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Celebrating

Black History Month
Black History Month
By Veronica Ford

Black History Month should be a time of reflection in which our legacy, as African Americans, is examined. Whether or not mainstream America or even those of our own culture want to admit it, many individuals of African American heritage have made countless contributions to this society, through technology, science, or culture. It is now up to us to assess what our foremothers and fathers have done for us and to further that legacy. We need not depend on this country’s beneficiaries to give us a chance at life. It is up to us to prioritize success, seek out its roadway, and to take it. Of course, there will be obstacles, and maybe some of us will hit the glass ceiling—hard; but until we decide to take that road, we will never know if we can shatter it, especially without compromising our individual selves in order to please a world that would ask us to do so. This time should encourage us to—GET UP, GET OUT, AND DO SOMETHING!

Things that make you wonder:
-In 2000
   - African Americans made up 41.3% of all persons awaiting trial or serving time in local jails.
   - 46.3% of all inmates in state and federal prison are African American
   - 20% of all black men in jail
   - African Americans had 3 times more of a chance of being killed by police officers than whites*

Educate yourself. No one else will.
*Source: Two Nations: Black and White, Separate, Hostile, Unequal. Written by Andrew Hacker

*To contact The Black Perspective staff in regards to opinions, responses, and to become a guest/permanent writer contact us at:
BlackPerspective2003 @yahoo.com
Being Black in America by Cherita Borders

Being Black in America is complex because there are so many assumptions made about your character. People are simply taught to misunderstand you and they do. They force stereotypes down your throat until you suffocate yourself with uncertainty and really, who are you? No one cares! (That’s the point) They just staple a label onto your forehead and laugh, while all your friends pass by laughing, too- not realizing they are also wearing a label, same as you.

“Black History Month is every day” ~Jerron Parker

“I think being black means to be strong yet weak. Happy yet sad. To be a leader yet a follower. As an African American we are to always play a double role and that what makes us unique and makes me appreciate my culture” ~ Latisha Williams

“You can either be a part of history or you can make history . . . . we are the history, we made the history, and we have the ability to write our history” ~Aprille Young

“Black History month should be more than a celebration of what we already know and appreciate. It should be a search for further enlightenment about the African American culture”~ Rachel Lawson

Black History Month

Black History Month is special to me because it is a time to remember how hard our ancestors fought for freedom. Those who came before us shed much blood for us to celebrate Black History. It is a time that we recognize African Americans who made a difference in the lives of all people.

We are all striving to make our world more diverse and live in harmony, and this is a time to remember how far we have come. We live by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr’s word’s today, “I Have a Dream.” The Dream lives on that we not be judged by the color of our skin but by the content of our character. Black History Month is a time to learn more about our culture, volunteer for the cause, bring people of all races together. It is a time to be strong and pray that our world be united with peace and love. Be proactive in all that you do to promote Black History Month.

His Dream Lives On,
Tammy C. Walton
Communication Major
Express Yourself

Yes I am a Black Woman
By Tish Williams

My skin a smooth dark chocolate tone
Tasty as a Hershey bar
My hips and a**
A true testament of ancestors
My lips full and soft
To caress my Black man in his time of need
You ask me am I ashamed?
I can finally and proudly say HELL NO!!
I am proud of who I am
Look into my eyes
Because in them you will see
The struggle of Harriet Tubman
The strength of Rosa Parks
The revolution of my Founders
The encouragement of Mary McCloud Bethune
The intelligence of Nikki Giovanni
Yes, Yes, Yes I am a black woman.

Black Woman
By Candace Watkins

Black as in the five-letter word signifying my strength. Woman as in the beauty and grace I bring to this world. I am a Black Woman. I am not a female dog. I am not a garden utensil. I am not a piece of meat. I am what you fear and that in itself is power. I birth your children. I dedicate my life. I live for everyone but myself. I am joy. I am pain. I am more than just a survivor and I am not ever a victim. I bring truth. I bring hope. I bring loyalty. I bring something to this game that no one else can and that is my authority.
Untitled
By Aprille Young

My book has so many sections and so many stories, like love’s twists and turns. The stories are about my life, struggle, past, present, and future. Yet each story has a different cover, a different face, and a different meaning. The faces are sad and happy, black and white. The meaning behind the stories are endless and complex, but it is my story, the one I have told and the one that I live. Everyday day gets tougher, though I learn more. I learn about what surrounds me and who and what I am, and who and what I want. It’s the story I live, it’s my book. Searching through love’s endless tunnel, search for that passion and mystery ahead. One truth remains is, my book has never been open and never been read, just like a love, untouched, unfelt. The pages remain straight since the day it was published, and the ink looks fresh as if it has never been touch. If one would ever open that book, they would find a story full of happiness, but overwhelmed with pain from a love once found but lost. Yet, to get to the climax and the meaning behind the pages, you would have to read my book and journey with me through that tunnel of love.

