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JANUARY/ FEBRUARY
VOLUME 18 • NUMBER 1



Teen mother
bypassed
gangs for
self-respect
and success
p. 4



Eleven phat
pages of
music!!
pp.11-21

new expression



I went to protest.

My lens captured blacks, whites, teens, skin-heads, police and hooded Klansmen.

I came back with images defining the struggle between good & evil, between equality & inequality— I came back with the realization that racial hatred still plagues the American dream...

March with photographer Nicole Davis against the Klan, p.10.

WRITTEN BY, FOR AND ABOUT CHICAGO'S TEENS

NE

new expression

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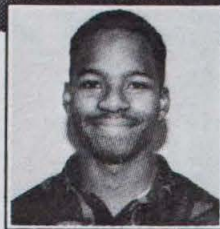
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Andre Rooks,
Co-Managing Editor

Letter from the editor

One-of-a-kind people, issues equal one-of-a-kind stories

As they left practice one day in October, Hirsch High School football players Anthony Almond, Ramses James, and Theodore Williams (p.3), saw a nearby apartment building engulfed in flames. Instead of waiting for the police or the firemen to come, they entered the building and rescued three children.

The story of the Hirsch heroes is just one of many *New Expression* articles that you won't find in any other newsmagazine. *NE* is also featuring an article on the **only** public school ice hockey team, the Morgan Park Mustangs (p. 27). This team shows that just because we're in Chicago public schools, doesn't mean that we can't do some of the things our suburban counterparts do.

We are also featuring an article about the Muntu Dance Troupe and how their new performance, *Afrikan Visions*, brilliantly communicates the complex stories of historically significant blacks through music and dance.

On the cutting edge, we offer three-way opinion pieces on our pro-con page, (p. 6) addressing one of the most controversial and difficult questions facing teens today — "Have we, as a society, actually become colorblind?" We didn't feel that two people could effectively cover this complex issue. Although the colors may simply be black and white, the answer isn't that easy. And when our photo editor Nicole Davis attended a Klan rally in Springfield, (p. 10) she found an answer she did not want to hear...that racism, in its most ugly form, lives and breathes in members of our generation.

Then, instead of the same old, tired black history coverage, we put aside Crispus Attucks in favor of Queen Latifah.

Lastly, *NE* is proud to present our first in a series on Hip Hop, "Beyond Comprehension."

Named after the song by Gangstarr, the section provides information on Hip Hop culture, a culture not widely understood.

Read and Enjoy!

Andre Rooks



Erica Kast, 15, was among the Anti-Klan marchers in Springfield, Ill. Photo by Nicole Davis.

NE

new expression

TABLE OF CONTENTS

January/February 1994
Volume 18, Number 1



How cigarettes can burn you

One teen's story, Critical Mass.....p.5

Animals have rights, too

Photo Journal.....p. 8

Westinghouse's Wuru Terrell's words speak louder than actions

NE Thoughts.....p.9

Music as our history book

Black History Supplement.....pp. 11-18

Brand New!

Monthly Hip Hop section.....pp.19-21

Why the Holocaust is something we should all know more about

"Schindler's List" discussedp. 25

Morgan Park's hockey team only game in city

Sports.....p. 27



Help is just a phone call away

For questions on disease:

Chicago Dept. of Health/
Mental Health
(312) 744-8033

STD Hotline (Operation Venus)
1-800-227-8922

Information on AIDS

1-800-AID-AIDS

Child abuse and neglect:

1-800-25-ABUSE

Illinois Dept. of Children and Family
Services
(312) 814-4650

Child Abuse Prevention Network
(312) 3-PARENTS

For legal advice:

Legal Assistance Foundation/
Children's Rights Project:
(312) 341-1070

For substance abuse:

Alateen

(312) 471-0225

Alanon Center

for Information

(312) 890-1141

Families Anonymous

(312) 777-4442

Cocaine Anonymous

(312) 202-8898

Special Youth Programs:

Neon Street Center for Youth

(312) 528-7767

Teen Living Programs:

(For homeless youth)

(312) 883-0025

Young Men's

Christian Association

(312) 280-3400

For financial aid:

Illinois Department

of Public Aid

(312) 793-4706

To help the environment:

Greenpeace

(312) 666-3305

Citizens For a Better

Environment

(312) 939-1530

Miscellaneous help:

Chicago Department

of Human Services

(312) 744-4045

Teen-to-Teen

Crisis Hotline

(312) 644-2211

Hirsch athletes rescue children, become heroes off the field

By Tyra Coleman, Staff Writer, Whitney Young High School

Three Hirsch High school football players recently got an unusual chance to use their athletic skills off the field. Using their speed, strength, and fast reflexes, Theodore Williams, Anthony Almond and Ramses James stumbled upon heroism when they saved three children from a burning building.

They were leaving practice one day in October when they spotted flames shooting out of an apartment building on the 78th and Ellis block. They rushed to the burning building with coats flying. "I really didn't even think when I saw the flames," Theodore says.

They had to break the padlock on a wooden gate in order to get in. The front door was locked so they had to go around to the back door. Weight training in football really helped out because they had to break the door down. The first thing they noticed was the thick smoke, so thick it almost choked them. The boys decided to break the windows of the building to let some of the smoke escape.

The sun had long since set on this cold October day and the house was pitch black. It was so dark that Theodore didn't notice the 5-year-old boy cowering at the bottom of the basement stairs. They grabbed the

boy and rushed him outside. When they arrived outside the little boy told them his brother was still trapped inside. Without thinking the boys rushed back into the building, battling darkness and flames. Anthony searched and found the terrified 6-year-old under the kitchen sink.

By the time the fire department arrived these boys had everything under control -- except the fire.

These Hirsch heroes received a recognition award from the student council at their school. "We were going in to stop the fire but when I



Three Hirsch football players became known as the "Hirsch heroes" after they risked danger to save three children trapped in a burning home near Hirsch H.S. Pictured (top to bottom): Theodore Williams, 17; Anthony Ulmer, 16; and Ramses James, 16.

walked in I tripped over a child," Theodore explains. Although they received no formal thank you's from

the family of the children, they said knowing they helped someone made it all worthwhile.

What's Up!

Jerry Gee, St. Martin De Porres' gentle giant

By Aruba Roy, Staff Writer, St. Martin DePorres

What do you get when you combine athletic talent, good personality, and modesty? Give up? The answer is St. Martin de

Porres basketball superstar Jerry Gee. He is a 6'7 senior, weighs 226 pounds, and he is seventeen years old.

He chose to go to St. Martin de Porres because he not only liked the school, but the coaching staff as well. Head basketball coach

Mike Mandarino said: "He was in our eighth grade basketball tournament. He liked us and fit in real well."

Jerry has been playing on the basketball at St. Martin ever since freshman year. By the time he was a sophomore, he was considered the team leader, averaging 34 points, 13 rebounds, and 4 blocks per game.

As a result, he not only gained

recognition from the Sun-Times and The Tribune, but received offers of recruitment from several colleges such as Northwestern, DePaul, and Seton Hall by his junior year. This year, he managed to narrow his choices down to Seton Hall, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan. Awards he has received include Class A of the Year, Player of the Week, all-star, and a member of the all-area team. Recently, he was named MVP for the Thanksgiving Tournament at Rockford-Boylan.

And I bet you're asking "What makes Gee a successful player?"

Coach Mandarino responded by saying, "He's big, strong, and plays hard. He is also a gentleman."

"He's a nice person - intelligent," said sophomore Tyrone Triplett, a varsity member.

Jerry uses his intellect to give his other teammates advice and suggestions so his teammates won't be frustrated or discouraged during the game. I mean he is like a big brother to the teammates especially to the underclassmen on the team. "At times when I get frustrated, he tells me to just play my game," said sophomore Tyrone Triplett.

Because of his success, he would like other future basketball players to follow in his footsteps. Jerry Gee's advice to these basketball players is: "Stay focused and always be willing to learn."

Year round school proposal staggers Bogan students

Bogan High School's LSC is considering a plan that would put Bogan on a year-round schedule.

The plan, explained Principal Joseph Rega, would divide the student body into four groups. Students will go to school for one marking period, nine weeks, and then get three weeks off. The four groups will be staggered, so that only 75 percent of the students will be in school at a given time.

The new schedule is needed, Rega said, because of the over crowding problem. Bogan is operating at 119 percent capacity, and that number is expected to rise to more than 130 percent. However, the new program has sparked both confusion and dissent among students. For more on this story, look to the next issue of *New Expression*.



Daley pushes blue bag recycling plan with teens

By Janlah Aragon, Staff Writer, Jones Metropolitan

Do you want your generation pulled into the slime and dirtiness of Chicago's overflowing landfills? Or would you want to cultivate a better environment for our generation? This is one of the problems Mayor Daley brought out at a news conference for high school students at City Hall on Dec. 2. At this conference, the Mayor introduced a solution -- the Blue Bag Program, a city-wide recycling plan that is simple and efficient. Even though other attempts have been made to start a recycling program, such as blue bins, these new programs will cost less and will benefit the inner city. The cost for 30 8-gallon bags is \$1.89. A household that uses one blue bag per week would spend \$12.29 per year on the bags. Recyclable items will include: cans, plastic containers, newspapers, other paper and cardboard. The blue bag will be picked up with normal garbage. Garbage will be taken to four sites located throughout the city. These sites will generate 480 jobs.

Chicago's eagerness to recycle has been demonstrated repeatedly. Daley noticed that almost 60 percent of all attendees at Taste Of Chicago, in the past two years, used recycling bins and the Chicago Park District has had a very good response to its plastic recycling system. Since we are the next generation, Daley asserted, we must be the ones to educate and start recycling.



Mayor Richard M. Daley. Photo by Maritess Caamic; Lane Tech H.S.

Don't see enough of you or your school? Then tell us What's Up! **New Expression** is looking for correspondents from all the Chicago public high schools!!! What's Up! is **New Expression's** link to you!



Jerry Gee of St. Martin de Porres H.S.



With Zenobia Hunt & Laticha Allen

Parents' group keeps teen mom on right track

By Laticha Allen

Now, Shannon Eatmon knows she will succeed

Teenage mom Shannon Eatmon and her 3-year-old son, Kevin, are examples of those of us tipping the scales against the assumption that there's no hope for teen parents.

Shannon, a 17-year-old senior at Chicago Vocational High School, got pregnant quite early — in eighth grade. Luckily, Shannon had 100 percent support from her family and didn't miss a beat in school. She went on to CVS and plans to graduate with her class, not to mention with great grades.

But Shannon doesn't try to fool people with her positive outlook and determination. She's not hesitant to reveal that she wasn't always this way.

"I was once the wild, partying type, and I had some gang affiliation," she admits. "But slowly (with some persuasion) I began to realize that a gang-related bullet intended for me could hit my baby."

Through a social worker, she became involved with "Parents Too Soon," a self-help organization that



Shannon Eatmon, 18, works at the YWCA's Parents Too Soon program. Her son, Kevin, 3, attends day-care while she works. Photo by Nicole Davis, Kenwood.

assists teen mothers emotionally. "Parents Too Soon" also gives information on parenting skills. Shannon has been actively involved for three years and says that PTS has made her "motivated."

"On Thursdays the buses pick you up and bring you down here. We eat and talk about whatever happened during the last week and try to help each other," she explains.

PTS also reaches out to the community. Shannon and others involved were recently on a cable access program.

Shannon recognizes the setbacks that can come about with an untimely pregnancy.

"Half of the seniors at my school are either pregnant or already have kids. I don't want to spend the rest of my life

waiting on a (welfare) check. I don't want to be a burden to anyone."

Surprisingly, others' encouragement isn't what has kept Shannon going.

"People close to me were telling me that I wouldn't graduate because of my situation and were shocked to see my good grades," she says.

Obviously, other people's doubts haven't slowed her down, because she plans to attend Souther in Baton

Rouge, La., after graduation and to take little Kevin with her.

Shannon doesn't like to give advice concerning her "learning experience," but she shares one of her personal mottos: "I look at other people's mistakes and check myself," she says.

Shannon is an inspiration to those with or without a child. You go, girl!

"I don't want to spend the rest of my life waiting on a (welfare) check. I don't want to be a burden to anyone."

Parents Too Soon (PTS) programs throughout the city of Chicago

Check out which ones service your neighborhood from the list below

Allvio Medical Center, 2355 S. Western, 650-1200 — Pilsen/Back of the Yards

Catholic Charities, 10809 S. State, 995-1737 — Roseland/Altgeld/Riverdale/West Pullman

CHASI, Englewood/Auburn Gresham/Washington Heights/West Englewood

Christopher House, 2610 N. Francisco, 235-4073; 2507 N.

Greenview, 472-1083 — Albany Park/Edgewater/Lakeview/Lincoln Park/Lincoln Square/North Center/Uptown

Erie Teen Health Center, 1120 N. Ashland, 278-2850 — West Town

Family Focus Lawndale, 3600 W. Ogden, 521-3306 — North Lawndale

Hispanic Health Alliance, 1579 N. Milwaukee, 252-6888 — West Town

Latino Youth, South Lawndale/Lower West Side

Marillac House, 2417 W. Adams, 226-6545 — East Garfield Park/Near West Side

Harris YWCA, 6200 S. Drexel, 363-3839 — Woodlawn/Hyde Park/Douglas-Grand/Kenwood-Oakland/Washington Park/Greater Grand Blvd./South Shore

Youth Outreach Services, Inc., 5910 W. Division, 379-3600 — Austin

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Teen doesn't want to see life go up in smoke

By Jerome Manansala, Staff Writer, Lane Tech

I am 16 years old, and I started smoking when I was 14. It's hard for me to explain why I started. It was a combination of peer pressure and an underestimation of what smoking could do to me.

When I was a freshman, I put myself under a lot of pressure to make friends. I was insecure and I was easily influenced. When I realized that nearly everybody considered "cool" smoked, it seemed to be the only way for me to make friends.

When I lit that first cigarette, I joined the estimated 3,000 teenagers that start smoking every day. I'm not proud of it now. If anything, I'm scared. I'm scared to join the 750 teenagers out of that 3,000 that will eventually die prematurely from smoking-induced diseases. Frightening terms such as "lung cancer," "emphysema," and "addiction", that I once thought could never be associated with me, have become part of my life. I don't have lung cancer or emphysema, and maybe I'll never develop any complications from smoking, but I do have an addiction, and this inability to stop might eventually lead to my death.

The American Cancer Society estimates that 70.1% of high school students have tried smoking. Nearly 13 percent are frequent users. An annual survey by the Parents Re-

source Institute for Drug Education indicates that smoking and other drug use are on the rise among teens.

The ACS and the American Lung Association have said that young people start smoking mainly because of social pressures, and that teenage smoking is indirectly influenced by tobacco advertising, which is arguable the number one reason teens smoke. Characters such as Joe Camel, Camel

hallucinogens. When a teenager finds that he/she can get away with smoking without getting caught or having serious side effects, it builds up their confidence to try marijuana or crack. It is also crazy for me to think that an addiction to cigarettes could've led to an addiction to pot, or crack, or LSD.

