

The Spelman Spotlight



THE VOICE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMANHOOD

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Town Hall Meeting II Poorly Attended

by Danica C. Tisdale,
On-Site Staff Writer

Tuesday, March 2, 1999, the Spelman Student Government Association sponsored Town Hall Meeting II in Sisters Chapel. Administrators were available to respond to student concerns, but according to estimated observations, less than 5% of the numerical Spelman student body attended the open discussion.

During the meeting, SGA president Ms. Zarat Akande said the purpose of the Town Hall Meeting was "to improve communications, and to improve relationships" between all members of the Spelman College community. The meeting also intended to "introduce members of the executive council, and provide an avenue for dialogue," explained Akande.

Administrative panelists included Mr. Danny Flanigan, Vice President of Business and Financial Affairs; Dr. Etta Falconer, Interim Provost; Ms. Barbara Brown, Interim Vice President of Student Affairs; and Mrs. Eloise Abernathy, Director of Alumni Affairs. As these administrators were introduced, each was given the opportunity to explain his or her respective title and respon-



Students pose questions at Town Hall II

sibilities, as well as offer insight on the divisions with which they are associated.

Ms. Geniece Davis, SGA vice-president, estimates that only about 50-75 students attended the meeting. "I was disappointed in the turnout, considering that many student complaints could have been addressed by the Vice-Presidents of the College who were on hand," Davis says. Along with the presentations made by members of the executive council, students who were present raised

of student fees, and the meal plan.

While students propose that multiple meal plans be offered with varying numbers of meals, Mr. Flanigan explained that the Spelman account with Aramark Food Services

is relatively small, and cannot allow as much flexibility as the meal plans of Georgia Tech, Emory, or other larger universities. Within the next few years though, Flanigan says, there is a chance that Spelman will adopt a debit card system.

On the issue of student parking fees, Flanigan first explained that Spelman was mandated by the city of Atlanta to build the parking deck. The deck, which accommodates about 500 cars, cost \$7

million dollars to construct. Spelman is contracted to pay \$500,000 per year for 20 to 25 years to pay for the deck and the \$350 per semester student parking fee must contribute to that debt.

Finally, though students complain about the lack of student activities and a bustling campus life, student activity fees can only be increased and redistributed through a vote by the student body. The issue of increasing student fees was included on the 1998-99 voting ballot in

"One or two voices do not constitute a college wide issue, and administration must be convinced that our concerns are indeed college wide."
Geniece Davis, SGA Vice-President

May 98, but the majority of students voted the proposal

down.

Town Hall Meeting Part II dealt with pertinent issues for students and administrators to respond to on both sides of the table, but the recent meeting was not as well attended as the first town hall meeting earlier in the semester.

Ms. Davis adds, "I'm concerned that Spelman will not change if students are apathetic and don't express their concerns to affect change. One or two voices do not constitute a college wide issue, and administration must be convinced that our concerns are indeed college wide."



Danny Flanigan, VP Business Affairs
with Geniece Davis, SSGA VP

questions about student parking fees, the allocation of funds for cultural activities, the distribution

Spotlight

Letter from the Editor



"I wake up with the newspaper on my mind, and when I go to bed at night it's the last thing I think about."

Some people have a hobby, others have community service groups, are especially devoted to church activities, or have boyfriends – the newspaper monopolizes my life. It's been my purpose this year - my driving force to get me to graduation. It is not that I want to neglect my schoolwork – rather, my position as Editor-in-Chief is the culmination of all that I have learned here. I must repeatedly apply logic, intelligence, and organization to manage a group of women to produce a bi-monthly publication. The hours, diligence, and teamwork from my staff have been outstanding. And the progress from that first issue in October has been extraordinary.

I mention this because of the comments I have received on the changes in the newspaper. From my Spelman sister who yells through a crowd "Erin, the paper looks great," to the phone calls and compliments from the other AUC newspaper staffs, to my mother, who says "Yeah, I like the new front, but when are you going to get a new picture?" We thank you. We thank you for demanding that your newspaper no longer be the joke of the AUC. We thank you for your confidence in our potential. Because of your support, our staff has accepted the challenge to better represent the voice of African-American womanhood.

Attention Seniors:

Do you or one of your classmates have a mentee, and are worried about what will happen to them when you graduate? Is so, do something about it.

Place an ad in the Spelman Community Service Newsletter to locate an interested sister to pick up where you'll leave off.

For more info, call the editor of the community service newsletter at (404) 681-2198 or send email to mgolding@spelman.edu.

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The Spelman Spotlight welcomes all submissions. Submissions will be reviewed and considered as space permits. Work is subject to editing. The Spotlight reserves the right to retain any submitted work.

Editorial opinions expressed are not representative of the Spotlight or Spelman College.

All submissions should be sent through Campus Mail (Box #1234) or placed within the folder on the Spotlight Office door (Lower Manley Room 104).

On-Site Info.

Successful Women's Luncheon features Spelman Alumnae

by Andrea "Andei" Williams,
On-Site Section Editor

The Spelman chapter of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) recently observed its awareness week March 1-6. As the highlight of the week, four Spelman alumnae shared personal and professional advice with students during the Successful Women's Luncheon, March 3.

During welcoming comments, Senior JoyAnn Phillips Rohan, president of Spelman NCNW, explained that the organization wanted to create a meaningful experience where students could comfortably interact with alumnae role

models. Rohan mentioned, "We [Spelman NCNW] serve as peer models to the AUC as you [alumnae] serve as models to us." Instead of

community, and good health. I think that I am overly committed to the community, but I just can't seem to give back enough. God

has been so good to me. To be able to give is success." Since August 1998, Judge Cole, who was an English major while at Spelman, has been the State Court Fulton County Judge.

Ms. Shondria Covington, co-manager of alter-

nate channel projects at BellSouth, advised students to, "savor these years in college." She and the other guests suggested that students can best take advantage of their college experience through academic achievement, research and internship opportunities, and community involvement. Ms. Lisa Simpson,

a panel discussion or forum setting, guest speakers sat among students and casually, but purposefully conversed over lunch.

