Changes At Student Development

By Rozman Mohamed
Senior Editor

On March 5, some dramatic changes were made within the Department of Student Development as Dr. Arleen Schreiner, former Coordinator of Student Activities, replaced Dr. Harriet Vines as the Coordinator of Career Counseling. Simultaneously, Kieron Sharpe became the new Coordinator of Student Activities.

According to Dean Vernon Haley, Vines retired in September, 1989. Following her departure, it was decided that Schreiner would be a suitable successor to Vines’ office. This decision came after Schreiner, herself, requested a change in her responsibilities.

"After seventeen and a half years (as the Coordinator of Student Activities), it was time to do something new," explained Schreiner.

Schreiner, who has always enjoyed a very close relationship with students, admitted that this was a scary decision for her to make. "The fear was that students would not come here," she said, referring to her new office.

However, considering that Schreiner is still very much involved in counseling, it is unlikely that students will stay away.

As the Coordinator of Career Counseling, she is responsible for academic, personal and general career counseling. "My job is to help give students direction in their career choice," added Schreiner.

In addition, Schreiner will also serve as a counselor for the Athletic Retention Program. This program is geared towards helping student-athletes keep their grades up as well as assuring that their grades will improve throughout the season.

Schreiner, who has always enjoyed a very close relationship with students, explained Schreiner.

It should be noted that Schreiner is currently working on establishing career files for seniors. These files will contain letters of recommendation and resumes so that when students are applying to graduate schools or are seeking employment, there will be one central place from which this information will be available.

As such, all seniors are urged to visit Dr. Schreiner in Rm. 1G02d or to call the Office of Student Development at 262-2283 to set up appointments to meet with her.

It is not surprising that Dr. Schreiner has adjusted comfortably to her new position. Undoubtedly, Kieron Sharpe, her successor, will fare as well.

The search for the new Coordinator of Student Activities began in October, 1989. The Search Committee consisted of four administrative members and three students — Dean Robert Lee (asst. dean of students), Dr. Fred Rickard (director of counseling), Dr. Arleen Schreiner (former coordinator of student activities), Yvette Remice (coordinator of financial aid), Christopher Diaz (vice president of student government), Shawn Douglas (student senator) and Tracey Bowes (president of the Black Student Caucus). Dean Lee served as the Committee’s Chairman.

"In all, over thirty people applied for the job," said Dean Haley. The members of the Search Committee reviewed the applications and conducted interviews. Eventually, two names were submitted to Haley who made the final choice.

Haley said that they were looking for someone who had administrative as well as counseling skills to coordinate counseling during the summer and registration periods. It was also important that the person be someone who had been actively involved in counseling.

The administration had to take care of several tricky details before they could officially announce the rescheduling of finals before Christmas. They had to contend with the college’s finances, faculty union negotiations, and accommodating specific state regulations.

"Many students think that the president approves a proposal and that’s it,” said Dr. Diatra Jones, Assistant to the President. "Before the president approved the movement of winter finals, there were a number of problems to resolve."

One of these problems was complying with State Education Department requirements. The state mandates a particular number of hours of instruction each semester. If finals are administered before the holiday, they will cut into instruction hours. In order to compensate for these lost hours, the school year must start in late August instead of early September.

Starting the school year earlier to comply with state requirements conflicted with faculty contract agreements.

"We had to get permission from faculty unions to allow us to call faculty in earlier next year," said Dr. Jones. "We had to negotiate with various unions representing our faculty body." Dr. Jones also conceded that the school’s finances were a critical factor. "President Bassin indicated initially to the continued on page 7..."

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Changes At Student Development

Finals Finally Before Christmas

By Amer Robertson
Reporter

After years of political maneuvering by both the York Student Government (YSG) and the administration, President Bassin approved the plan to give finals before Christmas for the first time ever.

An overwhelming number of York College students were pleased by the rescheduling of winter finals said student government senators.

"This is something that students have been waiting for for a long time," said Donald Vernon, Student Government president. "Now students can enjoy a good-length holiday vacation."

When asked about the rescheduling of finals, York students responded positively. "It is good that finals will be given before Christmas," said Davis Roberts, a student at York. "Now students won’t be stressed out over the holiday thinking about finals."

"When you’re in school, you have the momentum to study," said Annette Cunningham, another student. "The holiday breaks that momentum."

