BLACK HISTORY MONTH:

A Half Century Later

By Lasana M. Sekou

In 1926, the second week in February was designated Black History Week in the U.S.A. by noted historian Carter G. Woodson, one of the founders and first executive director of the Association for the Study of African-American Life and History.

Since its initiation in 1926 the Black History Week celebration has grown to include the entire month of February, thus Black History Month. This development obviously came from the realization that a week could hardly afford adequate exposure to the vast heritage of African-Americans; from the African origins to the triumphs and tragedies in the diaspora.

The month long observation is to commemorate centuries of struggle waged by African peoples, a phenomenal legacy of love and labor, of challenge against man and nature, of dismal defeats and trembling victories, of past and present contributions to "Self" and to the rest of mankind.

Despite the lack of wide media coverage even to adequately orient the entire Black community, Black History Month remains a most persistent and respectable tradition in the communities where it is observed annually. Civic groups across the country, schools and Black students on college campuses engage in a wide variety of consciousness raising activities. Such activities as art exhibits, poetry readings, political, historical, economical and other social forums are designed by Blacks to inform each other on the much relevant dynamics of the African cultures within and without the diaspora.

Given the continued and often brutal attempt to suppress the African-American culture by the "White" American superstructure, the importance of Black History Month cannot be underscored enough. It is apparent that the educational institutions of the country choose to neglect the abundance of technical, medical, political and other contributions by Blacks to the progress of America and the world. Black History Month then serves as a regenerative catalyst, continually acquainting Blacks, especially the young with the more positive and revolutionary aspect of their vast heritage.

In addition to the dismal disregard for the African-American in the American educational system, the dominant media has historically depicted Blacks through an over-abundance of negative, acquiescing, stereotyped images. In light of such continual assault on the African psyche from Tarzan to Superfly, Roosters and Ten Speeds, Black History Month remains an imperative of the highest order.

During Black History Month, indeed throughout Black life, the responsibility to research, present, and propagate the truth and dignity of African traditions belong to all African peoples. The responsibility is a natural one to all self-loving/self-respecting people, to uphold the revolutionary role models and achievements emanating from their culture. Thus Blacks who have been taught or feel they are without a genuine history will know the contrary when they recover the Black identity of Imhotep, the wonders of Ancient Egypt, Great Zimbabwe, Timbuctu, Nzinga, the Haitian Revolution, the Maroons, Nat Turner, Charles Drew, G. T. Woods, Dubois, Garvey, King, Malcolm, Nkrumah and a host of other exemplary Black men and women who have fought trying and treacherous

AIM IN CRISIS: Stipend Cutbacks

By Brenda L. Payne

It appears that the 700 students presently enrolled in the SUSB AIM (Advancement on Individual Merit) program will have to obtain a loan to compensate for the smaller stipends which they will receive this spring semester. The stipend cutback is a result of insufficient funds that AIM received from Albany compounded by a statewide over-enrollment of students in EOP (Equal Opportunity Program).

According to William Harvey, Director of AIM, the EOP at Stony Brook, Albany officials who receive funding from the New York State Legislature did not expect such a high enrollment of EOP students at individual state colleges because in the past the matriculation rate was always below the set quota. As a result, Albany usually encourages AIM and similar EOP programs to recruit more students with the promise that funding would be provided for all students.

Harvey acknowledged that AIM not only met its quota for 500 students, but surpassed it with an additional 200, making this the program's largest enrollment ever at Stony Brook.

Looking at the broadened picture Harvey remarked, "EOP programs statewide have a limit in the number of students to enroll each year. A number of programs this year exceeded the enrollment and consequently Albany is not funding those programs over and beyond the number of students that enrolled last year." The EOP programs provide additional financial aid for students who are said to be educationally and/ or economically "disadvantaged," but wish to continue their education beyond high school.

Students will receive smaller stipends this semester because AIM only received funding for 500 students totalling to approximately $233,000 for entire academic year. Because 700 of the students presently in the program, AIM, Financial Aid and the Accounting Office had to devise a financial re-packing plan. The plan would enable approximately $323,000 for 700 students to be distributed among 700 students. The AIM program issued letters last Fall informing students that although they should have received full stipends totalling to approximately $323,000, they will have an estimated $170 cut in their stipends equaling $147 in the spring semester. The balance would then be distributed among the 200 extra students.
Reverend Al Sharpton, President of National Youth Movement, called on black oriented stations to not abandon the air play of generally black and rhythm and blues music from their format for disco and general white market music. Sharpton warned that it may be necessary to picket and boycott various radio stations that choose to forsake traditional black music. Sharpton warned "The F.C.C. gave a license to many of these stations to service black and minority markets, many of these stations forsok the black community radio listener and began to play white's and disco and exclude traditional black artists seeking to get a larger advertising dollar from major white corporations."

Sharpton said he was particularly disturbed by the recent programming format of FRANKIE CROCKER, Program Director for WLIB, who was a defense witness in Crocker's payola trial two (2) years ago, stated that he would not meet and discuss the issue with NYM leaders. Sharpton and a camera crew from WNET-TV and other reporters met with Mr. Crocker's boss PERCY SUTTON, Chairman of Inner City Broadcasting. Sharpton told Sutton, "We know WLIBS may reap more advertising dollars playing white artists and middle of the road black artists, but F.C.C. gave you a license to service us on FM airways in New York and playing Frank Sinatra and Tom Jones and excluding James Brown and nonproductive loud, visible but nonproductive black. Uncle Tom has changed his style, he now looks militant, talks militant, does militant things, but his score card still reads the same zero. When National Youth Movement and Fair Play confronted the Sanitation Dept. and private carriers of the City 60 days ago and forced a commitment of 55% of the jobs from the new City contracts to be given to blacks, that was too tangible for some of our cracks and black groups to join. We must differentiate between a drama club, and a black organization drama club produces and orchestrates good drama, a black organization services black people.