I'm 16 years old now, and I'm a junior in high school. I look at the faces at the teen hangouts by my school and I see the newest class of freshmen lighting their first cigarettes, looking up to those of us who started the habit before they did.

I'm ashamed of ever lighting, up, and I can only hope that other teenage smokers will realize what

they're doing to their bodies, and stop. The American Cancer Society has a program called the "Smokefree Class of 2000," where they go to high schools nationwide to make teens aware of smoking's dangers. With the cooperation of the government, tobacco industry, and store owners that constantly sell cigarettes illegally to minors, underage smoking can successfully be discouraged and stopped.

I'm quitting this year. I've said it before, but I swear this time isn't just an empty promise. I know now I owe it to myself to

stop, and the reasons I had for starting were just not good enough. If I could say one thing to those younger than me that are about to start smoking, I would say it just isn't worth it.

I just hope that they will listen.

In 1990, 947 million packs of cigarettes were sold to the estimated 6 million teenage smokers.



Photo by Nicole Holmes Maybell

Cigarette's mascot, and the Marlboro Man, a popular figure for decades, have glamorized cigarette smoking, and made the habit more appealing to underage smokers. Underage smokers contribute an estimated 3 percent to the tobacco industry's profits, and about half of their profits are derived from smokers who became addicted as children. In 1990, 947 million packs of cigarettes were sold to the estimated 6 million teenage smokers.

In addition to the dangers smoking carries, it is also considered a gateway drug that can introduce teens to more dangerous, illegal drugs, including marijuana, crack, heroin, and

Critical Mass

Sponsored by the William C. Bannerman Foundation

Every minute of smoking takes a minute from a person's life.

• More people die from cigarette smoking and related illnesses than from AIDS, alcohol, traffic accidents, illicit drugs, murder, and suicide combined.

• Smoking cigarettes can cause premature facial wrinkles and impotence.

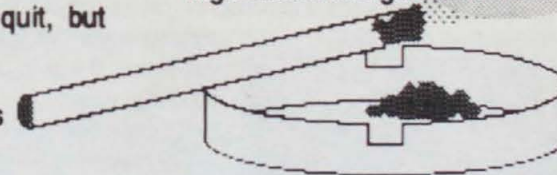
• Each day more than 3,000 American teenagers start smoking

• Two teen smokers in three say they would like to give up smoking. One-half have made a serious attempt to quit, but failed.

• Nicotine, which is found in

tobacco products, is more addictive than crack or alcohol— one out of six who experiment with crack will become addicted; one out of 10 who experiment with alcohol will become addicted; nine out of 10 who experiment with tobacco will become addicted.

• Fingernail polish remover, poisonous gas, an insecticide, 401 poisons and 43 known carcinogens (cancer causing substances) are some of the ingredients in cigarette smoke.



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Thirty years ago, Martin Luther King Jr. told us of his dream--

That people of all colors would come together.

Pro & Con

Our progress is far too slow

By Aruba Roy, Staff Writer, St. Martin de Porres

"I have a dream...that one day my children will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character", were the words of Dr. Martin L. King, Jr., as he stood 30 years ago on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial...

...Thirty years later, as my sister and I are going through the parking lot of the Chicago Ridge Mall, a white lady gets out of her car and closes her door without locking it. When she sees us, she immediately walks back to her car and locks her door...

... Dr. King had a dream, but 30 years later, the dream still has not been reached. We are still dealing with the issues of

racial prejudice and inequality. There is still discrimination in housing, jobs, and schools.

Racist groups such as the Ku Klux Klan, the Aryan Resistance, Neo-Nazis, and other White Power groups continue to brainwash at least some of

the minds who will be leading America's future.

That kind of prejudice keeps minorities out of jobs and forces them to endure the hardships of the ghetto.

Even though I am for affirmative action, I don't think it is working too well. My friend's cousin is a real estate broker. Her goal is to reach partner or at least executive of the company. One day she went into her boss's office and asked him for a promotion. He told her no because the company was going to hire someone from outside. The same day, a friend overheard a conversation that a white man who asked for that same position was told that he could have not only have that position, but he could use the company car.

My friend's cousin said, "I think that the company hired me because I am black and if they didn't hire me, then I would've slapped them with a discrimination suit. I have the same qualifications and experience as all of these other people in the firm."

We need to educate ourselves and others if we are going to live in a civilized world. In order to get rid of hate groups such as the KKK, Skinheads, and other White Power Groups, we need to speak up for ourselves and not let them put down people of color. I know it seems you've heard these words over and over again, but let's try to put speech into action without resorting to violence. What we really need is a new, strong leader who can lead us into a place Dr. King called the "Promised Land."



Aruba Roy

Acknowledging progress lets us move ahead

By Ruqaiyah Morris
Staff Writer, Kenwood Academy

As I'm riding home on the Metra, a black woman and a white man step onto the train together. I think nothing of it and start to look the other way. Realizing that I was looking at them, the woman gives me a look that says, "Please don't start with me about being with him." She then grabs her partner's hand and pulls herself closer to him to try and hide their joined hands. Apparently, she assumed that I would harass her for being with someone of a different race. Now as I look back on that incident, I'm left to wonder: Have we (society) really made progress in becoming color blind? In truth, yes we have.

Thirty years ago, that couple would not have been able to walk down the street together, let alone ride on the same train. With programs like Affirmative Action, people of color have been able to become key figures in corporate society. Competitive colleges and universities that were once inaccessible due to segregation laws are now open for anyone who is qualified. While these may seem like small, almost insignificant steps for society to have taken, "Even a



Ruqaiyah Morris

thousand-mile journey begins with just one step."

I am not denying that racism still exists, nor am I declaring that we have reached total racial harmony. But when you consider how much social reform has been made in the past 30 years in comparison to the hundreds of years before, the changes seem much more dramatic.

Yet even though progress has been made, we still have a long way to go. While society does acknowledge interracial couples, we still haven't reached a point where they can walk with pride and not be fearful of harassment. When a person is repeatedly attacked, that person will start to build a wall of defense. That wall can cause us to become paranoid. Racism is ignorance, pure and simple. And the solution comes through learning and understanding. What may seem to be a racist act may actually be an attempt to learn. So don't be afraid to learn about one another.

We are the future. The path our parents took does not have to be the one we will take. The ideas we teach our children will help to shape them and generations to come. Racial harmony may not be achieved in a day, month or even a lifetime. But it can be achieved. And hopefully, in 30 years when someone asks the question, "Has society made more progress toward becoming color blind?", the answer will be yes.

Getting to the "mountaintop" means we all have to climb

By David Harrell
Staff Writer, Columbia College

We know that people of different colors, families, clans, tribes, nations and religions have always fought and distrusted each other. Looking at it that way, the "melting pot" (or "salad") experiment we're conducting in this country is pretty remarkable. People of different races and cultures are getting along better than ever before, and that, at least, is progress.

Many African-Americans, Latinos and Native Americans living with poverty, welfare dependence, drugs, gangs and crime may laugh bitterly at the idea that America is less racist than it was in the '50s and the '60s. But it is.

There are no longer such things, legally speaking, as "white schools" or "black schools" anymore. Colleges and universities are going so far to erase discrimination against blacks that some (including blacks) now complain schools discriminate against whites and Asians!

African-Americans and other "coloreds" today are not refused entry into hotels, restaurants, or swimming pools because of their race. Discrimination isn't good business anymore.

And no matter how much we complain about the "system" keeping people of color down, the "system" was never designed to work by remote control. In order for it to work for us, we have to work with it. We can start doing that even before we are old enough to vote (another right we have gained), by educating ourselves and getting involved.

I'm not foolish enough to say that there are no racists in America. A friend in the computer business recently related a story about discrimination he suffered because of his black skin. But, he says, the opportunities of today are still a big improvement over the way things were in the '50s. Back then, he never would have been able to hold such a well-paying job and raise his children in such a nice area.

What we have to watch out for -- whether we are black or Blackfoot, caucasian or asian -- are the "bad apples" among us who like to create racial hatred. Every race has them. We have to take care that we, by our own actions, don't act like stereotypes ourselves (and too many African-Americans do just that). We also have to take care that we don't fall into the trap of stereotyping others, the result of ignorance. We should learn about people of other cultures and befriend them, and see how many things we all have in common. We have to learn that each "race" is an equal part of the human race.

Life on this planet has never been perfect, and as long as there is human nature it probably never will be. If we are to ever reach what Dr. King called "the mountaintop", all races must change their attitudes and actions—not just one race.



David Harrell

LETTERS to the Editor

NE needs to include news on whites

I think that your newspaper is very good. It keeps me informed about activities throughout the city.

However, I am troubled by the fact that most of the stories and interviews in your newspaper are geared toward African Americans and Hispanics. There is a low percentage of stories and interviews pertaining to Caucasians. I am a 14-year-old Caucasian male and I am just as proud of my heritage as African Americans and Hispanics are of theirs. What I would really like to see is an even amount of stories for every race. I hope you respect my opinion and take my advice.

Kevin Rasmussen

Poem on death reminds teen of lost classmate

In your December issue, I came upon a poem that was very realistically based. It was called "I Wonder" by Miranda Cabon. The reason for this thought is that in the past few days, the tragic death of Ms. Owens, who was a junior at Von Steuben Metro Science Center, has kept everyone at this school thinking about death, and how one day or another everyone has to die. This poem clearly relates to this factor clearly exposing the thoughts of most teens in the world.

This poem made me think about how wars on this planet are caused for greed, wealth, and power. The truth is all the time we spend pertaining to violence is waste. No one of us thinks that this might be the last day we might be on earth, so why not do some good? To end this off, I would like to

tell all the youths growing up to live each day to the fullest, and remember, it might be your last one.

Shelter story interesting

I found the article about the girl who is starting a shelter for homeless children very interesting. I really admire the

Sincerely,
Sadia Shariff

girl for her determination and will to help out the young people who live on the street. It gives me confidence and hope to know that there are still people who care and are trying to do something. It shows that you shouldn't let

anyone get in your way or discourage you from accomplishing your goal. This girl is a role model and I wish the best of luck to her and her project.

Sincerely yours,
Ibraheem Khorshid

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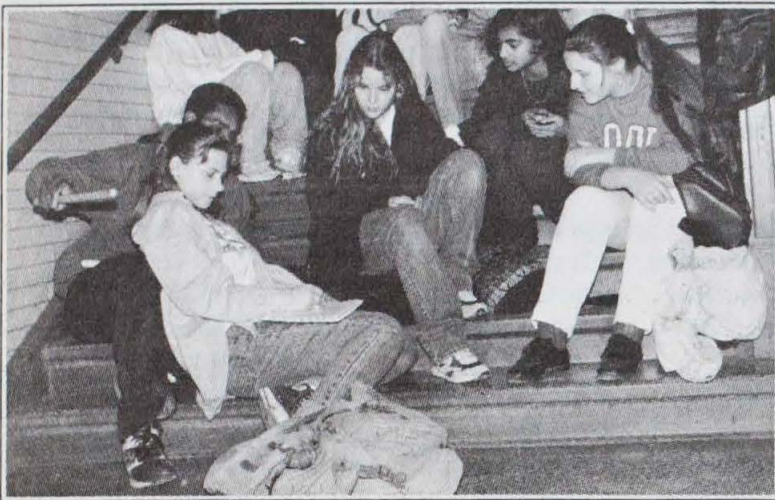


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Give the dogs (and cats) a break

By Ewa Sarnacka, Staff Photographer,
Lane Tech



At left, Lane Tech has one of the few high school animal rights clubs. The club boasts more than 30 members and has been active for over four years. Photo by Ewa Sarnacka, Lane Tech.

At right, Over 19,000 animals are given shelter and a home at the Anti-Cruelty Society located at 1510 N. LaSalle St. Photo by Ewa Sarnacka, Lane Tech.

Below top, Animal Rights Activists protest wearing fur during the "Fur Free Friday" held annually in November on Michigan Avenue. Photo by Jill Bernstein, Lane Tech.

Below right, The Anti-Cruelty Society helps over 6,000 pets find homes each year. Here, a kitten is going home for good. Photo by Ewa Sarnacka, Lane Tech.

Below bottom, Diane Cordova, 28, is a kennel worker. She is responsible for showing the animals to potential adoptive parents. Photo by Ewa Sarnacka, Lane Tech.



Make a difference...save an animal

Each year, the Anti-Cruelty Society becomes home to over 19,000 animals. Of these, only 6,000 pets are lucky enough to find loving environments in Chicago homes. The others -- due to the lack of space and funding -- are put to sleep.

The society, only one of many animal shelters in the city, was founded in 1899 with the purpose of saving the lives of innocent cats and dogs. Often animals are abandoned or neglected. The society provides treatment for those injured and an adoption link for placement.

If you are thinking about getting a pet or find a homeless animal running the streets, think about the Anti-Cruelty Society. You can make a difference in the lives of these unwanted and unloved pets.

Adopting a new family member is fairly easy. For only a \$45 donation, your pet will receive all his shots and any medication needed.

Volunteers are also a big part of the society's shelter and new volunteers are always welcome.

For information, please contact the Anti-Cruelty Society, 1510 N. LaSalle St., 312-644-8338. You, too, can make a difference!



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NE Thoughts Human Hurricane

By Wuru Terrell

The worst unnatural disaster known to mankind,

A lethal blow thrown by an unhesitant storm,

They were innocent beings hit by a hurricane,

Sold out by their own kind into a lifeless hell.

Naive sheep absentmindedly led away from their fold.

Forced to flee from their own world.

Being defenseless natives, they were held in tormenting captivity.

Afterwards they were forced to carry the yoke,

The burdensome yoke of their capturers

Later on set free only to cause a hurricane of their own.



Love Isn't

By Wuru Terrell

Love isn't her body next to mine.

It isn't getting her pregnant and leaving the baby behind.

Love isn't beating her up just for fun.

Then crying like hell when she's gone.

Love isn't embarrassing her in front of her friends.

It's not lifting her spirits to put them down again.

Love isn't making promises you know you'll break.

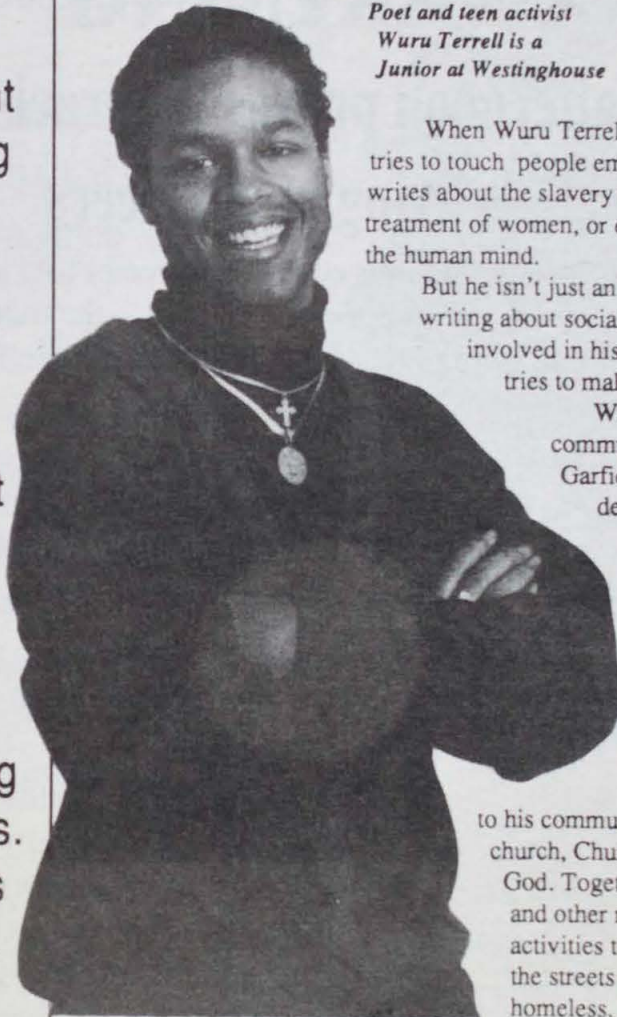
It isn't saying you'll give, but you always take.