All of the alumnae guests expressed that success cannot be fully measured by financial status. Judge Brenda Cole says, "I am pleased with life because I have a good family, com-



(l to r) Judge Cole, Lisa Simpson, Shondria Covington, and Na'Taki Osborn



Luncheon participants pose with honored guests

director of Volunteer Emory at Emory University, and Ms. Na'Taki Osborn, environmental engineer/organizer with the National Wildlife Federation, particularly stressed the importance of dedication to the needs of the community.

Other activities during NCNW week included a Wellness Awareness Forum with guest speakers addressing dental hygiene, natural hair care, and massage therapy. NCNW also sponsored an information table during Market Friday, March 5. According to NCNW member Nikki Youngblood, the Spelman chapter is now focusing on

fundraising efforts toward the Brown Box Campaign that helps to sponsor the National Black Family Reunion and other special events. NCNW also plans to volunteer with the SisterLove Women's Shelter later this semester.

The National Council of Negro Women, Inc. was founded in 1935 by Mary McLeod Bethune to be an "organization of organization," or umbrella council of Black female organizations. Currently, through its national affiliate organization and 250 community-based sections, NCNW has an outreach to four million women, helping women to improve the quality of life for themselves, their families, and the larger community.

Spelman Staff Member Heads Petition to Parole Board

by Kendra Williams,
On-Site Staff Writer

Ms. Audree Irons, administrative assistant of the Women's Resource and Research Center, has recently spearheaded a letter writing campaign requesting that inmate James Jeffries be denied parole. Jeffries was convicted of the 1998 murder of Ms. Vanessa Sanderson who was administrative assistant in the Spelman Writing Center at the time of her demise.

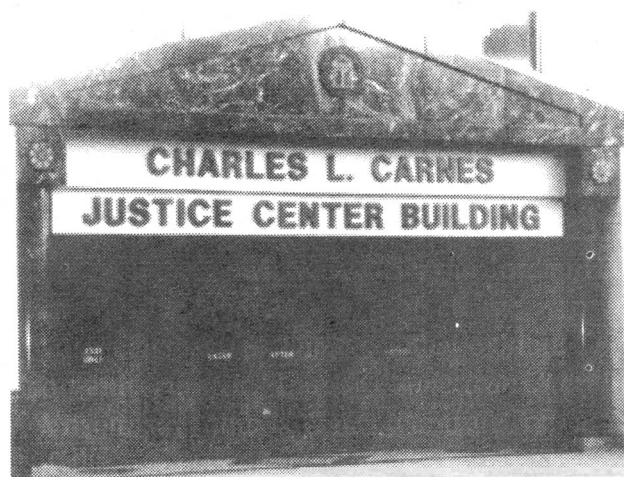
At Jeffries hands, Sanderson had been subjected to continual harassment, verbal intimidation, and physical violence which finally came

to a head with her brutal murder on February 15, 1998. One Spelman student who agreed to speak anonymously remembers a previous time when Jeffries threatened Sanderson here on campus. The student mentions, "We had a class in Cosby 329 and she was

walking away from him crying and we were like 'What's going on?' It didn't seem like it was that bad. You could tell that she was afraid of him. He was tall and kind

of thin. He really didn't look like he could kill her."

On October 16, 1998



Fulton County Justice Center

Jeffries was convicted of murder, burglary and possession of a firearm. He was sentenced to life, ten years and five years respectively, but the actual

time that he will have to serve is only twenty-three years.

Ms. Irons hopes that through petition, members of the Spelman community can convince the parole board that Jeffries

could never be deserving of parole. Irons has distributed letters throughout campus, and encourages others to come by the Women's

Center to sign the letter and show their support of the endeavor. Through her activism, Irons is both trying to remember her friend Sanderson and

raise consciousness about the intolerable prevalence of domestic violence.

Unfortunately, Sanderson's death is not an isolated event. Two years earlier, Ms. Carrie Searcy, administrative assistant of Spelman's Economics Department was killed in a domestic violence dispute.

According to a survey conducted by the national Violence Against Women Office, 1 in 12 women will be a victim of stalking in her lifetime. Based on these statistics, 165 currently enrolled Spelman women may experience some form of "repeated and ongoing victimization." 77% of these victims will be assaulted by someone the victim knows, yet only 13% of the perpetrators will be criminally prosecuted for their crimes.

On-Site Info.

Millennium Leadership: Spelman Elections 1999-2000

The time has arrived again for us to elect women who are willing to serve the Spelman College community in leadership capacities. The following bold and visionary individuals have accepted the charge for **MILLENNIUM LEADERSHIP**. I now charge the student body to actively take part in elections for the 1999-2000 school year. It is the goal of the Elections Committee to provide the Spelman student body with the most informed and integrity-based election campaign. Please plan to attend campaign activities.

Aisha Anderson-SSGA Parliamentarian
and Elections Committee Chair

Candidates

SGA- Student Government Association

Sr. - Senior Class

Jr. - Junior Class

So. - Sophomore Class

Miss Spelman 1999-2000

Alisha Thomas
Danielle Thomas
Darienne Driver
Janinah Burnett
Jessica Page
Kia Barosy
Petrenia Davis

SSGA Co-Advisory Chair

Bianca Howell
Nicole Taylor
Jamonica Deramus

SSGA Co-Publicity Chair

Melanie Jones
Rashida Barton

SSGA Co-Social

Candice Williams
Christina Williams
Mari-Yan Pringle
Te'iva Johnson

SSGA Media Specialist

Joi Thomas
Myiesha Williams

SSGA

Parliamentarian

Precious Williams
Robyn Stokes
Shelby Stewart

SSGA Recording Secretary

Allison James
Carla McCullough

SSGA Treasurer

Daria Washington
Shantay Thomas

Student Trustee

Altoria Newton
Fatima McKindra
Felecia McCray
Keisha Williams
Laneshia Camp
Laquawn Thompson
Stephanie St. Louis
Stephany Cokes

