From the foods we eat, to the music we listen to, to the dances we do, to the clothes we wear, is essentially very Afrikan. So why are we separating ourselves from the people and place which fundamentally make us ourselves. As Afro-Caribbean's we have a strong history and tradition of knowing our Afrikaness. From Marcus Garvey to Bob Marley (Jamaica) to Walter Rodney (Guyana) to Henry Sylvester Williams to Stokely Carmichael/Kwame Ture (Trinidad & Tobago), we know where we come from and we are about unity amongst of people from Afrika, to North & South America, to the Caribbean.

This is a shining example of our division. The exclusion of these students is only deepening the division we have amongst Black people. The only way that we'll ever start gaining anything to prosper is when we begin moving as one. It's like where one body, if the legs are moving in different directions they the body doesn't move at all or in the worst case the body falls.

Whether or not we believe that we're in a good or bad situation, we cannot deny that we have a lot of problems that are in our way from finally re-gain our rights and status as human beings in this country and the world. And until we start thinking as a group instead of an individual then we cannot accomplish this.

Celebrating 32 years! 
BLACKWORLD

Kellen Felmine
Editor-in-Chief

Mamusu Tucker
Managing Editor

Garvin Reid
Production Manager

Anthony Curry
Business Manager

Kalanne Ada
Secretary

Betty Bazile
Circulation Manager

Vacant
News Editor

Kalanne Ada
Entertainment Editor

Anthony Curry
Sports Editor

Basira Lawal
Photography Editor

Christopher Austin
Daniels Distant
Eric Antwi
Copy Editors

Eric Antwi
Office Manager

Dr. Peniel Joseph
Faculty Advisor
AFS 283

Contributing Staff Writers

Friedz Dixon
Stacy Gaberiel

Articles, letters, personals and poetry should be submitted to **BLACKWORLD** Newspaper, Room 072, Student Union, Stony Brook, NY 11794 or dropped in our USG mailbox located in SAC Rm 202. Emails are also accepted at bwnews@ic.sunysb.edu. Please include your full name address and daytime phone number.

BLACKWORLD newspaper
Room 072, Student Union
Tel: 631-632-6494
Fax: 631-632-4411
Email: bwnews@ic.sunysb.edu

Babies were
born to
be breastfed.

1-800-994-WOMAN www.4woman.gov
Or talk to your healthcare provider.



ART.
ASK FOR
MORE.

For more information about the
importance of arts education, please contact
www.AmericansForTheArts.org.



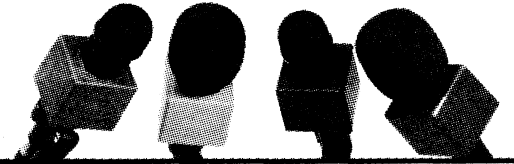
AC
ASSOCIATED
COLLEGIATE
PRESS

**RANKED 4TH IN THE NATION AMONG FOUR YEAR COLLEGE NEWSPAPERS,
ACCORDING TO THE ASSOCIATED COLLEGIATE PRESS (ACP).**

The Associated Collegiate Press is a division of the
National Scholastic Press Association.

The ACP is the largest and oldest national membership organization for
college student media in the United States.

Opinion & Editorials



The "N" Word

By MAMUSU TUCKER

MANAGING EDITOR

The word Nigger is a word that is deeply rooted in American history. Most people are not aware of the origin of the word. The Spanish word Negro comes from the Latin word Niger which means black. Nigger was actually a mispronunciation of the word Negro by white southerners. Use of the word became more prominent during the Civil Rights Era as whites used it to belittle blacks. During the 60s, whites openly disrespected black people by calling them this word as a way to make them feel inferior. The racist intent of this word became apparent as it was constantly used as a derogatory term against black people.

In today's society, many blacks have embraced this word as their own by making it a part of their daily vocabulary. The only difference now is the spelling with the replacement of the 'er' with an 'a'. Despite the history of the original word Nigger, many blacks use the word Nigga as a sign of respect or appreciation towards each other. Recently a site called Niggaspace was created as a type of spin-

off from the popular site Myspace. Tyrone, the creator of the site, claims he did not create it with negative intentions. "One of my intentions is for this word to no longer have such mixed emotions. Part of my intention for this site is for the word nigga to embody images of brotherhood, and fraternity rather than images of ignorance and hate." He stated that he did not create this site with negative intentions but a surge of opposition has risen. The creation of the site has led to many online groups against it, which includes a petition against the site.

In the past, black's fought to be treated with respect and yet now blacks use this word that holds so much hatred to each other. The word Nigger was meant to belittle blacks not lift them up but now, many claim that they use this word to change something that was once negative into something positive. How can a word that was negative be considered positive? This cannot happen because someone will always be offended by it. The history of this word can never be forgotten, just like how slavery can never be forgotten. Too many people lost their dignity and self respect

all because of this word. Imagine having to live in the 1960's. Let's say you were struggling to fight for your rights and you had a white person who thought nothing of you call you a Nigger and spit in your face. After an experience like that, you would hold no positive connection to that word, no matter how it was spelled. It seems as if many black people forget that as they continue to use it and use the excuse of "It doesn't mean the same thing anymore" or "It's spelt differently." Spelling in a word does not change the history. If that were the case why is it that if a white person were to say the word Nigga a majority of black people who use the word themselves would probably react angrily? There is very little logic in the spelling argument but it is what many people believe. This idea is also being reflected in the Hip Hop music we listen to today.

Many Hip Hop artists seemed to have established this word as the foundation of their music. Many rappers use the word Nigga in a majority of their songs. It is a word that is expected to be said from all hip hop artists, especially the artists who are main stream. The only exception to this unwritten rule is if the

rapper is white. Black artists use the word on a daily basis but if a white rapper were to say it even once, blacks would be offended (which many people feel is the reason white rappers such as Eminem do not use it in their lyrics). People who use the word claim that a black rapper has a right to say it but a white rapper does not because they are not allowed to.

No matter which way you put it, whether it is spelled differently or said by a white person, the word Nigger should not be used by anyone. There is no true justification in the use of the word, no matter if it has an "a" at the end of it. The word has a history of pain and discrimination and the use of it cannot be justified by changing a few letters around. Recently the New York City Council has symbolically banned the use of the word Nigger in all five boroughs. This was done in hopes of clearing the racial slur from music and television. Even though seems very unlikely that the ban will be effective, it is a step in a stand against a word that has caused many black people heartache. Maybe this will help more people see the negatively the word still holds for some people, no matter the spelling.

UNiversity of Ghana

Continued from Page 1

Most forms of literature have origins from the oral traditions before they are ever written. This is something that is true for all of the world's various peoples, even Whites/Europeans. We were given the example of the novel, the Odyssey. This is considered to be one of the greatest works in literary history. However, what many people don't know is that the Odyssey was a story that was orated in social gatherings for numerous generations. The only difference is that someone decided to write it down and put it in a book. It should be common knowledge that our people are and always been strong participants in the oral traditions. Therefore, it is important for us to know that oral stories, lectures, etc. is essentially literature in its purest and most natural form.

In addition to learning about the origins of literature, we learned about Afrikan literature in the typical way of thinking of it. We read some early Kemetic (Egyptian) Poetry from a book that contained a series of Kemetic poems. We also read more Afrikan poetry that dealt with the creation story

of the world, life, death, spirituality, and many more subjects of life.

However, not all of our lectures were based on the typical University topics like history, literature, etc. We also had lectures on Dance and Drama. Professor Martin Owusu led us in our lecture on Afrikan Drama. We learned about the different forms of Afrikan drama which are traditional, modern, and a third category that encompasses both the modern and the traditional drama art forms. There were also discussions of how drama has been a major part of the cultural and social life in Afrika. The important and key themes that we learned were the importance of drama in our people's society and the influence that it has. We watched documentaries and films that explored social such as polygamy, faithfulness & adultery, and AIDS.

Another non-typical lecture was our introduction to Afrikan Dance by Professor Asare Newman. This was one of our more hands on lectures to say the least. We learned about the social and cultural meanings and functions of dance. The dances that we learned were called the Abajacha. The Abajacha are traditional dances that are performed in Ghana during various

occasions including social gatherings, celebrations, mournings/funerals, rites of passage, etc.

In a series on lectures, the class participated in learning the several dances of the Abajacha. There were musicians present to play on the drums and iron instruments while we danced. Even Stony Brook's very own Dr. Floris Cash (Head of the Africana Studies Department) joined us in the Abajacha. At the end out of lectures, we had a final performance where we had to exhibit a knowledge and understanding of the dances.

Within a time span of 17 days, 25 students had to learn an array of various topics including our culture, traditions, literature, drama, and dance. This was definitely not an easy task, considering many external factors (i.e. the excitement of being in a new country, site seeing, shopping, jet lag, adjusting to the local ways). Never the less, things all fell into place and we all attained numerous jewels of knowledge and a priceless experience that we'll never forget.

