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# Roddey-McMillan Record

First Issue, Spring 1998

Winthrop's multicultural newspaper

September 1998

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PHOTO COURTESY OF DSU

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PHOTO COURTESY OF DSU

## KARENGA CELEBRATES EMANCIPATION

In what was his second international honor this summer, activist-scholar Dr. Maulana Karenga, recently returned from Trinidad and Tobago where he served as guest of honor for the national annual Emancipation celebrations marking the 160th year of emancipation from enslavement, August 1, 1838. Fresh from his trip to South Africa in May where he received an honorary doctorate and gave a commencement address at the University of Durban-Westville, Dr. Karenga traveled to Trinidad, accompanied by his wife Tiamoya Karenga, to receive an award and participate in numerous activities. There, he gave a public lecture at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, titled "Forging our Future in the Crucible of Struggle: The Ongoing Process of Emancipation," conducted a seminar on the values and vision of the Pan-African and African-American holiday of Kwanzaa and participated with Ms. Karenga in a seminar on the African Woman in the Diaspora, using the Nguzo Saba (The Seven Principles) of Kwanzaa and Kawaida philosophy as a framework for life and struggle.

He also met with community leaders and activists and with the

mayors of the capital city, Port-of-Spain, and the second largest city, San Fernando, as well as Pt. Fortin and the township of Arima and offered solidarity statements from his organization Us and the African-American people. In addition, he gave another public address at St. Clement's Episcopal Church in Sainte Madeleine in the southern part of Trinidad, where he was given the St. Clement's Emancipation Award for significant contribution to the ongoing struggle for African and human freedom and with the pastor, The Rev. Father Kwame Mohlabani, laid wreaths at the African Holocaust Memorial Park.

An ardent pan-Africanist and internationally recognized scholar and activist, Dr. Karenga is professor and chair of the Department of Black Studies, California State University-Long Beach and has lectured extensively on the life, culture and struggle of African people at major universities and conferences in the U.S., as well as in Africa, Cuba, the People's Republic of China, Mexico, Canada and England. He is also the chair of the Organization Us and the National Association of Kawaida Organizations, the

creator of Kwanzaa and author of numerous scholarly articles and books including Kwanzaa: A Celebration of Family, Community and Culture; Kawaida: A Communitarian African Philosophy and Selections from The Husia: Sacred Wisdom of Ancient Egypt.

Invited by the Confederation of African Associations of Trinidad and Tobago (COAATT), the oldest of the emancipation organizations, Dr. Karenga follows a long list of internationally recognized persons selected each year to serve in this prestigious position, including Professor Wole Soyinka, noted Nigerian writer and Nobel Prize recipient for literature; President Jean Bertrand Aristide of Haiti, Dr. Mae Jamison, the first African-American woman astronaut, and the Honorable Emeka Anyaoku, secretary general of the commonwealth. In her letter of , COAATT president explained that Dr. Karenga was chosen as guest of honor for his "monumental contribution" to African people, especially his creation of Kwanzaa and the Nguzo Saba (The Seven Principles) which are embraced by many Trinidadians and millions of other Africans through the world African community.

## It is Still Hard to Be Black in America

BY RENEE' MAEB  
STAFF WRITER

Roy Smith, a man in his late fifties or early sixties, moved to Colorado from Mississippi about 20 years ago. He decided to stay there because he thought he would be escaping the racism in Mississippi. He was immediately nicknamed by the towns people as "Nigger Roy," and that is how everyone referred to him; including the police.

The people in the area found it normal to shoot at Roy, attack him, turn their dogs on him, run him down with trucks and beat and torture him. They also dynamited around him and poured

acid on him. Roy Smith was powerless against these senseless attacks.

One of the worst attacks he endured, happened one night when he was taking a bath. While he was in the bathtub, a group of men broke into his cabin, blindsided him, and drew him naked from his tub. He was beaten unmercifully and then hung upside down by his ankles with wire from the ceiling of his cabin. These men then proceeded to mutilate his genitals with a pair of pliers so badly that his whole groin area was swollen.

Roy Smith swung by his ankles until he was

able to break the wire, which left scars. He then managed to get to a neighbors cabin. The neighbor advised him to seek immediate medical attention. He was treated by a doctor who had treated him many times before. Roy Smith reported this attack as he had the others, and the police did nothing. They did not even record the incident.

His physician recommended that he seek legal authorities. The doctor told him about two white lawyers who did not like the treatment he was receiving, and they brought suits against the known perpetrators.

In court the police

were defenseless. They could not show any evidence that they had investigated the offenses or even recorded them. They denied the incidents. The lawyer had them look at the lists of people in the town and found that Roy Smith was listed as "Nigger Roy." The police then responded that "these incidents looked like minor incidents to them."

Eventually, the police were shown as "complicit." The town decided to settle and Roy Smith decided to take the settlement. The case was settled for \$700,000 and no charges were ever brought against anyone.

Roy Smith consequently moved to another part of Colorado where he felt safer.

Roy Smith later stated that,

"He didn't want revenge or retribution in any way, he was satisfied."

His white lawyers ended with,

"They don't believe this is an isolated incident and it makes me realize how difficult it still is to be black in America."

This may sound like a story from the 1960's, but this event actually occurred in 1997 and was first reported on ABC's 20/20 in March 1998.

## Stand By Your Man

BY KATE COOPER  
COPY EDITOR

President Bill Clinton. Whenever the name is mentioned the first thing that pops in the minds of millions of Americans is his improper behavior with Monica Lewinsky. Then to make matters worse, on September 10, prosecutor Kenneth Starr has cited 11 offenses including perjury that could lead to President Clinton's impeachment.