As we approach the election, we must organize around tangible results. We must not be concerned about Regan's background as a conservative, I'm more concerned about my background of poverty, I'm not concerned about Jimmy Carter's dealing with white people, I'm more concerned about a job for my cousin Joe Carter. We in black America are sinking in the raging oceans of unemployment, and we need a life raft, not a smile, we need tangible programs, not well developed press releases. We've allowed some groups to take center stage, and watched them perform, many came back with nothing but a slogan of SAVE THE CHILDREN, I'm more interested in the proposition that we rise past rhetoric and drama and organize the children to save themselves.

S.I.R.M.A.

Since the first inception of this magazine back in 1972, I had been looking for an organization that was dedicated to small companies like independent record companies and Mama and Papa stores, etc. Finally, after all these years, there is such an organization. It's called, S.I.R.M.A. (Small Independent Record Manufacturers Association). This organization held its first meeting at the City Squire Hotel in New York City in August, 1980. Jimmy Dockett of Star Vision is its Chairman and Founder. That first meeting lasted from 10:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m., and it was all business. S.I.R.M.A. is a national organization, incorporated under the State of New York as a non-profit organization. S.I.R.M.A.'s top priorities are putting out quality products (both creative and manufacturing-wise), making sure that records are available in stores to meet the public demand, developing a good rapport with Mama and Papa record stores. For S.I.R.M.A. members there will be benefits. For example: Co-op buying of goods and services, a Data bank with much vital information to aid members in conducting their companies, foreign market contacts, medical and dental plans for members.

Some future plans of S.I.R.M.A.'s are to work very closely with local communities, holding seminars on various aspects of the music industry, on the job training, educating the local communities about the music business and in general, helping to upgrade jobs and life on the grass-roots level.

By Lasana M. Sekou

There seems to be a definite spell for the genuine disco/party hunters on the Stony Brook campus. The drying-up spell appeared to have been broken. This is indeed a frightening situation for those who understand the dynamics of partying as a positive in the healthy development of one or a group; it is even more ominous to those who need to party on weekends as a release, or even as an energizer in preparation for the hustle bustle that begins Monday morning.

Let me get particular at this point, intimate if you will with my brothers and sisters at SUSB—WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH YOU? ALL? Are you losing your pull? Are you getting old and cold? Where is the Soul? I mean the serious jam sessions, where you rock the house till the early morning light?

Now don't get me wrong, my intentions are not to open up a Pandora's box here. We must keep in mind that the prime objective of this institution is to be educated or trained, whichever your consciousness relates to, and to use that training or education as a tool to advance Self and/or community. Thus study we must, and without excuses achieve to the best of our ability, to even sincerely help each other through personal encouragement, study groups, etc.

But in our quest for mental or material fulfillment what happens to the soul? By the way I am not being dogmatic when I say Soul. What I mean is, what happens to the harmony of the being, especially the young being, when deprived of a collective outlet with their peers. Such an outlet in which we can come together just to be, to be together, to rejoice, to give Thanks and Praise for living and loving. To share and be filled with that awesome sentiment. To generate those happy ancient vibes of love and invincibility we can get from a packed dance floor of African blood rocking to the beat of the rhythm within the rhythm.

I have heard many fellow students complain that they are "sick and tired" of seeing the same people at every party. These people obviously do not understand the socializing nature of dancing, or They might be suffering from the Self-hatred which afflicts some of our number because of racial oppressions, etc. OR (and maybe the best reason) they "sick and tired" of not getting a dance or being asked to dance when they attend parties. Anyway, they affect us, and in our tiredness we echo their sad sentiment.

Some go home on weekends, most to be bored further, and return in lying triumph about the good time they had (of course excluded from here are those who must go home to see family, lovers, or weekend work).

Some stay in their pretty prisons (rooms) and pretend to study, restlessly they pace their room until filled into a gloomy state of pessimism by the terror-vision (TV).

Some, aspiring to be class Negroes of the petty boobwobles (bourgeoisie), await parties as sweetly as serious situations (not affairs) with "those kind of people." I remember hearing one frantically profess the creed of their kin, "You don't see us out there partying like those people, we study ..."

Others form exclusive cliques, isolate their little selves and have secret suite parties, but when the "dust" clears these "angels" are as miserable as before.

Then there is the new craze, the revival mission group. They are not much different from their missionary archetype that helped brutalize the true African "Spirit" and that of the rest of humanity; I was told by one of their number that parties are primitive, too sensual, thus sinful—indeed a thing of the devil ... quite unlike their gossiping gangs wherein they crucify each other and their fellow students oh well.

Are all these isolationist trends signalling the death of the one-party or the multi-party weekends? Is our Afro-sheen being relaxed? Are We extreme individualist cults depriving us from jamming together in unity and friendship? Are we so pathologically subjected with the making-it syndrome that we are dealing one way or another death-blows to the age old ritual of everyone getting down together?

I don't know the answers, but the anti-party acts and complaints are real. What I do know is that we should bring in Dr. Feel Good and be patient.
HOW TO WRITE...

THE RESUME

I. Preparation
A good concise resume is one of the most challenging tasks you will undertake as you seek employment. There is no one correct way of preparing a successful resume, but depends upon you, your academic work, your experience and the type of organization to which you are applying. The purpose of the resume is to organize the relevant facts about you and to bring you to the attention of a prospective employer.

A resume should be informative, truthful and emphasize the best and strongest features in your background that are appropriate to your job objectives.

II. Organization
1. Name, Address and telephone number.
2. Job Objective—State the position you want as comprehensively as possible. If you are too vague, or are considering several diversified fields, eliminate the objective.
3. Personal Strengths and Qualifications—Describe yourself briefly and positively, using such action words as capable, effective, independent, responsible, creative, ambitious, etc.
4. Education—A college graduate should note the colleges and universities attended, dates of attendance, degrees received, and school activities and honors, if any. It should include academic index, if it is a strong point. It can include a listing of courses in major and related subjects by title, if such a listing is relevant.
5. Work Experience—Although your work experience may be unrelated to your jobgoal, part time and summer work should be included. These types of jobs illustrate your knowledge of the world of work. If any of your jobs are related, emphasize the responsibilities and duties performed. All job listings should include dates of employment, company name, job title and job function.
6. Community Service and Volunteer Work—May be included if they do not refer to a religious denomination.
7. Professional Status and Memberships—List certification in any field where you are certified and names of key professional or trade organizations of which you are a member.
8. Special Skills and Interests—If space permits, include a limited number of hobbies or associations.
9. Personal—Age (use actual birth date to avoid making your resume obsolete), health, marital status. It is usually adequate to show health as excellent. If divorced, say single. If you have children, list number, but not ages.
10. References—It is best to say they will be furnished on request.