Sr. President

Belinda Jackson
LaTasha Jones
Sumayya Ali-Shahid

Sr. Vice President

Afiya McLaughlin-White
Nicole Williams

Sr. Co-Publicity Chair

Erin Booker
Joi Goodwin

Sr. Co-Social Chair

Ayana Hunter
Kendra Williams
Kraytina Lawrence

Sr. SGA

Representative
Adrienne Crenshaw
Monique Barber
Natalie Bargerion

Sr. Treasurer

Joslyn Witherspoon

Jr. President

Carson Kelley

Jr. Vice President

Dara Johnson
Kimberly Lucas

Jr. Treasurer

Andrea Jackson

Jr. Co-Publicity Chair

Gretchen Mincy
Lauren Craig
Shavonna Sumlin

Jr. Co-Social Chair

Heather Kenney

Jr. Recording

Secretary
Shannon Bradford
Jennifer Williams

Jr. SGA

Representative
Rayna Brown
Tameika Mapp

So. President

Kisha Payton
Maya Eady
Tonya Fewell

So. Vice-President

Carmen Harris
Kaia Haile

So. Co-Publicity

Kristen Bolton-Keyes

So. Co-Social Chair

Celia Robinson
Jalyah Burrell
Latisha Miles
Sharla Gorman

So. Corresponding Secretary

Joni Poitier

So. Recording Secretary

Alisha Adams
Erika Love

So. Secretary

Todra Harris

So. SGA

Representative
Angie Phillips
Calandra Harris
Dione Moultrie
Jakima Ambers
Kimberly Copeland

So. Treasurer

Nathalie Essex

Campaign Activities

March 23 Class Council Speeches

Cosby Auditorium 6:30 p.m.

March 24 SSGA and Student Trustee Speeches

Cosby Auditorium 6:30 p.m.

March 25 Question and Answer Session

Cosby Auditorium 6:30 p.m.

March 26 Meet the Candidates Reception

Manley Center, Lowel Level Concourse
11-4 p.m.

March 28 Miss Spelman Competition

Sisters Chapel 7:00 p.m.

March 30 Voting Day

Manley Center, Upper Concourse 9-5 p.m.

On-Site Info.

Millennium Leadership: Spelman Elections 1999-2000

SSGA Presidential Candidates

SSGA Vice-Presidential Candidates



Name: Geniece R. Davis

**Classification: Junior
Vision/Personal**

Statement: Through my extensive involvement in the Spelman community, I have come to envision a servant student body, surrounded by an atmosphere that will enhance its social, physical, academic, and spiritual person. I envision a more

intense level of participation and activism that will flow even past the Spelman gates into the AUC and surrounding community. I hope to nurture the seeds of excellence that have already been planted and lead Spelman to a greater level of excellence in the 21st century.



Name: Talithia D. Daniel

**Classification: Junior
Vision/Personal**

Statement: This year, our vision for the Student Government and the student body was "Planting Seeds of Excellence in Leadership as we approach the new Millennium." My hope for next year is that we continue "watering" the many seeds

that have already be planted. As SGA vice-president, I want to continue nurturing those seeds of leadership in future Spelmanites.



Name: Teresa M. Howell

**Classification: Junior
Vision/Personal**

Statement: As president of the Spelman Student Government Association, I will bring about unity and be a president that is accountable to the student body. I will bring more speakers, foster the spirit of

black history, enhance political awareness and re-establish the bond between alumnae and students. I will work for the students, bring about activities that will empower Spelman students to do as one motto says, "enter to learn, exit to serve."



Name: Nicole D. Hamlin

**Classification: Junior
Vision/Personal**

Statement: My vision is to rekindle the fire that burns hot within the hearts of Spelman women. This burning flame shall compel the entire Spelman community to uplift one another with love, realizing that without this passion everything that is

Spelman would never have been and will not continue to be.



Name: Nakeita M. Norman

**Classification: Junior
Vision/Personal**

Statement: My vision is to educate, equip, and empower women to take their proper seat of authority. It's time for the students of Spelman College to rise up and take their rightful place as leaders of the next millennium who are raising the moral standard wherever their feet may tread.



Name: Tamisha N. Scott

**Classification: Junior
Vision/Personal**

Statement: As a candidate for the vice-presidential position, my vision is to create an inviting environment in which students of Spelman College can be intricately connected with the administration. In addition, I plan to be a catalyst for the enthusiastic involvement of the

entire community of my Spelman sisters.

Spotlight

"And the Last Shall Be First"

Senior Spotlight with Mashadi Matabane

by Melissa Husband,
On-Site Staff Writer

Senior Mashadi (which means 'the last one remains') Matabane is making history at Spelman College. A native of Capitol Heights, Maryland, Ms. Matabane is the first woman to graduate Spelman College with a major in Women's Studies.

Matabane admits that initially she didn't choose to come to Spelman. Spelman was not in her plan, but according to Matabane, God led her here for His plan

for her life. She believes that she was specifically led to Spelman College to study Women's Issues. The new curriculum for a degree in Comparative Women's Studies as only recently been implemented under the direction of Dr. Beverly Guy-Sheftall, director of the Women's Center. Matabane says her most meaningful experience at Spelman has been discovering her passion for Women's Studies and for Black Feminism.

Matabane partly attributes her interest in Women's Studies to the fact that she grew up with very politically active par-

ents. Her father, who is South African, was very active in the anti-apartheid movement. Matabane says, "Women's Studies answered questions and opened my eyes to questions I never thought to ask. I am constantly in awe of the issues that surround women. The works that I read and the theories that I studied articulated my thoughts and feelings as a woman. My world just opened up and I realized our legacy. I was angry because no one ever told me this. I became aware of myself as a black woman and for the first time I realized what that really meant."

Last year Matabane spent the year in Lancaster, England, studying women and now notes that she "grew in her knowledge of women's issues by leaps and bounds." She gives



Matabane poses while sightseeing abroad

credit to Anne Frank, Dr. Guy-Sheftall, bell hooks, Anna Julia Cooper, and her mother, who all have inspired her to be the woman who she is.

As a graduating senior, Matabane says that she will miss Spelman and "being in an environment that caters to Black women." Matabane gives Spelman credit for being a place where Black women really matter, unlike the

marginalization of Black women which often occurs in American society.

Ms. Matabane has received a full scholarship with a monthly stipend from Ohio University for continued research of Women's Issues and a researching assistantship, but is still weighing her options. Her future aspirations are to become a print journalist focusing on women's issues.