It seems ultimately ridiculous to have let this situation get this far. In one of my several English classes, the question was posed to us "Do we feel that Americans are taking the President's personal life too seriously?" When asked to a foreign student exchange student from Germany, it was met first by a chuckle and a reply of "Why does it matter that the President has improper relations with an intern of a consenting age? As long as he is an effective leader that does his duties efficiently, why is America prosecuting him?"

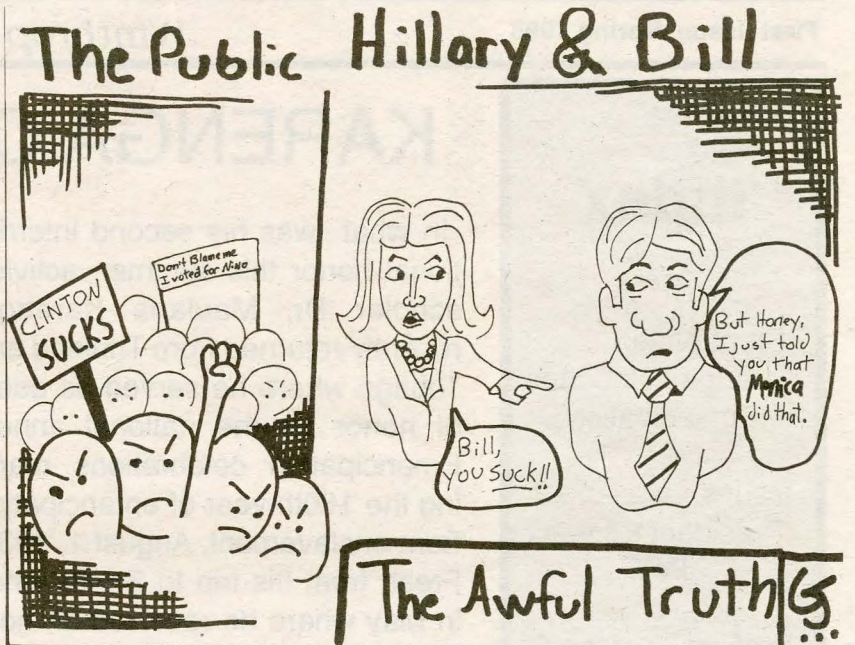
It has been known throughout history that all former presidents at one time or another have had mistresses. Some have even been seen at the White House and several probably have been involved in improper behavior in the Oval Office. Why is the Clinton/Lewinsky affair any different than the others? It is a known fact that this incident would not have become public knowl-

edge if not for the taped phone conversation from Monica's friend Linda Tripp. Shouldn't this just be seen as another political strategy by the Republicans?

It seems to me that President Clinton has been under attack by the Republicans since his second term in office. First it was Watergate, then it was the buying of votes by renting out some of the White House rooms, and now Monica Lewinsky. The question I pose for all Americans is "how can we judge." "Let he who is without sin cast the first stone".

I think that all of us are living in a glass house. Yes, the president has a duty to us but first and foremost he is human and as much as we might try, we all make mistakes.

Yes, the President lied when first asked about his relationship with Monica, but why was he asked in the first place? Is it not the president's personal business and if Hillary doesn't care and has forgiven him, why can't we? I know that he is supposed to be a role model for Americans but who truly wants to be like the President and nine



times out of ten role models are chosen from television or from sports, anyway. You do not see "I want to be like Bill" commercials and billboards draped around the country. Is it because we have no respect for the President... NO!! It is because deep down in our hearts if we thought we could get away with it we would and some of us probably have. Let's leave this drama behind and get back to the real issues like unemployment is at its lowest and the national debt has dropped. We voted for him so stand by your man.

## REAL WORLD AT WINTHROP'S GATE

BY DEBORAH JONES  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Though the umbrella of racial tolerance and love of diversity may seem evident on Winthrop's campus, its protective shadow stops short of Cherry Rd. where many of the flourishing businesses in Rock Hill have their stores. What do I mean by this cryptic comment?

As college students we like to think that we are mature, responsible adults capable of making thoughtful decisions and making our way in the real world. But...face it, readers. Winthrop is not the real world, but another sort of nest in which we, the students, are incubated. Winthrop is not a real example of society. Here we are mostly protected from racial intolerance by codes of political correctness, and the threat of retribution by the university for "inappropriate behavior." (Read: acts of violence, racial propaganda, etc.)

But recently this writer stepped for a brief moment into the real world, the town of Rock Hill, where I was treated to the first

blatant (to me) act of racism I had ever received.

As a college town, Rock Hill, I assumed would be, if not a hotbed of ideas, at least not as provincial as some southern cities. I was very hurt to learn that this was not so and I learned it in a way that I am sure to remember for a good while.

When I first walked into one of the businesses on Cherry Rd. I was very nonchalant, looking only for some goodies to place in the new microfridge which had been placed in my room, courtesy of Winthrop. Apparently the other patrons of the business saw my dark skin and an evidently mercenary look upon my face and many white, female shoppers hastened to grab their purses, wallets and grocery bags, and remove themselves from my path. It saddened me to notice this, so much so that I mused out loud to the first woman to grab her purse, that such a thing had never happened to me before, and I had always thought that people her age

were supposed to know better. In any small town you might expect old ways of thinking to prevail, but in a town occupied by college students involved in so many civil rights activities, and community service projects, where so many students routinely go out into the area surrounding the Winthrop campus to help with tutoring sessions, who student teach in Rock Hill schools, you would expect that some of the respect and tolerance that we come to expect on campus, would leak out into the surrounding areas. Unfortunately it seems that for some tolerance can't be learned and can't replace a lifetime of ingrained prejudices.