III. Final Preparation
The order in which the data is recorded can be adjusted according to your preference, keeping in mind that which is most important from the employer’s viewpoint.

Principles to keep in mind are that the resume be brief, easy to read and complete.

Unless you have had considerable work experience, it is best to limit your resume to one page. Leave plenty of white space—good margins—top, bottom and sides. Write your resume in outline form, avoiding the pronoun “I” and using the action words mentioned earlier.

Type your resume, or have it typed, letter perfect. The cost of having it typed will vary between $2-$4 per page, but may be worth it since the final copy should be camera-ready. The method of reproduction most desired is offset printing which involves photographing the original copy. Be absolutely certain there are no spelling, grammatical or typographical errors.

The quality of the paper is important and should be no less than 20 pound No. 4 Sulfite Bond. A cotton content is even better. Costs will vary, but printing usually runs from $4 to $10 per 100 copies. If you require just two or three copies, type each one individually, or have fine xeroxed copies made. Never use a carbon copy.

Your resume is your personal sales tool. It opens doors and will help you to get an interview with a perspective employer. The time spent preparing a good resume is an investment in your future.


February Black History Month

‘Images of power’: Art of Benin at NYU

The first exhibition in New York focusing on art works from the royal Nigerian city-state Benin will be on view at the Grey Art Gallery and Study Center of New York University from January 23 through February 21, 1981. Images of Power: The Royal Court of Benin features more than 65 works, including cast bronzes, carved ivories, and terra cotta figures, the majority of which date from the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. Among the items included are ornamental and religious objects, and plaques commemorating events and rituals in the life of the divine Benin King, the Oba.

Benin flourished from the 13th century until the British Punitive Expedition of 1897. The Kingdom was one of the strongest political and cultural forces in West African history. Stylistically and technologically, Benin art differed significantly from that produced by most other African societies. The stylized elaboration of the Benin art works reflects the complex, sophisticated, and tightly hierarchical world of Benin courtly life.

Images of Power: The Royal Court of Benin was organized by the Museum Studies Program of New York University and has been made possible by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities. The works in the exhibition have been selected from several American museums and numerous private collections.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a fully-illustrated catalogue featuring three essays tracing the history of the Benin kingdom and a stylistic analysis of the Benin works and the ways in which these works give visual form to the continued dignity and power of the royal office of the divine Oba.

All activities of the Grey Art Gallery and Study Center are made possible with public funds provided by the New York State Council on the Arts and by a generous grant for general operating support from the Institute of Museum Services of the Department of Education. Admission to the Grey Art Gallery is free.
Black History Month

odds advancing the nobility and liberation of all African people, indeed of humanity itself.

Black History Month also attempts to bring in some coherent focus on the nature of contemporary struggle of all African people, the historical, economical and political relations and the implications of possible future actions. At the birth day of the great warrior Malcolm X is also celebrated during February with much enthusiasm. Black History Month can serve as a ritual period to reorientate the entire Black community with particular past commitments to the struggle and their relevance to today. Here then is how Black History Month can, in a most unique way allow for Blacks to become involved or at least gain some positive understanding of our relationship to the present history making process.

The little or total lack of coverage on the progressive activities of Black History Month by the prevalent media should serve a compounded notice to the Black community. The notice this wretched behavior serves is that African people should create or contribute to the media that treat the African traditions with due respect. This is to say, support progressive organs of communication in which Blacks are represented, not as tokens or stereotyped subject/object, but as a dynamic people with individuals who have, who are, and who will achieve anywhere and under any circumstances.

The observation of Black history is indeed what the African-American community makes of it. Regardless of how threatening or sanctioning the political and economic trends of time Black History Month has been vibrant, "in the tradition" of the Black experience. To paraphrase one of the fathers of the Black Arts Movement, Amiri Baraka, there is presently a definite need to rejuvenate the strength and motivation in the Black community. This rejuvenation must proceed "scientifically if the African-American is ever to truly claim the "40 acres and a mile" and become a visible citizen of the nation he helped build. Fifty-five years later Black History Month remains a crucial example in the African American and woman struggle for "Self" determination.

Observations like Black History Month are also of great importance to the advancement and unity of African peoples in Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe, the south pacific and Africa. As most so-called Black nations gain political independence, their educational institutions, like their economy, remain entrenched in the exploitive system of their former colonizers. Retaining the European educational model as the colonizer left it is very instrumental in undermining the national construction and "Self" determination of the newly independent nations. For a people, be they minority or majority, must know their historical reality in order for them to forge ahead in every aspect of nation building and Self determination.

Memory Love

At times I sit and stare
At memories of the ocean
How it danced and laughed
Into my growth
With its clear blueness
How the sun tickled
Its playful body
How it cries for its love from the night sky
In return
Hear the moon whisper its name
Echoing.....tonight, please/

In softer tones
...come.....let's make love......

FOLKTALES

The sky used to be very close to the ground. In fact it wasn’t any higher than a man’s arm when he raised it above his head. Whenever anybody got hungry, all he had to do was to reach up and break off a piece of the sky and eat it. That way, no one ever had to work. Well, it was a fine arrangement for a while, but sometimes people would break off more than they could eat, and what they couldn’t eat they just threw on the ground. After all, the sky was so big there would always be enough for everybody to eat. What did it matter if they broke off more than they actually wanted?