Health Brief

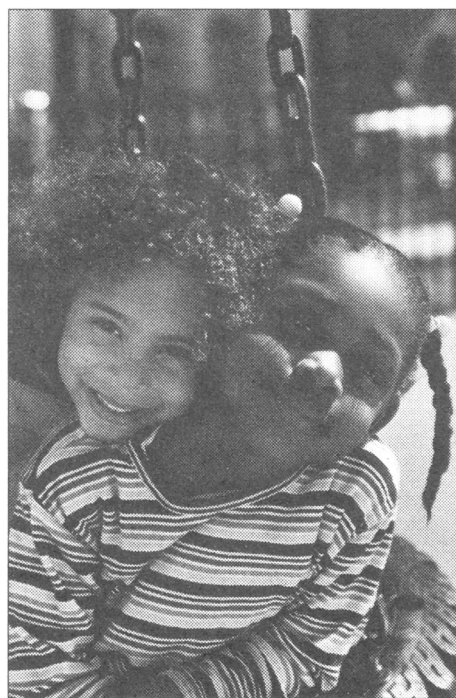
Exercising for the mind

by Delanda Robbins, Beyond
the Gates Staff Writer

On February 22, 1999, Fred Cage, a neurologist at the Salk Institute in La Jolla, California, and the Salk team, discovered that human brain cells do divide and grow. This phenomena is thought to be a direct result of exercise. Conventional medical wisdom once insisted that the fully developed human brain could not renew itself.

We already know that regular, moderate exercise keeps blood pressure down, lowers cholesterol, and reduces the risk of blood clots that cause heart attacks. Cage and his research-

ers are now testing different forms of exercise on mice to discover a specific exercise that will stimulate the brain to produce the most brain cells. So far, the research group has compared running to swimming, in which runners grew more brain cells than swimmers. The reasoning for this contrast is unclear. Many think it may stem from the fact that the swimmers received less exercise. Whatever the discrepancy is, through future research we will know soon enough. Until then, keep exercising regularly and hopefully you will reap the physical as well as mental benefits.



DON'T MAKE US CHOOSE.

The United Negro College Fund helps thousands of deserving students go to college. But for every one we help, there's one we can't. Not without the funds. With your generous donation you can help ensure that everyone who should go to college does, including the best of friends.

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A Mind Is A Terrible Thing To Waste.



Call 1 800 332-UNCF.



Beyond the Gates

Student questionnaire reveals AUC shuttle service unsatisfactory: *Public Safety responds*

by Nyambura Niagi,
Beyond the Gates Staff Writer

Numbers of students throughout the AUC have voiced concerns and had numerous questions and complaints about the AUC shuttle service this year. There is much confusion and even resentment on the part of some Spelman students on the matter, but opinions vary. When asked to answer a short questionnaire on their opinion of this year's AUC shuttle performance, some students thought the shuttle service had gotten better since last year, claiming that "It goes farther and begins earlier" and that "This year, the shuttles are more accessible and try to run more frequently."

However, the majority of the Spelman students who responded to the AUC

survey are under the impression that shuttle service has gotten worse since last year. A common complaint is that the shuttle never seems to be available when needed. When asked what the most frustrating thing about the shuttle is, a sophomore chemistry major commented that "Last year the shuttle would stop and pick up people. This year, the shuttle could be empty, but they will drive by and wave at you."

Another student complains that "We're not get-

ting our money's worth." A big complaint is that the shuttles schedule is not al-

improved and most complaining that there are major problems with shuttle



Idle shuttle are parked while students wait for transport

ways accurate. Other complaints that were noted were the infrequency of the shuttle, and the lack of early Saturday and Sunday shuttle service.

With some students insisting that the shuttle has

time schedules, availability, and dependability, it is obvious that there is a lot of confusion about the matter.

One of the problems addressed was the fact that the shuttle did not seem to

be there when it was needed. Sgt. Cooper from Public Safety responded that there are the same number of shuttles going out this year; one shuttle during the day and four shuttles at night. Cooper responded that the shuttle schedule is based on "approximate times" in order to make up for unforeseen events such as traffic, accidents, weather and so on. However, the shuttle should be at its designated stop within 3 to 4 minutes of the time scheduled.

"Many times drivers do not see students who may need to be picked up," the public safety officer said. She added that more often than not, students simply do not realize that, due to compliance with safety regulations, the shuttle can only stop at specific loading and unloading zones. "Too dangerous to simply stop anywhere on the road," he stressed.

Loading zones where you can expect to be picked up, according to the shuttle representative, are at the Spelman parking lot and the King Center at Morehouse. An additional stop is located at the first light on the corner of Lee Street and West End Avenue. Students should note that it is not likely that any students will be picked up after the shuttle crosses the highway, because it is difficult for the shuttle drivers to get into the appropriate lane.

If you would like time schedules for the AUC shuttle, they are available at the library or the public safety office located on Spelman's campus. If you have specific questions concerning the shuttle call the AUC shuttle service at (404) 577-0306.

Racism at its worst: black man beaten to death in Jasper, Texas

by Shannon Bradford, Beyond the Gates Staff Writer

A jury of eleven whites and one black convicted white supremacist and murderer John William King. Two days later, it took the jury less than three hours to give him the death penalty. This man, along with two others, brutally tortured and killed James Byrd, Jr.

The incident occurred on June 7, 1998, in Jasper, Texas, as Byrd was walking home from a party. The three men kidnapped, beat, and tied Byrd to the back of their truck with a 24-foot logging chain. The men dragged Byrd along a bumpy, asphalt road for 3 miles.

Forensic pathologist, Dr. Thomas J. Brown il-

lustrated the horrific details of Byrd's last minutes of life. He believes that Byrd was still alive and conscious through the majority of the torture ride. "The gentleman was alive up until the time he pretty much exploded when he hit the culvert. He was alive when his head, shoulder, and right arm were separated." Byrd tried to ease the pain by lifting his torso and trying to dig his heels into the ground. His ribs were all broken, and his heels, knees, and elbows were shredded to the bone. He endured this pain until he could no longer fight for his life. Ultimately, his body was flipped off the road and he was castrated.

The obviously remorseless defendant, John King sat with a cold facial

expression, elbow on the table and chin in hand. King gave the impression that he could care less that he tortured an innocent man to death, because the man was black.

A police detective testified that King wrote racist graffiti on the door of his cell. His body is covered in racist tattoos. A Jasper county jail administrator said that jail authorities obtained a letter written by King that read "Regardless of this, we have made history and shall die proudly remembered if need be...." He signed the note "Sieg heil," which means hail victory, a Nazi slogan. This note was intended for Lawrence Brewer, one of the other men involved in the murder.

