

BLACK STUDENT UNION'S *Perspective*

VOL. 4 NO. 4

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

May, 1993

JHU Reveals S. African Investment Policy

by Craig F. Warren

According to a four-page document entitled, "University Policy Regarding Investment In the Securities of Companies Doing Business in South Africa," The Johns Hopkins University is, "an ardent opponent of the practice of apartheid." This document was presented to the Homewood Community at President Richardson's

March 9 Town Meeting. In 1986, in full support of its ardent opposition to apartheid, the University adopted a policy of selective divestment of the securities of companies operating in South Africa. In many circles this policy is also labeled as selective investment.

Under its policy of selective divestment the University will, "not invest in the securities of companies which 1) do not abide by the

Statement of Principles for corporate activity in South Africa, 2) make direct loans to the government of South Africa, or 3) sell military or other equipment that supports the maintenance of apartheid.

The Statement of Principles promote, "equal treatment of employees, training programs for blacks, and the improvement of the quality of employees' lives outside of the work environment."

The University's decision not to totally divest of all securities held in companies operating in South Africa is based on its' belief that change must come from within and not from the outside. According to the University's policy statement, "selective divestment is regarded more effective in opposing apartheid than

total divestment because shareholders of a company have a greater voice in the direction of the company than outsiders have...By holding these securities in its portfolio, the University has been able to cast proxy votes which, for example, call on companies to 'eliminate all vestiges of racial discrimination,' 'promote black employee ownership and black participation in management,' and 'stop sales of products to South African government agencies until apartheid is terminated.'

According to the policy statement during the course of the past five years the University voted in favor of every resolution which called for the actions described above. However, the document does not state

Continued on page 2

Blacks Issue Final Position Paper

by Craig F. Warren

On March 3, 1993 a group of Black students from The Johns Hopkins University presented a final position paper to University President William C. Richardson. The position paper was presented to Richardson along with a petition signed by close to one hundred Black students. The position paper was drafted in response to the students' belief that Richardson was not taking proactive measures to address the 16 Demands of the Black Students of The Johns Hopkins University, which were first presented to him during the Summer of 1992. The paper also addressed the University's investment

policy in South Africa and the inadequacy of the Milton S. Eisenhower's Black History month exhibit.

The paper called for Richardson to, "come out with a public statement and a sufficient plan of action to remedy the ills that we have previously brought to your attention." More specifically, the paper presented four requirements. The first was a, "definitive response to every one of the sixteen demands." The second was the submission of written recommendation that the University completely divest of any holdings in South Africa. The third was that Richardson make a public statement about the inadequacy of the library's

Continued on page 3

INSIDE

The Year In Review, page 4

The Role of Black Alumni, page 7

Freshman Reflections, page 8

Much 2 Short's Hip-Hop Review, page 14

Black History Quiz Answers, page 16

Plus Much, Much, More!

South Africa and JHU

Continued from page 1

the document does not state what action, if any, was actually taken by the companies in which the University own stock, to address the issues presented above.

At the present time the University has no plans to change its policy, and indicated that, "no consideration will be given to relaxing the University's policy until the ANC calls for the lifting of sanctions." According to the November, 1992 ANC/COSATU "Platform of Guiding Principles for Foreign Investors" the ANC will approve the the lifting of sanctions, "on the announcement of an agreed date for elections, and on the establishment of the Transnational Executive Council and the Independent Electoral and Media Commissions, as well as the

enactment of the Transition to Democracy Act." (ANC Resolution on Sanctions, February, 1993)

In an April 12 letter to University President William C. Richardson, GRO Steering Committee member Patrick Hagopian asserted that "The South African government has been attempting to reap the rewards of democratization before its full implementation. It is in their interests, not those of the ANC, to suggest that the guiding principles for investors now justify continued investment in corporations thought to be doing 'good works' in South Africa." Hagopian added that, "For now the ANC call for economic sanctions including full, not partial divestment remains in effect." University officials were not available for comment.

Discovery Weekend '93 A Huge Success

by Stephanie Smith and Craig F. Warren

April 15-17 marked the annual pre-freshman weekend which is sponsored by the Office of Admissions and the Black Student Union. This year the event was entitled "Discovery Weekend '93" and included a wide range of activities to lure Black prospects to The Johns Hopkins University. Of the 470 Black applicants this year approximately 247 were accepted. 36 of the accepted students attended "Discovery Weekend '93."

The weekend began on Thursday with a pizza party/rap session. On Friday students participated in workshops with admissions officers, faculty, and representatives from the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs. Entertainment Friday evening was provided via a variety show, and midnight bowling. The weekend closed with a Faculty/Staff/Student breakfast in the Rat.

"I was really worried that things wouldn't go off well, but everything went very well," said BSU

Fall '93 Courses

by The Watchdog

By the time you read this pre-registration will have come and gone, but add/drops will still be on the horizon. I present for your enjoyment and edification this pitiful listing of the undergraduate courses dealing with elements of the African diaspora which the The Johns Hopkins University will offer during the Fall of 1993.

070.310 (H, S) (W) Caribbean Societies ThF 9-1030

060.375 (H) Third World Literature F 2-5

060.7 Black Feminist Literature and Theory Th 2-4:30

350.627 The Caribbean New World T 1-3

100.121 (H, S) History of Africa MT 1

100.343 (H, S) Family History In Africa M 2-4

100.439 (H, S) Cuba and the Contemporary Caribbean ThF 1030-12

100.463 (H,S) The African

Disapora: Brazilian Experience T 2-4

100.7 Ethnicity, Race, and Kinship In Colonial Mexico W 2-4

130.326 (H) (W) Ancient Egyptian Literature ThF 9-1030

190.369 (S) Civil Rights and Black Power In Cold War America ThF 1030-12

190.383 (S) Urban Society and Politics T 3-5

230.112 (S) Social Stratification & Social Inequality MTW 9

230.135 (S) Political Sociology of South Africa MTW 11

230.318 (H,S) (W) Contemporary Perspectives In Race Relations M 3-5

How odd. The number of courses seems to have doubled since last semester. I wonder why? Nice try President Richardson, but how about that Black Studies Program?

Admissions Chair Stephanie Smith, who organized the planned the weekend in conjunction with Admission's Jodi Hester.

BSU President Boateng echoed Smith's sentiments. "I felt that Pre-freshman weekend was a good event, said Boateng, "I think Stephanie worked hard...to get things going."



Coming Soon..

Student Council Passes Diversity Proposals

by Michelle R. Fulwider

At the Student Council meeting on March 10, 1993 two proposals seeking to reform academia at Hopkins were passed. Both proposals were initially presented by the Education Committee, but failed to receive a passing vote. Ten interested students who saw the importance of the initiatives reworked their content and language.

The first proposal attempts to reform the Office

of Academic Advising. This office is overworked and understaffed in meeting the guidance of 3,200 undergraduate students in the Schools of Engineering and Arts and Sciences. In addition, the office has been slow to respond to the changing needs of its student population (e.g. as student demographics change, advisers need to possess an awareness of cultural nuances other than those gathered from reading a book). The proposal calls for the hiring

of an advisor with training or personal experience in matters of diversity and mandatory diversity training for present advisors.

The second proposal focuses on the codification of courses in which the material presented is from a non-European or non-traditional perspective (e.g. the Fall 1991 Intro. to American Politics course taught by Sue Hemberger). By designating such courses (D) for diversity, students can better identify the nature of a

course. The proposal requests that the Curriculum Committee of the School of Arts and Sciences and Engineering should oversee the classificatory process in conjunction with individual departments.

