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The Roddey McMillan Record - April 23, 2003

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2003 is crowned
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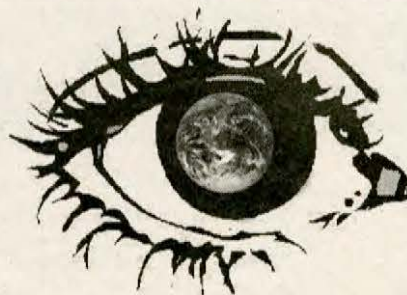
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Roddey McMillan RECORD



Issue VIII

Seeing through different eyes

April 23, 2003

Rock Hill teacher is first Negro at Winthrop

By PAT ROBERTSON
Herald News Editor

July 20, 1964

ROCK HILL — Winthrop College, the South Carolina State College for Women, today enrolled its first Negro student. The enrollment was without disturbance and went almost unnoticed by other students who were registering for summer session classes.

Mrs. Cynthia Plair Roddey, 24-year-old school teacher, quietly slipped onto the campus before the announced beginning time for graduate registration. A cum laude graduate of Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, N. C., she was enrolled in two graduate courses in library science.

Mrs. Roddey plans to obtain a master of arts degree in education with emphasis in library science, college officials said this morning.

Mrs. Roddey taught at Emmett Scott High School during the 1961-62 school session and during the second half of the 1962-63 sessions.

Mrs. Roddey surprised college officials by arriving before the scheduled time for registration. Dr. Charles Davis, president of Winthrop, said she arrived before he did at 7:15 a.m., and was waiting upstairs in Tillman Hall for registration to begin.

She entered the campus alone, and parked her car in front of Tillman Hall, the administration building. She went into the building almost unnoticed and was waiting when college officials arrived to begin registration.

The college had sent postcards to prospective enrollees that registration would begin at 7:40.

After registering Mrs. Roddey announced through college officials that she had no statement to make concerning her registration, and said she desired to

The college was well prepared to handle any disturbance. All traffic gates, except the one leading off Oakland Avenue to Byrnes Auditorium, were chained. A campus utility truck and two men with walkie-talkies were stationed at each gate.

Agents of the South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) were on campus, and Rock Hill City police patrolled the streets adjacent to college entrances.

Two cars, one carrying four men and the other with two men, were turned away from the campus. Davis said the men were not invited members of the press, were not students who planned to enroll in the second six-weeks term of the Winthrop summer session, and apparently had no business on the campus.

Meanwhile, over 400 other students were enrolled for classes. The students apparently were unperturbed by Mrs. Roddey's enrollment, and casually went through enrollment themselves. Winthrop Public Relations Director Roy Flynn commented that "she is extremely qualified for enrollment. She had high scores on both the graduate records exam and the National Teachers Exam."

After registration Mrs. Roddey conferred with the director of the school's graduate program and went to her first class at 9:10. Her second class began at 10:15 and her first school

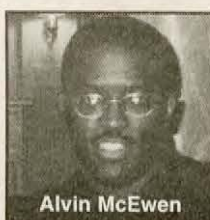
Text and image provided courtesy of the Rock Hill Herald archives, July 20, 1964.



Former Roddey McMillan Editor aspires to be accomplished author

Tammy Terrell Mason
Special to the Roddey
McMillan Record

Some people live through history, and some people make history. Having a dream of becoming an author, Alvin McEwen, a 1995 mass commu-



Alvin McEwen
Photo by Larry Timbs

nication graduate of Winthrop University, is on his way to accomplishing this goal. He is currently

the public information coordinator for the S.C. Department of Health and Human Services in Columbia, S. C. Possessing years of publication experience, McEwen told students to gain as much experience as possible. "If no one wants a

see **Author** page 2

Winthrop's first black student returns to campus

By Princess Bethea
Asst. Editor

This month's topic for Winthrop's newest social event "Chew & Chat" was Multiculturalism and Winthrop.

Those in attendance were honored to have Cynthia P. Roddey, the first African-American to attend Winthrop University, as the panelist speaker. Roddey talked about her experience as the "one token black minority" at Winthrop in 1964 when at least ten other people applied at the same time.

"I didn't have any overt racism," explains Roddey, "but I was never asked to eat lunch,



Photo by Princess Bethea

Cynthia P. Roddey, Winthrop's first black student, spoke Tuesday night on Multiculturalism. She shakes hands with student Crystal Pressley.

study, or become a part of any organizations."

