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COLORS OF LEADERSHIP STIMULATES ALL

by Ebony L. Odoms

Black History Month ended with the Colors of Leadership Conference, an encouraging forum of workshops and speakers that echoed leadership, unity and empowerment. The leadership conference, chaired by Seniors Rashad Young and Teyon Florence, began with two informative sessions on Friday, February 27th, addressing the issues of identifying leadership skills for the new millennium and the necessity of attending graduate school. Representatives from the corporate and private industry shared insights and ideas on transferring student leadership into the job market. Other facilitators shared strategies, concerns, successes and trials of being a graduate student. The evening ended with a talent and fashion show coordinated by Marketa McCauley. Fashions were provided by a variety of stores such as McAlpins, J. Riggins, and Hip-Hop Culture. The first year students showed off their confidence as they showcased their talents. Phillip McConnell sung a rendition of Kenny Latimer’s, For You, while Linda Lee and Virginia White showed off their lyrical talents with a self penned rap, The Jihad. Jumoke Fagbayi demonstrated an exhibition of Kuk Sool Won (Korean Traditional Martial Arts), she demonstrated weapons (Jool Bongs — otherwise known as Nun Chuk) and empty hand form, she is the world champion of the art and performs demonstrations around the United States. The first year students truly represented in the talent showcase.

The next morning students were able to take in the dynamic words of Dayton City Commissioner, Idotha “Bootsie” Neal. She enlightened us on Affirmative Action and the things we need to do to get through the barriers of racism that are prevalent in the workforce. Following this opening address, students were allowed to pick one of three sessions in which they were to become uplifted on the subjects of Developing Inclusive Leaders, Preparing the Black Male for the 21st century or AIDS, Drugs, Alcohol and Violence in the Minority community. These sessions, facilitated by many educated African Americans such as Kevin Carruthers, Dr. Julius Amin, Professor Ivan Watts and Professor Vernelia Randall, reinforced the idea of identifying personal leadership, defining ourselves positively, and holistic approaches for mental and physical health. The keynote luncheon speaker, motivator Jack Jackson, also expanded on the idea discussed in the workshops, encouraging students to continue to travel down the road of success. The concluding sessions, Preparing the Black Female for the 21st century, Unity and Self-Identification, and New Leadership for a New Millennium also extended on these ideas, empowering us all for the new millennium.

The successful leadership conference, attended by many from other schools, and more than 50 from Miami University, ended with a party in KU ballroom. After hearing all of the powerful speeches, the students are now equipped with many needed techniques as they strive toward the new millennium!
On February 19, 1998, the National Society of Black Engineers (N.S.B.E.) sponsored an event which involved both University of Dayton students and Black Alumni. The purpose of “Standing on the Shoulders” was to provide a working network between college students and Black professionals who once graced the University of Dayton’s campus. The students not only had the opportunity to meet alumni but to also develop future relationships with them. Mrs. Kathleen Henderson, Director of African American Student Services, encouraged students to get to know the alumni and other students on a more personal level by asking questions about their hometown, dream vacation, occupation, etc. Some of the alumni in attendance were Mrs. Joyce Revere (Independent Senior Sales Director for Mary Kay Cosmetics), Mr. Belvin Baldwin, II (Technical Account Executive for Future Active Industrial Electronics), Ms. Tanya Cook (Manager for Quality Administration and Trade Relations for Reynolds & Reynolds) and Mr. Lloyd Lewis Jr. (City Commissioner), along with many others. The alumni gave inspirational advice encouraging each student to continue their education and to strive to become the very best. The night ended with a wrap-up session where students introduced the alumni who participated and Mrs. Henderson gave sweatshirts to the alumni as tokens of appreciation. All in all, the event was successful thanks to the participation of the alumni and students.
WHAT HAPPENED TO SISTERHOOD?

by Erin L. Lamb

In the Color's of Leadership Conference, an interesting topic came up. That topic was “What ever happened to sisterhood?” In the workshop, “Preparing the Black Woman for the 21st Century”, this topic was briefly discussed. Many of the women had ideas on why there is a lack of sisterhood in the African American community. Some of the ideas were that it was because of jealousy, pettiness, and the struggle over African American men.