The evidence was

extremely incriminating and placed all three defendants at the scene of the crime. Forensic evidence ties King and his two accomplices to the route. Cigarette butts found at the scene of the crime match the DNA of all three defendants. A lighter engraved with King's prison nickname Possum was also found.

Only one white man has ever been executed in Texas for killing a black person. John William King is the first white person to be put to death for killing a black person in Jasper, Texas since the death penalty was reinstated in the mid-1970's.

The two other participants, Shawn Berry and Lawrence Brewer, are awaiting trial on the same charge.

Beyond the Gates

Black Confederates Stricter Regulations for the 1999 Black College Reunion in Daytona Beach

"There are at the present moment, many colored men in the Confederate Army doing duty ... as real soldiers, having muskets on their shoulders and bullets in their pockets..."

Frederick Douglass

by Kristin Wyckoff, Beyond the Gates Staff Writer

After more than twelve years of school, many college students are disturbed when we see the Confederate flag displayed in buildings and on vehicles. However, there are African Americans who believe the flag is a representation of their heritage. A great deal of research continues to prove that blacks did fight and support the Confederacy during the Civil War.

Emerson Emory is one of the few people who accepts the notion that blacks supported the Confederacy. Emory, a black 74-year old psychiatrist, is trying to preserve his Southern roots along with the Sons of Confederate Veterans. He wants to educate other African-Americans. However, the reactions Emory receives are either denial or outrage. On one occasion, Emory was told he could not pay tribute to black confederates at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. The particular ceremony was in honor of 200,000 black soldiers who fought in the Civil War. A historian for the African-American Civil War Foundation later implied to Emory that he would not allow Emory's tribute during the ceremony because he doubts blacks fought for the Confederacy.

On the other hand, there are some whites who do not believe blacks neither fought nor supported the South. Charles Barrow is a white high school teacher who conducts research on the black involvement during the war. "They're in opposition either way. Certain people have always tried to divide white and black Southern-

ers," Barrow says.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans continue to research the aspect of black involvement. During the war, it is estimated that 25% of free blacks and 15% of slaves were in favor of Southern efforts. Furthermore, they believe blacks participated because the South had been home for many years; therefore, they wanted to be loyal to the South in hopes for a reward for their patriotism. According to the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Sam Ashe, a black servant, was the first person to kill a union officer. The officer was later identified as abolitionist Major Theodore Winthrop.

Many people may argue that President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation freed slaves. However, some groups beg to differ by saying that the Emancipation Proclamation did not free a single slave. Furthermore, President Lincoln was not opposed to slavery. "If I could save the Union without freeing any slave I would do it..." Lincoln was quoted.

Lincoln's remark is not the only surprising fact researchers have found. According to historians, Confederate General Robert E. Lee freed his family slaves before the Civil War took place. Whites were not the only people owning slaves. William Ellison, a free black planter, owned 70 slaves in Charleston. In New York City, eight black planters owned 17 slaves thirty years before the war began. Today, a retired educator and Sons of Confederate Veterans member, Nelson W. Winbush, offers speeches on his black ancestor, Private Louis N.

by Sommer Brokaw, Beyond the Gates Staff Writer

For all interested in participating in Daytona Beach's 1999 Black College Reunion Weekend held April 9-11, a new traffic plan and code of conduct will be implemented, according to Daytona Beach Mayor Bud Asher. Asher claims the changes are in response to the major traffic gridlock and inappropriate conduct at last year's Black College Reunion.

Major traffic gridlock developed partly from the growing population attending the weekend events. Black College Reunion began in 1984 when two historically Black institutions located in Florida (Bethune-Cookman College and Florida A&M University) decided to gather at Daytona Beach. The event has blossomed over the years from a small gathering of mostly college students, to an event which attracts 80,000 to 100,000 people to the beachside area of Daytona Beach. During recent Black College Reunions, the traffic congestion on the beachside area of Daytona Beach posed a significant safety problem.

The police chief and fire chief have determined

that emergency services, primarily fire fighting and ambulance services could not be delivered to beachfront properties in a timely manner because of major traffic gridlock, mainly along Atlantic Avenue. In addition, there were several incidents of inappropriate conduct on the part of students and non-students, one of which ended with fatal consequences. The preceding events gave rise to a public outcry last year, which resulted in the appointment of a bi-racial Task Force by Daytona's City Commission.

The Task Force led by Chairman Dr. Jno Frink, Executive vice-president of Bethune-Cookman College, recommended that the city commission establish a traffic management plan. The traffic management plan has two main goals. The first goal is to limit the number of vehicles that can access Atlantic Avenue. The second goal of the plan is to keep vehicles on Atlantic Avenue moving, by using a combination of education, traffic enforcement, and traffic direction.

The Task Force also recommended that the city commission impose a Code of Conduct. The Daytona Beach City Commission established such a

code, in Resolution No. 98-379. This resolution states that "The laws be strictly but fairly enforced for everyone." This code prohibits driving at such a slow speed as to impede the normal and reasonable flow of traffic (i.e. stopping to talk to pedestrians). A similar rule is that it is unlawful for pedestrians to impede or obstruct the flow of vehicular traffic. The code prohibits the carrying or consumption of alcoholic beverages (including beer) on the city streets, sidewalks or right of ways. This applies to pedestrians and occupants of motor vehicles. The code also prohibits lewd and lascivious behavior (nudity-exposure) under city ordinance 29-5 and city ordinance 29-3.

"I just think that when they impose specific codes of conduct for Black events it comes out of fear. Some white people have constructed the fear than when black people get together they are more likely to be violent," Spelman College student Cherise White replied when asked about the stricter regulations in Daytona Beach's Black College Reunion. Many students feel the preparations that are being made for the upcoming Black College Reunion are direct reflections of the city of Atlanta's treatment of "Freak-Nick." Some feel that the rules and ordinances may be imposed to discourage people from participating, but it needs to be noted that these same rules and regulations are never imposed on large-scale white events.

Nelson.