Her theory of harmonious interaction, called KOOL-AID, offered knowledge, organization, intellect, and diversity as the tools to combat see **Roddey** page 2

History Club loses support from department History faculty thinks club was energetic, but not focused on the mission of history

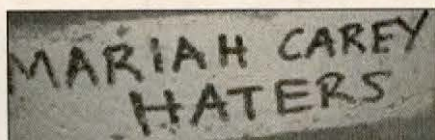
By Jason Dean
Staff Writer

During the fall semester of 2002, history major Danielle Grisby felt there was not a club that 'directly reflected' her major at Winthrop. As a result Grisby, sophomore, and friends formed the club known as History In The Making (HITM). This history-based

club was chartered by Winthrop University and sponsored by the history department.

Since the club's existence, it has sponsored activities such as a Halloween party, a Valentines Day auction, and a trip to Queens College to see the Declaration of Independence. To help with club efforts, the history department provided see **Club** page 2

Wall of Oppression breaks stereotypes



By Ashlei Stevens
Editor-in-Chief

George W. Bush. Lying Men. Stress.

These are a few of the words painted on the wall of oppression.

This project was headed by Courtyard Resident Assistant Nich Woodruff. He got the idea for the wall from a national conference for Residence Halls and noted that the University of Minnesota had successfully completed the project.

"After talking it over with my advisor John Timmons, we both

agreed that it'd be a good idea to have the program here at Winthrop," said Woodruff.

The wall was done at this time of year to go along with the "More than a month" series.

Painting of bricks started last Monday; tables were set up for a week in front of Byrnes Auditorium. Students were not charged to paint a brick but donations were accepted.

There the wall displays an array of attitudes and feelings of oppression.

"Just whatever the students feel is oppressing to them," said

Woodruff of the messages painted. "The only thing we asked is that nothing is directly offensive to a group of people; nothing directly towards people's sexuality."

On Saturday a brick mason came in and built the wall in the amphitheater. Within the wall there are eyeloops and ropes run through the loops.

At the end of tonight's 6:30 ceremony, all in attendance will take a hold of the rope and pull at one time to bring down the Wall of Oppression.

"That's to symbolize us coming together and erasing the lines of

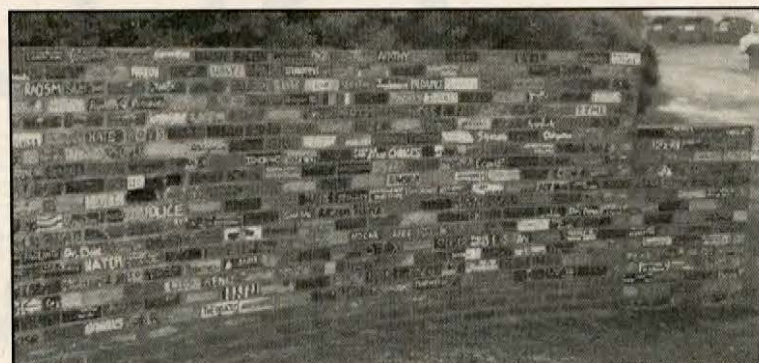


Photo by Megan Mattingly

The Wall of Oppression will be torn down in the amphitheater tonight at 6:30. RSA wants students to break down stereotypes through this act.

discrimination which we are faced with everyday," Woodruff said.

The ceremony will include student speakers and a local minister from Rock Hill community. Also

collaborating with Resident Student's Association is *No room for Racism*, which works with erasing lines of discrimination in Rock Hill.



Club from page 1

resources such as access to office space, a computer, and the department copier.

It was not until recently that the relationship between HITM

and the history department changed.

In a letter from the history department dated April 3 2003, HITM was informed that it would lose its sponsorship by

the history department. A portion of this letter reads...

"Faculty members found that few of your activities relate to the mission of the History Department, nor do they reflect our priorities. It is our belief that departmental resources and energies will be better served by emphasis on Phi Alpha Theta, the national History honorary... Although the department will continue our association with you through the end of the semester, we will not send representatives to the unrelated activities of the danceathon or the car wash."

After receiving this letter, HITM asked for the opportunity to appeal the department's decision, but was denied weeks later. Current HITM president Maurice Dyckes said he was hurt. He felt like a "failure because the sponsorship was lost under his term."