*Place Your
Avertisement
here.*

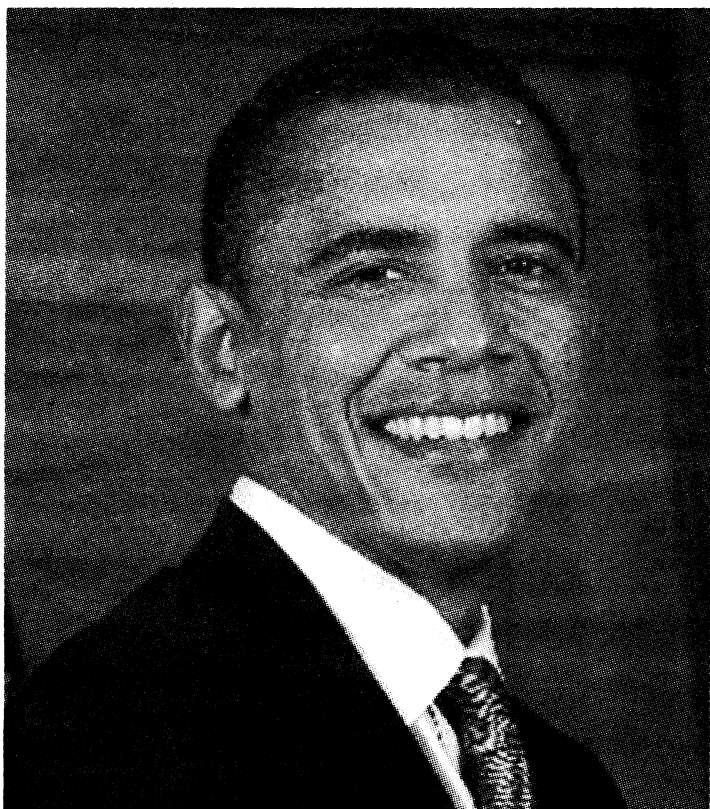
*Call us for
great deals*



BLACKWORLD

631-632-6494

Is The United States Ready for A Black President?



Barack Obama

BY KALANNE ADA
SECRETARY

One of the most important events for the United States is approaching. The 2008 Presidential Campaign is here with a long list of presidential hopefuls. A few of these names are familiar faces in politics such as Rudolph Giuliani; former mayor of New York City, John Edwards

the former vice presidential running mate with John Kerry in 2004 election, and Hillary Clinton, wife of Former President Bill Clinton and New York State senator. A candidate that seems to be making a lot of headlines these days is Senator Barack Obama. Obama is an African-American running for the highest position in the Federal government that has never been held by a black person, which is primarily due to racial issues that

have plagued the United States for a long time. Obama is not the first black person running for president. There was Alan Keyes who was not very well known and also Al Sharpton a fiery orator and activist against police brutality and racial injustices. What separates Obama from these two men is that he has a better chance of winning the election because

he has support from many people.

Barack Obama was born in Honolulu, Hawaii to Barack Obama, Sr. and Ann Dunham. His father was born and raised in a small village in Kenya and his mother grew up in a small town in Kansas. His parents met while attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa. When Obama was two years old, his parents divorced. His father later attended Harvard and eventually moved back to Kenya where he died in a car accident. His mother married an Indonesian foreign student and the family moved to Jakarta. He then returned to Honolulu to live with his maternal grandparents. His mother died later on in 1995 after the publishing of his book, *Dreams from My Father*.


Obama moved to New York, where he graduated from Columbia University in 1983. He put law school and corporate life on hold after college and moved to Chicago in 1985. There he became a community organizer with a church-based group striving to improve living conditions in poor neighborhoods afflicted with crime and high unemployment. The group had some success, but Obama decided that in order to improve lives in these communities, the local level was not enough, but changes had to be made in politics and law. He went on to earn his law degree from Harvard in 1991, where he became the first African-American president of the Harvard Law Review. Soon after, he

returned to Chicago to practice civil rights law as well as teach constitutional law. Finally, his hard work led him to run for the Illinois State Senate as a Democrat, where he served for eight years. In 2004, he became the third African American since Reconstruction to be elected to the U.S. Senate. Obama was an early critic of the Iraq war, speaking out against the likelihood of war several months before the March 2003 invasion. Ever since his election into the Senate, Obama has been one of the most visible players in Washington and a common face in the media. Time magazine has called him "America's hottest political phenomenon" and Oprah Winfrey encouraged him to announce his candidacy on her television show. But instead he launched his presidential campaign on the very spot where Abraham Lincoln once admonished the divisions created by slavery.

This presidential election will be watched vigilantly, because the candidates are from groups that have fought hard to gain equality in American history. Perhaps neither Hilary Clinton nor Obama will make it, but it will be interesting to see how far society has come with issues such as race and gender. These issues can not be avoided this election, and reactions of society will determine whether we have moved forward as a nation or if we are still divided.

EVERY 14 SECONDS, AIDS TURNS A CHILD INTO AN ORPHAN.

AIDS HAS CREATED 14 MILLION ORPHANS WORLDWIDE. TO HELP, CALL 866-AIDS-FUND OR GO TO APATHYISLETHAL.ORG. AIDS IS PREVENTABLE. APATHY IS LETHAL.

UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION 

Women of the Revolution



Angela Davis

BY STACEY GABRIEL

STAFF WRITER

The importance of Black Women to Black America in particular and America in general has always been a critical component in shaping the way this country works. Black Women (along side Black Men) are the foundation which makes this country strong. Our unique history demonstrates the influence we have had on this country and how strong a people we are. Throughout our struggles it has been Black Women who

has remained in the hearts of our people. From her strong personality to her determination, Black Women continue to strengthen the foundation in which our people have excelled.

In commemoration to Black women and all of their accomplishments, the sophisticated ladies of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. and the Steel and Velvet brothers of MALIK Fraternity Inc. presented a program entitled Mother's of the Revolution. The event was held on Feb. 13, 07. The goal of the event was to pay tribute and highlight Black Women

who were vital in causing, creating, or sustaining political, social, or cultural movements and revolutions. Also there were discussions about the importance of Black women's role in our society, reason behind why women's roles have not been mentioned, and are there any future mother's of the revolution?

Name ten influential Black Women aside from acting or singing, asked Bogusia Grzywacz, that are prominent figures today? A shy voice from the crowd answers, "Oprah, Condoleezza Rice, Maya Angelou, and I can't think of any other." Bogusia Grzywacz threw that question out to the crowd because she wanted to know why there are little known facts about the role of Black Women in America. Khari Robinson stated, "There are a lot of prominent black women doing a substantial amount of work for their community and their selves. We just don't hear about them because being a woman is a disadvantage in this male dominated world and being black is a double negative. It is as through we are not important enough to be heard."

History has proved that Black women have played vital roles in shaping the way this country works. From Harriet Tubman to Rosa Parks to Althea Gibson to Fannie

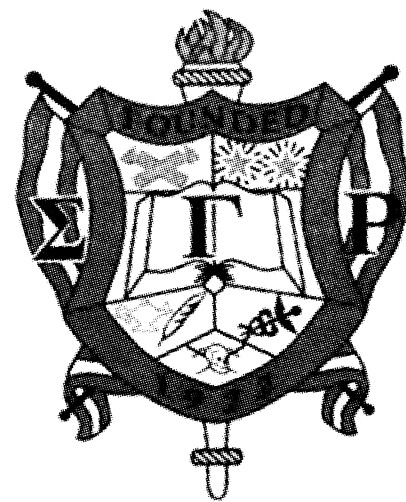
Lou Hamer to Eunice W. Johnson to Dorothy Height to Shirley Chisholm to Coretta Scott King to Betty Shabazz to

Ann Fudge to Mae Jemison to Alexis Herman to Condoleezza Rice to Maya Angelou, to Aretha, Halle, Oprah, Beyonce and to the everyday woman of today, the amount of work that Black Women have done is remarkable. Aishah Scott stated, "Although a lot of Black Women have paved the way for women like me to make it. Black Women have a weaker voice then white women. Oprah for example, is a very good role model for black women. Oprah is making changes and she is getting the job done, but in order to get my voice heard I have to work 10 times harder than the average white women."

Throughout history Black women have faced many obstacles and throughout our struggle one thing has remind the same Black women have amazing strength of the mind, body, and soul. We have an incredible determination and will stop at nothing to achieve our goals. In order for the contemporary Black women to be successful and to have a powerful voice in this country, states Saladin Davis, it takes the strength and courage of a strong Black man also. Black man and women have to work together. Genevieve Ukonu states "don't settle for anything and don't limit your self. Never let anybody tell you can't and never settle for less. Black women have to know the game and play the game to achieve their goals."



