

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
GRADUATE STUDENT
Advocate

Volume 5, No. 6

December 1993

Free

Organized Student Support for Yomi Falters

By Michael Weinstein-Mohammed
and Christina Pretto
OF THE ADVOCATE STAFF

While several student groups have rallied behind Michael Yomi, a second level economics student who has refused to take the department's first exam on grounds of racial bias, their momentum appears to have lost steam as Yomi has yet to offer a solution to the administration.

Over the summer, Yomi was notified that he was being terminated from the program because he had not taken the first exam. Before being terminated, Yomi had negotiated with then-Dean of Students Floyd Moreland for acceptable conditions under which he could take the exam, including a deal where Yomi would submit lists of professors with whom he was comfortable or of whom he had no opinion. The department's executive officer would then compile an exam committee from the lists to grade Yomi's exam. Yomi did not act promptly on this special arrangement, and it was withdrawn after roughly one month.

Instead, Yomi has accused Professor Michael Grossman, chairman of the economics department and the Graduate Center of racial discrimination and unfair academic practices. Specifically, Yomi says Grossman and the department cannot be trusted to either grade his exam fairly, or create a situation of unbiased grading.

Yomi bases his charge on the fact that Grossman refused to admit him to the program in 1989 because

his GRE score was substandard, and told him to get a second master's degree in economics. After Yomi received a master's degree from City College, Grossman admitted him to the program.

Grossman has denied Yomi's charges of racism in the department, and said that once Yomi was admitted to the program, he was "treated like any other student."

Many groups at the graduate center have rallied to Yomi's support. As early as September, the Doctoral Students Council, while citing no specific examples of racist behavior, passed a resolution calling for an investigation concerning complaints that Yomi and other minority students in the economic department have been given "unequal" treatment.

Following the DSC resolution, a coalition of groups including the Latin and Latin American Students Association, the Korean Students Association, and the Democratic Socialists of America signed a memo to GSUC President-Frances Degan Horowitz and Grossman calling for an investigation into the case. The coalition "requested" that Yomi be "advanced to level III pending investigation by an independent committee." Secondly, they called for an investigation into "Yomi's serious charges of unequal treatment of black and Hispanic students in the department of economics."

The International Socialist Organization has also been active in the case, although they did not sign the memos to the administration. According to one ISO

See YOMI, back page

History Program Hires Caribbeanist Palmer

By Michael Weinstein-Mohammed
OF THE ADVOCATE STAFF

Colin Palmer, a black scholar from Jamaica, has been hired by the history program in the capacity of distinguished professor. The hiring marks the first "central line" appointment of a black scholar in the 25-year history of the program. His appointment may begin a process of potential institutional change, as many professors approach retirement eligibility.

The appointment of Palmer indicates that the program and the administration are serious about promoting diversity in the ethnic and social makeup of program's professional staff. Three years ago it seemed doubtful whether the university was interested in a candidate. Palmer was selected as a search finalist, but little motion occurred in the case. This can be attributed to the offer that the school made Palmer and various personal reasons on Palmer's behalf.

Recently, the school aggressively courted Palmer. Whether this impetus came from the President's office or the history program is unclear. What is important is that the school is ready to make a serious economic commitment of resources to attract professional staff in previously marginalized areas. Distinguished professors cost the school between \$60,000-\$100,000 per year.

Academic diversity is served by the Palmer hiring. Palmer has distinguished himself in the field of Latin American and Caribbean Studies. The issue of African slavery has been his main interest. Receiving his Ph.D. from University of Wisconsin under the direction Phil Curtin, a key player in discussions on the Atlantic slave trade, Palmer went on to publish two

key works: *Slaves of the White God: Blacks in Mexico: 1570-1650* in 1976 and *Human Cargoes: British Slave Trade to Spanish America* in 1981. The works are regarded as "first rate" research by the program's most nitpicking Latin Americanists.

Palmer's teaching record extends broadly into the field of Latin America and the Caribbean. He has taught many courses, including comparative slavery, slave resistance, and Latin American colonial history. Student reports from the University of North Carolina, where Palmer last taught, indicate that as a professor, he has been "supportive and helpful in terms of student research," one student said.

