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The Roddey McMillan Record - January 21, 2004

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THE RODDEY McMILLAN RECORD



ISSUE V *Shining the light on diversity at Winthrop* JANUARY 21, 2004

Xi Phi Keeps the "Dream" Alive

by Erin Robinson
Poetry Editor

Huddled closely together amid biting cold, a large group of faculty, staff, students and members of the Rock Hill community gathered on the steps of Tillman to honor the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. this past Monday.

Since 1998, the Xi Phi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. has sponsored "The Candlelight Vigil" in honor of Dr. King, who became a member of the fraternity in 1952.

Chapter President Jermaine L. Wallace states that the purpose of this event is to "keep Martin Luther King's dream alive and to perpetuate his mission for equality for all individuals no matter their race, creed or ethnicity."

The speakers for the night touched on various subjects all tied together under a theme of being proactive.

The acknowledgement of history was ever-present but a charge to

"wake up" from Dr. King's dream and take action was issued by Y. Trevor Beauford, Winthrop Alum and past member of the Xi Phi chapter.

Also speaking was former coordinator of multicultural student life and *Roddey-McMillan Record* advisor Stacie Williams. She echoed a dictum of "one hope, one voice, one vote," urging students to take responsibility for the world around them.

Other events included speakers Henrietta Floyd Massey, another Winthrop alum, and a performance from the Association of the Ebonites Gospel Choir.

The night was concluded with the lighting of individual candles that were given to all attendees and a moment of silence. Despite the good intentions of all who were there, the wind quickly extinguished the candles but the light of Dr. King's message still burns on.



Above: Tony Rosenthal and Kendra Fulton pass the light of Dr. King's legacy at Monday night's vigil on the steps of Tillman. Right: Lindsey Holman (left) and Myshira Hart are all smiles as they try not to let the bitter winds extinguish their flame.



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"I've Been To The Mountaintop"

"And I'm happy, tonight. I'm not worried about anything. I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord."

~excerpt from Dr. King's final speech delivered on April 3, 1968

Source: <http://www.afscme.org/about/kingspch.htm>

The Petty Principle

Should failure overshadow success?

by Nicole N. Hollimon
Columnist

In September of 2003, the York County Council proposed a change in its policy of allowing county employees to take either MLK Day or their birthday off.

The proposal? York County Council wanted to observe MLK Day as a paid holiday.

York County was one of only two counties in South Carolina that did not observe MLK Day as a paid holiday. Greenville County now holds up the wall by itself.

In November of 2003, the York County Council made its decision official and Rock Hill City Council shortly followed suit.

Monday was York County's (and Rock Hill's) first observance of MLK Day as a paid holiday and all was relatively quiet.

But some Winthrop students are wondering why it took so long.

"Are we still that divided on the subject? He [King] pushed for equal rights. It was extremely honorable to stand up for what he did and we should honor him," says 20-year-old Dana Martin, a junior, history/secondary education major from Simpsonville, S.C.

Terri Carter, a 19-year-old sophomore accounting major from Columbia, S.C. agrees.

"They're a little behind on the times. It's been socially recognized for years."

I think it is wonderful that York County decided to facilitate progress by making a sound decision about such an antiquated issue. Therefore, my discord is not with York County, but with the protesters who gathered outside the Agricultural Building in downtown York on Oct. 7, 2003 to demonstrate their disapproval.

In an Oct. 7, 2003 article by Erica Pippins of *The Herald*, Robert Hayes, director of the South Carolina League of the South expressed his concern alongside others.



see HOLIDAY, page 8

TRAPPED

part IV: the conclusion

A story of one man's struggle to survive

by April Heath
Staff Writer

Problems begin to arise within the relationship "Trap" has with his brother, Bernard, when Bernard drops out of school. "Trap's" story continues...

"I can understand why he dropped because the teachers were not giving him the time he needed, and became irritated at the fact that he learned so slowly. Being picked at is not an easy thing to swallow and he just couldn't handle the ridicule. I told him that I understood all of that, but what I could not get is why he got into a life of crime.

"True, our lives have been filled with a lot of hardships, but things were finally starting to look up. Kale and Wanda had adopted us and we never had to beg for money or look in garbage cans for food and we always had clothes on our backs and a roof over our heads. So when my brother started selling, it

not only hurt me, but it hurt Kale and Wanda real bad. He would not give a reason why or anything, but I figured that it was because he could not do all the things that I could. In a way, I felt that he was jealous and wanted to be noticed, so what better way than to start selling drugs?" To this day, I can't remember exactly what I was feeling when he died, but I know it wasn't joy.

"I was in my last year of high school and we had just won the last basketball home game against one of the rival teams in the district, and everybody was leaving to go to this party that one of my homeboys was throwing. You know how people do when there is a crowd - they want to show out and be seen, and that is exactly what my brother was doing. He had some fly honey on his shoulder. She was tall, about five-seven with a body that could cause a train wreck, and my brother had on them new Jordan sneakers that had just come out and this sweat suit that looked like it cost a

grip. They were walking around like they was in a damn pageant or something and a lot of people were looking at them like they could just hurt them. One guy in particular I knew because he tried to shoot my brother one night over some missing money or drug, I know it was something, but I ended up helping my brother fight the dude. Anyway, I went to tell my brother to, you know, watch his back because it was a lot of dudes hating on him, but before I could get the words out, all you could hear was three shots being fired. Like any smart person, I started running. I was halfway down the block when I realized that 1) my brother was not with me, and 2) I was shot in the side. I went home to get help and to find out if Bernard was safe.

