
THE *People's Voice*

The "Talking Drum" Of UCSD's African American Community

A New Day For The People's Voice

By Denise Whisenhunt

Last year, while slouched in a back row chair eating french fries from the Ratt during a Black Student Union meeting (you see, in those days that is what we called the African American Student Union) an item on the agenda sparked my attention. The item that was discussed involved bringing back the 'ole "People's Voice" newspaper. I then simply shrugged off the idea of a return of the paper as something that would never take place because of all of the obvious red tape involved. So I sat slouched deeper into my chair, ignoring the information that was given.

Fortunately, my perception of the outcome was incorrect. The People's Voice newspaper has returned to its rightful position at the University of California at San Diego amongst the Guardian and the Koala. The newspaper provides a medium of information between one of the institution's most precious and valued sectors of the student population. It serves as the "talking drum" of communication for its African American students.

In order to effectively insure the success of the People's Voice as a viable newspaper, new procedures were deemed necessary. First of all, the People's Voice format has changed from a full length newspaper into a newsletter format. The main reason for this alteration was so that the newspaper could utilize the on-campus UNIX computer system as opposed to using an off-campus facility. The reduction in size also enforces the goal of the People's Voice to concentrate on good quality, rather than long drawn out articles.

More importantly, the focus of the newsletter has changed substantially. In the early history of the People's Voice, the paper was

thought of more as a "left-wing" radical newspaper. As a product of its times, the paper possessed a Black revolutionary flavor which characterized the mode of our people during the time. The paper made an emphasis on our motherland Africa as opposed to the events that were happening to our people domestically. The People's Voice has changed its direction to one that deals with the issues in our "U.C.S.D. backyard" as well as the issues that effect our immediate San Diego community.

This is not to say that the paper will ignore the ever-so pressing issues of our African brothers and sisters, but the main direction of the paper will be toward local issues. Yet the paper will reflect a balance in every issue from articles that concern our historically ethnically rich past, to articles that inform students on the current issues that directly affect each one of us daily.

Future article's of the People's Voice will serve to answer many of the where, when and how questions so many of us black students have on this campus. Some future articles will provide reviews of of predominately black cast movies and films. The President's Page to inform the readers of the upcoming events in the African American organizations on campus. Also, the paper will provide the readers with upclose interviews with some of the leading African American faculty at this university.

A new day has come for the People's Voice newsletter. One that will attempt to inform and educate readers on the issues at home in hopes that we can better deal with our problems here, as well as abroad in our homecountry. With this in mind, the People's Voice has begun to beat its "talking drums" again.

On The Case

By Farrell J. Foreman

I Love You But I Don't Understand You

I am not yet middleaged, which means I'm not considered old yet by most young people..(those under thirty). But then again it depends on who you talk to. Anyway, I can understand for the most part what makes young Black folks today tick. They want to attain as quickly as possible, as many keys to the kingdom as they can get their hands on. Keys are described as money, fortune, house, car, boat, credit cards....(which I really envy because in a fit of *poor no more zeal* in college I borrowed away my credit rating).... They want to make it as quickly as they can and for the most part they don't give a damn how they get there. So what's the big deal? This is america ain't it?

Yes it is. The Free Enterprise System. Dog eat dog. Whatever happened to good old college fun?! You know, work hard play hard? Whist parties in the student lounge. Touching base in the cafeteria to get the latest juicy bit of gossip, throwing a party at a moments notice (the best kind), getting together to help somebody in need, (working on each others cars, consulting on each other's stereo systems, (or video, whichever you prefer). Loaning a friend some needed cash, pooling empty cupboards for a potluck, goin bowlin and acting crazy. Keeping pressure on those forces that were determined to run you off campus, goin to conferences or debates, going to see local cultural events...together, yeah un huh, challenging racism wherever it rears its ugly head. Respecting each other, supportin each other..... speaking to each other, acknowledging each other, giving credit where credit is due... (TRW beware!).....arguing with each other, working with each other, loving one another because of the bond we share, the heritage we share, the responsibilities we share, not just the **me** responsibilities or the **I** responsibilities but the **we** responsibilities.