L-o-v-e

L-o-v-e

Untitled
By James Carter
Let me run through your mind.
Join me in this childish game of mental tag.
Yeah, I've got to get in that head before we ever make it to bed.
The way I see it, love is more mental than physical.
I will revive your faith in brothers.
Be my black rose whose petals are as soft as silk
Whose thorns inject me with the most dangerous venom on earth....LOVE.
Oooooh weee Oooooh weee, and that walk, that rhythmic walk
Just watching you makes me want to..."Step in the Name of Love!"

Last Chance
By Mary Givens
You told me lies,
you made me cry.
I thought it was the end,
    I thought I would die.

You lifted me up,
    you healed my wounds.
I thought I was in love,
    I thought I was in you.

What was I thinking the day I took you back?
You'd hit me before, but this time you looked back.

I thought you'd changed,
    and wanted a life with me.
Now we're engaged,
    and the funeral's next week.

I Was in Love Once
By Tish Williams

I was in love once
We started off as friends
And then our eyes truly met
And I saw the God in you
And you saw it in me
We then made a vow
That no matter what
Our friendship would never end
But it did
We hurt each other
Playing those childish games
Now we have reached individualized fame
Going our separate ways
But how could something so perfect
End
You think I don’t give a damn
(cuz I play that role so well)
I am thinking you don’t feel my pain
And not I am here trying to begin
Where we left off
This is what sucks about time
Because we can’t go back
But every situation is a lesson learned
And all I can say now is
I was not only in love once
But I was loved once.

From What I hear
By Sinita Scott

From what I hear love is great, something no one should be without
It’s what every relationship should ultimately be about
It’s a level of comfort that you have when that person is around
It’s a natural high you’re always on and you never want it to go down
It’s a feeling so strong you can see it in their eyes
Something that catches most people completely by surprise
You just wake up one morning and Bam it hits you
And after it comes down there’s nothing you can do
But it goes much deeper that the hear you can feel it in your gut
And being around the 24-7 is nowhere near enough
Its like you can feel the love just by sitting next to them on the couch
And somehow you know exactly what it is they are thinking about
You know the person so well that you know when something’s not right
You know the exact way they sleep at night
You know the things they would never tell another
You know them better than their father or mother
Its like you don’t care what anyone else thinks
Cuz to you obviously you have found your missing link
You’ve found the one that make you happier than you’ve ever been before
The one that you plan to be with now and forever more
You’ll do anything to make this relationship work; they’re the most important person you’ve ever met
And even if it doesn’t end working out for ya'll somehow there’s still no regrets
You’ll just chalk it up to experience and maybe you’ll try it again next year

But hey of course, that’s just what I hear

But I’m like nah it cant be just that I mean talk about too good to be true
Love could not have been perfect for every one of you
It’s not only ups and downs it’s gotta be much more than that
Imma need for people to quit feeding me all this fiction and give me the hard facts
So I ask my girl like A… what’s really going on
What’s up with the stuff I hear in the sad love songs?
I hear love is what you make and with whom you make it
And she said girl to be honest with you loves a b@$(#
She said don’t let people feed you the hype and make you think you want what they have
Cuz somewhere deep down inside they know love is all bad
They know its good times at first then a steady digress
Till you find yourself in a whole world of mess
I’m not saying it’s completely terrible but the s(%# not fun at all
It is definitely seen to me as a battle to be won
The pleasure does not hardly outweigh the pain
But after you feel it, you will never be the same
Do I regret that s$*#? Hell yea, for I am now a woman scorned
So any n%^( who crosses my path should quickly be forewarned
So I’m thinking love aint s$*% to fall in, it’s not all true and dear

But s&*^, of course, that’s just what I hear.

So now I’m confused, I don’t know what to believe
One adamant idea my mind is unable to conceive
I mean can love really be so great even after yo man cheats
Gets you and ol other girl pregnant then up and leaves
When ol boy decides one day he doesn’t know who he is and now must be separate
Or when he throws that its not you, its me bull s#$& line in yo face

F&$# in I know I can only tell you what I hear
Which of course to me is not all close to being clear
But all I can tell you is that I feel that I’ve missed out
On one of the things that relationships are supposed to be about
But for real I want that Cory and Topanga love, ya’ll know what I’m talking about
With confidence that the can make it through without a shadow of a doubt
It will come one day you never know when it’s near

But hey you already know, that’s just what I hear.

