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THE RODDEY McMILLAN RECORD

Celebrating Black Heritage Month



ISSUE VI

Shining the light on diversity at Winthrop

FEBRUARY 16, 2004

Carnival offers chance for reflection on African American achievements

IN THIS ISSUE

by **Jesef Williams**
Editor-in-Chief

African Americans have come a long way in terms of attaining racial, political and economic equality in America. However, they still have a long way to go.

This was the general theme presented by Dr. Lonnie Randolph Jr., who was the keynote speaker at this year's Black History Carnival. The program was held Tuesday in Dinkins Auditorium and was sponsored by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. along with the Winthrop chapter of the NAACP.

Randolph, who is the president of the South Carolina NAACP, talked on the history of racial inequality in the state and how blacks remain underrepresented and underserved in many sectors in

society.

"Race has been, is today, and will continue to be a major factor in everything we do in life," Randolph said. "America chose not to address the accomplishments of people of color – that's why there's a designated month for black history."

Randolph's speech centered on the history of inequality and the need the make to progress. Nonetheless, the event in general highlighted the achievements made by individual blacks as well as African Americans as a people.

Students listened closely in a room decorated with display boards of African American achievements. Boards carried titles such as "The

see **CARNIVAL**, pg. 5

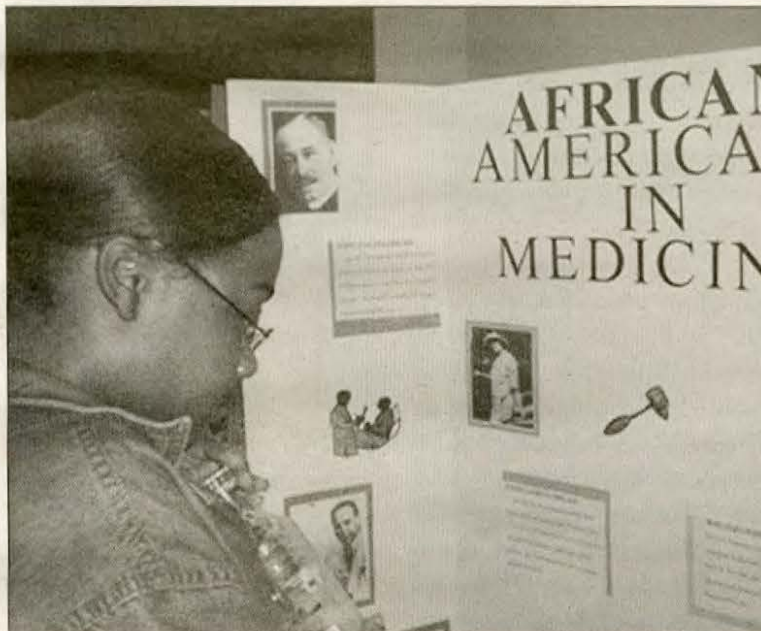


Photo by Jesef Williams

Sophomore Desiree Edmondson examines a display board during the Black History Carnival Tuesday in Dinkins. More than 100 people came out to the carnival hosted by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. and the Winthrop chapter of the NAACP.

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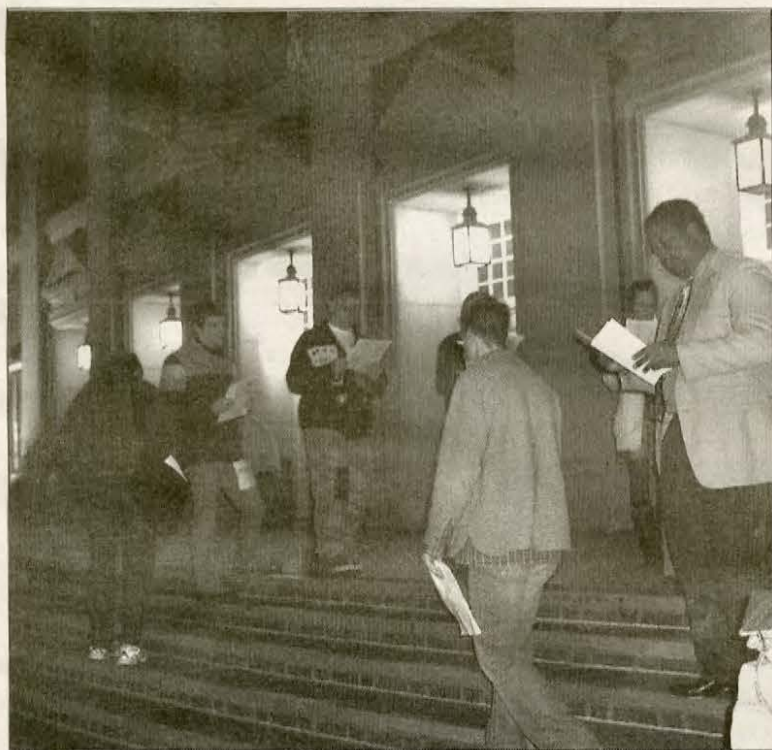


Photo by Jesef Williams

Students remember slain Iraqis

Winthrop students read lists on last Wednesday of Iraqi citizens who were killed during recent warfare in their homeland. The reading, which took place on the steps of Byrnes Auditorium, was a part of a candlelight vigil facilitated by the Winthrop chapter of Amnesty International and the Socialist Student Union.

The groups plan to hold similar candlelight vigils every Wednesday in front of Byrnes Auditorium. Political science professors Jennifer Disney, Michael Lipscomb and Stephen Smith assist with the planning.

Blacks represent mere five percent of faculty at Winthrop University

by **Michelle Knowlin**
Staff Writer

Winthrop University prides itself on being an institution that promotes diversity in all areas. Judging by the composition of the faculty, however, one would question how true this idea is.

As of last semester, Winthrop has 255 full time faculty members, according to Winthrop's website. Of that number, only five percent are African-American, says Gayle Osteen, the assistant director of human resources at Winthrop. She believes the reason for this may lie within the qualifications of the black applicants.

"There aren't many people who are qualified and sometimes the people just aren't there," Osteen said. "It's not just that someone wants to teach, but it is whether or not they are qualified enough."

Prospective professors go through a process of review before they are accepted to teach, Osteen explained. This includes a series of steps that have been divided into about four stages. This includes interviews, evaluations and voting. The actual process procedures can be found on Winthrop's website under the Administration section. Michael Evans, a business professor, believes that a number of factors can be held responsible for the shortage.

"Some individuals may choose to go to larger institutions," Evans said. "There could be questions related to the salary they are offered. There could be geographic preferences."