The new calendar for Fall 1990 calls for an early return to school to make up for days lost by moving up Fall Finals. Registration next term runs from August 27 to August 29. And the first day of class falls before Labor Day on August 30.

Rescheduling finals entailed a great deal of work and preparation for both Student Government and the administration.

"In order to get the president to approve our proposal, we had to first prepare a sound presentation. And secondly, we had to win support of faculty members in the senate," said Vernon. "So, in essence, we were involved in a two step process."

YSG conducted a survey, which was also a marketing project, to aid their presentation. They questioned both day and evening students about what they would like to see on the academic calendar. Out of 288 students questioned, 78.8% of the respondents preferred finals before the holiday, 11.5% opposed it, and 9.7% did not have any preference.

"The survey was very important in presenting our proposal," exclaimed Vernon. "The statistics gave each point in our presentation a great deal of validity."

The second step taken to ensure a victory on the senate floor was the lobbying of senate faculty members.

"We got the names and numbers of all thirty faculty senate members," said Vernon. "We were able to convince twenty members to vote in our favor."

This arduous work payed off for the YSG when the senate reached a decision in favor of the proposal. The administration had to take care of several tricky details before they could officially announce the rescheduling of finals before Christmas. They had to contend with the college’s finances, faculty union negotiations, and accommodating specific state regulations.

"Many students think that the president approves a proposal and that’s it," said Dr. Diatra Jones, Assistant to the President. "Before the president approved the movement of winter finals, there were a number of problems to resolve."

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Dear Editor:

This semester the SEEK Program sponsored two very special celebrations. On February 27 there was the annual Black History Program and on March 6 there was the semi-annual Reception for SEEK Freshmen and SEEK Honor Students.

Both events were informative, entertaining, and illustrative of the positive character of events that SEEK provides for students and the overall college community.

Counselor Conrad Dyer has the responsibility of coordinating the SEEK Black History programs and it seems that each program tops the previous one. This year he presented Ms. Andaye C. De La Cruz, C.S.W., psychotherapist, community activist, whose topic, "Black Women in the 20th and 21st Century: Retrospect and Prospects" was well received.

She deftly addressed the ways non-caucasian women, internationally, are discriminated against from a racist as well as a sexist perspective. In doing so, she made reference to Winnie Mandela, the wife of the recently released political prisoner Mr. Nelson Mandela and to Ms. Violeta Chamorro, recently elected president of Nicaragua.

Ms. De La Cruz also commented on the plight of Ms. Abigail Cortez, whose child, just like Ms. Hedda Nussbaum's, was murdered by her mate. However, unlike Ms. Nussbaum, who is Caucasian, Ms. Cortez, a hispanic, was not viewed as a victim, even though it was established that she was mentally retarded and psychologically as well as physically abused by her mate.

In her concluding remarks, Ms. De La Cruz left us with two important messages. One, that when we honor black women, we honor black men because their lives are inexorably meshed. Secondly, in reviewing world history we will note that all ethnic groups and both sexes suffered discrimination and disenfranchisement at one time.

Therefore, it is unproductive for current victims to allow themselves to become discouraged or immobilized by the concomitant pain and anger. Rather, energies and efforts should be channeled in responsible and industrious ways.

Mr. Malik Favours was the Master of Ceremonies for this program and he introduced program participants Dr. Dolores Straker who shared her, at an early age, her mother, aunt and grandmother impressed upon her the need for a black girl to excel; Dr. Dennis Moorman who performed piano solos; Ms. Jasmine Grant who delivered a biographical reading on Ms. Mary McClound Bethune; Mr. Roger Drysdale and Mr. Christopher Diaz who gave a dramatic presentation. The room decorations were enhanced by the beautiful photography work of Ms. Donna Mason.

At SEEK Reception for Freshmen and Honor Students, the class of 1995 was introduced and 47 SEEK students were honored for their achievement of 3.0 or better.

Among the honor students were Mr. Mahindra Bismar, Ms. Lisa Freeman, Mr. Hector Garcia, Mr. Rubin Gomez, Ms. Jasmine Grant, Ms. Judy Monaco, and Ms. Olugbo Tope who have earned an outstanding P.G.A. of 3.5 or better.

As part of the program, we were entertained with a vocal selection by Ms. Keshia Williams—and Ms. Bonnie Miles offered a salute to the freshmen. Responding to the salute was entering freshman Ms. Janet Malcolm.