Palmer arrives at the Graduate Center this fall as he pursues a new field of academic inquiry. Leaving the field of Caribbean history, Palmer is now preparing to embark into the field of Afro-American history in the United States. One of his three forthcoming books on the topic will deal with the Afro-American experience specifically, entitled, *Passageways: A History of Black America to 1865*. While Palmer is not presently known in the North American literature in terms of publishing, this will come soon. Some students believe that it is an "extra boon" to work with professors that "come to the table with fresh directions and approaches to the field".

Which courses Palmer will teach in the fall of 1994 has not been disclosed. Palmer has been hired primarily to work with students in the Afro-American field. "Whether this will exclude the Caribbean or Latin America is up to Palmer," said Stuart Prall, executive officer of the history program.



Michael Yomi

photo by Michael Weinstein-Mohammed

Computer Center Attempts Comeback

By Michael Weinstein-Mohammed
OF THE ADVOCATE STAFF

It has been the concern of graduate center students that the Computer Center has been lax in meeting student needs. Frequently cited complaints run the gambit from incompetent technical help to inadequate equipment. Under the leadership of Sanford Fleisher, director of the center, there has been an attempt to improve the center's image.

To better serve the needs of students, the center is improving its human resources. This semester, the consultant staff has received extra training in statistical packages, such as SPSS, which social science students frequently have trouble operating because of lack of familiarity and training. Moreover, extra staff has been hired to meet the needs of students during peak times of 2 to 7 p.m.

Students have complained that the technical staff has not been helpful in the past. "Students make unreasonable demands on the technical staff," said one consultant who wished to be unidentified. The student added that "it is the expectation of students that the consultants should be de-bugging complex assignments for them." The consultant views this as "unrealistic and unethical" in terms of staff expectations.

It is clear that the computer center and students will benefit from new funding for much needed computer equipment, improved human resources, and extended lab hours.

DECEMBER in the NEWS

Reynolds Not Nice, But Efficient, Says Chronicle

CUNY Chancellor W. Ann Reynolds is the subject of the cover story in this week's *Chronicle of Higher Education*. (December 1) "Controversial Chancellor" by writer Kit Lively profiles Reynolds' time at City University, with an emphasis on her personal style over the substance of her policy initiatives. Various members of the CUNY community are asked to comment on their impression of her style of governance in relation to the controversy that her actions have generated.

Rita Rodin, spokesperson for the Chancellor's Office, said that Reynolds did not have any particular comment on the Chronicle's profile and felt that the article spoke for itself.

By Pam Donovan

CSI's President Volpe Reinstated

The CUNY Board of Trustees voted on November 22 to reinstate Dr. Edmond Volpe as president of the College of Staten Island. This past fall, Volpe had been dismissed after a dispute developed between Volpe and the board over whether he had made an informal agreement to resign.

The Board then authorized a search for a successor on October 25. Volpe will continue to serve until January and will then take a study leave until June. Dr. Felix Cardagna, who currently serves as provost, will begin as acting president on February 1. Dr. Volpe has been a vocal critic of the Chancellor's Report on Academic Planning (the Goldstein Report) and an internal memo leaked to the New York City daily newspapers in July indicated that Volpe would be replaced. Volpe was traveling in Japan at the time and said he had no plans to resign.

By Pam Donovan

Blank Named Hunter's President

Blanche D. Blank, a vice chancellor and political science professor at Yeshiva University, has been named acting president of Hunter College to replace Paul LeClerc, who left Hunter to become president of the New York Public Library.

From 1972 to 1977, Blank served as dean of social sciences at Hunter, and was on the faculty since 1953. She received her bachelor's degree from Hunter, her master's degree in public administration from Syracuse University, and her Ph.D. from Columbia University.

She is a member of the board of directors of the Fund for Peace and of the American Civil Liberties Union's Free Speech/Association Committee. In the 1970s Blank served on the CUNY chancellor's committee on the status of women.