There is also a question of whether or not increasing efforts to promote diversity among the faculty is one of Winthrop's priorities. Winthrop may be trying to promote diversity, but is it something on the immediate agenda?

"If diversity is a priority, how hard will the university work to meet that objective," said Dr. Adolphus Belk, an African-American studies and political science professor.

According to Ms. Osteen, Winthrop is working toward solving this problem.

"The academic department is trying to work on hiring a more diverse work force," Osteen said. "It's going to be a university task to try and create diversity among the faculty."

This may lead some to question exactly what is Winthrop specifically doing to attract African-Americans as well as other minority professors. This may simply be a question of where and how well Winthrop advertises its job openings. If it is not advertising in areas where minorities are present, then the opportunity will not be available to many.

see **PROFESSORS**, pg. 8

EDITORIAL:

Please get involved in Black History Month

How have you been celebrating Black History Month? Have you taken advantage of the events sponsored on campus thus far?

There's no reason for you to be apathetic in terms of celebrating black history. For college students, information is at your finger tips. These are the years when literature is resourceful, and literature related to black history can be found in large amounts.

College is all about learning - not just in the classroom, but outside it as well. For instance, you can use this newspaper to help you on your quest. Read magazines. Not just *The Source* and *Vibe*, but publications that will provide you with understanding you can apply to your everyday life. We want you to challenge yourself. Think outside the box and strive for knowledge that will empower you as a person.

Study the ideals of Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X. Read the poetry of Langston Hughes. Examine the literature of Richard Wright and listen to the music of Thelonus Monk. Everyday this month, educate yourself about a prominent black figure whom you know nothing about.

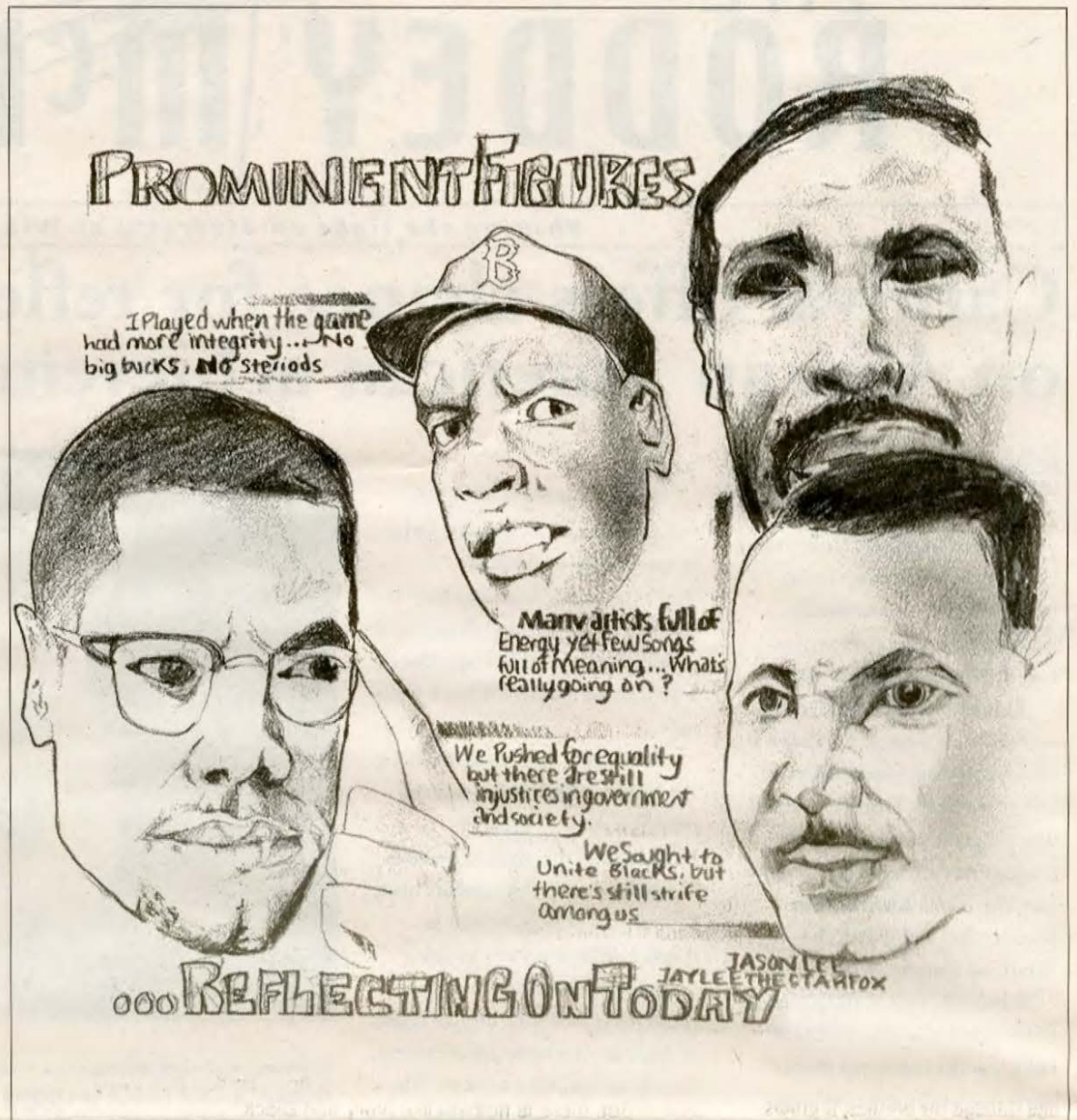
As you research, you will soon realize that many of your favorite "stars" and leaders today borrow their fundamental ideas from figures of the past.

Moreover, this month isn't established for only blacks to celebrate. Everyone should celebrate Black History Month because black history is American History.

It is our hope that this month will someday set the precedent for how all heritage months should be celebrated. For example, Asian Americans (May), American Indians (November) and Hispanic Americans (September) all have months devoted to their history and heritage. It would be ideal if we, as a society, could come together one day and fully appreciate the livelihood of all people.

As for this month, it is our societal duty to research and pay tribute to those persons who changed the way we live. This is a time to become schooled on figures who receive minimal attention, such as Marcus Garvey.

We urge you to also go beyond the limits on Winthrop. Check the community calendars and find out what programs are being held in Rock Hill and



Charlotte, for example

You have about two weeks to absorb the knowledge from events presented before you. For those who have attended Black History events, encourage your peers and associates to do the same. And when Black History Month is over, continue learn about historical events and people related to the black culture.