Dr. James E. Pope gave a tribute to the honor students and Ms. Themla Babb, a January 1990 graduate who earned a 4.0 her last semester, spoke on behalf of all honorees. Dr. Straker presented the honor certificates which had been artfully printed by Mr. Mohammed Hakim.

The highlight of the program was the emotionally charged speech by York SEEK alumna Dr. Cynthia Sneed, class of 1976. Dr Sneed received an Ed. D. in Mathematics and Computer Education from Teachers College, Columbia University in 1987.

She has published extensively and has developed educational software for the IBM and is a winner of the 1989 Competition for Excellence sponsored by the League for Innovation in the Community College. The American Association of Community and Junior Colleges and the IBM Corporation.

Currently, Dr. Sneed is a professor at Calhoun Community College in Decatur, Alabama. She let the freshmen know that in addition to the challenge to succeed academically, she also had a young son to raise while she was in college.

She was glad for this opportunity to thank the SEEK Program and especially her counselor, Prof. Ina Richards, who supported her struggles to persist in college. She believes that her experience as a SEEK student has given her the ability and the freedom to demonstrate not only her teaching ability, but her love and her support for those in charge.

Prof. Elizabeth J. Anderson served as Mistress of Ceremonies for this program and counselor Conrad Dyer gave the closing remarks. Counselor Alva Baxter-Booth coordinated the luncheon that followed the program.

Sincerely,

Michael Carry

Pandora's Box Welcomes Your Letters
Governor Cuomo's Visit To York College Inspires And Disappoints

By Chris Chaney
Sports Editor

On Wednesday, March 14, the Central Mall became a stage for the highest ranking politician in this state, Governor Mario M. Cuomo. Governor Cuomo was invited to York by the Greater Jamaica Development Corporation (G.J.D.C.), a non-profit local organization of business and civic leaders dedicated to revitalizing downtown Jamaica.

Governor Cuomo was here to receive a tribute for helping the group in their efforts to revitalize Jamaica. York College, located in the heart of Jamaica, served as a valuable showpiece. Governor Cuomo's visit was a surprise to most students. By about twelve thirty, the word had leaked out. After a parade of administrators, gave seemingly endless praise for the governors' contributions, Cuomo was finally introduced to speak.

In many students' minds Cuomo's visit was a waste of time. He didn't address the issues that were most important to them. Issues such as the tax hike or a likely raise in tuition were ignored.

On the other hand, he did address issues that concerned the community. He focused on the drug and education problems in his brief but revealing speech. The governor grew up in South Jamaica and attended public and Catholic schools as a child. He impressed on the audience that the students didn't have to deal with the harsh realities of today—such as the cocaine epidemic and the violence associated with it.

Cuomo spoke of how simple childhood was then. When a student did something wrong in school, he wouldn't slap his hand with a ruler. Today, the student wrongdoings require harsher penalties.

On a lighter note, the governor entertained the audience with the solution his mother gave him for his plaque problem. Plaques fill his office walls, his basement and even the back of his car. His mother suggested that when he attends events honoring him, such as this one, where he received a plaque from the president of Jamaica Hospital, he ask them to give him something he can use like undershorts or socks.

Then, the governor took a hard line on the drug problem and the way President Bush's regime is addressing it. He is totally opposed to Bush's trage system. Cuomo defined trage as the patchwork medicine practiced in wartime. Intraige, the doctor patches up the soldier with the less severe wounds and sends him back out to fight. But don't waste his time on the soldier near death.

Cuomo related this to the president's "read my lips just say no" campaign. The governor stated that the conservative republicans opinion on the drug problem is that it is too much of a gamble to invest money into drug rehabilitation. Cuomo feels, as do many others, that private drug rehabilitation is unaffordable and more money should be invested in public drug rehabilitation centers.

The governor ended his speech with comments on public education—specifically York. "York is a miracle," said Cuomo. "a college right down the block, easily accessible to local residents of Jamaica, and even more accessible to those in need of financial need."

In addition, Cuomo said that college is now free to those who can't afford it. It is not the casual visit by the Governor or the Mayor of New York that makes York College strong. It is obvious we lack the support of our administrators, faculty, and staff in areas of concern for students. This flagrant disregard tells a lot about who is teaching us and those who have the best interest of the students. This flagrant misuse of power on the part of staff is indicative of the kind of educators we have. Students want the premise of inclusion not exclusion to exist in all realms of communication between students and staff within the college. Furthermore, the dismissal of students by faculty should be left in the hands of students that paid for that class. No classes should be dismissed on an impromptu basis for social affairs—regardless of who visits.