UCSD is not an easy school. UCSD is not the greatest social fun place. With all these gray buildings going up all the time, to match all the gray buildings already here, it's gettin downright ugly. I've got this fantasy that I have a \$250,000 budget to paint murals on all this gray. Murals like *Eyes On The Prize* or a collection of street

people blankly staring at us as we walk to class, or a giant dripping rib bone, or a group of women chasing a group of men flinging plates and dishes at their heads, or a small Nicaraguan child with one arm or leg blown off and his or her eyes saying, "Is this the future you've bought for me?!" Or "Why can't we have lights so we won't be attacked when walking to and from the library?" sprawled in red paint on the sidewalk. Or just a big sign somewhere that says, "WITH ALL THE MONEY I'M PAYIN HOW CUM I AIN'T GOT NO PLACE TO STUDY?" What about a real honest to God commitment to something other than what you wear, or drive, or eat, or want for.....

Right about now you're saying, "He's getting carried away." Again, it depends on who you talk to and who you believe. Whatever you do, be very skeptical of anybody my age. Why? You're supposed to have gotten all of the seeds from us. Evidently we must be lousy planters. We're like farmers who once we got our hands on some fancy automated machinery, we forgot about farming basics. We forgot about the soil, the dirt, the ground, the foundation. We passed on a little and had the nerve to expect a high yield. We're so busy fightin among ourselves that we can't even really party anymore. You know, git down...enjoy one's self, without lookin across the room and seeing who we see and hating her dress and his tie and her ferrari, and his boyfriend, and her man ad his girl and so forth cause we ain't got none, or ain't had none or whichever you prefer. In short we adults ain't been great examples on this campus (as far as getting together and doing anything well, folks have been here a lot longern me and they see the same mess still.)

What are we doin? Where are we goin? What do we UCSD Black folks want? What legacy do we want to leave? Do we want Ethnic or African or Black Studies? Do we want a strong African American Student Union? Do we want a close working relationship with those faculty that want to work with us? Do we want a year long celebration of who we are and what we are? Are we willing to work toward that end? Do we feel any responsibility toward those young Black men and women coming after us? Lots of work ahead. What am I doing? Pricing paint.

The above article is the sole opinion of its author. It does not necessarily reflect the attitudes or beliefs of the administration, ASCUSD, nor the ideology of the People's Voice Newspaper. It should in no way be interpreted as an incitement for students to deface university property.

UCSD Alumnus Sets High Goals

By Ilona McGriff

African American Alumni from UCSD go on to various careers and endeavors. In this issue of *The People's Voice*, I'd like to introduce you to a recent graduate of U.C.S.D. In this article I will share with you a few of his past accomplishments, his present trials and his future goals.

In 1983, as a freshman, Michael Angelo Taylor was already on the path to success. He was a resident advisor for Warren College, the Chairman of the Campus Coalition for Cultural Concerns (Warren 4C's) and a council member of Warren College Student Government (WCSG). Later, in 1984, Michael, along with Nadir Haqq and Marlon Fairweather, came up with an idea to form a group which would bring together Black Males throughout the university. The group would address issues which specifically affected African American males, for example: their high attrition rate at U.C.S.D. It would also act as a support and social organization. Today, we recognize this group as the Royal Brotherhood of Excellence.

Although Michael made many positive contributions to the African American community at UCSD, he is very humble. At first glance, he seems to be very confident, even arrogant, and he has a serious air about him. However, once engaged in conversation, Michael is very "down to earth." He is very concerned with the future of African Americans. Perhaps that is why he spent many long hours spearheading the committee that wrote the constitution under which AASU now operates.

Presently, Michael is working as an operations officer in a financial planning firm. His duties entail marketing and internal affairs. Michael majored in economics and urban studies. He is currently applying to graduate school where he hopes to obtain a joint degree in Law and Business. In the very near future, this eligible bachelor plans on opening his own management company. He will be managing a group of grassroot businesses ranging from hairbraiding services to martial arts. Michael belongs to several clubs, all of which promote African American business advancements.

Now that you have met the serious side of Michael, I'd like you to meet the more relaxed side. He likes to dance, read, design clothes, and especially communicate with people. He loves to eat, and as I interviewed him, we did just that.

When I asked Michael what advice he had for those of us still in school, he became very pensive and serious. He said, "Network amongst each other, be disciplined and precise with your work. Be sure to use this time wisely. College is your training ground, take advantage of everything it offers." He also wants the African American students to be sure to develop a sense of commitment to their communities, giving something back and helping those less fortunate than themselves. I was curious as to what motivated Michael. He responded without hesitation, God and his family. He thinks that his military training and family background have made him disciplined and he relies on that heavily.