By Christina Pretto

*Make Popcorn Balls, not Shopping Trips
Happy Holidays from the Advocate*

THE GRADUATE STUDENT ADVOCATE -
Volume 5, No. 6
33 West 42 Street
New York, New York 10036
(212) 642-5852

Editor-in-Chief
Associate Editor
Associate Editor

Christina Pretto
Pam Donovan
Michael Weinstein-Mohammed

The Graduate Student Advocate is published monthly at The Graduate Center of the City University of New York during the regular academic year. It receives operating funds allocated by the Doctoral Students Council and through advertising.

The Graduate Student Advocate accepts advertising representing a wide range of views. However, the acceptance does not imply agreement with the views expressed. At the same time, The Graduate Student Advocate reserves the right to reject certain advertisements judged sexist or racist because of offensive imagery and/or wording.

No parties are entitled to republish contents of this issue without the express written consent of the Editor-in-Chief.

©1993 by The Graduate Student Advocate

LIBERAL REDUX, OR, JUST SAY YES

*But O, young beauty of the woods,
Whom Nature courts with fruit and flowers,
Gather the flowers but spare the buds,
Lest Flora, angry at thy crime
To kill her infants in their prime,
Do quickly make th' example yours;
And ere we see,
Nip in the blossom all our hopes and thee.*

— Andrew Marvell, "The Picture of Little T.C. in a Prospect of Flowers"

Whenever one questions aspects of what passes for liberal thought these days, one gets sucked up in an emotional bog, along with Ronald Reagan and racism and other evils of the universe with which one has become implicated by not believing in the liberal narrative. The narrative is as rigid and deterministic in its eschatology as that of bible thumpers. Such were my thoughts on reading Tom Smith's last *Advocate* column, which concerned my "conservatism." (Liberals also lack a sense of humor.)

Most interesting to me was the opening of Tom's column, the lines from Shelley's "Ode to Liberty." The bringing together of a Platonist (Shelley) and a materialist (i.e., socialist) is not such an odd conjoining, and it made me think how much trouble the twentieth century might have been spared (its great and devastating flirtation with socialism) had Plato been able to put his republic into operation.

Wonderful visions underlie socialism and Plato's thought (and Shelley's "Ode to Liberty"), but they should give everyone pause by now. One of the premises of my article was that history and common sense show that the human condition is imperfect and that we must accept this underlay of imperfectibility. (Beauty, you may recall from the *Phaedrus*, is the only divine thing that walks around on two legs.)

Creating perfect worlds, *ab nihilo*, is what mathematicians do, and theoretical physicists, and it's not an accident that liberal thinking — especially its belief in the perfectibility of the world — arose in tandem with the great revolutions in mathematical thought (Leibniz, Newton). (It's also not an accident

that mathematicians these days are spinning something called chaos theory.) The first conquests of disease in the eighteenth century must have produced a heady feeling among the practitioners of medicine and among enlightened men at large. Changing certain material conditions, however, has little effect on the human species as such. People survive smallpox in order to fall victim to new diseases.

In the same way, while some people are gamely fighting the struggle to put still another law into effect that will improve the next endangered group, the earth placidly rotates 180 degrees and, *gadzooks!* another group of oppressed people, like Topsy, has just growed up. No one gets ahead in this game; we're lucky if we stay even. (Just ask working people with children.) More important, do such achievements produce authentic changes in human nature?

POWER PLAYS

By Elizabeth Powers

"Progressives" like to think so. They imagine a linear, progressive human development, with people becoming more tolerant, free, whatever. Just in case you haven't noticed, however, progressive values are not something laid down in the arteries like proteins or cholesterol. Some people nowadays, for instance, claim that men are becoming less like men, understanding women better (they "get it," you might say); but just because men of a certain age now watch what they say when they are around women, it doesn't follow that males have become "different" or that in 150 years (or in 15) they will react the same way around women as PC men today do. In 150 years the world is just as likely to look like the year 800 all over again. Maybe the year 1993 will look like the year 800 in 150 years. Until the day comes when we're rewired (like in Stallone's new movie, *Demolition Man*), we will remain the same old human stuff as the Sumerians.