When asked how they feel about the issue of black confederacy heritage, many students are unaware and are amazed at the information presented. "I believe the slaves may have been forced by slavemasters to fight for the South. In addition, I think the slaves were not properly informed about

the war. Considering the fact that Texas slaves were in slavery longer, due to the lack of communication," Spelman student Shani Stewart asserts. On the other hand, Crystal Flowers provides a different proposal. "Slaves fought for the Confederacy because they were uncertain about their future as free people. After all, few

slaves had skills or an education," Flowers says. Perhaps, both Stewart and Flowers are correct. Throughout the years, generations are taught the Confederacy was comprised of Southern whites who wanted slavery to continue. However, black Confederate heritage remains challenging because of the skepticism and outrage concerning the issue.

Arts & Entertainment

Musically Speaking

by ND Washington,
Arts and Entertainment Staff Writer

The last couple of weeks have kept the average music lover on their toes. With the Grammy's and the NAACP Image awards, VCRs will be on standby to record the hottest performances by the hottest artists. Besides performances, the latest CD releases could really put a strain on the enthusiasts' wallet. A hip hop fanatic, has probably been following the recent developments with the DEF JAM label, a pioneer in the development of the hip hop culture and sound.

Diva of the Decade

Lauryn Hill, whose two Atlanta shows have sold out, has been named a Hip Hop Diva by the mainstream, only giving their approval when she broke records at the Grammy's. Those truly in touch with the music have known about this phenomenal woman's (only 23) talents before her recent success. Remember her outstanding performance in the not so outstanding Sister Act 2?

Controversy reared its ugly head when a racist radio DJ made disparaging remarks about African Americans, the Jasper Texas trial, and Hip Hop Music, just after playing a cut from Hill's album. This DJ, however, does not enjoy that public forum anymore, as station management released him from his position.

On the Charts

Hill bounced back, however, with her rookie solo album reaching quadruple platinum status. This is a great feat for the New Jersey native, mother of two beautiful children, and the woman who set the record, 10 Grammy nominations, 5 Grammy Awards, including Album of the Year, the most wins by a female artist in a single night.

Also on R & B Billboard Top 20 Charts for the week ending March 6th is the DMX combination. Still riding high off of "It's Dark and Hell is Hot", which has been on the charts for 40 weeks, peaking at #1 but currently is now #14, DMX also enjoys the fifth position with his latest release "Flesh of my Flesh, Blood of My Blood."

Jigga: Hip Hops Man of the Hour

Jay-Z, who has enjoyed a fabulous 1998 and '99 so far, must also be commended for his Grammy Success, winning Best Rap Album. The controversy surrounding Jay-Z's boycott is the argument that many rappers have made for years now - the Grammy's continue to overlook major rap artists in several ways, one specifically by not airing them while receiving the awards. Jay-Z felt as though his boycott, including requesting that his name be withdrawn from the three categories for which he was nominated, was a significant statement.

Def Jam, Changing Hands

Jay-Z, not an artist of Def Jam, but under the company's distribution, recently reached four million sold mark for "Hard Knock Life."

Although helpful, this will not help save Def Jam from leaving Russell Simmons' hands. Simmons is selling the remaining shares of the company that he started in the eighties out of his NYU dorm room. The shares, bought by Universal Music Group, will be going for 100 million dollars.

Disappointing sales last year by Method Man and Redman, Public Enemy's flight from the label, and the slipping of Foxy Brown's Chyna Doll, down to number 16 on the charts, are some of the reasons for the changing of the guard. Despite those disappointments, DMX rejuvenated the label with his debut and recent release. Universal sees Rap Music's mainstream appeal and potential for success. Simmons will, however, still have partial control of the label with the position of Chairman.

A Sparrow who soars like an eagle: Lauryn Hill raises the standards of hip hop with U.S. solo tour

by Jamilla Coleman, Arts & Entertainment Staff Writer
Abroad

At age 23, Lauryn Hill has achieved a mind-blowing level of success: Her debut solo album, "The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill," is triple platinum. She transformed the stigma of young, unwed motherhood into a heartfelt and quite successful ode to her son called "To Zion."

She dominated the Grammys with 10 nominations. And Aretha "Queen of Soul" Franklin called upon Hill to write a song for her, "A Rose Is Still A Rose."

If you had the opportunity to see a Fugees concert in the past, then you already know that Hill has natural charm and talent. She commands the stage even more with her solo performance, which she proved when her tour recently came to San Francisco's Bill Graham Civic Auditorium.

The concert started on time with opening act OutKast, who accentuated their less-energetic-than-usual performance with a crooning blues guitarist. Showing the spirituality she credits to her success, Hill opened her section with the gospel song, "His Eye is on the Sparrow." As she began to sing offstage, the concert hall fell into darkness as lighting suggesting the stained-glass windows of a church illuminated the back wall of the set. The tune then melded into "Redemption Song," the song of Hill's departed father-in-law and fellow icon, Bob Marley.

Hill proved hip hop's depth and versatility with lively background singers and an excellent band of keyboardists, horns, percussionists, and guitarists. At one point during the performance, she gave props to Motown in a play-

ful battle with a duo of deejays by incorporating such melodies as Stevie Wonder's "Sir Duke" and The Jackson 5's "I Want You Back." As an added bonus, guitarist Carlos Santana made a special appearance and performed "To Zion" with Hill. In addition, the ever-humble Hill included some of her rhymes and melodies from the Fugees in the mix.

Hill could so easily seem untouchable in her success, but she used her humble demeanor to enchant the audience. She worked the entire stage, made eye contact constantly, and playfully stepped and shook her petite behind as she rhymed and her voice soared. During her rendition of "Doo Wop (That Thing)," even the white fans were gleefully chanting along as Hill rapped about girls wanting "hair weaves like Europeans." When she closed out the main block of her performance with "Everything Is Everything," she delivered the message that life needs a sense of purpose as well as fun.

Hill's concert is one of the tightest performances thus far. As she sang her cover of Roberta Flack's "Killing Me Softly" for her encore performance, she showed her ability to master something that's been done without appearing like she's trying to produce a carbon-copy of it. Hill delivers the great artistry of the past with subtle undertones that speak of a need for the social activism of earlier generations. Hill is not the trendy "it-girl" who will be replaced next year. She is a constant force who has raised the bar yet another notch for hip hop music.

Arts & Entertainment

Movie Reviews *The Haps...*

Cruel Intentions: The New "Dangerous Liasons"

by Erin M. Lott,
Contributing Writer

The bet: Sebastian has until the end of the summer to sleep with the new headmaster's daughter, Annette, infamous for her virginity article in *Seventeen* magazine.