Well, this brief moment with an African American alumnus has certainly motivated me to keep striving toward my goals. I hope it has done the same for you.

An Interview with Dr. Charles W. Thomas

By Georgette Powell

Adjusting to UCSD was difficult and frustrating, mainly because I was extremely uncomfortable being around so many white people who didn't care if I was here or not. I am happy to say that I'm still here and I would not have made it without the support of Black faculty and staff. One faculty member, in particular who has had a tremendous influence in my life as a young adult, is Dr. Charles W. Thomas II. Since many of you may not have met Dr. Thomas yet, I decided to bring him to you.



Q: What do you think your role is here at UCSD as a Black Professor?

A: Let me read an excerpt from Barbara Waters, Dean of Third College. They are doing a survey on faculty-student interaction. "A 1982 retention study of Black and Mexican American students at UCSD emphasize this faculty-student interaction, outside the classroom, as the most important factor in the retention of these students. I still hold to that, but my views are being changed." They are being changed because the University does not reward professors who engage in faculty-student interaction outside of the usual academic work. It takes away from publishing and doing other things the University considers important. This is a dilemma because on the one hand, Black students need Black Faculty as role models and mentors, but if the University does not reward those activities, then what you get is frustration, dissatisfaction and

dismissal of the faculty. This creates a problem, but it is very important part of the University life. In the time I have been here, I have interacted with hundreds of students. When I look at successful Black students, I've had a mentoring relationship with a large number of them. My wife and I continue to be two of the few faculty people who open our home to students, very few people do this. I think this is most unfortunate.

Q: How long have you been here at UCSD?

A: In the minds of some people, I guess too long. I've been here since 1971.

Q: How have things changed since 1971?

A: Events have a way of going in cycles. What I am seeing now is a cycle that reminds me of when I first came here, relative to students. It's a good group of students across the board. They are involved and have a balanced view of what's going on. The University is again in the throes of significant development. When I first came here, the development was more in terms of people. Today, it is in terms of buildings, programs and people in that order. So, things have a way of going in cycles. I think for the Black student, these are more difficult times because there are fewer Black students and the University is larger. The University has become more prestigious. It creates many more problems for the student who comes here unsure as to how to conduct himself in this environment. Black students also face the great imbalance between males and females. This creates all kinds of friction between people. I see students as being a little more serious about what they regard as important and what they want out of life, than I have seen collectively in about a little more than five years. At the same time, Black students are still rather naive when it comes to how to cope in a racist society. I make no bones about it, the University is as racist as any other element in society. It is a reflection of society. The cause of Black students and Black people; however one wishes to define this has not changed. There seems to be a detachment from a need to deal with the community. I consider this to be unfortunate because if you are going to have significant numbers of people coming to the University, there must be something in the way of a pipeline from the communities to the

University. I don't see much of this as I once did.

Q: What would you want incoming students to know about University life?

A: I would want them to know about the Black alumni. I want them to know about the Black faculty and how to take advantage of the resources available at the University. They really need to learn how to approach the faculty and know that it's alright to raise questions in their classes. It's expected of them to have conferences with their instructors, also. They must set goals for themselves each quarter; academic goals and personal goals as well. Most importantly, this is a public supported University and, to that extent, there are entitlements, rights of entitlement for Black students. We are entitled to be here because we pay taxes. I would also want them to know that there is an element in the Black community that expects them to be successful. It is important to have a social life, to engage in the political process and to look after the well-being of Black people. We cannot afford to be shy and bashful about this either. If anyone has problems, he should seek help rather than wait until things get out of hand.

Q: Do you think there should be Black Greek Organizations here on campus?

A: Oh definitely, as a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, yes. My wife is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. People who say otherwise don't know what they are talking about.

Q: Why?

A: Well, when you take a look at the progress of successful Black people, they are members of these particular organizations. There has been the most unfortunate tendency to compare the Black sororities and fraternities to our White counterparts. White sororities and fraternities most often are publicized as a little more than, I think it's called the "Animal House" mentality. There is another side to those organizations of course. But that's not the side that gets publicized the most. Nevertheless, these are support groups- support groups that become important networking and mentoring organizations later in life.

Q: Where are you from?