Again, we want fellow students to take full advantage of their time at Winthrop. You cannot go anywhere until you know where you have been.

How would King and Malcolm want us the celebrate this time? Do you think they would be proud of the level of attention we this month. Winthrop and other social institutions are trying to

spoonfeed use the information we need to thrive. It's just up to use to reach out and get it.

Knowledge is power, and empowered people are able to come together to foster change that will benefit us all. Go out and get it, so you can help reverse the general mindset of our generation and set our generation on a clearer path for success.

Campus Catfights: Where is the love at Winthrop University?

By Alicia Derwin
Assistant editor

When I received my acceptance letter to Winthrop I was overcome with a number of emotions. I was eager to know what the experience would be like, how the guys treated the girls, and if people would accept me for who I was like my high school buddies had done. Boy was I in for a surprise!!!

I came to college with my best friend of eight years, so I wasn't in desperate need to make many new friends. I learned at a very early age that it's better to have one, or in my case two, real friends than to have a host of fake ones.

Anyway, I became involved in a few organizations on campus and began to meet lots of different people with lots of different personalities. However, I must say that I was highly disappointed with the not-so-warm welcome I received from many of my fellow African American sisters.

Now don't get me wrong, not everyone gave me the cold shoulder, but before I knew it, before people even knew me, they had already come to the conclusion that they didn't like me.

As a journalist, the quickness of how women tend to jump to conclusions and make random assumptions struck me as the perfect thing to write about, especially when it comes to the relationships with African American women here at Winthrop.

Now what really cracks me up is when girls say to me, "I thought you were rolling your eyes at me" or "You were giving me a dirty look". I sincerely apologize for making you think that, but according to my optometrist, I'm about three to five years away from being diagnosed as legally blind. I've worn glasses since I was four. Nine times out of 10, I was just trying to see who you were.

As an African American, and especially as an African American woman, I think it is crucial that we stay united, particularly in this college environment. While I know this may sound a bit cliché, I believe we need to stick together. A strong and united African American community of women would leave society in awe.

As if AIDS is not doing enough to get rid of us, here we are, knocking each other down instead of lifting each other up. I was amazed to learn that we still have catfights here on campus and at parties. We get to college, think we're adults, expect to be treated like adults, but yet we roll our eyes, suck our teeth, and FIGHT!!! Is that not juvenile?

So I guess you can say my main point here is simply that we have to stick together if we want to get ahead. We don't have to be best friends, or even good friends for that matter, but cordial at least.

My plea is that we grow up, do away with the childish antics that should have escaped us back in middle school, and show society that we are those strong, beautiful, mature and intelligent Nubian queens our ancestors intended for us to be.

The Arts 

My Valentine

By: Alisha Kennedy

God in Heaven
to this day I see
the strong black men
you placed in front of me
from my hardworking father
to one of my best friends
my heart is with them always
I'll love'em till the end
Not a love with conditions
(the love the world gives me)
It rises like the sun
and hovers over the sea
Love was my grandfather
who suffered til his death
A soldier in the army
fighting to take his last breath
It's a love to be believed in
because you define love
and I thank you for the blessings
You sent from above
You gave me wisdom and strength
and through the brothas, it grows
They've earned my trust
and through love, it shows
Labor signed her name
with the veins in his arms
and my heart stays heavy
with the weight of his charm
God, I know it came from you
you gave me what was mine
and I thank you again, Father
For your loving "valentine".

Ivory and Black
By: Britney N. Zanders

The quickness of your hands across the Ivory and Black
The sound she makes, her harmonic
Moans, under your soft, yet strong touch.
Massage the Ivory and Black.
Your fingers move effortlessly across her sea of emotion.
You play it; calm its notions.
Your soft, yet strong fingertips align with the
Center of her strong . . . yet weak ivory, and it moans.
To make the harmony complete,
You love the black, and she moans.
Your are true passion.
You were made for one another.
Readily she awaits your soft, yet strong touch.
She feels what you feel.
The warmth of your hands against her smooth Ivory and
Black
Sends her spinning' into
Songs she's never played
Singing' words she's never heard
Feeling' the rhythmic beat of your
Warm tips over her Ivory and Black
Not knowing what's next,
She moans with the flow.
You become one with the Ivory and Black.
With every touch she moans.
With this combination, you'll never go wrong
You love the Ivory and Black
You love to make her moan,
To hear her many songs.
You love to play
All night and all day . . . your feelings just don't go away
But, there is nothing like Ivory and Black
You know it
She knows it
Neither one can deny
The bond you have with her is unbreakable
Inseparable
Undeniable
You love the Ivory and Black,
and she loves you too.
She loves to feel the warmth of your hands,
Just as you the cool smoothness of her Ivory and Black.
Together you breathe music.
Together you define life.
Together you make love.

Ain't nothin' like that Ivory and Black

Dear Editor:

It's homecoming week, yet the school spirit of the campus seems very low. Aren't you proud of your school? There must be some reason you chose to spend four years of your life here besides the food in the cafe.

Students always complain there is nothing to do at Winthrop, but the truth is that students aren't taking advantage of the fun opportunities the campus has to offer. Here is an entire week of activities for students to participate in, yet you could hear a pin drop on campus.

This is the chance you've been waiting for—a chance to act a fool for no reason without anyone tinkering you have flipped your lid. Some may paint their faces, others may make banners, and some will go to the basketball game, the step show and after parties,

but no matter how you celebrate homecoming, at least do something .

As midterms approach, you'd be wise to have fun while you can because if you don't now, you will regret that you didn't when you had the chance. And for those seniors leaving, I know you want your last college homecoming to be the very best. The only way that can happen is if you get involved. Come on Winthrop, "get your eagle on."

---Sincerely,
The Spirited One

MARCH POLL:
February is homecoming time!
How do you show your WU spirit?

- A) Go to the game
- B) Attend the NPHC stepshow
- C) Wear the garnet and gold
- D) Tailgate before the game
- E) Watch the game on CN2

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!

My Black People

By Travonte Keels

Courageous, independent, discreet, and never emulated
Strong, intelligent, and quick to be regulated
Black people I love, because I am My Black People
We come together in unity to overcome the steeple
We are minimized because we are sought out as less
But mentally we are valuable and beyond the best
Born to live and sustain the hardships in life
Quick to be outspoken and fear no kind of strife
I am proud of My Black People for we shaped our nation
From music, to art, to poetry, and the outstanding innovations
Inspired by the aspirations of the history unfolded
We've proven to be the advocates of the world that was molded
Zealous in our minds, our bodies, and our souls
Educated and equipped and our knowledge is our stronghold
From King to Parks, we have prevailed in their intuitions
I love My Black People we bring reality out of our visions.