First Love
By Cherita Borders

Her words are like scriptures, unraveling truths that only you can understand
She is a picture of perfection even on the rainiest of days
A person’s first love should definitely be their mother
Anita’s standing there, confused idle - like in a state of limbo
Her stomach is knots and she can’t explain the feeling deep in her gut
Like tidal waves tumbling over each other- thrashing against her intuition
Like struggling under the weight of a lazy world
Like breathing in sync with the marchers of an underground railroad
Like fighting against the wind
Suddenly acids build up to the apex of weakness and her tummy loses the war over dignity
Hot volcanoes erupt
Regurgitating this fear
This unknown
This X
This symbol tattooed across the blankest faze of her mind
She sinks into herself wondering what’s wrong
What’s wrong?
What’s wrong is that she has a shipload of homework to do and not a boat
To haul it away
What’s wrong is that it’s already Wednesday and she hasn’t sent the Thursday group emails out
What’s wrong is that she hasn’t talked to her mother
So she calls right?
No answer of course
Well Moms shooting her regular
The point is
Nothing –ever-goes wrong
There will be time tomorrow
Next week, next month, next year
Whatever whenever HOWEVER– she
The beautiful She is still not answering
Even though She is supposed to always be there
Something’s wrong
Something horrible happened
Something like hearts pounding pushing panic buttons in the souls of the brave
Like fear in the eyes of the fearless
Like metal ambition twisted and screeching the call of the underworld
Like harbingers of death harboring a secret
Anita’s mother, her young beautiful black goddess
Got into a car accident the other day – Something fatal
Something that she doesn’t understand with her mind
But feels in heart
There will be No tomorrow- and life doesn’t give you a choice in the matter
So she twists her hair into knots of seclusion
Rattles her conscience into frenzies

Mom- where are you?

And falls into herself

No answer like dizzying dial tones on that last day
When voices reached out but never touched
What would she have said to her?
Probably something important like
Ma’ I got an A in my African philosophy class
Or Ma’ I got a B in Spanish or
Mom, you are a picture of perfection even on my rainiest days
You are my first love
And I will always love you.
Love: the good, the bad, and the ugly

Valentine’s Day: The Conspiracy
By Charnita Westry

I’m well aware that this piece may sound a little bitter and that people might think I’m a little off after reading this, but so what? I can’t help how I feel and how I think. I’ve always thought this way about this man-made “holiday” and the fact that I’m single has nothing to do with it, because if I weren’t I would tell this to my significant other. And the conspiracy is as follows...

Valentine’s Day is a conspiracy created by Hallmark and other holiday-driven companies. However, I will say V-Day is slightly more legit than Sweetest Day, which is a complete and total conspiracy for all fools out there to spend their money. Anyway, I digress...V-Day is the most overrated “holiday” around. For years I have protested V-Day because I truly believe that anything I receive on that day may be from the heart but is not done with much thought, and it’s always the thought that counts. My biggest point: you would have to be a complete idiot to forget V-Day when it’s all around you! Everywhere you go there’s some kind of reminder to let you know that it’s coming up, and of course there is plenty of candy, flowers, and cards around for you just to run through and grab for your partner. Now I don’t know about anyone else, but I don’t see anything sweet or romantic in that. Instead, I believe that its more romantic when you present your partner with a card, or whatever just on a random day because that really shows that you were thinking about them and that you care enough to go out and do something without the influence of any “holiday.” It just doesn’t sit well with me that people let companies and “holidays” dictate how and when they should show their mates that they care. Something about that just doesn’t seem like real love to me.

Also, I have to discuss the true conspiracy created within this “holiday.” We all know that the colors red, white, and pink, are now associated with love and Valentine’s Day. That’s why when you go in any store starting in January those are some of the first colors you see. Well, now the companies promoting this “holiday” have you so well trained that anytime you see those colors together, you automatically think of the things associated with them no matter what day of the year it is. Why do you think they put chocolates in red boxes year round? Why do you think that all cards that have anything to do with love or relationships are one of those three colors, and if the card isn’t, then the envelope is? Red, white, and pink set off an automatic trigger in your mind to spend, and any smart businessperson has figured that out by now. So when you go out and buy that special gift for that special someone this year think of Mr. Hallmark, Mr. Candy, and Mr. Florist and thank them for brainwashing you over the years.
Another Thought
By Candace Watkins

Love. Such a simply spelled word. Just four letters that come together to equal the most complex and prolific of all human emotion. We spend our lives searching for the meaning of this word when, in my opinion, it’s a word without any specific meaning. We do things such as break ourselves down, break the hearts of others, end friendships, and change our value system. All I can ask is why?