In order for the club to continue to operate, it will have to find a new faculty advisor, and formally apply to regain its charter for next year.

The club's current faculty advisor, associate professor Dr.

Lynn Dunn, contacted the Office of Student Life. She was assured the club's rechartering process would run smoothly.

History department chair Dr. Rory T. Cornish said the group is "very dynamic" but was "developing into more of a social club." HITM feels it was in its building stages, though.

The members wish they could have had extra time and more assistance from the department before its sponsorship was revoked.

"

Roddey from page 1

the separateness that still exists today. With that thought in mind, Stacie Williams, Program Director for Multicultural Student Life, and Bethany Marlowe, Dean of Students, facilitated a group activity that confronted the issues of racism, acceptance, and the underlying attitudes at Winthrop. Roddey admits that "we have not won the fight," but this event certainly offered the environment to face some of the battles.

Roddey McMillan RECORD



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African American politics class to be offered

By **Jesef Williams**
Staff Writer

Michael Lipscomb lectures in the political science department at Winthrop University. This is his second year here as an assistant professor. He teaches courses such as American Government, Environmental Politics, and Feminist Theory.

Next semester another course will be offered as part of the political science curriculum. Political Science 317X begins in the fall, focusing on African American politics. Lipscomb gives his take on the course and the need for more attention to African American studies.

Q. Can you give a description of the PLSC 317X course?

This course focuses on how African Americans have struggled to achieve power and equality through the governmental institutions in America. It will deal with institutional process, certain citizen rights, and how things become laws.

Q. From an instructor's standpoint, how crucial is the need for the PLSC 317X course?

This type of course is crucial for anyone studying politics in America: anyone who takes seriously their responsibility as a citizen in a democratic political context. The way African Americans have been treated in this country is an irrevocable part of history. Relationships between whites and blacks.

Michael Lipscomb



**Political Science
Assistant Professor**

"African Americans have the right to explore their identity. Also, the relationships between blacks and whites continue to be an issue we deal with on a daily basis."

Anyone who wants to conscientiously and effectively study politics can't avoid questions about African American politics.

Q. Who is going to teach this course?

The department has hired a new professor. Adolphus Belk will join us next semester. He will teach the course. He's very intelligent, earning his Ph.D. from the University of

Maryland. He's African American. You can't replace the presence that an African American instructor can bring. He's better situated to talk about African American experiences 'inside-out.' Also black students have expressed the desire to have mentors on the faculty they can talk to about

their experiences. There's a degree of comfort that goes along with that. We need more black faculty on this campus.

Q. If asked, would you teach the course?

I would teach this course if I were pressed to do it. I'd work my tail off to be as effective as I possibly could. With that said, this is a much better situation. This is one of Adolphus'

foci. This is something he's been working on for five or six years: thinking about African American political issues.

Q. How much interest do you think the course will create?

I think there will be a lot of interest. I believe there's a longing for these kinds of courses. Primarily in the African American community, but there are a lot of whites that are tuned in to the importance of these issues. I will be surprised if this course doesn't turn out to be very popular.

Q. Do you see this as a developing trend for more courses like this?

We're going to continue to offer the American Political thought class. It focuses on how black identity is constructed. We have a course on Southern politics. Professor Stephen Smith teaches courses on political segregation. Adolphus is going to eventually head the African American studies program, in hopes of creating a major for it. Right now it's still a minor. We will

suggest to other departments that they need to be teaching similar courses. Hopefully in four or five years, there will be an array of courses you can take across various disciplines. This will allow students to angle in on the African American experience.

Q. What can you say about people who totally argue against having courses devoted to African American studies?

I'd argue that African Americans have been situated in a very specific kind of way in this country. It separates their experience from other Americans. We're not that far removed from slavery, and less removed from the Jim Crow laws. Secondly, on this campus we would be serving the needs of a particularly strong demographic component of the student body. African Americans have the right to explore their identity. Also, the relationships between blacks and whites continue to be an issue we deal with on a daily basis. There are so many political realities that African Americans face.

Former editor changed format of publication, sparked controversy

Author from page 1

leadership position, there is nothing wrong with taking advantage of it," McEwen said. "Use all avenues. Get as much knowledge in different areas."