Thank goodness I could walk home to the safety of Winthrop's campus. Apparently, this chick wasn't ready to leave the nest and face the real world. Also, unfortunately, it seems my microfridge will remain empty for awhile, as I won't be visiting any more stores on Cherry Rd. for a long time to come.

## Roddey-McMillan Record

Deborah Jones, Editor-in-Chief  
Gerard Moss, Assistant Editor  
Erika L. Mooney, Chief Photographer  
Tamara Ford, Layout/Design Editor

The purpose of this paper is to inform Winthrop students, faculty, and staff and the Rock Hill community of minority concerns and affairs and contribute to the cultural diversity of the University. The content may include but will not be limited to articles on academic achievement and personal growth and development of minority students and minority faculty. Articles may be contributed by Winthrop students, faculty, and alumni, members of the Rock Hill community, and by others. All content will be subject to acceptance and editing by the student editors. If you would like to submit any articles, photos, art, poem, etc., please call the editor at 3609 or drop an e-mail at zzjonesde.

## Personal Profiles

**Dr. Bertice Berry,**

Writer, playwright, speaker and author of "You Know your Ghetto If..."



PHOTO COURTESY OF DINKINS STUDENT UNION

## Dave Oldham: An Officer and a Gentleman

SUBMITTED BY JENNIFER NELSON, PRESIDENT OF ZETA PHI BETA

Dave Oldham: funny, athletic, smart and dedicated. This how people see him. But this year Dave will also show how much of a leader he can be as the new president of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated.

and semi-formal combined with a question and answer session. The competition was fierce but David Oldham was crowned Mr. Congeniality and Mr. Zeta Phi Beta based on his award-winning poem and his high placement in the other categories. He will be reading the poem at the upcoming Zeta Phi Beta poetry contest in October. Brandon Ferguson was named first runner-up.

The sorors of Zeta Phi Beta hope that the pageant will become an annual event, as they enjoyed working with all of the contestants.

## Comedians bring laughter and message to Winthrop

BY ALRINTHEA CARTER  
STAFF WRITER

This year for Welcome Week, Dinkins Student Union hosted a group of comedians that not only had Winthrop laughing but learning as well. The highly anticipated return of Dr. Bertice Berry, author of many inspirational books, did not disappoint her fans, as she used lessons from her life to teach the importance of finding your purpose.

"Why wait until you're forty or fifty to decide what you want to do?" said Berry whose own purpose is to reach out to people.

Berry's warm personality won over the audience immediately, encouraging three students to reach out to their fellow students in order to find their purpose. Two students in particular received the opportunity to show off their talents of poetry and music.

Berry stressed the need to get involved in college, stating that she was appalled at the number of students who scheduled their lives around the daytime soap operas. "You are not getting a degree just for yourselves, but for your parents and the people that came before you. We are a product

of everyone and everything we come in contact with." Berry named faith as the way that she found her purpose. "Faith is a way of living. There's never a reason to give up."

Another comedian who performed was Brad Lower, who credits his revenge for the start of his career. "I wanted to make my ex jealous," he said laughing. Fortunately his purpose changed. He uses situations from everyday life to entertain and inform college students all over the country. His family also provides inspiration for his comedy. The Decatur, Illinois native performs in night clubs as well. As for future plans, Lowery plans to perform, "until I leave this earth," and eventually wants his own sitcom.

Leighann Lord, who opened for the acapella group The Blenders, uses comedy to make students think about current issues. She has been named Most Thought Provoking Female Comic by the Fourth Annual Black Comedy Awards in New York City, and has her own one-woman, stand-up comedy show called *The Funny Bone is in the Brain*.

Lord names Richard Pryor as one of her

greatest influences. Befittingly, Lord and Pryor are the only two comics ever to hold the title of Harlem Week's Official Comedian. Lord is a member of the writing staff for *The Chris Rock Show* on HBO, and also had a role in the movie *Radioland Murders*.

There were many that felt, however that Leighann Lord deserved her own night during Welcome Week, and not just a spot opening for someone else. Alan Jenkins, a junior mass communications major said, "She was very inventive. She should have had her own show. Leighann Lord rocked."



## QUEST FOR THE QUINTESSENTIAL GENTLEMAN

But Dave is no newcomer to high positions. Last year, on April 22, 1998, the Theta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., held its first Mr. Zeta Phi Beta pageant. The theme for the night was the "Quest for the Quintessential Gentleman." Five contestants competed for the crown: Corey Hampton, Orlando Vereen, Ervon Nichols, Brandon Ferguson, and David Oldham. Held in Tillman Auditorium, the pageant consisted of three categories, which were casual wear, creative expression,

## BLUE AND WHITE WEEKEND

Zeta Phi Beta and Phi Beta Sigma held their first Blue and White Week at Winthrop University on August 31-September 5.

Events included a College 101 forum, A Night of Fun, a Pool Party, and a "Meet the Blue and White Family" mixer. The week was a time not only for the sisters and brothers of the Dove to bond with one another, but also for them to interact with Winthrop's community. The week was a big success and they hope to keep this going in the future.

