



11-20-2002

## The Roddey McMillan Record - November 20, 2002

Winthrop University

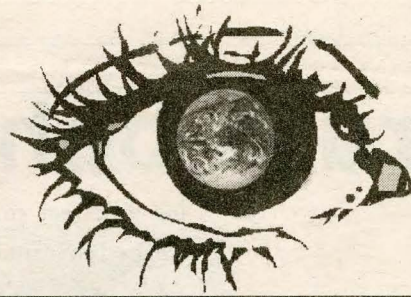
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How do you feel about our new Republican governor?



Cliff Ellis  
Sophomore  
Business

"As long as he is a republican, I don't care."

"I am glad he was elected. I am a republican and I like the more conservative views."



Racheal Taliaferro  
Freshman  
Interior Design



Tiffany Price  
Freshman  
Marketing

"I prefer a representative from the Democratic Party, but as long as he fulfills his job requirements, he is alright with me."

"It doesn't really affect me, but he needs to do a good job. I believe he will."



Dawayne Davis  
Freshman  
Biology



Ryan Hollingsworth  
Sophomore  
Integrated Marketing  
Communications

"I don't mind, he is less of a politician and more of a personal leader."

Compiled by Phillip Edwards

## National Pan-Hellenic Council proposal approved by Council of Student Leaders

By Ashli Hale and Ashlei Stevens

The battle between Council of Student Leaders and National Pan-hellenic sororities and fraternities regarding the distribution of charters and allocation

ended by CSL accepting NPHC's proposal.

The proposal, which requested individual greek chapters to obtain a Winthrop charter through NPHC proved to be successful.

Currently, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority are organizations with a "probationary title," because they do not meet a ten member quota under CSL to be

considered a chartered organization.

Under the proposal, these organizations do not have to meet the ten member quota, as NPHC members stressed in last

see NPHC page 2

## Did students vote or lounge around on Election Day?

By Tiffini Mitchell  
Staff Writer

On Tuesday Nov. 5, classes were cancelled for Winthrop students in the hopes that they would go home and cast their votes in the state elections.

It seems as though most, however, took shelter from the rain and wind by fulfilling obligations other than their civic duties.

So, should classes be cancelled on Election Day?

Tonya Jarvis says they should. Jarvis, a 20-year-old math education major, spent Tuesday doing work for her classes. She wanted to go to her hometown of Bishopville, S.C., and vote, but

did not have transportation. She encouraged her friends vote, but her efforts were unsuccessful.

"Even if [only] one or two people go home and vote...let them make the difference," states Jarvis.

Two students, Calvin Jefferson and Jason Reid, went home to vote. Jefferson is a 22-year-old senior business administration major, and Reid is a 19-year-old second year marketing major. Both are from Laurens, S.C. Like Jarvis, neither of the two thinks that most students used the cancelled classes as a motivation to go vote.

see VOTE page 2

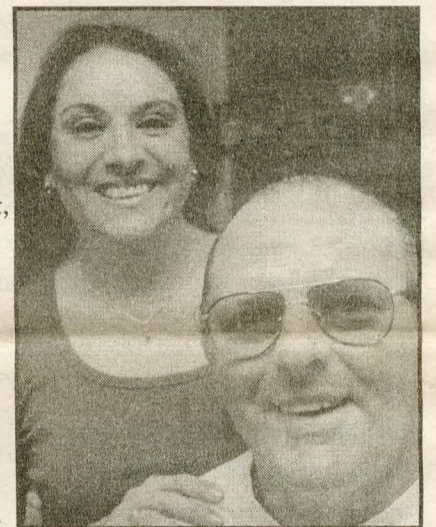
## Fulbright recipient leaves Winthrop to teach abroad

By Dudley Brown  
Special to the RMR

Ron Chepesiuk is preparing for a trip that will take place in less than two months. But, in some ways he doesn't know what to expect.

Chepesiuk is a professor and head of archives and special collections at Winthrop's Dacus Library. He received a Fulbright Grant to teach journalism at Chittagong University, which is in Chittagong, Bangladesh's second largest city.

Chepesiuk said he knows he will teach journalism cours-



Ron Chepesiuk, recipient of the Fulbright scholarship will teach abroad. His wife, Magdalena, will stay with family in Colombia but supports her husband's efforts.

es but doesn't know the exact

see TEACH page 6

## Ms. Jabberwock 2002 is crowned

By Tiffini Mitchell  
Staff Writer

While some people may have gone out of town or studied, Erica Wright spent her weekend bringing home the gold. On Sunday Nov. 3rd, she and six other contestants competed for the title of "Ms. Jabberwock 2002," and Wright was victorious.

"It was beautiful, so special!" Wright said. The 20-year-old



Erica Wright  
Ms. Jabberwock  
2002

Charleston native is a junior integrated marketing communication major. The pageant, themed "From the Motherland to the Millennium."

The seven ladies were judged on their pre-pageant interview, opening number, business casual attire, talent, formal wear, and an onstage question and answer.

"The Jabberwock pageant has been a tradition of Delta Sigma Theta since 1925," said Candice Bailey, a member of the Xi Beta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

According to Bailey, the name "Jabberwock" was derived from the mythical animal, a multi-faceted being with many different animal parts combining to form one. Just as the Jabberwock animal has many parts, the young women involved have many talents. The pageant is held biannually and open to minority female stu-

dents of Winthrop. Bailey complimented all of the participants for their dedication, professionalism and showmanship which made this year's pageant another success.

Wright was not the only one victorious that night; her court was also announced. First runner up was Kailanya Brailey, English major from Livingston, S.C., and the 2nd runner up was Regina Wright, a modern languages major from Simpsonville, S.C. Each of the winners were awarded scholarships. The prize

see PAGEANT page 2

# The truth behind beauty in the media

By Tanaisha Brisbon  
Staff Writer

Have you ever stopped and wondered what beauty truly is? Beauty can be described as self-perceived notion of something that is pleasing to the eyes. Who sets the criterion for measuring beauty? Some may say that the media plays a strong role in influencing this notion.