The passage of these proposals by Student Council only signifies that the Administration should view the initiatives as the veritable desires of the student body. It does not guarantee that the Administration will see them as such.

The Position Paper

Continued from page
Black History month exhibit, and that at the same time he should present a plan to, "promote better understanding and appreciation for Black culture." The fourth was a "concrete answer, plan, and timetable." for the creation of the University's Black Studies program.

The paper concluded with the following statement: "President Richardson, we will no longer tolerate evasive and reactionary policies from you on behalf of this University

We have been patient, cooperative, and calm. All of our methods have been communicative and peaceful. Since you have proven these methods to be ineffective, perhaps we have to seek other avenues. These four measures that we have asked you to implement must be done so immediately, as we will no longer wait."

One week after receiving the paper Richardson held the first of several "town meetings" with the Hopkins community to discuss Black student concerns.

1993-94 BSU Executive Board

President-Nicole S. London
Vice-President-Tammie D. Simmons
Admissions-Charles Sydnor III
Community Relations-Kobi Little
Corresponding Secretary-Karen Price
Events-Michelle S. Cespedes
Recording Secretary-Erica Davis
Research and Education-Toya Sherill
Treasurer-Kadisha B. Rapp

Leonard Jeffries Jr.

B.A., Lafayette College-Government and Law
M. I. A., Columbia University-International Relations and African Studies
Ph.D., Columbia University-Political Science and African Studies

Don't Believe the Hype!
Give Respect Where It Is Due.

Crimson and Creme

by Craig F. Warren

On Saturday, April 24 the Zeta Gamma Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc. held its fourth annual Crimson and Creme Ball. Proceeds from the event will go to the United Negro College Fund.

According to chapter president Johanthan Johns, the event was attended by almost 100 people and was a definite success. Last year the event raised \$300, and although this year's receipts have not yet been tallied, the event is expected to make in excess of \$500.

Money for the event

was raised through the sale of ads in the guest book. Johns indicated that by raising the cost of ads the fraternity will be able to increase its giving level. "We had the opportunity to make thousands," said Johns.

One negative aspect of the events was that it was scheduled the same night as several other popular events in the Hopkins and Baltimore communities. "It was unfortunate that there were other activities scheduled that night," said Johns. "However, we look forward to a bigger success next year."

THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 1992-93

Administration Responses to the 16 Demands

Editor's Note: Listed below you will find the administration's responses to the 16 Demands of the Black Students of The Johns Hopkins University. The Demands were presented to University President William C. Richardson and other members of the administration during the Summer of 1992. President Richardson did not publicly and formally respond to the Demands until March 9, 1993, after receiving a Final Position paper from members of the Black community and a sit-in at the Milton S. Eisenhower Library. The responses listed are based on President Richardson's comments at

the March 9, 1993 meeting, an article in the March 15, 1993 edition of The Johns Hopkins University Gazette titled "President responds to 16 demands of African-American students, and an April 19, 1993 letter from Arts and Sciences Dean Lloyd Armstrong Jr.

1. A substantial increase in the amount of Black faculty at the Homewood campus- President Richardson repeated that he was committed to increases in the numbers of underrepresented minority and women professors. However, he was unable to provide satisfactory explanations for why no new Black faculty had been hired,

and why the Dean of Arts and Sciences search committee had been disbanded. In a April 19, 1993 letter the Dean of Arts and Sciences stated that the visiting faculty member scheduled for the fall semester, "pulled out at the last moment when her Dean denied her permission for a leave." According to the letter Dean Mitchell has been ordered to focus her efforts, "on nailing down a visitor for the spring semester."

2. The creation of a Black Studies Department in the School of Arts and Sciences- Richardson stated that he was forming a committee to advise himself, the provost, and the Dean of Arts and

Sciences on academic programs dealing with race/ethnicity. According to Richardson this committee will submit a report at the end of this semester and a definite plan for a Black Studies program by January 1, 1994. According to the Dean of Arts and Sciences the committee's end of semester report will include, "an outline of its future operations with a timetable for its activities."

3. The employment of a Black academic advisor in both the G.W.C. Whiting School of Engineering and the School of Arts and Sciences- The School of Engineering has no intention

Continued on page 5

The Year In Review Calendar of Events

September

- *Ice Cream Social
- *Annual Fall Cook-out
- *Black Student Leadership Conference

October

- *Perspective Volume 4, Number 1

- *Fundraiser at AIDS Benefit Concert to raise money for H.E.R.O.

- *Family Weekend Variety Show and Reception

November

- *BSU Meet and Greet Jam

- *BSU Phonathon

- *Second Annual Apollo Night

December

- *Perspective Volume 4, Number 2

- *BSU Pre-finals Jam

January

- *Democratic Caucus Demonstration

February

- *Perspective Volume 4, Number 3

- *Greek Unity Step Show Party soda sale

- *African Heritage Dinner

- *Sonia Sanchez

- *"Besides Malcolm and Martin" Lecture and Discussion

- *Library Sit-In

March

- *Faculty-Student Mixer
- *Dr. Leonard Jeffries

- *GRO Forum on Institutional Racism (BSU and BGSA)

- *South African Student Visit

April

- *Dr. Acklyn Lynch
- *Showing of

- "Mississippi Massala" (co-sponsored with Bengali Cultural Association)

- *Race Relations Forum (co-sponsored with NAACP, HIL, and ISA)

- *Discovery Weekend '93

- *Beer Garden Booth during Spring Fair

- *KRS-ONE and Boogie Down Productions in Concert

- *Annual Spring Picnic

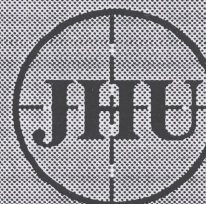
- May
- *Perspective Volume 4, Number 2

- June, July, August

- *Summer Vacation

- September-?

- *The struggle continues.



Locked and Loaded

More Responses to the 16 Demands

Continued from page 4
of hiring any Black faculty. The Dean of Engineering, Don Giddens, is negotiating with Morgan State University to have one of their engineering faculty serve as an advisor/instructor here. In an April 19, 1993 letter Dean Armstrong, who is leaving this summer, said that due to a reorganization of financial resources the Office of Academic Advising will have a minority advisor by the beginning of next semester.

4. Black student representation on all committees concerning important appointments and hiring that affect student life at Homewood campus-No Black student representation on search committees for the president, provost, or deans was guaranteed. Nor was such representation guaranteed on faculty promotion or search committees, and search committees for Homewood Student Services positions.

5. The employment of a Counselor, Advisor, and a Programmer for Black Student Activities-Homewood student services is more diverse than it has ever been before, and the vacancy in the counseling center will be filled by a minority. The vacancy should be filled by next semester.

6. An increase in Black Graduate student recruitment and the establishment of functional support systems-Minority graduate applications are up, and the number of Black

applicants rose from 6 to 87. However, Richardson did not elaborate on the number of applicants who were accepted or the pitifully low number of Black graduate students already here. He did, however, highlight the many "neat" programs which were being used to con(vince) Black graduate students into coming here. (Dean of Arts and Sciences Dean's Graduate Fellowships for Minority Americans, a vision of an expanded partnership with Morgan which would guarantee Morgan engineering grads admittance to Hopkins for graduate school, plus many other enticements) In the April 19 letter Armstrong stated that the University had, "initiated a summer research program for minority students from other (primarily smaller, non-research) institutions. The goal of this program is to help increase the pool of minority students interested in going on to Ph.D programs, and thus ultimately, to increase to professorial pool."