Sincerely, STUDENTS FOR CHANGE

Students For Change See Cuomo Visit As Another Student Snub

Dear Editor:

On March 14, between 2 and 2:30 that afternoon, Governor Mario Cuomo came to York College. His acknowledgement was represented by the Jamaica Chamber of Commerce.

March 14, was to be a wonderful day at York College. The Governor of New York was coming. Tall green fern like plants were placed around the Academic Mall, the floors were radiating so bright that I could see my reflection. A podium was placed in the center of the Mall, and flags that represented the U.S. were displayed. In the back of the Mall T.V. cameras had first row seats. Near the "F" corridor were tables with cookies, cheeses, fruits, coffee, ice tea with sliced lemons, and red and white tablecloths (York College's colors). Many of the professors canceled classes and went to listen to Governor Mario Cuomo speak. It was a special event for some people, but not for all.

Many of the students were not delighted with the event. The presence of Governor Mario Cuomo was not the issue. Many students did not know Governor Mario Cuomo was coming to York College. The York College Student Government President Donald Vernon, student senators, and club representatives.

This was not the issue. However, the issue is the total disregard for York College students. For example:

1. When the Student Government wrote a letter to Vice President Bodi asking him to consent to letting the Student Government classes, to attain the Black Solidarity Day event at York College, Mr. Bodi disagreed. Ironically, when Governor Mario Cuomo came to York College, he announced many faculty members suddenly decided to cancel class. Classes that were paid for by the students.

2. Whenever the students invite the administration, faculty, and staff to any of the student functions there are only a hand full of staff and faculty who attend. When the Governor of New York came to York College, many of the administrators, faculty, and staff deemed it proper to attend this function.

3. Many clubs on campus raise money for those in need. Students requested in advance the support of administration, faculty, and staff. For example, the Puerto Rican Organization, Latin Caucus, El Casique, Channel Y, and many others raised money for the victims of Hurricane Hugo—and only a handful of the administrators, faculty, and staff gave them their support.

Students for Change raised money for the AIDS Babies at Haue House, and they wrote letters to the administration, faculty, and staff for support—and only a few supported this cause. Yet, the Governor gets a considerable amount of support from the administration, faculty, and staff. 4. During the CUNY-wide strike, a concerted effort by the students to prevent a tuition increase, and decrease in faculty and staff, only a small amount of the administration, faculty and staff came out to show their faces in support of the strike.

The above issues outlined is what the students feel is relevant to their grievances. The students of York College and its representatives feel we should confront these issues with the administration, who say they have the students best interest at heart.

We the students are the financial backbone of York College. It is the spirits of those who came before and those who will come after us who make York College what it is today, and what it will be tomorrow. It is not the casual visit that is too much of a gamble to invest money into drug rehabilitation.

Cuomo feels, as do many others, that private drug rehabilitation is unaffordable and more money should be invested in public drug rehabilitation centers. The governor ended his speech with comments on public education—specifically York. "York is a miracle," said Cuomo. "a college right down the block, easily accessible to local residents of Jamaica, and even more accessible to those in financial need."

In addition, Cuomo said that college is now free to those who can't afford it.

The liberty scholarship will pay for a student's full tuition if that is the only thing holding them back from going to college. Financial aid is available to middle class students in the form of the Tuition Assistance Program.

Governor Cuomo's speech didn't satisfy everyone. It didn't assure everyone of a brighter future, or that in the next semester tuition will be free, or that drugs will become just a bad memory in South Jamaica. But, the governor did leave many students with a sense that they are a part of the puzzle of shaping a better country.

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STUDENTS FOR CHANGE
Shoving Match Shatters Cafeteria’s Tranquility

By Danny Semmel

On Wednesday, March 7, a confrontation between two youths escalated in the York College cafeteria, causing chaos among the general student population. One of the combatants involved may not even have been a student.

As a few minutes past noon, a York College student standing in the cafeteria was accosted by another young man, who appeared to be younger and shorter. (It has been alleged that he is a High School student in York’s Upward Bound Program.)

The two began to argue, but name-calling and threats on both sides were temporarily prevented from escalating into physical violence by the timely intervention of some students who restrained them.

One of these students was Benjamin Everett, who happened to be standing nearby when the quarrel began. Without thinking of his own safety, he leaped into the fray and held back the nearest man.