A: I'm from the State of Maryland, Davidsonville near Annapolis, home of the US Naval Academy.

Q: Where did you go to college?

A: I went to Morgan State University, one of the historic Black Universities in Baltimore, Maryland. I was also a student for some time at Howard University. My Master's degree in Psychology is from John Carroll University in Cleveland. My Ph.D in Psychology is from Western University in Cleveland, Ohio as well.

Q: How important do you think it is for Black students to attend Black Universities?

A: I think it is very important. You get an orientation from Black Colleges that you simply do not get here. Part of that orientation is seeing Black people across disciplines- seeing a Black woman in Physics, for example, or Biology, a Black female mathematician, something of which you may never see here. Looking around in class and seeing other people just like you in significant numbers is also important. Then, there is the social life that gives people a rounding that enables them to face whatever conflicts and problems that may arise. You don't get much here in the way of your heritage and tradition. These are very significant pluses coming from these Black schools. Also bear in mind, that the large majority of Black leaders are still being produced by Black Colleges and Universities. We must protect our institutions and organizations. It's part of our heritage. It's part of the resources that enable us to be here. Remember, these Universities, historically segregated Universities, didn't just have a sudden change of heart. There were some pressures for change. Black 'folks did somethings to cause these people to turn around. This is why it is important to understand these institutions are ours too. We have a stake in both. It's like the question, "Why are you at a White University rather than a Black University?" The answer is very simple. There are Black students here. Some few who need me. So, I'm here.

Q: What about your family?

A: I have a daughter, Shawn who went to Howard University to get a degree in Business Administration and a son, Charles III, who attended San Diego State University to obtain a degree in Industrial Design. My wife, Dr. Shirley Wade Thomas is a Black Family Development Sociologist.

Q: What changes would you like to see for Black Students?

A: I would like to see a renewed value orientation that fosters Belongingness; Living Awareness; Competence; KNOWLEDGE; NETWORKING; Excellence; Self-Confidence and Success. In short we need people who are culturally Black to deal with the on going problems. No one can, will, or should deal with our problems but us. Students who do not take Black Studies courses are mis-educated and run the risk of victimizing their own kind.

We need to take advantage of the resources available to us. There are others. I strongly encourage you to get to know Black faculty and staff. Establish some kind of rapport with them. Don't be intimidated. They've been there before. It makes a world difference when you know that someone is there. Someone who understands you. Someone who wants you to succeed. By the way, Dr. Thomas is teaching USP 150 "The Black Ghetto" next quarter.

A Special Note Of Thanks

The People's Voice staff would like to take this time out to extend a sincere "Thank You" to all of the individuals and student organizations that contributed to the success of this issue. Without your willingness to write articles about your respective organizations, physical show of support during our funding appeal to AS, and patience with us (especially Carlota!) during our trying times, this issue would be little more than a dream. Our goal is to become the most informative document you read on campus. With your continued support, we will succeed!

Tell us how we're doing. Do you like the new format? Do you hate it? Are our articles comprehensive enough? What did you want to read that we didn't write? Is the paper too long? Too short? We welcome your criticism, good and bad. The People's Voice is your newsletter. Write us, and tell us how we're doing.

The People's Voice is the result of a collective effort on the parts of the following individuals. The views and opinions expressed herein are those of the People's Voice Newsletter and its staff, and in no way reflect the views and/or opinions of the UCSD administration or ASUCSD.