## Z Phi B

## Personal Profiles

**Leighann Lord**

Comedienne, actress and writer for the Chris Rock Show. Named Most Thought Provoking Female Comic by the Fourth Annual Black Comedy Awards.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DINKINS STUDENT UNION

## Marilyn Monroe still epitome of womanhood

BY ROSHANDA YEARWOOD  
STAFF WRITER

She was and still is considered the epitome of all women. Poised. Alluring. Sexy and intriguing, Marilyn Monroe was one of the most attractive women of the 1950's era. She acted in twenty-nine films during her sixteen year career with twenty-four of those in the first eight years. Her voluptuous body and charm illuminated the screen until her untimely death on August 5, 1962. Her short lived life was just like the Elton John song- "A Candle in the Wind," which was dedicated to her. If Marilyn was a model today, however, with the same measurements that she had in the 1950's, she would be unemployed.

Marilyn stood five feet, five and one-half inches and wore between a size twelve and sixteen. Breaking into the mainstream media that has 69% of female characters thin and only 5% overweight is difficult. Just ask Ricki Lake, Delta Burke, Kim Coles or any plus-size model.

How did America's images of beauty switch from a woman who embodied all the women of her era to "Starvation imagery", as it is known to some.

In 1917, the "perfect woman" was five feet, four inches and weighed 137 pounds. Now models weigh 23% less than the average weight for women; which is 144 pounds and wears a size 12 and 14. This has made it increasingly more difficult for most women to live up to the images placed

Breaking into the mainstream media has 69% of female characters thin and only 5% overweight is difficult. Just ask Ricki Lake, Delta Burke, Kim Coles or any plus-size model.

before them by advertising and the media industry.

In the end, women go to great lengths to achieve the "perfect body." Such risks include disorders, risky cosmetic surgery, depression, agoraphobia (the fear of leaving the home), and feelings of helplessness.

However, it is not just women who are obsessed with their weight, but men as well. For men, fat represents weakness and even babyhood; instead of manhood. Men are under pressure to be muscular and strong spirited and are not exempt from having suffered the same consequences as women.

As freshmen entering college so many of us seemed to worry about that supposed "Freshman Fifteen." Now don't get me wrong. When I was a

One out of four college-aged women has an eating disorder.

freshman I worried about gaining those extra love handles from the fine dining on campus. However, let's be realistic. The average man /woman doesn't look like Kate Moss, Tyra Banks or Tyson Beckford. I feel that you should want to keep yourself in shape but it cannot consume your whole life. If it does, it becomes an obsessive compulsion which can lead to self-destruction.

The "Barbie"® womanly sized figure is unattainable; unless you plan on having a lifetime of plastic surgery. And there is a woman who is actually trying to gain Barbie's® exact measurements through plastic surgery. What has our society become? A group of people who can alter

their looks through countless surgeries so they

Did you know?

can become someone or something they are not.

Next we will try to alter our bodies so they look like mannequins.

Who, if they were real women couldn't even go through womanhood because they would be too thin.

Well, I have news for you, the makers of Barbie® are coming out with another version called "Darbie" who is even smaller than the original Barbie® and has a bigger ferarri. (Just kidding).

Seriously, as people we need to learn how to accept our bodies and be happy. Now, I'm not saying that you go out and eat any and everything you want but I find it rather appalling when one out of four college-aged women has an eating disorder. We're constantly bombarded with ads to increase this; decrease that, lift

this, tuck that, tone this, diet, diet, diet. These ads not only show thinness as attractive, but it symbolizes success, self-control, higher socio-economic status and power.

What does that mean? If Barbie were a real woman, supposedly she would be some high powered "Ally McBeal" who lives in the suburbs with Ken and a dog named Fluffy. Contrary to popular belief, however, Barbie would have to walk on all fours due to her irregular proportions if she were a real woman.

I remember often as a freshman comparing myself to other women on television, trying to become the norm.

Needless to say, there are three billion women who do not look like super

models and eight who do. As the industry grows it seems more ethnic groups are experiencing the pressure to be thin, where as eating disorders were always labeled as a white upperclass women's disease. Ladies, we have to learn that whether we're big, small, tall, short, African-American, or Caucasian, being at peace with one's self is the greatest self-gratification.

For the longest time I had a hard time accepting my body, but I realize that I can do something to improve what I don't like, through proper exercise and eating right. I can improve the situation. Stop dwelling on your imperfections; change them.

In a study, a group compared the four most popular women's magazines to the four most popular men's magazines. In 48 issues of these women's magazines, there was a total of 63 diet food ads. Where as, the total for men was one.

As a young child develops (particularly a female), so does their image of themselves. If we are constantly bombarded with messages about how we should look at a young age, by adolescence we want to change everything. By conforming, we change not only the outer appearance but we lose the very essence of ourselves.

Everyone has flaws. There are some things about myself that I would like to change, but I don't plan on compromising the essence of myself for what society views as "perfect." If you try to become something that you are not, it will come back to haunt you. Marilyn Monroe, I believe, was a prime example of this. She lived a life up to everyone's standard, but yet was empty and probably didn't see what everyone else did. Too much pressure and too many standards led to this

woman's death which is still a mystery to this day. Was it suicide? Was it murder? Could she have been screaming out for help?

If you feel like you're living in a cage take a self-assessment to see where you are. What do you place in high importance in your life? Improve in those areas that need work to grow spiritually and mentally. Read a good book; surround yourself with people who love you for yourself; get a hobby; take fun classes and most importantly, love yourself.

My father has a saying, "Before you can love anyone else, it starts by loving yourself first. Because how can you love someone else when you look in the mirror and you can't love that person."