“I wanted to do the right thing,” Bedford said. “It didn’t make sense that two black guys should be fighting. But I could see that they were angry. If I wasn’t there to intervene the fight would have been bigger.”

According to eyewitnesses, Everett kept the two men apart long enough for security personnel to arrive.

Fortunately, no major damage to bystanders or property occurred, but several students appeared to be ruffled in the melee.

“I could see that they were angry. If I wasn’t there to intervene the fight would have been bigger.”

Winston Burrows, Director of Security at York, and unavailable for comment on the incident.

Raymond Pavia, Director of Campus Planning and Operations, comments on recent robberies at York.

“Once they are gotten rid of, the thievery problem could be solved,” Alston added.

Winston A. Burrows, Security Chief at York, was out sick, and was unavailable for comments.

Pavia, responding to Huang’s idea of limiting the exits, said, “There is always a conflict between safety and security.”

Pavia, however, also has the Fire Department and their building code requirements to contend with. The Police Department may come in and say lock all doors not in use. But, if during one of the Fire Department’s inspections, an exit is found sealed, the college would be heavily fined.

Pavia stated that if a fire or some such matter occurs, people are trapped in the building because of our “security” measures, no one will want to understand that the locking of the exits was done as a preventative measure.

Pavia said that the students are not the ones moving the things. He had good cooperation from many of the students.

“Many of the things, the computers, are taken out through the loading dock,” Alston said. “There are individuals who work with B & G, who always use the loading dock entrance to Cristakos.”

During registration for the current Spring 1990 semester, a “fully loaded” CPU (main drive or brain), costing over $3000 was taken from the central mall where all business is done during registration of students.

Frazier thinks that at least two guards should be posted 24 hours a day, specifically to watch all the equipment during registration. He feels that it is an investment that the school has to afford, rather than replace the costly stolen units. “The units we use in this (Financial Services) department are fully loaded,” emphasized Frazier. “We have to be able to interconnect with several other places.”

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Frazier also suggests that the security guards develop the sensitivity and commitment needed for a secure campus.

Technology (Ed Tech.), agrees with Huang that security guards are a “proper sense of awareness, and sensitivity.” We must report individuals and circumstances that look unfamiliar.

One of the combatants involved may not have been a student. At a few minutes past noon, a York College student standing in the cafeteria was accosted by another young man, who appeared to be younger and shorter. (It has been alleged that he is a High School student in York’s Upward Bound Program.)

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According to eyewitnesses, Everett kept the two men apart long enough for security personnel to arrive.

Fortunately, no major damage to bystanders or property occurred, but several students appeared to be ruffled in the melee.

"I'm leaving here and not coming back," said one student. "If this is the start of something, I'm glad to be out of here," said Linda V., observing from the Peer Advisor booth.

According to Linda, this was the first time in six years that she had seen anything like this inside York.

When asked how strenuously ID cards were being checked, a security guard said, "We're not here to protect the students, but the building."

According to Barrera, the policy of checking identification cards was formulated in the '84-'85 school year at students request. Before then, the cards were only shown on request. Now they must be displayed at all times.

When asked for an official comment, Barrera said that the above incident is under investigation. He wished to emphasize that any incident of this sort is a very rare occurrence—averaging no more than once a year.
Students Attend Black Convention

By Shawn Douglas

The 1990 Langston Hughes Music Series

Friday, March 30, 1990, 8 P.M.
The Bross Townsend Quartet

Friday, April 20, 1990, 8 P.M.
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Robert Flack

"you've taken my blues and gone... someday someday will stand up and talk about me
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Senate Approves Service Corps

The movement to create a "national service" corps lurched forward again as the U.S. Senate approved a bill March 1 that would allow students to earn voucher checks for college by working in their community.

The National and Community Service Act of 1990, approved 78-19, would grant $2,000 vouchers to part-time and $5,000 vouchers to full-time participants. The vouchers could be used for tuition, student loan payments or even for down payments on a first home or to start a business.

Students who participate in the program would receive an extra stipend on top of the voucher.

Full-time participants would work between one and two years for 40 hours a week while part-time employees would work at least two years, putting in a minimum of nine hours a week, plus two full-time weeks each year.

Participants would be banned from working in businesses organized for profit, labor unions and religious groups.