I have heard other ideas outside the conference that lay blame on “the man.” We all have heard the term “the man”. We all know who “the man” is. He is the slave master, the police, the government, and sometimes he is referred to as the nation. Did it ever occur to you that “the man” could be a woman?

In the discussion we had on the subject, we hit on jealousy, envy, and pettiness. But in this discussion we failed to examine the root. Let me explain.

Back in the time of slavery the slave masters would turn the slaves against each other. They would pick a particular slave woman to sleep with, while the other slave women were treated worse than she was. This is the root of jealousy. Not only that but, in order to keep the slaves in line the masters would have them compete for alcohol and food. Getting the slave’s drunk was a form of control. Having them compete kept them from joining together and running away. This started the competition. To learn more about this form of self hatred read, The Autobiography of Frederick Douglass.

Then we had the house and the field Negro mentality. The light skinned slaves were in the house doing easier work. We all know the story. The field slaves were outside doing hard labor and enduring terrible treatment. Today we have the same problems. As a light skinned African American women I am sometimes shunned by my fellow dark skinned sisters. This does not happen all of the time, but it has happened enough. I know it can be the other way around also. Some of the same things that happened in Spike Lee’s “School Days” are still going on today. I have heard comments like “You think you’re all that” from my sisters. Or comments like “You’ll have a better chance at success because you’re light.” These comments are ridiculous. If someone hates African Americans and people of color they will not like me either. Complexion has nothing to do with it. Being Black is not what you look like it is what’s in your soul.

Sometimes African American women feel like they must fight each other over men. Why? There are plenty of men in the world and I believe the statement, “If you have to fight to get a man you will have to fight to keep him,” to be true. If your man leaves you for someone else, he was not yours to begin with.

I feel that these are the main reasons African American women can not get along. I know there may come a time where you disagree with someone. I am just asking that before you say “She thinks she’s all that” or before you start fighting one another, think why are you saying and doing those things. Is it because that female has self-confidence? Is it because you saw her talking to your man? Is it because your friends don’t like her? Do you even have a reason not to be cool with her? All of the questions above prove a point. Figure out why you do not like someone. The reasons above do not hold up. They are ignorant!

Let’s stop holding grudges. Let’s stop being immature. Let’s treat each other with respect. Let’s not form our own opinions about people. Let’s not believe everything that we hear. Let’s stop gossiping about people. Let’s stop acting ignorant. I think everyone on this campus can get along. I did not say that we would all be friends. I am saying that if you respect me I will respect you. Even if someone does disrespect me that does not mean I have to disrespect him or her. It is your choice. I am not saying be a punk either. Because even though we all have freedom of speech that does not mean that we can say whatever we please. We all know the phrase “Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me.” This is truly false. Words can hurt. So if you do not want someone to talk about your mama do not talk about theirs. If you don’t want to be called the “b” word don’t call me one. Common sense people. “Treat others like you want to be treated!”
CLASSIFIEDS
by Tya Darden

Black women are too...
African American women are so...
I don't date Black women because...

This is how we are stereotyped on TV's, radios
and videos.
But today stands a new beginning and it shows.

These words are not for us to repeat.
So the world needs to have a seat.
We have to proclaim our diversity
then you may come to your feet.

Black women are...
Sweet.
Next,
At times the most discreet.
Some are quite petite.
But others, your mouth drops when you see all
that meat.
For what a Black woman wants, she always has
to compete.
These women, men must learn how to treat.
As long as the world recognizes that we're an
elite.

Tan,
Light and dark skinned,
We take pride in a fine Black man.
United, never divided, we always stand,
Ready to knock down barriers, we emerge from
Africa, the motherland.

Olive glasses,
Perfect sizes- her always the world chastises.
Never her way so she compromises.
Into society her way to life she epitomizes.
Put down daily but still she rises.