"I woke up in the hospital three days later. I kept asking them was my brother okay, and nobody would give me an answer. It was not until I was out of the hospital that Wanda and Kale told me Bernard did not make it and was shot in the temple and the neck, which killed

Did you know...
In 1996 firearms were the second leading cause of death for African-American males aged five to 14, and the leading cause of death among African-American males aged 15 to 24.

source: vpc.org/studies/whoguy.htm

him instantly. I did not get to go to the funeral and, come to think of it, I don't think I would have anyway. It was just too much for me to grasp in one lifetime. I had lost my mother to drugs, my grandma died when I was little. I never knew my father, and not he one person who knew my fears, my desires and my dreams

was dead. After that, I chose to move as far away as possible and came up here to Winthrop University to make a better life for myself and to hopefully, not forget where I came from, but to make it better.

"So, what's yo' number?"

...THE END

This story is a work of pure fiction. The characters presented in this story were created by April Heath. Resemblance to any person, living or deceased, is purely coincidental.

More than skin deep

The art of self-expression

Jesef Williams
Senior Staff Writer

You may have seen him walking around campus. Better yet, you might have had a class with him before. You might see him everyday but just never got around to ask him, "What do those tattoos mean?"

Well, Freshman Adam Hunt agreed to sit down with *The Roddey McMillan Record* and talk about his body paintings. Hunt has five tattoos on his right arm, with each one featuring intricate artwork of its own.

He says he got his first one almost a year ago: the Star of David near his forearm area. Another tattoo depicts a tribal vine and branch, which is wrapped around the star.

"[The tribal vine and branch] represents Christ. It comes from when He said, 'I'm the vine and you're the branches. No one can be anything without me,'" Hunt said.

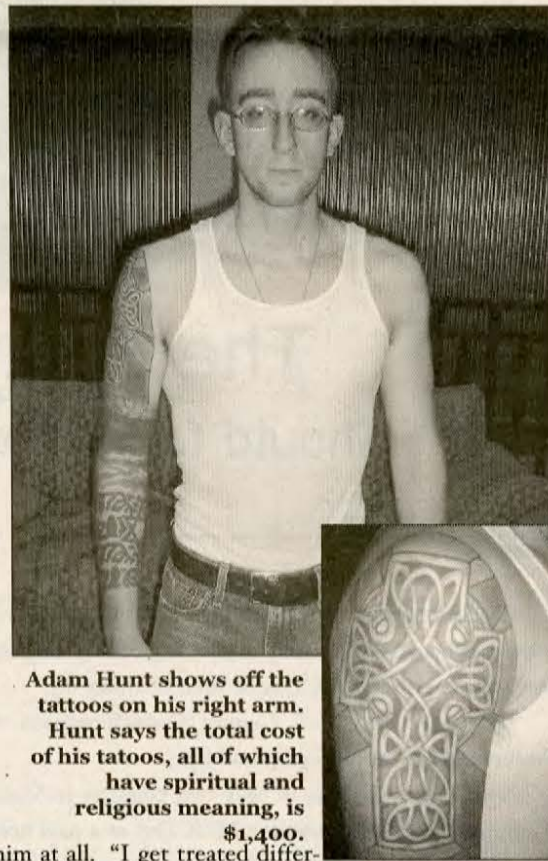
"Above that I have a storm that represents turmoil and conflict and also in the Nation of Israel," Hunt said. The storm features strokes of purple and red. The purple stand for royalty and the red symbolizes bloodshed.

Next, he has a tattoo of a Celtic band that divides conflict in his life from a Holy cross located on his shoulder. The cross is surrounded with blue rays that represent peace.

Hunt says the cost of his tattoo totals \$1,400. The most expensive was the vine and branch, which was \$400. All of the tattoos have spiritual and religious meaning. Hunt says that some people first look at his tattoos and automatically think he is crazy.

"My tattoos are for me. Don't get offended," he said.

Hunt says he continuously gets looked at with critical, judgmental eyes. But he says that does not bother



Adam Hunt shows off the tattoos on his right arm. Hunt says the total cost of his tatoos, all of which have spiritual and religious meaning, is \$1,400.

him at all. "I get treated differently. It's their right to have their opinion and it's my right to put tattoos on my body," Hunt said.

"I wouldn't get anything that's not spiritually related to me," Hunt said.

"To the general population, (my tattoos) are excessive - definitely in corporate America and anywhere professional."

He says he wants to eventually have both arms fully sleeved with tattoos.

"People have their hobbies - collecting coins or stamps. Some of us just like to mark up our bodies," Hunt said.

Want to make a change?

- * Do you believe that every person has worth as an individual?
- * Do you believe that every person is entitled to dignity and respect, regardless of race or color?
- * Do you believe that every thought and every act of racial prejudice is harmful?
- * Are you willing to strive daily to eliminate racial prejudice from your thoughts and actions?
- * Are you willing to discourage racial prejudice by others at every opportunity?

Sign the Birmingham Pledge!

What is the Birmingham Pledge, you ask?

Inspired by the civil rights movement and recognizing a need still exists for racial harmony, Jim Rotch, a Birmingham, Ala., attorney and partner at Bradley Arant Rose & White LLP, composed a simple yet moving personal commitment to eliminate prejudice in his own life. That commitment has become the Birmingham Pledge, not a global effort to recognize the dignity and worth of every individual. This Pledge has been signed by tens of thousands of people representing every continent.

Here's your chance to pledge to make the world a better place
WWW.BIRMINGHAMPLEDGE.ORG

info courtesy of birminghampledge.org
Thanks to Sharon King

Poetry Corner 

by Erin Robinson

Tracey L. Stewart, a sophomore, is a psychology and social work major from Columbia, South Carolina. The meaning for this piece is very deeply rooted and personal.