In 2000, McEwen lost a brother to AIDS, his father, who was a correctional officer, was killed in the line of duty, and his mother was hospitalized.

However, this did not stop McEwen from pursuing his goal of becoming an author.

"I've always wanted to become an author of literary books like Hans Christian

Anderson."

McEwen tapped into many journalism opportunities while a student at Winthrop. He served in various capacities for "The Johnsonian," Winthrop's weekly student newspaper. These positions included writer, health editor, news editor and associate editor.

"Alvin was not a star academic. What got him where he is today is what he did on student publications," said Larry Timbs, associate professor of mass communication.

In 1993, McEwen was instrumental in changing the

"Roddey-McMillan Record," an all black student newsletter, to its current multicultural format.

McEwen said that the Roddey-Mac was considered an organization and not a student publication and that the former Student Government Association senators did not want to fund the publication. After the Roddey-Mac was changed to its now multicultural format, the Roddey-Mac received additional funding from different sources.

Sparking controversy among

black students, Greeks, and protests by the Association of Ebonites and the late Dr. Dorothy Thompson, a story was published in "USA Today" and in "Editor and Publisher."

Because McEwen did not adhere to what was thought of as the norm, his peers criticized him. McEwen said some African-American students felt that their voices were not being heard.

"Some people took it the wrong way and did not want other issues to be covered in the Roddey-Mac such as gay issues," McEwen said.

"Some folks in the black community opposed direction he was taking the publication because they felt something was being taken away from them," said Timbs. "Under his editorship, it (the newspaper) became more diverse."

McEwen is now writing a book cross-referencing black people in the South with Greek mythology.

"Alvin is not afraid to talk to anybody," Timbs said. "He politely challenges authority, is curious, and has good instincts as a journalist."

FONIC FUSION

By Jese Williams
Staff Writer

The name says it all. Most music lovers should find something they like in their style. The music group Fonc Fusion combines the sounds of soul, rhythm and blues, funk, and rock and roll.

Six Winthrop students make up this rock band. Naturally, all six members are music majors. The complete group has been together less than a year.

Brandon Jones heads the keyboard. Rob McNabb plays guitar. Jim Hendrix plays bass. Tony Rosenthal and Herbert Deas provide the vocals, and Kain Naylor controls the drums.

Deas says, "We haven't been together for a long time but we work together fairly well. We were band mates before friends, but our friendships grew as the band grew."

The group has performed at local spots such as *The Money* and *The Lost and Found Coffee House*.

They write original songs and perform renditions of famous hits. The group likes to take 'old school'

R&B songs and mix them with a heavy rock and roll twists.

McNabb says Stevie Wonder, Otis Redding, and Earth, Wind & Fire are some of the group's biggest influences.

Deas says people enjoy hearing a group with a unique style.

crowds. We have sounds people don't forget. With each performance, our confidence level increases," Deas says.

Bassist Jim Hendrix says, "This is something all crowds can 'get into.' We play music you wouldn't expect to hear from a rock group."

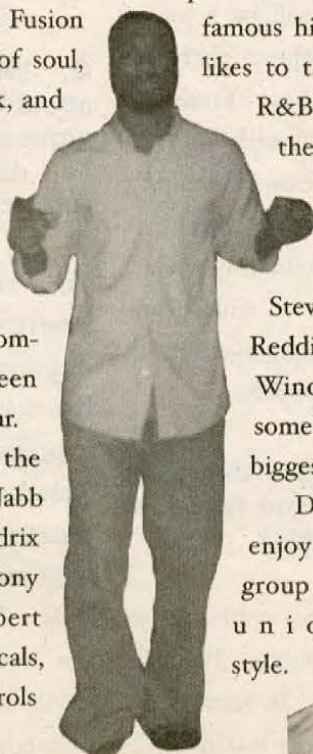
The group is not content, though, with simply playing in the local area. The

group has aspirations of major exposure and stardom.

