Gospel Music Festival
Karen D. Roane

"Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord (Psalms 150:6)." This scripture was truly fulfilled on Sunday, February 24, 1991. On this date, Wright State University's Gospel Choir, Hanarobi from the University of Cincinnati, and Ebony Renaissance here at the University of Dayton all joined in Boll Theatre for a Gospel Music Festival. Dr. Donna Cox, director of Ebony Renaissance, had many ideas in mind while programming this event. For one, she wanted to allow UD choir members to meet the fellowship with nearby choirs. Also, the event was an opportunity for UD students and community to share in a cultural experience as part of Black History Month. Most importantly, Dr. Cox hoped the event would be inspirational and serve to witness to someone spiritually. This very desire was prayed for among the choirs before the program began, and our prayers were undoubtedly answered. Not only were performing choirs members touched, but members of the audience gave a resounding response that they too were touched. For me, it was just like being in church, there was waving of hands, shedding of tears, and there was even shouting. Even students unfamiliar with gospel music and praise typical of the black church were moved. Sophomore Geoff Lipnevicius stated, "The program was great! That was the first time I've ever heard and seen anything like that." In fact, he was so moved, he is now considering joining the choir in the upcoming fall semester. In conclusion, the program was such a success Dr. Cox would like to make it an annual event just as the Wintersongfest. It is my belief that the positive response shown by the audience will allow this event to be a success for years to come. So next year keep your eyes and ears open, it is sure to be an enjoyable and memorable experience!

Meeting of the Minds Sparks University-wide Attention
Adrian Morgan

The Meeting of the Minds was presented to one of the most diverse crowds to assemble at the University of Dayton. It was an environment composed of black, white, and many of the colors in between, as well as the young and old, all came out on February 28 to hear the debate between some of the greatest figures in the civil rights movement.

This event was held to bring about "new found information and new insights into people, characters, and others who were legendary in the civil rights movement," said Tim Spraggins, who introduced the program.

A portrayal of a sit-in at an imaginary southern diner followed the introduction. A group of African-American students were accompanied by one white student who soon left the scene saying, "If they don't get theirs, I don't want mine either." The remaining students then proceeded to "sit-in" and sing "Amen." The police then showed up, and through an illusion created by strobe lights, the situation ended with violence upon the students. The students then started running off of the stage screaming.

Next the panel was introduced and asked to comment on the preceding event. Governor George Wallace of Alabama spoke first stating that it was an incident which "wouldn't have been necessary if it wasn't for those Northern liberals." While Dr. King labeled it as "non-violent positive action." In response to Dr. King's comments, Malcolm X considered it a "crime to accept brutal treatment without defending yourself." It was this type of fray that comprised the debate.

Barbara Jordan, who was a democratic congresswoman for Texas in the House of Representatives, was questioned about her role in the civil rights movement. She explained that it was her belief, that until the African-American race would face up to racism they would not be able to do anything about it. She also believed that it is important for African-Americans to become
New Jack City Tackles The Drug Business
Valerie Colbert

The latest African-American film to hit the big screen is New Jack City. This movie depicts the harsh realities of drugs and crime in present-day Harlem. But New Jack City, directed by actor Mario Van Peebles, could take place in any major U.S. city where drugs prevail.

The movie centers around the rise of drug kingpin Nino Brown, played by Wesley Snipes, and his gang the Cash Money Brothers. Brown builds his empire with the introduction of crack cocaine. Very soon Brown and his side-kick, Gee Money, have a successful crack operation in Carter apartments. The movie does not glorify drugs in any way. But at times movie-goers may find it hard to completely hate Nino. For instance, Nino was considered an important figure to some people in the community. He gave away dinners, paid for a minister's daughter's wedding, bought new outfits for a boy's basketball team, funded a local dance club, and gave money to the children in the neighborhood. But none of these acts can make up for all the wrong he did. Nino would have people killed without blinking an eye. During the wedding he shielded himself from open fire by covering himself with a little girl. He also kills Gee Money, a guy he grew up with and started his empire with.

Scotty Appleton, played by rapper Ice T, is an undercover cop who would like nothing more than to see Nino fall. A long time ago Nino had mercilessly killed Scotty's mother as part of an initiation into a gang when he was twelve. Scotty's partner is a White ex-addict named Nick Peretti, played by Judd Nelson.