GOT OPINIONS?

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Two of Winthrop's first black faculty members remembered

by Monet Brown
Ad Manager

It's been more than 30 years since Winthrop University hired its first African American faculty member. Dr. Annabelle Boykin, a Chester, S.C., native came to Winthrop in 1972 - when the school was still called Winthrop College.



Dr. Annabelle Boykin

She was hired as a part-time professor in home economics. She holds several degrees, including a M.S. and Ph.D., and has also done post-doctoral work in home economics.

Boykin, a civil rights advocate on local, state, and nationwide levels, recently said at the time she was not trying to make a point or cause trouble by teaching at Winthrop. In fact, she was invited.

"As dean of home economics at South Carolina State University, I worked closely with the dean of home economics at Winthrop," Boykin said. "When I married and relocated to Lancaster, S.C., the dean invited me to join her staff. Employment at Winthrop afforded me the opportunity to continue and explore my professional work in higher education."

When asked how she felt about being the only African-American faculty member in 1972, the 76-year-old replied that she was used to being surrounded by people who looked nothing like her. Boykin was under

constant scrutiny by some of her colleagues and students, she said.

"There were those who were extremely aloof and evasive. Some seemed to have been nonchalant." Boykin adds, "It was a normal experience for that time."

Boykin said she was never a victim of direct or indirect racism, which seems odd, she said because there was such a higher level of racial discrimination at the time of her employment at Winthrop.

Today, Boykin is retired and lives in Lancaster, S.C., where she is still actively involved in community, church, political, and social activities.

Gloria Kelley, an African-American librarian who has worked for Winthrop since 1977, remembers Boykin but didn't closely interact with her.

"I worked with the people in my department, as everyone did," Kelley said. "At the time, there were only a few black faculty members in each department, so I didn't really know Dr. Boykin."

Boykin was hired full time by the university in 1973. Elaine Sands was actually the first full-time African American faculty member at Winthrop. She was also hired in '73. However, she died of a heart attack.

Dr. Wilhelmina I. Rembert, an African-American who attended Winthrop as a student from 1969-1972, remembers Sands.

"Whenever someone did something, she always asked 'why' questions. This was her way of getting students to think about why they did certain things. Although it was a good tactic, it put some people on the defensive. She could be quite intimidating," Rembert said. "She was a very analytical and intense thinker."

UPCOMING BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENTS

Feb. 17
Chew & Chat Discussion
An examination of the perceived success of public school integration
Dinkins Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Feb. 22
Where's My 40 Acres?
Discussion facilitated by Mr. Ahmad Daniels to address the U.S. government's promise to African Americans for reparations due for slavery and other injustices.
Dinkins Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 24
19th Century Reenactment
Local reenactors "Voices from the Past" express the power of faith and religion within African and African American communities in the antebellum South.
Little Chapel, 8 p.m.

Feb. 23
A Journey Through Black America
Winthrop students will portray important African Americans who have made significant contributions to Black culture.
Barnes Recital Hall, 8 p.m.

Feb. 25
J. Ivy
Spoken word artist and slam poet.
Dinkins ATS Cafe, 8 p.m.
\$5 with student I.D.

Feb. 26
Ernie Paniccioli
The "dean of hip hop photographers" discusses the history and the current state of hip hop in "Who Shot Ya?"
Plowden Auditorium, 8 p.m.
\$5 with student I.D.

Remembering black firsts

By Ashley Gary-Roper
Staff writer

Many Americans are familiar with George Washington Carver. He found over 300 uses for the peanut, ranging from peanut butter to paper to ink. People use his products every day.

But many don't know who George Crum is. If you enjoy Doritos, Pringles or Lay's, you should thank Crum. In 1853 at the Moon Lake Lodge Resort in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., Crum invented the potato chip.

Have you ever given or received blood, or worked for a blood bank? If you have, then you should thank Dr. Charles Richard Drew. Drew found that separating the red blood cells from plasma and combining them when ready for use preserved blood longer. Thus, the idea of a blood bank was born. This idea revolutionized the medical profession and has saved countless lives.

Black women were achieving great things, too. Today, when Americans think of a powerful black woman, Oprah Winfrey probably comes to mind. But before there was Oprah, there was Madame C.J. Walker. The first African-American woman to become a millionaire, Walker made her fortune developing hair care products and selling them door-to-door.

Many people use a digital subscriber line (DSL) to access the Internet. If you are one of these people, you should thank Philip Emeagwali. In 1988 this mathematician/engineer developed a formula that enabled more than 65,000 networked processors to perform 3.1 billion calculations per second. So, if you are one that moans about how slow computers are - thank Emeagwali, because it could be a lot slower.

Notable African American Achievements

- ⊙ **Phillip B. Downing:** invented the hinged door on mailboxes to protect mail from outside elements.
- ⊙ **Sarah S. Goode:** invented the folding cabinet bed, a space-saver that folded up against the wall into a cabinet.
- ⊙ **Garrett A. Morgan:** invented the traffic signal.
- ⊙ **William,** son of Antoney & Isabell: the first black person born in America.
- ⊙ **Jupiter Hammon:** the first black poet
- ⊙ **Lemuel Haynes:** the first black to receive a degree from a U.S. college
- ⊙ **Richard Allen:** the first black bishop
- ⊙ **Frank Johnson:** the first black to publish sheet music in the U.S.
- ⊙ **James Hall:** first black to graduate from U.S. medical school
- ⊙ **Alexander Lucius Twilight:** first black to be elected to public office
- ⊙ **Edward A. Bouchet:** the first black to receive a Ph.D. degree from an American university, Yale University.
- ⊙ **George Poage:** first black to compete in the Olympics.
- ⊙ **Alain L. Locke:** first black Rhodes scholar.

Information courtesy of www.afrikation.com

Marcus Garvey who?

Students and faculty unravel the truth

by Crystal Starkes
Staff writer

Black History Month is a time when teachers place emphasis on prominent leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr., Booker T. Washington and Harriet Tubman. However, there are several other people who made strides to help bring African Americans where they are today. One person often overlooked is Marcus Garvey.

Garvey shifted African American's views into the idea of "Black Power." Garvey, born and raised in Kingston, Jamaica, moved to London in 1912 where he attended Birbeck College. It was there that he became interested in and fascinated by Africa's history. During his return to Jamaica, Garvey formed the UNIA (Universal Negro Improvement Association). In 1916, he moved to Harlem, N.Y., where he created the first mass movement for African-Americans.