The stakes: If he wins, he gets the only thing he can't have – a night of unbridled passion with Katherine, his nymphomaniac step-sister. If he loses, Katherine gets his coveted Jaguar sportster.

Definitely for a younger crowd, this movie

earns its R rating for its twisted plot of revenge and deception, themes of homosexuality, interracial relationships, and incest, and one (rather tastefully done) sex scene. Sarah Michelle Gellar plays Katherine, model student, and spoiled-rotten slut from the upper-East side of Manhattan, whose sole purpose is to avenge her ex-lover by transforming his new girlfriend, Cecile, played by Selma Blair, into the whore of the school. Her step-brother Sebastian, played by Ryan Phillippe, is the bad boy of

the private school. Notorious for manipulating "insipid debutantes" out of their underwear, Katherine asks Sebastian for his help in her plot of revenge, and they seal their bet on Annette.

Despite its subplots, the theme of the movie stays pretty consistent, and new developments make the plot thicken.

A *Dangerous Liaisons* for the 1990s, I enjoyed the movie. Just don't think too much about the morals of these teenagers, and don't go see it on a first date.

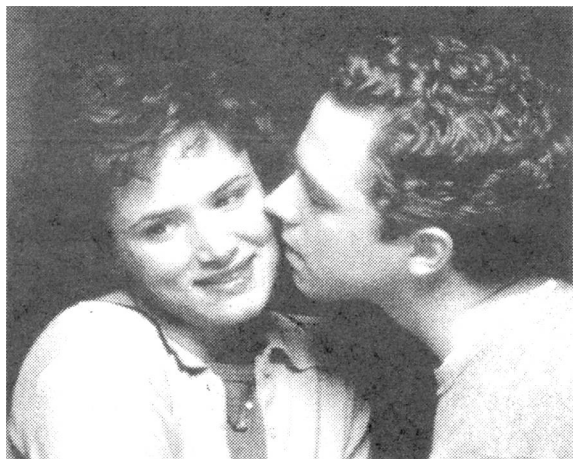


Photo: Timothy White
Courtesy Touchstone Pictures. All Right Reserved

The Other Sister

by Theia Washington, Arts & Entertainment Staff Writer

In *The Other Sister*, Juliette Lewis teams up with Academy - award winning actress Diane Keaton to create a young man named Danny, played by Giovanni Ribisi. As Carla embarks on a personal journey of self-discovery, she finds herself in love with Danny's zest for life and happiness. Although her mother strongly opposes the relationship at first, she soon realizes that Carla has matured into a independent young woman, worthy of love and being loved.

As Carla and Danny set out to find answers to some of life's toughest challenges, the audience will find itself captivated by the witty humor and heartfelt storyline that is brought to life on the big screen. Sophomore Catherine Buell considers it to be "a deeply touching story about the innocence of love and the challenges of life." Ultimately, *The Other Sister* is a unique portrayal of love's ability to transcend the challenges of mental illness and touch the souls of everyone. *The Other Sister* is in theaters now.

by Ayana McPhail,
Arts & Entertainment Staff Writer

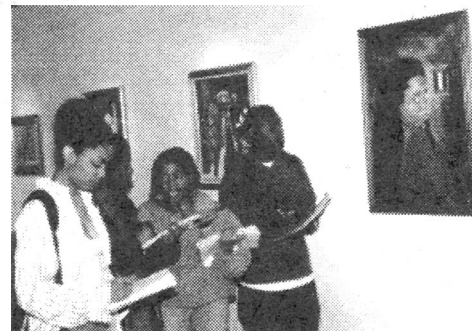
Different Visions of a Shared Culture: A Pentagon of Thought and Interpretations by African-American Artists is a must see art exhibit at the New Gallery at Jordan Hall on Morris Brown's campus. It is only five minutes away from the other Atlanta University Center schools. This exhibition is being extended until March 26th, gather up a few friends if you dare to explore the minds of five unique artists.

This breath taking display of art features five male artist who counteract last year's display of

women artists. Gilbert Young is one of the artist who reaches into the soul of African Americans exposing hope, tradition, and heritage. He has been a painter and illustrator for over 40 years. He is the creator of the known piece, *He Ain't Heavy*, which features an African American man reaching down over a wall to lift another African American man up. Director and curator, Lamar Wilson, says this is "one of the most recognizable pieces of black Americana art in the last 25 years, it's one of the top 5 selling pieces sold in African American art." This print among a few other of Young's works are dis-

played.

Wilson encourages students to stop by the museum because it is geared toward individuals interested in art. Morris Brown has maintained an ongoing commitment to art education since the museum was donated after the Olympics. The New Gallery at Jordan Hall is free of charge. In April another exhibit, *The African American Church* will concentrate on a religious theme. The location of the gallery is 569 Martin Luther King Drive. Visitors are welcome Monday through Friday 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. For more information you can call the museum at (404) 220-0298.



Different Visions of a Shared Culture: Art exhibit at Jordan Hall

Voices

A Spring Break like no other...

by Laquawn Thompson,
Voices Staff Writer

With spring break just around the corner, I couldn't help but reminisce about my "interesting" break from the previous year. Some friends and I had taken a road trip to Charleston, South Carolina with the intent of visiting the College of Charleston. However, our plans of learning about the college and its academics were spoiled as the academic tour guide ditched us on the streets of downtown Charleston.

Perturbed, but not disappointed, we made the most of the trip by doing some serious shopping in numerous shops and flea markets. Eventually, the sweltering heat and sunny skies gave way to a humid evening complete with beige antique streetlights. It was during this time that my friends and I began to stray from the downtown area. Before long, we found ourselves walking along a deserted street looking for a way back. On the opposite side of the street, there was some strange, scraggly-looking man yelling something incoherent at us.

As you probably figured, we walked quickly up our side of the road. After some time, however, we realized that we had to cross and go down the opposite side in order to get back downtown. We figured that by then the strange man would have gone on his way. WRONG. Within minutes of backtracking, we ran into this man again. Frightened, we ran in any and every direction possible. And we ended up losing each other. Fortunately, I was with two other friends and together we eventually found the others. As it turns out, the others had actually stopped to talk to him and found

out that he was only trying to give us directions back into the downtown area.