The movie sends out several messages without coming off as preachy. For example, the character Pookie, played by comedian Chris Rock, is a classic portrayal of what drugs can do. Pookie is a junkie who steals and cons his way into getting money for drugs. The audience sees Pookie at his very lowest. He lived in an alley, he was filthy, and his life was a complete mess. Scotty puts him into a drug rehab center where he struggles to get his life back together. And eventually he does. Pookie then asks Scotty to let him help nail Nino. When Scotty finally agrees, Pookie takes a job in Nino's drug factory and a tiny camera is installed on Pookie's belt so the police can view the drug operation. But Pookie cannot resist the temptation and he begins stealing the crack. Once again he is hooked. But this time it's different. Gee Money finds out Pookie has been stealing the drugs and he finds the camera on him. He orders Pookie to be killed and the entire operation fails. Pookie's fate is the same fate that befalls many junkies: death.

Scotty, determined to bring Nino to justice, gets inside the operation himself. Nino is eventually brought to court, and to Scotty's dismay, he receives a short jail sentence. Outside of the courtroom, however, an elderly concerned citizen, who had confronted Nino earlier, shot Nino and killed him. And in a few seconds Nino and his crack empire came to an end. The sad thing is that there are thousands of Ninos ready to take his place.

Nino could be any young black man who dreams of a better life but cannot see beyond his environment. For example, Nino shows a quiet hostility toward Hakeem, an educated black businessman who gives up his $800 a week job to work for Nino and make $6,000 a week. Hakeem is the kind of person Nino always wanted to be.

The film also depicts an Italian family as playing a major role in the Harlem drug business. This portrayal helps eliminate the stereotype that all drug dealers are Black. The drug business could not possibly be run by Blacks who do not control the means of importation or production.

New Jack City is arguably the most realistic, gritty, and hard-edged depiction of the gloomy world connecting poverty, drugs, crime, and violence. It also attempts to analyze the complex mentality of a drug kingpin. This disturbing, but honest movie is a must see for all groups of people.
Are Hate Speech Codes Denying Students Freedom of Speech?

Adrian Morgan

What do Wright State and Brown have in common besides Division I basketball teams? No, not Division I football teams, but hate speech codes.

For those of you who do not know, administrations of college campuses across the country have been making rules to prevent individuals or groups on campus from making statements which might be offensive to minority groups, especially homosexuals and African-Americans.

At first glance, this looks like a great progression for minorities on college campuses. As we all are aware, the number of racial incidents occurring on college campuses across the country is rising. It is about time somebody did something about the epidemic of racial slurs, racial graffiti, and less overt forms of racism. However, are hate speech codes the solution?

Some critics are already saying that such codes have “put a chill on free classroom discussions, campus newspaper discourse, and other productive discourse that universities, by their own nature, are supposed to encourage,” to quote a recent column of African-American editorialist, Clarence Page.

And of course, there is always the question of freedom of speech. Does the first amendment give someone the right to use the word “nigger”? Think about this, as African-Americans we become very upset when others use this word, but we often refer to ourselves with the same terminology. Now granted, the word takes on a whole different meaning depending on whose mouth it comes out of, but with these types of hate-speech codes, is it not feasible that one black man could be prosecuted by another for calling him a nigger? Personally, I am offended at the reference no matter whose mouth it comes from.

On the other hand, it would be nice to have the more blatant racists silenced. Nobody would like to see a repeat incident of the Brown undergrad who one night repeatedly yelled “nigger” at the top of his lungs go unpunished. And in this case, sufficient rules had been established for the student to be expelled.

When looking at the enactment of these laws, it is also good to see that the administration is siding with the minorities, although more willingly in some cases than

naturally white high school with predominately white close friends, I am probably expecting too much. I know as well as anybody that birds of a feather flock together. So I came to UD anyway.

Now here I am, and as I look around I see that nothing much has changed. I look at the social patterns and I see very little racial interactions. I listen to our people talk, and I cannot help noticing the bitterness and the constant disrespect of whites behind their backs, sometimes with good reason, but too often without.

Of course, you are looking at whose writing this column and you are probably saying, I wondered how long it would be before that oreo showed his true colors, but that is only fair. You do not know me that well, but you do know that I cannot dance, sing, or even kick it to the ladies, so if I were in your shoes I would question a

brother who could not stand up to the stereotypes.

But does it really make sense for us to be so hate-oriented toward our majority counterparts? It is not often a day passes that I do not see some black person with a “live the dream” button on their person. It seems to me the dream said something about little black boys and little black girls walking hand in hand. Does that mean that since we are now big boys and big girls that it is no longer permissible? Words tell me no, but actions tell me yes at the University of Dayton.