Liberated,
Always underrated,
For her dedication to give and nurture life never
compensated.
The words "too Black" have long been outdated.
In this country our history was not created.
Our freedom was long anticipated.
For black women, the world should be elated.

Beauty,
Cutie,
Skin tastes so tootie fruity.
An independent Black women earns her own
booty.
To set the world straight is her duty.
The world could never mute me.

We were used,
Abused while nude,
Then the worlds harp on our attitudes.
Nine times out of ten white men will be shooled.
Sorry Black men are too fine dude.
To call us hoe, slut, or tramp is very rude.
The world must show us respect to risk being
"cued."
Call us nigger, don't get upset if we say "jewed."
These words hit those whom they apply to as
very crude.

Deep,
Into the world we must leap.
How could one ever think that we are cheap.
Out of the media's hands our identities will slowly seep.
What this country has sown, it will surely reap.

So next time you limit us say that Black women
are...
Beautiful, Black, lovely, overweight,
Underweight, short, tall with big noses,
Full lips, outspoken tongues, independent,
And have bent over backwards for the so-called
melting pot.
Wonderful lovers, great cooks and best of all,
very strong.
We're through.

Now red, white, and blue,
Classify this song!

WHY YOU SHOULD NOT SUPPORT WESLEY SNIPES
by Erin L. Lamb

In the November issue of Ebony magazine, "Mr. Black" himself, Wesley
Snipes, dissed the entire race of African American women. I know most of you are
saying "No Way." Well I have to say that it is true. He said that all African American
women are "ghetto", "gold-diggers", and we all have "bad attitudes". This really
made me mad because he put all of us in that category. This includes all of the
biracialista's too. He says he only dates Caucasian and Asian women.
For all you brother's out there that feel that this does not concern you, think
again. He is talking about your mom, your sister, your girlfriend, and for some
of you, your daughters. All of you men know that if Nia Long, Halle Berry, or
some other black woman got in a magazine and disssed all black men you
would be furious. Men hate the idea that women say that they are all dogs. I know
that in today's society already 10% of African-American men date and marry
outside their race. That is your business. Please do not diss us all. Believe me, there
are plenty of black women who do not fit the description!
Welcome to the African American Showcase, each month two prominent African Americans (male and female) will be featured in the Black Perspective. This month's Lorraine Hale and Lawrence Douglas Wilder.

Lorraine Hale

Lorraine Hale, director of the Hale house, is the daughter of the Hale House founder, "Mother" Clara Hale. In 1940, Ms. Clara Hale became a foster mother, for women who worked during the week. In 1969, her daughter, Lorraine, saw a young drug-addicted woman holding a baby often times nodding off and dropping the baby. Lorraine told the young mother about her own mother and the next day the drug-addicted mother arrived on Mother Hale’s doorstep. Within six months she had 22 babies of heroin-addicted women in her five-room apartment. She went on to implement a program for children being born to drug addicted mothers. It was the first and only known program in the U.S. designed to deal with infants born addicted to illegal drugs. She created the Hale House and in 1975, became the “Center for the Promotion of Human Potential,” a licensed voluntary childcare agency. At that time, it was the only black voluntary agency in the country. Mother Hale had cared for over 500 children at Hale House until her death in 1993, when her daughter, Lorraine Hale, Ph.D., who had worked side by side with her mother for 25 years, took the job as director to carry on her mother’s legacy.

Born in Philadelphia, PA, Hale was raised and attended schools in New York City. After high school, she worked at day care centers to finance classes at Long Island University, Fordham University, and City College of New York. While serving as a first grade and special education teacher, she received two master’s degrees, one in special education, the other in psychology. She later became a guidance counselor, then a school psychologist. She received her doctoral degree from New York University.