MALIK Fraternity Inc



Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc

BLACKWORLD NEEDS YOU

We Are Looking For A Few Good Men And Women To Join Our Team And Contribute

• **Writers** • **Photographers** • **Layout Staff** • **Circulation Staff**

If You Feel This Might Be You, Please Email Us At: bwnews@ic.sunysb.edu

Or Call Us at: **631-632-6494**

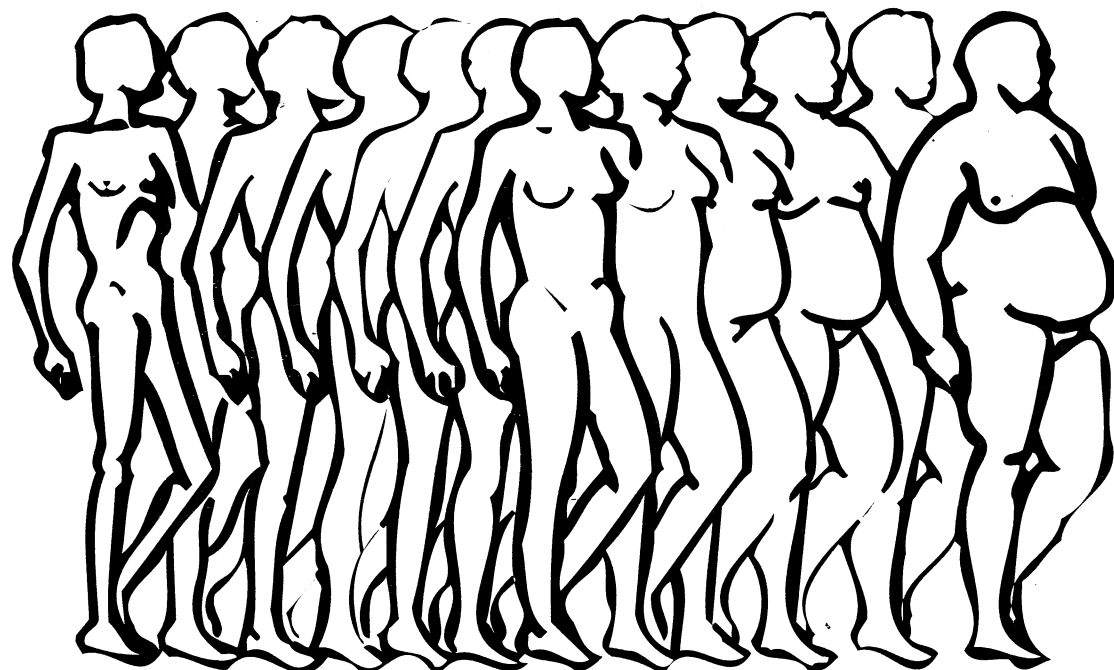




Health & Wellness



Eating Disorders



Anorexia
nervosa

Bulimia
nervosa

Developmental
Obesity

BY FRIEDA DIXON

STAFF WRITER

"It is not only a white girl disease," says Angelica Jones, referring to Bulimia Nervosa, an eating disorder marked by a binge-purge cycle of eating and vomiting. Ms. Jones, who traveled from Brooklyn, NY, along with other speakers, came out on Tuesday February 20, 2007 at 9pm to "discuss various eating disorders affecting the Black/Minority community." The event, "Eating Disorders in the African American Community" was held by Zeta Phi Beta Sorority INC. and included panelists from Stony Brook's Women's and Gender Center, C.H.I.L.L. peer educators, Women's track team and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, INC.

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. began their program with a brief explanation of why eating disorders are so prominent in the society today. The introduction included brief definitions, causes/influences, and effects of the three eating disorders, Bulimia Nervosa, Anorexia Nervosa and Compulsive or Binge eating. The program touched on the aspects of acculturation and unrealistic expectations of society and pressure from family, friends and peers. It addressed the subliminal messages of ideal body image portrayed through the "ever so popular" Barbie doll, who (if she were "real") would be 6'0 tall; weigh 101 lbs have a 39" bust, a 19" waist and 33" hips.

Marked with a more curvaceous body type, African American women are the farthest from the idealist image of an "American woman." They are seen as less likely to have an eating disorder

because (based on statistics) they are more comfortable with their body image compared to their Latina and White counterparts. Angelica Jones, who suffered with Bulimia for seven years and is currently living with a pacemaker partly because of it, announced that being from African American decent makes it much more difficult to seek help from family and friends because having an eating disorder is "stigmatized as a white girls' disease." This situation causes an intense feeling of misunderstanding, adding to the mental instability an individual might be already experiencing. On the contrary, the C.H.I.L.L. peer educator, who's Caucasian, said that her family responded with her Anorexia as if her having an eating disorder was not rare in their "community". She noted that they had known other people who suffered from the disease. Each of the panelists spoke about their own personal experiences with eating disorders or circumstances where they were forced to think about their weight.

The program continued with an open discussion of celebrity women who had lost and/or gained weight throughout their Hollywood career. Photos of Hollywood's own singer/songwriter/actress Beyonce Knowles, The Simple Life star Nicole Richie, former model/ TV host Tyra Banks, singer Kelly Price and comedian/actress Mo'nique were shown. A discussion of what men considered to be "sexy" and which picture portrayed that image the most (the slimmer picture of the female celebrity or the fuller image) had begun. The majority of the men who spoke up and voiced their opinion said that they preferred the

"thicker" Beyonce Knowles as opposed to the slimmer body. Many were disgusted by the photo of Nicole Richie's running on the beach, exposing her frail body in a white bathing (often found in many tabloid newspaper). "This is the picture of Nicole Richie that we have access to," said one of the host and members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority INC, referring to the picture of her in the white bathing suit. She continued with, "I had to literally type in fat Nicole Richie to get this picture of her"; an image of her at a normal body weight.

During this time, the discussion shifted for about 10 minutes turning to the topic of men and eating disorders. A panelist mentioned a friend who had been on the wrestling team and could only afford to "chew his food and spit it out" because he did not want any calories that might cause him to move up in a weight category. "And he's a boy..." someone on the panelist added, emphasizing the amount of pressure that is put on women to stay thin. An audience member and former football player added that he had never encountered a male with eating disorders, but he did know of many football players (mainly Quarterbacks) who ate large amounts of food to keep their weight up for their position.

There were a few times when the audience got the opportunity to speak about their own person experience or answer questions proposed by Zeta Phi Beta Sorority INC. or the panelists themselves. The audience was asked to recall their first experience that caused them to become aware of their weight or when it first became an issue. They responded with many different situations referring to cheerleading, sports, and

entering high school or college. Toward the very end of the program, the audience was asked their opinions on what could be done to help out with the issue of eating disorders in America. There were many responses along the lines of promoting awareness of eating disorders, attempting to change/correct the current expectation of body image, educate people on eating disorders, and providing "help services" for those who are already suffering. However, one panelist made it specific when she suggested or rather, "demanded" that awareness and education of eating disorders begin with younger girls (in her case age seven would have helped), suggesting that it is never too early to talk about eating disorders. One might ask, "How do young girls even know what eating disorders are or what being 'fat' is?" After watching television, listening to the radio and surfing the internet, one will realize that there are seven and eight year old girls complaining of being "fat", teens in fashion shows fainted from "exhaustion", families forcing their children to go on diets and plenty of Hollywood teens stars who obviously are not getting the adequate nutrients they need to look like they are "alive". Once you've come to these realizations, it is hard to argue against the panelist some what "radical" idea.

Colon Cancer.
Get the test.
Get the polyp.
Get the cure.

Colon cancer almost always starts with a polyp. Get the polyp early and stop colon cancer before it even starts.

1-800-ACS-2345 or cancer.org



© 1999, National Crime Prevention Council

Her universe is about to explode... with possibilities.



**LESS CRIME IS
NO ACCIDENT**

It takes you — and programs that work.

Call 1-800-WE PREVENT and we'll send you a free booklet on how you and your community can keep kids away from crime and crime away from kids.

1-800-WE PREVENT

www.weprevent.org

Is it Culture or Cruelty?

BY ANTHONY CURRY

BUSINESS MANAGER B

Regarding female circumcision, this became the question of one of the many informative programs of the Spring 2007 semester so far. Hosted by Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Incorporated on February 6, 2007 in the Student Activities Center Room 305, this program in detail discussed the African Awareness issue of female circumcision and how it affects the African countries that take part in this practice in both positive and negative aspects.

Female circumcision, also known as Genital Cutting or Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), is defined as the cutting or removal of any part of the female genitalia. There are three main forms of female circumcision. One being Clitoridectomy which is the cutting or splitting of the clitoral hood (similar to the removal of the foreskin on the male genitalia), Another being Excision which includes Clitoridectomy plus the partial or total removal of the labia minora (the inner lips of the external part of the vagina), and lastly Infibulation which includes both processes above and the removal of the outer labia. After this process, what is left of the vagina sewn together leaving only a pencil size opening for urination and menstrual flow.

The African countries that perform this act in great numbers are Somalia, Egypt, The Sudan, and Ethiopia just to name a few. The prevalence of this practice is also in other countries such as the Arabian nations, South America, Indonesia, and Asia.

So you may be asking yourself "What is the big deal?, Why is this practice questioned?, and/or Why should we as citizens of a country who do not participate in this practice care?" Well, here are the answers. The issue of this practice coincides with the many deaths that are taken place in result of this extremely painful procedure. With the unhealthy conditions in which this procedure is being done under and the possible inexperienced individuals who perform the procedure, death is sometimes inevitable. In some cases which were shown through a video at this excellent program, the only tool that was used to perform this act was a simple razor blade nothing else.

In regards to our second question, this act is done to young girls whom are approaching the age of puberty or who already begun going through puberty. There are reasons in which range from various thoughts, ideas, and criticisms throughout the societies that perform these acts. In Africa, contrary to what many believe, this process is not for

religious reasons or religious customs. Cultural and Social customs are the backbone of this process. Due to the fact that the men in these societies hold higher hierarchy above the woman, this process is mostly enforced by them for reasons such as to make sure that "their" woman are not going to have sex until marriage or so that woman can not enjoy their sexual experience in anyway, shape, or form vaginally. Other dominated male reasons are so that woman will not freely want to engage in adultery or act of having many sexual partners before or after marriage.