Last week, Taking Integrity Back lead a discussion called "Image in the Media." The discussion dealt with the standards of beauty concerning sex and race.

Attractive men can be depicted as hav-

ing a perfect smile, muscular body, and clear complexion.

The media's portrayal of a beautiful caucasian woman is tall, thin, and big breasted. Beautiful African-American women can be portrayed as being fair skinned, curvy-figured, and having "good hair."

Constant media perceptions of beauty can result in self-hate.

"The self-hatred of blacks and whites are completely different," said Chauncey Beaty, vice president of TIB. "Blacks practice self-hatred for social acceptance and whites practice it to improve themselves."

Self-hatred causes African Americans and Caucasians to mimic each others ethnic features to capture beauty. For instance, Caucasians spend lots of time sunbathing and going to the tanning bed to achieve the brown tint to their skin that African Americans have naturally. On the flip side, African Americans spend hundreds of dollars buying bleaching creams to create the lighter skin tone that Caucasians have naturally.

Hair is also a big issue as far as self-hatred and mimicking ethnic features. Many Caucasians spend money at salons to get perms to get the curly or wavy hair. African Americans spend hundreds of

dollars annually to get relaxers to straighten hair.

Self-hatred due to social acceptance from the African-American perspective began during slavery times. Caucasians slave masters allowed lighter-skinned African Americans more privileges than the darker-skinned.

"This self-hatred began with whites, but many blacks still believe it to be true," said Lakeyta Bonnette, president of TIB.

The fact is that the average person is not tall, thin, or muscular. People are a variety of sizes, shapes, races, and ethnicities. We are all individuals. Embrace cultural differences.

## VOTE from page 1

Jefferson said that most of his friends "just don't care," and did not go home to vote, but he thinks since businesses are closed on Election Day, then classes should be cancelled, too.

But not everyone agrees that

classes should be cancelled on Election Day.

"If students are really serious about voting they can do mail in ballots," states Ashlye Rump, a sophomore.

Educators have opinions concerning classes on Election Day.

Vanessa Hill is an assistant management professor and has been teaching at Winthrop for three years. Hill had to vote via absentee ballot while in college because she had to attend class. After speaking to her students, she guessed about 70 percent

did not use the day to vote, but complimented Winthrop's efforts of encouraging students to do so by canceling class. She still "thinks it would be nice to find a way to get students more involved [and] interested in voting," because she said most students probably slept

late or "hung out" on Tuesday.

Classes will most likely be cancelled next Election Day as well. Students will have to make a choice and decide which is more important: picking the leaders whom will be in charge of running the country or sleeping in.

## NPHC from page 1

month's CSL meeting that "quality" is more important than "quantity." The "probationary"

title will also be lifted and the groups will continue to function just as any other chartered organization does on campus.

"We've approved the proposal but they haven't gone through the process," said CSL Chairperson Andrew Markners.

Markners said with the approved proposal, these three organizations will have to get approval from NPHC, and

NPHC reports to CSL who then charters the organizations.

"We're glad we can get this settled," Markners said.

## PAGEANT from page 1

amounts were \$1000 for Ms. Jabberwock, \$500 for the 1st runner up, and \$250 for the 2nd runner up.

When asked to describe some of her experiences in the

pageant Wright said, "I met a lot of nice people and I had a lot of fun." A first time pageant competitor, Wright learned also learned skills that she can apply to everyday aspects of her life, "I got over my fear of people."

She says that she can now "speak to a crowd without being nervous."

Nikkina Miller, Ms. Jabberwock 2000, was the pageant coach and there to ease the other fears contestants may have had as well answer their questions about what to expect. During the two month long

practice period, Miller coached the contestants on their walks, turns, and how to accept the crown, according to Wright.

Along with the crown, duties also came with the title of Ms. Jabberwock. Wright will reign in the position for two years, and will sponsor a program to emphasize her platform,

encouraging African-American teens to become involved in the performing art. Wright's talent in the pageant correlated directly to her platform, a praise dance set to the gospel song "Alabaster Box."

Wright hopes to put on a Cabaret/talent show in March at Boyd Hill Community Center.

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## Kwanzaa: Bringing African-American families together through Holiday Celebrations

By Ashli Hale  
Content Editor

As the holidays approach, African Americans across the country prepare for the after Christmas celebration of Kwanzaa.

Kwanzaa, which was founded in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga is a seven day holiday (December 26-January 1) based on seven principals which are supposed to strengthen family, community and culture. The seven principals: Umoja (Unity), Kujichagulia (Self-determination), Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility), Ujamaa

(Cooperative Economics), Nia (Purpose), Kuumba (Creativity), and Imani (Faith) are Swahili words that Africans supposedly use to base their family values on. Not only is Kwanzaa defined by seven principals, but also by the lighting of seven candles three red, that represent the struggles of the African holocaust, one black which reminds Africans of their strength, unity, and beauty, and three green that reflect the victories of the past and anticipation for the future. While the issue of the true roots of Kwanzaa seems to be a controversial topic among Africans

and African-Americans, due to the fact that many Africans claim for it to be an American made holiday while African-Americans claim for it to be an African holiday, the idea of bring together African-American families and culture is still important. Winthrop will be having its own Kwanzaa celebration Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. in McBryde Hall for free.

Hanukkah, a Jewish Festival of Lights, will be celebrated on Dec. 5 at 7 p.m. in Dinkins Student Center. For more information please contact multicultural student life at ext. 4508.