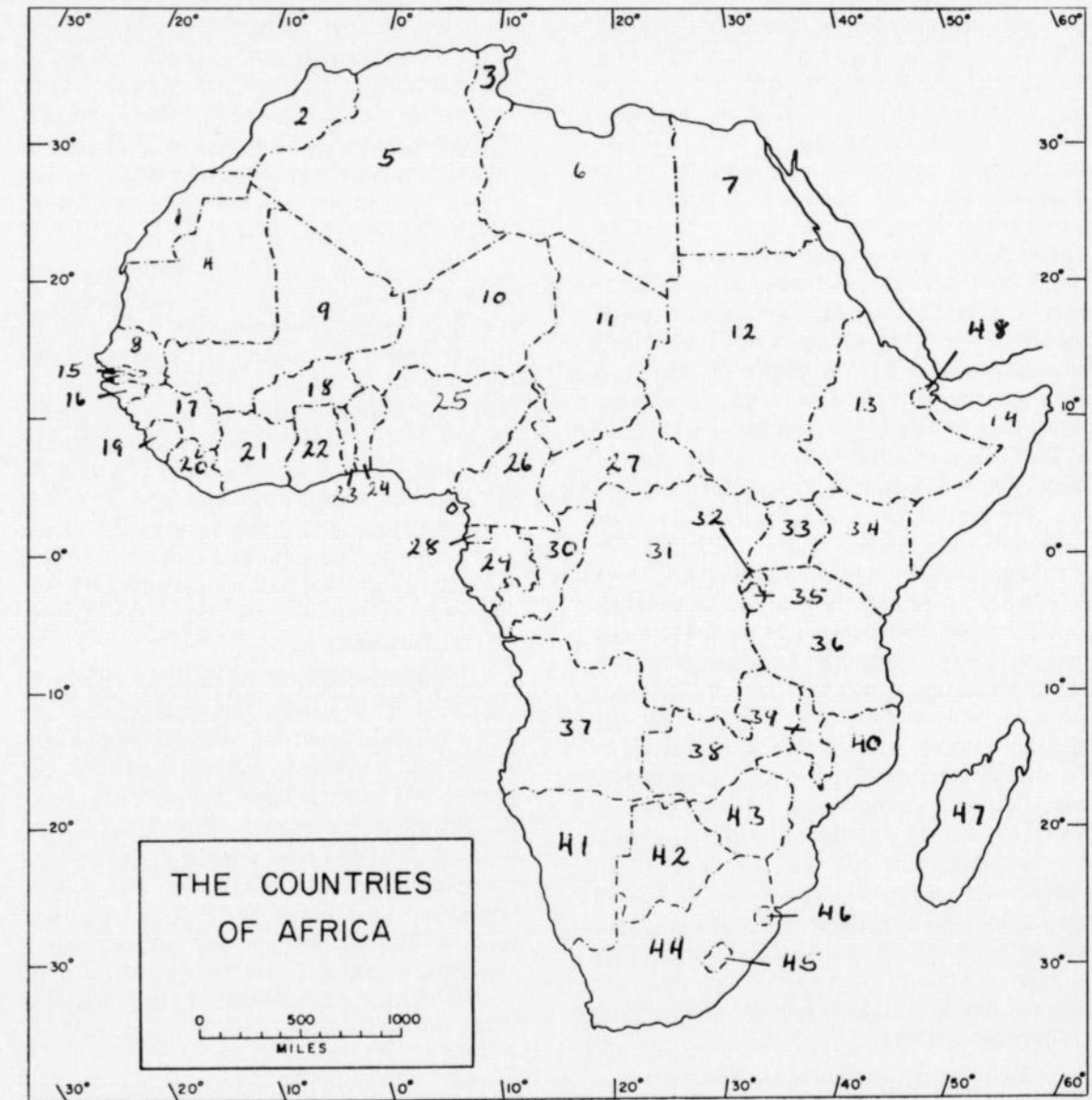
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If you are interested in working with The People's Voice, We welcome your input. Our office is located in Student Center A, in the Alternative Media Room, directly above the MEChA office. You may leave a note there, or in our mail box in EDNA, #A4.

The People's Voice loves to keep its readers informed. If you know of events (parties, concerts, guest speakers, fashion shows, meetings, etc.) that would be of interest to the African American community at UCSD and beyond, let us know and we'll put the word out. Send all relevant info. to The People's Voice, B-023 A4, La Jolla, CA 92093, or place in our mailbox #A4 in EDNA. Deadline is January 10, 1988 for our February 1, issue.

Puzzler's Page

The Puzzler's Page is devoted to increasing your knowledge in a light-hearted, fun manner. Each issue of the People's Voice will contain a puzzle that deals with some aspect of African and/or African-American history, culture, notable figures, etc. I encourage you to work the puzzles for two reasons. First, you may learn something you didn't know about our people, heritage or history. Second, there is a prize given for submission of correctly solved puzzles. In case of more than one correct submission, a drawing will be held to determine the prize winner.



Knowing Home

How many of the countries numbered above can you identify? Do you know if they are independent nations or colonized? This quarter's puzzle is designed to familiarize you with the continent we as African Americans call the "Motherland." To enter the People's Voice Puzzle Contest, write your name, address and phone number on an 8.5" x 11" piece of paper along with the following: Names of countries by id number, whether they are independent or colonized, if colonized, by whom. Leave entries in the People's Voice box, #A4 in EDNA. Deadline for consideration of prize is Sunday, February 1, 1988.