Karen Robinson, coordinator of Student Volunteer Programs at American University in Washington, D.C., said she supports the bill because it recognizes that the government cannot just throw money into communities and expect to solve social problems.

"It shows that there is a bipartisan effort to get students involved in community service," Robinson said. "This legislation allows innovative programs to grow and develop in communities."

The bill, however, is not yet law. Rep. Augustus Hawkins (D-Calif.) intends to introduce a national service bill in March that is more expensive, but doesn't create a new administrative structure.

"The chance for its passage are excellent," said a congressional aide who asked not to be identified.

If it does, the House and Senate would have to work out a compromise version before sending it to President Bush for signature.

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and Sand Streets, Brooklyn, NY at 1:00 pm.

WED.
Pier 26, Beach and West Street, NY at 11:00 am. Bronx
Pound, 745 East 141st Street, Bronx, NY at 1:00 pm.

THUR.
Pier 60, West 19th Street and 11th Ave., NY at 11:00 am.
Brooklyn Pound, Brooklyn Navy Yard, Navy and
Sand Streets, Brooklyn, NY at 1:00 pm.

FRI.
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The theme for the conference was "Leadership in the 21st Century." During the day, the students attended seminars and workshops. In the evening, social gatherings and cultural events took place.

Although all of the seminars and workshops were informative, the workshop on "Leadership" was the most intriguing. The lecture was done by Professor Charles Wright, who is also a professional organizer and fundraiser. He began the lecture by asking the students who they thought were influential leaders in their lives.

The students named people like Jesse Jackson, David Dinkins, and Martin Luther King. While these people are true leaders, they are not our only leaders.

Leaders don't have to be people of power who are always covered by the media. Professor Wright stated that leaders are visible, but anyone can become a leader. There are three styles of leadership: democratic, autocratic, and laissez-faire.

Although Wright believes that the best style of leadership depends on the environment, a combination of all three styles is preferable. It was stated that students need to have good communication skills, and to be committed to their style of leadership depends on the

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Students need to have good communication skills, and to be committed to their style of leadership depends on the
The Hunt For Red October Surfaces As A Hit With Great Depth

By Sharif Ali

During the 1960's and the 1970's, a number of quality African-American films were produced in Hollywood. These films are really about whites whose lives are on the line because their moral convictions put them in opposition to racism and hatred. None of these films actually delineate African-American characters. They only reaffirm the notion that whites are moral, heroic and the stars of major motion pictures.

Recently it seems that Hollywood has finally realized that there is money to be made from films that present an honest portrayal of African-Americans, and that they have box-office appeal in movies that portray more realistic visions of their lives.

In "Driving Miss Daisy," both Morgan Freeman and Jessica Tandy give the best performances of their careers. But it is electrifying to see Freeman portray a gentle, sensitive and caring black man. "Driving Miss Daisy" shows us how two older Southerners from different backgrounds gradually become friends, and form a relationship that is ultimately grounded in trust, tolerance and, most of all, respect for each other.

The movie's popularity proves that filmgoers appreciate and want movies that explore healthy black/white relationships, and give positive depictions of black men and their feelings.

In "Glory," Morgan Freeman joins his fellow black actor, Denzel Washington, in a heart-stirring story of freed slaves who fought in the Civil war. People come away from this film feeling a bit uneasy because they have been forced to scrutinize themselves and the communities they live in.

African-American Life Finds A Finer Focus In Recent Films

By Rene Millner

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Caribbean Week
April 16-20
Food, Arts Entertainment

Sean Connery stars as Captain Marko Alexandrovich Ramius in The Hunt For Red October.
Robberies continued from page 4
they know it’s here, when their college libraries don’t have it.”
Franco says that we have to be mature, and everyone has to make a contribution. She says that the (at the library), encourage patrons using the facility to always keep their personal belongings with them.

“Instead of protecting ourselves we have to cooperate, especially with security,” Franco said.

There are a few things the college asks us to do to help keep this place safe and secure. Unfortunately not all of us cooperate.

1) We are asked to wear our college ID’s while in the buildings and show them upon request. Many of us do not do that.
2) We sign in and out at the appropriate desks when we do not have our ID’s with us.
3) We call security when we see anyone or anything suspicious.
4) We lock and double lock our office doors once the room is unoccupied.
5) At no time should any equipment be removed from an office or the building(s) without proper documentation and only by authorized personnel.
6) Exit doors should never be propped open for any reason. Any one who sees that being done should notify security.
7) When leaving the building with any personal items, the correct procedures must be followed.