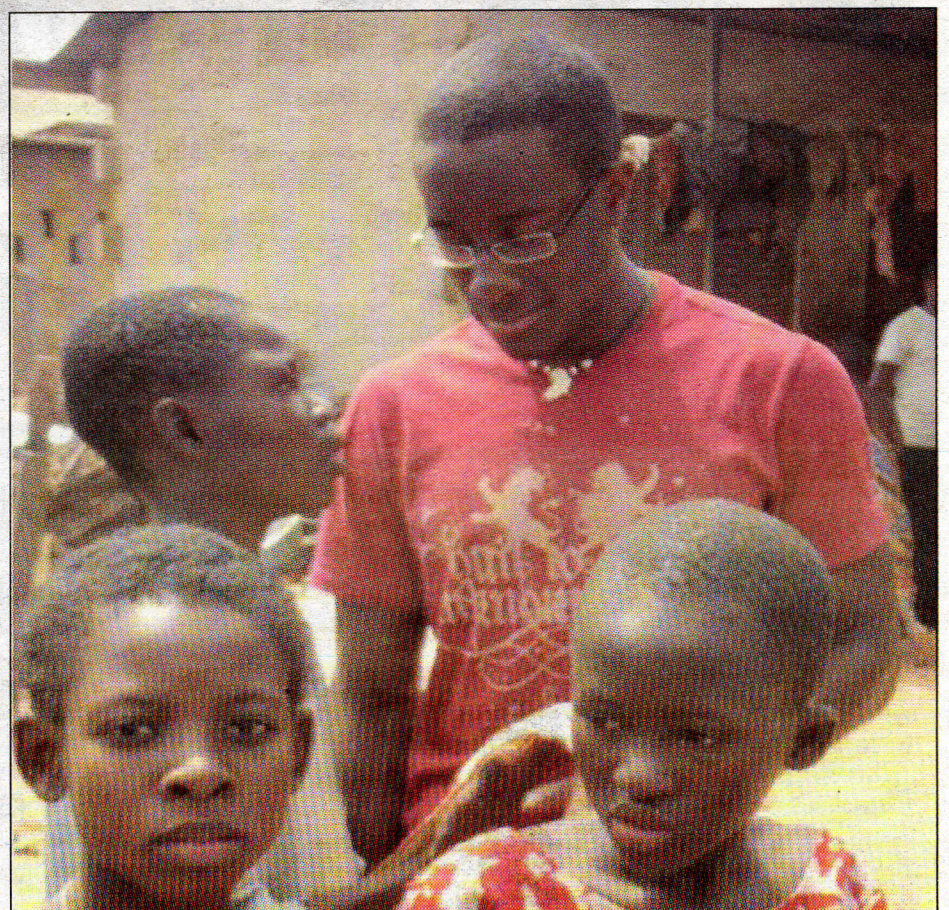
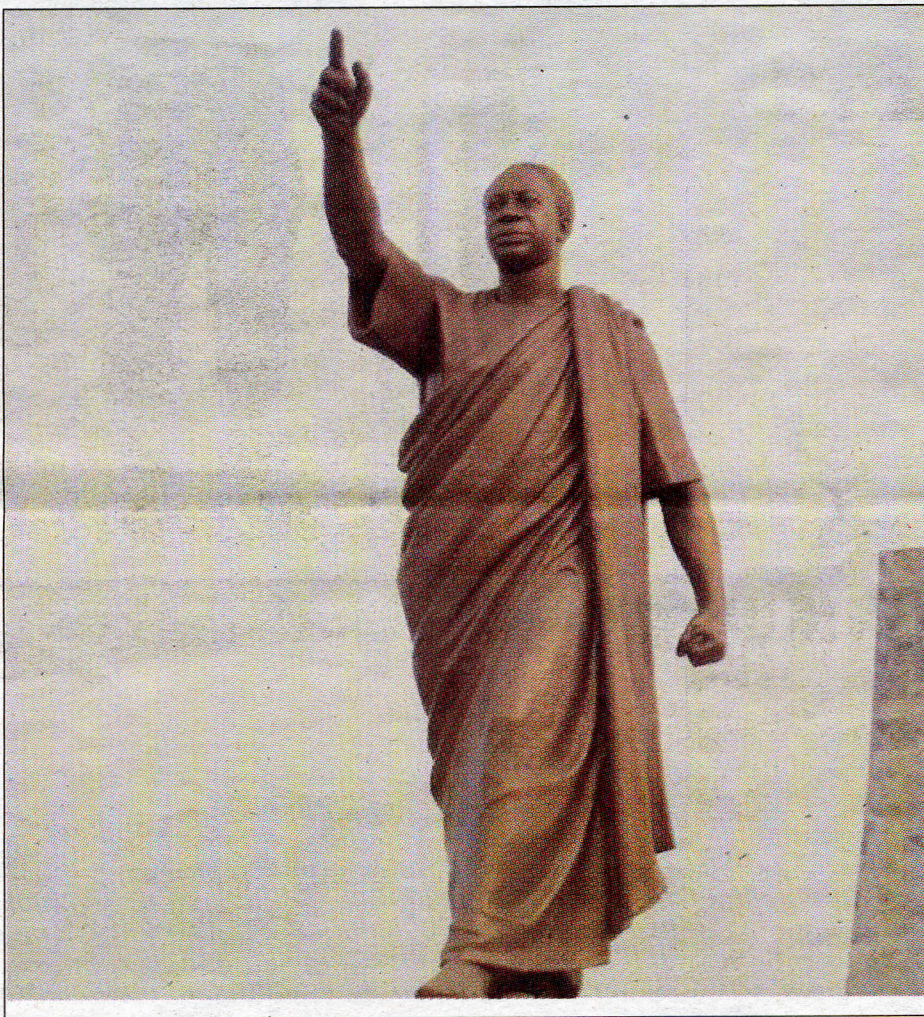
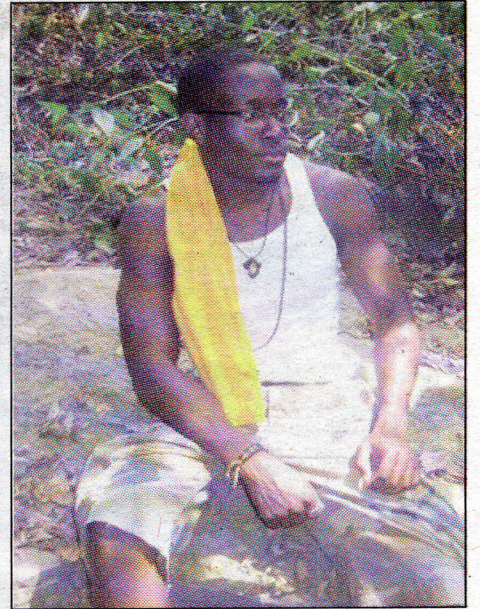
Culturally, due to the fact that this procedure has an abundant amount of history and ancestry, many women feel as if it is their obligation and duty as woman of these societies to go through with the circumcision. If they refuse, they may possibly be shunned or excommunicated from their society due to this cultural custom. Some women see this process as a form of maturity into woman hood and prerequisite for marriage. After the process is successfully completed, there is a celebration throughout the entire society in which encourages those who have not received their circumcision to do so.

Successful completion of the process is not always the case though. For many unfortunate women, celebration after the

process is not applicable due to complications which lead to death. Substantial amount of women die from infections and excessive bleeding as a result of this procedure. This is where the titled question of this program takes into great effect and discussion. Is it culture or cruelty? As citizens of a culture who does not participate in such customs, the answer to this question shown through the gallery members of the program varies on both sides of the coin.