Maybe it didn’t matter to them, but it mattered to the sky. In fact, it made the sky angry to see itself lying on the ground half-eaten, like garbage. So one day the sky spoke out and said, "Now look-a-here! Can’t have this! Uh-uh. Can’t have you people just breaking off a piece of me every time your stomach growls and then taking a little bite and throwing the rest away. Now, if y’all don’t cut it out, I’m going to move so far away no one will ever touch me again. You understand?"

When people got the message, in fact, they were pretty scared, and for a while they made sure that no one ever broke off more of the sky than he could eat. But slowly they began to forget. One day, a man came by and broke off a chunk big enough to feed forty people for a month. He took a few little bites, licked around the edges, threw the rest over his shoulder and over the dog he had a piece too. Well, the sky didn’t say a word, but with a great roar, the sky lifted itself up as high as it could, and that was pretty high.

When the people realized what was happening, they began crying and pleading with the sky to come back. They promised that they would never do it again, but the sky acted like it didn’t hear a word.

The next day, the people didn’t have a thing to eat, and they had to go to work to feed themselves, and that’s why man is working to this very day.

From Origins in Black Folktales

by Julius Lester

A.I.M. in Crisis...

I cont. from p. 7

Harvey, stressing that students would not really suffer in terms of total amount of money by the stipend cutbacks, said, "Nobody will receive fewer dollars if they choose to substitute the loan situation for the amount of money that they would have received from EOP. The package will be the same dollar amount. The difference is that the $150 on the average that people borrow would have to be payed back in the future. It’s the difference between a grant and a loan." The name of the loan Harvey is referring to is NYHEAC (New York Higher Education Assistance Corporation) and this may be obtained through the Financial Aid office.

William Harvey regards the loan option to compensate for the spring budget deficit as unfortunate. He revealed that the AIM program as a new policy will enroll students according to the exact figures that Albany supports monetarily in documentation instead of listening to promises. Currently Albany is seeking supplemental funds to remedy the over enrollment problem, but Harvey says, "apparently without a lot of success."

Juanita Garries, an AIM student and a senior at SUSB voiced her opinion of the stipend cutbacks remarking, "I do not like the cutbacks. The director said that he did not foresee the problem and I strongly disagree with this because problems don’t come up out of nowhere."
Once again the case concerning the sentencing of noted Freedom Fighter, Amiri Baraka has been postponed from Feb. 3, 1981 to Feb. 23, 1981. Baraka, who is also a faculty member of SUNY at Stony Brook (AFS “Dept.”), was beaten and arrested by NYC police on June 8th, 1979. Amiri Baraka has been held hostage by the (il)legal judiciary system since.

Despite the lack of substantial evidence from trumped up charges against Baraka, he was initially sentenced to serve 90 days at Rikers Island prison. His lawyers, among whom is William Kunstler, have been seeking a modification of that sentence; they have also been denied a hearing by NY Court of Appeals on Baraka’s behalf.

Amiri Baraka has been running the judicial gauntlet now for over 600 days; his job by which he is the sole supporter of his family, is in jeopardy of being lost if the conviction is not reversed. We must also, necessarily realize that the apparent ease and comfort our generation has been experiencing (until Jan. 20th, 1981) has been in large part due to the rational fighters like Baraka, outside. We need to protect them so they’ll be around their knowledge, or real concern, for our survival, indeed our life.

Surely justice served to this Father of the Black Arts Movement is a victory for all struggling humanity. We as students (science majors too), must realize that the apparent ease and comfort our generation has been experiencing (until Jan. 20th, 1981) has been in large part due to the rational fighters like Baraka, outside. We need to protect them so they’ll be around their knowledge, or real concern, for our survival, indeed our life.

View this lawless impotence?

To show the total irresponsibility of court officials, their disregard for law, the presiding judge on Feb. 2, 1981 said he was unable to make a decision because he was unprepared for the case . . . truly, how are we to view this lawless impotence?

BLACKWORLD calls upon all “together” people at “the Brook,” to come out on Monday, February 23, 1981, to pack the Courtroom on 100 Center St. (No. 6 train/next to City Hall). Rally with the many supporters of this internationally acclaimed African warrior, Amiri Baraka; to see that justice be done, that Baraka not serve 90-days nor nine.

This call should be especially pressing on students who have been taught by this dynamic vanguard of pan-African literature; who have been exposed to his sincerity and revolutionary social ideas.

Surely justice served to this Father of the Black Arts Movement is a victory for all struggling humanity. We as students (science majors too), must realize that the apparent ease and comfort our generation has been experiencing (until Jan. 20th, 1981) has been in large part due to the consistent and progressive struggle leaders like Amiri Baraka have endured since the 60s.

As AIM, TAP, bilingual education, and other urban aid programs get the attention and support needed for continued operation, please contribute what you can.

Please call (AFS “Dept.”, 246-4015/ 2nd floor SBS Bldg., after Feb. 11.

Letters to the Editor

Welcome Back to SUSB

"KNOW THYSELF"
Lasana M. Sekou
Managing Editor
Morris Brown
Business Manager
Kevin Riley
Circulation Manager
Lady Isis
Assistant Editor
Lady Isis
Production Staff and Reporters: Gladys Castillo, Noel Constantine, Teresa De Marie, Juanita Garries, Brenda Payne Peter Lawson, Jefferson Miller.

Dear Sir,

The Jazz Concert: Johnny Walker and Friends, that was planned for February 3, 1981, at the Fine Arts Center—Phase 1. Recital Hall has been cancelled. Unfortunately, a former affiliate of the Jazz Club has expressed financial difficulties concerning a jazz workshop program which is held annually at the Stony Brook campus.

However, the club’s replanning should include concert engagements and jazz activities which may interest your readers. I shall inform you of these activities as they are planned.

I would like at this time to express my opinion on the excellence of the Black World newspaper. I am a normal recipient of the publication. The quality and workmanship efforts have increased, along with the diversity of coverage, having an immediate relevancy to the campus community. Please continue this excellent work.