Many of the achievements of the past two centuries
See REDUX, page 11

Ceremony Held for African Burial Ground

By Diana Agosta
OF THE ADVOCATE STAFF

On November 4, a ceremony was held to commemorate the temporary removal to Howard University of the remains of Africans interred in the African Burial Ground. Between 500 and 1,000 people heard performances by the Women of the Calabash, Odetta, and Noel Pointer and witnessed the pouring of libation, and African religious ritual, at the site of the burial ground.

The ceremony was followed by a candlelight procession to the historic Mariner's Temple Baptist Church to hear and participate in prayers and presentations by scholars, religious and political leaders including Rev. Carolyn Holloway, Mayor David Dinkins, Dr. Abd'Allah Adesanya, and Dr. Howard Dodson.

At Howard, physical anthropologist Dr. Michael Blakely will direct research on the living conditions of the 18th century/colonial era African community in New York City. The remains will be re-interred following a large ceremony after the research is completed.

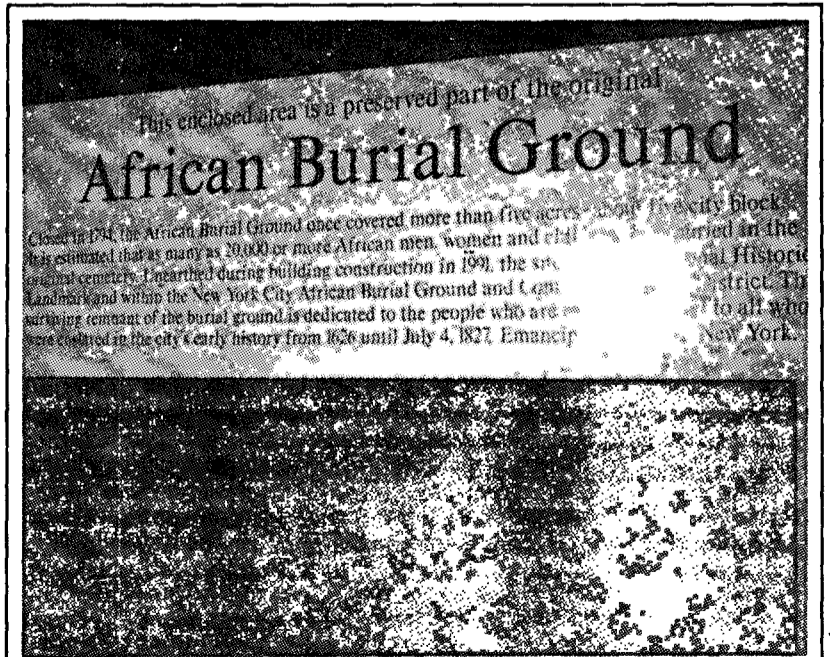
More than 400 graves were rediscovered and excavated in 1991-92 amid much controversy during the construction of a federal office building by the General Services Administration. The African Burial Ground is now estimated to contain more than 20,000 graves and to extend north of

City Hall and east of Broadway for several acres.

Widespread community concern about the excavation and the proper treatment of the remains and the site spurred the creation of a federal steering committee, composed of historians, anthropologists, museum professionals, architects, clergy, government officials, and community leaders to represent the interests of the African-American community and make formal recommendations to Congress and the General Services Administration.

The committee's recommendations, released in August 1993, include the establishment of a museum

See AFRICAN, page 11



ACTION on CAMPUS

Labor History, Latin America: The Advocate's Must-Take Course of the Spring Semester

While the concept of armed struggle as a method to achieve the revolution seems to be on the decline in Latin America, organized labor is still a factor in the struggle against capital.

Many new social movement theorists have written off the "traditional" working class as being some form of aristocracy, uninterested and incapable of breaking the shackles of capitalistic domination.