Lawrence Douglas Wilder

Lawrence Douglas Wilder was born on Jan. 17, 1931 and was raised during the Depression-era in Richmond, VA, which was strictly segregated by race. In 1947, he graduated from one of the two high schools that was for blacks. He went on to earn a Bachelor’s degree in Chemistry from Virginia Union University in 1951. Upon graduation, he was drafted into the army and was soon sent to the Korean War in 1952. He served as an infantryman in the war and received the Bronze Star for valor in combat; he was discharged in 1953. After returning to the U.S., he briefly worked as a chemist and then decided to go to law school using his GI Bill. At that time Blacks were not allowed to attend law school in the state of Virginia, so he went to Howard University in D.C. He graduated in 1959 and went on to establish a law firm, Wilder, Gregory, and Associates, after passing the bar exam. It was one of the few minority-owned businesses in Virginia and he became one of the top criminal lawyers. In 1969, Wilder entered politics as a state Senator in Virginia. During his five terms, he chaired committees on transportation, rehabilitation and social services; privileges and elections; the Virginia transportation, rehabilitation and social services; privileges and elections; the Virginia Advisory Legislative Council; and the Democratic Steering Committee. He also served as Lieutenant Governor of Virginia from 1985 until 1989, making him the first black to hold statewide office in Virginia since the Reconstruction.

On January 13, 1990, Virginia’s 65th Governor, Lawrence Douglas Wilder, was sworn in as the first elected African-American governor in U.S. history. What made the event all the more meaningful was that he was elected in Virginia, the former capital of the Confederacy where he had once been denied admission to its all-white schools. Wilder served four successful years in office. Lawrence Douglas Wilder made national history by becoming governor of Virginia, a state where his grandparents had once lived as slaves. Wilder has three children — Lynn Diana, an artist; Lawrence, Jr., a lawyer; and Loren Deane, a businesswoman.
U.S. Marshals (Rated R)

Starring:
Tommy Lee Jones (Men in Black, Blown Away, The Fugitive, Batman Forever, etc.)
Wesley Snipes (Murder at 1600, New Jack City: Jungle Fever, White Men Can't Jump, etc.)
Robert Downey Jr. (Natural Born Killers, One Night Stand, Weird Science, etc.)
Joe Pantoliano (The Fugitive, Bad Boys, The Goonies, etc.)

When Warner Bros. introduced The Fugitive in 1993, it became one of the highest grossed films in Warner Bros. seventy-five year history. It also became a worldwide blockbuster, earning seven Academy Award nominations, including Best Picture and earning Tommy Lee Jones, Best Supporting Actor as the persistent, sagacious, U.S. Deputy Marshal, Sam Gerard. Now in 1998, Warner Bros. vies for the same success with the return of Tommy Lee Jones, along with the addition of the ever multi-faceted Wesley Snipes, as the fugitive in the sequel, U.S. Marshals.

Brief Synopsis:
The movie begins when Mark Roberts (Wesley Snipes) is the victim of a traffic accident and is taken to an area Chicago hospital. Chicago Police and Fire Officials examine and investigate the wreckage and discover that the injured driver, Roberts, had possession of a firearm in his vehicle. Further analysis states that Roberts is wanted for the murder of two men in New York City. He is then later arrested and extradited to New York. From there, he is transported on a prisoner plane accompanied by other convicts and U.S. Deputy Marshal, Sam Gerard (Tommy Lee Jones). The destination to Chicago from New York becomes spoiled when an unknown Chinese prisoner attempts to shoot Roberts. By missing the “hit target,” the bullet strikes the plane’s window, causing the plane to decompress and descend into the Ohio River. From there, Gerald searches the survivors from the crash, and finds that someone is missing, his fugitive, Mark Roberts. With the initial aid of the CIA, Gerard and his team members welcome the flamboyant, mysterious John Royce (Robert Downey Jr.), CIA governmental agent to the Marshal team. From the information that Royce gives the Marshal team, they learn that Roberts is in fact, Mark Sheridan, an ex-marine and former CIA operative who murdered two CIA agents in a covert Chinese government plot to hunt down a crafty Chinese spy on domestic soil. This is when the roller coaster ride begins as the U.S. Marshals pursue capturing the running fugitive, Sheridan in a game of cat and mouse, where Sheridan is not only trying to elude police, but to find the necessary evidence to prove his innocence. Moreover, What About Royce? Can he be trusted? Joe Pantoliano supplies wit and adds humor in a supporting role as Jones’ subordinate.