National American Indian Heritage Month

## Black girl lost

### How African-American women can love themselves



**As the World Turns...**

**By: Mario Washington**

What does it take for my black women to understand your undeniable beauty?

It is very painful for me to watch you chase after compliments, money, and other superficial goods that are not worth the value of your existence. You should understand that it was you that gave birth to the world which is a great power that also gives you great responsibility. Think of yourselves as mothers of the earth. Take a look at your own mothers and

imagine how we have idealized them. We cannot picture our mothers as money-hungry beings whose main purpose is to carry the child of a man not worthy enough to plant the seed of life in her, but has the money and most importantly, the popularity that inspires her to give her most precious gift to him. If you cannot see your mothers this way, visualize how the mother of the earth has to be seen through the eyes of her children.

It was you that came from the rib of the black man. You are mother and soul controller of the first earthly family. It was you that took care of your husband, the black man, the first man, for centuries. We under-

stand that you make mistakes, but think about the power you have over the black man. It was you who had the power to ask the black man to disobey his Father and he complied.

Your strength is immeasurable. Your beauty is so well defined and you disgrace it in every opportunity. The creator blessed you with beautiful hair, you don't need extensions. You were blessed with beautiful eyes; your green contacts don't impress me. Your skin is so soft and beautiful there is no need for make-up.

The point I'm trying to get across to my beautiful black Winthrop women is that you should know you're beautiful.

This idea should already be built into your nature. You are queen of the universe. You should understand your power every time you look at yourself in the mirror. You should understand how beautiful it is to be unique. You come in all different sizes, shapes, and shades and they are all beautiful. You don't have to walk around campus acting beautiful to draw attention because you already have our undivided attention. You can wear an evening gown and we will notice. You can wear a sweat suit and we will notice. It does not matter what you wear or how you wear it, the fact remains that you are black, and that is more than enough.

## Double Standard?

**By Ashli Hale** Here at **Content Editor** Winthrop

University parking decals seem to be given out to students as if there is a life time supply of parking spots, when that really isn't the case. Heated discussions regarding freshmen who bring cars on campus have often occurred among upperclassmen, however, the issue of faculty and staff parking their cars in student parking lots never seems to be a concern. As a student who has paid for a parking decal and can hardly find a parking spot on campus I personally feel that faculty and staff should be fined for parking in student parking lots. It seems as if Campus Police are creating a double standard by ticketing students who park in faculty and staff spots, but fail to penalize faculty and staff for parking in our spots. It seems as if faculty and staff members are not being courteous to the students needs of parking spaces, especially after we have paid to park our cars on campus. Faculty and staff parking spaces are the best parking spots on campus and are always available during the day and night hours. Knowing this, what is logical about a faculty or staff member parking in a student parking lot? There have been several days that I have walked through student parking lots and have noticed faculty and staff cars parked in our lots. To my knowledge, I have yet to see a faculty or staff member receive a ticket for parking in the inappropriate area, why is this? Winthrop Campus Police should stop creating a double standard and should start issuing some tickets out to these vehicles. By faculty and staff parking in student parking lots, I feel that they are infringing on our rights. With all due respect, faculty and staff members, is it really that hard to find a parking spot on campus that the need to park in student lots is that great? I hardly doubt it. Students please voice your opinion and get this double standard to stop!

## Up in flames: Kick your smoking habit today

**NOTE:** Nov. 21 is the Great American Smokeout 2002. The American Cancer society warns smokers about the dangers of tobacco and urges them to quit.

**By Elizabeth Richardson**  
Guest Columnist

Have you had a cigarette today? If you haven't, stop by any main entrance to one of Winthrop's academic buildings. There's guaranteed to be a congregation of people willing to share their smoke with you.

What about those that don't want to smell like cigarette smoke and possibly suffer an asthma attack? Sorry, as much of an inconvenience as this may be, the smokers are not breaking any laws.

This recurring situation is unfortunate for the non-smokers of Winthrop University simply trying to attend their classes. Winthrop has set rules defining the areas where people can smoke in an attempt to protect the rights of non-smokers. However, these policies only prohibit smoking inside the public academic buildings, not directly outside where the issue sparks debate.

"There's just no point. They (smokers) are not allowed to smoke in the public places, but they're allowed to smoke right outside. We still have to go through the smoke to get inside, so they might as well just smoke inside," said sophomore Amy Stokes, 19, an integrated marketing communication major.

Besides the petty frustration of smelling

like cigarette smoke, several more appropriate objections and dangers associate with second-hand smoke. According to The Smoking Handbook (<http://www.westnet.com/~rickd/smoke/smoke7.html>), the smoke emitted off the burning end of the cigarette (second-hand or side stream smoke) contains twice the amount of nicotine and tar, three times the cancer causing agents, and five times the carbon monoxide.

People with asthma are warned by doctors to avoid passive smoking because it triggers breathing difficulties, including asthma attacks. Women on birth control receive a warning stating "Cigarette smoking increases the risk of serious cardiovascular side effects from oral contraceptive use." Lastly, although not a big issue here, pregnant women should try to avoid all forms of cigarette smoke to protect their unborn child.

"It's a personal choice to smoke, but I just feel that they should respect those who choose not to, even if that means requiring them to smoke a certain amount of yards away from the main entranceways of the public buildings," said sophomore Sheri Colvin.

On the other hand, people like 19-year-old economics major Adam Smith respond to suggestions such as these by saying that "piling a bunch of people with a vice a hundred yards away from a building is a little ridiculous."

Smith also said that smokers like himself have every right to smoke outside because of

national law. Law only forbids smokers to smoke inside government owned public facilities, so, if Winthrop did try to implement a new policy, it would be violating legal rights.

Smith said that smoking outside allows the second-hand smoke to dissipate in a much larger area. This eliminates higher concentrations of carcinogens to exist in any one given spot, thus making repeated exposure near impossible and avoiding serious side effects for non-smokers.