Harold Prunty Jr.
President, The Jazz Club

LETTERS TO
THE EDITOR
ARE
ALWAYS
WELCOME

This could be your Letter

Memo to
S.U.S.B. President
Marburger

The current Black student membership on the Vice-President of Student Affairs Search Committee is not adequate: Nor is the method by which the Black students are selected.

Representatives of our community cannot be appointed by Polity President Richard Zuckerman. He and the members of polity operations have shown no knowledge, or real concern, for Equal Opportunity laws and principles, to select representatives to articulate our views.

Thus, we urge you, President Marburger, to expand the Vice President of Student Affairs Search Committee. To include more Black student representatives, and that this representative be nominated by the Black Student Coalition. This should not only apply to this Search Committee, but it should be a standing policy.

Frank Jackson
Chairman, BSC

February 1981
FOR MY PEOPLE

For my people everywhere bearing their slave songs repeatedly, their dances and their dreams and their blues and jubilees, praying their voices softly to an unknown god, bending their knees humbly to a unseen power,

For my people laying their strength to the years, to the gone years and the new ones and the maybe years, wrestling inner cooking scrubbing, seeing sanding hoeing plowing digging, planting, picking, patching, dragging along their never gaining never gaining never knowing and never understanding,

For my playmates in the clay and dust and sand of Alabama backyard playing hunting and preaching and doore and jail and soldiers and school and music and cooking and playing and concert and more and hair and Miss Chimney and company,

For the cramped bewildered years we went to school to learn to know the means where it's connected to and the people who and the place where and the days where, in memory of the bitter hours we discovered we were black and poor and small and different and everybody cared and nobody wondered and nobody understood,

For the boys and girls who grew in spite of these things to be men and women to lack and dance and sing and play and drink their wine and religion and success, to marry their playmates and hear children and then die of consumption and asthma and backbreaking.

For my people there dying 75th Street in Chicago and Lemon Avenue in New York and Rampart Street in New Orleans lost disabled dispossessed and happy people filling the alleys and lovers and other people's pockets and shoes and doors and street and soul and mind and money and something something something all at once.

For my people walking likely spreading joy, loving time being busy, sleeping when happy, shooting when bored, drinking when hopeless, fast and shackled and hanged among ourselves by the unseen avatars who tower over us, scarcely and bound.

For my people bleeding and praying and floundering in the dark of churches and schools and statehouses and museums associations and circles and committees and conventions disbanded and dissolved and declined and deceased and destroyed by money hungry church going leeches, pressed on by force of state and fear and novelty, by false prophets and holy believers.

For my people standing strong trying to fashion a better way from confusion, from despair, and misunderstanding, trying to fashion a world that will hold all the people, all the laws, all the names and lives and their countless generations.

Let a new earth rise. Let another world be born. Let a likely price be written in the sky. Let a second generation full of courage close earth, let a people having freedom come to growth. Let a beauty full of healing and a strength of final cleansing be the policy in our spirits and our lives. Let the modified songs be written. Let the dreams disappear. Let a rise of men now rise and take control.
Caribbean Economic structure breeds poverty and insecurity

by Bernadette Baroud

The turmoil in the Caribbean today is reminiscent, and indeed a replication of 1930s and 1940s. Then the underlying factors were, firstly, the depression and secondly, the preparation for an eventual outbreak of World War II. Today, for “Depression” read “The Crisis of World Capitalism” and the internal social structures which, particularly in Asia, Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean, are under terrific stress and strain. This because they are outmoded by the scientific, technological and ideological revolutions that have taken place.

At first, the political struggle was waged against colonialism; now, it is against neocolonialism and the vestiges of colonialism. Despite the fact that many countries in the Caribbean have become independent, the region maintains a structure of underdeveloped dependent capitalism with a deformed type of industrialization.

This foundation breeds poverty and insecurity. In contrast, the Cuban revolution of 1959 inspired the Latin American and Caribbean peoples and filled them with hope. Every attempt was made to destroy this first revolutionary base and every obstacle was placed to frustrate the attainment of its socialist objectives.

With the slogan “No more Cuba in the Western Hemisphere,” the U.S. intervened various times in the region: p.r. in the Dominican Republic 1966; in Brazil in 1965 and in Chile in 1973.

However, imperialism could not prevent the overthrow of fascist Somoza dictatorship in Nicaragua and the Gairy dictatorship in Grenada. With the positive developments in the United States “backyard” and a general decisive shift during the past five years in the five years in the world balance of forces against imperialism, there has been growing concern in ruling capitalist circles.

U.S. president Jimmy Carter, forecasting “storms and conflict” in the 1980s and political instability increased military spending considerably/ and for instance in the Caribbean U.S. military maneuvers were stepped up.

ECONOMIC AGGRESSION
Apart from direct and indirect aggression, economic aggression has also been a serious weapon in the arsenal of imperialism: economic blockage, aid with strings, curtailment of credits, essential machinery and spare parts, and the imposition of economic planning strategies designed to perpetuate a status of economic blockage.

Under the Marshall Plan for the so-called recovery (in fact colonization) of Europe, U.S. aid was offered — with political strings: the removal of left socialists and communists from the united front governments in France, Italy and Belgium, which has resulted from wartime cooperation in the underground resistance to Hitler’s fascist occupation forces.

Developments in North America and Europe affected the Caribbean. This had repercussions at various levels. In the economic sphere, in the early 1960s, the Puerto Rican model of planning for economic development, popularly known as Operation Bootstrap, was introduced to the Commonwealth Caribbean territories as a panacea for the many ills of the peoples inhabiting this area.

PREMISES
The basic premises underlying this strategy were that foreign capital was indispensable for progress; that there was a world shortage of capital; that to attract capital there must be created an investment climate with incentives to capital.

Incentives included “tax holidays”; duty free concessions on the importation of equipment and materials; subsidies in the form of reduced rentals, water and other rates in industrial estates; an industrial atmosphere which neither permitted the growth and strengthening of trade unions nor established minimum wage or other legislation benefiting the workers; anti-strike legislation and the facility to take out profits and capital.

FOREIGN AID
At the same time, foreign aid was used as an instrument for perpetuating the status of the Caribbean as an underdeveloped imperialist dependency.