According to Stewart, "Black Love was created while I was spending time with my sister. We were watching *Love Jones*, our favorite movie, when my sister lit incense called 'Black Love.' The fragrance was so powerful that I kept saying the phrase, 'I love Black Love.' And so, the movie and the incense inspired the birth of this poem. And for those who have not experienced love, specifically Black Love, I encourage you to start loving our fellow man...and with time hopefully will finish with love for your nation."



Calling all poets!

The Roddey McMillan Poetry Corner is open to all campus poets.

Each month all poetry submissions will be compiled and the best one will be selected to be published in the RMR. Poems will be judged based on originality, content, grammar, and flow.

At the end of the semester, all of the poems featured in each month's issue will be collectively judged by a panel of judges including professors, students and members of the Roddey-McMillan staff to pick the 2003-2004 RMR Poetry Corner winner, and then something special will happen!

You may email poetry submissions to RoddeyMac@winthrop.edu by February 11, or you can drop them off to Erin at the Margaret Nance Hall Office in a folder marked "Poetry Submissions."

Black Love

By Tracey L. Stewart

I Love Black Love

Inhaling soothes the senses of my
Plagued mind.

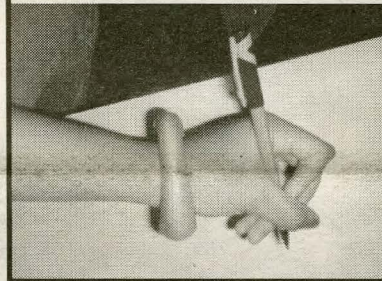
Doing double shots of this
Top notch aroma, blinding my
Ways that stray-
leading me to the right.

Black Love I love-

To think of the days I'll forever hold you
And keep the aroma filled in my palace.

opening the windows for all
To smell the smoke of my Love.

Aroma seeping in your pores-
Sweet, tingly is my love for Black Love,
Watching the mixture of time and



Pictures of the coc buttery, choco-
late honey-
Lovely tatses, textures intertwined
makes smile just to think of
Black Love.

Affirmative Action: to help or to hinder

by April Blanding
Staff Writer

The results of a telephone survey on affirmative action, sent out to residents of Michigan, shows that affirmative action is starting to be viewed as only skin color-related.

Last summer, a white University of Michigan applicant, Jennifer Gratz, sued the University of Michigan stating that she was not accepted because of the affirmative action policy despite her achievements in high school while less qualified minorities were accepted.

The main question in any discussion of affirmative action is the fairness of the policy. Yes, affirmative action allows more minorities (including women and disabled persons, not just ethnic minorities) the chance to be accepted to a good college or obtain a better job, but are they only being accepted because of their race rather than their credentials for the sole purpose of fulfilling a quota?

According to Winthrop student Alisha Kennedy, a freshman Biology major from Greenville, SC, "Those who are needed because of physical attributes instead of skill are not really needed."

Kennedy believes that race should not matter in the decision of being accepted to a university. The decision should be based on academic ability and leadership in high school.

Danielle Finch, an Elementary Education major from Columbia, SC, agrees with Kennedy and claims "affir-

mative action is backwards thinking."

Questioning the policy, Finch states, "if some people are let into a school because they need a higher minority count then isn't this going against what was fought for in the first place? People should not be rejected from a school because they already have filled their quota of that race. It is just wrong."

Finch is speaking of racial equality in terms that the same education is given to both whites and blacks, but not because there should be equality in the number of blacks and whites that attend a university.

During the Civil Rights era, African-Americans fought for equality to prove that they are capable of doing the same jobs as non-blacks and worthy of the same education.

Ronald Campbell, a Pre-Major from Walterboro, SC, thinks that affirmative action has its good and bad points. It allows minorities the chance to obtain jobs they might not have originally been able to get, but it also creates the "token black position," by placing an African-American in a predominantly non-minority setting.

**Editor's Note: While some may disagree with the policy, claiming that it disgraces the minority community and endorses the "tolerance" of minorities in the workplace, others believe that it has significantly propelled the minorities into the workforce, resulting in the enhancement and advancement of the American society. This article is not stating that the admissions department of Winthrop or the University of Michigan uses skin color as a factor. Furthermore, the persons interviewed for this article were both black and white.*

GOT OPINIONS?

E-mail us at
RoddeyMac@winthrop.edu
or visit our official website
www.birdnest.org/roddeymac