"He sees the domestic struggle as a universal movement," said Dr. Rory Cornish, an associate professor and chair of the history department.

Garvey worked with African-Americans and created the Black Star Lines, which were black owned businesses. He once raised over

\$600,000 and bought ships to send African-Americans back to Africa. However, his attempt failed, as he was arrested and prosecuted for fraud. Junior Jazzmine Hodges said she commended him for it - referring to his ideas.

Why are leaders like Garvey unknown?

In many history books, he is either skipped over or mentioned in the middle of longer paragraphs about King or Malcolm X. In "Making the Nation," a textbook used in a Winthrop History 212 course, the writer only devotes two lines to Garvey.

Sophomore Rachel Simmons, 20, is currently enrolled in Introduction to African American Studies. Simmons, who is from Bennettsville, S.C., didn't even know who he was until she took this class and read about him, she said.

"I think he's a hero that had never been known," said Hodges, a 21-year-old business administration major from Charleston, S.C. "He's not forgotten because he's never been mentioned in textbooks."

Cornish, who is originally from London, has similar ideas as Hodges. However, he emphasizes that Garvey isn't mentioned in textbooks because his ideas were so dif-

ferent from other leaders like King.

"He tells the truth," said Dr. Ed Haynes, an associate professor in the history department said. Haynes believes that Garvey did not tell people "good news", he told everything like it was and nothing more or less.

"I think what he was trying to do is phenomenal," Simmons said.

So what can be done to inform people about unknown leaders in history?

"It's all about self-educating - informing them that textbooks were rewritten for a purpose," Hodges said. Therefore, with the process of self-educating, it is up to them to gain knowledge to become even more proud of his or her history.

Garvey emphasized this in many of his writings. In "Black Moses," a biography written about Garvey, author E. David Cronon takes a quote from Garvey. The excerpt comes from Garvey's "Philosophy and Opinions."

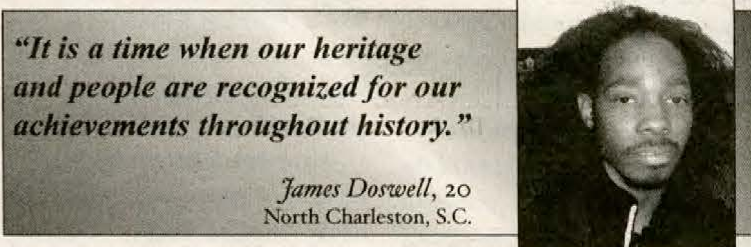
It reads, "Be as proud of your race today as our fathers were in the days of yore. We have a beautiful history, and we shall create another in the future that will astonish the world."

What Does Black History Month Mean To You?



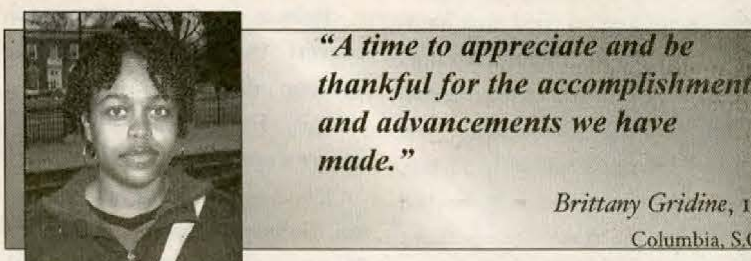
"Time to reflect on what accomplishments African Americans have made over the years."

Tyler Walker, 20
Charleston, S.C.



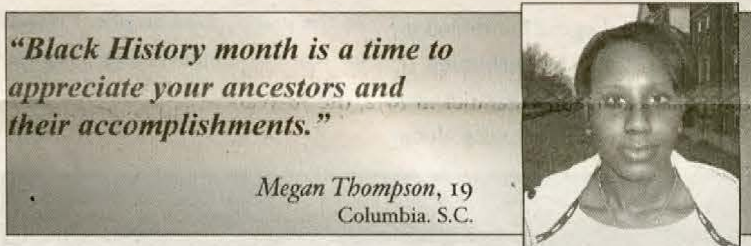
"It is a time when our heritage and people are recognized for our achievements throughout history."

James Doswell, 20
North Charleston, S.C.



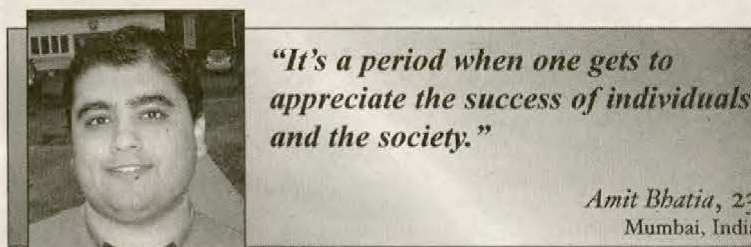
"A time to appreciate and be thankful for the accomplishments and advancements we have made."

Brittany Gridine, 19
Columbia, S.C.



"Black History month is a time to appreciate your ancestors and their accomplishments."

Megan Thompson, 19
Columbia, S.C.



"It's a period when one gets to appreciate the success of individuals and the society."

Amit Bhatia, 23
Mumbai, India

photos by Phillip Edwards

Students gain wisdom from NAACP speaker

from CARNIVAL, page 1

Harlem Renaissance," "African American Political Leaders," "Blacks in the Performing Arts" and "African American Firsts."

The displays highlighted strides made by blacks that affected everyone in the country, said Myshira Ford, the event chairperson for Alpha Kappa Alpha. "We wanted people to become aware of black history," Ford said in reference to the displays. "Also, we all gained something from the presentation."

The number of people who came to the carnival surprised Kevin Washington, who serves as the programs and events chair for the NAACP. The count totaled at least 150, he said.

"I was shocked by the turnout," said Washington of the crowd that featured both black and white people. "We appreciate people coming out. We are all here for the same purpose - to unite people."

Senior Sherlita Corley, who came to the carnival, said Randolph's speech was quite moving, as it hit on a lot of key issues.

"He motivated me to be pro-active," Corley said. "In today's society, we choose to be silent when there are times we should voice our opinion."

Desiree Edmondson, a sophomore from



Photo by Jesel Williams

Dr. Lonnie Randolph speaks with student Sam Patrick after his presentation.

Charleston, S.C., found Randolph's presentation educational.

"This program really increased my awareness," Edmondson said. "I didn't know a lot about the issues he spoke on such as salary inequality."