Aid is not given for a basic programme of socio-economic change, for a planned proportional development of the economy with emphasis on industry and agriculture; it is restricted mainly to infrastructure projects — roads, sea-defense, air-strips and airports, public buildings, stellings, harbours, communications, and so on — which constitute an indirect help to the foreign investors.

FAILURE
The Puerto Rican model of planning for development is now an admitted failure. It has failed even in Puerto Rico which has certain distinct advantages over the other “Third World” countries. Puerto Rico is still plagued with poverty, unemployment and all the ills of a colonial society. Despite the ballyhoo and the U.S. attempt to make Puerto Rico into a showcase, the national income per head of population is lower than in the poorest U.S. state.

Jamaica and the other Caribbean countries which adopted the Puerto Rican model of economic development were also plagued with growing tensions and problems. Chief among which were unemployment, inequality of income and balance-of-payments deficits.

ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS
The end result of the Puerto Rican model was a relative decline in the position of the underdeveloped countries of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. Whereas the share of world income of these countries was about 36 percent around 1900 and 41 percent around 1900, it declined to about 18 percent by 1962. Viewing this as a potential threat to world peace, the United Nations launched in 1960 the first Development Decade. And with the 1959 Cuban revolution and the declaration in May 1961 by Premier Fidel Castro that it would take a socialist course, President Kennedy launched his Alliance for Progress.

Kennedy’s aim was to reform the capitalist-imperialist system as to make life more tolerable and thus to prevent Latin America and the Caribbean from exploding. If there was no evolution, he argued, there was bound to come revolution.

ECLA MODEL
And in place of the discredited Puerto Rican economic planning model, the United Nations Commission for Latin America (ECLA) proposed a new, the so-called ECLA model. To stimulate local production and to prevent the financial losses suffered by developing countries from non-equivalent international trade (buying dear and selling cheap), the policy of import-substitution and the establishment of import-substitution industries was proposed. Land reform was also seen as a necessary measure to stimulate production to meet the demand for agricultural goods imported from abroad, to provide the raw materials for the industrialization programme,

But foreign capital introduced the same, if not greater, problems than under the Puerto Rican model. While there was a greater emphasis on manufacturing industry, a deformed type of industrialization developed in the Caribbean and Latin American based on transnational corporations producing mainly for the domestic market with assembly-type, branch-plants or factories which had become technological backwaters.

EQUAL PARTNERSHIP
In the 1970s, the transnational corporations penetrated every nook and cranny of the Caribbean, with the United States as their main supplier and consumer of goods.

The members of the US Caribbean/Central American Action (CACA) Group with Jimmy Carter at the White House. The U.S. president told them: “Cuba’s promise, as you well know, is an empty one, just as Cuba’s claimed independence is a myth.” (photo: Caribbean Life & Times)
The Caribbean maintain a structure of underdeveloped dependent capitalism, with a deformed type of industrialization. This foundation breeds poverty and insecurity. The region is in need of a new strategy for development. This picture, that speaks for itself, by the way, was not taken on Jamaica or some other country but in Curacao so poor, but on Curacao! (Photo: Ken Wong) multinational corporations, which comprise only about three percent of the capitalist companies but represent 75 percent of world production, became the targets for attacks; they stuck out as "sharks devouring sar-dines." In this new situation the imperialists devised the new tactic of partnership. However it served the multinational corporations to increase the rate of exploitation. By sharp practices and unfair competition, they eliminated their competitors and from their monopolistic position extracted enormous profits.

In the 70s the economies of most of the Caribbean territories experienced serious problems. The annual report of the World Bank for 1976 disclosed that economic activity in Latin America and the Caribbean region grew three percent in 1976, slightly less than the near five percent growth in 1976. It referred to Jamaica, Guyana and Peru as still having "serious adjustment problems." What is more significant that the benefits of earlier high growth rates did not trickle down to the masses. There was persistent pov- erty. High unemployment and under-employment was a perennial problem.

Deteriorating economic and social conditions led to an aggravation of the situation, and an acceleration of the national liberation and class struggles. This in turn led to anti-imperialist cur-rents particularly in Guyana and Jamaica in the 1974-76 period, and in the removal of the imperialist-backed regimes in Grenada, Nicaragua, St. Lucia and Dominica in 1979. Consequently, after the failure of attempts at "desta-bilization" against the Manley-led government in Jamaica and the electoral victory of the People's National Party in 1976, increasing concern was expressed and attention given by the political spo- kespeople of the ruling circles in North America.

U.S. MODEL

Action has been taken at the political, economic, military, psychological, cultural and ideological levels, combining the traditional "carrot" and the "club." What kind of model for development? President Carter, told members of the U.S. Caribbean/Caribbean American Action (CCAA) Group at a reception at the White House that Cuba's promise, as you well know, is an empty one; just as Cuba's claimed independence is a myth." He went on: This is a time when people who suffer under dictatorships to the left and the right want a free voice to express their dis- pleasure and their urging for change, and we are con- cerned when they are deprived of a right to speak or to act in their own best interest. Democracy is a vital force in the Caribbean region. We want to encour- age that vital force."

The President referred to change by recent elections in St. Vincent, St. Kitts and the Dominican Republic, "the first time in the his-tory" of the latter country to depend- ent on their political and economic line; thus, narrow-ing their spheres of decision-making; making their spheres of decision over their national economy and increasing their exploi- tation. Under these condi-tions the transnationals make enormous profits which even under the condi-tions of state supervision or partial nationalization, they are able to repatriate in large amounts.

"Industrialization" has not succeeded despite a "rat race" in the generation of incentives to for-eign investors.

The IMF, under the control of the USA and other western imperialist states, plays an intense political, not just a technical role. Its publications for a sick econ- omy generally include a package of measures: wage controls and wage freeze; credit squeeze; cut-backs in government spending, especially in health, education and welfare/ devaluation of currencies; emphasis on export-oriented programmes at the expense of production to meet local basic needs; sus-pension of foreign exchange controls, but the exclusive encouragement of more pri-vate foreign investment. The IMF road leads not only to an aggravation of the political situation but also the death of democracy as in Indonesia, Egypt, Brazil and Peru.