Winthrop Campus Police reports that in about the last four years stricter laws have been created to aid non-smokers. During that time, academic buildings became smoke-free with the threat of disciplinary action; the majority of the floors in dormitories became smoke-free as well.

Clemson University, has similar policies. Its police department also prohibits students from smoking inside any academic building. Students are not allowed to smoke in the stadium (they must go to the concessions area) or the seating area of Littlejohn Coliseum.

Lacey Wilson, a business major at Clemson, said smoking isn't an issue because most smokers are respectful. They tend to smoke at the benches located an adequate distance from the entrances, so the university doesn't have to step in and teach college students respect.

## Mariah Carey stages a comeback with "Charmbracelet"

By Raynard Gadson

"Emotions, "Daydream," "Butterfly," "Rainbow"... You've heard the songs, you know the voice, you've given her fifteen #1 hits, and eleven multi-platinum albums. Now, the biggest-selling female recording artist in history is making a comeback with her new album entitled "Charmbracelet," due on Dec. 3, 2002.

If you're thinking what is up with the title, Grammy Award-winning Mariah Carey explains its symbolism best: "Charms are like pieces of yourself that you pass on to other people ... items that tell your story, and that can be shared ... like a song," she stated on her official website (www.mariahcarey.com) shortly after choosing the title. "The bracelet represents the foundation of this album, a body of work that encompasses many feelings," Carey wrote.

"Charmbracelet" will follow one of the most disastrous years of Carey's twelve-year career. After scoring a number one hit song in every year of the 1990s, Carey's 2001 soundtrack, "Glitter," and movie of the same title were both commercial flops.

Carey has also lost part of her massive core audience since abandoning her girl-next-door Pop image to produce more R&B flavored collaborations with chart-topping rappers as in "Breakdown" (which featured rap group Bone, Thugs, -n-Harmony), "Crybaby" (featuring Snoop Dogg), and "Don't Stop" (featuring Mystikal).

But through it all, Carey has remained that ballads will always be a part of her. "Through the Rain," the first single off of "Charmbracelet," is a ballad (reminiscent of "Vision of Love" and "Hero") that may be considered a personal anthem for the 32-year-old Diva.

But can she make a comeback?

"I feel she has come through the rain and has the potential to be the Mariah we came to love all those years ago," said 19-year-old sophomore, Elizabeth Richardson, a mass communication major from Seneca, S.C. "I only pray she doesn't ruin this second chance and gets back to her roots," Richardson said.

However, "Charmbracelet" will not be an album full of sad love songs.

Carey told Corey Moss of MTV.com: "There are records on the album that are definitely going to be perceived as [sentimental]," she said during the Oct. 15, 2002 interview. "... And then there are records that are really fun, like escapism for me. It's not like I'm going to suddenly write this woeful album, 'Oh misery!' No, I choose to turn those things into positives because that's how I get through life," Carey said.

Moss further reported that "Charmbracelet" will feature guest artists such as Kelly Price, Jay-Z, Freeway, and Cam'ron, and producers Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis, Jermaine Dupri, Damizza, Just Blaze, and Carey herself.

"Mariah's new songs are several cuts above a lot of her recent work. I don't mean 'Glitter,' either. Better than a lot of 'Rainbow' and 'Butterfly.'" wrote Roger Friedman of FOXNews.com in his Oct. 23, 2002 article on the singer's comeback.

With all of the hype building over Carey's "Charmbracelet," fans and once-fans everywhere are gearing up for the comeback of the year.

"With everything that Mariah Carey has gone through, I still think she is an amazing singer," said 19-year-old art major Teria Walters of Washington, DC. "I may not like how her image and style of singing has changed in the recent years but, I still am in awe of her and will support her, and buy her album," said Walters.

# Entertainment world

## Actor Merlin Santana killed

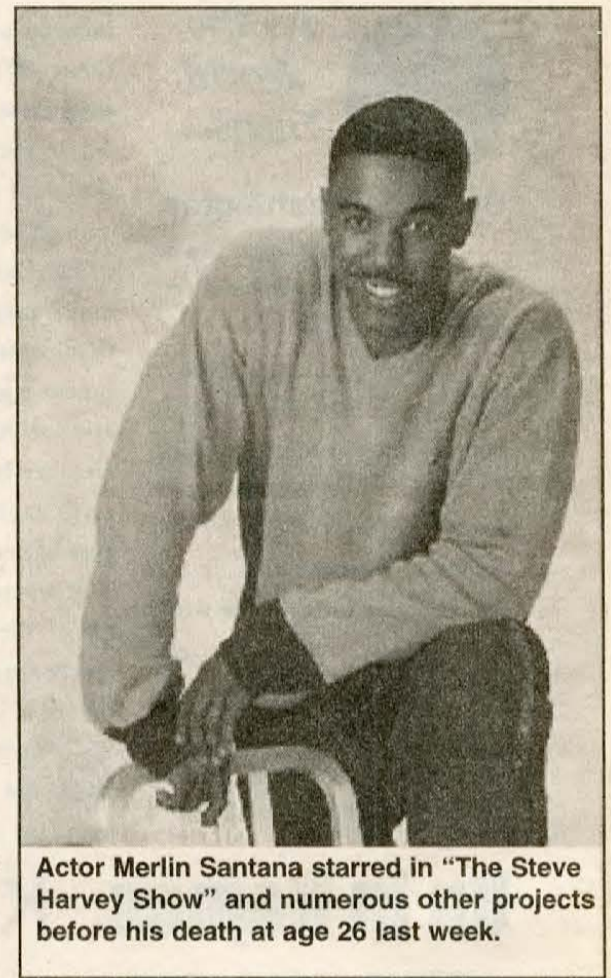
By Ashlei Stevens  
Editor-in-Chief

You may not know him by name, but it is likely you may know him by face. The attractive young actor, Merlin Santana, was shot and killed last week. He was 26.