Slightly embarrassed, we tried to apologize but he cuts us off by saying, "Don't thank me, thank God... You stupid mutha*****s!" We quickly left and reached our destination.

Now as I reflect on this incident, I recall three morals which can be pretty useful on any road trip:

- 1) Stay within a well lit and populated area.
- 2) Always travel in a large group.
- 3) Don't take insults from drunken men too personally.

Peace and much love as you embark on a fun-filled and relaxing week.



"What will you be doing for Spring Break?"

Reporting Reporter: Rayna W.

"I'm going home to Momma's food, lay in my own bed, and enjoy the Florida sunshine."

Lashawn Certain, sophomore

"I'm going to Las Vegas!"

Shara Bennefeld, sophomore

"I'm going to visit my grandmother in Baltimore."

Erin Newman, freshman

"I am going to the beach to relax and then I am going home."

Sheri Howze, senior

Women's history month

by Mashadi Matabane, Voices
Staff Writer

March is Women's History Month. Did anyone know that? Does anyone particularly care? What is the purpose of such a month? Easy question, in my opinion. To commemorate the known and unknown achievements of women throughout history.

Why should you care? Simple. Because you are a woman. Don't you want to know about women who paved the way before you? I mean, how could you not?

Maybe you think you do not need to go out of your way to learn about black women because we are covered through black history complete with its very own month. Well, yes

we are included. We can all quickly list the black female "stars" like Harriet Tubman and Rosa Parks. But there is a whole lot more out there about us that is not being told. There is even a whole lot more about those black women we think we already know. However, black history is still predominately male centered, and sometimes fails to delve deeper into the contributions of black women. So read below and amaze yourself at the insightful and timely, even now, words of the following historical black female figures.

Sojourner Truth, who never learned to read or write, stated in 1867, "There is a great stir about colored men getting their rights, but not a word about the colored women; and if

colored men get their rights, and not colored women get theirs, there will be a bad time about it." Though she was speaking about suffrage, her statement spoke literal truth one hundred plus years later when some black women found themselves divided between the black power movement and the women's movement. One demanding allegiance to the race. Another feigning interest in the gender issues experienced by women of color. Neither taking especial care to dialogue honestly with black women. Anna Julia Cooper could have been describing the same situation as well when, in her 1892 publication *A Voice from the South*, she wrote that the black woman "is confronted by both a

woman question and a race problem, and is yet an unknown or an unacknowledged factor in both." Hello.

If you have learned a little something from what you just read then you are halfway there to understanding the significance of this month. Since I merely gave you a small taste of what is out there, I challenge the black women around me to take a little time to discover a black woman in history and heed Maria Stewart's 1831 challenge: "O ye daughters of Africa, what have ye done to immortalize your names beyond the grave? What examples have ye set before the rising generation? What foundation have ye laid for generation yet unborn?"

Voices

In response to Monica

*"Mommy made a big mistake,"**Monica Lewinsky in response to Barbara Walter's question regarding the explanation she would give to her children about the torrid event.**by Melissa Husband,
On-Site Staff Writer*

So, O.K., I know we all claim to be sick and tired of it, but how many of us watched the Barbara Walter's 20/20 interview with Monica Lewinsky? Go on, admit it, you were glued to the TV for two hours straight with 8 of your girlfriends on partyline critiquing everything from Barbara's horrid taste in lipstick to the mascara tinged tears running down Monica's face. Of course you were. This is Spelman. We are supposed to have opinions on world issues. And opinions we have. I have yet to find a Spelmanite with less than 50 acres of opinions. Yet, I digress.

So, back to Monica. Now, a lot of things have been said about Monica. Some believe that she was a smart girl who intention-

ally set up the president for personal gain, some believe that she was just a trashy whore, and some believe that she was just plain stupid. Personally, I'd like to play devil's advocate and believe her story: that she came from a home with a less than affectionate father and a less than intelligent mother and was looking for love in all the wrong places. I am by no means justifying her actions, but, I will be the first to admit, you do some pretty dumb things when you're in love. And in love she claimed to be. So in love in fact, that she was convinced Bill would leave Hilary for her...hmm. Can we say delusion or shall we just say, wishful thinking???

Well, regardless, morals aside, people are allowed to feel however they want. Acting on these

feelings are obviously where the problems lie. If she decided to just feel love with Bill instead of showing him (and vice versa because we all know how many it takes to dance) then we would all be one big happy nation.

Nevertheless, the feelings came out literally, and thus goes the story.

So how do we judge this woman? Or do we judge her at all? And would our judgment change if he were our husband or our father? Would we care if he wasn't the President of the United States?

I must agree with Barbara that Monica's blatantly shallow statement regarding the explanation she would give to her children about the torrid event, "Mommy made a big mistake" was well, clueless, but what did I really expect her to say?

*"No Love Reigns Here"**by Lady Sunflower**I'd as soon dash my head against the rocks**as to fancy myself loved.**Shall I post a banner**that others too may despise**as I wail aloud,**"No love reigns here?"**I do not veil my eyes.**All other is illusion,**soft, pretty dreams of a five-year-old playing dress-up**but innocently neglecting the cloak of loneliness.**Should a heart be loved, only later to be lost?**Will we be cast with the beasts to be devoured**or to devour, deflower, and arrest?**Do not be fooled at love's best.*

We shall Travel

your Spelman Sister

**Through this mix of rain and sunshine
Through this love of former days
To a place where peace is found**

We Shall Travel

**Past the demons of the darkness
Past the shadow of old ways
For a destiny not yet known**

**Through the years we have grown strong
The pain we still endure
Through the trials we have not been moved**

But no we shall travel

**The time has come to claim it
The point is here to take it
To us is owed a chance**

**So with one proud look
We venture out into the foreign world**

We shall Travel

Top Ten Ways to Relax

After Midterms

- 1) Sleep!
- 2) Go on vacation
- 3) We be clubbin'
- 4) Take yourself to Intermezzo or Cheesecake Factory
- 5) Release your tension by crying
- 6) Laugh to keep from crying
- 7) Slash your professor's car tires
- 8) Eat a big dessert
- 9) Praise the Lord after the midterm (and before and during)
- 10) Go on a well deserved shopping spree (try a new mall)