NEW MODEL

The Caribbean is clearly in need of a new strategy for development - a revolu-tionary-democratic, not a patched-up version of the old reformist, model.

Fear of Soviet and Cuban influence in the Caribbean seems to be the dominant consideration for the spurt of Western interest in the region.

But that will not produce the needed results. The Alliance for Progress in 1961 was a similar reac-tion. But it did not reach its objectives.

Socialist orientation means consolidating national indepen-dence through the uncompromising struggle against imperi- alist domination, bringing the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal democratic revolution to completion; doing away with the monop- olicies and the domination of foreign capital; strengthening the country's political and economic independ-ence; developing the socialist productive forces; transforming the national liberation struggle into the socialist construction. This is the only way forward.

(Ed. Note: Taken from W.I. Newsday, Aug. 15, 1980 Ed.)
On January 6, Larry Neal, the well-known writer-activist from New York, died of a massive heart attack, according to hospital officials and his wife, Evelyn. Neal was only 83.

Larry Neal came into prominence in the turbulent 1960's as one of the most important definers of the new Black revolutionary literature that accompanied the upsurge of the Black Liberation Movement during that period. He was associated with the radical spearhead of the Black Arts Movement and with the Black Arts Repertory Theater School in Harlem, headed by Amiri Baraka. Neal's sharp analytical literary and music criticism as well as his poetry won broad popular acceptance. He was one of a group of young Black jazz critics that began to publish material about Black music, helping to reshape the critical aesthetic for this music. He wrote for Liberator Magazine, one of the most important Black radical magazines of the 1960's, as well as Soul Book, Journal of Black Poetry and numerous other journals. Neal's books included Black Bagadoo and Hoodoo Hollerin' Bebop Ghosts. Neal also edited, along with Baraka, the major summary of the 1960's Black Arts Movement, Black Fire. Neal had also written several novels. His Glorious Monster in the Bell of the Horn and In an Upstate Motel were produced at the Henry Street Playhouse in 1979 and 1980. He had just finished a biography of the jazz drummer Max Roach, which is due for publication and a screenplay adaptation of Zora Neale Hurston's Their Eyes Were Watching God.

Neal's work combined both the lyric and the speaker of a struggle. As a political activist, Neal was a member of the now defunct Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM). It is no wonder that his poetry, for instance, could contain such clarity:

proverb.

Hundreds of people attended Larry Neal's funeral in New York City on January 17. Neal's memorial program produced by Woody King and Barbara Teer at the Leonard Davis Center at the City College of New York on January 17. Neal's death is felt by a great many people in the city. The shock of his passing will be long in disappearing. Fortunately for us all, he has left a body of progressive literature even for future generations.

WHERE THE PARTIES AT

1. They're Shooting for the stars

2. UNLIMITED TOUCH

Who are they, where are they from and how could their first record cause such a sensation around the world so quickly after its release? UNLIMITED TOUCH are all in their late teens, early twenties and from the New York area.

1. "I Hear Music In The Streets" gained immediate, universal acceptance from everyone hearing it. Radio, clubs, gave it instant exposure and the reaction was fantastic!
2. The band members are: Samuel Anderson III (Sandy) on Bass, Joseph Cintron Jr. (Tony) on drums, Philip Carter Hamilton on guitar, Stephanie James, vocals, Galen Underwood (Lenny), keyboards, and Audrey Wheeler.
3. And they all are the same influences: coming from musical families, performing in local gigs, backing up better known musicians.
4. "I Hear Music In The Streets" was produced by members of Crown Heights Affair. The record was then brought to Marv Schachtler, Prelude Records and released. It is just an indication of future vocal and musical excitement to come from UNLIMITED TOUCH.

WHERE THE PARTIES AT

-cont from page 2.

Like all things in this life, parties are political, cultural, even economical, an obvious purpose of partying is to socialize the community, a stabilizer (not necessarily a pacifier), parties also serve as community envirovigators. Parties at their best are political, "in the tradition..." they have served the Black communities well, from the villages to the empires of Africa, parties are synonymous with our music, from the hollers of the slave ships to the "hollers" on the plantations, from the blues to the raps. Our music in all its diversity and partying as well, has been an integral part of Black life. Some would say our music/dance rocks the world, indeed as if we are the rhythm-makers of the universe.

Personally, I see and understand music/dance as supreme expressions of life. In our situation I am tempted to say that if we can't/won't dance together then we can't/won't fight our enemies together.

A party every Friday night (except during finals) — why not? But be practical, for ultimately we are responsible to balance our studies/extra-curricular time. As that wise fabled, Aesop said, the wise hunter knows that to keep his bow strong and ready for the hunt he must at times loosen the string.

So, let's congregate more often: if no one asks you to dance then you ask some one to dance, be brave ladies.... and don't forget, all our women are beautiful; besides at a party we should entertain each other. We know we dress nice so cut the cocker-than-thou stuff. If you came to dance then rock on, if you came to watch the beautiful people got down then cool out on the wall till the groove seduces you. . . . See you at the next master blaster jam.

— ONE LOVE!
CURRY CHICKEN
(al Trinidadian)
¼ cup of oil
2 tablespoons of sugar
1 whole chicken (cut up)
1 onion
1 small green pepper
2 tomatoes
½ cup water
salt
pepper
garlic powder
curry powder

Wash and cut chicken into serving pieces. Season to taste: salt, pepper, garlic powder and curry powder.

In large pot, add oil and heat. Pour in sugar and stir until honey brown. While chicken is browning, cut into quarter pieces onions and green pepper. Add ¼ cup of water and mix well. Cook twenty minutes or until chicken is tender. Add tomatoes. Cook another 5 minutes. Serve over rice. (serves 4).

SAY SOMETHING

Congratulations, Disco Duck, Caribbean Student's President; General Skunk, Toadman, Mongoose, Atom Ant, Underdog, and Mike send best wishes.