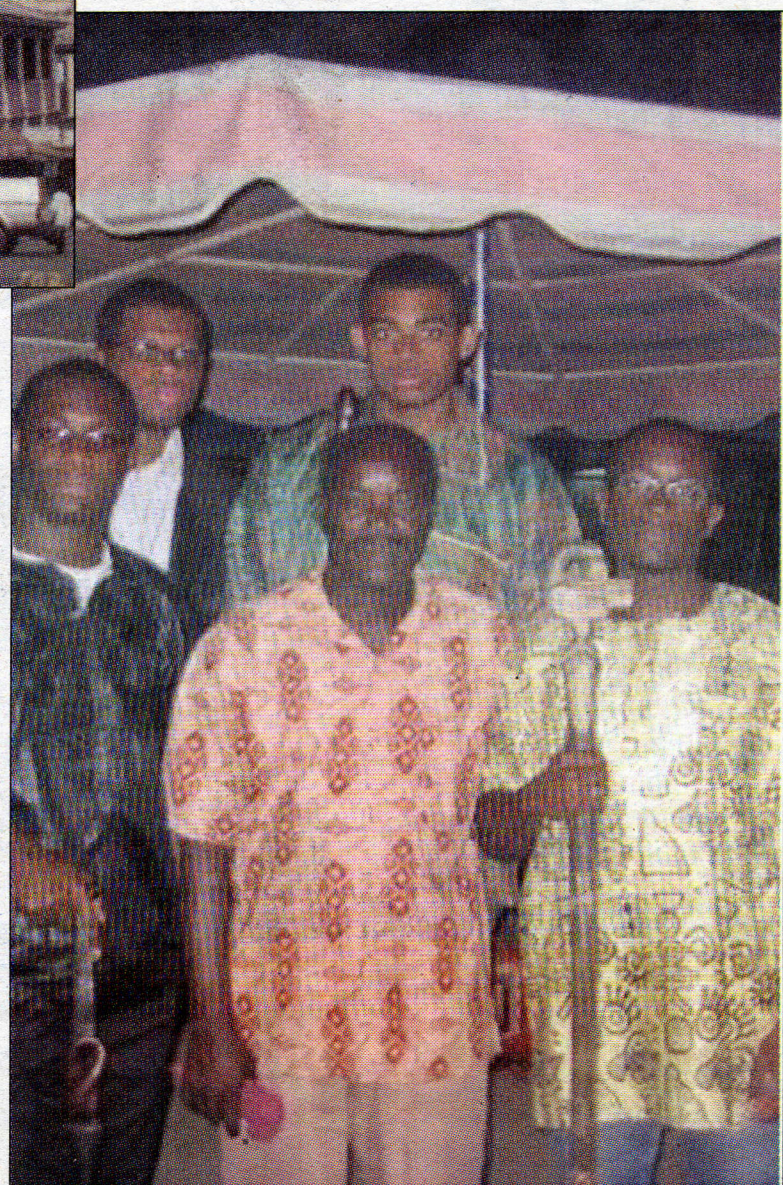
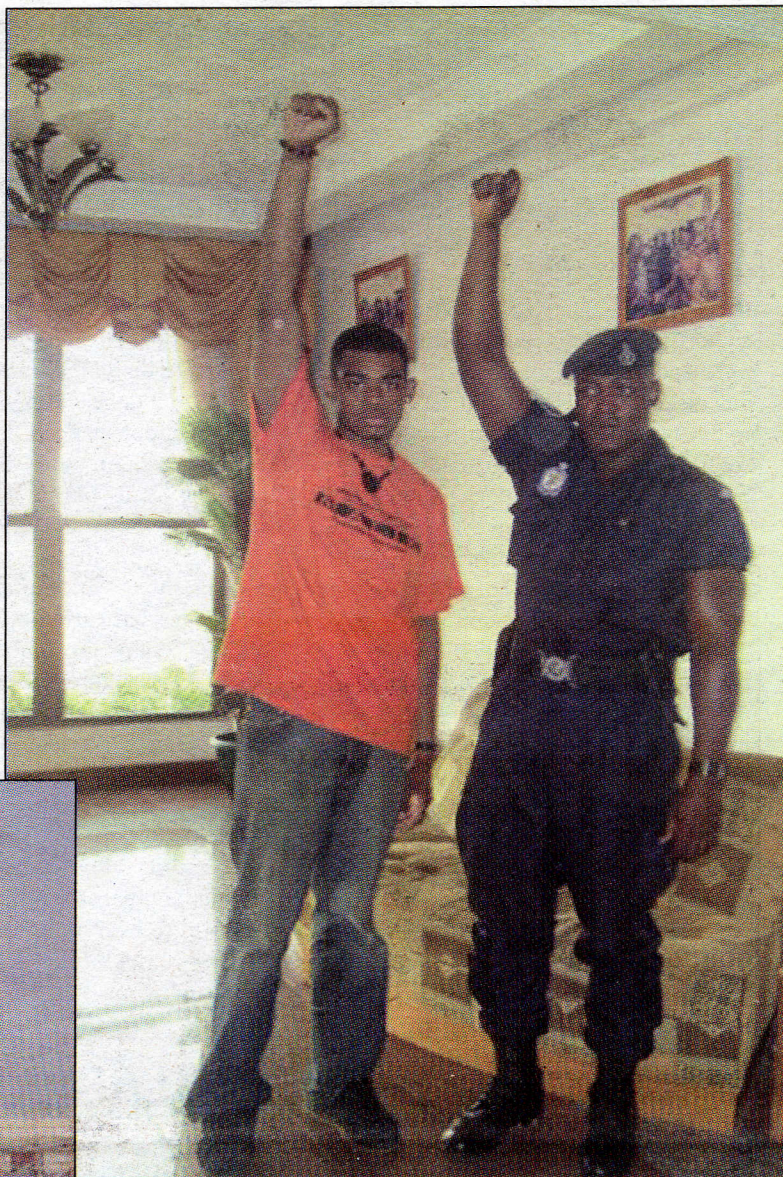
Awareness of this issue of culture or cruelty is influenced greatly. Although this may not affect this civilization of citizens of America directly, it affects the civilization of the human race due to the death of many innocent and young women. Regardless of how this procedure may be categorized, it will be beneficial to these societies to share the medical knowledge that may possibly decrease the increasing casualties as a result of these circumcisions. Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Incorporated, along with others who were in discussion, successfully informed those who attended this great program. Hopefully this awareness will encourage those to act upon what they have been informed about and protect these women from these unnecessary deaths.

GHANA STUDY



Images of SBU students from the Study Aboard Program at the University of Ghana, Winter 2007.

ABOARD 2007



MALCOLM X

BY ERIC ANTWI
OFFICE MANAGER

On Wednesday, February 21, there was a Vigil held for Malcolm X on the anniversary of this death. This memorial service was an interesting presentation of different views and interpretations of Malcolm's life. Although historical demonized in the media, many came in support of his memory and what his life represents to so many today. His rough and distasteful background has inspired many people with less than perfect experiences to still be inspired and uplift themselves. A general theme that seemed to float around the room was awareness. Being informed and aware of one's environment seemed to be something everyone could agree about.

There was a multi-racial turnout and many found something to say in memory of how he lived. However, there were things that did not Malcolm represent. Malcolm believed himself to be a field Negro in comparison to the house Negro, which on occasion he would imply Martin Luther King Jr. to be. There opposing views in how to approach racial tensions is well documented. Malcolm, being from a background of familial instability and violence, he dealt with

racial violence ending the life of his father and ultimately destroying his home. His mother had a mental breakdown for reasons unknown, early memories that would forever scar young Malcolm. He fell into cocaine usage and soon his life took a spill and he wound up in prison where he would served several years. However, something valuable came of his experience in prison and he educated himself and converted himself to Islam. This is the transformation that allows someone today experiencing extreme circumstances the courage and determination to uplift themselves. On the other hand, Martin Luther King Jr. came from a better ideal background. Growing up in a suburban and uncommonly middle-class African American background, Martin was provided an arguably higher intellectually challenged background. Violence and instability were less present in Martin Luther King Jr.'s social atmosphere, and this reflects the different methods of approach.

Regardless of any dispute on where one would view Malcolm X, his undeniable presence in black culture is a testament to everything that he did. His approach, much like King's, was the social uplift of the black community.

Malcolm's view of how the racial situation in America in reflection of King was "You'd better give this man what he wants. If you don't, you'll have to deal with me." As the violent reflection and resort of a black community demanding equal social opportunities and recognition of the imbalances in the system, there is some truth in the ideals held by Malcolm. Violence and resistance has been very necessary tool for disputes of liberty, for most things worth having are difficult to acquire. The Black Panther party, an attributed result of the aftermath of Malcolm's death, demonstrates a social response to the ideals held by X.

X, an acknowledgement of his unawareness of his true last name and rejection of his slave attribution. The X represents a sign of the unknown. In algebraic equations, X is used as a variable of the unknown. Later changing his name to Malik Shabazz, he continued to pioneer further towards the goal of Black Nationalism. Thanks to MALIK Fraternity Inc, an organization obviously influenced by his social presence, Malcolm was allowed a small but well deserved meeting of recognition.

*Place Your
Advertisement
here.
Call us for
great deal*

BLACKWORLD

631-632-6494



BLACKWORLD

INVITES YOU TO OUR GENERAL BODY MEETING

ON MONDAYS AT 8 PM.,

IN THE STUDENT UNION ROOM 072

**Placement is everything.
SEE YOU THERE!!**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN WRITING, TYPING, DISTRIBUTION, COMPUTER LAYOUT, CREATIVE ARTS, AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT, BECOME INVOLVED IN THE **4TH BEST PAPER IN THE NATION** ACCORDING TO THE ASSOCIATED COLLEGIATE PRESS (ACP)

POSITIONS STILL AVAILABLE:

Advertising Mgr • Webmaster • Illustrator • Staff Writers



**Colon Cancer.
Get the test.
Get the polyp.
Get the cure.**

Colon cancer almost always starts with a polyp. Get the polyp early and stop colon cancer before it even starts.

1-800-ACS-2345 or cancer.org



Poetry in Motion

MY PEOPLE by the Last Poets



My people are Black, beige, yellow
Brown and beautiful
A garden of life
with a love as sweet as scuppernong wine
growing in muddy waters
making brown babies with
pink feet and quick minds
My people warm sometimes hot
always cool always together
My people let's be together
understand that we've lived together
understand that we've died together
understand My brother that I've
smelled your piss in my hallway
and it smell just like mine
understand that I love your woman
my sister and her rare beauty
is reason enough for a revolution
yes sister my honest sister
I have had ugly moments with you
but you are the only beauty I've ever
known
Yes sister my honest sister
you are the joy in my smile
you are the reality of my dreams
you are the only sister I have
and I need you
I need you to feed the children
of our race
I need you to feed the lovers of our race
I need you to be the summer of my
winters

I need you because
you are the natural life in the living
at night there is a moon
to make the Blackness be felt
I am that Blackness
filling up the world
with My soul
and the world knows me
You are that moon
my moon Goddess shining down light
on my Black face
that fills the universe
My moon I am your sun
and I shall take this peace
of light and build a world
for you my sister
Sometimes the waters are rough
and the hungry tide swallows the shore
washing away all memories
of children's footsteps
playing in the sand
where is the world I promised my son?
must he push back the tide
and build the world
that I have rapped about
Am I so godly until I forget
what a man is?
Am I so right until
there is no room for patience
My brother Oh in brother
father of a son
father of a warrior

My brother the sun
My brother the warrior
Be the beginning and the end
for my sister
Be the revolution for our world
turn yourself into yourself
and then onto this disordered world
and arrange the laughter for joy
the tears for sorrow
Turn purple pants, alligator shoes
leather jackets, brown boots
polka dot ties, silk suits,
Turn miniskirts, false eyelashes,
red wigs, afro wigs, Easter bonnets,
bellbottoms turn this confusion
into Unity Unity
so that the sun will follow
our foot steps in the day
so that the moon will glow
in our living rooms at night
so that food, clothing, and shelter
will be free
because we are born free
to have the world as our playground
My people.