Introducing Our Umbrella Organization: AASU...

Hi, my name is Stanley Luster and I am the president of the African American Student Union at UCSD. I'd like to tell you a little about our organization and hopefully when I've finished, you will want to get involved and learn more. As brothers and sisters we must not overlook the reason why the African American Student Union (formerly the Black Student Union) was founded. The Black Student Union was organized during the Civil Rights Movement to help combat the racism encountered by Black students on predominately white college campuses, such as UCSD. In addition to battling the overt prejudice of the administration and the institution at large, BSUs also worked to improve the social and cultural atmosphere on their respective campuses, which is equally important to the academic success of African American students. As we attend college today, we are living witnesses that the struggle continues. We are the ones responsible for creating a better atmosphere for the future. I am proud to say that the African American Student Union of UCSD is a vital link in that ongoing chain of hard work and dedication which began not long ago. For the last three years, the organization has undergone some major changes in its executive structure, programs, and the political procedures it follows. These changes were made necessary due to an old constitution that needed a major tune-up. As a progressive organization, we recognize that what may have been the best way to do things in the past, may not be the best way to do them today. After extensive evaluations of the overall structure of the AASU, the 1986-87 AASU executive board set the following goals: 1. To revise the old constitution to clearly outline the responsibilities of the executive board members for the general membership. 2. To host quality cultural, educational and social programs and activities. 3. To take an active role not only in issues of primary interest to African American students, but also to take a more active role in campus issues at large.

I am especially proud to say that, as a result of the above changes, the AASU is now working as a cohesive African American student membership that is committed to African American student progress.

The 1987-88 AASU executive board will continue providing leadership by sponsoring activities that will enhance the probability of African American student retention and gradua-

tion. Our goal is to ensure that the academic, political, social and personal needs of African American students are addressed. It is important for us as students not to lose sight of our number one objective...which is to successfully complete our academic program at UCSD. We must understand that unless our social, cultural and financial needs are met, our academic success is in jeopardy. Programs such as Freshman Orientation, Big Brother/Big Sister, Black History Month Celebration, Semi-Formal Dinner/Dance, Black Graduation and AASU sponsored TG's are all steps in fulfilling those needs. In addition, we are sponsoring a Kwaanza celebration, and recently co-sponsored the Reggae Festival with ASUCSD.

The AASU is also concerned about the future expansion of UCSD. The development of this campus cannot continue without the input of African American students. In other words, we **expect** to see a African American Studies Program incorporated into the undergraduate curriculum. We **expect** to see the walls and open spaces of campus enhanced with the rich legacy of African American art and other contributions of our ample heritage. And, finally, we **expect** to see the active recruitment and hiring of more African American faculty and staff **and** an increase in the enrollment and graduation counts for African American students.

I hope that by now you have an appetite to learn more about our thriving organization. We will not be undersold, nor will we be underestimated in our pledge to gain recognition for our people. We will not allow internal or external factors confuse our priorities. We are an African American Student Union working to improve the leadership, pride and progress of our people. Contact myself or any of the AASU officers listed below to find out how you can get involved. I look forward to our future interaction as we work together to meet our academic and organizational objectives.

Stanley Luster	President
Deymon Fleming	Vice President
NadirHaqq	Budget Coordinator
Michelle Monroe	Secretary
Vanessa Stewart and Ayo Luwani	Activities Coordinators
Sabrina Moore and Denise Whisenhunt	Public Relations
Gwen Brown	Outreach Coordinator
Annette Mosley	SAAC Representative
Karyn Griffin	SAAC Rep. Alternate
Koleta James Miller	Historian

...And Other African American Student Organizations: BSSO, NSBE, & RBE

Hello.. Thank you for taking an interest in the **Black Science Student Organization**. We are a student-run organization. Our primary purpose is to expose Medicine and related fields to students of color. In the past, the BSSO has prompted awareness by hosting such activities as CPR Training, distinguished guest lecturers, and a variety of other campus activities.

This year, we will again provide a multitude of activities. More importantly, however, the BSSO will have a new outlook on such issues as student retention and organizational membership.