7. The requirement of one African American Studies course for all undergraduate students-"Can't touch this." The faculty determines program, degree, and graduation requirements.

8. The creation of an Auxiliary Enterprises advisory committee, comprised of workers-We let the workers use the Athletic center and the library, and have an Auxiliary Services Diversity task force.

9. The protection of the

interests of Black students in the Baltimore community-Ron Mullens doing a great job, we'll arrange a meeting between the BSU, security, and Northern District. We also have committees where we discuss these types of issues.

10. The improvement of community relations through educational and social programs-We have programs and committees which address this very issue. (Community Outreach Committee, The Garrison "Back to School Stay in School" Program, The Martin Luther King Symposia, to name a few)

11. Free tuition and transportation for students wishing to attend classes geared towards African American studies at other schools not included in the consortium-According to an April 19, 1993 letter from Dean Armstrong the Provost's office and UMBC recently agreed on a proposal which would allow, "cross-registration under the same conditions as currently exist within the Consortium." A written agreement is in the works and the program should be in place by the beginning of the fall semester. For further information contact Associate Dean and Director for Academic Advising Martha Roseman (x8216). Transportation will be provided by the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs.

12. An increase in funding for Black student groups-\$21,000 in additional fund-

ing was provided to Black student groups.

13. The construction of an outdoor athletic facility-The facility will be operational by September 1, 1993

14. An in-depth letter from the President of the University to the Baltimore Sun, the News-Letter, and the Gazette decrying the 400 years of total and absolute mistreatment, degradation, and oppression Blacks have suffered; pledging Hopkins full an active support in righting the past and present wrongs that have prevented Blacks from enjoying citizenship in the community of humankind-I wrote a letter, and I sent it to all three papers. To bad if it wasn't what you had in mind, and the Sun didn't publish it.

15. Monthly written progress reports listing the University's status in meeting these demands-Written summaries of meetings with Black student representatives will be issued. No mention of who would issue them, when they would be issued, or how you could issue an accurate summary when you didn't take any notes.

16. Written acknowledgement of all agreements that are made, to be sent to the Black Student Union within two days of their occurrence-No response

LETTERS

A White Man Fights B(l)ack

To the Editors:

I began Craig Warren's recent editorial, "Why Is There A Black History Month?" with a bit of trepidation, remembering the racist, "White Man is Evil," tone of his old *News-Letter* column, "To Sleep With Anger." Thus the first half of the editorial came as a very pleasant surprise. To be honest, I had never really thought about it, but I couldn't agree more with Mr. Warren's call to integrate Black history with the various histories of ethnic groups in America that are collectively referred to as American history.

Then suddenly, about halfway through the column, out of nowhere (by which I mean apparently irrelevant to the rest of the editorial), came the sentence "Why is my skin lighter than that of my African brothers

and sisters? *Because you raped my ancestors.*"

I'll take your word that it was rape, Craig, but who exactly do you mean by "you"? I'm pretty sure I've never even met any of your ancestors, so despite your choice of words, you couldn't have meant me personally. So I guess you're talking about "the White Man" again.

Just as you probably don't like hearing that black people, as a race, are stupid and lazy, I dislike hearing you say that the evils of this world are entirely the fault of the "White Man (capital 'W', capital 'M')." There are white men, Craig, but there isn't any White Man, and no race has a monopoly on ignorance, hatred, and racism. There are good people (some white, some black) and bad people (ditto).

The fallacy of speaking of the Black Man and the White Man is best illustrated by that part of your editorial which claims that slavery was "not the Black man or woman's fault. It

[was] the fault of the white men who refused to recognize our humanity, and who took us from our ancestral homes to be their slaves." It may make you feel better to believe that the slave trade was carried out entirely by white people, Craig, but historically, it just ain't so. To paraphrase Bill Clinton, there's plenty of blame to go around. I can't imagine that you're unaware of the historical fact that there would have been no slave trade without the complicity of black Africans who captured and sold large numbers of their countrymen to white ship-captains.

Simple dichotomies of good and evil invariably fail to describe the world accurately. You may find your crude Black-good/White-bad system of logic comforting- it does simplify the world very nicely, and orders things in neat ways- but it is no more rational, or legitimate, than the ideologies that "justify" white racism.

Matthew I. Hall

Editor's Note: I do not like to hear that the Black race is stupid and lazy because it is an untruth.. Mr. Hall may not like to hear it, but the fact of the matter is that whites were responsible for bringing enslaved Blacks to America, and as the bearers of that responsibility they also share responsibility for the plight of the Black community today. As Mr. Hall so astutely points out there are good and bad people of all races, and black Africans were in fact involved in the slave trade. However, the slave trade, as it manifested itself in the United States and the Caribbean was created, supported, and propagated primarily by white men. Although it is open to debate, it seems somewhat unlikely that the African slave trade would have come into existence if whites had not come into contact with Africans.

The BSU would like to thank the following Groups/Individuals for their support of our activities and efforts this year:

Homewood Student Services Dean Larry G. Benedict and his Staff

Dean of Students Susan K. Boswell and her Staff

Security Director Ronald J. Mullen and Homewood Security

The Women's Center

The Graduate Representatives Organization

The JHU Youth Chapter of the NAACP and The Black Graduate Students Association

The Hopkins Jewish League, the Jewish Students Association, and the Inter-Asian Council

Dr. Janet R. Moore and The Office of Multicultural Student Affairs

The Office of Student Activities

Student Council and The Student Activities Commission

The Office of Admissions

The Johns Hopkins *News-Letter*

Dr. William C. Richardson and The Central Administration

PERSPECTIVES

Editorial:

This issue marks the fourth anniversary of *Perspective*. Unfortunately, (or fortunately depending on who you ask) it also marks my last issue as Editor in Chief of this publication.

When Michelle R. Bonner founded *Perspective* in April 1989 she said that its purpose was, "the expression of students' views on any subject pertaining to Black

people everywhere: it is the publication of *your* views." With the exception of the very first issue I have written for every issue of *Perspective* since its creation. This has provided me with the unique opportunity to observe and foster its growth, and let there be not doubts about it, since its creation *Perspective* has experienced tremendous intellectual, stylistic, editorial, and physical growth. Props to

all of those who have made us what we are today.

Perspective is not the only Black institution which has grown during my four years, the Hopkins community has also grown. Despite what many Black upperclassmen will tell you the environment for Blacks has improved over the course of the past four years. This is not to say that the present situation here is acceptable, but that

changes have been made which, if continued, will bring Hopkins out of the dark ages in ten to twenty years.

Despite my many, many, problems with this University I can only look back on my academic and extracurricular careers here with feelings of accomplishment, fondness, and anger. I strongly doubt that the knowledge and

Continued on page 13

What Will You Do as a Hopkins Alum?

by Stephanie Smith

About a year ago I publicly blasted the brothers on campus for not pulling their weight in campus relations and the affairs of African American students

groups. Today, I am happy to say that I see leadership abilities in both the black women and black men at Homewood.

This year has been full of excitement and controversy. For this reason

we need to encourage all of us to actively participate in campus affairs. The BSU has certainly received its share of attention this year. I've been here almost four years (with yet another semester to go) and I feel that I have served this campus, my people, and myself well.

It is now the charge of the underclassmen to take over where the we've (Seniors) left off...in a battle with the administration over curriculum changes, faculty, and attitudes at JHU.