Randolph felt honored to speak as a guest during one of the Black History Month programs at Winthrop, he said. Upon closing his presentation, Randolph left the student audience with a few thoughts:

"Injustice is a threat to justice everywhere," he said. "I want people to make a difference because America has yet to become what it should be."

Words to live by

Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is a broken winged bird that cannot fly.



Langston Hughes

Charlotte 'Gets Lifted'

by Alicia Dervin
Assistant Editor

A line of hundreds wrapped around the block near Amos' Southend at 7:46 p.m. in Charlotte, N.C. on Feb 2. Despite the cold and wet weather, these people all had one common goal - to get inside and see John Legend.

The show was scheduled to begin at 8 p.m., but event planners had obviously underestimated the number of fans this newfound artist had already accumulated.

"The show won't start until we get everyone inside," said one of the men in charge. This comment caused commotion in the already impatient crowd as local artists opening for Legend tried their hardest to get their five minutes of fame.

After three hours of outside and inside waiting combined, John Legend hit the stage at 10:56 pm. The crowd went crazy as he worked his way to the front singing "Let's Get Lifted Again" from his debut album, *Get Lifted*.

From there, Legend continued to wow the crowd as he performed 11 other tracks from his album. As he performed, the audience sang along



clearly knowing the lyrics to each song. He also performed "Sun Comes Up," a track from his independent album.

Many in attendance were almost brought to tears as he performed his newly released single, "Ordinary People."

Even in the absence of common concert theatrics like dramatic lighting, dancers and wardrobe changes, Legend was still able to deliver a remarkable performance.

John Legend's show in Charlotte was definitely one to remember. The name says it all for this artist with a classic voice and crafty skills on the piano. John Stephens is well on his way to becoming a legend indeed.

Remember the 90s

by Ebony Baker
Senior Staff Writer

For this month's installment of the 1990's flashback, we will be looking at 1995 and 1996. 1995 was the year that a car bomb went off in the parking garage of the Oklahoma City Federal Building, killing some and injuring many. Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols were later arrested and tried for the bombing.

Oklahoma wasn't the only city being bombed, however. A pipe bomb at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta killed one person and injured several others. Ted Kaczynski, the serial killer known for using airlines and universities as his targets, was arrested as the "Unabomber."

TWA Flight 800 crashed into the Atlantic Ocean shortly after takeoff, killing 230 people.

The media was definitely busy over these two years, covering the stories of former singer Sonny Bono becoming a U.S. Congressman, the second trial of the Menendez brothers in which they were convicted of their parents' murders, the reelection of

Bill Clinton as President, and the fatal "Mad Cow" disease that forced England to destroy over 1 million cows.

1995 and '96 were also eventful years in sports. O. J. Simpson was acquitted of the murders of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and Ron Goldman. Olympic swimmer Greg Louganis admitted to having AIDS, Cal Ripkin set a record, having played 2,130 games, and Bret Favre (Green Bay) threw a record 39 touchdowns during football season. In the entertainment world, America witnessed new fads, marriages, divorces, and record topping music. Princess Diana was awarded \$26 million in her divorce from Prince Charles of England, while she lost the title of "Royal Highness." Michael Jackson made his second trip to the altar with LA nurse Debbie Rowe, who was then 6 months pregnant with his child.

In the animated industry, Dilbert-mania was hitting the comic strips, calendars, and commercials; while Beavis and Butt-head were making us laugh on MTV. South Carolina gained some fame as rising pop stars Hootie and the Blowfish proudly publicized that they

were USC graduates. Hootie and the gang went on to win a Grammy in 1995 for best new artist, while Seal took home Record and Song of the Year for "Kiss from a Rose" from the *Batman Forever* Soundtrack.

And who could forget the Macarena? The group Los Del Rio started a new line dance craze with this song that traveled from dance floors across the country into TV commercials. Mariah Carey rounded out 1996 with two songs in the top 10 on the Billboard charts—"One Sweet Day," (which still holds the record of 16 consecutive weeks at number 1) and "Always Be My Baby."

RANDOM FACTS:

- For the first time, Ford sells more trucks than cars because sport utility vehicles are a hit.
- Blue M&Ms are introduced to the other colors
- Coffee houses like Starbucks are the fad, providing inexpensive and safe places to take a date.
- Michael Jordan comes out of retirement and plays basketball again for the Chicago Bulls.
- Quote from O.J. Simpson's defense attorneys "If the glove doesn't fit, you must acquit."
- The latest holiday gift craze is the Tickle Me Elmo Doll
- E-mail exceeds surface mail and computers out sell TVs.

1995-96

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Top Albums- 1995

Cracked Rear View - **Hootie & the Blowfish**
 Daydream - **Mariah Carey**
 HIStory: Past, Present and Future - **Michael Jackson**
 Melloncollie and the Infinite Sadness - **Smashing Pumpkins**
 The Beatles Anthology I - **The Beatles**

Top Movie Money Makers - 1996

Independence Day \$306,169,255
Twister \$241,708,908
Jerry Maguire \$153,620,822
The Nutty Professor \$128,794,050
The Birdcage \$123,986,682
Scream \$103,000,000

Information courtesy of <http://www.1990sflashback.com/>

Book Review- Chicken Soup for the African American Soul

by Alicia Dervin
Assistant Editor

Many people believe that chicken soup is the remedy for any illness. So what do you do when the soul needs a little healing?

Well, you read!

From #1 New York Times best-selling authors Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen, Lisa Nichols, and Tom Joyner comes *Chicken Soup for the African American Soul*; Celebrating and sharing our culture one story at a time.

This uplifting anthology explores aspects of

African American life with section titles such as from strong roots, celebrating family, and making a difference, just to name a few. It contains stories by and about Muhammad Ali, Aretha Franklin and Nelson Mandela. Each piece is headed by an inspirational quote written by many great African American figures such as Rosa Parks, Sidney Poitier and Olaudah Equiano.

For instance, baseball hall of fame

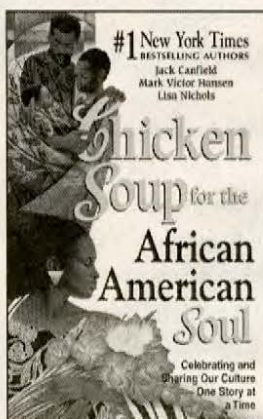


photo courtesy of www.barnesandnoble.com

inductee Reggie Jackson says in his quote, "I feel that the most important requirement in success is learning to overcome failure. You must learn to tolerate it, but never accept it."