Time has passed since the new social movement people have written off the working class and they have not done much better against capital. The question Marxists are now asking is how will labor reconfigure itself in a "post-NAFTA, free trade" environment despite the Andre Gortz's *Farewell to the Working Class*.

If you are interested in examining the track record of Latin American labor history, the Advocate suggests that Professor Hobart Spalding's history course entitled "Organized Labor in Latin America" will be the highlight smash hit of the Spring 1994 semester.

Letter to the Editor of The Chronicle of Higher Education

Chancellor Reynolds insists that her success be measured by her policies rather than by her personality or sex. During her tenure at CUNY, tuition has nearly doubled and the University has lost \$200 million dollars in funding. There is no evidence of her success in lobbying the legislature for money.

Recently the Chancellor has sponsored over 10 million dollars in unnecessary "security" initiatives. The Chancellor has also wasted more than 2 million dollars losing 2 hopelessly misguided legal battles against CUNY's own constituency.

The judge's ruling in one of those cases described Reynolds's administration as "disingenuous" and guilty of "linguistic shenanigans" and "discriminatory intent."

The result of the College Preparedness Initiative Reynolds sponsored in California was that some colleges eventually had to lower their admission standards because students still weren't qualifying for admission.

The Chancellor has routinely rewarded mediocre Central Office administrators with promotions and raises by bypassing regular search procedure. Her policies are to promote loyalty not merit.

Reynolds has reaffirmed her policy of tying financial reward to academic planning, but the truth is that campuses with longstanding planning documents have had their funding withheld.

Unfortunately, these policies have not earned Reynolds much sympathy from anybody—students, faculty, legislators. At present, six CUNY campuses have voted no confidence in the Chancellor.

Voted at 12/9/92 meeting of the
Doctoral Students' Council,
CUNY Graduate Center



Professor Hobart Spalding

Part Time Position Available
(Spring Semester)
Office Assistant Needed for the
Doctoral Students' Council (DSC)

Approximately 10 hours per week
Salary between \$10 and \$12 per hour



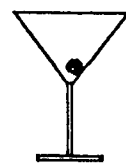
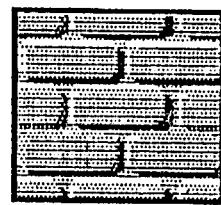
depending on experience.

Computer knowledge a plus.
Please send resume with cover letter
to the attention of the
Steering Committee, DSC, BM001
by 12/15/93

If you have any questions regarding the position,
please call
642-2851



STEP BACK IN TIME! 70s... and 80s...



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16 6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.



in
**Student Center
(Basement Mezzanine)**



*All members of the university
community are invited!
Staff, Faculty, Students!*



ARTS and ENTERTAINMENT

From Kentucky, a Club Secret About to Be Told

Singer Joan Osborne to Sign Record Contract, and, Maybe, More Than Regional Renown

By Geoff Davis
SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

Rock and roll is really about screaming. Hiding under a thin veneer of chords and backbeat it is the primal beast in all of us yearning to breathe free. At the top of its lungs, it rails against injustice, revels in sex and hopes that tomorrow things will get better. It is the dream in all of us given tangible form.

None of this, however helps explain the young woman at the weathered table in this smoke stained Vermont bar. In a scant few hours she will become that dream under hot lights. Backed by a locomotive band, slamming her mike stand repeatedly into the stage she will hurl incendiary songs into a raging crowd like musical molotovs igniting on impact with the ears. Right now though she's just Joan Osborne, a quiet small town girl from Kentucky. Tired from the long ride up the Thruway, she shyly plays with a lock of her long curled hair, embarrassed that anyone could maintain enough interest in her to actually *want to ask questions*. She sits in the worn chair, a study in contrasts. She is, most decidedly, *not* screaming.

"I'm just, you know, a person like everyone else. Trying to do something fun with my life and having a little bit of success," she says softly, hands fidgeting.