Stop and take a look around. Are we really living the dream? Maybe so, maybe not. But we could be doing better. It is time that we started judging people by their individual actions and not by the color of their skin! I know that is how I would like to be judged. How about you?
Black Beauty-Queens Are Storming Into The '90s
Valerie Colbert

Beauty-queens. For almost half a century, these words were only applied to Caucasian women who wore the coveted crown after competing in one of several beauty pageants that are held annually throughout the country. But in recent years, African-American women have finally received considerable recognition from the nation’s beauty pageant officials and judges. In 1984 Vanessa Williams became the first Black Miss America. It was a historic moment for all African-Americans. However, the celebration did not last long. Soon afterwards Playboy magazine revealed nude photos of the queen that were taken prior to the contest. In the face of ridicule and shame, Williams held a press conference and tearfully announced that she would relinquish her crown.

This incident created considerable controversy and mixed emotions from the black community. Some were disappointed in Williams, others blamed racism. But through it all, Williams survived. She has since married, started a family, and made quite a name for herself with the success of her first solo album. Consequently, Williams handed her title to runner-up Suzette Charles, who also happens to be an African-American.

Debbye Turner crowns
Marjorie J. Vincent

The 1980s did not bring forth another black beauty queen. However, African-American women were not going to let the Williams controversy dampen their hopes for the crown. After waiting patiently for several years, black beauty queens are quietly storming into the '90s. In addition to beauty, these women also possess intelligence, confidence, and talent. The second black female to win a pageant was 1990 Miss America Debbye Turner. The 24-year-old former beauty queen’s reign helped restore African-American’s faith in the pageant. Turner claimed that some of the highlights of her reign included meeting George Bush, Oprah Winfrey, and Bill Cosby. She also took advantage of her position by speaking at several high schools throughout the country against the dangers of drug abuse. Now that Turner has completed her reign she will return to the University of Missouri-Columbia Veterinary School to complete studies for a doctorate in veterinary medicine.

Surprisingly, Turner handed her crown to Miss America 1991 Marjorie Judith Vincent. The 25-year-old Illinois native became the second consecutive African-American to win the title. The talented Vincent credits her piano performance for giving her an edge in the competition. Vincent has been playing the piano since age 11, and in 1988 she graduated from DePaul University with a degree in music. Vincent performed Chopin’s Fantasy Impromptu-Opus 66, which thoroughly impressed the judges in the talent competition, the segment of the pageant that counts for forty-percent of the total vote. In addition to beauty and talent, Vincent is also a very intelligent lady. She is fluent in both French and Creole and currently a third-year law student at Duke University. Vincent’s intellect also impressed the judges. Ms. Vincent told Jet: “without an education, there’s not much you can accomplish. And if you want to achieve your goals, you have to have a good education…”

The crowning of Black beauty-queens has extended beyond the Miss America Pageant with the first Black Miss USA, 21-year-old Miss USA 1990 Carole Gist. Gist is also an intelligent, beautiful, and talented lady. During her reign, Gist made some notable appearances, including a guest spot on “The Arsenio Hall Show.” The Detroit native represented the United States in last year’s Miss Universe Pageant.

The current Mrs. USA 1991 has also set pageant records for African-American women. Chicago native Deborah A. Williams is yet another example of brains and beauty. Unlike most of the women who have held this title, Williams holds a Ph.D. Dr. Williams entered her first pageant in the 10th grade. She was chosen as second runner-up in the Miss Black Teenage Illinois Pageant, and as a result, won a partial scholarship.

But completing her college studies did not come easy for Dr. Williams. At one time she worked three jobs and sold her cherished violin to remain in school. She was able to complete her undergraduate studies through scholarship money she received from her selection as Miss Tougaloo College and Miss Chicago. Dr. Williams graduated magna cum laude from Tougaloo College. The American Psychological Association and the University of Georgia Clinical psychology graduate program offered her research fellowships to complete her graduate work. She earned a master’s degree with a thesis on stress factors in college athletes. Dr. Williams also received her doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Georgia in 1985.

Dr. Williams currently resides in Indiana with her husband, Dallas Maverick’s starter Herb Williams and their four-year-old daughter. In addition to her family responsibilities, Dr. Williams is also active in the community. To help young girls wanting to go to college, but lacking in financial resources, as she once was, Dr. Williams has established the Miss Indianapolis Teen Scholarship foundation. She told Jet magazine, “I’ve been blessed with so many opportunities. I founded this organization in hopes of helping young women develop the confidence in themselves to set goals and pursue them.”