ONEIL AND SANDRA, I hope your birthday's were specials.
—Pete

WELCOME BACK DEBBIE—Seeker of the Highest, may peace be your guide, happiness and strength your fortune.
—Lasana

BARBARA, I'm hungry again.
—Guess Who

Come out on Mon. Feb. 23, in support of AMIRI BARAKA. Call AFS (6-4015) after Feb. 11 for info. For the Love of Self; For the need is Justice; For the cause is Us.
—BLACKWORLD

KRISSE—United we are in love's unfolding, I am forever captivated by your warmth. Happy Birthday.
—Love, Mike

THE LORDS OF KELLY B-210, African Goddess of this issue is Lady Carolyn Brown... indeed.

SAUNDRA, I need to see the glow of the moon when you smile, the laughter of the stars through your eyes...
—The Admirer

IMAMU AMIRI BARAKA, and Bibi Amina, be strong, the children are watching.
—Baraka's Stony Brook Crew

AH, ANNETTE... .
—Your Midnight Sun

To tell the truth, we had nothing to put him...
—Carroll Anderson

Harriet Brown
Major: Sociology
Place of Birth: South Carolina
Zodiac: Virgo
Hobbies: I like dancing, traveling, reading and adventure...

Campus Activities: Harriet has always been involved in school activities and Stony Brook University is no exception. Her long list of activities includes involvement in the well-known SAINTS organization, membership in the Sigma Sweethearts Sorority, the African-American Student Organization and active participation in the Black Women's Weekend. Yes, she was also an "xxx cheerleader at the Brook."

Philosophy on Life: "On the whole, I love life. Even though there are many situations that can make one depressed. You just can't let these things get the best of you! You gotta deal with it. I am grateful for each day and live each as it comes. I think the key word is 'Faith.'"

Favorite People at the Brook: "I love all those who are close to me."

Black Student's Coalition
Old Biology Building 155
One of Ronald Reagan's main activities since his election two months ago has been assembling a group of 15-odd people to serve in his Cabinet. The men he chose - there is only one woman in the lot - give some indication of the policies and directions the Reagan administration plans to pursue over the coming years.

Reagan's assemblage is almost entirely middle-aged, white and conservative. Many are straight from the corporate board rooms or are veterans of the Nixon and Ford administrations. Politically, the Cabinet-to-be for the most part represents traditional mainstream Republican thinking.

Reagan opted against naming leaders of the ultraconservative or evangelical "new right" to any Cabinet posts. While a number of Reagan's closest friends and advisers hail from the new right, many of the new rightists felt betrayed, thinking that Reagan owed them more for their support during the election. "These are Fortune 500 people," fumed new right leader Richard Viguerie, referring to the Cabinet nominees. "We've just been closed out."

The Senate, which is charged with approving the new Cabinet appointments, opened hearings on January 6. With one or two exceptions, the Senate seems likely to okay Reagan's choices with little disagreement.

Economic team promises austerity for the masses

One of Reagan's first and most pressing tasks will be to deal with the country's deepening economic problems. During the campaign, he pledged to cut taxes by 30% over three years, and cut spending on social welfare programs. Reagan picked an economic team which agrees with this approach - Donald Regan for Treasury Secretary and David Stockman as Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Donald Regan, former chairman of the Merrill Lynch brokerage house, is known as a shrewd businessman and manager with close ties to international brokerage firms and financial interests, such as West Germany's Deutsche Bank. Regan is a strong advocate of budget cuts, continuing the Federal Reserve's tight money pol-

ics and including tax "reforms" to benefit big business and upper bracket taxpayers.

Stockman, the main economic theoretician in the Cabinet, is a strong believer in "supply side" economics and is an ardent proponent of free enterprise. So strictly does he hold this view that, even as a congressman from southern Michigan, he voted against federal bail-out funds to Chrysler. Stockman and conservative Congressman Jack Kemp submitted a comprehensive economic policy paper to the future President, urging him to unleash a "whirlwind 100 days of tax cuts, spending cuts, and wholesale deregulation of American business" right after the inauguration.

Regan and Stockman are both in favor of abolishing federal revenue sharing money going to the states, slicing federal job programs, freezing Medicaid and Medicare payments and pruning appropriations for foreign aid, social science research and mass transit.

Another Cabinet appointee who will be involved in the government's economic policies is Labor Secretary-designate Raymond Donovan. Donovan is a millionaire businessman, who worked as a construction worker in the distant past. He is vice-president of Schiavone Construction Company, which was cited for 135 violations of the Occupational Safety and Health Act between 1974 and 1978 and is now under investigation for 12 complaints of discriminatory labor practices. Donovan's nomination was hailed by the National Right to Work Committee, a prominent anti-union organization.

More aggressive foreign policy promised

Reagan's selections for the Cabinet-rank officials charged with overseeing U.S. foreign policy - Alexander Haig as Secretary of State, Caspar Weinberger as Secretary of Defense and Jeane Kirkpatrick as UN Ambassador - embrace the view that the U.S. should take a firmer and more aggressive stance in the world. They are all in favor of building up U.S. military strength and giving stronger American support to oppressive regimes in the third world, as long as they are pro-American.

Haig brings into the Secretary of State's office his experiences as Supreme Commander of NATO under Ford and Carter and is thought to be an expert on the U.S.-Soviet military balance. He views military strength as an effective lever of influence: "The best way to approach military power is to conceive of it in its essential role as guarantor of diplomatic success." Haig says SALT II should be renegotiated to give the U.S. more room to develop additional weapons systems, and wants to increase and improve the U.S. nuclear capability.

During the campaign, Reagan pledged to cut taxes by 30% over three years, and cut spending on social welfare programs. Reagan picked an economic team which agrees with this approach.

Jeane Kirkpatrick - "get tough" advocate appointed United Nations ambassador.

Alexander Haig, Nixon's hawk who stood by him through the end of Watergate, will be Secretary of State.

Donald Regan, top Wall Street financier, to head Treasury. He calls for budget cuts and tight credit.