Raynard Gadson
Editor-in-chief
gadsont1

Princess Bethea
Asst. Editor
ptb12001@yahoo.com

Matt Busby
Ad Manager
busbym2

Erin Robinson
Poetry Editor
robinsone1

Tiffini Mitchell
Copy Editor
mitchell1

Ashlei Stevens
Layout Editor
stevensa1

Phillip Edwards
Photo Editor
edwardsp1

Stacie Williams
Advisor
williamss

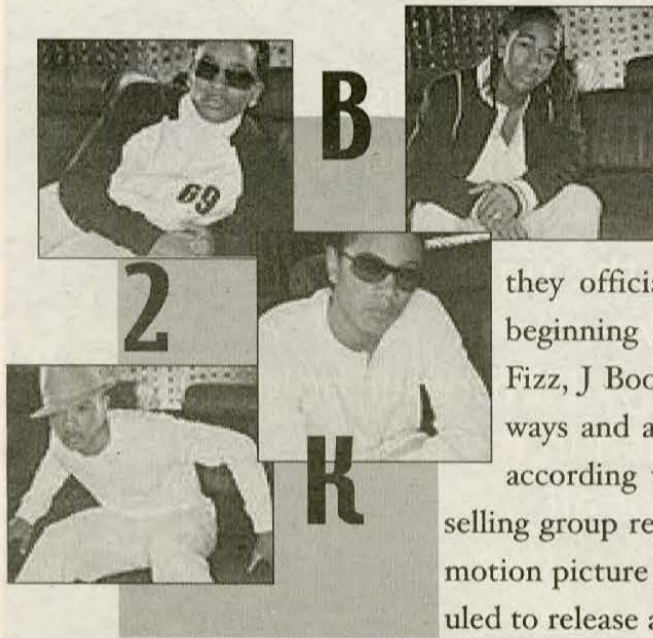
The Roddey-McMillan Record
Winthrop P.O. Box 5044
Rock Hill, S.C. 29733
Phone (803) 323-2592
Fax (803) 323-3698

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What's the Word?

The Latest in Entertainment News

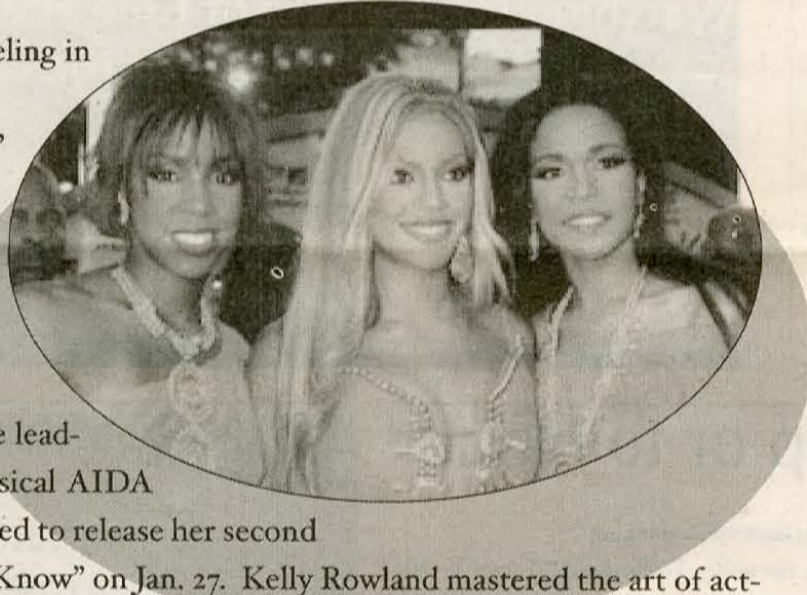
Compiled by
Ashlei N. Stevens
Layout Editor



<< "Bump, Bump, Broke" could be the latest tune for boy group B2K, as they officially announced their breakup at the beginning of this year. Members Omarion, Lil Fizz, J Boog and Raz B are going their separate ways and are "currently settling internal issues," according to their website. The multi-platinum selling group recently released the soundtrack to the motion picture "You Got Served." Omarion is scheduled to release a solo album in the future.

Photos courtesy of b2klovesyou.com

>> While Beyonce is still reveling in the success of her debut solo album "Dangerously in Love," the other two members Kelly Rowland and Michelle Williams are still survivin'. The trio plans to release two CDs later this year.

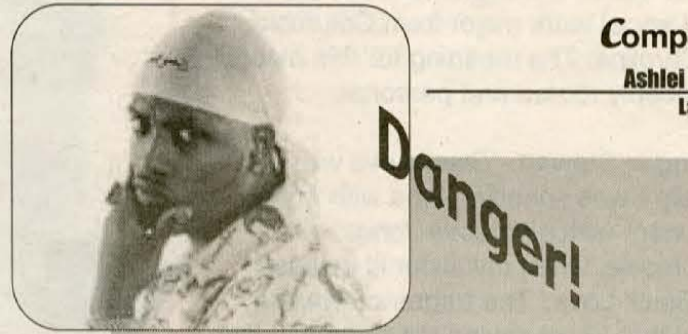


Williams, who took over the leading role in the Broadway musical AIDA from Toni Braxton, is scheduled to release her second solo album entitled "Do You Know" on Jan. 27. Kelly Rowland mastered the art of acting, playing a supporting role in last summer's horror flick "Freddy vs. Jason."

photo courtesy of everyposterunderthesun.com



<< Michael says that Billie Jean is not his lover, but Billie may be. According to mtv.com, Jackson pleaded not guilty to seven charges of performing a lewd act on a child and two counts of administering an intoxicating agent to a child. Last Friday turned out to be a circus for Jackson as he appeared late for court and danced on top of an SUV for hundreds of fans who left their jobs and homes to come see him enter and exit his arraignment in California.



"I am not a crook" is Mystikal's famous line from the crunk party song "I don't give a..." But too bad that the court of law has proved that he is a criminal. The rapper, whose real name is Michael Tyler, was recently sentenced to six years in prison with sexual battery charges. According to mtv.com, Mystikal was arrested in 2002 after he threatened to turn in his hairstylist to police for cashing \$80,000 worth of unauthorized checks. In order to clear her name, Mystikal told the stylist that she must comply to oral sex with him and his two bodyguards. The act was recorded on video tape and Mystikal is registered as a sex offender under Louisiana law. Mtv.com also reports that he will be eligible for parole after spending two years behind bars. So in case he tries to "Shake it fast" in prison, he better watch himself."