Our number one focus will be to fight against those shadowing ideals of defeat that some of us often feel. We hope to contribute by making your stay here at UCSD a pleasant one, one that ends in graduation! If you have any questions, suggestions, or just want to chat, please feel free to contact us by mail at B-023 B4, in our office in Student Center Building A, or by phone at 534-4774.

Edward Washington	President
Robin Benton	Vice-President
Norma "Susan" Johnson	Secretary

With more than 5,000 members, the **National Society Of Black Engineers (NSBE)** is one of the largest student-run organizations in the country. This society is dedicated to the realization of a better tomorrow through the development of intensive programs for increasing the recruitment, retention, and successful graduation of students of color in engineering. NSBE is comprised of over 150 chapters, located on college and university campuses across the United States.

UCSD's chapter of NSBE is in its third year of existence and is still building, growing and improving. Our primary goals for this year are:

1. To increase the number of Black engineering and technical majors on this campus,
2. To establish a support network for those already in engineering and technical majors.

We are also concerned with establishing a rapport with the professional and Black communities in San Diego. We are currently working with highschool outreach students, encouraging them to take on the challenge of engineering.

If you have any ideas or questions regarding the nature of our organization, feel free to contact any of the following officers at our campus address: B-023 or in our Student Organization office: L-4 in the Student Center Building A.

Beverly Sutherland	President
Sylvia Henson	Vice President
Gwendolyn French	Treasurer
Steven Holness	Public Relations
Mike Lindsey	Public Relations
Pamela Olivia	Secretary

I would like to officially invite all eligible members to attend the next **Royal Brotherhood of Excellence Meeting**. In order for an existing organization to become productive, each active member must extend a part of himself in behalf of the organization. Today, we are gathered here in unity to build a potential force into a well rounded, organized and respected group.

In Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary; *Royal* is defined as, "of a kingdom and its government." Our kingdom began its uprising with the freeing of the slaves, and our government came into power when we began making our own decisions. *Brotherhood* is defined as, "an associ-

ation of men united in a common interest, work or creed. We are here today to unite African American brothers on this campus, for only then will we thrive and prosper. Last but not least is *Excellence*. Excellence is performing to the utmost of one's ability in a given endeavor. Our common goal is to have the brother excel into society as a positive consummate force, and not to remain a minute irrelevancy. Brothers, be proud to be Black. God gave you this color not to be abused, beaten or overlooked, but to be considered a unique fruitful part of mother Earth.

Welcome Earl Edwards

By Yalonda Lofton



If you take a walk to the northeast end of campus and stop by the Canyonview Recreation and Athletic offices, you will probably run into a man who will greet you with a smooth "hello" and a friendly smile. That man, Earl Edwards is a newcomer to U.C. San Diego.

On September 1, Edwards became the first full time Assistant Athletic Director. He is well qualified for his new position and has a long list of credentials to prove it. He has a Masters degree in Sports Administration and a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education. He also has experience in several other university's inter-mural programs including the University of Massachusetts, U. C. Davis, Drexel University, and the University of Michigan.

His position includes supervising six coaches, evaluating the budget, and overseeing game management for indoor home activities where students are hired to do timekeeping and scorekeeping and ticketing. He hires students for game management early in the fall quarter, these positions have been filled, but he suggest checking with him periodically to see if any openings are available.

Edwards is interested in knowing what students want. He also wants to get more minorities involved in athletics. With twenty eight teams to choose from the Triton Intercollegiate Athletics offers students an opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities. The tryouts are open and all sports are on the Division III level.

Take a walk to the other side of campus and meet Earl Edwards. He extends an open invitation to students, he stated, "My door is always open, if students want to talk, about sports or oth-

erwise."

San Diego Marches For MLK Way

By Tracye Warfield

On Saturday, October 31, approximately three hundred people marched and rallied for the defeat of Proposition F. The much publicized proposition was brought before the city council by a group of commercial businessmen of Market Street/ Martin Luther King Way, who felt that changing the street name from Market Street to Martin Luther King Jr. Way was done hastily and without consideration for the people whose lives and places of business could be affected by the change.

Although it was a rainy day, marchers showed much enthusiasm. Several groups sent representatives to show their support for the "No on F" campaign. Among these were the U.C.S.D. African American Student Union, Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, Omega Psi Phi fraternity, Urban League members, and many other groups and individuals.