According to CNN.com, police reports state that someone walked to the car where Santana was seated in the passenger's side and shot him.

A woman was later arrested in connection with the crime.

Santana won the hearts of young women with his roles on "The Cosby Show" as an admirer of Rudy Huxtable. He is most known for his role as Romeo, a character on UPN's "Steve Harvey Show." The talented actor also had past roles in "Hangin' with Mr. Cooper," and "Moesha." He also filmed part of Eddie Murphy's new movie, "Showtime" before his tragic



Actor Merlin Santana starred in "The Steve Harvey Show" and numerous other projects before his death at age 26 last week.

death.

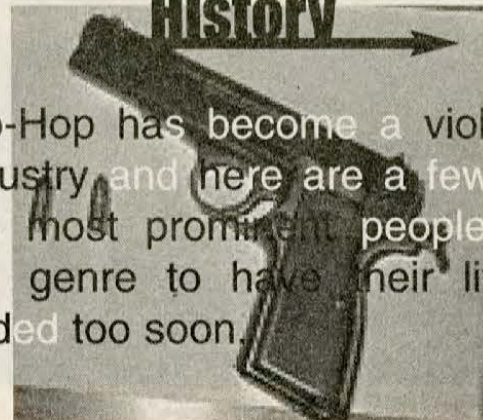
Other accomplishments of Santana include being a model for the ALAYE calendar of black men and recording three unreleased rap albums. Santana was nominated for several NAACP Image Awards and ALMA awards.

Sources: [www.tvtome.com](http://www.tvtome.com) and [CNN.com](http://CNN.com)

Photo [www.tvtome.com](http://www.tvtome.com)

## Hip-Hop: A Violent History

Hip-Hop has become a violent industry and here are a few of the most prominent people in the genre to have their lives ended too soon.



Compiled by Mario Washington

**Scott La Rock August 26, 1987**  
DJ and Producer of the conscious rap group led by KRS-One, BDP was shot and killed while breaking up a fight in the Bronx just before the release of their debut album, *Criminally Minded*.

**2Pac September 13, 1996**  
Rapper, writer, and actor, 2Pac Shakur gangster rap. Pac was gunned down during a Mike Tyson fight in Las Vegas. The murder

# world suffers two losses

## Hip Hop Community Mourns the Loss of Pioneer

By Mario Washington  
Staff Writer

On November 5th, a legend and pioneer of the hip hop genre was laid to rest after being brutally murdered in the neighborhood that he grew up in. Jason Mizell, best known as Jam Master Jay, DJ of the pioneering rap group Run-DMC was killed on October 30th in his studio, 24-7 in Jamaica, Queens.

He was buried wearing the trademark leather suit, shell toe Adidas, and a gold necklace with an Adidas sneaker charm. His pallbearers donned unlaced white Adidas.

Jam Master Jay may not have been the most famous murdered hip-hop figure, but his contribution to the art form is immeasurable. Seventeen years ago, Jam Master Jay along with friends Darryl McDaniels, DMC, and



Jason Mizell, best known as Jam Master Jay was part of the pioneering hip-hop group Run-DMC. He was killed in his recording studio last month.

Joe Simmons, Run, changed music forever with the release of their groundbreaking album, "Raising Hell." It featured the hits, "My Adidas" and "Walk This Way" which featured Rock & Roll legends Aerosmith. This proved to be one of the first crossover hits in the history of rap laying the foundation to inspire platinum selling artists like Kid Rock.

Among the accolades the group received was numerous firsts. They had the first platinum rap album, they were the first rap group on the cover of Rolling Stone, and they were the first rap group to appear on American Bandstand and Saturday Night Live.

Frank Owens of New York Newsday said it best when he stated: "These guys weren't the

first rap group to exist, but they were the first that really mattered."

Unlike most hip hop artist that were murdered, Jay and Run-DMC did not make music that were anecdotes of the street like what we hear today. This group did things like fight for a drug free America and other things that would destroy a rapper's glorified marijuana smoking image today. Jay was a different kind of person. His slayers took a husband, father, friend, and role model. This was not a man of violence. He came from an era where hip hop was pure and simple and it was not the dangerous business that it is today. Jam Master Jay was a DJ that embodied the pure image of hip hop. A part of that innocence died along with him, but the hip hop community will press on.



Jam Master Jay was known for wearing trend-setting gear such as shell toe Adidas.

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d by KRS-One, BDP  
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**The Notorious B.I.G. March 9, 1997**  
Just before the release of his eerily titled sophomore LP, Life After Death, Biggie Smalls was shot and killed after a party in Los Angeles. His debut album Ready to Die was prophetic. The final song on his last CD was titled, "You're Nobody 'till Somebody Kills You". His fame was largely due to his public feud with former friend 2Pac. Some believe his death was retaliation for Pac's murder. No suspect has been arrested.

**Freaky Tah March 28, 1999**

**Jam Master Jay October 30, 2002**

**2Pac September 13, 1996**  
d actor, 2Pac Shakur gained fame through  
y, Pac was gunned down after a dispute before  
t in Las Vegas. The murder is still unsolved.

**Big L February 15, 1999**  
Before signing to Rocafella records, Big L was shot just 1 block from where he grew up at in Harlem. He gained his fame in the world of underground rap and many hailed him as what of the best mc's to ever live. He was a part of the rhyme crew D.I.T.C. which boasts famous clientele like Fat Joe and Diamond D. His death remains a mystery.