Love isn't swearing at her just to make a stand.

How can you do all this and still call yourself a man?

Making a difference

Poet and teen activist
Wuru Terrell is a
Junior at Westinghouse



When Wuru Terrell writes poetry, he tries to touch people emotionally. He writes about the slavery of his culture, the treatment of women, or even the power of the human mind.

But he isn't just an inspired poet writing about social problems. He gets involved in his community and tries to make a change.

Wuru feels his community (West Garfield Park) is rapidly deteriorating, but on the other hand, he also sees a growing number of people from his community working with the police to stop violence and drugs.

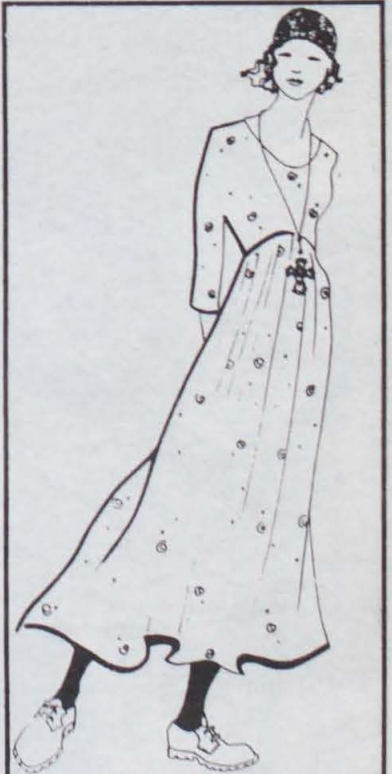
Wuru contributes to his community through his church, Church of The Living God. Together with his pastor and other members, they plan activities to help keep kids off the streets and feed the homeless. Wuru is also a member of Beta, a community organization. He is also

Photo by William Northern, De La Salle

in the Karl Perkins program, which selects students based on their academic excellence. The students talk and debate about school problems and what can be done to better the schools.

Wuru says teens must get involved in community service. "The future belongs to us and only we can make a difference."

Chicago's teens
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Win CASH prizes with NE's Essay Contest #4

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Winning entries will be published in April's *New Expression*

In an effort to curb violence, Foot Locker recently offered free athletic shoes to anyone turning a gun into the police. Write a letter to Foot Locker executives telling them whether you agree or disagree with this program. Be sure to argue for only one side and list your reasons. We will pass your letters on to Foot Locker.

The entry deadline is March 1.
Keep essays under 250 words.

Entrants must be 19 years or younger. Send typed or neatly

printed entries with:

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- Age
- School

• The name of your teacher who gave you *New Expression*
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Contest funding is provided through a grant from the Polk Bros. Foundation --- A Chicago Concern

PHOTO **LINE** Cover Story

RUDE AWAKENING

A Sunday afternoon proves that racism, alive and well, is living in our peers

Our church youth group's religious education director told us about a Klan rally at the state capitol in Springfield Jan. 17, the Sunday before Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. About 20 of us from the First Unitarian Church went down.

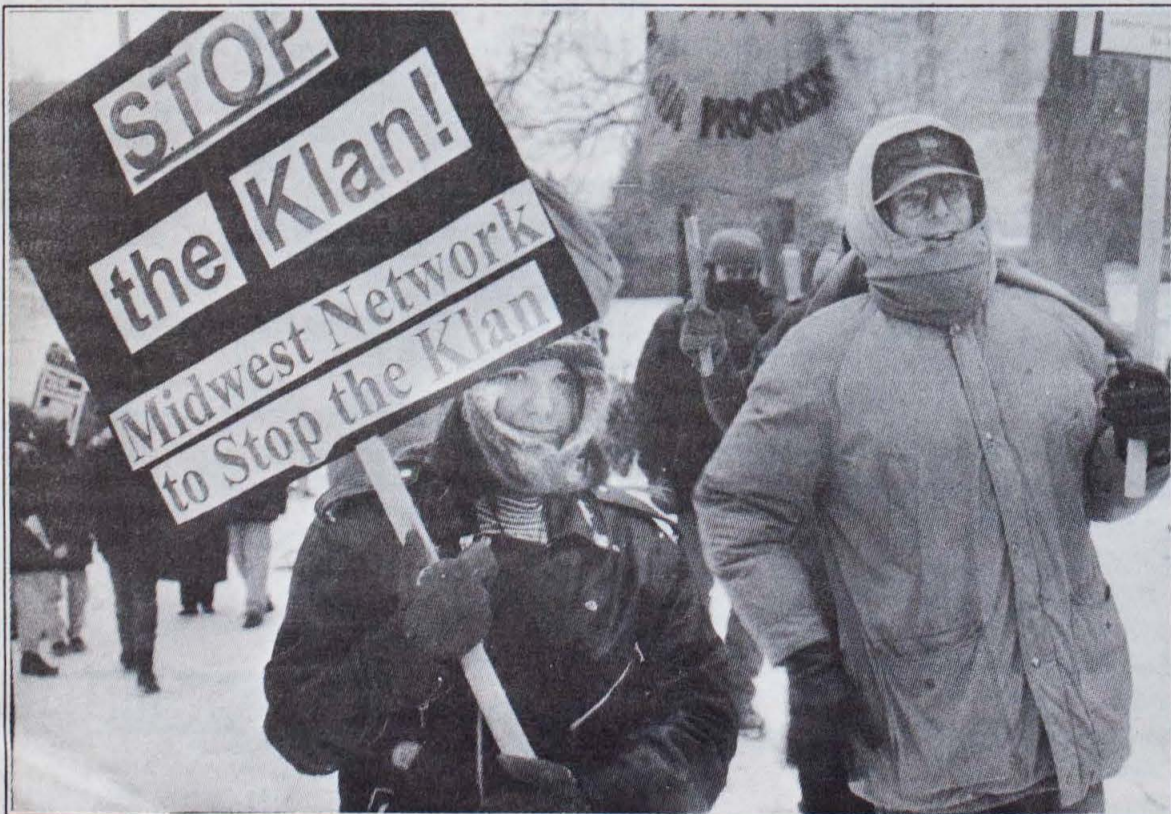
We felt that we had to go down there and show the Klansmen that there are people who don't think the way they do and that there is a way for people to live without hating each other and basically, to say we don't think they're right.

The first thing I saw when we got to the capitol, besides the protesters, were all these policemen with these big batons, wearing shields over their faces, standing in a line behind the crowd.

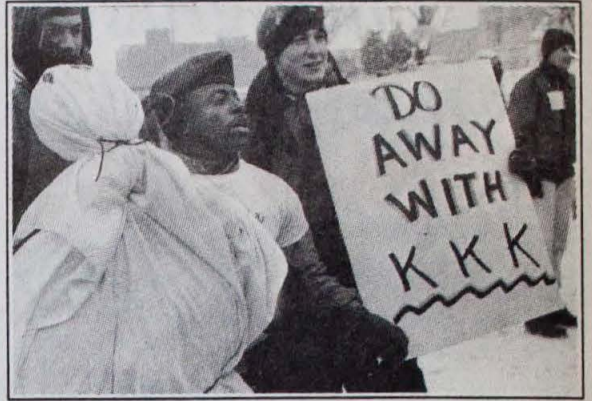
About 40 Klansmen, dressed in sheets and carrying shields and the Confederate flag, came out onto the Capitol steps, and they lined up. We were kept so far back by the barricades that we couldn't hear them speak. But behind me, I heard someone shout "White power." I turned around, and saw a teenager standing there, shouting, as he gave the Nazi salute.

At first, it was hard for me to take these adult Klansmen seriously. Who would actually believe that anyone took them seriously, besides other Klansmen? I always thought it was just these older people, these people on the talk shows, that it was just something on television.

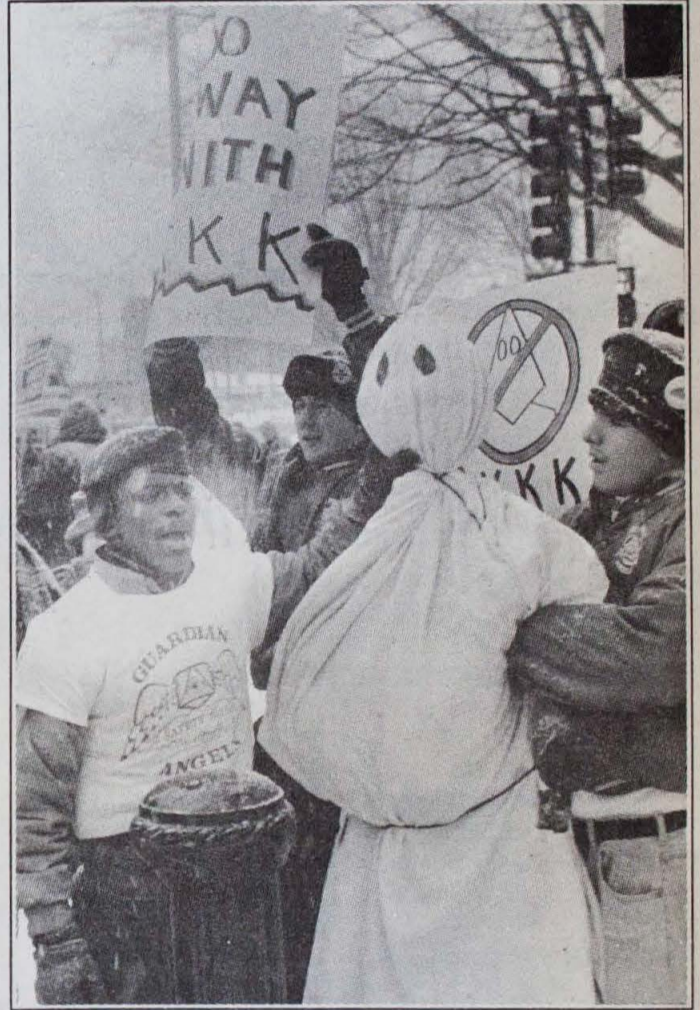
But when I saw these teenagers, the same age as me, it was all too real -- the enemy, the one that was supposed to fade out with those who came before me -- continues to live within my own generation...



While various counterprotest groups, such as the Guardian Angels & the National Women's Rights Organization, rallied in Springfield, the Klan also marched in Columbus, Ohio; Little Rock, Ark; and Topeka, Kansas.



Among those rallying on Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday were four Guardian Angels from Chicago. Dr. King would have been 65 Saturday, Jan. 15th.



Photos by
Nicole Davis,
Photo Editor,
Kenwood Academy

Erica Kast, 15, of U of C Lab Schools, protests during the KKK Rally held in Springfield on Sunday, January 17th.



Approximately 300 anti-Klan demonstrators marched on the State grounds in protest of the 55 KKK members assembled on the Capitol steps singing "Dixie" and reading "Proud To Be White". Nine people were arrested, one charged with felony assault on a police officer during the one-hour rally.

IN HONOR OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

SONGS OF HOPE

**the black experience
through music
yesterday, today,
and tomorrow**

Music is like a history book. On its many colorful pages are written the emotions, the experiences, the character and the consciousness of its creators.

The music of African Americans has become an inseparable part of America. It makes its presence felt on a daily basis.

Spirituals, jazz, gospels, blues, reggae, disco, hip hop and rock'n'roll have been exported all around the globe.

While the contributions of African Americans in other areas can't be ignored, music has a special place in our hearts and also deserves a special place on the list of our accomplishments..

...Over the years the style of African- American music has changed, and despite recent controversy over violent and degrading lyrics, the heart of our music has remained, and has retained its message-- a message of hope, a message of change, whether it is of family values, dreams or just the idea that we are all heroes in one way or another...



Illustration by Larry Miller II

...We have all heard what adults think of rap music and what they consider to be its ramifications. But just as the African American's history is textured by many hues and fabrics, so is our music.

Shimmering between patches of darkness, we see windows to light. Despair, anger, and ignorance sometimes lace lyrics that disgust or anger. How far can an artist go before angering us? What levels of excellence does an artist have to reach to satisfy us? Read on to find out...

Sponsored



QUAKER

by

Reflections on our past, our present...our music

Why Youth Communication/New Expression is doing this supplement...

By Keyosha Moore

As I watch the sunset, I remember, remember when we would all sit around the fire while Papa told his stories, stories of how he was a great warrior. As the drums played in the background, Mama and sister danced. We listened, listened to his wise tales hoping that someday we would become as great a warrior as him.

But one day the ships came, and the music and dancing stopped. The men on the ship were white men, and they had guns. They cost us our freedom, our way of life, our music...

So we arrived, and our women were raped, our names were changed and we were introduced to a life of slavery. We were not even considered good enough to be trash.

But Mama kept us going; she always sang to us, singing songs of hope, songs of guidance.

We were hers for only a short while. She always gave us the will to live even when the white masters were beating what little hope she had left out of her.....

"If I could, I would shield your innocence from time. But the part of life I gave isn't mine I watched you grow so I could let you go..."

"If I could I'd protect you from the sadness in your eyes, give you a world of courage and compromise, yes I would, if I could" — Regina Bell, "If"

..."Cry, little boy, cry," she would say, "Because when you cry, God listens. He listens to the pain that you feel, the loss of hope that you have. He knows and if you believe, believe that he will always be there. No matter how hard the days are, you will know that someday it'll be all over and one day you'll be home..."

"All of the best intentions are sometimes put to shame. If you can remember every face and name somehow all the miles will fade and you'll be home again" — Never Too Far, Dianne Reeves

...Home, I looked forward to going home. When I finally get there, I hope and pray all my triumphs and glory would help guide, guide my people. Mama and Papa died in the struggle and sister lost her innocence. You see, I have lived a long time, hoping and passing on all my dreams, the dreams that we would some day have our freedom, our voice.

My young brother and sisters, you walk around not knowing my struggles, yet you call me a hero. We took the pain so you wouldn't have to. You are my sons and daughters and now it's time for you to do the same for your children and remember...

"A Hero Lies In You" — Mariah Carey

What is Youth Communication/New Expression?