"Heartwarming and uplifting, powerful and real- *Chicken Soup for the African American Soul* will stir your emotions and soothe them at the same time," author Dr. Jeff Gardere said.

The heart and soul are always in need of a little uplift-

ing and inspiration. *Chicken Soup* was written so that African American culture can continue to be celebrated and so that we do not forget those that have fought so hard to pave the way in order for us to live a prosperous future.

"I pray each day, that I not stand in the way, so that I can do what I have been created to do... I keep remembering it isn't just about me, it's about who I touch." -Lisa Nichols

Matters of the heart: Heart disease on the rise in black community

by Jeremy Harriot
Staff Writer

February is the time when we turn to thoughts of flowers, candy and loved ones.

According to the American Heart Association, this month we should be worried about more than just the paper hearts on our valentine's cards. February is also the national observance of American Heart Month.

Heart disease is the deterioration of the heart often seen in afflictions such as strokes and heart attacks. American Heart Month is intended to educate the population on the causes, symptoms, and treatment related to heart disease.

During the month, volunteers for the American Heart Association have dedicated time to visit and inform neighbors and friends about heart health.

The organization is even gaining star power. Toni Braxton has now become an official sponsor and spokesperson. She can be seen on the group's national website advertising their red dress pins. (Red is the official color for the group.) Often in the past the group has urged volunteers and supporters to wear red ribbons similar to the yellow ribbons worn to support the troops or the pink ribbons used to support breast cancer research.

This year the AHA has placed emphasis on the risk to women. The organization cites that while strokes tend to kill approximately one out of every 3.7 men that suffer from them, they tend to kill one out of every 2.4 women that incur a stroke.

Although women are more likely to die from strokes, men are still not off the hook – and as usual, African Americans are behind the 8-ball when it comes to health issues.

According to the AHA, men are more likely to suffer a stroke than women. Also African Americans are more likely to suffer strokes than other ethnicities.

For those who fall under both categories, the risk seems to be greater than the sum of the two risks individually. To reduce the risks of heart disease, the AHA suggests watching your diet, exercising regularly and scheduling regular check ups with your doctor.

"One of the best things woman can do is maintain a healthy body weight and exercise at least four times a week," says Judy Thomas, a human nutrition professor at Winthrop. "Every little bit helps."

This February try thinking a little less about the chocolate hearts you got on the 14th and try to learn a bit about the one that keeps you living and loving.

Black women explore the 'natural' experience

by Nicole Hollimon
Staff Writer

Free flowing curls and tight kinks are replacing the bone-straight style usually worn on the heads of black women.

As a result of self-awareness or strictly for maintenance reasons, many are choosing to go natural, forsaking boxes of Dark and Lovely for the hair they were born with.

Since the emergence of the first hair straightening cream, patented by Garrett A. Morgan (African American inventor of the traffic signal and the gas mask), black women have showcased a variety of styles attainable only by chemical manipulation of the hair.

Junior Steffanie Taylor refuses to go that route.

A 20-year-old pre-medicine major from Sumter, S.C., Taylor has always worn her hair natural, except for a brief period during high school.

"When I was in 10th grade, I really wanted a perm, so I went to the hairdresser and she put one in. But as she was washing it out, my hair started to fall out in clumps," Taylor said.

After her hair grew back, Taylor decided to wear it as she always had, but this decision was not a result of her experience.

"Mentally, I was growing up and

I had begun to question the idea of relaxed hair and what it means to my culture," Taylor said.

"My African heritage says it's okay to have naps at the nape of your neck and to plait your hair in 'dookie' braids or to wear it standing on top of your head."

Many women who wear their hair natural share Taylor's sentiment.

Perusing through web sites like www.nappturality.com and www.nappyhair.com, postings abound from black women discussing their journey from relaxed to natural hair.

One web site's homepage makes it clear that relaxed hair is not an option.

"We don't debate the wonders of relaxing and we don't talk about the benefits of relaxing...because

"My African heritage says it's okay to have naps at the nape of your neck and to plait your hair in 'dookie' braids or to wear it standing on top of your head"

- Steffanie Taylor

frankly, there aren't any benefits to using that chemical."

But for those who are not as solid in their convictions and still relax their hair or are

considering going natural, which path is best pursued?

Beverly Jagers, a licensed cosmetologist at B Unique Salon on E. Main Street in Rock Hill, offers no favorites.



Photo by Phillip Edwards

Steffanie Taylor sports her 'natural' hair style.

Jagers has cared for clients with natural and relaxed hair and says that the decision depends on the individual and how she maintains her hair.

Safiya Tate, a 20-year-old junior family and consumer sciences major from Columbia, S.C., has been trying to go natural for four years, but impatience has deterred her efforts.

"The transition from relaxed to natural is very unattractive and it can also be expensive...often times the media has influenced me to look a certain way," Tate said.

Going natural is a far-fetched thought for some and a hard-fought aspiration for others.

The decision is a personal one and may be instantaneous or take years to manifest.

But Taylor expresses a confident resolve, perhaps a result of her decision to be chemical-free.

"The only way I could be convinced to relax my hair is with lots of dollar signs – so until then, I love my natural hair!"

HIV/AIDS awareness tour stops at Winthrop

by Alicia Dervin
Assistant Editor

The first floor of Dinkins Student Union was unusually loud on Thursday night, Feb. 10. DJs from Power 98, 'Charlotte's #1 for blazin' hip-hop and R&B' were blasting the latest hits while drawing in a crowd for a worthy cause.

Many people passing by wondered why they were hearing that familiar voice from the radio in the morning. That voice belonged to JD, "the diva with the dirt," from Power 98's Morning Madhouse.

Their purpose for being at Winthrop was not just to hand out free food and CDs, they were here to deliver a real message that many may not think about as

often as they should. The HIV/AIDS epidemic is sweeping through the African American community and killing brothers and sisters at an alarming rate.

Power 98 and Brother to Brother teamed up to tackle the issue of HIV/AIDS awareness on college campuses across the Carolinas. The College Campus Tour started this month and is scheduled to stop at six colleges and universities in Charlotte, N.C., and surrounding areas.

Guest speaker, William Fulton is the founder executive director of Brother to Brother. The organization was founded in Charlotte, N.C., in 2001 when a support group of men who had all tested HIV positive decided that something had

to be done to inform young blacks about the severity of the disease.

Fulton had the audience's undivided attention as he recounted the story of how he had his first sexual encounter at the age of nine. He went on to talk about how he continued to be sexually active as he got older and never took a moment to think about the dangers he was exposing upon himself.