Develop a positive attitude and think and speak positively. Don't always follow the crowd. You set your own goals, desires, and aspirations.

Too often we try to fit into college and never try to be an unique individual. Don't mold yourself into the "perfect" person, because you will be constantly doing that to fit the norm.

Just the other day I received an e-mail and the last lines states, "Do you have excuses or enthusiasm? Do you know that if you think you can't...you can't, and if you think you can, you can?" The flaws and issues you are harping about, probably no one even notices. So get over it, get moving and live life to the fullest and start by living yourself.

"Before you can love anyone else, it starts by loving yourself first."

## National Pan Hellenic Council membership offers choices for BGA

BY MICHAEL BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

During much of the twentieth-century, African-American students on historically white campuses were prevented from joining general fraternities and sororities due to racism.

This led African-American students to establish fraternities and sororities to help improve their college experiences and the college experiences of others. These African-American fraternities and sororities include:

Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity (founded in 1906); Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority (1908); Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity (1911); Omega Psi Phi fraternity (1911); Delta Sigma Theta sorority (1913); Phi Beta Sigma fraternity (1914); Zeta Phi Beta sorority (1920); Sigma Gamma Rho sorority (1922); and Iota Phi Theta fraternity (1963).

Although all nine of these organizations were generally founded on principles of community, service, scholarship, and christianity, each is distinct in its own way. But despite their differences, all nine fraternities and sororities come together to form what is known as the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC).

The NPHC was established in 1930 at Howard university as "a national coordinating body for the nine historically African-American fraternities and sororities which evolved on American college and university campuses by that time."

Today there are approximately 1.5 million members of undergraduate and graduate chapters served by the NPHC. According to its mission statement, the

NPHC serves as the "official coordinating agent of the nine Greek letter organizations in the development of their program unity on college and university campuses and within communities where graduate and/or alumni chapters of the nine Greek letter organizations are located."

The NPHC implements its mission through rules and regulations that the chapters of the nine Greek letter organizations must adhere to once they establish local chapters on campus or in communities.

Currently the seven black greek organizations on Winthrop's campus all fall under the Black Greek Association (BGA). However, strong efforts are being led by Joelle Davis, the Multicultural Student Life Coordinator, and Lavin Yeargin, the Greek Life Coordinator, to establish a local NPHC on Winthrop's campus. Some of the members of

BGA feel that a local NPHC chapter would benefit the black greek organizations tremendously.

"NPHC adds structure that is presently not in place with the Black Greek Association. It allows for national affiliations, training, opportunities, and it helps to foster unity among Black Greeks," Trevor Beauford said. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

"The NPHC can bring more resources such as funding for greek programs and workshops as

well as more networking with the National Pan-Hellenic Council itself," Krishanda Holmes, a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., said.

Ms. Joelle Davis who did her undergraduate study at a campus with a local NPHC, discussed some of the differences she has noticed among Winthrop black greeks where a local NPHC is absent.

"The NPHC held us accountable as a university and a national organization for unity," Davis added. "Working with Pan-Hel required us to do projects together, participate in National Pan-Hellenic Council Conventions, and do a number of programs and workshops that we were

measure toward hazing would be initiated during the intake processes which will benefit the prospective new members."

According to Davis, a local NPHC council could benefit members of the non-greek community at Winthrop as well as the members of NPHC.

"Our goal is to educate others on Black Greek Awareness through various programs," Davis stated.

"A local NPHC could do that, but it is totally up to the organizations within the local NPHC to make it happen. They have to make it a priority for them to provide an un-intimidating approach and environment for non-greek members who want to know more about them."

The Black Greek Association is one of Winthrop's strongest African-American organizations. However, some feel that a local NPHC would provide more structure, opportunities and a stronger voice for the seven black greek organizations here at Winthrop.

"A local NPHC will provide a more sound and structural organization for Black Greeks here," Davis stated.

"It will provide networks for them to learn about other NPHC chapters on other campuses which will enable all of the greeks to stand on black issues such as affirmative action, child abuse, and discrimination.

People are questioning the need for black greeks, because they

appear to benefit their members only. But once a local NPHC is established here and gets itself and other NPHC chapters to take a stance on some of these issues, it will allow members of the NPHC to see that they have power."

Establishing a local NPHC at Winthrop would be ideal, but it will require compromise and cooperation from all of the black greek organizations in order for it to work.

"It's not going to work unless they make it work," Davis mentioned.

"Every one of them has to remember that when they come together as a local NPHC, they are no longer greeks. They are representing one organization."

Another attribute a local NPHC chapter could bring to Winthrop is unity among the black greek organizations.

"It's a good idea for other sororities and fraternities to bond because we don't see enough of it.

Some feel as though they cannot interact with members of another greek organization which gives greeks a bad name," stated Nicole Buie, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

"Unity can help us do more things together and more often than just doing greek week."

"At the last Multicultural Student Life presentation, the question was asked 'Is there unity among the black greeks at Winthrop?'" Ms. Davis said. "The question was answered with complete silence and baffled looks.

Hopefully a local NPHC can help analyze and answer that question truthfully and we can go from there.

**"A local NPHC will provide a more sound and structural organization for Black Greeks here."**

**-Joelle Davis  
Multicultural Student life  
Coordinator**

# Social Scene

6 Roddey-McMillan Record

September 1998

## Imani off the Hook at Welcome Week Performance

BY ALRIN THEA CARTER  
STAFF WRITER

Imani. The very word drums up images of strength, unity and history. Add five sisters with voices that are a blend of funk and R&B to the equation and the result is a soulful combination that promises to rock the house.