Underclassmen, you have your work cut out for you.

Now, on to the graduates. For those of us who will soon be escaping from Hopkins life, I plead that you not pack your bags too quickly. I've heard so many of us say, "As soon as I graduate, I'm not setting foot on this campus again."

This isn't the right attitude. As much as we all want changes to happen at Hopkins, we know that everything will not change overnight.

On that note, I think it is important that we, as

soon-to-be alumni, make it our business to come back to Hopkins to challenge the promises of change that the administration has filled our ears with for years. It is our responsibility to reach back with a helping hand to pull our brothers and sisters into an environment that will be conducive to learning and hospitable to African Americans and all others. By actively participating in alumni groups, by communicating with each other, and by keeping in contact with undergraduates, we can still have an impact on campus issues.

The point is that the job (OUR JOB) isn't done yet, and we still have a stake in improving this community.

The Black Student Union's Perspective

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Perspective is published twice a semester by the Black Student Union. Please forward any letters or submissions to the BSU mailbox in the SAC Lounge.

Views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the Black Student Union.

The Office of Multicultural Student Affairs (OMSA) supports efforts to expose the University community to diverse viewpoints and perspectives. OMSA co-sponsorship of this publication does not necessarily indicate support for the contents therein.



Takin' care of business

The President's Corner: Questions

by H. Kwaku A. Boateng

"Until that day (when justice is achieved) ... We Africans we shall fight, we find it necessary .

And we know that we shall win as we are confident in the victory of good over evil... Everywhere is WAR." - Bob Marley

The end of the year has arrived, but the end of the struggle is nowhere in sight. This year marked the beginning and an end. It marked the beginning of a new phase in a struggle that began countless years ago at Hopkins, and a continuation of the struggle for justice, equality, and truth that began centuries ago. This year also marked the end of complacency and the begin-

ning of a movement in the Hopkins community which centered around issues that have been dormant for too long.

The racial and societal problems that have surfaced this year have always been here, and whether or not the methods that we have utilized in dealing with them have gained universal approval, it must be agreed that these problems must be addressed by everyone. If nothing else our efforts have made them visible and thus have made them a topic that has been addressed more extensively at every level of this University, from students to administration.

Let me ask you this. If all the problems and questions that we raised during the last year are parti-

ent and important? If the problems of racial equality, justice, and truth are also societal problems, and if we are to enter society and use our Hopkins education to improve society, then why are these questions not part of our education here at Hopkins? If we do not have a working understanding of society, how can we enter society and use our skills to better it?

Everyone is outraged by Rodney King. Everyone was outraged by the riots. Everyone is outraged by racial violence. Everyone is outraged by crime and poverty. Yet, how are we taught to correct these problems?

For 22,000 + a year we deserve to enter society with the knowledge necessary to improve it.

When you walk down to Royal Farms and someone asks you for a nickel, quarter, dollar etc., what do you think of?

Do you realize the socialization that has gone into making him poor? Do you realize the impact of practices such as slavery/colonization, reconstruction/partitioning, "new deal politics", exploitation, segregation/apartheid, integration, neo-colonialism...the list goes on?

You don't know these things. You were not taught these things. You cannot understand these things, but they are a part of your society and they are aspects of my peoples struggle. What do you know about history? For all the controversy surrounding his-

Continued on page 11

The New Kid On the Block: Reflections

by Tammie D. Simmons

This has been the most unhappy year of my life. There, I said it. Hopkins succeeded in taking a normally cheerful, bouncy, effervescent, hopeful, full-of-ideas, individual and turning her spirit into one solemn and still. It's one thing to grow-up; It's another thing entirely to get beat down.

I've attended the meetings. I've been to the forums. I've chatted briefly with certain key individuals. Quite frankly, it wearies me to think of all the roundabout nonsense that supposedly intelligent people have gone through instead of dealing with issues as squarely as they

have been posed to them. (Hopkins powers-that-be seem to be reluctant to call a duck a duck. No matter how webby its feet are, how loudly it quacks, or how well it waddles.) I have a low tolerance for foolishness, and I think I've almost OD'd at this institution.

Another thing that I observed is that petty squabbles still remain between people who should be together. I have learned that the reason for the lack of unity among Blacks on this campus is not solely due to apathy, but can also be attributed to personal conflicts that arose eons ago, and still occupy places on people's shoulders. We are

quick to jump on other ethnic groups for their slackness in joining our cause, but we should also direct our efforts to healing the wounded relationships among our own people, and enlisting their service.

Life at Hopkins is generally not a happy situation. For those who don't care, it consists mainly of grumbling about why nothing is ever done to change life here. For those who do care, there is the continuous call to arms, as we fight to improve conditions here. In all of this, one of the really tragic things is that we are unable to be what we came here to be: students.

I keep asking myself if it's

worth all the frustration and headaches to try to convince intelligent human beings that the duck is not a water buffalo. But they keep insisting that because of its hydrophilic nature, it can't be anything else but a water buffalo. Unfortunately, I fear this is the kind of brain-absence which exists among those in positions of power. And I intend to be the unpolitician in a world of scratched-backs who forget that they are public servants, not pampered princes. Perhaps, then this is a necessary rite of passage before I enter the real world where I'll really be mad.

Continued on page 9

Amerikkka's Double Standard

by Michelle S. Cespedes

I'm not sure if the government or the legal system which we have the luxury of living under can possibly make it any clearer. I am referring to the overt lack of respect and due process granted to Black people in this country. The majority of the policymakers might as well hold up a banner decrying their indifference to Black people, their conditions, and their concerns. The most blatant manifestation of this indifference is the double standard which is employed when white lives are in jeopardy or when white voices are raised to claim that they finally realize the

injustice and their consciences could not allow them to remain silent.

We need only take a look at the manner in which the government has intervened to enable Black people to enjoy life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. An interesting example is that of the anti-lynching movement spear-headed by Ida B. Wells. In the late 1800's, Wells conducted a comprehensive study on the barbaric practice of lynching, the execution of a person (usually by a mob) without a trial. This practice was especially prevalent in the South after the Civil War.

Through the use of documented case histories and statistics, Wells was able

to refute the argument that lynching served the noble purpose of protecting white womanhood from alleged Black rapists. Wells played an integral role in the formation of various Black women's clubs who were intent upon putting an anti-lynching law on the books.

Unfortunately, it was not until the white feminist movement of the early 1900's backed the anti-lynching movement that the all too familiar cries of "I'm against RACISM" were heard and heeded by lawmakers. The white feminist movement made the mistake of opposing the sexism inherent in the notion that white women needed the practice of lynching for their

protection. Had they put the fact that ten thousand people had been lynched in the thirty years following the Civil War, because of their race and economic standing, at the top of their concerns their argument would have been more thorough and sincere.

Another example is the Civil Rights movement. Historically, the movement has been portrayed as gaining momentum from white northerners once the appeal to their conscience was raised. In Soul on Ice Eldridge Cleaver writes that it was only when the majority of whites saw the faces of other white people loosing their lives and being mistreated by Southern

Continued on page 12

The Fall 1992 BSU Honor Roll

The students listed below attained a term GPA of 3.0 or higher during the Fall Semester of 1992. Congratulations!