Photo courtesy of mtv.com

—that's what's up—

a look at JANUARY past

- 1913** -- Sickness, unemployment and maturity benefits were introduced (1/15).
- 1925** -- The first American female governor was elected (1/5).
- 1929** -- Martin Luther King, Jr. was born (1/15).
- 1933** -- Adolf Hitler became Chancellor of Germany (1/30).

- 1935** -- Iceland became the first country to legalize abortion (1/28).
- 1942** -- Muhammad Ali was born (1/17).
- 1959** -- Alaska became the 49th state, purchased from Russia (1/3).
- 1962** -- A Czech student set himself on fire in protest against the USSR (1/19).

- 1978** -- The first ever American women astronauts were selected by NASA (1/13).
- 1991** -- Operation "Desert Storm" began against Iraq (1/16).

* Compiled by Princess Bethea

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Associate
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BOOK REVIEW:

Standing in the Need of Prayer

By The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

by Princess Bethea
Associate Editor

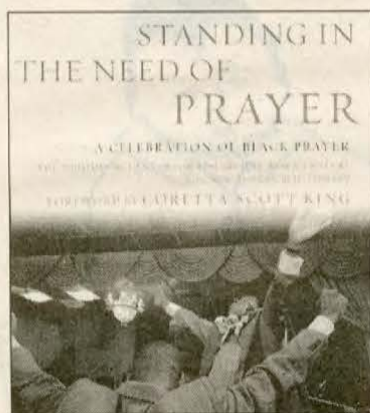
It's me, it's me, it's me Oh Lord, standing in the need of prayer...

The Rev. Jesse Jackson considers prayer to be universal and limitless, like God and air.

"Standing in the Need of Prayer" is a remarkable collection of prayers accompanied by poignant photographs of people of various faiths, in various times, and diverse places. The pictures illustrate the humble moments as our ancestors, African-American heroes, and brothers and sisters around the world liberate themselves in the midst of their prayer rituals.

Accomplished photographer, Gordon Parks, is featured several times along with prayers from famous African-Americans—W.E.B. Du Bois, James Baldwin, James Weldon Johnson, and Marian Wright Edelman.

"Standing in the Need of



Prayer" includes prayers from West and Central Africa, the Muslim and Buddhist faiths, and all mainstream American denominations.

I enjoyed reading this powerful book. It is filled with moving words and gripping images that capture the full meaning of what prayer was to our ancestors and what it has the power to be for us today. I suggest this book to anyone with a spiritual yearning; you will find a new religious experience each time you read it.

Remember the 80s BACK TO THE MOVIES

by Ebony Baker
Senior Staff Writer

Movies are a favorite American pastime. Whether you've actually sat in the theater or watched a DVD in the privacy of your home, chances are you've seen quite a few movies.

The 1980s were filled with a countless number of memorable movies. And with cable TV, you can see at least one of any given 80s movie every week. You have your 'kiddie' movies like "All Dogs go to Heaven," "The Little Mermaid," and "Honey I Shrunk the Kids." Then there are the classics like "Lean on Me," "Steel Magnolias," and "The Color Purple." I'm sure many of us can remember hearing "Free Mr. Clark!" (from "Lean On Me") ringing at fair old Eastside High. Somehow, I remember feeling like I was one of the bystanders in the movie watching those kids protest.

Both "Steel Magnolias" and "The Color Purple," both are among my all time favorite movies because they depict strong women getting through some tough situations.

Charise Hoyle, a business major, said her favorite 80s movie was Spike Lee's "School Daze"—another 80s classic.

The 80s also saw its fair share of scary movies: "The Nightmare on Elm Street" series, "Friday the 13th," "Halloween" (sequels 2-5), "Child's Play," and "Poltergeist," just to name a few. I know Jason & Freddy had many of us shaking in our chairs back then.

There were also movies that now have sequels: "Police Academy," "The Karate Kid," "Back to the Future," "Batman," and "The Terminator." Who would have thought Arnold Schwarzenegger

would be holding a political office back when he was saying "Hasta la vista, baby!"

Some of my other favorites were "Coming to America," "The Breakfast Club," and "Ferris Bueller's Day Off." Ferris Bueller gave us all some pointers on the right way to goof off. Finally, the 80s would not have been complete without mentioning these movie favorites: "Purple Rain" (starring Prince), "Look Who's Talking," "E.T. - the Extra Terrestrial," "Dirty Dancing," and "Who Framed Roger Rabbit?"

Top 10 Movies of 1985:

- 1) Ghostbusters
- 2) Beverly Hills Cop
- 3) Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom
- 4) Gremlins
- 5) The Karate Kid
- 6) Police Academy
- 7) Footloose
- 8) Romancing the Stone
- 9) Star Trek III: Search for Spock
- 10) Splash

info: www.80s.com



photos: walmart.com



Musiq Soulchild
SOULSTAR

by Matthew Busby
Ad Manager



If you haven't had a chance to pick up Musiq Soulchild's latest release, *SoulStar* don't be upset when you look around and everyone you know is falling in love and getting their groove on except you!

SoulStar is Soulchild's third album release and by far his most creative. He certainly has brought R&B/Soul

music to even higher heights since his previous albums *Aijuswanasieng*, and *Juslissen*. *SoulStar* is a testament to his creativity in developing interesting themes through writing.

The album is a typical love album containing songs that—believe it or not—are inspired by a wide variety of genres and artists. Soulchild tapped into the musical vault, selecting samples ranging from those old soul crooners, The Spinners to the rock stylings of the big-lipped leader of the Rolling Stones, Mick Jagger. It is an

cd reviews

album that speaks to more than just the "Neo-Soul" crowd, but to everyone who has a genuine interest in music.