From experience, (and this does not mean I am calling myself an expert because I am far from it), I know that some people’s search are meant to be harder and longer than others. I often find myself the brunt of many challenges that love can sometimes bring. Yet and still I feel compelled to strive on. And as horrible it is to watch myself go through the motions, I am still always ready for the next challenge. Believe it or not, I pride myself upon it.

I guess the point of my putting myself out there like this is to make this point. Love is not meant to be something to be conquered. Love is not meant to be a constant “pain in the butt”, though it may feel that way at times. For those of you that are enduring the pain love can sometimes bring, keep your head high, your options open, stay strong, and remember love is not a battle; it is a voyage. Good Luck on your trip. This is Candace Watkins and I am out.

Love vs. Lust
By Latisha Williams

How many times are we asked, Have you ever been in love? Or maybe you have asked yourself this very question. NEWSFLASH….ITS NOT ALWAYS LOVE. Living on campus, I have noticed a huge epidemic killing the relationships here at U.D. and ITS LUST. It’s the sin that killed Jezebel. For anyone who has ever read any of my articles, I speak the truth without pointing fingers because we are all guilty of Lusting over someone we should not have or confusing love for lust. So of course I must deliver a top ten list of how you know you are in love or lust.

You are in love if…
You haven’t seen that person in a couple of days and all you can think of is, “I wonder what he/she is doing?”
You are in lust if…
You haven’t had sex with that person in a couple of days and all you can think is when you two will be able to hook up again.

You are in love when...

You call that person just to hear his or her voice. When something exciting or sad occurs, that person is the first person you want to tell.

You are in lust when...

You call that person just to find out if he or she is are “coming over” and you could really care less how they are, what he or she is doing, or if they had a good or bad day.

You are in love when...

You wake up and they are the first person on your mind.

You are in lust when...

You wake up and you wonder when he or she is going to leave.

You are love when...

Your significant other looks at you as a friend waaaaaaaaay before they look at you as a lover.

You are in lust when...

You ask yourself what is a significant other?????

You are in love when...

He/She can make you smile even when they are not around

You are in lust when...

You don’t even notice each other’s smile.

You are in love when...

You make it a point of your daily/or every other day schedule to speak to that one person

You are in lust when...

You make it a point of your weekly schedule to speak to that person during “creep/booty call” hours.

You are in love when...

You listen to Usher’s “You Got It Bad” and get emotional.

You are in lust when...

You listen to Ludacris’s “bootypoppin” and you get emotional.

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The Pre-requisites of Freedom

"Unless the political liberty for which Africans have so long struggled is complemented and bolstered by a corresponding economic and social growth, the breath of life which sustains our freedom may flicker out"  
His Imperial Majesty Emperor Haile Sellassie I
Are we really free? Are we determining the means of our education and future? This is the beginning of a series of articles to explore these types of questions to enable us to start consciously taking purposeful steps that can be made to make ourselves stronger for the benefit of all mankind. To be blessed with the opportunity of a college education when utilized with focus and intention can **tremendously** help those globally who are under oppression and lack of justice oftentimes simply for lack of knowledge. But often, as was my case, the college experience is squandered because of lack of intention and focus on parties, popularity and things which deteriorate from our own and other’s survival and success. We must remember to whom much is given, much is required. Be not deceived, education is not for the individual but mankind as a whole. For this reason, in harmony with black history month, which brings into my consciousness our past glory and struggle, let us take a moment to rest and search within our hearts to evaluate the choices we are making, where are we heading, who will ultimately benefit from these choices and make clear purposeful adjustments if necessary for it **IS TIME TO SHINE!** Now is not a time to pitch a tent and set up shop but to continue to rise by higher and higher standards of living and integrity.

As Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad brought us freedom from slavery, and Rosa Parks, Malcolm, Martin, and the Civil Rights Movement brought us a degree of political freedom, the next phase that we are entering in now is twofold, spiritual and physical. Spiritual as we break the unnatural conditioned chains, our image of race, who we are, and what we can become that pervades our society. Instead realizing the keys of life, which are righteousness, morality, and unity. Physical as we take concrete effective action towards organization and its subsequent power, trampling our dependence and subservience to others. This will allow us to manifest self-sufficiency within the global community so that we can plan our own destiny in the presence of truth rather than fulfill a predetermined social role. These roles ultimately continue the suppression of our culture and necessitate our dependence on others who have not our humanities nor best interest in mind. In short, freedom rests in the acquisition of power.

"Power is never equally distributed. There is no power where power is equal. For power to be exercised, the "power holder" must control base values." Power is about relationships among various individuals and groups where some have control over vital social and material resources needed or desired by others. Social power is the ability to supply or withhold an others needs or desires "A Power relationship and the inequality between the parties in such a relationship presupposes that the weaker party either lacks appropriate power resources, or relatively fewer of them, or if he possesses them does not possess the will and/or the ability to employ them effectively in his interests" As one begins to look at freedom, one must ultimately look at ways or means to acquire power. Power to decide what culture, values, and interests will best guarantee the maximum benefit of creation.

In the next article we will begin to explore some of the ways to gain tangible power. If freedom is to be attained, it is going to be realized through the cornerstones of Health, Education, Economic Development, Culture, and the subsequent organization thereof. I will be addressing each of these in future articles beginning with health, for without it, all things are naught. Health is an area that the masses of people have been ill informed in an attempt by the drug industry to maximize profits. But through proper knowledge and application, there is tremendous power available for the resurrection and maintenance of health by what we eat, avoiding aluminum and Isopropyl alcohol in our deodorants and shampoo’s etc., in combination with exercise. Until such time, may we walk in faith and daily sow into the vision the father has put upon our hearts without fear or limitations.

One Love, One Race, One Destiny

Amaha

- Dye, Thomas R 1983 Power and Society: An Introduction to the Social Sciences, 3rd ed. (pg 5)
  California: Books-Cole
Music and Movie Review

This Year’s Best Album
By Daniel Saravia

Yes, as of this day and from what I think the rest, of the year the album of the year will be Kanye West’s College Drop-Out. This is Kanye West’s first album as an emcee, and he proves that he should have been signed years ago. Kanye is from the south side of Chicago, Stony Island to be exact, which is also where emcees such as Twista and Common are from. For being the third biggest city in the country it is surprising that Hip-Hop out of Chicago has not been out really.

Kanye has been a producer for years, way before he was signed with Rocafella records. He has done many productions for Common, Mos Def, Talib Kweli and others. He is a pioneer of what he is doing. His beats have a certain sound that has not been really heard in “mainstream hip hop.” He is Underground at heart and has always been. On his album he has a song that he wrote at least 10 years ago called “Jesus Walks” which he wrote for an underground rapper called Rhyme fest from Chicago.

Kanye’s name is being talked about all over this country right now, as well it should be. He is going to be the reason you will hear Chicago for a long time in mainstream hip-hop. He is what Nelly is to St. Louis, and Eminem is to Detroit. On the last track on the album he talks about his struggles in getting signed and what he has done, and he also gives respect to one of the best producers of all time that goes by the name No ID. No ID worked on Commons first few albums and is a reason of why Common and Kanye are.

This album is by far one of the year’s best and the year is not even over, but with tracks like Jesus Walks, Spaceship, Get em’ High, and Two words, it’s hard not to admit that he is doing big boy things. He also worked on Twista’s album, which is in stores now, and made it to #1 in the billboard charts being the first rapper out of Chicago to be number one. He is currently working on what he calls his most important project in his career, the new Common album along with No ID.

Since you will be hearing much more about Chicago rappers, I leave you with a quote from a No ID track called State to State, “Chi-town where we don’t fight over coast cuz the one that’s in the middle is the one you see the most.”

Candy’s Pick
By Candace Watkins

The Black Perspective
Take an honest look into the Nation of Islam’s most controversial spokesperson, through the eyes of Spike and the vocals of Denzel Washington. Malcolm X, also known as X, is not just a documentation of the feats and challenges he overcame as being one of the most outspoken African-Americans of his time. It's a movie about a man's journey through life much less than perfect.

The movie does not glorify the Nation of Islam. The movie does everything but paint a pretty, sugarcoated picture of how some actions were taken in order to make things move along. The movie is about truth. We watch Malcolm Little go through a troubled childhood, a misguided youth, and a tumultuous adulthood that ended in the violence that his life began with. We are sitting at the edge of our seats watching a man find himself the hardest possible way and that is through experience.