Many of the cleaning staff see this cooperation as a waste of time. While expressing dismay over the news that things are being taken away from the college illegally, they say that the better workers always seem to get fired. None of them was ready to go on record, for fear of losing their jobs.

There are plans in the works to install close circuit cameras. According to Pavia that could put a dent in the problem. Pavia likes the idea of sensors being placed directly onto movable units. These sensors would correspond to others placed around the office and exit doors and hooked up to an alarm system at a central console. However, he cited the cost factor of installing such an elaborate system.

While repeatedly mentioning the cost factor as one of their main problems, he said that people’s carelessness and lack of respect for security must be addressed.

“Our security guards are simply trying to do their jobs,” Pavia stated. “Guards have been cursed out for simply asking people to show their ID’s.”

With an edge to his already deep voice, Pavia added, “That’s not fair.”

New Counselor continued from page 1
involved in student related programs on a college campus.

“Mr. Sharpe had a combination of these skills which we thought would add immensely to his success in this position,” added Haley.

In fact, for the past eight years, Sharpe was a full-time counselor at Fordham University. While there, he did academic, financial, career and personal counseling. But, even though Sharpe’s diverse counseling background made him one of the top contenders for the job, he also had other qualities that impressed the members of the Coordinator of Student Activities Search Committee.

“He struck me as being very personable and student oriented,” said Yvette Remieux. “There was a real warmth to his whole being.”

“I got the sense that he was truly genuine about his involvement with the students on his own campus (Fordham University),” said Christopher Diaz.

At York, Sharpe’s responsibilities include dealing with the various student clubs, taking care of programming for all student activities and serving as the faculty advisor of Student Government. He will also serve as the liaison between the York College administration and students.

Ultimately, only time will tell how effectively Kieron Sharpe carries out his duties. But one thing is for certain. His longevity as the Coordinator of Student Activities relies heavily on the kind of relationship he establishes with the students of York College. And, so far, he seems to be forming a solid foundation.

He has gone out of his way to get to know the students instead of sitting behind his desk and waiting for them (students) to come to him like other administrators,” said Tracey Bowes, president of the Black Student Caucus.

Bowes reported that Sharpe has been going into the cafeteria and talking to students. He has also visited the student clubs and spoken to students there. The students are so friendly,” said Sharpe. “They’ve made me feel very welcomed.”

Sharpe said that members of the administration have also been cooperative, helpful and patient with him as he tries to adjust to his new position.

“I’m grateful to everyone for the spirit of cooperation they’ve shown me,” said Sharpe.

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student senate that he would accept their proposal providing it would not cost the college any extra money,” said Dr. Jones.

Once the administration came up with a solution that was not very costly, and after resolving all of the other problems, the president finally approved the rescheduling of finals before Christmas.

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This offer good at:
• Jamaica Ave. at 168 Street
• Parsons Blvd. at Hillside Ave.
• Jamaica Ave. cor. Parsons Blvd.
YGSC Indicator

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By Sean N. White

Entertainment Editor

February 28, the York College Student Government presented a cultural extravaganza which marked the close of Black History Month. The presentation was dedicated to Nelson Mandela who has recently been released after 27 years in prison.

The students and other members of the York College community who jammed into the Central Mall were treated to an evening of music, dance and other artistic expressions from the global African experience. The pre-program activities began appropriately with a jazz concert by the group Nuji, which features the talents of African American culture and the group’s performance reflected their dedication to keeping this art form alive. The set included “A Night In Tunisia” by Dizzy Gillespie, “Monk’s Mood” by Thelonious Monk and “Giant Steps” by John Coltrane.

The program opened with an invocation which was presided over by York’s Campus Minister, Rev. Hortense Merriett. This was followed by the singing of the Black National Anthem “Lift Every Voice And Sing.” The anthem was led by Mekea Keith.

Donald Vernon, president of Student Government, followed with a brief speech concerning the importance of Black History Month, and the many contributions made to the world by people of African descent. Vernon’s address was centered around the concept of the “talented tenth” and the difficulties they faced at the hands of the dominant European juggernaut. According to Vernon, the talented tenth are those people among any race who provide leadership and direction for that race.

“The destruction of the talented tenth was the key to the Europeans maintaining their control over the Africans,” said Vernon. “They (the Europeans) destroyed the infrastructure which had allowed Africa to attain its greatness.”