Daniel W. Abdi
Kenneth P. Anderson
Yesehae Araya
Lachelle Y. Archie
Renata G. Arrington
Todd A. Billings
Alan E. Bobb
Shauna C. Bryce
Lisa-Mae S. Carter
Donald P. Cooke Jr.
Eric B. Davis
Teresa D. Day
Ugochukwu A. Ezenkwele
Triesta M. Fowler
Charles C. Glass
Danny L. Green
Carlos Greenlee

Denise M. Gundy
Jo Ann Hall
Cassandra L. Herbert
Helen Hostin
Dina R. Johnson
Blaine Johnson
Preshervic S. Johnson
Lesly R. Lamarque
Herman C. Lawson
Joy A. Masseaux
Adrienne I. Miller
Sonya Z. Mitchell
Malika D. Owens
Mariessa R. Terrell
Craig F. Warren
Adrienne L. Wright

Reflections On '93

Continued from page 8
Freshman reflections...

We all need to read more things of substance.

We need to talk to each other, and embrace those outside the circle, inviting them to share with us too. It is imperative that a "we" mentality is developed among all people, and that a sense of kinship be cultivated in order that a powerful community of human beings may be created to support and sustain all in times of need.

We waste far too much time on foolish things, and then have the gall to say we don't have two hours a week to volunteer to give someone else a helping hand.

The stationary masses should not question the work of the mobile few

unless they wish to understand the mechanism and how they can aid in the effective operation of it.

Yes, this year was one of trials and torment, but there is something to be said for having seen the face of the beast, and not shrunken away in fear. I anxiously await the signal to either return to the battlefield, or relinquish my weapons for someone else to battle with. More and more I feel that perhaps my fight is against a creature of a different, but equally vile, variety. We shall see...



The Cat, the Co-ed, and Civility

by Michelle R. Fulwider

It was early on an April Thursday morning and I was returning from a meeting when I spotted a cat lying in the middle of St. Paul Street. She had managed to survive in spite of the fact that she was obviously the victim of a hit and run accident.

As traffic continued to swerve around her I realized that no one had any intention of removing her from further danger. As I maneuvered to the side of the road a Hopkins student walked along the sidewalk near the injured cat.

After I asked him if he had witnessed the accident he shook his head in the negative, and continued on his way. In the meantime, a homeless man had placed the

cat on a nearby lawn.

I caught up with the gentleman as he was leaving the cat, and he told me that her mouth was injured and that one of her hind legs was probably broken. In the absence of a nearby pay phone, I took the feline to my apartment and called the Baltimore City Animal Shelter.

Upon reaching the shelter I recounted the feline's condition to the voice on the other end of the phone. The voice stated unequivocally that the only service the shelter could provide for the animal was euthanasia. I repeatedly told the voice that I felt the cat's life could be saved if she received immediate medical treatment.

In an attempt to get me off the phone, five

minutes later the voice told me that there were all-night "emergency" veterinary hospitals, if I was willing to pay for the treatment.

The hour-long drive to Catonsville spanned an eternity as the cat continued to lose large amounts of blood. The official diagnosis was a dislocated hind leg, a broken jaw, and possible internal bleeding. The veterinarian had no choice, but to treat the feline as an out-patient since an American Express card was not an acceptable form of payment. Normal veterinary clinics did not open until 9am, and it was about 3:30am.

Thursday was a city-wide conference for veterinarians, which made the search for an animal hospital with a doctor on the premises a difficult task. The

third try was the charm, and Ebony was finally hospitalized. The doctor was reluctant to sedate her for fear of losing her, but without anesthesia surgery on her hip and jaw could not be performed.

Friday morning the doctor told me that Ebony had awakened blind due to brain hemorrhaging. Surgery had become impossible. The odds were that if Ebony went under anesthesia she would not come back. Euthanasia was the only recourse.

I do not recount this story to elicit sympathy, to "appear" philanthropic, or to demonstrate political correctness in defense of animal rights. I cite this experience because it made me rethink the meaning of civility.

Continued on page 11

Housed By Housing

By Kadisha B. Rapp

It was Wednesday, March 10th. I had just received a confirmation of my living arrangements for the 1993-1994 year. First, I noticed that my confirmation was for the wrong apartment. Second, I noticed that the letter was dated a month earlier. I immediately called the office, and made an appointment. They said I could come in on Friday.

I figured that all that would happen was that they would confirm me for the apartment that I had requested on the survey for in late January/early February. What actually

happened was that I was told by the assistant director, Beth Gansky, that the apartment in which I just knew that I was going to live, was, "no longer an option," for me, as they put it. I told her that I had just received my letter 2 days ago. She said they had sent it via priority mail. "Don't you have a copy of the survey you had me fill out?" I asked. "I lost it," replied Ms. Gansky after leaving the office for a couple of minutes.

First, Ms. Gansky and I discussed the fact that they confirmed me for the wrong apartment, 200, instead of 202, in Ivy Hall.

Continued on page 12

Knowledge

Soledad Brother and Blood In My Eye - George Jackson*
 Assata - Assata Shakur*
 Autobiography of Angela Davis - Angela Davis
 A Taste Of Power - Elaine Brown
 Soul On Ice - Eldridge Cleaver*
 Bitter Grain - Michael Newton
 The Spook Who Sat By The Door - Sam Greenlee*
 Malcolm X Speaks*
 Autobiography of Malcolm X - with Alex Haley Jr.
 Native Son - Richard Wright*
 Notes on A Native Son - James Baldwin
 Invisible Man - Ralph Ellison
 Reconstruction and Souls of Black Folk - W.E.B. Dubois
 Iceman Inheritance - Michael Bradley
 Neo - Colonialism and Consciencism - Kwame Nkrumah*
 Things Fall Apart - Chinua Achebe
 Under A Soprano Sky - Sonia Sanchez
 Nightmare Overhanging Darkly - Acklyn Lynch*
 The Black Jacobins - C.L.R. James
 Isis Papers - Frances Cress Welsing
 Fried Chicken, Grits, and Gravy - Son of Ben
 Watermelon, Pigs Feet, and Kool Aid - Grandson of Ben

Do You Realize? Do You Understand?

Continued from page 8
controversy surrounding historian Dr. Leonard Jeffries, not one of the protestors had an adequate knowledge of Black history to firmly refute what he said in an intelligent manner.

Understand these things! Understand the societal impacts of an education. Understand the need for these things in education. Understand the problems facing society today, and then understand the need for a Black Studies department to educate yourself. We all need to know the truth about history, and Black people have a great need to know our history. A people who do not know their history are doomed to repeat it.

A PEOPLE WHO DO NOT KNOW THEIR HISTORY ARE DOOMED TO REPEAT IT. This also includes the history of the entire Hopkins struggle. If you understand the progress and the mistakes which have been made you will understand what has to be done in the future, and why we have taken this particular stance this year.

We talked about the library sit-in for weeks, but you must realize one critical aspect of that whole process. The committee that assembled the original pitiful exhibit were educated people who deliberated for a year before assembling the display. Everyone who saw the exhibit said that it was inadequate and insulting, yet this "educated" committee saw it as proper.

Realize that a

crucial aspect of their education was missing, an aspect that you are also missing. Realize that this is just a loop and is how racism becomes further and further entrenched and institutionalized. How does this relate to L.A.? How does this relate to St. Paul and 33rd? Realize the state of society and the importance of this movement on even this level and realize your place in it.

The Johns Hopkins University must realize that this fight is not over. This University is so microcosmic of society that it is eerie. We talk about the portrayal of Blacks in the media. Look at how the *News-Letter* portrayed the entire struggle of the Black students this year. From the step show incident to the library sit-in to the Richardson Forums the media has portrayed the majority of our efforts and activities in a negative light. They have unsuccessfully tried to separate the leadership of our movement.