Youth Communication is the non-profit publisher of *New Expression* (NE), the Chicago newspaper by, for and about teens. Distributed free-of-charge to more than 80 Chicago public and private schools monthly, *New Expression* stands today as a completely teen-driven news magazine read by 140,000 teens. The teens producing *New Expression* receive on-the-job training in writing, graphics and the business components of running a newspaper. YC teens are primarily minorities: 55 percent black, 22 percent white, 17 percent Hispanic, and 6 percent Asian. Ninety percent are volunteers. The remaining 10 percent participate in a year-long training program at YC for a year, mostly in the business aspects of running YC, including bookkeeping, circulation, advertising sales and administrative support.



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THIS CULTURE HAS BEEN BROUGHT BY AFRICA

By David Harrell
Columbia College

When Sun Record Company owner Sam Phillips reportedly went out to find a white singer with the Negro sound and feel, he came back with Elvis Presley.

The rock 'n' roll revolution Presley helped launch may have seemed, to the average white person, to have exploded out of nowhere. But the only thing new was the name and the marketing methods. Rock 'n' roll was blues with a strong rhythm—in other words, “the Negro sound”—packaged for a white audience.

Hip-hop is only the latest in a long line of the African-American contributions that have shaped—that *are*—American popular music. Long before the rock 'n' roll “British Invasion” there was the “African Invasion”, and it left a lasting mark on the culture of the United States, Caribbean Islands, and Brazil.

The invasion was created by the European slave trade. But the Africans forced into slavery didn't lose their memories of their life before...or their music.

Memories were carried over into folk tales (such as the “Brer Rabbit” stories) and the music, into the slaves' work songs and chants. This music, developed into “spirituals,” used the “call and response” form (in which a leader calls out or sings a line and the group responds) and African instruments such as the drum and the banjo.

Many slaves songs were sorrowful, an expression of their captive condition, but many, especially their praise songs, were hopeful and even joyful. Slaves adopting masters' Christian traditions often used Bible stories to express sorrows or hopes.

After Emancipation, groups like the Fisk University Jubilee Singers popularized spirituals among whites. Once off the plantation and into the university, spirituals became more Europeanized, arranged into four-part harmony and written down on paper. Singers began to use European vocal techniques. But the African soul of the music remained.

Emancipation also freed black musicians to travel and play in saloons, dance halls, and brothels. In these settings they created a form of music that mixed European instruments (like the piano) with the lively rhythmic feel of the African drum. The music was called “ragtime” for its “ragged time” (syncopated rhythm). Probably because it helped release music from its rhythmically straitjacketed European classical tradition, ragtime was attacked by the press and on the pulpit as vulgar, filthy, and suggestive.



Meanwhile, rural blacks were transforming plantation works songs into what would become known as “blues”.

Mamie Smith's 1920 record “Crazy Blues” sold so well that within a year, it been said that every phonograph company had “a colored girl” recording blues.

Jazz reportedly developed in New Orleans around 1910. At first, it was called “hot blues”, because it combined blues melodies and scales with ragtime's “hot” rhythm. Jazz was especially popular among the younger generation, who loved to dance to its “swing” rhythm, making the '20s the “Jazz Age”.

Big band jazz soon dominated popular music and even affected “serious” music. Today, much of popular music is some form of jazz.

And just as rock 'n' roll is a form of rhythm and blues, Latin music's roots came to Latin America via African slaves.

DJ Amelia Guzman, who plays Latin music on WSBC-AM 1240, says African influences shaped musical styles like samba, salsa, meringue, and rumba. Guzman says Yoruba, Lucumi, and Bantu slaves brought to the Caribbean islands and South America, “made instruments...when they worked on the sugar plantation, these people would sing, mostly religious songs... They improvised their lyrics. The cutting of the machete served as a rhythmic background.”

And, author Bill Malone says, even country music has African-American influences, as seen in classical country legend Hank Williams.

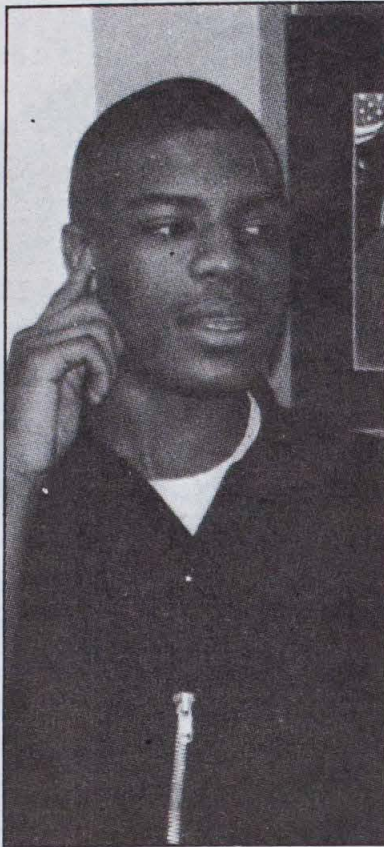
The African Invasion has been so successful that some groups representing European ethnic music (such as polka) complain of discrimination. An editorial in the polka lovers' newsletter “The Polka News”, fumed that American popular culture has become “anti-Europe” because commercial music is “nearly all of African influence.”

Editor Carl Rohwetter was frustrated with “a younger [American] European generation that seems completely thrilled and preoccupied with African culture and showing [sic] very little respect for their own.”

But what if the African Invasion had never happened? Would the U.S. be full of youthful garage polka bands, with parents banging on the door, yelling “TURN THAT ACCORDION DOWN!”? Would we dance to waltzes and jigs instead of hip-hop and house?

Not to diss people who like waltzes and jigs, but if the “African Invasion” had never happened, American music, as we know it, wouldn't exist.

**But what if the
“African Invasion”
had never happened?
Would the U.S. be
full of youthful garage
polka bands, with
parents banging on
the door, yelling
“TURN THAT ACCORDION DOWN!”?**



No matter what anyone has taken from the black man or woman, the one thing they have never gotten away with is "what's in our souls—our natural rhythm."

The "Natural rhythm" Morgan Park junior Adrienne Samuels is referring to has caused the black man and woman to

develop the jazz, the classical, the gospel, reggae, rock'n' roll, rhythm and blues, blues music and rap we all enjoy. *New Expression* gathered teens from around Chicago — Carver students junior Maurice Burns, junior Dwight D. Turner and senior Stephanie E. E. Manuel; Crane seniors Jeff Robinson and Akula Segal; Whitney Young juniors Marissa Sandert and Toya Lay; Joshua Cotton, a senior at Corliss; and Lamar Reynolds, a senior at Hirsch; to discuss what music means to them.



The teens agreed that the music of today, with its blunt sexual lyrics is simply a derivation of "dusties" with their more subtle but just as prevalent sexual implications.

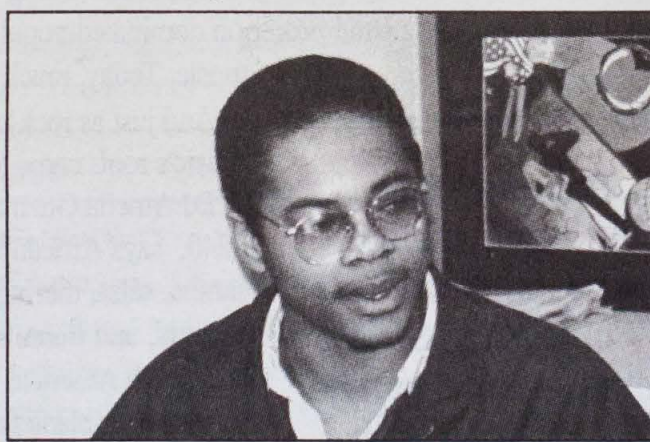
Toya feels that now songs use the term "sex" rather than "love" but essentially, James Brown and Luke could get together and make a successful album.

Gospel music and jazz are the two types of music identified that provide a release from the sexual energy and intensity put on the majority of most CDs.

Favorite songs that send out positive messages include "Keep Your Head Up" by 2 Pac (Marissa's favorite), "Be a Father to Your Child" by ED O.G. and da Bulldogs (Toya's favorite), and "UNITY" by Queen Latifah (Jeff's favorite). These songs tell black men that they should treat black women with respect. "Why is that" by KRS-1, "Culture Girls" by Kam, and "Be True to the Game" by Ice Cube also sends out positive messages. So why all the criticism of rap music?

"Music is life and life is music," says Lamar Reynolds, a Hirsch High School senior.

But what is the music of today teaching teens and does it matter? The debate arises, "Is this song too promiscuous, is this song too violent, and what kind of influence does this artist's music have on society?" Marissa Sandert, a junior at Whitney Young, believes that it's all in the way the words are presented.



Photos by Amanda DeZutter

Pictured are, upper left: Jeff Robinson; center: Akula Segal; lower left: Lamar Reynolds; upper right: Adrienne Samuels; lower right: Stephanie Manuel

OPINION
TODAY'S SONGS CAN CARRY POSITIVE MESSAGES

By LaTanya Burke, staff writer, Lane Tech

Adults think all the music of this generation is about sex and violence. Yes, some of our songs carry controversial messages, but empowering and uplifting messages are there, too.

Tupac Shakur's "Keep Ya Head Up" motivates young and single mothers to keep a positive outlook throughout all of life's circumstances. He also tells them to teach the children better so they'll be better adults.

And while many songs of the '90's are degrading to women, many female performers have come to empower women through songs:

- "U.N.I.T.Y" by Queen Latifah addresses men who degrade and abuse women. It also has an undertone message of much-needed unity in the black community;
- Whitney Houston's "I'm Every Woman" tells the independent attitude of the

'90s woman: that they are able to handle it all; career, family, and whatever needs to be done.

• Songs like Mariah Carey's "Hero" tell people, especially teens to look inside themselves for their much sought-after role models.

Everyone has those qualities; they just have to look within. The message of love and appreciation comes through in R. Kelly's "Sadie." He expresses his

love for his mother and her love for others. These are just a few examples that positive songs still exist in what many think is a generation lost. People should begin to listen to *all* the songs before generally criticizing them and our generation.

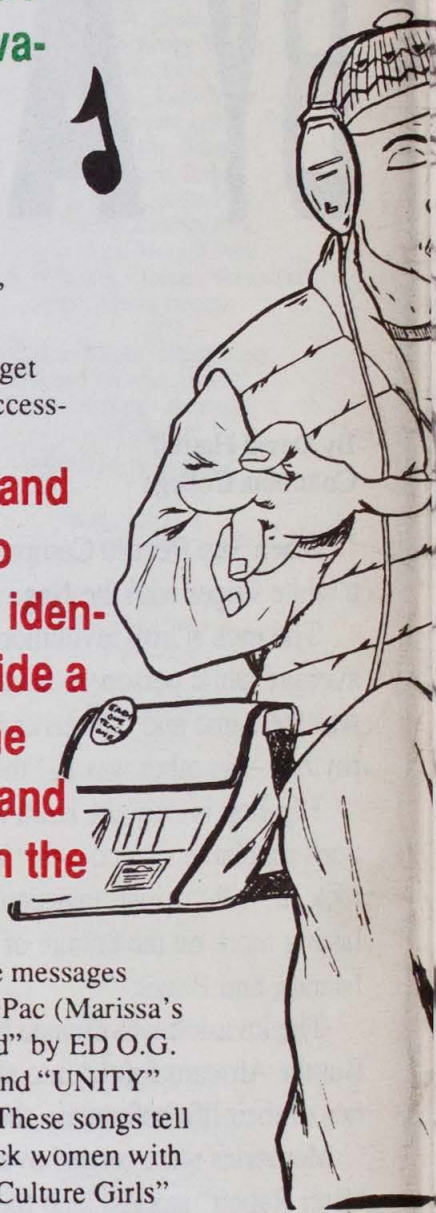


Illustration by Olusola Ak

young, black, and adolescent are hardships". These teens feel that music is an outlet, not an influence—rap music is something many young blacks can relate to.

Jeff and Akula

believe that outsiders looking in cannot relate to what rap music is.

"There is a lot of frustration in black youths and that's where violent music can come in, sometimes it relieves frustration," said Adrienne. Also, the teens generally agreed that the degree of influence music has on its listeners depends on the person and their environment. Someone that grew up in Englewood may have a different perception of life than someone that grew up in Beverly.

Yet, many rap fans can appreciate the roots of rap.

Akula remarked that he was inspired to rap by the Sugar Hill Gang's song "Rapper's Delight." Jeff felt that at a very young age he could relate to Curtis Blow's song "Don't Push Me Cause I'm Close to the Edge," and found it rather inspirational. Toya felt that she and her peers were whisked away into a fairytale land of love when L.L. Cool J.'s "I Need Love" hit the record stores.

Akula did note however, that listening to his mother's old Isley Brothers records did prompt him to think about sex at a very young age. The influence of sex on youths is a very controversial subject, particularly for some black artists that are criticized for making songs that are too sexually explicit. But then as Jeff says, "sex sells"—right?"

However, Stephanie E.E. Manuel, a senior at Carver High School remarked that Snoop Doggy Dogg's tape really exploits black women and disrespects them.

But Akula counterattacked her statement by saying that's how Snoop feels, you don't have to listen to the tape. "Some black women accept that, if we really disagree, then we shouldn't listen to the tape," said Adrienne. Jeff inserted that "Snoop's generalizing girls he's been with. Basically it's for entertainment and money. No one wants to hear 'I missed the bus.'"

Lamar says, "Black music is a form of expression for black youths. It's just as difficult to make a good rap song as it is to compose reggae music."

In essence, the teens concluded that music is a form of rebellion and uprising against mainstream society. As Joshua Cotton, a senior at Corliss High School said, "Music is how we think".

By Chante Spann, Morgan Park



TEENS WRITE ON RAP

"These days, singers only compose songs related to sex, drugs and so forth, and these singers are the ones who are committing crimes, and what for, the fans? They may even think that committing a crime is not that bad, because famous artists do it, and here is where I get my conclusion. Artists should realize that they should have a tremendous influence on their fans, and that they should be a positive influence on them, not a negative influence."

— Suami Mendez, Lake View

"... There is a stereotype that all rappers are good for nothing, give nothing back to the community, and are criminals, which is untrue. Rappers such as RUN-DMC send out 'positive messages' to listeners. Snoop and Tupac spread the truth that parents and other authority figures would rather keep out of the open. Closing a young person's ears and eyes to reality is unfair. This is like a parent wanting to keep their child at home in a closed room all their life, it's unrealistic."

— Nia Hudson, Whitney Young

"Snoop Doggy Dogg and Tupac Shakur's music has a lot of violence in it. As much violence as there is in the world, they should try to rap about stopping the violence."

- Ervin Hendrix, Hyde Park

"I believe singers and others who are considered famous should consider themselves role models. Children look up to them and try to imitate and be just like them. It would be a shame for the role models of these children to let them down."

— Lakeyia Williams, Chicago Vocational

"If the lyrics are talking about killing someone or raping a girl, I'd turn off the song because I totally disagree with these crimes. I would not encourage the negative acts that they are singing about by listening to them."

— DeLisa Glover, Morgan Park

"I feel that rap is the kind of music that allows one to express himself to his fullest."