Vernon likened the persecution of the talented tenth to a situation he perceives to exist at York College. He claims that faculty members are being reprimanded and dismissed simply because they work too closely with “progressive” student organizations.

“It’s extremely difficult for student organizations (Spirit Magazine and the Black Student Caucus) to find faculty advisors,” added Vernon.

Vernon’s speech segued nicely into the awards ceremony which followed. Edgar J. Lewis, of the N.A.A.C.P., was honored for his long years of service and hard work with the youth of our community. Professor John Abeto from the Department of Economics was also honored. Abeto received an award for his work in preparing students for the C.P.A. exams.

Omayale Clay accepted a plaque on behalf of the December 12th—coalition for its commitment to the struggle of people of African descent. Jean Phelps, of the Department of Student Activities, was also honored for her work and commitment to the students of York College.

“I am an advocate for the students and I will fight for whatever they believe in,” spews Phelps, who had also assisted in putting that evening’s program together.

The program was designed quite ingeniously. Its purpose was to tell a story, much like those handed down by traditional African storytellers known as griots. This story was told through the eyes of Garba Nying who served as griot for the evening.

The story began in Africa as the distant drums grew nearer and nearer. Soon the procession of Billy Bungo and Walter Ince, of the group Omo Ile Ase, appeared and their fierce rhythmic dialogue brought those who were sitting to their feet.

The duo was accompanied by a small child who also played percussion. Then, the dancers joined in and absolute mayhem broke out in the Central Mall. It was certainly one of the most memorable performances of the evening.

The P.S. 118 Kuumbi Imani Performers followed with an African dance routine of their own. These children returned later in the evening to do a modern dance and a ballet selection.

The story then shifted from Africa to the hells of slavery in North America. Eli Pearson gave one of the most visually striking performances of the evening. A hush fell over the audience as Pearson came out bound in chains for his moving portrayal of Nat Turner, leader of the 1831 rebellion.

The York College Chamber Chorus, under the direction of Professor David Labovitz, followed with their rendition of three traditional South African songs. They performed “Beggarman” together was on December 10, 1989 at the Marquis Theater as part of a benefit concert called “The Wall Breaks.” At that time, they performed alongside professional performers— including Vanessa Redgrave who had visited York College in October and November, 1989.

This was followed by a Haitian dance group who thrilled the audience with their sensual movements to rhythms of native folk music.

Michelle Service, a Jamaican student, then took the stage as she recited two poems in her native dialect. Both poems were written by Louise Bennett. The first was entitled “Me Bredda (My Brother).” The second was followed by Noh Lickle Twang! (Not Even A Little Accent).

Pearson then returned with a haunting portrayal of the Jamaican born, black nationalist leader, Marcus Garvey. An eerie silence spread over the audience as Pearson gave an impassioned reading of one of Garvey’s speeches.

The story then returned to the United States in more modern times. Four members of the dance group known as K.A.O.S. took the floor. Lisa Woodard, Natalie Green, Vernell White and Cynthia McDade danced to the beat of house music.

Though Green would not divulge the meaning of the letters K.A.O.S., she said that the name was suggested by a friend because everybody the group practiced, things would be very chaotic. It is difficult to simply label their performance as modern dance and leave it at that.

What we did (during the Black History Month Celebration) was called house dance,” said Green. “It incorporates a lot of African moves because a lot of club and house music is derived from Africa.”

Negro spirituals were heard earlier in the program. However, those spirituals evolved into what is now called gospel. The York College Gospel Chorus, under the direction of Clarence Brown, performed “Sweet Communion” and “I Can’t Forget.” Ayoke Pinckney was featured on the latter selection.

The story, which began in Africa, returned there by way of the Black Spectrum Theatre Children’s Company. The group is directed by Dale Byam.

The children performed an excerpt from their upcoming play, Two Dogs and Freedom. The scene was set in South Africa. The children marched with anti-apartheid signs while singing traditional South African songs. They performed the songs “Senzannina,” “AmaBovanana” (a miner’s song), “Unsikwe NgiZiwwe” (Spear of the Nation) which is the military wing of the African National Congress, and “Mayibuye” (which means freedom).

Andrew P. Jackson brought the story to an end with a reading of the poem, “Freedom’s Pow’” by Langston Hughes.

In the end, this was one of the most memorable Black History Month celebrations at York. It was inspiring to see so many young performers tell the story of their own culture.