"Forthenite" is the first single released from the album but you can expect to hear the oh so creative "Womanopoly," "Dontstop" featuring Bilal, and "Youloveme" on the radio.

Overall *SoulStar* is a great record to chill to, dance to and drive to. It's also a good album for those first time Musiq fans to purchase and an excellent addition for the real "Zac" fans.

Take songwriting seasoned with soulful vocals and you get Rudy Currence. His latest album, *More Than You'll Ever Know* is an understatement, it's more than you'd probably expect.

The 23-year-old Rock Hill native released *More Than You'll Ever Know*, in August of 2003 and has since made several appearances all over the country, including Winthrop and Princeton. His music is even featured in the films, "The Bourne Identity" and "Move the Crowd."

More than You'll Ever Know's production is like a perfectly

blended tea of jazz, folk, pop, R&B and techno -- mixed just right so that it appeals to all tastes.

Themes range from light to more serious topics. "Songwriter" and "Carousels" contain thought-provoking messages, and show incredible insight on issues, life experiences and purpose.

Currence's thoughtfulness as a songwriter and ability as a vocalist are qualities that, in today's music scene, are few and far between. However in a few of the songs his writing becomes so involved that it seems to be too much. The

Rudy Currence
MORE THAN YOU'LL EVER KNOW

by Matt Busby
Ad Manager



lyrics tend to get to a point where the listener gets prepared by a musical cue for the song to end and the song continues past that point.

Those things aside, the impact with which he makes his delivery and overall star quality are important components to the success of this album and will no doubt be formidable weapons in Currence's rise to the top.

the pill... for men

by **Ebony Baker**
Senior Staff Writer

Organon, a Holland-based company, hopes it can bring a hormone-based injection for men to the market within three to four years. Long-term safety data is lacking for the male birth-control shots. But short-term studies show they prevent pregnancy about 97 percent of the time, making them about as effective as the female pill, said Dr. William Bremner, director of the UW's Male Contraception Research Center.

The UW researchers hope to develop a male pill that's as effective as the shots, and are trying to determine why the pill reduces but does not stop sperm production in some men.

The pill works by using external testosterone to shut down the brain's signals to the testicle, which stops making sperm and internal testosterone.

"It leaves the guys with a healthy amount of testosterone so that they feel fine," the doctor said.

Acne and weight gain occurred in some men participating in such studies, but these have not greatly impacted research. The pill has about a 95 percent success rate, which is just shy of the effectiveness of the hormone injection. The shorter-term goal is a pill that stops sperm production but keeps behavior, sexual function and metabolism normal and reduces the risk of prostate disease.

Information courtesy of http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/local/96391_malepill20.shtml



photo courtesy of oneforus.com

Doctors at the University of Washington are renewing efforts to develop a birth-control pill for men, who haven't had a new contraceptive product since the invention of the condom.

The UW researchers plan to recruit about 50 men to test a tablet that, like the female pill, uses hormones to trick the body. But instead of suppressing a woman's egg once a month, this new pill would block millions of sperm produced by a man each day.

Research on the male contraceptive pill has moved slowly many in society, including the pharmaceutical industry, feel that that preventing pregnancy is more a female responsibility.

Currently, men account for just 30 percent of contraceptive use in the United States. Half of that are condoms, the other half vasectomies. Both have drawbacks.

Condoms can be expensive, and many men dislike them because they decrease sensation and can spoil the mood. They also fail frequently.

Studies show that a couple relying exclusively on condoms for a year has a 10 percent to 15 percent chance of pregnancy. Vasectomies, on the other hand, guarantee infertility, but some men are squeamish about the surgery.

A male birth-control pill would allow men more control over their fertility. It also would take some of the birth-control burden off of women.

Shades of Gray

the story of an interracial couple

by **April Heath**
Staff Writer

The following story is based on the lives of an actual couple. One of the students attends Winthrop University. The names have been changed.

Father's Day

Dear Diary,

Quincy meets my family today. I'm excited, but nervous at the same time. I'm excited because Quincy is coming, but nervous because of how my extended family might react when they actually see him.

My brother said that he refuses to bring my niece over to the house when Quincy comes. I mean, what is the big deal? He's human like everyone else. Don't they want me to be happy?

My brother and his wife met him a few weeks before, and they were cordial, you know. It wasn't like when I first brought over my white boyfriend, but they were friendly enough. I guess because of his Georgia accent, they didn't have much to talk about because they couldn't understand what he was saying.

I know that it will take time for my family to get used to the idea because we live in such a small community and dating outside my race isn't accepted.

Aug. 21, 2003

Dear Diary,

I went to Georgia to visit Quincy. Michelle, his ex-girlfriend and supposed baby-mama, showed up at Beth and Treneil's house while Quincy and I were there. She just sat in the road talking a lot of crap to me and Quincy. She finally left after about 45 minutes. I really wish that she would just leave me and him alone.

The strain with Michelle is really taking a toll on our relationship. We think she's one of the many people who are having a hard time dealing with Quincy's dating a white girl. She thinks she's better for him, and probably thinks that Quincy sold out.

Sometimes I wonder if he thinks the same thing.

Sept. 3, 2003

Dear Diary,

Michelle has been calling non-stop, and it's really starting to piss me off. It's making me feel a little insecure about my relationship. I understand that what they had is over, but sometimes it hits me that he had a kind of connection with her that he'll never have with me -- they were both black. Then I think about how much harder I have to fight for us because of that. Fighting against our families and friends. Fighting against all the odds.

And of course Quincy and I fight about HER all the time. It's becoming very difficult. Sometimes I wonder if this whole relationship is worth all this fighting.