### CD Review

### Jay-Z

### The Blueprint 2: THE GIFT AND THE CURSE

By Jese Williams  
Staff Writer

Debates about the best rappers of all time will have to include Jay-Z. With his new album, "The Blueprint 2: The Gift & the Curse," he is going to draw more comparisons to Tupac and the Notorious B.I.G. The three are in a slim category of solo rap artists who have released double-disc albums.

Jay-Z's double-disc set, The Blueprint 2: The Gift & the Curse, is his seventh album in as many years.

Each disc contains 11 actual tracks. The second disc features three bonus songs, bringing the total number of songs to 25.

Jay-Z reaches out and explores new areas on this project. The diverse roster of songs will attract various types of listeners.

Disc one, "The Gift," contains several songs club hoppers will enjoy. "The Gift" is loaded with songs ready to thrive in the mainstream lime-light. Dr. Dre, Rakim, and Sean Paul are some of the artists featured on the first disc.

On the second disc, "The Curse," it seems as if Jigga has a totally different agenda. His lyrical prowess is on display more than on the first disc. The production allows for him to showcase his unique rhyming patterns and delivery techniques. The Curse contains few loopholes, as it will leave most of his fans satisfied. Beyonce Knowles and Lenny Kravitz make guest appearances on this disc.

Overall, "Blueprint 2" is far from being a classic. The album shows several weak points and has songs that are worth skipping.

Yet the album has moments where Jigga reminds us why he is "on top of the rap game." Jay-Z should have taken his best 15 or 16 songs and produced just one disc. Maybe then it would compare to "Reasonable Doubt" or "The Blueprint."

As it stands, "Blueprint 2: The Gift & the Curse" is still one of the best hip-hop albums of the year. On the five-point scale, "Blueprint 2" receives a 3.5 stars.

# GLoBAL is reorganizing, seeking support from students

By Steven Ashley  
Special to the RMR

Members of a Winthrop University student organization are hoping to become a more active part of the Winthrop community next semester.

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Ally League is reorganizing after becoming dormant during the 2001-2002 academic school year due to officers graduating and other reasons. The organization was founded in 1994 by a group of students. The organization's advisor is Dr. Jennifer Solomon of the Sociology department. She has been the group's advisor since its inception.

"Over the years the composition of the organization has changed as students come to Winthrop and then graduate," Solomon said. "When the lead-

ers graduate, the group needs to reorganize. That's what has been going on with GLoBAL."

The purpose of GLoBAL according to the organization's Constitution is to provide a supportive environment at Winthrop University for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual students and their allies by using education and awareness as integral components.

The organization is planning events and considering some activities which have been done in the past which include social activities such as having a cook-out at Solomon's house as well as dances.

In addition, the group hopes to provide educational information for the Winthrop community to help dispel myths and stereotypes.

One project in the works is the creation of safe zones

around campus. A safe zone is a place where LGBT students can go and talk to someone about concerns and issues in their lives.

Solomon and members of the organization are looking for professors and other faculty members who are willing to talk about LGBT issues with students. A sticker with an upside down pink triangle on office doors will indicate safe places where students can go.

One concern members of the organization has right now is maintaining a charter. According to Christopher Stewart, a member of the Council of Student Leaders, all student organizations at Winthrop must have at least 10 members in regular attendance. If an organization goes below 10, there is the possibility it could lose its' charter.

One event that the group has been involved with in the past is National Coming Out day, which is an annual event held on Oct. 11 nationwide.

GLoBAL is open to all students, faculty, staff and administrators who support and promote the group's' purpose.

"GLoBAL is a student organization and that means it should be run by students to meet student needs," Solomon said. "I want students in GLoBAL to decide what they think GLoBAL can and should do at Winthrop."

The group has had two meetings this semester and is planning another meeting for Tues. Dec. 3. Solomon is facilitating the first few meetings, but eventually wants the meetings to be completely student led.

"I don't have the student's perspective so I don't know the

best role for GLoBAL at Winthrop. However, I do believe that it is an important organization that can benefit all Winthrop students," said Solomon.

For more information about GLoBAL, contact Dr. Jennifer Solomon at ext. 4658 or e-mail her at [solomonj@winthrop.edu](mailto:solomonj@winthrop.edu).

"I hope that Global will provide education on issues of sexual orientation," Solomon said, "and also support for members of the Winthrop community who are dealing with discrimination based on sexual orientation."

Graphic is from <http://www.gladd.org> and is the logo for The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD)

# Professor faces uncertainty outside of Bangladesh classroom

TEACH from page 1

focus for his classes.

He also faces uncertainty outside of the classroom. He said classes have been stopped throughout the semester because of student protests and work strikes. Chepesiuk said some of the protests have been led by 10-year undergrads that are still in school to recruit for political parties. He also said he is getting conflicting information from media reports and CU professors.

"There's been some articles in the Wall Street Journal about Bangladesh being a haven for the Al-Qaeda and I've been getting e-mails from people saying that's not the case," Chepesiuk said.

He leaves in January on a two-day flight to Dhaka (Bangladesh's capital), where he will be briefed at the U.S. Embassy. Then he will head to Chittagong for 10 months.

Besides teaching, he will conduct workshops for journal-

ists, write research papers and study the impacts of globalization on Bangladesh.

"You've got to be really brave to do that and I suppose you have to be very resourceful," said Bessie Meeks, administrative specialist at Dacus Library.

Chepesiuk applied for the Fulbright Grant in the spring of 2001, so he could teach at a university in Pakistan. But after Sept. 11 and the killing of Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl, he was given three options. One was to wait a year to see what changes Pakistan would make, apply for a different country or find out what other countries were interested in having him teach.

Bangladesh and Egypt expressed interest, and Bangladesh responded fastest.

The trip will separate Chepesiuk and his wife of 15 years, Magdalena. They met while he was in Colombia doing research. While he's in Bangladesh, Magdalena will be in Colombia with her family.