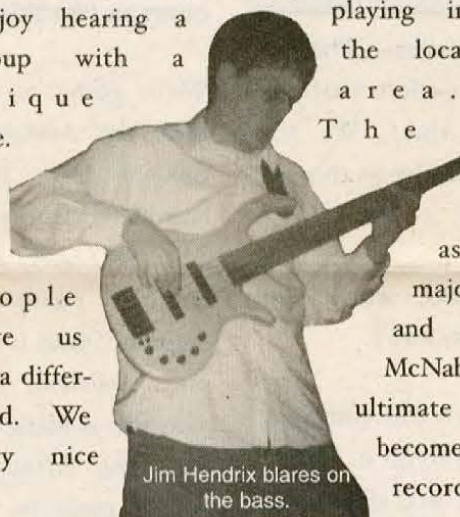
McNabb says, "Our ultimate goal is to become a signed recording group

one day." That dream is not that far fetched either. Fonc Fusion recently won the opportunity to play for a record executive for Warner Brothers Records. The representative is coming to The Money May 4th to hear the group perform.

With the semester winding down, there is still time to catch Fonc Fusion in action. The group is scheduled to perform Friday night at The Money as a part of "Kappa-Palooza" battle of the bands.



Herbert Deas grooves to Fonc Fusion



Jim Hendrix blares on the bass.



Photos by Mia McWhite
Graphics by Ashi Hale



Above (l-r):
Brandon Jones, Rob McNabb, Tony Rosenthal and Herbert Deas rock the crowd.
(Left):
McNabb handles the guitar while Rosenthal backs him up on vocals.

Luther Vandross suffers stroke

By Raynard Gadson
Staff Writer

Fifty-two old singer Luther Vandross suffered a stroke on Wednesday, April 16 in his home in Manhattan. Vandross, a legend in his own right, was about to release his 15th album, "Dance with my Father," on June 17.

Controversy over Vandross' health has brewed since the singer's dramatic weight loss several years ago. He has also been diagnosed with diabetes and hypertension.

Vandross' label, J Records,

recently released a statement to the press saying the 3-time Grammy-winning artist was in "critical but stable condition."



Photo courtesy of www.yahoo.com

Miss Black & Gold is crowned

On Saturday, April 12, the Xi Phi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity hosted it's annual Miss Black and Gold Pageant and Tillman Auditorium was transformed into a "Secret Garden to crown the new Miss Black and Gold. Five women competed for the title, but LaKeija Jackson, a junior from Florence, S.C., was victorious. Completing her court was 1st runner up Nicole Hollimon, a fresh-



man, and 2nd runner up, Stacy Brice, a sophomore. Passing on her crown to Jackson was Miss Black and Gold 2002 Florence Brown. Past winners include Tiffini Mitchell and Doris Brunson who both competed and placed in the state division. Jackson will compete for the state title later this year.

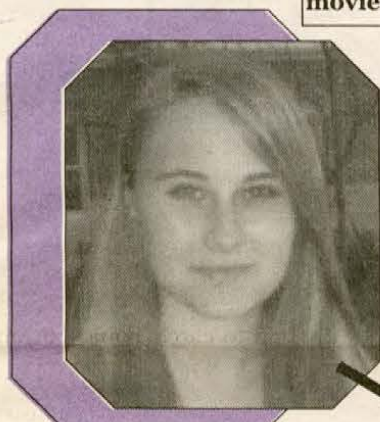
Seeing Stars



Holly Robinson Peete actress

Name: **Ashlei Stevens**
Major: **Mass Comm & Spanish**
Class: **Junior**
Hometown: **Lexington, S.C.**
Celeb Look-a-like: **Holly Robinson Peete**
How often are you told you look like this celeb?
I was told for the first time about 4 years ago and I hear it about every week or so now.
Do you think you look like her?
Yes, in many ways. I'd love to do a movie with her and play her sister!

Celeb look-a-likes are back! The Roddey McMillan staff selected a few more students and staff whom we felt most closely resembled professional singers and actors in Hollywood. Do you think our Celebrity Look-a-likes matched up? Write us at Roddeymac@winthrop.edu.



Marsha Brady
tv personality

Name: **Leslie Giles**
Major: **Theater**
Classification: **Junior**
How often do people say u look like the celeb?
Seems like everyday.
Do you think you look like her? **sometimes**



Big Boi rapper

Name: **Stan Jackson**
Major: **Family & Consumer Science**
Class: **Senior**
Hometown: **Greenville S.C.**
Celeb Look-a-like: **Big Boi of Outkast**
How often are you told you look like this celeb?
At least once or twice a week.
Do you think you look like him?
NO.