The march started at the steps of San Diego City Hall, continued down Martin Luther King Jr. Way, and ended with a rally at a vacant parking lot on the corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Way. During the rally, the president of the Urban League, Herb Cawthorne, acted as a sort of cheerleader for the crowd, trying to keep their enthusiasm up, despite the rain and failure of the microphone system they had planned to use for the rally speakers. One of the leaders of the "No on F" campaign, Michele Anderson denounced the businessmen of Market Street/ Martin Luther King Jr. Way, calling them "cry babies". Other leaders in the community expressed their feelings on the issue. Moreover, the crowd received a surprise when actress, Esther Rolle, formerly of the hit series "Good Times", delivered a rousing speech about the late civil rights leader.

Although the march did prove that a community could unite, it was to no avail. On November 3, San Diego voters decided that Martin Luther King Jr. Way should be changed back to Market Street. "San Diego does not deserve to have a street named after Martin Luther King Jr.", commented a disappointed Michele Anderson. However, city council members are now in the process of selecting another possible way to commemorate the late, Nobel Peace prize winner, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

a still, small voice

Whatever Happened to "Unity Through Diversity"?

I entered UCSD on an ebbing wave of political activism. During the preceding years, student affirmative action had been attacked on all fronts, and Third World students at UCSD were literally fighting for their academic lives. A slogan arose from the turmoil, "Unity Through Diversity." It became the battle cry of the educational rights movement here, and of the Black Student Union. This slogan served a very specific purpose in those days. Conservatism was on the rise, and students of color found themselves needing to "prove" their worthiness to attend the university. "Unity Through Diversity" was the students' way of saying that the university achieved its academic, political and social goals **because of** (rather than **in spite of**) of the ethnic and cultural differences of its student body. If we can recognize and accept the value of the differences between our ethnicities, why can we not also accept the value of the differences we find within our cultural heritage?

I received a lot of negative feedback when I chose to become a writing tutor rather than a peer counselor with OASIS. Why? Because peer counseling was the most common and most accepted position for enlightened students of color to pursue. I was accused of shirking my responsibility and abandoning my cultural heritage simply because I chose a different route to student interaction and influence. Fortunately, I didn't buckle under pressure, and now, three years later, I know I made the right decision.

My message here is twofold. First, to each individual reader: As an African American student, you do have a responsibility to your community. No matter how equal or "not discriminated against" you feel, you haven't arrived until we all have. Find the unmet need that **you** can fill and fill it. Once you have done that, don't worry about justifying your position to others.

In the early 1970s, Peggy Dillard was a promising young fashion model. Not a political activist, marcher or demonstrator, a fashion model. Many people at that time might have said that she had "sold out" to the white folks, given in to the European ideology. But Peggy Dillard made a significant contribution to African American progress in the U.S. She refused to press her hair. In the seventies, that could easily have ended her modeling career. Instead, it paved the way for a broader definition of beauty. One that didn't rely on fair skin or straight hair, but allowed for full acceptance of African features as beautiful, even in our "European" society. As a result, many of the most sought after models today are either African or African American, Iman, Wanatakee, and Beverly Johnson, just to name a few.

My second message is to the community at large. Recognize that our cultural family has many strengths, talents, skills, and expressions. We needn't all be officers of AASU, NSBE, etc. Some of us should be serving on college councils, AS committees, and yes, even in the predominately white organizations such as RISC or IVCF. Only then will we have truly equal representation, something which we often claim to be fighting for.

Now, before you all go wearing me out for this preachy editorial, let me just say that all of it is directed at me first. My editorial column will always address an issue which I need to work on improving. So don't go getting all upset about what Carlota said you needed to do. I need to do it too. If you see me lagging, let me know.

Keep Reaching Toward Your Goal,

Carlota

WHICH ARE YOU?

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed,
Or are you just contented that your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings, and mingle with the flock,
Or do you stay at home and criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part to help the work along,
Or are you satisfied to be the kind that "just belong?"

Do you ever visit a member who is sick?
or leave the work to just a few and talk about the clique?

There's quite a program scheduled that I'm sure you've heard about,
And we'll appreciate if you, too, will come and help us out.

So come to the meetings often and help with hand and heart,
Don't be just a member, but take an active part.

Think this over, member. You know right from wrong,
Are you an active member or do you just belong?

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