— Melodye Parker, Bogan

"I say, if you don't understand rap, then don't listen to it." — Acasia Grims, Bowen

"Maybe there aren't any morals anymore. Maybe there aren't any role models to look up to. Maybe it is all a front, conscious or unconscious, to butter up people in search of the Almighty Dollar.

Maybe parents should soothe their kids about musicians as they do for horror movies:

'Don't worry, honey, it's all fake.'

— Leigh Carney, Morgan Park



QUAKER

94

WHEEL

In its monthly essay contest, sponsored by The Polk Bros. Foundation, *New Expression* asked the question -

"Snoop Doggy Dogg has been indicted for murder. Tupac Shakur has been arrested for sexual assault. Michael Jackson has been accused of molesting a child. If you knew for a fact that they were guilty, would it stop you from buying their music? Why or why not?"

Here are some of the answers...

Giau Truong
Lincoln Park High School
Teacher: Mr. Gibbons

2nd PLACE

By this time, I have written over ten versions of this essay. I've asked my pondering mind, is it the music I like or is it the artist? Even if I knew for a fact that they were guilty, I wouldn't stop buying their music. I'm buying the music for the idea they represent not because Johnny here is a saint. If that was the case, I might as well stop listening to all music. It's like not wanting to drive a car because Henry Ford was arrested late in his life for drunk driving. IF the music is pleasant to my hearing, then why not listen to it?

Elvis Presley is said to have taken drugs, but his music is still selling like there's no tomorrow. The same with Mozart, Beethoven, and many more artists. We might not like their personal life, but we don't have to dislike their work. Anyway, no one's perfect, not even superstars. If they were perfect, they wouldn't be humans, but gods. If we can still love to buy and hear Elvis play his "Love Me Tender," Mozart's "Requiem," then why not Michael's "Bad"?

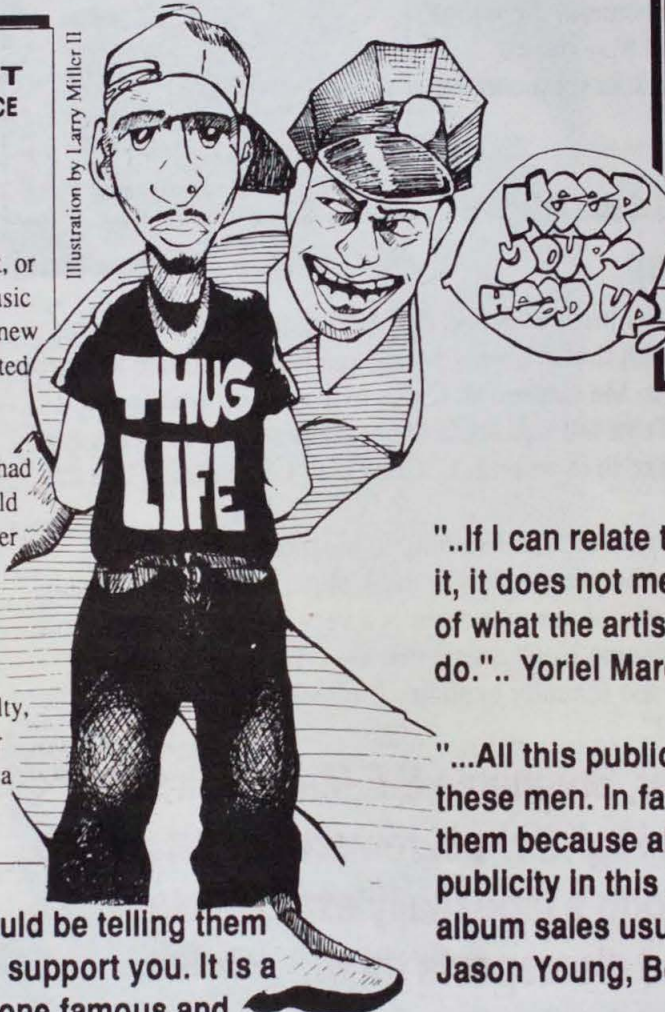
Sanya Sarich
Lincoln Park High School
Teacher: Mr. Macala

1ST PLACE

I would never consider associating myself with people who were guilty of committing crimes like child molestation, sexual assault, or murder. That is precisely the reason why I would not buy the music of Snoop Doggy Dogg, Tupac Shakur, or Michael Jackson if I knew they were guilty of the crimes they are accused of having committed. Why anyone would want to support a convicted murderer, child molester, or sexual offender is beyond comprehension. If people continued to support he three stars after it was revealed that they had murdered another human being or molested a child, the stars would probably have few, if any misgivings about committing yet another crime. Buying their music would be rewarding them, rather than punishing them, for their criminal acts.

Child molestation, sexual assault, and murder are horrendous crimes against fellow human beings. The morality of this society would certainly have turned sick if the three stars were found guilty, and then allowed to survive professionally. Prison, or some other form of severe punishment, is all the "reward" any criminal even a popular rock star, should ever receive.

Illustration by Larry Miller II



"..If I can relate to a song and I like it, it does not mean that I approve of what the artists do or do not do.." Yoriel Marcano, Lane Tech

"...All this publicity hasn't affected these men. In fact, it actually helps them because all publicity is good publicity in this field and their album sales usually increase...." Jason Young, Bogan



Illustration by Larry Miller II

"By buying their music, I would be telling them no matter what you do, I will support you. It is a disgrace for you to be someone famous and known for the high quality of music you strive to achieve, then behave like some of the worst criminals we have in this country..."

Amado Vega, Morgan Park

"These men send messages to the public, messages that are backed up only by greed. Ideas they do not practice themselves. They are pretenders. They deceive people for money. They cheat the public. It would not be right to support them. They live lavish lifestyles by recording lies. What they have to say is worthless..."

"They may choose to do something negative in their lies, but we must be smarter and realize that we are our own individuals and their actions cannot affect us because we are stronger mentally!!"

Carmen Munigan, Julian

By Shanta Cooper
Whitney Young

3rd PLACE

On the matter of buying convicted entertainers' music, I wouldn't buy it. That is wrong on my behalf. Whatever the entertainer did wrong does not promote a better society for us.

If I was to buy a convicted entertainer's music, I would be supporting what they have done. In the cases of Michael Jackson, Tupac, and Snoop Doggy Dogg, if convicted they are all liars. Michael Jackson sings about children and peace. Where is the peace in molesting little children? How can Tupac tell women to keep their head up and the men to stop abusing them, but he is charged with accessory to raping a woman. As far as Snoop Doggy Dogg is concerned, to kill someone is wrong. To take someone's life does not solve the problem but makes life harder on the killer. If each one of these entertainers are convicted that shows that in reality they care about nothing that seems to be their concern in their music.

To buy the music of a convicted entertainer would be supporting them 100 percent. The buyer, therefore, has no morals or hope for the future, and our society will have taken an even sharper turn for the worse.

To make this world more peaceful and easier to live in, I as an individual must convince those to think about the better things we can do with the money that buy that music. I must help those unable to show that they care to not support a musician because of their music, but because of the beliefs that they share. Life is too precious to help others to destroy, famous or not.

Illustration by Larry Miller II



THE NEW SCHOOL

Between hardcore and hip hop, young rappers won't be falling in any cracks

By Raven Hill
Staff Writer
Morgan Park High School

Even without a curtain and a spotlight, for the moment Van Buren Street is Akula Segal's stage. Listening to him rap, one thought goes through my mind: anybody can rap, but this brother can flow.

He occasionally slips into a reggae/ragamuffin kind of style and his lyrics are funny, yet real.

When I ask about his group's style, he surprises me with his reply, "We don't really have one." His partner, Jeff Robinson, also known as "Yung Buk", agrees that the group Young And Dangerous (YAD), has a unique flavor. "Our style falls somewhere between hard-core and hip-hop," he says. "We rap but we don't want to be considered strictly hip-hop."

Robinson compares the difference between hip-hop and underground to what sets jazz and blues apart. "Jazz does not comment on 'hardships' but the blues does- that's how I see underground."

"Underground is lower level; it's stuff people don't want to hear, but they have to hear it."

Segal, who goes by the alias "Sydekik" when rapping, feels that underground contains one basic truth: reality.

"People need to know this. It's what I feel in my heart," he emphasizes. He tries to kick it in a way listeners need to hear and in a way to interest them. He and Jeff "don't come on to people like 'We're dope'" and the listener should expect rappers Rakim or KRS-One. Segal credits that approach as the reason they've never been criticized. "Yeah, there is profanity in the lyrics but we don't degrade other races, religions, or sexes."

Robinson says their music carries different messages. "We don't want to be 'studio gangstas'. We're talking about what we've been through, stuff we've done. No one forced our environment. Our basic message is to stay strong and watch your back. We speak truthfully," he says.

YAD hopes to educate others by

giving some street knowledge and entertaining them at the same time.

People who have heard them not only love them, according to Segal, but they want to hear them again. "We're original. I love it when people ask me to rap for them," he said. Robinson feels they get a lot of respect from people in the industry. "I say what I want to say. When I come on stage, people say, 'You're bold'."

Segal counts among his biggest influences his godfather, the late Dizzy Gillespie; his grandfather; and Jeff, whom he calls "my brother".

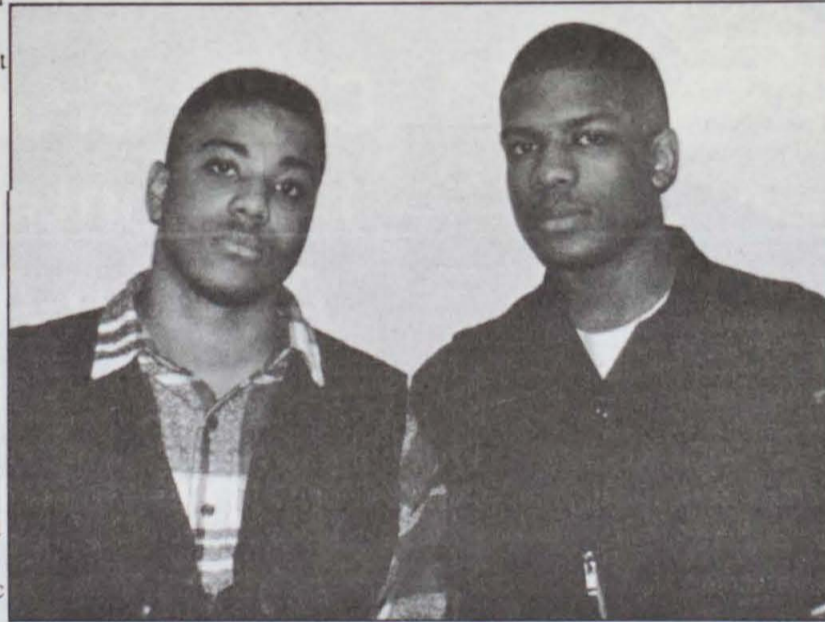


Photo by Amanda DeZutter

Their friendship began almost five years ago. They were in a school musical and although they didn't like each other at first (Jeff says they hated each other), when they became better acquainted, they clicked. Akula puts it, "We're alike in every way." Every time he's had any kind of problem or dilemma, Jeff has been there. "Jeff is my Guardian Angel. He always knows where to find me. Strange, isn't it?"

When he hears this, Jeff smiles. "He's my ace," he says. They are to each other the brother they never had. "I've been right there with him through a lot," he said. "We're close."

Akula's grandfather, Joe Segal who owns the Jazz Showcase downtown, initiated his interest in the music industry. "He'd make me go down to the Jazz Showcase. At first I didn't

like it, but now I find myself listening to jazz music," he admits. Akula gives "thanks and praise" to him. "My grandfather gave me the opportunity to broaden my horizons; that opportunity expanded them to help me make the kid of music I want to make," he said. "He doesn't like it, though."

Robinson's support comes from his former girlfriend, Pauline Hilliard. He feels she really understands what the group is about. "She listened to what I was saying. She has been there through the group's make-ups and break-ups," he said.

Jeff's immediate plans include finishing the group's debut album. "I hope this record goes right because I'm tired of being disappointed. I'm tired of seeing other group's succeed because ghetto kids like us don't have the money," he says. He plans to attend college and to eventually own a record company. He feels there is a lot of unnoticed

talent in Chicago and wants to take the rappers that New York and Los Angeles don't see and make something out of them.

Akula plans to attend either Chicago's Columbia College or Stillman College in Alabama as a broadcast communications major. He hopes to become either a record producer or disc jockey one day.

On the topic of the Chicago rap scene, both Segal and Robinson believe the city will become one of the premier rap cities for talent. With no disrespect to any other side, Segal suggests all promoters come to the West Side of the city to find a lot of natural-born talent. Robinson agrees, "There is so much talent here that's being wasted. Chicago's rising."

Young rappers promote unity, not violence

By Marvin Patterson



JG - Godfather (left) and Jam (front, right)
Photo courtesy of Gasoline Alley and MCA
Photo by Bill Hawthorne

JG, which features Jam, age 24, and Godfather, age 20, are straight from the hood of Chi-town. They say their single, "Put Down The Guns" on Gasoline Alley Records, contains positive lyrics to promote education and deter crimes in inner cities. In this song, JG addresses the same issues as DJ Quick's "Born and Raised in Compton," although "Put Down The Guns" does refer to all those brothers who try and "front" (put on an act) by shooting and killing each other.

The song also says to put down the guns for Dantrell Davis, who was shot and killed last year in the Cabrini Green housing development.

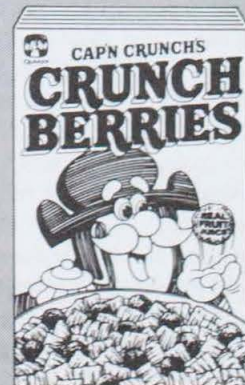
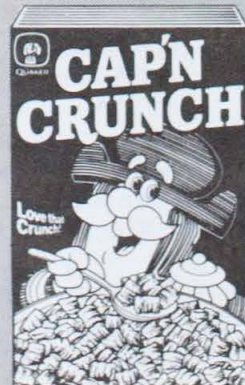
NUFF SAID



Cap'n Crunch honors
the contributions of
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to the world of music,
from gospel to rap,
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BEYOND COMPREHENSION

NEW EXPRESSION TAKES A LOOK AT THE CHICAGO HIP HOP SCENE AND ABROAD

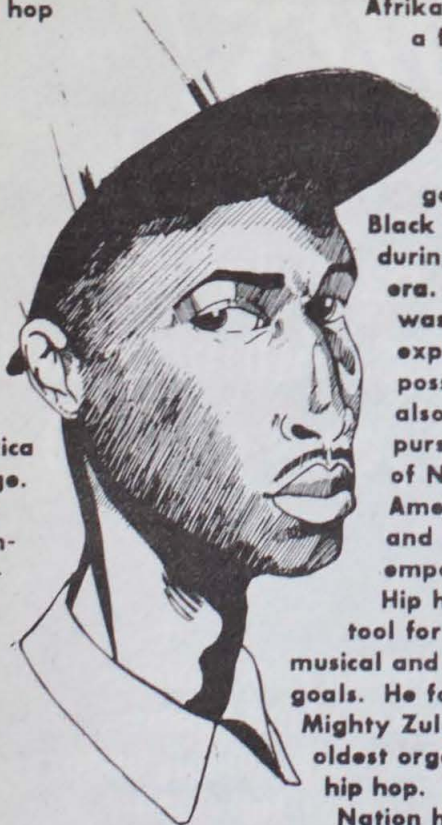
FROM THE ROOTS

An Introduction to the History of Hip Hop

By Shandell Lewis and Terrell Ruffer

Well, where should we start? Let's go back about 20 years, 18 to be exact. Let's take a journey back to explore the origin of hip hop - possibly the strongest voice of youth in the world, for African Americans especially. This controversial and energetic, ever innovating, modifying and re-creating culture originated in the Bronx and Harlem Boroughs of New York City.