Jan. 10, 2004

Dear Diary,

Quincy and I are still having problems and I am tired of arguing with him so much. It seems that lately we spend more time justifying our love to everybody else than showing it to each other.

Sometimes I think it's a hassle.

Ignoring people who talk behind my back. Problem after problem. But with all these obstacles, I admit that it does create a passion when we are finally able to push all of the outside world aside and concentrate on us.

We sat down and talked today -- just about us and where this whole thing was headed. It's love, Diary. It's enough to keep us coming back to this place. Enough to bring us to this united front. This solid shade of gray.

Students today, Leaders tomorrow

by **Ashlei Stevens**
Layout Editor

When graduate student Kerri Ekberg learned that she could teach a Leadership Winthrop course, she jumped at the opportunity.

"I wouldn't discourage anyone from participating in Leadership Winthrop," said Ekberg, who is on the program's planning committee. "It's a way for students to be better equipped to be leaders on campus."

Begun in 1994, Leadership Winthrop is a non-credit course that teaches leadership skills and self-awareness to volunteering students.

The course is only offered during spring semesters and will meet every Tuesday beginning Feb. 3 from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m.

Boyd Jones, Program Director for student affairs, has worked with the program for nine years. He and Ekberg have noticed that students who participate in this program are more apt to hold leadership

positions in other campus organizations such as residence life and greek organizations.

Graduate student Herbert Johnson recently became the student coordinator for campus programs. This spring will be his first opportunity to work with Leadership Winthrop.

"It's unlike any other course. It's not a lecture," Johnson said. "It's hands-on activities."

The classes are taught by faculty, staff, graduate students and student leaders who are members of the planning Committee. These members select the curriculum to be taught and each teach at least one session during the semester.

Some of the lessons include business etiquette, values and ethics, motivation and cultural diversity.

Some students are nominated to be a part of the class.



"It allows students to be leaders on campus and in whatever path they choose."

~Boyd Jones
Program Director for student affairs

Students seeking interest who are not nominated may apply by Feb. 2 at the Dinkins Information desk or online at www.winthrop.edu/studentaffairs/leadershipWU.

February 2004

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Applications for Leadership Winthrop are due Feb. 2.

HERE TODAY, CLONE TOMORROW

by Tanaisha Brisbon
Senior Staff Writer

Many people believe that everyone has a twin or someone that looks exactly like them somewhere in the world. What if this were true? What if there was someone you never met who looks exactly like you? Even more odd, what if that person has the same DNA as you do? What if that person acts, talks, thinks, and dresses like you? A clone.

In 1997, the cloning procedure was publicized in newspapers, magazines, and broadcasts all over the world. Scientist Ian Wilmut and his colleagues at the Roslin Institute near Edinburg, Scotland cloned a lamb known as "Dolly," reported science journalist Gregory E. Pense. According to science journalist Arlene J. Klotzko, the procedure was performed by removing a nucleus from an egg cell and replacing that nucleus with one that had been taken out of a mammary cell from an adult sheep. They also used an electric current to cause the egg and its nucleus to fuse and merge into an embryo. Embryos that developed were implanted into surrogate sheep. This procedure was performed over two hundred times before the birth of "Dolly," an exact replica of her mother was born.

Scientists believe that the cloning procedure could also work in human beings. Why would anyone want to

clone a person? Scientist Julian Sauulescu believes that there are many advantages to using the procedure including freedom of scientific enquiry, preventing genetic disease, and freedom of treatment for infertility. Eric Johnson, a 20-year-old junior believes that cloning body parts can be beneficial for people who need organ transplants.

Another student sees the positives and drawbacks of cloning. "I also believe that cloning could be beneficial for infertile couples if they don't want to adopt. On the other hand, I think the process must be well thought before used because scientists could take advantage of this responsibility," said 19-year-old freshman, Erin Wilcox.

There are also disadvantages of cloning. The procedure can be beneficial, but things can get out of control. There is a chance that human beings will become indistinguishable and mass produced like products sold for retail. Denae Hartsfield, 22-year-old senior said, "God made us all unique. Man cannot duplicate what God has uniquely made. The imposter will be flawed in some way whether we can see it or not."

D.J. Breeden, a 19-year-old junior said, "Cloning is like farming people, it weakens the gene pool. It could eventually cause more problems with ID fraud."

TAKING A STAND: Religious Persecution

by Raynard Gadson
Editor-in-chief

You've heard the expression "Stand for something or you will fall for anything," but have you ever taken it literally?

In countries around the world, people have been persecuted because of their religious beliefs, opting to test the strength of their own character and integrity than to conform to the institutions of the society in which they live.

The sad part is that this is still prevalent in many countries such as Tibet, Pakistan, China, and yes, even America.

Persecution in America may not be as blatant as in other countries, where people are killed for choosing to practice or not to practice a certain religion, but it is still alive.

Every day, people are being criticized and judged by others for believing in God. If not criticized, then scrutinized or worse, looked upon with disgust as someone who holds him or herself higher (or "holier" than others.

One of the most liberating elements to the U.S. Constitution is

the Bill of Rights, by which each American is granted the freedom of religion. Why, then, must people feel forced to justify why they believe in something?

Ignorance?

Marisa Jones, an IMC major from Jamaica, said that people who persecute others because of their religious beliefs are people who only believe in what he or she knows.

"It highlights the ignorance or misunderstanding of another religion," Jones said.

"I think it's wrong," said Shayla Jenkins, an English major from St. Matthews, SC. "If [those who persecute] think something is wrong, I think they should take the time out to research it first before they pass judgment."