Character & Plot Analyses:
The plot was exceptionally intriguing and the characters showed with personality. Looking at Snipes’ character, you the viewer, knew that he was innocent. Nevertheless, how could he clear his name to persuade the police and viewers that he was innocent? Downey’s character was indeed mysterious. The fact that he brought a chilly presence to the screen was very creative. The producers and writers of the film really let the viewer guess and give you the element of chance.

Eric’s Exhurbrant Rating: Featuring two new categories!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/5</td>
<td>Flawless (Blockbuster Smash)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Excellent (Don’t miss)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/5</td>
<td>Good (Worth Seeing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/5</td>
<td>Fair (Rent Only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/5</td>
<td>Poor (Won’t even gross a dollar at the box office, i.e. Hard Rain)</td>
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Acting ★★★★☆1/2: The actors were convincing and were exceptionally poignant, Jones and Snipes definitely exemplify versatility. Perhaps Snipes might win an award for his role if this movie is successful. It should not be a problem.

Depth/Plot ★★★★☆: Great plot. However one should pay close attention; you can easily get lost. If you like complex plots (like me), you should enjoy it. The length of the movie was good also.

Ingenuity ★★★★★: Again this movie offers a new unique blend of a new movie genre, action conspiracies. However, this type of movie will be threatened with all of the other regurgitated types of movies, like with Hollywood’s recent trend of DISASTERS! In addition, the movie brought fresh elements of different subplots, not just the constant revolving around the initial chase with Snipes. You will be amazed with the twists and turns of the movie as well. Stunt work takes a new different meaning.

Ambience ★★★★☆1/2: Ambience! What is that? The atmosphere, or the overall presence and mood of everything in the movie. Well, if you still do not understand, just keep reading on. The suspense, action music, and characters all flowed smoothly as it brought a total sense of mysteriousness to the plot. I hope you understand!

Finally, Overall ★★★★☆1/4: With great unpredictability (I love) and a great plot. U.S. Marshals earns the Medal of Honor for being a good movie. Jones and Snipes carry themselves to the utmost pinnacle of becoming great actors. This movie should budget well.

Eric’s Exclamation Point
Bottom line, U.S. Marshals delivered what’s best, a movie with a great plot, character balance, and great veteran acting. The producers answered and silenced their critics to what a Fugitive sequel should be asked for. A third installment anyone? On a personal note, I hope this movie is not overlooked with the constant praise and uproar Titanic is receiving. Granted Titanic is a good movie, but gives other movies a chance? This movie should shed new light to moviegoers, and should prevent anyone from seeing Titanic 13 more times! Clearly, this is one of 1998’s better films.

Other Interesting Tidbits
1) Warner Brothers does not stop putting out the hits. Continuing their legacy and anniversary of producing movies for seventy-five years, Warner Brothers will be releasing Lethal Weapon 4 this July featuring the same lethal cast but including one lethal comedian, Chris Rock.


3) Tommy Lee Jones graduated with honors at Harvard from English Literature.
CAUGHT UP
by Darren Nealy

In the past few years movie soundtracks featuring rap and R&B artists have come a dime a dozen. There was once a time when people would run out and buy every soundtrack that had rap and R&B songs on it. But times have changed and now rap and R&B appears on soundtracks for films that aren't even targeting Black audiences such as: Street Fighter, The Substitute, and Scream 2. There has also been an influx of films with accompanying soundtracks that focus on the Black consumer for a large portion of their profit (such as Booty Call, Soul Food and I'm Bout It). Hence it is more important to be selective about which albums to buy. The recent release of the soundtrack for Caught Up may just be worth your hard-earned money.

The album's title cut is "Ride On/Caught Up!" by Snoop Doggy Dogg and Kurupt. These two Death Row albums show some of the flair that made Dogg Food, Doggystyle and The Chronic such great albums. Production on this song was done by Snoop Dogg and DJ Quik. "Ride On" serves as an example of what Snoop can do with the right production. (Speaking of which, it's no secret that Snoop wants out of his ties with Death Row. He has recently appeared on both Mystical and Silkk the Shocker's albums on No Limit Records. Of course it's wishful thinking, but wouldn't Snoop be able to do some big things on No Limit?)