"You're not slick". Realize that this is virtually the same thing that we accuse the media of today and look at the historical precedents behind media assassinations. Peep and understand this **WE WILL NOT BE DIVIDED NOR WILL WE BE CONQUERED.** If the media is to "come correct" than I suggest that it begin with the truth, and not end in any errata.

For all the student groups (especially the GRO, BGSA, and others) who have supported us I thank you for your initiative and support. I

also invite all student groups to find out what it is we are talking about. If you understand and support justice and equality than we welcome your consistent support. However, if you are not sincere or truly committed, then perhaps you might wish to take the advice that has been offered and "stay out of the way".

WE HAVE A PURPOSE, AN OBJECTIVE, AND A DIRECTION, AND WE ARE PREPARED TO FULFILIT. Like I said, this

struggle is not over and all the avenues have not yet been used to obtain our objective. This is not a threat, but a fact. We are prepared to use any means necessary to accomplish what needs to be done. For next year I suggest that people be prepared to act or take cover, because we are not going to waver.

For all those who will oppose us "Time Will Tell" - Bob Marley

Peace,
Power to the People,
No Sellout

Ebony and Civility

Continued from page 10

If civility is understood to mean "having compassion for life," why was the person at the animal shelter so reluctant to give specific information about the sources of medical treatment? Why don't we have a state agency which surveys a victimized animal's condition before classifying it as a "lost cause" or too costly an "expense" to incur?

Perhaps for some the definition of civility is greatly extrapolated. If civility is redefined to mean

"man's compassion for man," why are there only 40-50 homeless shelters (emergency and transitional) in the City of Baltimore and 115 animal shelters and hospitals?

Why isn't the Maryland State Legislature increasing funding allocations for job training programs in order to decrease the waiting list for such services, rather than boasting about increased funding for cosmetic changes to the Baltimore Convention Center?

"I'm gonna hit ya'...and you're gonna fall...and I'm gonna look down...and I'm gonna laugh."

-Ren Hoek



Double Standards

Continued from page 9
 racists that they were able to feel outraged and push for the implementation of laws which supposedly would guarantee Blacks their constitutional rights. When only Black faces were seen, this response was slow in coming. I wonder to what extent they were truly outraged.

The most recent example of this unfortunate double standard was the FBI's handling of the fifty-one day stand-off with David Koresh's Branch Dividians. I couldn't help comparing this incident with the police-led offensive against the Philadelphia-based MOVE organization on May 13, 1985.

MOVE was a Black separatist movement which, like the aforementioned cult, stockpiled weapons and ammunition for protection. What began as a routine serving of a health violation summons ended in the fire bombing of a residential city block. The bombing destroyed not only the MOVE's headquarters, but also neighboring properties, and the majority of MOVE's membership which included several Black children.

It's a shame that

MOVE wasn't granted fifty-one days of negotiations, fifty-one days of media coverage and external debate, fifty-one days of time. Time to devise a strategy that may have yielded a more peaceable end. Although the stand-off in Waco also ended in violence, it was *supposedly* (I still have my doubts) at the cult members own hands.

I don't know in how many different ways society can tell people that a subliminal message that Black lives are expendable and subject to different considerations is being broadcasted. From Howard Beach to Bensonhurst to Baltimore to L.A., the verdict is clear. The question that every citizen who claims to be interested in the fight to end racism must ask is how much longer can this train of thought and action be allowed to continue?

How long will it be before people become outraged and mobilize for change once a serious problem has been brought to their attention, regardless of the race of the people bringing the message? It is imperative that people realize that justice is a full course meal, and should not be served in rationed portions.

"Things that make you say Hmm.."

- Leonard Jeffries, Acklyn Lynch, Sonia Sanchez, and KRS-ONE.
- Neither of our two Black faculty are from the United States.
- The Asian Image
- The Council for the Advancement of African Americans
- The Hopkins Jewish "community"

**Congratulations Class of '93!
 You'll Be Missed.
 Don't Forget About Those
 You Left Behind.**

"Homeless" at JHU

Continued from page 10
 She told me that based on the information they had, 200 was correct. I asked her if I could see this information, because then she would have to produce the survey that I had filled out.

She said she did not have it, but she could have sworn that 200 was the one that I had selected. She told me that they gave the apartment to a transfer student, and that even if I produced my copy, I would not receive the apartment. They said I could have any apartment that I wanted except for the one which I had originally requested.

It was days before the lottery. At first I did not know what to do. Then, I decided to take the civil, but futile route. I called Ms. Carolyn Mohr. She and I matched wits for a few minutes. She said, as far as she knew, they had no information about where I planned to live next year. I asked her, "If you have no information from me, how were you able to send me a letter confirming me for an apartment?" She could not answer that question, but defended the department and stood her ground.

Basically, she told

me that she did not know first-hand what had happened. All she knew that I was not going to live in the apartment which I had signed up for, due to the fact that the housing office lost their copy of my survey, and that I received the confirmation a month after its date. In other words, I had no choice but to pay for the mistakes of the Housing department and possibly the U.S. postal service.

The next step I took was to see Dean Boswell. She was not in and since it was the day of the lottery, I saw Ms. Bettye Miller. The only difference between my conversation with her and the one I had with Ms. Mohr was that she sounded more sympathetic. That's it. That's all.

R i g h t
 now, I am looking at apartments in the Homewood. Big difference between that and Ivy, as you probably know. I most likely will live in the Marylander next year. The moral in this story is: Make copies of every form you sign at this school. Especially for the housing department. Word to Public Enemy, "Can't Truss It."

Warren's Farewell Editorial

Continued from page 7
skills which I acquired here are obtainable from any other institution in this country.

I have gotten my money's worth out of this institution both inside and outside of the classroom. This is not something which the majority of the Black students who pass through these hallowed halls can say. Many of those who have taken it upon themselves to criticize this University do not possess an informed understanding of the opportunities available to students, the University's structure, or modus operandi, because they have not taken the time or the effort to become involved in this University.

During my four years here I have written for at least four student publications, served as an editor for two student publications, participated in the Army ROTC program, run for Student Council, served on the

Student Conduct Board, worked as a phonathon caller for the University's Annual Fund, interned for a Baltimore City Councilman, participated in the Institute for Policy Studies Urban Policy Internship Program, served on numerous committees (Student Council, Administration, etc.) and promoted intellectual discourse among colleagues within the Hopkins community.

While there is something to be said for advocating change from the outside, it is those on the inside who must implement these changes, and if they are not down with your program, your program will fail. One way of insuring that those on the inside support your efforts is to make sure that the people on the inside are your people.

Black students often complain about the lack of a social life for Black students, yet how many Black students

apply for the Hopkins Organization for Programings director's position? Black students complain that there are not enough Black faculty or courses here, yet how many of them have expressed this to the chairs of their departments or to other faculty members? How many Black students serve on the Administration's and Student Council's Education and Curriculum committees? Black students complain that there are not enough Black students here, yet how many of them volunteer to go with the Admissions Office to recruit at predominantly Black high schools? Black students complain about the manner in which they are depicted in the *News-Letter*, yet how many of them write for that publication?

What I do not want to find when I come back to Hopkins is a Black community which has severed all ties with the rest of the Hopkins community. What I want to see

is a Black Student Council President, a Black GRO Chairperson, Black Young Trustees, Black Spring Fair Chairs, Black MSE Symposium chairs, etc. I want to see Black students actively participating in all aspects of the Hopkins community.