These recent beauty pageant winners are proof that the pageant officials and judges are finally realizing that African-American women are truly beautiful, intelligent, and talented individuals. However, the news media has not been quite as receptive. Black beauty-queens have not received full length articles, pictures in the newspapers, or significant coverage on television. Nor have they been invited to make as many appearances as their white counterparts. But in the next decade there is no doubt African-American women will overcome these obstacles too.
The Drug User
Valerie Colbert

I swear I'm going to stop buying this stuff. I should be on the other side, like Jimmy. Look at him. New clothes, fine cars, and beautiful women. Maybe he will let me become a seller someday. Then I can sell this stuff to some of the junkies.

Well, I can't worry about that right now. It's Saturday night, and I need a quick fix that will tie me over until the morning. Since my folks aren't home, I may as well crash there tonight. I will just buy a little coke. And tomorrow I swear I will quit.

I mean I have to. I will be playing basketball at Duke next year. They will never accept me if they ever find out that I use drugs. No one understands that I'm just a casual user. I can stop anytime I want to. But nobody believes me. My parents and my girl Cheryl think I'm hooked. I wish they would get off my back. But I'll show them next week. I won't be high on my eighteenth birthday.

Well, here I am again. Look at Jimmy. He loves selling this junk to me. He thinks I'm a junkie. I know he does. But this is the last time. Well, I guess I better go home and freebase.

This is the good stuff. Let me get comfortable. I want to enjoy this. Oh, yeah! That's fine! Ah! This is really good. Wait a minute! Something's wrong! My head! Where did Jimmy get this stuff? This isn't supposed to happen. Maybe I need to get some fresh air. No, I can't. What's happening to me? I know, I'll play some ball. I gotta give my body some circulation. Yeah! That's what I'll do.

I gotta get down the stairs. Why am I sweating so much? I can't die! I'm only seventeen. I'll be playing basketball at Duke. This can be happening to me. God, help me! I want to live! Please don't let me die! I swear I'll quit tomorrow! Jimmy set me up. He knew this stuff was messed up. God, help me! Somebody! I can't get down the stairs. Oh, it hurts! Don't let me die! Please! Help! I can't breathe! I'm dying! No! No! Help! Oh, God!

(A day later)
Everybody has been talking about Marco's death yesterday. They say drugs did it. But it won't happen to me. I'm just a casual user. I will buy a little today, and tomorrow I'm going to quit........

founding fathers

I sit
Sensing that I do not belong.
The wall stares at me
Surprised (perhaps) to see me there.
Occasionally, I stare back.
The picture is always the same.
A group of older white men
Look out from their honored places
On the wall
At their creation.
One intended
For others like themselves.
Where am I?
Kennedy union, the Torch Lounge.
But I could be anywhere (almost).
Any respected and powerful
Establishment in the U.S.
Whether of education, of medicine,
of religion, of business, or of government.
Who am I?
I could be anyone (almost)
Anyone, that is, whose picture
Would somehow look out of place
On the wall.

Herein lies the dilemma
And the challenge
Not of segregation but integration.
The question may no longer be
One of equal access to institutions
For all races, for both sexes.
But equal access
To power.
The power that comes
With just knowing
That an institution was designed
By people like you
With people like you in mind.
A power one may not notice
Unless it's not yours.

Nine Hawara
Opportunities for Black Americans

Peace Corps service can open doors to your future!

DETROIT- The United States is a culturally and racially diverse nation that has so much to share with developing nations of Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America. The United States Peace Corps has been sending skilled Americans of all races and backgrounds to live and work with the people of over 100 developing nations since the agency was created by President John F. Kennedy in 1961. Peace Corps volunteers have a unique opportunity to demonstrate to the developing world that all Americans aren't alike.

Volunteers live as the people of their host nation live and work in areas such as Agriculture, the Skilled Trades, Natural Resources, Education, Health and Engineering. This close person-to-person relationship allows Peace Corps volunteers to show their human side and to develop close personal relationships with the people of other cultures. This way, volunteers get a first hand look at how cultures different from their own view the world and the people of the host nations learn about the United States and get to know an American.

Peace Corps Benefits

- Paid travel and medical/dental
- Living allowance
- $5,400 after 27-months of service
- Student loan deferral/forgiveness
- Graduate education opportunities
- Special government hiring status

But more Black Americans must be given the opportunity to participate if Peace Corps' mission to showcase America's diversity is to be fully accomplished. Peace Corps can't provide the developing world with a true face of the American people if all Peace Corps volunteers are white, middle class, freshly graduated college students. Black Americans play an important part in American society and must be better represented overseas.

It has always been Peace Corps' goal to have the agency's corps of volunteers reflect the racial and cultural mix of the American population. Unfortunately, Peace Corps is falling short of this ambitious goal. Currently, Black Americans comprise only about two-percent of all Peace Corps volunteers and only about one-in-ten Peace Corps volunteers are Black, Hispanic, Asian or Native American. This situation is totally unacceptable to an international development organization that currently works with Black, Asians and Hispanics in 70 countries throughout the world.