"My People" was then, and still is, one of my favorite poems. I feel I have covered the strength, the tenderness, the glory, the truth as well as an ideology that we as a people should work toward."
- Abiodun Oyewole



COMING ATTRACTIONS

MOVIES IN MARCH:



Blades of Glory

Starring: Will Ferrell, Jon Heder, Will Arnett, Amy Poehler, more cast
Directed By: Josh Gordon, Will Speck
Released By: Paramount
Run Time: 93 min.
Genre: Comedy, Coming Soon
Rating: PG-13

Will Ferrell, John Heder, and Will Arnett headline this high concept comedy concerning two male figure skating rivals aching to compete despite having been banned from the sport as a result of a nasty row at the 2002 Winter Olympics. When they discover a loophole that will allow them to perform together in the pairs figure skating category, they determine to put their differences aside.

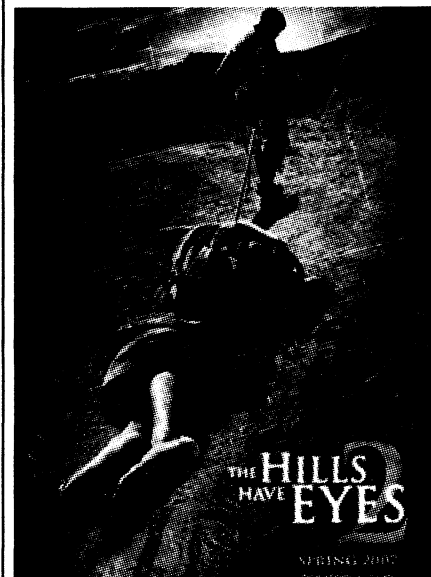
Shooter

Release Date: March 23, 2007
Run Time: 2 hr. 4 min.
Rating: R - strong graphic violence and some language
Cast: Mark Wahlberg, Michael Pena, Danny Glover, Kate Mara, Elias Koteas
Director: Antoine Fuqua

Synopsis: Marksman Bob Lee Swagger (Mark Wahlberg) leaves the military after a mission goes horribly awry. Pressed back into service, he is betrayed, again. Now, wounded and the subject of a massive manhunt, Swagger plots revenge against some of the most powerful individuals in the nation.



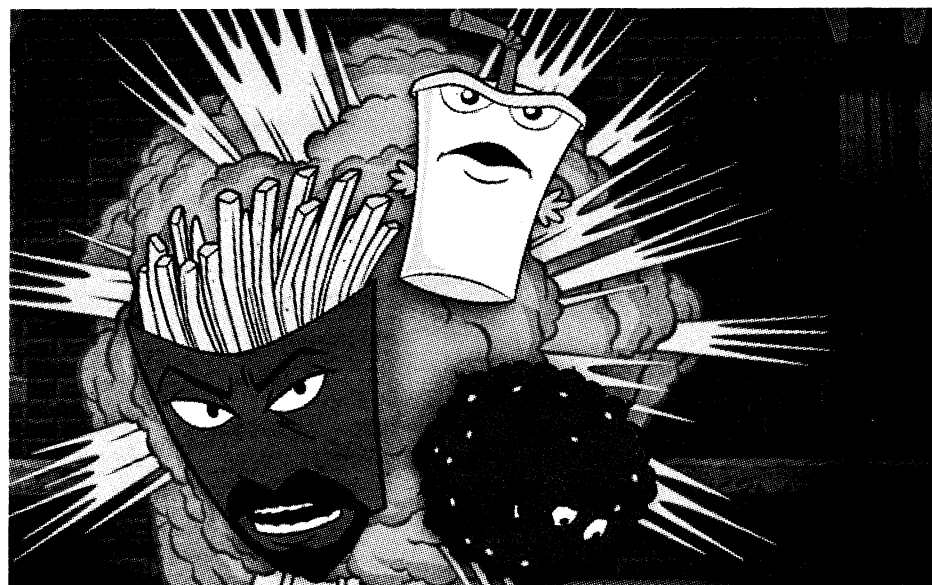
The Hills Have Eyes 2



Release Date: March 23, 2007
Run Time: 1 hr. 29 min.
Rating: R - prolonged sequences of strong gruesome horror violence and gore, a rape and language
Cast: Michael McMillian, Jacob Vargas, Flex Alexander, Lee Thompson Young, Eric Edelstein
Director: Martin Weisz
Genre: Horror

Synopsis: During a routine patrol of the New Mexican desert, members (Michael McMillian, Jessica Stroup, Daniella Alonso) of a National Guard unit stop at a deserted research camp. Picking up a distress signal emanating from a mountain range, they set out to investigate, unaware that a tribe of vicious, cannibalistic mutants awaits their arrival.

COMING IN APRIL

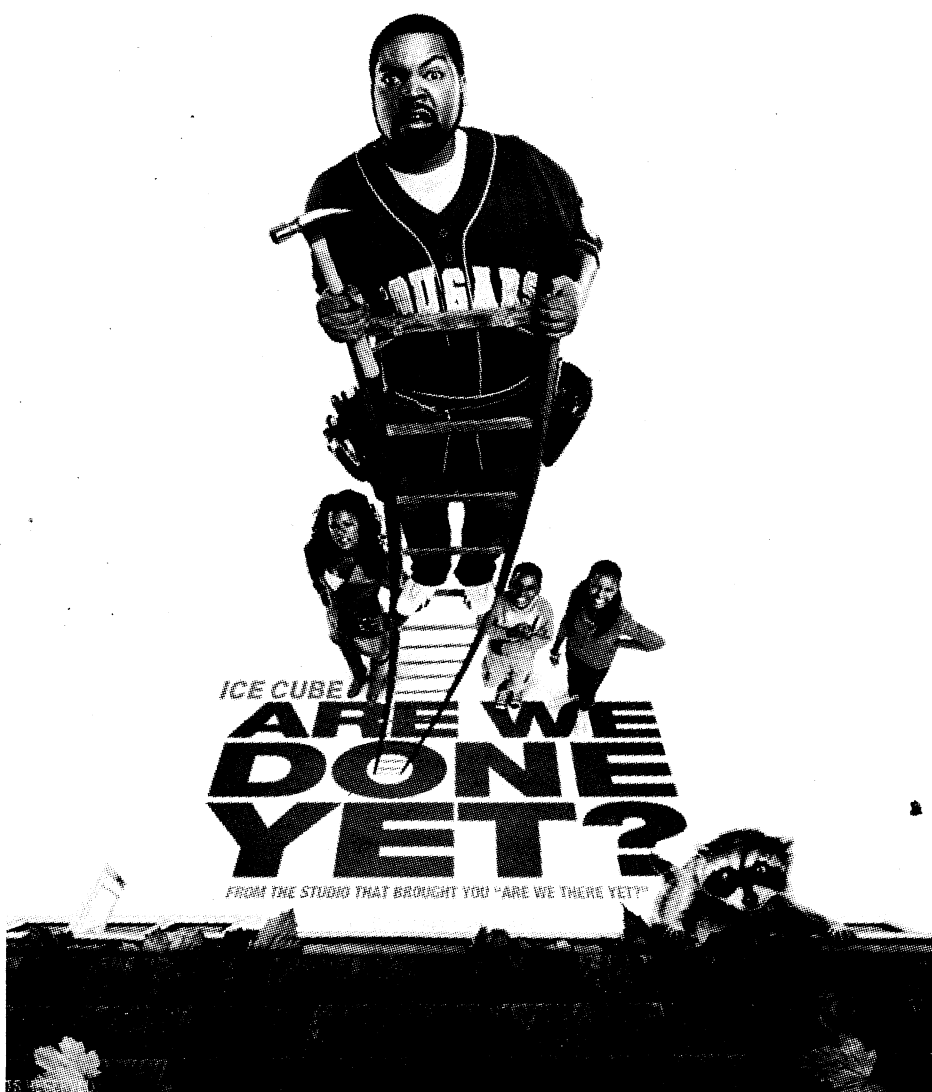


Aqua Teen

Starring: Matt Maiellaro, Dana Snyder, Dave Willis, Carey Means, more cast
 Directed By: Matt Maiellaro, Dave Willis
 Released By: First Look
 Run Time: 87 min.
 Genre: Comedy, Animation,
 Rating: R
 Meatwad, Frylock, and Master Shake team up for their biggest adventure yet in this animated feature that finds the popular Adult Swim trio pursued by an immortal piece of exercise equipment that poses a severe threat.

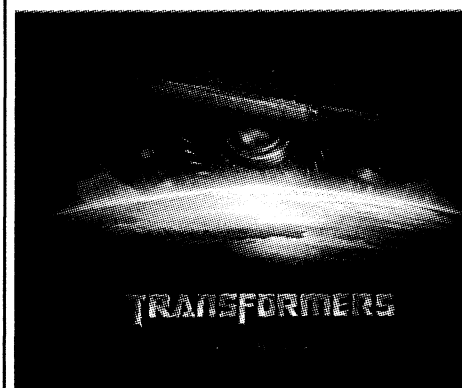
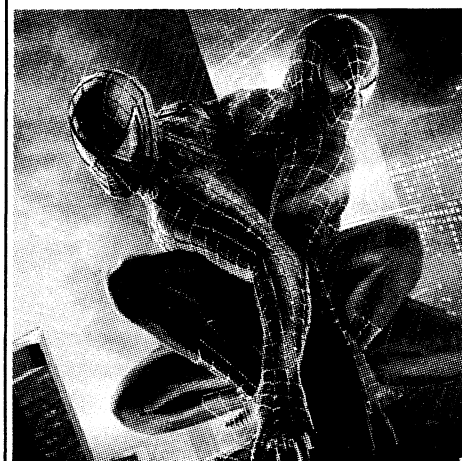
Are We There Yet?