Jenkins shares this opinion with others, noting that persecution often occurs because of prejudice as well as ignorance.

It could be argued that many times, people don't want to understand what they themselves don't believe, and instead decide to criticize or humiliate those whose beliefs oppose their own.

In extreme circumstances, people are killed. Such was the case during Roman times, the early days of Christianity and the Jewish Holocaust, according to philosophy professor, Dr. Peter Judge.

Many of today's Christians live for the chance to stand tall in the face of criticism, hanging onto the belief that our courage will not go unrewarded. Even if it results in death, we believe that if we only lived for that moment, our living has not been in vain.

Then he said to them all, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it. What does it profit them if they gain the whole world, but lose or forfeit themselves? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words, of them the Son of Man will be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels."

—Luke 9:23-26, NRSV

Words to live by

Both noble and
common BLOOD
are the
SAME COLOR

German Proverb



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IN THE SPOTLIGHT...

Robert Butler

by Jada Hudson
Staff Writer

Robert Butler is a native of Liberia and this is his second semester as Graduate Assistant to the Office of Multicultural Student Life. He speaks about adjusting to the United States and the things he likes about the Winthrop Community.

Why did you choose America?

America is a global village; I looked for an area offering education, environment, and academic curriculum that would be able for me to obtain a solid ground of academia as well as have an opportunity to enable me to meet the unfolding millennium challenges. The southern area provides that especially in studies.

Why Winthrop?

Winthrop is a reasonable academic institution yet, as compared to big universities it has the kind of professors, who enable students to have close contact with professors on a one-on-one basis. Winthrop professors are friends and present good academia.

How was your settling into America?

A remarkable experience and a culture shock, I had to work hard to become culturally assimilated. I began to befriend people in order to know America. Also, through forums and trips which helped soothe the transition. America and Liberia have strong similarities politically; for instance, our flag, structure of the constitution, and ways of life.

Did you find Winthrop hospitable?

There is some degree of stereotype. It is up to me to prove myself.

What is your position here?

I am a Graduate Assistant in Multicultural Student Affairs, and National Student Exchange. I arrived in September 2003.

What do you want to accomplish here?

A wonderful education, to use the best opportunity given for me to pursue my education to the fullest extent, and to make use of the kind of psychological improvement on societies structure.

What is your favorite color?

Red. Red resembles steadfastness, which means you have to hold on to what you have. Keep perseverance and your time will come.



photo by Astleil Stevens

Robert Butler, of Liberia, is a Graduate Assistant at Winthrop. This year, he worked with the Office of Multicultural Student Life.

HOLIDAY, from page 1

"Dr. King was a womanizer and a communist sympathizer. Don't make the God-fearing and Christian citizens of York County pay for honoring a questionable person like Martin Luther King," Hayes said.

Hayes is not the first to speak on Dr. King's personal affairs. The Klu Klux Klan has a whole section of their web site dedicated to it, entitled "Abolish the KING Holiday!"

According to Pippins, Hayes suggested that the late U.S. Senator Strom Thurmond or former South Carolina governor Joseph West be granted a holiday.

Now I don't know anything about Joseph West, but I do know something about Strom Thurmond. Wasn't he the same man who, in 1925, had pre-marital sex and fathered a child with a (gasp!) black woman?

Throw the confetti and honor Strom Thurmond with a holiday. I'm sure the "God-fearing and Christian citizens of York County" would approve.

Okay, so news of Thurmond's black daughter had not broken when Hayes made his statement.

I'm almost positive he put his foot in his mouth, but I'm even more positive that when his face resumed its natural color, he probably still supported Strom Thurmond having a holiday over Martin Luther King,

Jr.

My premise is that Hayes' issue is not with King's personal indiscretions (which I don't know if they're true or not) but with his race. His preoccupation with King's private affairs is simply racism shrouded in moral concern.

Didn't Moses murder an Egyptian? Didn't David sleep with the wife of his servant, then have him sent off to die in battle so his lust for her could be gratified?

Yet these are biblical figures Christians embrace because of their dedication to the Lord, which overshadows their failures.

Let's say the accusations are true. Instead of pointing out the personal indiscretions of Dr. King, why didn't Hayes point out his accomplishments?

Dr. King was at the forefront of a movement that purposed to rid America of inequality, and was stabbed and jailed, amongst other terrible things, just so "all men were created equal" would ring true.

So he made mistakes. We all do. But the fact that he was wholly dedicated to and fought for what he believed was right, not only in his eyes, but in the eyes of God, overshadows his personal failures. That, I think, is something the God-fearing and Christian citizens of York County would pay for.

Thank you, Stacie...



...for all of the generous contributions you've made, both morally and supportively, as advisor of

The Roddey McMillan Record. We wish you much success in the future. Thank you, and congratulations.

The Staff

December Poll Results:

Michael Jackson:

Is he "Dangerous," or are they "Off the Wall?"

- A) No. It's the parents' faults..... 20%
- B) Yes. Having been confronted with similar allegations once before, he should have known better. 40%
- C) No. People are just trying to take advantage of a man who simply loves children. 0%
- D) Yes. Just because he's famous doesn't mean he should be able to do anything he wants. He may be sick, and people should pay more attention to that. 20%
- E) It's too much going on to say. 20%

JANUARY POLL:

Do you agree with the policy of Affirmative Action?

- A) Yes, it promotes minority advancement.
- B) No, it demoralizes the minority population.
- C) It does not bother me one way or the other.

Email your answer and thoughts/comments to RoddeyMac@winthrop.edu, or vote online at www.birdnest.org/roddeymac We'll post the results in the next issue!