One very effective method of countering the misconceptions which others have about us as individuals and as a race is to interact with these people on a more personal level. It's all well and good to call for the establishment of a Black Studies program, but we all know that students often do not connect what they learn in the classroom with what occurs in the real world. Hence the need for us to make our presence known wherever and whenever possible. It's not about selling-out, it's about survival...our own and their's.

Goodbye and Good Luck!

-CFW

The Black Student Leadership Awards

The BSU is proud to present Black Student Leadership Awards to the individuals listed below in recognition of their efforts to improve the Hopkins and Baltimore communities. Awardees were nominated by their peers, and all nominations were reviewed by members of the BSU's Executive Board.

Freshmen:

Delisa Adams
Kiameesha Evans
Tammie D. Simmons
Charles Sydnor III
Debbie Furr
Crista Johnson

Sophomores:

Michael J. Straker
Sahib Bennett
Renata Arrington
Joy Masseaux
Bushra Bashir
Nicole Laviniere
Mariessa Terell

Juniors:

Astrid V. Clarke
Michelle S. Cespedes
Nicole S. London
Mogy Omatete
Jesslyn Ingram
Carolyn Jacobs
Kobi Little
Maisha Draves
Roopa Kanthan
Carey Closson
Johnathan Johns

Seniors:

Travis Richardson
Lover High
Craig F. Warren
Henry Boateng
Helen Hostin
Stephanie Smith
Gillian Edgehill
Angie Jones
Veronica Williams
Michelle Fulwider
Ben Asfaw
Ugo Ezenkwele
Maaza Abdi
Denise Gundy

Much 2 Short's Hip-Hop Review

Record Rating Guide

- A - Slammin'; Excellent;
Buy the CD!
B - Dama Good! buy the
cassette.
C - Average; OK; Dub it
from a friend.
D - Buy the Bootleg Tape.
E - Don't even think about
buying the bootleg tape.

Da Youngsta's *The Aftermath*

On this their sophomore effort, Da Youngstas come off as hard as ever (or as hard as little kids from Philly can get). The funkier tracks are "Wild Child", "IZ U Wit Me", "Crews Pop", and "Who the Mic Wrecka" featuring Pete Rock and CL Smooth. Cuts like "Honeycomb Hide Out" and "Rip a Rhyme" are weak, and just plain irritating -- these kids take the hostile Mack Daddy gangsta lean too far and try too hard to imitate their older, "harder" peers. On the whole, Da Youngstas have a good rhyme style, and a definite future in hip hop if they can fine tune their lyrics. B-

CB4: *The original motion*

picture Soundtrack Various Artists

As the first film of 1993 aimed at the hip hop generation, CB4 was an ambitious enterprise for the people at Saturday Night Live, especially considering the phenomenal success of last year's *Wayne's World*. The soundtrack is also ambitious, sporting contributions from stars such as Public Enemy and KRS-ONE of Boogie Down Productions. Needless to say, these two groups put out the slammiest tracks on the whole album. Public Enemy drops serious knowledge with "The Thirteenth Message" and "Livin' in a Zoo." BDP does the same with the dope cut "Black Cop", a commentary on "sellout Black cops" who help maintain the police state that is America. Other decent tracks include "May Day on the Front Line" by MC Ren; "Stick 'Em Up" by Hurricane with the Beastie Boys; "Sneaking Up On Ya" by the Fu-Schnickens; and surprisingly PM Dawn's, "The Nocturnal Is In the House." The two R&B contributions hail from Black-

street with Teddy Riley and Tracie Spencer. While Ms. Spencer's track "It's Alright" is just that, Blackstreet's "Baby Be Mine" is absolutely terrible. The only cuts on the album that are supposed to be by 'CB4' are parodies by Daddy-O (formerly of Stetsasonic), Hi-C, and Kool Moe Dee. "Straight Out of Locash", "Sweat of My Balls", and "Rapper's Delight" would probably be funnier if I actually saw the movie, but I think I can wait 'till it comes on HBO. B

LL Cool J *14 Shots to the Dome*

LL is back again, this time with a passable follow-up to the phenomenal success of his fourth album, *Mama Said Knock You Out*. Starting with the dope single "How I'm Coming", LL proves he still can flow with the best of them, even if he's lacking a bit on lyrics (smack, slap, smack, slap, etc). Other funky tracks include "Buckin' Em Down," and "(NFA) No Frontin' Allowed," featuring the Lords of the Underground. "Stand By Your Man," this album's equiva-

alent of "Around the Way Girl", is good, very good... except for all the stupid singing. Another decent cut off the album is "Pink Cookies in a Plastic Baggy, Gettin' Crushed by Buildings". I would appreciate this rip off of Big Daddy's "Ain't No Half-Steppin'" a whole lot more if someone could explain the stupid title and chorus. "Funkadelic Relic", serves as an agreeable retrospective of LL's career. All in all, this is an admirable effort on Uncle L's part. B

Onyx *Bacdafucup*

On this their debut album, Onyx holds nothing back. Taking the "hard-ass nigga on the verge of insanity" approach, they come off as just that -- and they make it work.. Undoubtedly, the best tracks on the album are "Throw Y Gunz" and the title cut "Bacdafucup." Other good cuts include "Bichasniguz," "Here 'n' Now," "Onyx is Here," and "Slam." If you can get past the misogynistic, ignorant lyrics and appreciate Onyx solely on the basis of their tracks rhyme style, then you'll love this album. If you can't, then you'll only like it like I do. B

Must Haves:

Brand Nubians *In God We Trust*
digable planets *Reachin' (a new refutation of time and space)*
Living Colour - *Stain* (see Ben Asfaw's review).

Living Colour's *Stain*

by Ben A. Asfaw

Listening to the radio these days is just too depressing. If I hear another "Oooh baby you so fine - why you do me like that" song or "Shake it, shake it, shake it, now shake it"...I'm gonna puke. Thank God for groups like Living Colour. New York's very own black hard rock band has come up

with yet another mind boggling album: *Stain*.

Stain is Living Colour's third musical endeavor. LC's landmark debut album, *Vivid*, blended a mixture of funk, rock, and soul that called on us to become more aware of what's going on in society. Their follow up album, *Time's Up*, showed LC's broad range as musicians as they dealt with

issues of pride, unity, and the day to day struggles of African-Americans in their communities. LC's latest release is a welcome departure from what we've come to expect from the band.

The overriding theme of *Stain* is that of discontent with society as a whole. *Stain* is a sarcastic ("Mind Your Own Busi-

Continued on page 15

-Much 2 Short

Living Colour: A Black Metallica? Not!

Continued from page 14 ness"), apathetic (Leave It Alone), frustrated ("Never Satisfied") retort to society's problems.

The album's first release "Leave It Alone" speaks of indifference when asked to take a stand: "I wouldn't get with that one, / don't go for all their hype / And you know, I will never be like that one, / C'mon, I'm just not the type / I got to leave it alone...."

"Bi" is an amusing jest at the problem of being comfortable with one's sexuality: "Everybody wants you when your Bi...."

"Postman" is reminiscent of the movie *Falling Down*, which also deals with the theme of an individual

mentally collapsing from a world that seems to be closing in around him, however, "Postman" is a *tad* more intense: "They crucify me again and again / I won't stay on this cross / Nobody knows the trouble I've seen / Nobody knows what I've lost...."

There are several songs that speak about injustice today. "This Little Pig" focuses on the theme of an abusive and corrupt police force. "Auslander" (German for foreigner) discusses an immigrant's point of view of the unwarranted distrust and hostility faced when trying to make it in a new country: "Everything that I want isn't everything that you got...."