Janet Jackson, singer

Name: **Tiffini Mitchell**
Major: **Mass Communication**
Class: **Junior**
Hometown: **Sumter, S.C.**
Celeb Look-a-like: **Janet Jackson**
How often are you told you look like this celeb? **Every once in a while, moreso of the old Janet, not the new Janet.**
Do you think you look like her? **I can see it in some ways.**



Julia Stiles actress

Name: **Alexis Wilson**
Major: **Education**
Class: **Freshman**
Celeb Look-a-like: **Julia Stiles**
How often are you told you look like this celeb?
Two or three times a week.
Do you think you look like her?
No. Not at all.

April 23, 2003

Sorority offers new scholarship for higher learning

By Raynard Gadson
Staff Writer

Nikki Crate, President of the Xi Beta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Sorority Inc at Winthrop University idealized a new scholarship to be awarded is organiza-

tion on campus that exemplify higher learning.

The new Hand-in-Hand scholarship, created in 2003, was awarded this year to Winthrop's chapter of the NAACP and the Collegiate Women for Christ.

Each award will be presented at a ceremony tonight at 7 p.m. at the Shack.

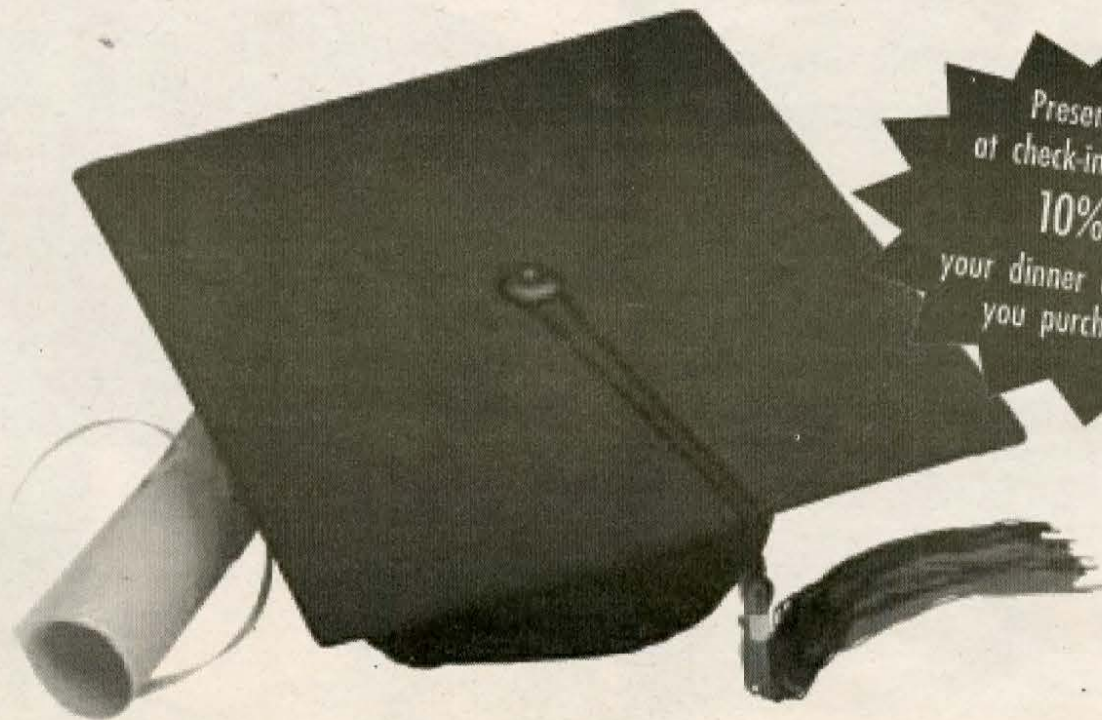
To be eligible for the Hand-in-Hand scholarship Organizations must be committed to the upliftment of African Americans,

demonstrate service to the community.

The money awarded must be used to benefit the organization s which it is awarded, and not awards individual purposes.

Crate, a senior, explains the

purpose of Hand-in-Hand: "I wanted to eliminate the competition aspect of black organizations, we're all on different paths, but ultimately we are reaching for one goal—uplifting the people."



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The Art of Poetry

April

is National Poetry Month. The Roddey McMillan highlights students who pour out their thoughts into spoken word. Salita Ody is a senior Speech Pathology Major and Spanish Minor currently residing in Summerville, S.C.