To talk about the history of hip hop without mentioning the fathers of hip hop would be an unforgivable crime. Kool DJ Herc, a Caribbean native, came to America at a young age. He was a disc jockey at teenage disco parties. He used the (sound system) set up that had been utilized in his native land. He, probably unknowingly, designed the blueprint for hip hop's blasting sounds



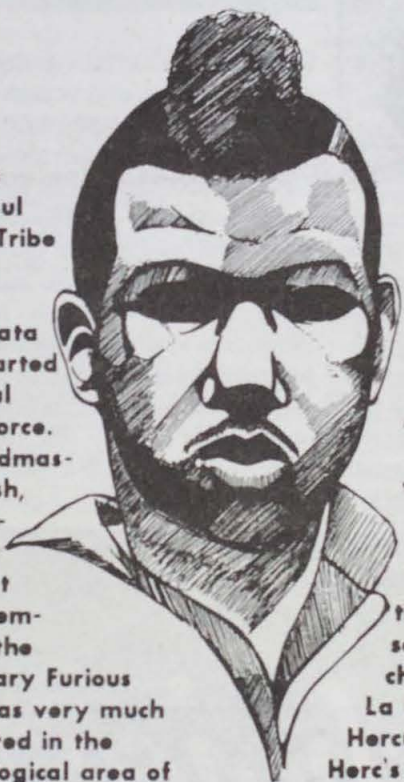
and hard hitting, soul-soothing music for today. DJ Herc, with his "turntables" and speakers, was always looking for new ways to "rock a crowd". As a DJ in the '70s at schoolyard jams and parties in the park. He would combine unorthodox records, mesh beats from black exploitation soundtracks, soul grooves, and dance hits from the Caribbean. Thus, the seed of hip hop culture had been planted. The "peculiar plant" sprouted with the help of the likes of Afrika Bambaata and Grandmaster Flash.

Afrika Bambaata, a former member of one of New York's largest gangs - the Black Spades - during the '70s era. Bambaata was inspired to explore musical possibilities. He also wanted to pursue his dream of Nubian-American (Black and Latino) empowerment. Hip hop was his tool for both his musical and "political" goals. He founded the Mighty Zulu Nation, the oldest organization in hip hop. The Zulu Nation has produced some of hip hop's most influential and entertaining groups of today,

such as DeLaSoul and A Tribe Called Quest. Bambaata also started the Soul Sonic Force.

Grandmaster Flash, remembered by most as a member of the legendary Furious Five, was very much interested in the technological area of the culture labeled hip hop. Through Flash's experimental innovations such as "scratching" (with the help of a kid named Grand Wizard Theodore). He also introduced the beatbox to deejaying. Now some of ya'll might say that Doug E. Fresh was the original human beatbox...while that might be true, the grandmaster introduced the beatbox, or the drum machine. The drum machine did for music what Shake-N-Bake does for chicken. It added "mad flavor".

Many events helped shape the culture of what's known today as hip hop. Despite what many may believe, hip hop did not come from rap or so-called rap music. In fact it's quite the contraire, rap evolved from hip hop. Rap evolved from certain neigh-



borhood phrases and bits and pieces of everyday street lingo. Words such as awck, def, fresh, and bustin' were often incorporated into the DJ show during park and block parties. A kid named Cowboy who was from the Flash camp came up with phrases like, "Throw ya hands in the air," "Somebody scream," and the classic chant, "Say Ho!". Coke La Rock from the Herculoids (Kool Herc's crew) used to shout street lingo and phrases to the crowd as well. It was like he was talking or rapping (rap means to talk; to converse) to a friend in the crowd, one on one. Eventually DJ's and emcees - master of ceremonies, host of the party - began to piece these phrases together and recite them to music. This became known as rappin' to the beat. Emcees like Melle Mel, his

brother Kid Creole, Scorpio, Cowboy and a kid named Raheem, along with Grandmaster Flash and The Furious Five.

These emcees would rap over popular disco tunes, and would use the drum machines to alter or create new rhythms and music. Thus, some perceive rap as a spinoff from disco, which is a spinoff of funk and rock.

The first rap album was "Rapper's Delight" recorded by the Sugar Hill Gang in 1979. This record represented a milestone in the hip hop world - the beginning of the end of the underground culture. For this was the rest of the world's introduction to hip hop. It was the first time a rapper enjoyed commercial success.

Despite the success of Rapper's Delight, rap was not taken serious and was regarded by the mass majority as a mere fad. During the early '80s rap music returned to its home: The basement or the sewer.



GRAND MASTER FLASH AFRICA BAMBATAA D.J. KOOL HERC

BUSINESS AS USUAL

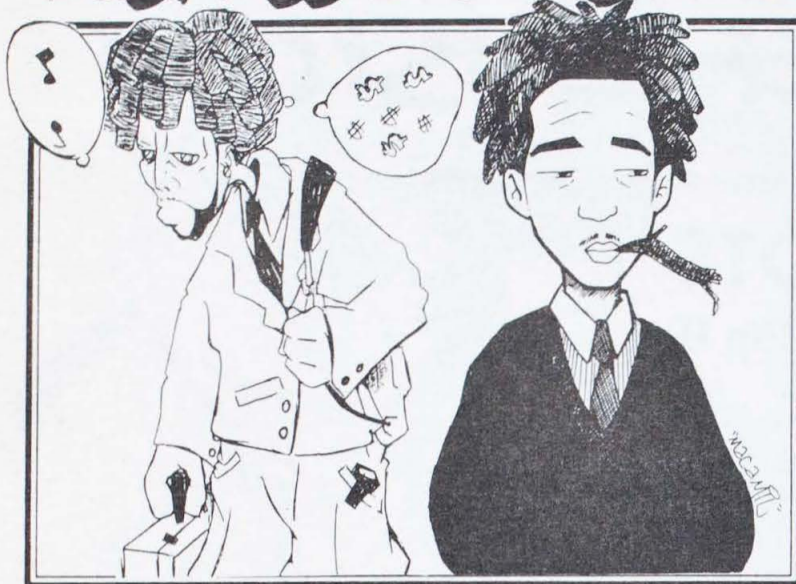


Illustration by Rudee Brady De La Salle, Larry Miller II

HIP HOP IS... a bread head, party pumpin', blunt smokin', bottle tappin', R&B attacking brother with a crew hoppin', slang talkin', Nautica sportin', Polo promotin', Stacy Adams wearin' contact lens havin' female in baggy pants and profiling that trademark hairstyle (neatly cut and just as neatly pressed) sitting next to him in his hoopty deville bumpin' the boommin' bass and rhythm rifs from Common Sense's "Soul by the Pound" with his "boys" in the backseat who're basically always broke and borrowing bucks from other brothers, and packin' backpacks like their heads pack naps under their black caps; their knapsacks pack phat raps. Of course, tahey have their patented pick in the pocket, and a practically dysfunctional, barely working, beat

up Sony walkman. Of which, you can be sure the ever-so-familiar messages of stunts, blunts, and hip hop wholeheartedly propagated by the "funkadelic devil himself" Mr. Reggie Noble are being pumped into their brains.

Now if you're one of those people who claim that this is what hip hop is about...You're right! But, remember there is a flipside to all of this. Study the

NOT. Unless we capitalize on this fact, hip hop will continue to be watered down and censored. Rappers, writers, and producers will continue to be taken for the cash that is rightfully theirs. Hip hop's powerful and creative culture will continue to be relentlessly suppressed, right here in Chicago.

So, if you're the type that sees putting on a suit and tie, combing your hair, and

has it that hip hop is 15% talent and 85% business while business itself is 15% decisions and 85% paper work.

One organization leading the way by taking advantage of the business aspect of hip hop is Godphellas Inc.. GPFI is a unification of several young "hip hop culture oriented" businessmen and businesswomen, who have combined their intellect, creativity, knowledge, experi-

'THEY AINT 'G'ING HIP HOP CAUSE IT'S OURS.'

flipside of the coin to find out why studio gangsters are at an all-time high. Study this side and find out why R&B's love and sex themes have taken a sharp turn, and are coming closer to hip hop's controversial and so-called obscene messages. Study the flipside if you want to know why hip hop is on practically every radio and television station. Whether in songs, raps, commercials, ads, music award shows of music videos. Even the big screen has had a taste of hip hop's heaven. The flipside: BUSINESS. HIP HOP IS BIG BUSINESS-WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR

speaking proper English as grounds for being called a sell out-WAKE UP!!! It's time for some action (word to Redman and Cypress Hill). If you're ready to keep outside forces that don't appreciate the culture from infiltrating, exploiting and eventually destroying the culture, well then grab a comb, try on the Easter suit that your grandma bought for you and humbly scrape your face off the ground. It is a fact beyond any doubt that EPMD's strictly business attitude is THE attitude for b-boys and girls to have in the nineties. Brothers and sisters should add typing to their list of "skills to be practiced". After all, rumor

ence, talent, and resources to create a network that has the potential to affect America as it never has before. With companies like these, we can keep the ball in the home court and let the opposing team know that "They ain't 'G'ing hip hop 'cause it's ours."

To put it Philly style, some say thers's no business like show business, while I say: you have no business in show business unless you know business. So next time someone asks you "How ya livin', kid?" Will you reply, "Just maxin'." or will your reply be "Business as usual"?

Sola Akintunde UIC.

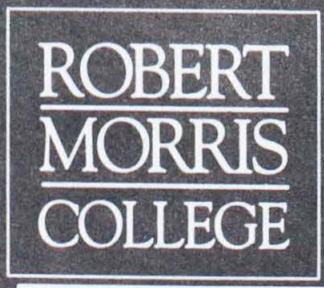
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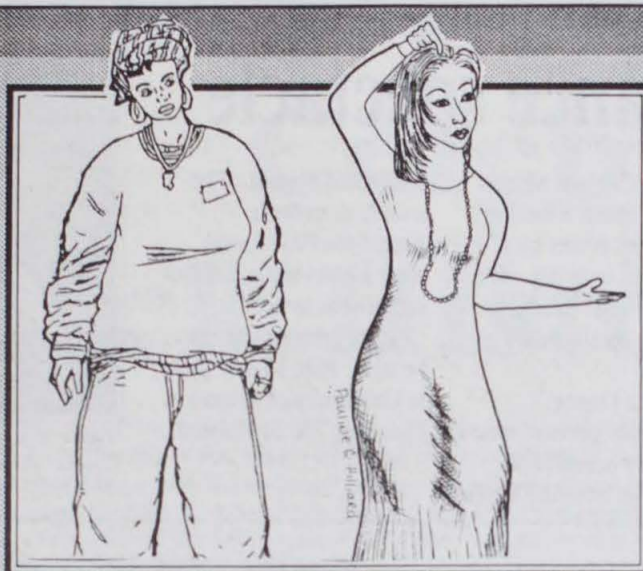
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BEYOND COMPREHENSION

OPERATION: WHAT THE #@\$ IS IT?

By Sola Akintunde, UIC



Illustrations by Sola Akintunde, UIC and Pauline Hilliard, Kenwood Academy

the bus on Central and Lake at 1:00 in the morning) and a heavy artillery ambush (stupidly leaving the window open when going past Schurz High School on a Halloween day.) But none of that has prepared me for my latest mission—

OPERATION: WHAT THE #@\$ IS IT?

Okay, the chief requested an article that could fill this space, but at the same time front as an interesting commentary that you all would want to read. This forced me to think about what I could bring to

the loyal readers and followers of hip hop that no one else has. Then, you guessed it—it still left me stumped. Then it hit me!!! What's going on?!? Have ya'll noticed how it's getting harder and harder to figure out if someone is male or female?! No, on the real. It's almost as bad an epidemic as fake hair (No offense to any out there that rock the fiber.)

Being a veteran CTA travel victim I have braved the gas chamber (the subway tunnel on Jackson), suicide missions behind enemy lines (waiting for

Nowadaze you step to a nice female and she turns out to be more of a man than you are! Just when you turn to your fellow brother for a little consoling he

Nowadaze you step to a nice female and she turns out to be more of a man than you are!

winks at you and switches away with the swing of Janet Jackson. You don't want to look, but the fascination and disgust keeps you

focused until you realize someone might think you're a little funny too, so you stop. I don't know about ya'll but this happens all too often in the life of this goddess lovin' b-boy.

Whatever happened to the days when a girl was a girl and a stud was a stud?! Unfortunately, this dreaded plague is seeping into our hip hop family in a unique way. I began to notice that our beautiful hip hop queens were getting rougher and rougher about mid- last year. It's at a point now where you have to peep a girl twice, naw, three times 'fore

you can tell it's a girl! Just between me and you, it has caused me to almost talk to a dude and dis a girl all night 'cause I thought she was a gay stud.

Look, it used to be funny, but now it's messin' with my mental. Don't get me wrong. This isn't true about all hip hop females and not all male oriented gear is too rough, but some of ya'll, in my opinion are looking in the wrong parents' closet for gear. In my research to find out why this epidemic of gender clashes exist Kenneth Bayliss, Lane Tech, stated, "Hip hop is a male dominated culture so like Too Short 'You gotta get in where you fit in'". Other comments were, "I think it's cute.", Eldridge Ford, 19 "Whatever happened to girls lookin' nice and feminine?" and "Uhh... I really don't care as long as they look cute and I get mine", Carlos Durand, 22. Females stated, "It's more comfortable to rock jeans, Js (gym shoes) and a nice Polo shirt than a dress and slippers!". Tasha Grant, 18. Nicole Fields made a good

point, "I think B-girls dress like this because we want to relate to the boys better."

'It's more comfortable to rock jeans, Js (gym shoes) and a nice Polo shirt than a dress and slippers!'
Tasha Grant, 18.

At parties the boys get in their circles an' stuff, jock each other and see who can spin on their necks the longest while we girls sit there and play with the stack of flyas

we received from the few guys that actually did give us attention." Now, ya'll can't even front 'cause you know she has a point. We need to mingle and dance with our hip hop sisters more. "Get off the floor, brush yourself off, swallow your pride, unhand your boys' swill and go ask a girl to dance" (Just a message from the sisterhood of hip hop) "Just 'cause they look like us doesn't mean they are us," stated brother MIL upon my inquiry. All I know is we better start paying attention to our sisters quick before we start losing the few sisters we have to the "other" (disco) parties. I don't know about ya'll but platform shoes won't look all that bad next to an all frustrated, angry male hip hop party. But, what's wrong with dresses, though?...