Okay. A little bit of success. But the woman who is arguably New York City's best kept club secret is on the verge of quite a bit more than that. Years of playing blues based rock and roll around town and throughout the Northeast have built a reputation with music cognoscenti and plain rockers alike. She has enclaves of diehard fans buried in places like Syracuse and Burlington, Vermont. She's won New York Music Awards, accolades from Rolling Stone, played with people like Chris Whitley and Mick Taylor and generally torn up every stage she's ever been on, and yet her name is hardly on the lips of the world. Those days, however, are just about gone. The record deal with Polygram has just been signed and she's holed up in Manhattan working on her major label debut with producer Rick Chertoff. Brace yourselves, Joan Osborne is about to arrive.

Arriving has taken its time. One of six siblings, Osborne grew up in a little town on the fringes of Louisville, Kentucky called Anchorage. She classifies her childhood as "pretty normal, pretty uneventful". Mostly, she says, she spent time playing in the woods, building tree houses, being average and singing, but not the songs one might think.

"I used to sing in the choir all the time and the music teacher really liked my singing. He took me to a couple of solo contests and stuff, but it was singing old English madrigals," she remembers. "We used to have a big old console stereo and it was set really close to the wall at our house and if you opened the door to the cabinet that it was next to it would make this little box. You could sit right next to the speaker and I used to sit in there and listen to the 'Sound of Music' and sing it from beginning to end."

In high school, Osborne started getting away from Broadway and closer to the bone. She recalls, "I was in one rock band. I guess I was 16 or 17. I happened to be dating the guy who was the drummer and I actually did a gig with them at this battle of the bands at the Kentucky State Fair and there were thousands of people in the audience, it was really a huge audience. I was just sort of like the featured chick singer. I did a couple of Fleetwood Mac songs. But then the bass player in the band decided that he didn't like me and he kicked me out. I was in the band for two weeks."

After high school, it was off to the big city. Louisville that is, swimmin' pools, baseball bats. Osborne attended the University of Louisville and got involved in doing some theater experimenting with acting and directing. This led to thoughts of film making and, after a bit of research, she discovered that NYU was the place to be with a movie camera. In Osborne's mind that was all there was too it. As is the case with most everything else she seems to decide, that was that. She moved to New York City and the odyssey truly began.

"I wanted a dorm room, but they didn't have any left and I was totally panicked. I ended up at the

musicians and I just became obsessed with it."

Obsessed or possessed, it's hard to say. On stage later in the evening, Osborne seems to be both. Her band pounds out seamless riffs and Osborne, eyes closed, clutches the microphone and weaves her voice in and out of notes from guitarist Ann Klein. Sweat pours off her face as she spins her body to the sounds. She dances over to Klein and leans into the guitar gesturing with her hands, egging Klein on to higher and higher levels of both volume and energy. The sexual tension is so thick you'd need an acetylene torch to cut it and the music rolls off the stage in psychedelic waves. The audience is clearly awed

both by its intensity and by the fact that it's so close, so real. Osborne has connected with that primal beast and she is letting it out, screaming. The crowd screams back and, for a moment, it seems like the tiny club isn't big enough to hold it all in, that something has to give. Miraculously it doesn't. Perilously close to the edge of the abyss, Osborne seems to pull back just in time and brings the song to a teasing, crashing finish. Everyone, from the band to the bouncers, looks about in disbelief. It was, perhaps, almost too real. In an age where corporate music mills continually stamp out carbon copies of the same worthless shit, Osborne is an oddity. She *means* it.