Starring: Ice Cube, Nia Long, Aleisha Allen, John C. McGinley, more cast
 Directed By: Steve Carr
 Released By: Sony
 Run Time: 92 min.
 Genre: Family and Children, Comedy,
 Coming Soon



Having decided to ditch the city in favor of the suburbs, a newly-formed family purchases a quaint "fixer-upper" that proves to be more trouble than they could have ever anticipated in a rollicking family comedy that's half-sequel to Are We There Yet?, and half-remake of Mr. Blanding's Builds His Dream House. ~ Jason Buchanan, All Movie Guide

COMING THIS SUMMER



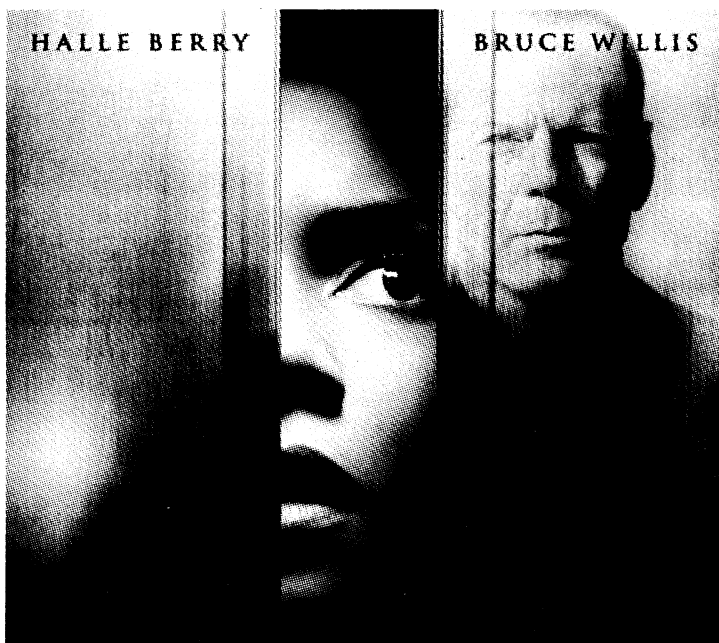
COMING IN 2008:

Speed Racer



Directed By: Andy Wachowski, Larry Wachowski
 Released By: Warner Bros.
 Genre: Family and Children, Action and Adventure
 Rating: NA

The Matrix masterminds Andy and Larry Wachowski usher anime icon Tatsuo Yoshida's classic 1960s-era hit into the new millennium with this family-friendly story of a young racecar driver who takes on the mysterious Racer X in a custom-made, gadget-loaded speed machine named the Mach 5. ~ Jason Buchanan, All Movie Guide



Perfect Stranger

Release Date: April 13, 2007
 Run Time: 1 hr. 49 min.
 Rating: R - sexual content, nudity, some disturbing violent images and language
 Cast: Bruce Willis, Halle Berry
 Director: James Foley
 Genre: Suspense/Thriller

Synopsis: Rowena Price (Halle Berry), a reporter, uses her investigative skills to solve the murder of a friend. Her search leads her to Harrison Hill (Bruce Willis), a high-powered advertising executive. She assumes new identities in the real world and online, utilizing cyberspace in a bid to bring her quarry to justice.

Black History Month Eassy Contest Winner



BY LATOYA JOYNER

Oprah Winfrey once said "The biggest adventure you can ever take is to live the life of your dreams". Winfrey's quote explains why she is a role model for many African American women today. She represents black women who are disadvantaged in society due to sexism and racism. However her perseverance and endurance to overcome these obstacles is remarkable. Her life has not always been surrounded with glamour; in fact she grew up in the midst of poverty and sexually abusive relatives. I believe her quote inspires people to make dreams a reality instead of leaving them in their fantasies. In all actuality, I am not sure what Winfrey's dreams may have been but I do know that her commitment to education and giving back to others is a reflection of my dreams.

We as society should duplicate Winfrey's philanthropic deeds. In December 2002, The Oprah Winfrey Foundation founded a project that included orphanages and rural schools in South Africa where 50,000 children

received gifts of food, clothing, athletic shoes, school supplies, books and toys. Sixty-three rural schools received libraries and teacher education. Her recent initiative included building a school in South Africa. She created The Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls—South Africa, which opens in January 2007. Her vision is that the Leadership Academy will help develop the future women leaders of South Africa. This vision inspires me as an African American woman to better myself and my community.

My ultimate dream has been to visit Africa. In the winter of 2007, I was able to make my dream to go to Africa a reality. The International Academic Study Aboard department and Africana Studies Department held its first study abroad voyage to West Africa, the country of Ghana. We were able to take courses that educated us about the history and culture of Ghana. None of these courses fully prepared me for the authentic cultural experience I was about to engage in. The connections that I made with the people of Ghana transcended all of the cultural and social barriers that existed. I was able to immerse myself and appreciate the beauty of Ghanaian culture by adopting

their style of dress, dance, and even by changing my name. I had the fortune of learning that since I was born on Wednesday, according to the Akan people of Ghana my name would be Amma. We also had the privilege of visiting an orphanage there. No words can explain the happiness that overwhelmed me that day. The children took me back to an age that seemed so long ago to me. I never could imagine being a child again but that day my worries and self conscious feelings that most adults have now vanished the moment I looked into their eyes. I was able to be the child I never was. I was given the playmates I never had. I played hand clapping games as though I had done this all of my life. I was not an adult to them but rather another giddily mate focused on not messing up the hand clapping movements that were moving through all of our bodies. As my hand moved so did the next child and as it got more intense our laughter increased and the world as I formally knew it disappeared. Before I knew it an imaginary ball was floating through the air. The children that I saw running with the imaginary ball were also former college students like me but they also adopted this new persona. The ball continued to float in the air and the children ran wildly after it and eventually it fell into my hands. As I tried to run from the kids chasing me for the ball I threw it to another child. As I sat in the bus ready to go back to the campus I was completely satisfied with my life at that moment. My worries slipped my mind and the idea that these children did not have parents to go home to also crept away my mind. All of these misfortunes escaped my mind and pleasure and happiness filled my heart.

Through the study abroad program and education I was able to make my life long dream of going to Africa a possibility. Oprah also used education to reach her dreams of becoming one of the most well respected women, philanthropist, motivational speaker and role model of the 21st century. She has made it her civic responsibility to give back to others by creating the Academy for Girls in South Africa and I feel like this has also become a goal of mine. My sisters of Lambda Theta Alpha, Latin Sorority Incorporated and I recently organized a large scale social event of Speed Dating to raise money for the underprivileged children that I met in Ghana. A simple recreational and festival activity on a college campus was able to

translate into a global and international cause. My initial dream of visiting Africa transformed into a larger visionary goals of giving back to people all over the world. I feel that I am able to live Winfrey's quote because through education I was able to expand my dreams and raise my ambitions to achieve them. Coming from an economically disadvantage household learning about Africa from a textbook was my only option. Higher education allowed me to visit Africa and help others there. This inspired me to encourage other individuals to visit and see different countries. I was able to motivate students like me to live their dreams by visiting other countries through the study abroad program. During Black History Month, the international study abroad department and Africana studies department held an event where students from Ghana shared their experience about visiting the country. Many of my peers who initially never saw themselves visiting another country were able to identify with me and I was then able to encourage them to take advantage of all opportunities and also make their dreams a reality.

I believe it is important that we build bridges across the sea that separates Africa from America. We need to free our minds from the mental slavery that causes us to create and sense of superiority and security in America. Too many times we are blinded by the negative racial stereotypes that characterize Africa. Once we reject these false notions of Africa we can cross the bridge that some people had the courage to build. Oprah was one of the few people to build a bridge to Africa. She is very wealthy and successful but she never forgot about people who are less fortunate than herself. I am inspired by the bridge that Oprah has created and this is one of the many reasons why I wanted to go to Africa. I wanted to interact with people who are less fortunate than myself and give back. In America we are given a false sense of superiority and security and we tend to forget about those who are suffering and unable to enjoy the simple luxuries we take for granted. I am now able to build the bridge that will connect these two continents. My experience, knowledge and new perspective on life will help me to encourage my fellow peers to build their bridges across the sea that separates us from other continents.