"I'm very scared, but he is prepared for all this," Magdalena said.

"He's been traveling his whole life. I will miss him, but I'm proud of him."

Chepesiuk said he has reported from 40 different countries and has been to every continent with the exception of Australia.

"My wife says I thrive in strange environments," he said.

Chepesiuk said he likes diversity. He is originally from Canada and his grandmother spoke Ukrainian at home when he was a child. He left home to attend Minnesota State University at

Moorhead and went to grad school at Atlanta University, a

historically black university, now known as Clark Atlanta University.

"I grew up appreciating diversity and never felt intimidated by it," he said.

Chepesiuk, who began working at Winthrop in 1974, doesn't plan to return to the library after his return from Bangladesh.

He said he wants to pursue a full-time career writing books and possibly teaching journalism. Since 1985 he has written over 2,600 articles

for 350 publications, including The New York Times, USA

**About Chittagong University:**  
-16,000 students  
-520 faculty members

**About Bangladesh:**  
-Capital: Dhaka  
-Population: 137 million  
-Area: 147,570 square miles (comparable to Iowa)  
-Government: Republic  
-From Microsoft Encarta

**About Fulbright's:**  
The Fulbright Scholar Program chooses 800 U.S. faculty and professionals to study in 140 countries each year.

Winthrop does not have a complete list of its professors who have received Fulbright's, but University Relations estimates that the number is close to 20.

# Religion Spotlight: Buddhism

Story by Crystal Pressley  
Copy Editor

*It is always a good idea to expand your knowledge about different cultures and religions. Gaining an understanding of the world around us is part of the college experience.*

*Senior Tim Kelly shares his faith. In this issue, the Roddey McMillan examines the faith of Buddhism.*

## In your own words, briefly describe Buddhism and what it means to you.

To me Buddhism is universal understanding and open-mindedness. It is designed to make you one with everything. Practicing it helps me to overcome; it calms my life.

## Where did the religion originate?

Buddhism originated from Hinduism in India and worked its way into China and has now spread all over the world.

## How long have you practiced Buddhism?

Well I have practiced meditation for several years and was calling myself Buddhist years ago but it was not until this past summer that I got really serious about it and took the Buddhist rights.

## What factors, if any, influenced your decision to practice Buddhism?

I had kicked around the idea for years. I grew up in a Christian Church. I was taken there by my parents. When I was old enough to realize it, I was only there because that is where they took me. When I thought about one of my best friends who was born and raised by his parents to follow their religion which happens to be Buddhism (not an influence on my own decision) it got me thinking. Not to mention the stuff I learned in my study of History got me thinking why God would be so culturally specific.

## Does Buddhism have major principles or codes that you live by?

Yes the most important that comes to mind is the Eight fold path which includes: right understanding- Four Noble Truths, right thoughts, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness, right meditation.

## Are there different divisions or types of Buddhist? Explain if necessary.

Yes. Many. In Buddhism there are many different sects. I am Zen Buddhist a branch that dominates in Japan. In Zen any meditation and work towards enlightenment is better than none so it is a good branch for the lay person.

## Many religions include rituals such as prayers and ceremonies; does



Tim Kelly enjoys the scenic view in the Tennessee Mountains. Kelly, raised as a Christian now practices Buddhism. meditation is a part of his daily routine.

## Buddhism have special prayers that are unique?

Zazen is the type of meditation in Zen Buddhism. This is what I practice for 30 to 40 minutes every morning. It is a sitting meditation the posture is straight back. I sit on a pillow on the floor. I have an altar with many statues of the Buddha on it. Each statue represents a different aspect of the Buddha which I may want to focus on in any given meditation; I also burn incense while I meditate listening to music. In a monastery would repeat chants and Sutra's during their meditation. One's Zen master would give one a Koan to contemplate on during meditation. A Koan a riddle but the answer can be anything from a tap on the floor to a nod one word basically anything.

## In other religions such Christianity and Islam, followers are influence by Christ or the prophet Muhammad. Are you influenced by any type of prophet or religious figure?

"The Buddha" and his holiness The Dali Ilama.

## Who is Buddha? Is he like a god or prophet?

Answer: Neither really. "The Buddha" or Siddhartha Guatama as he is historically known is a Spiritual example he taught what he learned on his way to enlightenment as an example for one to follow in order to attain their own enlightenment.

## Many people are criticized for being followers of certain religions, have you experienced any type of adversity?

Well yes and no. I live in a predominantly Christian society; a religion that is monotheistic. But I don't let that interfere with my beliefs I think it is important to worship and be spiritual. I still attend Church with my girlfriend on occasion.

## What do you want others to know about Buddhism? Clear up any misconceptions.

Well, I would love everyone to open their hearts to the ideas and become more compassionate. Be more open minded and accepting of others beliefs. Everything is not a question of 'I'm right your wrong.'

# What do You believe?



Princess Bethea  
Asst. Editor

My purpose for this section is to shine a light on the ideas and values outside of our Bible belt community. It is by no means my intentions to sway anyone's beliefs, but rather to enlighten and maybe even test your convictions. I have found that this is essence of the college experience— if you don't stand for something, you'll

fall for anything.

*I do not consider it an insult, but rather a compliment to be called an agnostic. I do not pretend to know where many ignorant men are sure — that is all that agnosticism means.*

Clarence Darrow

'A' means "without" and 'gnosis' means "knowledge". Therefore agnostic means without knowledge, but specifically without knowledge of god(s). Agnosticism is a concept, not a religion. Agnostics do not conclude that god(s) do or do not exist; they believe there is not enough evidence to support either theory. A "weak" agnostic does not know for sure whether god(s) exist, but does not rule out that such knowledge can be obtained. A "strong" agnostic believes that any type of knowledge about god(s) is not possible to find.