Gang Starr does a noteworthy job with their song "Work." Most soundtracks end up getting songs that the artists didn't want to put on their albums. I don't think that was the case with this Gang Starr tune. DJ Premier definitely lets everyone know why he is considered as one of rap's better producers. This catchy tune definitely will have Gang Starr fans looking forward to the release of Gang Starr's new album, Moment of Truth.

Jermaine Dupri and AZ put together a tight little dance song on "Rock Me." The only problem I see with this song is the R&B singer trying to carry the hook, if somewhat takes away from the song, but it still pulls it's own weight despite that small flaw. The "Po' Pimp's" of Do or Die are back with a song entitled "All in the Club." This song is nothing like "Po' Pimp's" which put them in the national rap game. Often times this song sounds like 2Pac's "Toss It Up," but that may be due to the fact that Danny Boy appears in both songs providing vocals.

The definite hip-hop highlight of this album seems to be "Girl" by The Luniz and Crooked I. This narrative story in and of itself keeps the listener intrigued, and that's before taking into account the tight beat and production. The Luniz seem to have found knack for creating songs that people remember and this just may be another.

R&B fans shouldn't lose heart because there's more than just rap on this album. Somethin' For The People gives a mediocre effort with "R.U. Down." The song's not really bad, but they have released better songs. An artist by the name of Shiro has the help of MC Lyte with the song "I Like." The song doesn't seem to be any different than the other R&B songs that are being put out. If you really like R&B or MC Lyte give it a try. Otherwise don't really expect to be moved.

The best R&B song has to be Joe's "U Should Know Me." Listening to this song made me wonder why I still haven't bought Joe's album. Joe has to be one of the better male solo artists when it comes to singing slow songs. If you're doubting that you really need to check out this song. This puts him in a class with Brian McKnight, R. Kelly, D'Angelo, and Maxwell.

Another interesting song from this album to pay attention to is the reggae song by the Blastmaster KRS-One, Shaggy, and Mad Lion. It's chorus takes from The Bangles "Walk Like An Egyptian." Yeah, I know it sounds bad in theory, but Mad Lion seems to make it work. Other artists making appearances on this soundtrack include: Mack 10, The Road Dawgs, Daz, The Lost Boyz, Johnny P, Killah Priest, GZA, Inspectah Deck, and O. Of the 14 songs on this album at least 5 have the potential to be hits and at least ten are worth listening to all the way through without hitting the fast forward button. Does this make for a good soundtrack? In my assessment, yes. No regrets.
Phenomenal Woman
By Maya Angelou

Pretty women wonder where my secret lies
I’m not cute or built to suit a fashion model’s size
But when I start to tell them
They think I’m telling lies.
I say
It’s in the reach of my arms
The span of my hips
The stride of my steps
The curl of my lips.
I’m a woman
Phenomenally
Phenomenal woman
That’s me!

I walk into a room
Just as cool as you please
And to a man
The fellows stand or Fall down on their knees
Then they swarm around me
A hive of honey bees.
I say
It’s the fire in my eyes And the flash of my teeth
The swing of my waist And the joy in my feet.
I’m a woman
Phenomenally
Phenomenal woman
That’s me!

Men themselves have wondered
What they see in me
They try so much
But they can’t touch
My inner mystery.
When I try to show them
They say they still can’t see.
I say
It’s in the arch of my back
The sun of my smile
The ride of my breasts
The grace of my style.
I’m a woman
Phenomenally
Phenomenal woman
That’s me!

Now you understand
Just why my head’s not bowed
I don’t shout or jump about
Or have to talk real loud
When you see me passing
It ought to make you proud.
I say
It’s in the click of my heels
The bend of my hair
The palm of my hand
The need for my care.
‘Cause I’m a woman
Phenomenally
Phenomenal woman
That’s me!

Celebrate Women’s History Month!