BLACKWORLD NEEDS YOU

We Are Looking For A Few Good Men And Women To Join Our Team And Contribute

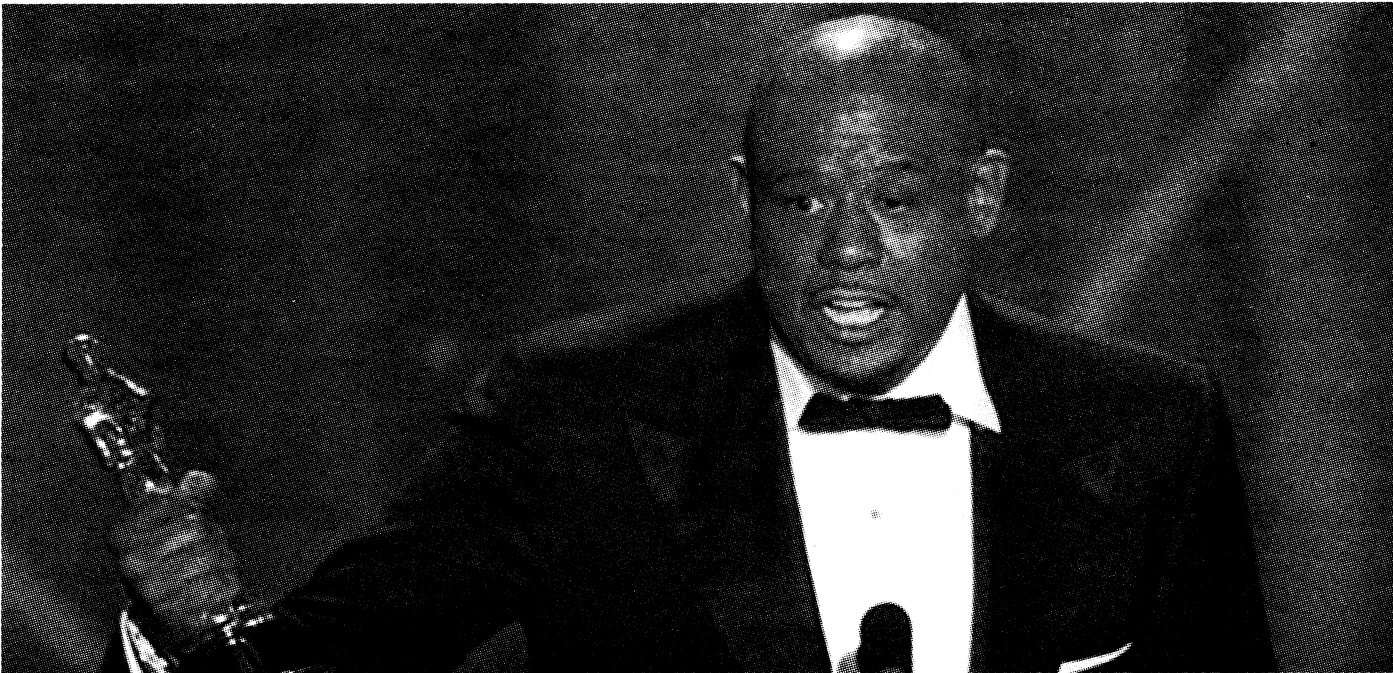
• **Writers** • **Photographers** • **Layout Staff** • **Circulation Staff**

If You Feel This Might Be You, Please Email Us At: bwnews@ic.sunysb.edu

Or Call Us at: **631-632-6494**



And the Academy Award goes to...



BY KALANNE OPUSUNJU-ADA
SECRETARY

At the beginning of the year, enormous attention was turned to the entertainment community and film fans around the world waited in anticipation for the upcoming Academy Awards. The golden statuette Oscar is given to deserving actors and actresses who deliver great performances onscreen. The Oscar represents the best achievements of the year and is one of the highest honors in

filmmaking.

The Academy Awards has been held since 1929 and is presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. The voting for the Academy Awards is carried out by secret ballot and is categorized at an international auditing firm. Secrecy is very important and is maintained by the auditors, and the results are not announced until the envelopes containing the names of the recipients are opened

“Beautiful people don’t always live beautiful lives”

and broadcasted on live TV.

The 79th Annual Academy Awards were held at the Kodak Theatre in Hollywood, CA on February 25, 2007. The crème de la crème of all actors and actresses came out dressed for the occasion in glamorous dresses and suits. Several were nominated for their great performances on-screen but only a few of them would receive the coveted award. Among the many, two well deserving actors were honored for the first. The talented Forest Whitaker won for Best Actor in a Leading Role for his excellent portrayal in the Last King of Scotland as Idi Amin, the notorious Ugandan dictator whose engaging personality could not disguise the tyranny of his actions. His riveting performance impressed many moviegoers as well as his peers. Numerous critics feel this Oscar was long deserved. Whitaker has a 25 year career in Hollywood acting in movies such as The Crying Game, Waiting to Exhale, and Platoon to name a few. He also holds a title as a producer.

Singer and former American Idol contestant Jennifer Hudson, received her first Oscar for Best Supporting Actress in her role as Effie in the movie Dreamgirls. She worked alongside the greats in the industry such as Eddie Murphy, Jamie Foxx and Beyonce Knowles. This is amazing because this was her very first movie and she won an award that veterans of the business have not yet received.

This is a great honor and achievement as an actor or actress. Winning an Academy Award gives you respect and grants many privileges. It’s a sign to all that you are skilled in your craft and a force to be reckoned with. We should applaud Forest Whitaker and Jennifer Hudson for their victories. It’s more than appropriate that this happened during Black History Month, and it demonstrates that hard work and perseverance yields great rewards.

Are you available on Mondays?

If so, Blackworld needs you between 8 and 10p.m!

We are looking for a conscientious English major or someone with a strong

command of the English Language to be our

NEWS EDITOR for the 2007 - 2008 school year.

If interested, please visit or call our office.

Room 072, Student Union.

631-632-6494



Black History Month Closing Ceremony

BY DANIEL DISTANT

COPY EDITOR

This year's Stony Brook University Black History Month was the biggest ever. There were over 12 students' groups and 23 departments supporting 44 programs and performances. Some of the highlights of this past February were the Opening Ceremony, the Black Power Movement, reparations, awareness programs (such as HIV/AIDS, HPV, and eating disorders), a leadership symposium, and the study abroad trip to Ghana that several Stony Brook students experienced. Even though we have the shortest month of the year, Black History was certainly remembered.

The closing ceremony was done on a much grander scale than the opening. While the opening was done in the SAC auditorium with guests sitting on only the lower level, the closing ceremony took place in the SAC ballroom with over 25 tables. Also, there were a lot more people in attendance, possibly because of the great free food.

The ceremony started with the SBU Gospel Choir's rendition of "Lift Every Voice and Sing," also known as the Black National Anthem. After a straightforward performance, Cheryl Chambers, one of

the co-chairs for the Black History Month Committee, took the stage, mainly to acknowledge that the mission for a more multicultural campus had been a success. She advised the audience to treat the ceremony not just as a celebration, but as a reflection on Stony Brook's diversity, and to think of ways to "build new bridges."

Next up was a variety of presentations, ranging from poetry to spoken word to traditional "Greek" stepping. Déjà Vu dance group led the performances with a moving dance routine backed by a melodious piano. Their Modern African dance certainly was one to remember. After them was the Gospel Choir, who surprised me with powerful song, singing, "Lord, just be pleased". Their ending was truly spectacular; props to the sopranos, I've never heard anything like it.

After that was some less-than-traditional routines. Blackworld's own Kellen Felmine, representing MALIK Fraternity, Inc., read stirring speech by Malcolm X about extremism in pursuit of the greater good. It emphasized brotherhood above all else, claiming that anyone enslaved is entitled to any means necessary to obtain their freedom. Following Kellen was another

Blackworld member from a different generation. Daniel Hartley did two spoken word pieces highlighting all the good Black people could do, but don't.

Then, there was a break from performing to present an award. Dr. Floris Cash presented the first place award to Latoya Joyner for her piece for the Black History Month Essay and Speech Contest. Latoya read an excerpt from the essay, which was about one of her role models: Oprah Winfrey. Later in the program Latoya would also be awarded the Dr. William McAdoo Memorial Scholarship. Someone is a good student!

After that was a performance by the Ghana Study Abroad Dance Troupe, which featured Kellen Felmine, Nakima Billups, Jaquaia Reid, and four other students from the study abroad trip to Ghana. Cultural music played, and everyone did their own individual dance. The seven students showed us a little bit of Ghanaian culture.

Next was Blackworld's Mamusu Tucker with an original poem highlighting the negative stereotypes of Black culture while exposing the positive ones.

The last large segment of the closing ceremony was filled by IFSC life. First,

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. read a famous Maya Angelou poem, stating, "I am a woman, phenomenally." Next, their constitutionally bound brothers, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. spoke of the many firsts that their fraternity has achieved since 1914. One of their more memorable quotes was, "Salvation must come from within." The Sigmas also talked about several of their more prominent members, as well as the programs they've created to help the community. Last but not least were the brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. who showed the audience some traditional Greek stepping.

A small portion of the ceremony was dedicated to Black people who passed away in 2006, including: Gerald Levert, James Brown, Lou Rawls, Coretta Scott King, and even a MTA worker who had been there for 72 years.

Finally, the closing remarks were made by Dr. Floris B. Cash, who reminded us that Black History Month is about freedom, social justice, and commemorating the achievements of Black people worldwide. She ended with a quote by A. Phillip Randolph, which read, "Freedom is never given. It is won."

Do You Have Artistic Abilities?. If So...

We Need You!!!
Call: 26494

STILL WAITING FOR THAT JOB OFFER TO COME IN?

Well we might have the answer, **Blackworld** is looking for a smart business savvy grad or undergrad to fill the **Advertising Manager** position. All are welcome!

The position is **commission based**.

Responsibilities Include: Cold Calling • Generating Ad Sales • Meeting Monthly Quota • Sending Tear-sheets • Supervising Staff • Handling Customer Issues • Insuring Ads Are Placed Correctly • Setting Up Promotions And Ad Campaigns • Maintaining Files And Digital Records • Working Closely With Production Manager • Working Closely With Editor • Resolving Issues • Generating Ad Sales • Sending Tear-sheets • Supervising Staff • Handling Customer Issues • Insuring Ads Are Placed Correctly • Setting Up Promotions And Ad Campaigns • Maintaining Files And Digital Records • Working Closely With Production Manager • Working Closely With Editor • Resolving Issues

631-632-6494