Originally natives of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the quartet were brought together by a friend and have been best friends ever since. The group's stellar resume includes seven wins on Star Search and performances for corporations such as the Urban League and the United Negro College Fund. Their ultimate goal, however, is to become recording artists.

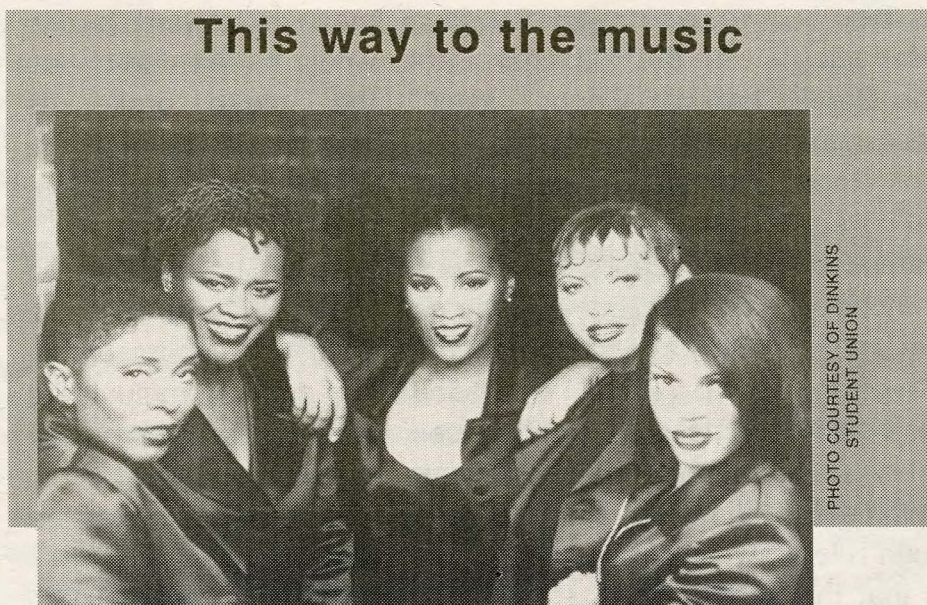
"It's difficult because we do not fit in with the worldly, openly sexual girl groups that are popular today," says Dawn, one of the lead singers of the group, who includes, Shirley Caesar, Patti LaBelle, and her mother as her biggest influences.

"We want to spread positive images [in our music]."

Imani spends most of the school year on the road and has the chance to perform for many colleges and universities. But they exclaim,

"We love Boyd and Winthrop."

Imani performed cov



This way to the music

PHOTO COURTESY OF DINKINS  
STUDENT UNION

ers of popular songs, such as *I Get Lonely* by Janet Jackson, and *The Boy is Mine* by teen stars Monica and Brandy. These were met with lukewarm reception by the audience at first, for Imani's vocal stylings were clearly different from the original artists'.

Throughout the event, however, the audience grew more excited as Imani belted out old favorites by Mariah Carey and Brownstone, and went absolutely wild as the group brought back disco hits from the seventies.

Winthrop was finally won over when students were invited on stage to form one of the craziest Soul Train lines this writer has ever seen. Decked out in feather boas, Afros, and sparkly wigs, students danced to the cheers and laughter of the audience. It is obvious that if Imani can win over the students of Winthrop, then surely they have the brightest

## Convocation brings out new faces at Winthrop

BY MICHAEL BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

Convocation at Winthrop University dates back to President David Bancroft Johnson. President Johnson assembled the entire student body at the beginning of the school year to welcome them to Winthrop and offer words of encouragement. On August 25th, President DiGiorgio, along with representatives from the city of Rock Hill, the Board of Trustees, the faculty and the student body gathered to welcome all the members of the entering class of 1998 into the Winthrop community.

The ceremony began with a procession led by the Student Government Association and the Winthrop University faculty. Following the procession, Ms. Smita Dadheed led the audience in the Star Spangled Banner. Later, President DiGiorgio gave the audience a warm welcome and introduced his panel of guests. Remarks then came from the Honorable Dough Echold, mayor of the city of Rock Hill; Mr. David White, chair of the Board of Trustees; Dr. Thomas Moore, chair of the faculty; and Mr. Trevor Beauford, the president of the Student Government Association.

The highlight of convocation came from the keynote speaker, Mr. Geoffrey Canada, Director of Dheedler Centers for Children and Families. Canada charmed the audience with his humor and wit. But at the same time the message he gave echoed through Byrnes Auditorium. Canada began by quoting the old saying, "Every dark cloud has a silver lining." He referred to a former high school football coach who reminded him that no matter how bad a situation may see, the situation could be a lot worse.

Finally, Canada challenged the Winthrop community through a heart-

felt poem to help make this world a better place for all of its children.

Overall, Convocation '98 received some good reviews from Winthrop students.

"Even though I'm not a freshman, this was my first convocation," replied Sophomore Larae Middleton, a sociology major from Columbia, S.C.