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"Afrikan Visions" a stunning dance spectacle

By Chante Spann, Staff Writer, Morgan Park

Vivid, fresh, stunning, spectacular — that's how I describe The Muntu Dance Theatre's presentation of Afrikan Visions. This presentation was one of the most exciting, intriguing, and completely captivating dance performances I have ever seen. I was awestruck when I thought of the intense rehearsal, complex choreography, and sheer talent that made the production so wonderful. I'm sure by now you are wondering exactly what it is that could possibly make someone so excited. Well sit back, and I'll take you for a brief glimpse of Afrikan Visions, a series of traditional African dance numbers with works from Liberia, the Caribbean, South Africa, and America, dances



Music is an integral part of "Afrikan Visions" Photo by Kwabena Shabu

performed in a way that portray complex themes in black history.

Picture this: five drummers on stage, three using their hands to strike the bongo drums and two using drumsticks. Their hands' rapid movement creates complex rhythms with a beat more intricate than the busiest house music. The drummers show such enthusiasm, the beat just jumps out at and draws you in. This was the introductory scene, titled "Drum Talk."

As the performance continues, skilled dancers in bright costumes recite inspirational words, moving freely with the music. During this segment, known as "We Became the Drum," a continuous chant says, "They denied us the drum, so we became the drum." Historical black figures such as Harriet Tubman, Marcus Garvey, Malcolm X, and Josephine Baker are referred to.

"Juba Jig" was a world premiere performance depicting slaves briefly escaping from the plantation. While they are away, even though they are deprived of their drums, they use household items such as washboards, and hambone rhythms (rhythms made by improvising with the body and mouth) to create music. The slaves dance to the tunes. The scene ends with the sound of a dog barking, indicating the slave

master is approaching.

"Ragtime/Blues" was a solo pianist's tribute to Scott Joplin and W.C. Handy. "Evening Time" is a depiction of the West Indian's work by day and dance by night. Sensual dancing and elaborate costumes highlight this number.

"Through Mandela's Eyes" is a depiction of the Freedom Fighters' struggle in South Africa against

apartheid. Finally, "Bouee Musu Gahnay" is a story about a mother whose child has been bitten by a poisonous snake and is dying. The little girl is revived after much prayer, specifically by the Ju-Ju woman.

This is the Muntu Dance Theatre's 17th annual concert series. The dance company is native to Chicago but tours all over the United

States and abroad. The artistic director is Amaniyea Payne, and what a marvelous director she proves to be!

The performance can be seen Feb. 17 at 7 p.m. at University of Illinois at Chicago, 750 S. Halsted.



Muntu dancers electrify the stage in "Afrikan Visions" Photo by Kwabena Shabu

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things to do

By Ana Cabrera, City Editor, News, Whitney Young

Feb. 5 "Which West is Which?" a play about the Black West is featured at Dunham Theatre of Kennedy-King College, 6800 S. Wentworth, and is a production of the Chocolate Chips Theatre Company. Tickets for adults are \$10 and \$5 for children.

Feb. 8 Actor/director/producer/writer Spike Lee will be interviewed by film-critic Gene Siskel at the Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington. 3-4:30 in the Theatre meeting room. Following will be a showing of Lee's "School Daze". 5-6:45 in the Theatre.

Feb. 10 Dan Boadi & Ghanatta Internationale performs African Highlife, combining reggae, soca, calypso, and soukous. Everyone is encouraged to dance. 5:30 at Preston Bradley Hall.

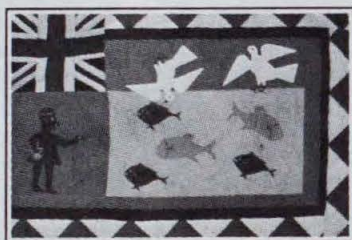
Through Feb. 13 "ASAFO! Fante Flags from Africa 1850-1957" is a touring exhibition of colorful banners and narrative flags from coastal Ghana on view in the fourth floor North Gallery. For information call 744-6630 or 346-3278.

Feb. 14 New Life Performance Company, dancers ages 7-19, perform at the Cultural Center's Theatre, 78 E. Washington, 5:30.

Feb. 15 Spike Lee's 1990 drama "Do the Right Thing" will be featured at the Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington. 5-7 in the Theatre.



A photo of newly freed slaves appears on A Question of Color, PBS, Feb. 15, 9-10.



The Asafo exhibit is at the Cultural Center through Feb. 13.

A QUESTION OF COLOR on Channel 11 will confront the issue of "color consciousness" in the black community. Director Kathe Sandler interviewed African-American women of all shades and all ages about the "color question". 9-10 p.m. on PBS

Feb. 21 Logan Square YMCA, 3600 W. Fullerton will be starting a variety of after-school classes such as boxing and strength training. Call 235-5150.

Feb. 22 "Mo' Better Blues" another Spike Lee drama will be featured at the Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington. 5-7:10 in the Theatre.

Feb. 24 After having trained local athletes of all ages, professional and amateur, athlete turned dancer/choreographer

David Dorfman will present his OUT OF SEASON dance show at The Dance Center of Columbia College, 4730 N. Sheridan Road. For info and reservations call 312/271-7928.

Feb. 26 The Spike Lee Film Festival is wrapped up with "Malcolm X" 2-5 at the Cultural Center's Theatre, 78 E. Washington.

Turkey Lover's Recipe Contest

To enter print or type your recipe (entrees, salads, sandwiches, snacks that contain a pound of turkey meat and can serve 4-8), on a plain sheet of paper with name, address, phone number, age and name of school. Grand prize- \$2,000. Send to: TURKEY LOVERS' RECIPE CONTEST, National Turkey Federation, 11319 Sunset Hills Road, Reston, VA 22090-5227.

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NEbook reviews

Maya Angelou: Changing the stereotypical views of a dominating society

By Keyosha Moore, Staff Writer

We have all heard of her in one way or another. She is one of the most well-known socially conscious poets. Maya Angelou, most recently recognized for her poem, "On The Pulse of Morning," that she recited at the Presidential inauguration, has also been well-received for her poetry in John Singleton's movie "Poetic Justice."



Angelou surfaced in the '60s with books such as "The Heart of a Woman," "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings." These books dealt with the struggle of the black woman in white society. She takes on society, showing that women can be more competent than men, and that all women don't take on the role of TV sitcom

mom "June Cleaver"-- Angelou is a single mother. We find that she not only struggles with societal needs, but her own needs and those of her child.

Each new book teaches a personal lesson. We are given the chance to grow in an all-male dominated society. Angelou unites the colors of the world, bridges the generation gap, and in the process,

enriches us.

Angelou, a keen observer of the world, touches the hearts and minds of people everywhere. She has enlightened my life as a writer of the "Younger Generation", and has shown me a new way of expressing myself and how to face problems that come with being black and female.

Cornell West makes race matter in "Race Matters"

By Laticha Allen, Staff Writer, Hyde Park

In the 11 introductory pages of "Race Matters," I absorbed the scholarship of a philosopher, the ministry of a preacher, the sternness of a father, and finally, the kinship of a brother.

Author Cornell West tackles the plight of the African-American, its source, and the road to recovery. Each chapter is prefaced with an excerpt from related works by black authors such as Ralph Ellison, author of "The Invisible Man," Richard Wright, author of "12 Million Black Voices," Malcolm X, assassinated black activist; and Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Toni Morrison.

Voyaging to the peak of racial reasoning, the pinnacle of black leadership, through the oasis of equality and identity, and down the dark valley to black sexuality, West doesn't just

point fingers. He recognizes the social, economic, physical, psychological, collective, and individual causes (and cures) for the climate of racial tension in America. The cause is ignorance; the cure, essential understanding.

"Quality leadership is neither the product of one great individual nor the result of odd historical accidents," West explains. "Rather, it comes from deeply bred traditions and communities that shape and mold talented, gifted persons..." West emphasizes.

"Race Matters" is a must-read for all people who are conscious of prejudice and hatred among races.

"Race Matters" may not change the nation, but it is sure to enlighten you as you take a look at yourself and those around you — not through the eyes of a superior, or one who is subordinate, but through the eyes of a fellow man.

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DIVA FOR THE '90s

XSCAPE KICKS IT



Xscape is: (from left to right) Kandi, Latocha, Tamika, Tameka

Although New York, L.A., Detroit, and Atlanta are best known for signing major recording artists, Chicago is jumping on the bandwagon with our Chicago home jams Chaka Khan, Miki Howard, and R. Kelly.

Just added onto the roster is Chantay Savage. The 23-year-old Savage is making headlines with "Betchall Never Find" on RCA Records. Savage declares herself "a diva for the '90s."

"I think I make the kinds of songs that don't have to grow on you. They (listeners) either like it or they don't," she says.

She was taken aback when her audience compared her to songstress

Stephanie Mills.

Savage's style of writing separates her from other artists. "On my album, eight out of 10 songs I produced, sang and did all the background (vocals)."

She says that she tries to portray a positive image, and that "to me, a lot of black women do not have self-assurance." That's not a problem for Savage, who says she believes women can be or do anything they want to.

This down-to-earth sister gives advice to Chicago artists trying to get signed to a record label. "Don't halfstep, make sure your package is together...portray yourself and make them market you."

By Marvin Patterson, Staff Writer

Talent scout Jermaine Dupree has done it again. First it was Kriss Krøss with "Jump!" Now it's Xscape with their first single, "Just Kickin' " on So So/ Columbia Records. In addition to the second single, "Understanding" is doing well on the radio.

Xscape, (Kandi, 17, Latocha, 21, Tamika, 19, and Tameka 18) started singing at school and talent shows. A friend of Xscape hooked them up with Dupree at his 19th birthday party.

These singers are considered to

be a female version of Jodeci or "a ghetto En Vogue because we're from the streets," says one of the group members, laughing.

All group members are lead vocalists on their album.

Xscape has a variety of songs, from love ballads, to gospel, to hip hop. "Our promotional tour is going well, because people can relate to what we're saying," says Latocha. The message Xscape is bringing to their audience is "to be real to yourself and to stay positive," Latocha says.

By Marvin Patterson, Staff Writer

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Wayne and Garth are ready to rock again in *Waynes World 2*.

The wit works in 'Wayne's World 2'

By Ruqaiyah Morris, Staff Writer, Kenwood Academy

To be, or not to be...or maybe what to be...that is Wayne Campbell's question. In "Wayne's World 2," Wayne Campbell (Mike Meyers) is trying to find out what to do with his life. He is searching for the one monster goal he is supposed to achieve before he dies. And how does he find out his mission? Would you believe...Jim Morrison?

That's right. Jim Morrison (Maichael Nickels) comes to Wayne in a series of dreams to explain the purpose of his being. Wayne's destiny is to put on a marathon rock concert called Waynestock. Even though they have no money, no groups to perform, or even a place to hold Waynestock, Jim assures him that "if you book them, they will come."

The movie's main plot revolves around Wayne and Garth's (Dana Carvey) efforts to make this dream a reality.

Of course there's a conflict that by way of their sheer genius Wayne and Garth can overcome. This time it appears in the form of Bobby Sharp

(Christopher Walken), a quick-witted, fast-talking agent who tries to steal Cassandra (Tia Carrere) from Wayne. He does it with record contracts and a wedding ring. Wayne also has to deal with Waynestock backfiring. But the wise words of Jim continue to encourage him. "You'll think of something," he says. "It's your movie."

I am not a big fan of sequels, but this was one worth watching. There were a few too many puns, and at times the storyline dragged.

Yet the performances were well done, excluding Kim Basinger as Honey Hornee. (Pronounced horn-ney. It's French.) It was nice to see Garth with a girlfriend, but Kim failed to make me laugh, or even smile. This was one time when sex couldn't replace talent.

"Wayne's World 2" was humorous and entertaining. The writers made a definite effort to make it as good, if not better, than the first. That is more than I can say for many of Hollywood's movie makers. I recommend you see it...and bring 10 of your closest friends.

"Philadelphia" provides lesson in compassion

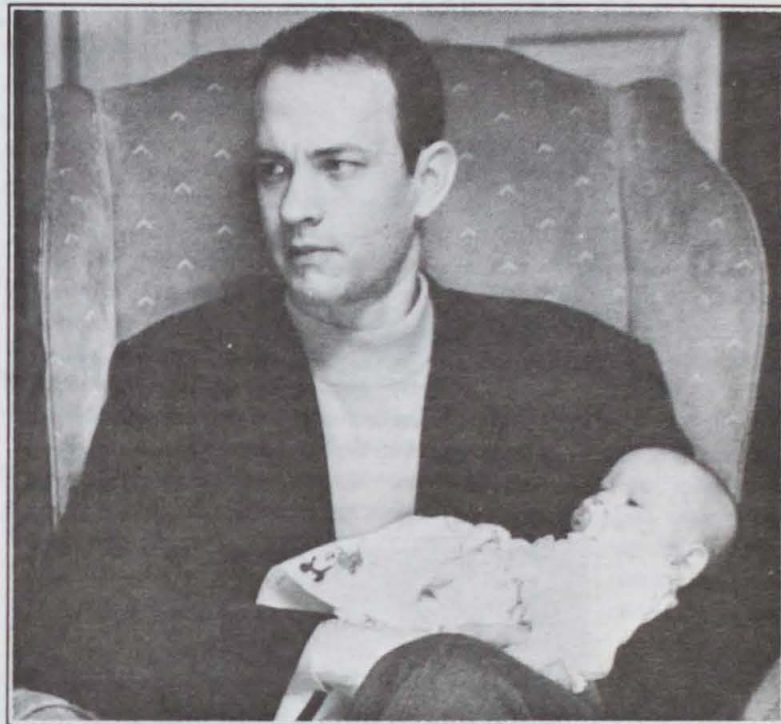
By Latanya Burke, Staff Writer, Lane Tech

Philadelphia...No, it's not about the city and the people who live in it. This movie stars comedian Tom Hanks as Andrew Beckett and Denzel Washington as Joe Miller, two young lawyers climbing the corporate ladder to success.

Andrew is about to become the youngest partner in a prestigious Philadelphia law firm when the partners find out that he has AIDS. While working on a top case an essential document to the case is mysteriously misplaced and the partners fire him.

Andrew feels he was fired because of his illness and decides to sue the firm. He goes to Joe Miller (Washington) for defense but once he finds out he has AIDS he refuses. Discrimination and ignorance force Andrew to defend himself. Joe one day happens to witness how people treat Andrew and decides to take the case. The trial and his relationship with Andrew change the way Joe thinks about people and life.

I enjoyed the movie because it was realistic. It showed how AIDS affects people and how those with AIDS are treated because of ignorance. This movie educate about AIDS, while teaching how to treat people like people.



Andrew (Tom Hanks) holds his niece at a family gathering.

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Taurus (April 20-May 20) Your horns glisten on the 18th. A Cancer finds you irresistible. Let it shine.

Gemini (May 21- June 20) Participate in mentally stimulating programs. You find your niche around the 20th with a Gemini.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) Focus on color, design. Add personal touches to your environment. A Taurus is charmed.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Discover. Read and write poems. A Libra is very attracted.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) The 26th and 27th is a time to enjoy family. A Capricorn is there for you. Don't judge.