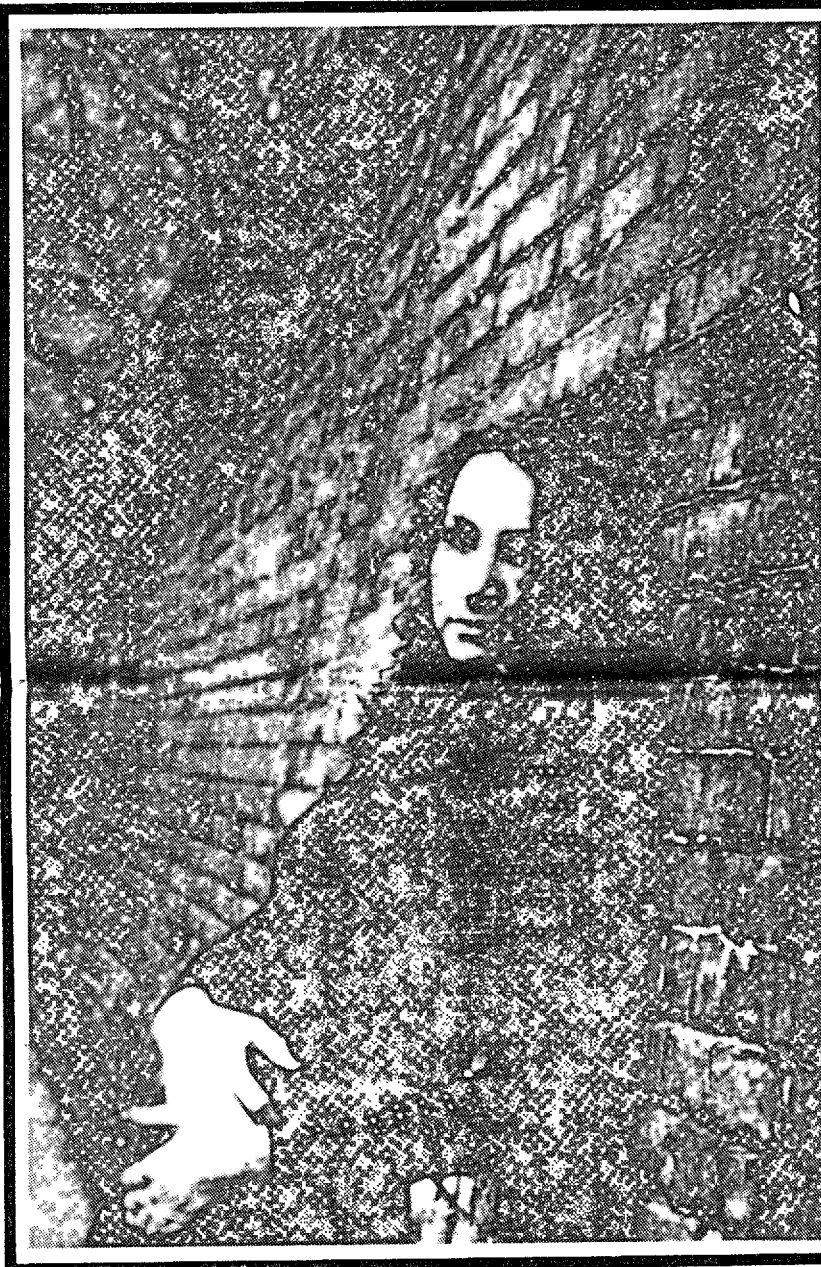
While she may be a natural on stage, clearly this is the sort of job that takes a lot of work. Osborne uses the word "luck" repeatedly in conversation. She's lucky to have gotten into NYU, she's lucky to have music pay the bills, lucky to get producer Chertoff. But luck, paradoxically, seems to have little to do with it. There's been some concentrated effort as demonstrated by her two independent record releases, 1991's "Soul Show" (recorded live at Delta 88) and this year's EP "Blue Million Miles" which have put her on the CMJ charts and gotten her quite a bit of air play, though mostly on college stations. She's also been playing almost constantly for 3 years, either in clubs like Wetlands or the Ritz or in bars throughout the Northeast and, perhaps most importantly, has reaped monumental benefits from a dedicated promotion team that labors tirelessly on her behalf. All of this playing and recording and publicity have built her a respectable cult following that threatens almost daily to break out nationally. It has

meant long hours, little money and the grind of the road

For most musicians that would be enough work. Joan Osborne has different ideas; finding time between songs to be a clinic escort for Planned Parenthood or organize pro-choice benefits with Rock For Choice, a group which is also getting some of the proceeds from her latest record. A harrowing encounter on a Baltimore roadside between herself and her publicist and an abused woman led to Osborne offering assistance to battered women shelters from Barre, Vermont to Brooklyn. She takes her politics very seriously and yet, ironically, her songwriting only obliquely addresses such concerns. Another Osborne paradox.