Denzel Washington plays the role so well one would think Malcolm X was still alive. His acting actually comes close to outdoing the direction of Spike Lee. His try to be like Malcolm X, in the movie he became X. Usually I don't preach on and on about actors in the movies that I suggest, but if Denzel Washington hadn't been in this magnificent movie, it would not be what it is today.

All I can say is WATCH IT!!!! I don't care who you are. This movie evokes the true spirit of Black History

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**Sports Editorial**

**NCAA**

*By Daniel Saravia*

It's mid February and that means that March Madness is around the corner. This year we have not seen a dominant team take charge, and have us say that it is the team to beat. However, there are teams out there that are doing what I like to call "big boy things". Stanford and St. Joseph are still undefeated, and Duke is on an 18 game winning streak. Some of the stronger conferences have been weak, which leads to confusion for selection Sunday.

The ACC will most likely get 7 to 8 teams into the tournament, which would probably be the highest of any conference. The Big XII and SEC have been shaky with surprising performances from teams that are not suppose to be a strong contender, for example Mississippi St. (SEC) and Texas Tech (BIG XII).

Yes the tournament will still have Duke, Cincinnati, Kentucky and North Carolina, but they are not teams that will make noise in the tournament. We have to look for teams such as Providence, Wisconsin, and Pittsburgh, to make the upsets in what should be a great NCAA tournament.
With the season being up and down with dominant teams, you have to be asking who will be in the final four. My predictions as of now would be (depending on how the brackets come out). In the East I have Pittsburgh, in the West Gonzaga for the first time, in the Midwest Louisville looks like a dominant squad, and in the south I still think Florida can make some noise.

U.D. Welcomes Miss America

Here She is...Miss America
By Latisha Williams

Erika Dunlap, the newly crowned Miss America, helped kick off Unity Week here at U.D. Her platform being unity, Erika Dunlap shared with us the importance of being aware of each other’s differences. She began by asking how do you define diversity. Several people answered and each person had a different response. She made the valid point that diversity is not a dictionary term; it is not a term that can be put into a box. What a valid point to make. Maybe that is our problem we constantly try to put diversity into a box, when we as human beings are individuals, demanding to be recognized as such. How can you box in personalities, differences, strengthens, and weaknesses? The fact of the matter is we can’t.

Not only is Miss Erika Dunlap a beautiful, dark-skinned sista’, but she is also a Devastating Diva of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated. I looked at her and saw myself. Not because she holds a mere title of being Miss America and is a part of the Ultimate Sorority but because she is standing not only for change but also improvement of the race relations within our society. It is an honor to call her sister.

WHAT’S REALLY GOING ON?!?!

Are You For Real?!?!
By Rachel Lawson

In a recent conversation with a Caucasian acquaintance, he expressed that he had a problem with organizations that focused on the “enhancement” and “advancement” of minorities. If you know who I am, then you can imagine my face and how I expressed myself to him. However, the point of my writing this article is not to go into detail about our conversation but rather to explain to others who might feel the same way this gentleman did about the enhancement of minorities. In turn, this article is for those who do not believe in Affirmative Action. This article is for students who say “sup” every time they see a black person and the only subject covered in conversations is whether I have heard the latest rap song because that’s the only music I listen to (note the sarcasm). This article is for those teachers who call on black students to speak for the whole entire race. This article is for those who think blacks get a fair chance because racism no longer exists. This article is for those who obviously don’t see why the enhancement and advancement of minorities is not only a must, it’s a necessity now more than ever.

First of all, for some apparent reason, those who oppose Affirmative Action think the only people it helps are blacks and that it is basically reverse discrimination. The purpose of Affirmative Action is not to exclude, but rather to make sure that everyone is included. When Affirmative Action was first imposed jobs, universities, and organizations limited the number of females and other minorities; however, blacks were banned. I have to agree, it is unfortunate Affirmative Action exists, but the reason it is unfortunate is because no one is color-blind. There is a plethora of reasons why Affirmative Action is necessary; just to name a few is that there is no African-American owned firm in Fortune’s list of the 500 largest corporations and the unemployment rate of African Americans is double the national level. African Americans have to constantly play the game of “catch-up,” unfortunately because they were enslaved. Rather than society complaining about having to help blacks, perhaps there should be an understanding that the educational and judicial system are both racially biased, which means blacks succeed at a lower rate than whites and are imprisoned at a higher rate.