Symptoms

By Salita Ody

Have you ever gotten that feeling
When your heart starts beating
fast
Your mind races
And your fingers get all tingly

I had that feeling just the other day
You see, I felt a poem coming on
Had to grab me a pen so I could write

And so I began my poem
But had yet to finish
So, for a few days, I walked around
Smiling, Glowing

A lady asked me why I looked the way I did
And I told her I was expecting
She asked me if this was my first
And I said, "Noooo!"
I've been writing for years"

Yeah, I felt a poem coming on
Daydreamed about what that poem
Would turn out to be,
A Healer
An informer
The revelations it would bring

And I knew that if I remained patient,
I could make that paper sing



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Yeah, I felt a poem coming on
And when I get that feeling
I'd be a fool to let it pass
So, I just write until it goes
away
And make its message last

Nothing Gold Can Stay

Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.

-- Robert Frost



In loving memory of
Claire Elizabeth Bailey
1982-2003

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.

Full dependence is placed upon Jehovah's Word in the formulation of truth and it is from his Word that proof should be forthcoming.

Watchtower

The Jehovah's Witnesses is a religious ministry that dates back to 1872. Founded by Charles Russell, who at the age of 18 had great difficulty in dealing with the doctrine of eternal hell fire. He later came to deny not only eternal punishment, but also the Trinity, the deity of Christ, and the Holy Spirit. The Jehovah's Witnesses describe the doctrine of the Trinity as pagan in origin. According to their theology, "God is a single person, not a Trinity, who does not know all things and is not everywhere. He first created Michael, the Archangel, through whom He created all 'other things,' including the universe, the earth, Adam and Eve, etc."

Converts to the Jehovah's Witnesses agree to attend five meetings a week where they are taught from *Watchtower* literature. They can not be baptized until they have studied their material for at least six months and have answered numerous questions before a panel of elders. If a member leaves the Jehovah's Witness organization, he/she is considered an apostate and is to be shunned. Men are not allowed to have long hair or wear beards and women are to dress in modest apparel. Jehovah's Witnesses refuse to vote, salute the flag, sing the "Star Spangled Banner" and celebrate birthdays, national holidays, and religious holidays. They are forbidden to take blood transfusions, and they can not join the armed forces. A schedule of door-to-door canvassing is required as a member of the Jehovah's Witnesses. They distribute the *Watchtower* literature, acquire donations, and send all profits to their headquarters in Brooklyn, New York.

Today the Society has over 4 million members worldwide. The *Watchtower* Society statistics indicate that 740 house calls are required to recruit each of the nearly 200,000 new members who join every year. To learn more, go to <www.watchtower.org> or <www.carm.org/witnesses.htm>.

Meet the RMR Staff 2002-03

This has been a most fun, exciting and challenging year for the Roddey McMillan Record. The paper came out monthly and looks better each time. I would like to thank all of my dedicated and truly talented staff for all of their hard work this year. I'd also like to thank you, our readers, for supporting us throughout the year. ~

Ashlei N. Stevens

Editor-in-Chief 2002-03



Princess Bethea
Assistant Editor



Crystal Pressley
Layout Editor



Phillip Edwards
Photography Editor



Ashli Hale
Graphics Editor



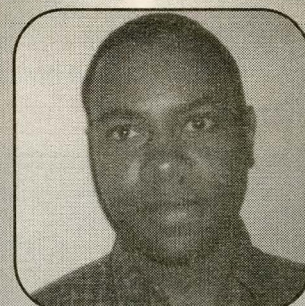
Mario Washington
Columnist



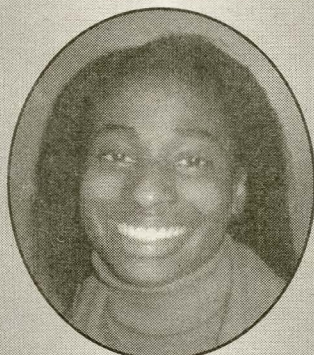
Crystal Marshall
Columnist/Staff Writer



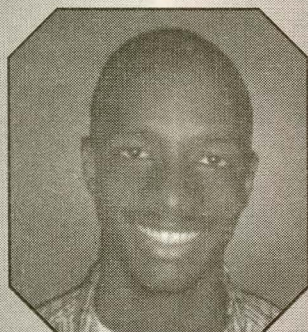
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Editor-in-Chief 2003-04



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