Some believe that agnosticism represents an alternative to atheism. However, agnosticism is about knowledge, knowledge is a related but separate issue from belief, and belief is the realm of theism and atheism. An agnostic believes that there is not a sufficient amount scientific evidence to prove or disprove that a god actually exists.

## Three Kinds of Agnostics:

Agnostic Theists: A god most likely exists  
Agnostic Atheists: A god most likely doesn't exist

Empirical Agnostics: A god may exist, but nothing can be known about him/her/they.

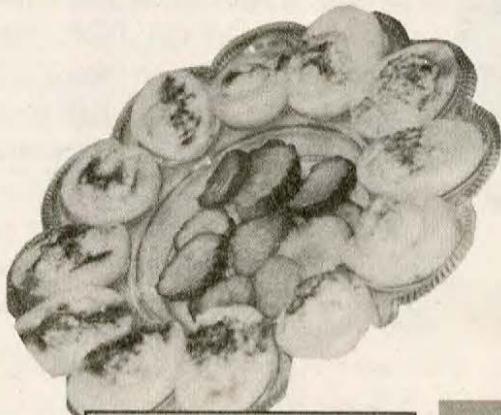
Many agnostics identify themselves as Humanists, Unitarian Universalists, or Ethical Culturalists. Famous agnostics include: Francoise Voltaire, Charles Darwin, Robert Ingersoll, Clarence Darrow, Bertrand Russell, Thomas H. Huxley, Susan B. Anthony, Matt Groening, and Andy Rooney. Estimates are that 991,000 agnostics live in the U.S.; 0.5% of the total population. However, there are more agnostics living in the U.S. than atheists.

*"Few nations have been so poor as to have but one god. Gods were made so easily, and the raw material cost so little, that generally the god market was fairly glutted and heaven crammed with these phantoms."*

Robert Ingersoll-famous agnostic



# Holiday Perspectives

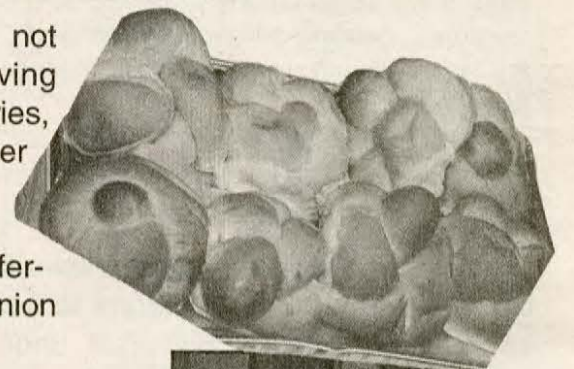


Thanksgiving is a long-awaited holiday for most Americans where eating turkey and spending time with family are common traditions. It symbolizes the beginning of the holiday season.

Although millions of people celebrate the holiday, there are

many individuals who do not participate in Thanksgiving activities. In many countries, Thanksgiving is just another day.

The Roddey McMillian Record asks students of different nationalities their opinion about the holiday.



Photos by Sophie Soler & Crystal Pressley  
Graphics and Layout by Ashlei Stevens & Crystal Pressley



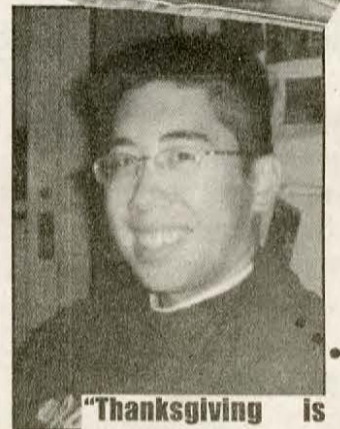
"Thanksgiving is not a part of our history. We do have a lot of relatives who are Jamaican and they celebrate Thanksgiving." When I visit them, "I do celebrate it. We eat turkey, ham, rice, vegetables, pumpkin pie, all the American things."

-Ashleigh Robotham, sophomore from Kingston Jamaica

This is how we

Celebrate

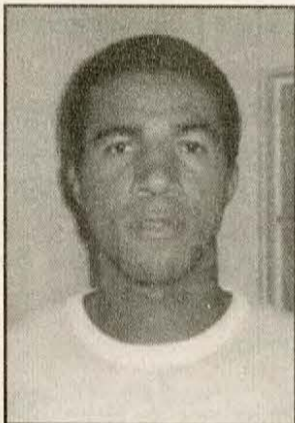
Thanksgiving



"Thanksgiving is on October 14<sup>th</sup>. We only get one day off. We go all out. It's a family occasion. Usually my mom cooks baked turkey."  
-Derek Ryan Wong, junior from Toronto, Canada

"We always have turkey and sweet potato pie. There's something special about being at home and smelling the aroma-reminds you of good times. While my mom is cooking, we always watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. After dinner we go shopping to

catch the good sales."  
-Shannon Wheeler, senior from Greenville, SC



"We don't have many holidays these days. Thanksgiving is not a traditional holiday. The Church celebrates it, but it's not a national holiday. It's just a normal day."

-Clayton Almeida  
Sao Paulo Brazil



"I don't celebrate Thanksgiving. It's an American tradition. On thanksgiving, I will be home working with my dad and teaching aerobics to earn money."

-Lisanne Chai, junior from Kingston, Jamaica

"Our family eats the traditional Thanksgiving dinner including turkey and stuffing. One of our special family recipes is called corn pie." Said Danisha Doctor. "Corn pie is made of cream corn, sugar, eggs, butter, and extra cream. It is my great great grandmother's recipe." Said Davon Doctor.

-Danisha and Davon Doctor, Juniors from Charleston, S.C.



"When I was younger-around the age of 8- my family use to eat chitlins during thanksgiving dinner. Now we have more traditional dinners and stick with turkey and ham."

-Corian Wilson, senior