Moving on to my next point, let me just say it is rude and lacking class to come up to a black person and say “sup my people”. It is also a major problem if you find yourself ever saying you are not racist because you have black friends. WHAT IS YOUR MOTIVATION? It is just as annoying to be the only black student most of the time, in a class, when the teacher so kindly turns and asks you to speak on behalf of the entire race. Not only are systems that control society racially biased, but the people who control them are growing up ignorant and prejudiced. As a result, those children who say “sup” are becoming that history teacher who asks black students to speak about slavery as if we are the expert historian.

In turn racism, bigotry, prejudice still exists; the only difference is that it is not always blatantly obvious. Nowadays the police officer that uses racial-profiling and the nationally syndicated radio
personality who thinks blacks are only good for football are able to spread hatred all over the world. That is why there is a need for organizations to help minorities, especially African Americans, because although we’re not sitting on the back of the bus anymore, we’re still working at the lowest paying jobs, receiving the worst academic education, and blacks are filling the jails. That is the reason programs, organizations, and effort should be made to advance and enhance minorities.

Do You Get It?
By Mary Givens

Why does ‘our’ nation continue to pledge allegiance to an ‘honorable’ flag under God’s name, yet permit laws which pass actions such as abortion, death row, and the legal union between homosexuals? I do not believe Jesus would be smiling down on us right now...

*This section of the Black Perspective is dedicated to allowing students to voice their opinion; however, the staff of the Black Perspective does not necessarily share all views held.

Get up! Get out! Do something!

The University of Dayton
Career Fair
All students - All majors welcome
Dress professionally

Thursday, February 26th
Physical Activities Center
11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

• Meet with over 80 employers
• Bring resumes
• Explore employment opportunities for part-time, internship, cooperative education and full-time positions.
• **Research the participating companies located on our website:** [http://careers.udayton.edu](http://careers.udayton.edu)

*If you can’t make these workshops, feel free to contact a Career Advisor at 229-3120 and schedule an individual appointment.*

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### Career Fair Training

Unsure of how to conduct yourself at the Career Fair? Be sure to attend a workshop.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>February 19</td>
<td>4:30p.m.- 5:00p.m.</td>
<td>Career Services Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>February 20</td>
<td>3:30p.m.- 4:00p.m.</td>
<td>Career Services Center</td>
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### Resume Critique Days

Have your resume critiqued before Career Fair 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>February 23</td>
<td>1:00pm - 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Career Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>February 24</td>
<td>1:00pm - 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Career Services</td>
</tr>
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**Did you make a New Year’s Resolution to quit or cut down drinking or smoking?**

If you’re having difficulty keeping that resolution and you want a safe environment to talk about it, "On Tap" is the place to do it. We meet every Wednesday at 7pm in Liberty Hall 1st. floor conference room. If you have any questions, give Jolly a call at x92229. ([www.udayton.edu/~studev/esp](http://www.udayton.edu/~studev/esp))

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~ *Places to Worship*
University of Dayton-Non-Denominational Worship Service
Immaculate Conception Chapel
2:30 pm
*Bible Study
-Every Thursday @ 7:00 pm in DSP

Christ Community Bible Church
3526 Detroit Avenue
274-8600

Omega Baptist Church
1821 Emerson Ave.
278-1006

Music and Entertainment

*Nick Cannon star of the movie *Drum Line, Love Don't Cost a Thing* and singer on the song "Gigilo" will be at Wittenberg on Saturday February 21 at 8:00PM. Tickets are $10 for Wittenberg students and $15 for the general public and can be purchased in advance at the Benham-Pence Student Center or at the door the evening of the concert. Call (937) 327-7815 for more information.

*December 27, 2004 – January 1, 2005
Washington Hilton and Towers in Washington, DC
www.impactmovement.com
$325 for registration, conference materials, and hotel stay
(Food and transportation not included)
REGISTER EARLY FOR $50 DISCOUNT (before November 26, 2004)

Seminars for college students, young professionals, church youth workers, and others
Featuring dynamic speakers, fellowship, and praise and worship

For more information or to express interest, contact Veronica Ford:
fordverb@notes.udayton.edu
Saturday, March 6th

The Ohio State University Mershon Auditorium
Doors open at 6pm

This show will include not only the best Greek step teams from Philly, Ohio, and Indiana, and all parts in between, but a Comedy show with African funny man, Michael Blackson from BETs comic view and Ice Cubes: Next Friday!

This is a Step Show and Comedy show in one!