Fulton said that in 2001 he tested positive for HIV. Jaws dropped even more when he revealed that he contracted the disease from a man. Fulton said that living with the disease has not been easy, but he is living nonetheless and has been well received by students at various universities.

"College students think we're invincible," said Bryant White, a business administration major from Sumter, S.C. "In the bedroom, we don't ask."

Fulton said, "Right now, it is so important that we address this issue face to face so that education among African Americans can continue."

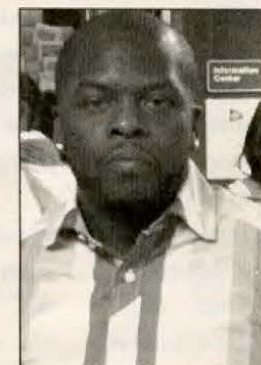


Photo by Jesef Williams

William Fulton, founder and director of Brother to Brother, recently spoke to Winthrop students on about HIV and AIDS. Brother to Brother and WPEG (Power 98) hosted the seminar, which was held in Dinkins.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT...

Craig Bradshaw

by Joe Hughes III
Staff Writer

With the string of victories the Winthrop men's basketball team has mounted, it is often hard to remember that there is an Olympian on the roster.

Craig Bradshaw, a sophomore from Wellington, New Zealand, is an important piece to this puzzle. Bradshaw played for his native New Zealand in the 2004 Athens Olympic Games last summer. With such experience under his belt, he has turned it into motivation for him and the team.

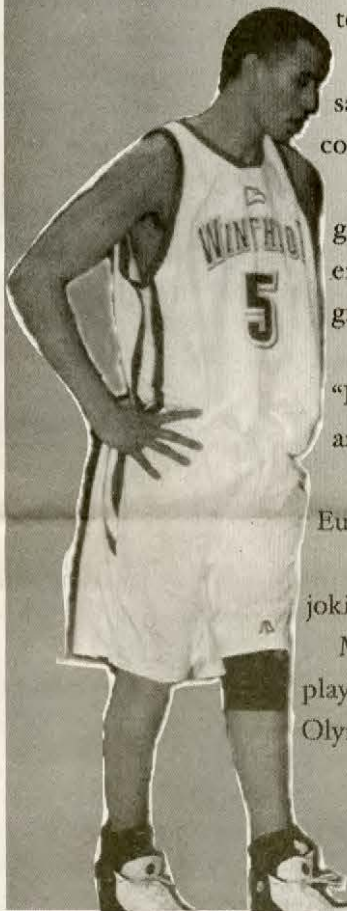


Photo by Julia Passos

"I feel very fortunate and lucky to go to the Olympics," Bradshaw said. "Seeing all the other athletes at the Olympics made me want to compete and work harder."

Eventhough Bradshaw averages 7.8 points and 3.4 rebounds per game this season, his biggest contribution may be his role in the locker room. Bradshaw, who plays forward and center, is looked to as a great teammate and all-around great guy.

"Bradshaw is a good friend of mine," says junior guard James Shuler. "He is not only a great basketball player but also a fun guy to be around."

After college, Bradshaw hopes to play professional basketball in Europe or anywhere else he gets a contract.

"I just don't want to have to worry about money," Bradshaw added jokingly.

Most likely, Bradshaw will not have to look long. Not many basketball players can place themselves in the category of being a "former Olympian."

Emmitt Till's murder discussed in Plowden

Alicia Dervin
Assistant Editor

On Tuesday the African American Studies department and Dacus Library held a forum to discuss the murder of Emmitt Till, a 14-year-old African American boy who was brutally murdered for allegedly whistling at a white woman.

A film was shown that began by talking about Emmitt's life prior to his trip to Mississippi. It said that he was a happy kid who loved to be the center of attention. Emmitt's happy life came to an end after he was beaten, shot in the head and dumped in the Tallahassee River.

When word of Emmitt's death got back to his mother in Chicago, she was horrified. However, when the body arrived, she insisted that his casket be opened so that she and the rest of the world could see what was done to her baby boy.

The casket was left opened with a glass cover at the funeral as hundreds of people came through to view the body. Till's murder and the trial that followed caused uproar in the African

American community. More anger arose as the two men on trial for his murder were acquitted. Till's death was never justified.

After the film there was a brief discussion led by Dr. Janet Hudson of Winthrop's history department. Initially, students weren't eager to talk, but eventually several began to share their views.

"It's sad that something that tragic happened and no justice was served," said Reynard Jefferson, 19, a physical education major from Lynchburg, S.C. Jefferson says he learned more about the murder than he knew before he attended the cultural event.

Many argue that the African American community has lost its values of togetherness today. "We are not as united as we were back then," Jefferson said. "In those times, we had to stick together."

Hopefully, it will not take something as tragic as Emmitt Till's murder to bring today's African American community back to the standards of unity held during the Civil Rights Era.

PROFESSORS, from page 1

"One thing would be to advertise open positions in black and brown publications," Belk said. "Essentially you have to go where people congregate. Let the black professional associations know you have an opening in this area. Let them know you are encouraging all types of persons to apply for the position."

There are obviously more black staff members than there are faculty members. Alison Rauch, a broadcast major from Columbia, S.C., believes that diversity in faculty would affect the student body as a whole in a positive way.

"Diversity in faculty would encourage unity among the students of different ethnic backgrounds."

Megan Goings, who is from Dillon, S.C., thinks blacks still have a lot of progress to make.

"There are African-

American people qualified to be professors and the lack of African-American professors here at Winthrop is an example of how far blacks have to go," said Goings, who is also a broadcast major. "I do not believe that the reason why these circumstances exist is because African-Americans aren't applying."

These sentiments suggest that students can play a huge part in making diversity in faculty a pertinent issue to Winthrop. If students are vocal in their desire for a more diverse faculty, the academic department may try to strengthen their efforts for diversity.

"Students have a lot of power. The student body must be involved in this discussion," Belk said. "Students must seek creative ways to be involved. Students were involved in my hiring process."

According to Winthrop's

website, African Americans represent 25 percent of the total student body. With a growing number of African-American students, will Winthrop ever see a faculty that reflects the student body?

"There will be opportunities to bring in new blood," Belk said. "If this is something the university identifies as a priority, then we will see a change down the line."

Business professor Clarence Coleman points out Winthrop's mission statement, which expresses its desire for a diverse institution.

"If you look at Winthrop's mission statement, it is explicit in its desire to be a diverse institution," Coleman said. "It would be great if Winthrop were more successful in recruiting and retaining African-American faculty."



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