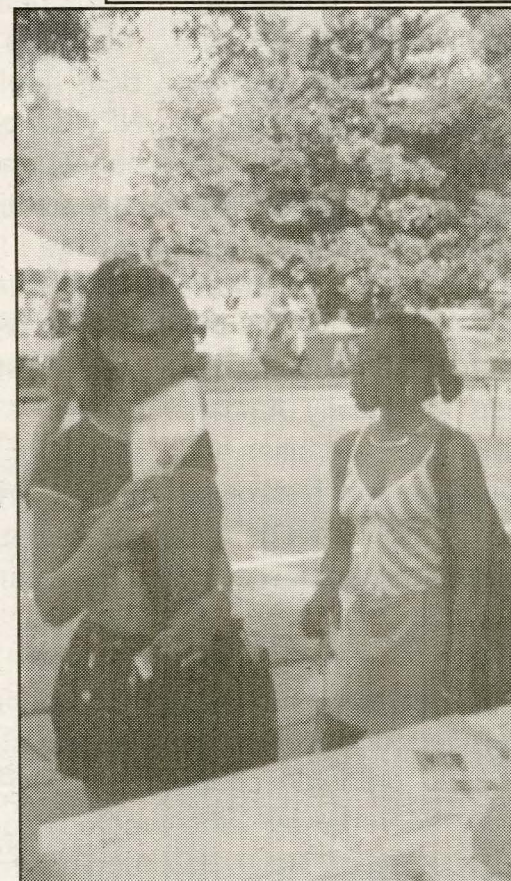
"I thought it was well put together. The main speaker was down-to-earth and gave us everyday, practical advice.

Alan Jenkins, a junior Mass Com. major from Clover, S.C., added,

"I thought Mr. Canada was interesting. He brought up points that could apply to both college-life and life in general. I also felt President Beauford's speech, for a student, was also provocative and motivating."

PHOTOS BY LOUIS JONES

PHOTOS BY LOUIS JONES



## What Makes Him Happy

this woman who loves black and white photographs is  
brightfaced, blessed with  
deep-rooted & perspicuous eyes,  
carries one hundred & thirty-five pounds  
of tall,  
lean beauty draped on  
Afrikan bones uses  
liquid soap that smells of peppermint  
or almond;  
drives her car barefooted.

she appreciates the difficult differences  
between Toni Morrison and William  
Faulkner,  
understands that the free market is really  
a family affair,  
has tasted and lost profound love and  
experienced  
the pain and miracle of giving birth.  
the woman runs a mile in under nine  
minutes  
and believes that billie holiday, john  
coltrane & louis armstrong are alive & still  
swingin, says she loves vegetables, brown  
rice, nectarines & her son.

she relaxes with films that need  
subtitles,  
music that requires a mind and her man  
who is comfortable with complexity and  
enchantment.  
she is contemplative about romare  
bearden's signatures on his paintings,  
& has a smile that evokes volcanos in  
men.  
she has god in her heart but doesn't  
brag about it,  
prefers baths to showers & sweetens her  
body with  
olive/aloe oil.  
her home is art-full as are the five rings  
decorating her fingers & ears,  
her hair is shaped close to her head which  
she cuts herself,  
she has a museum of a memory & articulates  
her love and  
thoughts firmly and passionately while  
listening to billie, trane & pops  
collaborating  
in black & blue eight-scale harmonies  
the music, the traditions & the way of our  
tomorrows.

Haki R. Madhubuti  
*The Girl at the Window*  
Essence Magazine, September 1998

(Untitled)

That phone call,  
the one you wait for  
but never expect to come  
The voice you ache was spoken today  
but your mouth was very numb  
The loneliness that hurts you inside  
flies in and out  
like a stone  
across waters and beautiful skies.

Fred Moore

Rowlandson Road Middle School  
Member of the Boys and Girls Club

## Love Poem

If casual "what ups"  
Meant I love you  
Then you must be love sick

If not hearing the sound of my raspy voice  
In your ear  
Or my breath no larger warming you neck  
Made you want me  
You must be fiending

If telling my close friends you knew I was really Your soul mate counted  
Then time is over  
The clock has stopped  
And somewhere we must be together

If not seeing me made you miss my face  
Or wonder If I missed you too  
Then my heart is a.w.o.l.  
Walking in circles  
Searching without eyes  
Trying to see you  
Living and breathing  
Without me  
Returning to my body  
After seven attempts /without a trace  
Faced with the reality/ I've lost my reflection

If making love to me when I asked you to  
Meant you wanted to be with me forever  
Then I am pregnant with our SUN We live on the moon  
And now you can finally  
See the  
Light  
Jessica Care Moore©  
Moore Black Press

Sisters, Cover Your Behinds!

Why would sisters who ordinarily look just fine  
Walk the street half-naked and shake their  
behinds?

Are some of our sisters wanting attention so bad  
That they'd sacrifice the dignity and respect they  
once had?

I like to refer to our sisters as ebony queens  
But far too many sisters don't even know what  
that means.

Sisters, some things are better worn behind closed doors  
Cause when you wear 'em in public you look  
like whores!

With a shirt cut low and some shorts cut high  
Your objective is to attract some brother's eye  
And you wonder why your relationships end so fast  
it takes more than just sex to make a relationship  
last

Do you think an hour of lovin' will make a man  
stay?

Girl, there's 23 more hours left in a day!  
It's sad to see you with no shame in your game  
Disgracing yourself and your family name.  
I'm sorry I have to put some of you sisters in  
check

But brothers get tired of you crying about respect  
If you want respect then respect yourself  
until then how can you expect it from anybody else?

So if you're looking for these brothers to love you for your mind then do yourself  
a favor and cover your behind!

by Mark Goggins



## ASK THE MAC

Dear Mac,

*I am in an interracial relationship. My boyfriend is white and I am black. We have been dating for two years and I am finally ready to introduce him to my parents. He says he does not want to meet them. What should I do?*  
Confused

Depending on how serious the relationship is he should encourage your decision. If you are really serious about him, talk to him and let him know how you feel. Maybe he will come around. If he still refuses, maybe this person is not the right person for you. Saying that he does not want to meet your parents says something about the way he feels about you.