Tickets are $10 and will be sold at the door
Tickets also available through Mershon Box office:
(614) 292-4403
or call Ticket Master.
The 8th Annual
Colors of Leadership Conference

2004 The Year of
Enlightenment:
Waking Up and
Taking Charge of Our Future

Friday, March 26 - Sunday, March 28, 2004

✓ Workshops!
✓ Dr. Julius Amin, Keynote Speaker
✓ Apollo Night
✓ Parties all weekend long!

Only $15 to Register! FREE for Committee Members!

X93649 for more Information

African American Inventors submitted by Veronica Ford
African American Inventors

You can’t get a blood transfusion, stop at a traffic signal, turn on a lamp, or even put on a pair of shoes without relying on technologies and devices first patented by African Americans. Here are just a few of the remarkable African American men and women who changed the way we live our lives. You can learn more about these and hundreds of other famous black Americans in Encarta Reference Library, which includes Encarta Africana Third Edition.

1. Norbert Rillieux (1806-1894)
The son of an engineer and a freed slave, American chemist and inventor Norbert Rillieux revolutionized the sugar industry by inventing a device to remove the water from the juices of sugarcane and sugar beets to produce dry sugar. Rillieux's invention enabled a purer sugar product, cost less money, and was far less dangerous to workers than previous methods.

2. Elijah McCoy (1844-1929)
Responsible for a remarkable 57 patents, American inventor Elijah McCoy is best known for inventing ingenious devices to lubricate heavy machinery automatically. McCoy's devices were so reliable that people often asked if machinery contained "the real McCoy," likely giving rise to this enduring expression.

3. Lewis Howard Latimer (1848-1928)
Although he received seven patents for his inventions, mechanical draftsman and inventor Lewis Howard Latimer is best remembered for his key contributions to the incandescent light bulb. In 1881 Latimer patented an electric lamp with an inexpensive carbon filament and a threaded wooden socket. He later joined Thomas Alva Edison's team of inventors and wrote the first known book on electric lighting.

4. Jan E. Matzeliger (1852-1889)
American artist and inventor Jan E. Matzeliger is most famous for designing and creating a machine that stretched leather shoe uppers around a foot-shaped model, or last. Before Matzeliger introduced his machine, highly skilled artisans lasted a maximum of 50 pairs of shoes a day. Matzeliger's automatic shoe lasting machine revolutionized the shoemaking industry, producing as many as 700 pairs of shoes in a single day.

5. Granville T. Woods (1856-1910)
Forced to quit school when he was only ten years old, American railroad engineer and inventor Granville T. Woods patented a remarkable 35 electrical and mechanical devices during his prolific career. Woods received his first patent in 1884 for a steam boiler furnace. His many later patents included a system that enabled telegraph lines to carry voice signals; an induction telegraph for sending messages to and from moving trains; and electromechanical and electromagnetic railway brakes.

6. George Washington Carver (1864-1943)
Born on a Missouri farm to slave parents, George Washington Carver developed several hundred industrial uses for peanuts, sweet potatoes, and soybeans, and developed a new type of cotton known as Carver's hybrid. Carver is credited with introducing crop rotation to farmers in the southern United States, thereby revolutionizing the American farming industry.

7. Sarah Walker (1867-1919)
Inventor and entrepreneur Sarah Walker created a line of hair-care products especially for black women. Walker, the daughter of Louisiana sharecroppers and nicknamed "Madame C.J.," was the first woman to sell products via mail order and to organize a nationwide membership of door-to-door agents. Madame C.J. is best remembered as one of the first American women of any race to become a millionaire through her own efforts.

8. Garrett A. Morgan (1877-1963)
The son of former slaves, businessman and inventor Garrett A. Morgan patented the first traffic signal in 1923. Morgan made national news when he used another of his inventions—the gas mask—to rescue several men trapped in a tunnel beneath Lake Erie. Morgan's mask was soon adopted by firemen around the world, and was also refined for use by the United States Army during World War I.

American businessman, inventor, and World War I veteran Frederick McKinley Jones is most remembered for introducing the first practical refrigeration system for trucks and railroad cars, a system that completely changed the food transport industry. Jones was responsible for a phenomenal 60 patents during his lifetime, 40 for refrigeration equipment alone.

American surgeon Charles Richard Drew conducted pioneering work in blood storage and transfusion techniques. Drew showed that blood plasma lasts longer than whole blood, a medical breakthrough that enabled the creation of the modern blood bank. In 1939, Dr. Drew used his new understanding of blood storage and transfusion to help establish the first blood banks to serve the Allied Forces in Europe during World War II. He went on to become the first director of the American Red Cross Blood Bank.

The Black Perspective

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