Despite the fact that

Stain is not so "happy, happy - joy, joy" - it will still get you pumped. This album is much faster and harder than what you've come to expect from LC. They experiment with melodies that run into Metallica's turf, however, they manage quite well. They still keep the elements of funk and soul that got them where they are today.

One of the most anticipated aspects of LC's new album was how well new bassist Doug Wimbish fits in with the band. Wimbish does more than fill in the shoes of Muzz Skillings (LC's former bassist). He has a distinct, funky edge to his bass playing.

Wimbish provides strong support to one of rock's

best rhythm sections along with William Calhoun on drums. Calhoun lays down the beats with air-tight precision that keeps the music rolling steadily along. Corey Glover (who has traded in his long multicolored braids for short, reddish dreads) proves once again that he's capable of a variety of styles, as he screeches, grunts, and soulfully sings each song with his own unique touch. As usual though, it is Vernon Reid's guitar playing that really carries the album. Everyone always goes on and on about how good Reid is...and for good reason: he is one of the best guitarists around. Reid has a grasp on the guitar that will one day put him in the leagues of Hendrix, Paige, and Clapton. As a unit, LC is arguably the most talented rock-n-roll band today.

The best quality of LC is that they can appeal to all of us, if we would just take the time to listen. They have a lot of things to say and they say it while keeping their integrity intact - now how many "all I wanna do is zoom zoom zoom and a boom boom" groups can you say that for?

KRS-ONE Rocks Shriver

by Perspective Arts Staff

April 24 Shriver Hall- The Blastmaster KRS-ONE returned to Shriver Hall in concert. Boogie Down Productions came to Hopkins at the behest of the BSU to deliver an exciting and edutaining concert before a group of about 500 fans.

The crowd itself was disappointing, in that the BSU had hoped to fill Shriver hall to capacity, but due to advertising problems and the abundance of local events for college students this weekend, this was not possible. Those who attended, however, were in for a rare treat.

The concert began with two local rap groups, Vital Signs and Circle of Native Vibes, who warmed up the crowd for BDP. The

two groups put on a surprisingly good show which should earn them more notoriety and future spots.

At around 9:30 the Blastmaster and Willie D came out and the stage was immediately mobbed as all the fans in the hall came forward to feel the full impact of the show. Masterfully blending the old with the new, BDP kept the crowd jumping for nearly an hour.

Using his lyrical prowess KRS-1 not only touched on societal problems such as Black police violence and political apathy towards Blacks, but also emphasized self-respect and respect towards all women. BSU President-elect Nicole London, said; "there could have been more people there, but he gave an excellent perfor-

mance." BSU Vice-President Mike Straker said "the show was just dope, just dope!"

Straker's sentiment was echoed by freshman Cicely Vaughn who said that she "especially enjoyed the part where he asked all the women of all colors who respected themselves to say HO!"

Graduating BSU President Henry Boateng said "The show itself was great. We encountered a lot of logistical problems in terms of promotion and just the amount of activities sponsored this weekend, but we learned from these mistakes and with the cooperation of Homewood Student Services the BSU will sponsor other concerts."

**Good Luck
with Finals
and
Have a Great
Summer!**

The Black History Quiz Answers

Congratulations and a \$50 check are in order for Ana Pavich who won the quiz with a whopping 41 correct answers. Below are the answers. Enjoy!-The Editor

1. Who is the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff?-General Colin Powell
2. Who were The Supremes?- Diana Ross, Mary Wilson, Florence Ballard
3. Who is JHU's Vice-President for Human Resources?-James Jones
4. Who worked with Pierre L'Enfant?-Benjamin Banneker
5. Who is the "Real McCoy"?-Elijah McCoy
6. Who was the first man to reach the North Pole?-Matthew Henson
7. Who was the pilot of the Nina?-Pedro Alonso Nino
8. Who is the Pulitzer-prize winning author of Beloved?-Toni Morrison
9. Who was the 1990-91 BSU President?-Kobi Little
10. Who is the Mayor of the District of Columbia?-Sharon Pratt Kelly
11. Who is the Mayor of New York City?-David Dinkins
12. Who was the author of Roots?-Alex Haley Jr.
13. Who was the founder of the first blood bank?-Dr. Charles Drew
14. Who was the author of "A Raisin In the Sun"?-Lorraine Hansberry
15. Which musician was nicknamed "Satchmo"?-Louis Armstrong
16. Who is the star of *Hawk* and *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*, and at which university is he a drama professor?-Avery Brooks, Rutgers University's Mason Gross School of the Arts
17. Who was Edward Kennedy Ellington?-Duke Ellington
18. Who plays Lt. Cmdr. Uhura, and which Black astronaut's role model is she?-Nichelle Nichols, Dr. Mae Jemison
19. "What is the difference between a nigger and a Black man?" "A nigger's the one who would even think about answering that question."-from the motion picture *Deep Cover*
20. Who is John Stewart? (Hint: Look in the October issue's editorial for a clue)-The Black Green Lantern
21. Who is the director of "Boyz n the Hood"?-John Singleton
22. Who is the director of Naughty by Nature's video, "Hip Hop Hooray"?-Spike Lee
23. How many Blacks are in the Clinton Cabinet?-Three
24. Who is the Mayor of Baltimore?-Kurt Schmoke
25. Who is the Vice-President of the Baltimore City Council?-Vera Hall
26. Who was the author of Invisible Man. (Hint: H.G. Wells it aint.)-Ralph Ellison
27. What was Malcolm X's nickname?-"Red"
28. Name three Black Academy Award winners?-Denzel Washington, Sidney Poitier, Louis Gossett Jr., Whoopi Goldberg, Morgan Freeman
29. Who wrote, "The problem of the twentieth century is the problem of the color line"?-W.E.B. DuBois
30. Who was "Chappie" James?-The First Black Four Star General
31. Who is the voice of Darth Vader?-James Earl Jones
32. Who was the publisher of "The North Star"-Frederick Douglass
33. Who said, "I never run my train off the track and I never lost a passenger"?-Harriet Tubman
34. Name the Nobel Peace Prize Winner from Detroit, Michigan.-Dr. Ralph Bunche
35. Name the first principal of Tuskegee Institute.-Booker T. Washington
36. Who was the founder of the United Negro Improvement Association?-Marcus Garvey
37. Who was slain on April 4, 1968?-Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
38. Who was the peanut and sweet potatoe man?-George Washington Carver
39. Who was the author of Soul On Ice?-Eldridge Cleaver
40. Who was Rosa Parks?-One of the main catalysts for the civil rights movement
41. Who are Fishbone, 24-7 Spyz, and the Family Stand?-Black Funk/Hard Rock Groups
42. In what year was *Perspective* first published?- April, 1989
43. Who wrote To Every Birth Its Blood?-Wally Serote Mongane
44. Who was the first Black bishop of the Episcopal Church?-Barbara Harris
45. Who was the first Black woman to receive a Ph.D, and in what subject did she receive it? Sadie Alexander, Economics
46. Who was the first Black woman elected to the U.S. Senate?-Carol Mosley Braun
47. Name three HBCU's.-Howard University, Morgan State University, Grambling, Morehouse, Spelman College, Xavier.
48. Who was the author of Nobody Knows My Name?-James Baldwin
49. Who was the author of Native Son?-Richard Wright
50. What is Black?-

This quiz was brought to you by the BSU and the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs.