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Sportswriter to Deliver Keynote Lecture at Ninth DPT Colloquium

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Sportswriter to Deliver Keynote Lecture at Ninth DPT Colloquium

Quick Facts

- New York Times sportswriter William C. Rhoden is keynote speaker for the ninth annual Dorothy Perry Thompson Colloquium April 12.
- The colloquium honors late English professor Dorothy Perry Thompson.



William C. Rhoden

ROCK HILL, S.C. - William C. Rhoden, sportswriter for the New York Times, will serve as keynote speaker during the **Ninth Annual Dorothy Perry Thompson Colloquium in African American Studies and the African American Experience** in April.

The author will deliver the colloquium's lecture, titled "**40 Million Dollar Slaves: The Rise, Fall and Redemption of the Black Athlete**," on April 12 at 7 p.m. in **Plowden Auditorium**.

Rhoden, who joined the Times staff in 1983, has authored the paper's "Sports of the Times" column since 1990. He served as a consultant for ESPN's "Sports Century" series and as a guest on the ESPN show "The Sports Reporters." He has won numerous awards, including the Peabody Award for Broadcasting for the HBO documentary "Journey of the African-American Athlete" and an Emmy for 2009 documentary "Breaking the Huddle." **Rhoden**, a resident of Harlem, N.Y., also wrote "Third and A Mile: The Trials and Triumphs of the Black Quarterback."

The **colloquium** honors late English professor **Dorothy Perry Thompson**, founder of Winthrop's minor in African American Studies program, said Adolphus Belk, director of the program and associate professor of political science. Belk added that the **colloquium** also offers the opportunity to "bring in nationally- and internationally-renowned writers and scholars to talk about different aspects of the African American experience."

This year's focus on African American athletes will highlight athletics as "about much more than athletic competition – it's a way to measure society and assess progress within society," said Belk.

Event sponsors include the minor in African American studies, the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, the Department of History and Winthrop Athletics and CHAMPS/Life Skills. An approved cultural event for students, the **colloquium** is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Belk at 803/323-4581 or belka@winthrop.edu.

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