Black Americans who are at least 18-years-old and have a four-year college degree, or 2-5 years of work experience in Agriculture or the Skilled Trades, are encouraged to consider Peace Corps opportunities.

Peace Corps volunteers enjoy paid world travel, fully paid medical and dental benefits, a comfortable living allowance, $5,400 at the end of 27-months of service and valuable second language skills. And the benefits don't end when you return to the United States. Returned volunteers have a special one-year status that makes it easier for them to land federal jobs and over 70 graduate schools nationwide offer special programs just for returned Peace Corps volunteers. Student loans can be deferred while a volunteer is in service and those students who began borrowing after July 1987 can forgive up to 70% of their loan obligations through Peace Corps service.

Many employers are also very impressed with the skill and experience returned Peace Corps volunteers bring to their jobs. Chrysler Corporation Chairman Lee Iacocca wrote, "Service in the Peace Corps develops leadership, resourcefulness and sensitivity, qualities I look for when I hire Chrysler managers. The continued growth of America is going to depend more and more upon the kinds of skills, perspectives and cross-cultural experiences brought back by returning Peace Corps volunteers."

For more information on Peace Corps opportunities, call the Detroit Peace Corps office toll free at 1-800-533-3231, ext. 90 in Michigan and 1-800-521-8686, ext. 90 in Ohio. Help yourself and the world in the U.S. Peace Corps!

EDITORS: for more information on Peace Corps, please contact Public Affairs Specialist Dan Gilbert at one of the toll free telephone numbers above.
involved in the political process and become more effective. This was her goal.

Eleanor Roosevelt said that her commitment to civil rights derived from her commitment to human rights. She explained that she had always felt that if democracy was to work for all citizens, it must include those of color.

J.F.K., whose administration passed the 1964 and 1965 civil rights acts, stated that his administration was committed to include the rights of all people. For him, this also meant the advocacy of civil rights.

At times, throughout the debate, the crowd was diverted from the original theme by the individual presenters. For example, Dr. Scheurman did an excellent recreation of J.F.K.’s accent and Dr. Palermo caught himself laughing at some of the racist propaganda of George Wallace that he was trying to recite. He stopped and said to the audience, “Remember, I’m playing a role here.”

Eleanor Roosevelt was portrayed by Dr. Margaret Kams, Senator Barbara Jordan was portrayed by Dr. Vernelia Randall; Rev. Keith Kitchen portrayed Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; and Gerald Cox portrayed Malcolm X. Father Heft was the facilitator.

Minority Student Affairs chairperson, Debra Moore, concluded the program with closing remarks that reminded the audience that the purpose of African-American history month is so we can remember. She also explained that events had purposely been scheduled in January through March to remind people, African-Americans included, that history happens every day and African-Americans contribute to it every day.

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**Black Jeopardy**

1. He was the first African king in Egypt. Who is ____________________?

2. She was the first and only female pharaoh? Who is ____________________?

3. The African queen who was also the wife of King Solomon. Who is ____________________?

4. The king who ascended the throne at age nine. Who is ____________________?

5. The African queen whose bravery and determination is noted as comparable to that of Joan of Arc. Who is ____________________?

**Answers**

1. Menes
2. Hatshespot
3. Makeda
4. Tutakhamon
5. Dahia Al-Kahina

If you want to find out more about these historical figures stop by the Minority Student Affairs office and read the 28-page booklet, "A Salute to Historic African Kings and Queens."

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**Black Male/Female Relationships**

*Adrianne Granberry*

Why is it that Black men and women are always talking about one another’s performance in a relationship rather than talking to each other. Can the true solution to a man’s infidelity within a loving relationship be found between the pages of Essence magazine? Will the complex psyche of the Black woman be effectively analyzed during one night of talking with the boys? Probably not.

The influence that jealousy, sex, ego, and trust have on a relationship could be greatly enhanced by solid communication. This communication need not entail lengthy conversations every night between two people. Simply express yourself clearly so that the other person knows both how you feel about them and how you feel about the relationship.

With all of the societal problems that work to pull Black men and women apart it is almost imperative that we work even harder at maintaining the lines of communication between us. We will not be able to form a relationship with everyone that we meet, and not all relationships will be successful. As people learn more about one another, they are better able to decide if they would like to continue to be associated with that person. Through honest and open communication, at least the friendships that we make will remain after an attempt at a relationship has failed.
Find the names by reading FORWARD, BACKWARDS, UP, DOWN and DIAGONALLY.