Dear Mac,

*I am a freshman and I stay in Wofford. I notice that there are a lot of "locals" hanging out in front of the building night after night. A few have tried to talk to me. Should I talk to them?*  
Curious

No. Most of those "locals" A.K.A. "Rock Hillians" are just after one thing. Observe the scene. For example watch one of the guys, but don't stare too hard or he will think you want him. Notice how many girls he tries to talk to. If he is turned down he will try another one, even if he succeeds he will try to get another girl's telephone number. Don't fall into the trap, don't become just one of his "Freshmen Tricks." I'm not knocking all the "Rock Hillians," but it is very unlikely that you will find a decent one hanging out in front of Wofford Hall.

Dear Mac,

*I am a freshman and I was wondering, why did we have to go to class on Labor Day?*  
Wondering

Well, a reliable source told me that we had classes on Labor Day because we have the Wednesday before Thanksgiving off. My source also said that we have that Wednesday off because students complained about having to drive home on Thanksgiving Day.

## That's the Final Word!

*If you have questions about romance, school, or just want to chat with the Mac, send your submissions to the Roddey-McMillan office in the basement of Bancroft. Please include your P.O. Box number. All answers are confidential.*

### That Stuff Files: Stuff to think about in class

1. Why is the Cartoon Network the bomb after midnite?
2. Is it just me or am I wrong for still not being able to understand Shabba Ranks?
3. If you know someone who needs a haircut, raise your hand.
4. Why aren't there any bells in the bell tower of Tillman?
5. Where can I get some greens and ribs in

### Forgive them Lauryn

As many readers may well know, Lauryn Hill of the Fugees recently dropped her long anticipated solo album *The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill*. This cd is by far one of the best of the year with much soul-food for the stomach of all hungry listeners. To her credit, Ms. Hill includes such guests as Carlos Santana and Mary J. Blige to round off a beautiful selection of songs that display her many talents. Lauryn wrote, sang, and rapped through the majority of the songs on the album. But, the real treat comes with the two hidden bonus tracks that are sure to please. The songs *Doo Wop(That Thing)* and *I Used To Love Him* are also sure fire favorites. The overall quality of the music makes one wonder how it is that so many people missed out on her earlier exploits with the Fugees. (see the first Fugees cd *Blunted on Reality* as well the remixes)  
**Bottom line:** By far this cd needs, no deserves a place in the stereos of the world.

Both reviewed by L.Jones

### Movie Review: How Stella Got Her Groove Back

BY SHAYLA RICE  
STAFF

The movie "How Stella Got Her Groove Back" opened one week before classes began. It was one of the most talked about events of the summer and had finally made its way into the theatres. "Stella" opened up with good reviews, and in anticipation of the movie, many people went out and bought the book.

The movie opened with a hard working, forty-something Stella whose life seems content if just a little frazzled. Stella's son goes to visit his father, Stella's ex-husband and while he's away Stella decided to take a trip to Jamaica with her best friend, Delilah. In Jamaica, Stella is going to let loose, relax and live a little.

A few days on vacation introduces Stella to Winston Shakespeare, Stella is taken with his good looks and charm, but is constantly troubled by his age. Winston is only 20 years old. Stella is confused about where things could go with this relationship, but Winston doesn't care. Their different views on things are starting to leading up to a clash when Stella and Delilah leave Jamaica and head back to their hectic lives.

Back at home, things seem to be back to normal, but then Stella gets an unexpected call from Winston. Stella, her son, and her niece go to Jamaica for another holiday and Stella and Winston have a few fun days together. But then Delilah becomes sick and Stella has to leave

Rock Hill?

Are you monetarily dysfunctional? (ie. broke like the last potato chip in the bag).

### How Do You Know If You Are Ghetto?

**"It's not where you are from, or where you live, but a state of mind, so if you do this, you must be ghetto."**

1. You know you ghetto if you are at a cookout and there is bologna on the grill.
2. You know you are ghetto if you buy a book from the bookstore, make copies and take the book back for a refund.

### He-Can-Bus

Battle ready MC Canibus' cd debuted Sept. 10 to much fan-fare. True hip-hop heads know him from his many guest appearances and mix-tape freestyles. The cd is has many high points( number 12 is the bomb) but as with any new artist, it also has its low points. Canibus' rapid-fire delivery and boggling metaphors just don't seem to blend with some of the tracks provided by producer and manager Wyclef Jean. By far Canibus is at his best when ryming over straight hard-core tracks as he proves over and over again. Also featured on the cd are a few new artists that we all should watch out for in the future, as well as *2nd Round K.O.*, aka the LL Cool J diss song. While we're on the topic of dissing LL, why does Canibus show that he has a tatoo that shows a hand with the numbers 4,3,2,1 written on it squeezing light from a microphone as well as a photo of himself sticking his middle finger up on the inside of the cd case? Hmmm.

**Bottom line:** This cd is tight like clothes that don't fit. A lyrical barrage for those who get down like that.

Jamaica again.

When Winston appears in New York in her hour of need, Stella knows she's in deep. She returns to her home with Winston in tow, and their relationship grows and matures. Eventually, Winston asks Stella to marry him. Can you guess her answer?

"How Stella Got Her Groove Back" is a good first date movie with many emotional ups and downs. If you get a chance go see it and then read the book. Don't miss out on Terry McMillan's other books either, including her best seller *Disappearing Acts*.