Libra (Sept 23-Oct. 22) Confidential information is available. Stay directed, avoid being extreme. A Pisces is sensitive.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Focus on power and energy. Don't allow routine to bore you. A Sagittarius helps you.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Finances increase. That part-time job you applied for may surface. Be patient. A Scorpio holds your focus around the 4th.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Observe, create, enjoy! A Libra encourages potential around the 8th.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Energy flows. Target a reunion. Romance is up

around the 10th. A Leo turns your head. **Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)** A social affair highlights conversation mid-month. A Capricorn awaits.

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Hope, heroism top "Schindler's List"

by Ana Cabrera
City Editor/Features
Whitney Young

'Schindler's List' is a vivid portrayal of hope and heroism surviving in the midst of war's horrors. Based on Thomas Keneally's book, the movie recounts the true story of Oskar Schindler, a German-Catholic business man. He risks his war money and buys the safety of more than 1,100 Jews.

The movie begins in 1939 with the German invasion of Poland. As the Jews are evicted from their homes and commanded into the Jewish quarter, (the ghetto), they are also forced to work for the Germans. During this time Schindler arrives and confiscates a pot and pan making factory previously owned by Jews. Schindler's a suave salesman and an exorbitant gambler who, through black market deals and the labor of his unpaid Jewish workers, amasses a fortune.

Oskar Schindler

(compellingly played by Liam Neeson) is a womanizing, chain-smoking, cognac-drinking Nazi entrepreneur. He's arrogant and overly ambitious, shamelessly bribing Nazi leaders and officers.

After witnessing the Nazi evacuation of the Jewish quarter, Schindler gradually changes. He decides to save his workers from the fast emerging Nazi extermination camps, which could sentence him to death. But through more bribes and manipulation, he uses his



Oskar Schindler (left) and his Jewish accountant Itzhak Stern assemble the list of workers to be saved.

connections and gives his Schindlerjuden, (as the Jews he saved aren't known), protection against the Nazi action; his factory becomes a haven.

Strong performances support a powerfully written script. The movie is a virtual history of

Nazi German atrocities and it will leave you shaken. From the piles of burning bodies to those forced to run naked to prove their health, scene after scene is harsh reality, made all the more poignant and memorable because it's in black and white.

And though it sounds like a cliché, the movie is a must-see, especially for the younger generation, who may not know or understand all they should about this tragically inhumane piece of history.

Schindler's List: shocking images, questions

By Jessica Olson,
Managing Editor/ Production,
Bogan

They are images I will never forget. Women pushed into a chamber at Auschwitz, not sure if they will be showered or gassed. A Nazi officer starting off his morning by randomly shooting his Jewish prisoners from his villa balcony.

It was perhaps the most powerful movie I have ever seen. Steven Spielberg's "Schindler's List" left the audience silent and tear-streaked. We left the theater like mourners at a funeral, not mall Christmas shoppers.

I did not know what to feel, or how to react. Here was the story of a single man, Oskar Schindler, who saved 1,100 Jews from certain death in Nazi camps. Those Jews and their descendants now number over 6,000 because of this Nazi party member. It was a story of triumph, one flame of light during a time of great darkness.

Spielberg was compelled to make this movie because of current attitudes concerning the Holocaust, and the atrocities being committed now in countries like Bosnia. He reminded us of what happened and asked us the uncomfortable: Now, just what are you going to do?

A spring 1993 Roper organization survey found that 22 percent of Americans said it was possible that the Nazi extermination of the Jews never happened. Another 12 percent said they didn't know. More than 50 percent of high school students asked didn't know what the word "Holocaust" meant. A quarter of all adults questioned didn't even know that the Nazis first came to power in Germany. And for decades a small band of anti-Semites and political extrem-



Oskar Schindler (Liam Neeson) at a Nazi party.

ists have been printing documents claiming that the Jews died of natural causes, the gas chambers were used for delousing, and Hitler's final solution was a myth devised to bolster support for Israel.

For almost two years now, bloody photos and vivid accounts of rape and murder have come to us from Bosnia. The Serbs now control 70 percent of the former republic's territory, and seem determined to drive the Muslims out, just because of their beliefs. Millions have either been killed or forced to leave their native lands.

Ethnic cleansing has become the expression of the '90s, as other countries take Serbia's lead. In a land grab only second to the Serbs' takeover in Bosnia, Armenian tanks have swept across Azerbaijan, driving more than 60,000 Azerbaijani civilians out of their homes and into Iran. They torch and loot towns and villages. However, in the Armenian capital of Yerevan, 1.5 million residents are facing their fifth straight winter of minimal electricity, scant food, and no hot water.

All across the world horror stories like this one can be told. In China, Haiti, Angola, the Middle East, and

Georgia (of the former Soviet Union), people are starving, being chased from their homelands by civil war or outside aggression, or suffer under tyrannical governments. There may not be a movie about them, but their sufferings are real.

Oskar Schindler was not a great man who came riding in on a white horse to save the Jews. He went to Poland to take over one of their factories and to profit from the Jews' slave labor. After the war he became an alcoholic and eventually left his wife. However, for those six years during the war he managed to create a safe haven for 1,100 Polish Jews. Steven Spielberg's movie does more than remind us of the crimes committed during the Holocaust. It does more than tell us the story of this one man and the people he saved. It reminds us that even though the problems of the world may seem vast and incomprehensible, every individual can make a difference.

After all, if Oskar Schindler can do it, anyone else can, too.

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By Earnest Weatherby Sports Editor,
Whitney Young

Basketball Tidbits

Girls can do it too...

Studies sponsored by the American Basketball Council show that 11 percent more females played basketball in 1992 than in 1987. Also, 43% of all high school basketball players are female. Since it is said that participation by women in basketball is going to continue to grow, maybe the U. S. should start considering a lot more about a professional league for these athletes. Just an idea.

I'd rather catch a carp...

According to American Sports Data Inc., basketball is America's favorite team sport and the third most popular activity. The study found that 40.4 million Americans played basketball at least once in 1992, a number exceeded only by bowling (49.6 million) and (get this) fresh water fishing (44.1 million).

The show must go on...

Although the rest of the city's

students were on vacation during the Christmas holiday, public league basketball was hard at work during this time. Here are public league teams who fared well in tournaments and other hoop action held over the break.

Girls Basketball:

St. Ignatius Tournament Washington beat host St. Ignatius 60-43 in the title game. Robeson took 5th place with a 59-40 win over Deerfield.

Optimist Charity Classic Whitney Young defeated Pius XI 63-53 in this tournament held in Milwaukee.

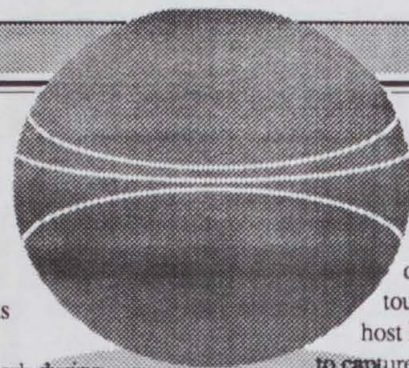
Crane Tournament Crane defended their home court by dropping Dunbar 85-74.

Steinmetz Tournament Westinghouse beat Julian 75-21 for the title.

Boys Basketball:

Lincoln-Way Invitational Simeon defeated Bradley-Bourbonnais 59-51 to take the title. Also, Kenwood defeated Robeson 65-62 to take 5th place.

Proviso West Tournament King defeated Westinghouse 57-52 taking first place and extended their then 44-game winning streak.



Elgin Tournament Lincoln Park dropped tournament host Elgin 56-45 to capture the crown.

Kankakee Tournament Carver played the role of spoiler as well beating host Kankakee 54-43.

Luther North Tournament Taft defeated Zion-Benton 83-79 for first place.

Public League Tournament Whitney Young beat Manley 72-62 to win this battle royal that featured 16 public league teams. Marshall defeated Harper 65-56 to take third place.

New rewards for athletes...

Listen up all you underclassmen out there who feel you are the next "athlete of the world." There is now a chance for to gain some of those accolades in high school. The Downtown Athletic Club announced December 11th the formation of the Wendy's High School Heisman Award. The award will recognize outstanding high school athletes, male and female, among all sports in six regions of the country who exhibit exceptional performances on the field, in the classroom and within the community.

Carver meets "challenge" to beat the odds

By Helen T. D. Hunter
Carver Area High School
Staff Writer



Challengers team member Andre Jackson. Photo courtesy of Carver.

Pittman," says Vasser. "He has high standards, works hard, and most of all wants to see us successful."

Pittman, the "power house" coach here at Carver for the past year, not only helps bring first place trophies to Carver, but is also the attendance coordinator. "He not only makes us work hard, but good attendance and good grades is a must," says Vasser. "He often stresses the fact that basketball isn't everything."

"None of our players will probably make it to the Pros, but they will all be successful," says Pittman. "I instill hard work and demand discipline, which are two of the prime factors in a good team. I am really excited about this season because we have a lot of good people with potential."

The Carver Challengers, consisting of 16 excited, talented, hard-working

black men are "championship bound," says Roy Majors, No. 11.

"We are only as good as we want to be," says Lamont Cooper, No. 21. "We're on a mission to capture the state championship during the '93-'94 season."

And, Pittman added, "All of our players last year attended college. I plan to see all of our graduating seniors attend college next year, also."

The Carver Challengers are full-speed ahead, with a basketball in one hand and knowledge, hard-work, and discipline in the other, proving that athletic and academic success can go hand-in-hand.

Sports

Morgan Park hockey team doesn't "puck around" Rare to the city, they beat suburban rivals

By Adrienne Samuels, Staff Writer, Morgan Park High School

Morgan Park High School has one aspect that sets it apart from many other schools: a hockey team. Yes, you read correctly, a hockey team.

The team was started 22 years ago when counselor Stanley Strom sponsored a petition to start it. The principal okayed the new sport and counselor Donald Taylor, became the official sponsor.

Coached by former hockey team members Ricky Swierk, Jeff Castro, and Rob Wasniewski, the team is doing great. Half of the 16 members are Morgan Park students. Other team members come from Brother Rice High School, and Frankfurt and Clissold Elementary Schools. These schools have no hockey team due to the immense amount of money needed to buy equipment, rent the ice arenas, and pay the game officials.

**Morgan Park...
A school with
a hockey team.
Yes, a
HOCKEY
TEAM!!**



Morgan Park is one of the few high schools with a hockey team, the Mustangs.

The Mustangs play in the Oak Lawn High School League which starts in October and ends in March. They play at the Oak Lawn Ice Arena at 94th and Cicero, Sundays 9-11 a.m. Their opponents include suburban schools Downers Grove North and South, Hinsdale North and South, and Willowbrook High.

The '93-94 season has started out with a team full of outstanding players including Chucky Condrick, Famous Stephenson, Tim Hamilton, Jeff Cordero, and Sean Hunter. New players include two eighth grade students, Steve Barsekek and Lou Jacobson.

This year's team's current record is 5-1 and they're ranked number two in their league. They will play 18 games this season. If ranked among the top four, the Mustangs will compete in the Hockey Championship tournament.

Goalie Stephenson said he "loves to play" and hopes that added publicity will bring more spectators to their games. Taylor agreed, stressing that more people need to be aware of the team. The Mustangs are looking to expand the team and any young men interested in playing should contact Taylor at Morgan Park (535-2550).

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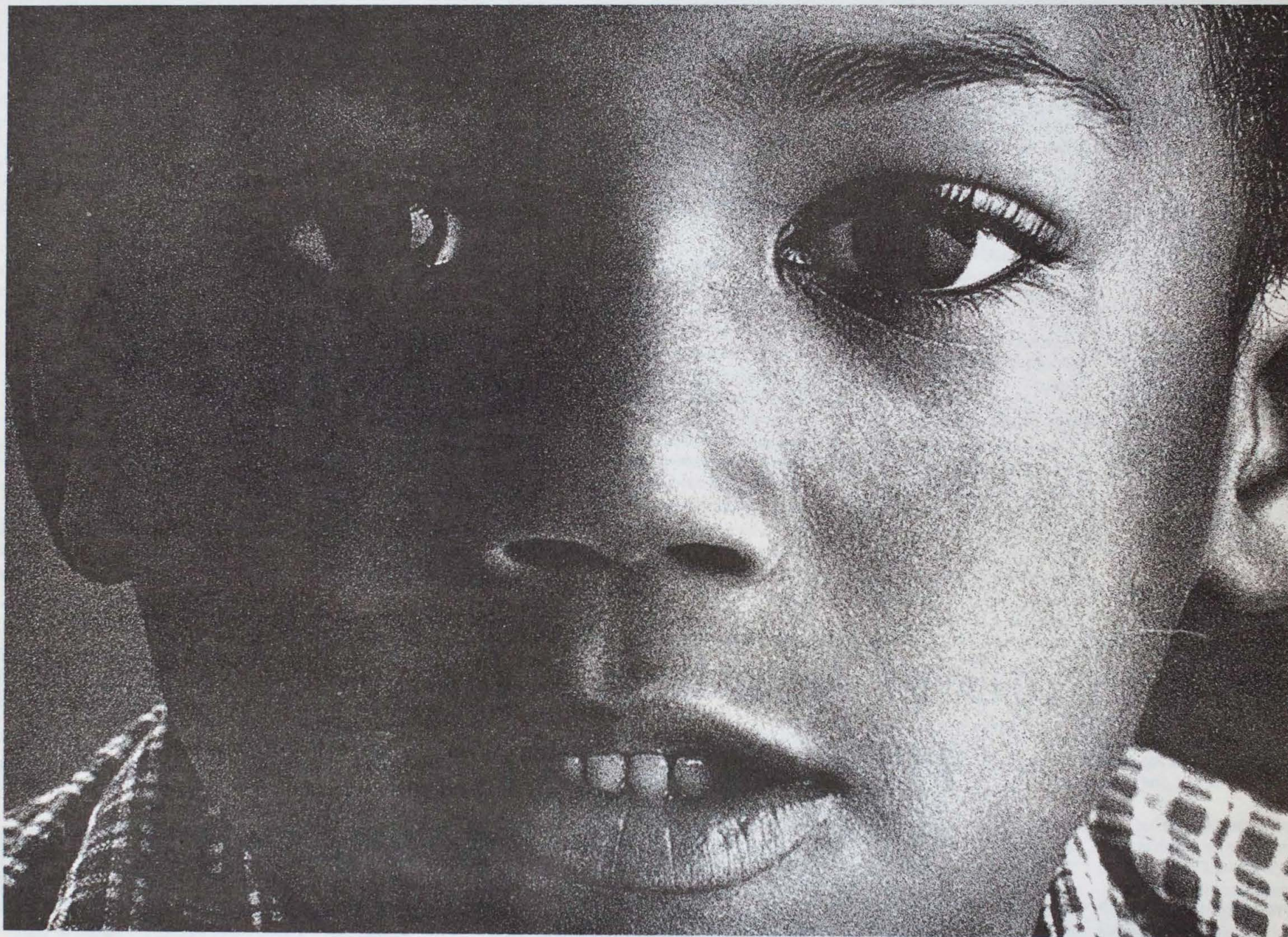
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