"There is a political content in it, but I feel like, for me, it's really difficult to write a song that is specific about a certain issue without it sounding really preachy. To me the power of music, in a political sense, is that it enables you to get inside someone else's head and if you can understand someone else, that is a very political thing because it seems to me that the whole reason we have these problems is that people think of others as 'the alien' or 'they're not

See JOAN, page 9



YMCA on 9th Avenue and 34th Street. I'm convinced it's some kind of hotbed of white slavery. These odd middle eastern gentlemen used to follow me around and come up and ask 'So do you still live on the 4th floor, Miss?' and stuff like that. I was very new to New York and I mean I loved it, but I also was a little afraid of certain things about it. I really liked the energy of it. It felt like you go to New York and, okay, something's happening here, something's going to happen to me. This is like being in a real story, instead of just watching stories or hearing about them. A story's going to happen to me. I got that feeling from the very beginning

"I went for about two years and then I just ran out of money so I got a job and started saving money to go back again. I just happened to be living on a street with a bar on the corner and just went in one night with a friend. It was a blues bar, a place called Abilene's Cafe. It was real late, I had a couple of beers and there was a piano player still playing. And so I got up and sang a song with this guy and he said 'Wow, you should come back. Every week we have a jam session and it would be fun to hang out. And so I started meeting all these people and sort of discovering this whole community of blues and soul

UNIVERSITYVISION



Ashley Judd and Allison Dean play Ruby Lee Gissing and Rochelle Bridges, colleagues in a souvenir shop on the spring break beaches of Panama City, Florida, in Victor Nunez's *Ruby in Paradise*, an October Films Release.

Down and Out in the Redneck Riviera

By Elizabeth Powers
OF THE ADVOCATE STAFF

Alena stepped under the awning of the Taste Freeze and looked out at the rain draining into the dust, splattering craters with little clouds. When it stopped, cars hissed along the highway in whorls of mist. She stood by the slotted window, peering through the dirty glass to empty freezers and sills speckled with the crisp skeletons of flies. Far down the parking lot stood a phone booth, but as she stirred circles in the bottle caps and gravel, she knew she could not call home.

The above is from a story by Breece D'J Pancake, and it's a good evocation of the world of the central

MOVIE REVIEW

Ruby in Paradise

character of "Ruby in Paradise," a fall release from October Films by the Florida director Victor Nunez. Despite great photogenicity, Ashley Judd plays the uprooted, deracinated Ruby. As the movie opens she is escaping from hillbilly country in a beat-up car with Tennessee plates, and she doesn't stop until she arrives off season in a town in Northwest Florida identified by a road sign as the "Redneck Riviera."

Legion by now are the American movies beginning with a car. People are always escaping their past in them in American fiction. Our past is thin, but even that layer is too heavy for some people to bear. I don't think it can be blamed on current capitalism, which gives people new identities with each new clothing acquisition. One of my own family stories concerns a great uncle who, back in 1920, left home one morning and never returned, presumably heading west to start a new life and leaving some inconvenient encumbrances behind. In AA they talk about "geographical escapes," implying that changing locales doesn't change the basic set of problems alcoholics suffer from.

That, however, is not the stuff of our American myth, which is that we can start over and which is basically what all the immigrants who have come here have done. Thus, an interesting aspect of "Ruby in Paradise" was the framing of the film with two scenes of new immigrants to the U.S., an Indian family, owners of the motel in which Ruby spends her first night of freedom and who, at the end, have become owners of the colony of bungalows in which she has sunk some roots.

In a journal she starts shortly after her arrival, Ruby writes: "On the edge of an edge. A dream: living on a beautiful mountain. Wanting to be wild and free, without harm or sorrow. Beyond reality."

I found those words very poignant, expressive of a deep human longing to be free from the cares of the world. And cares there are for a woman alone nowadays, without a J.D. degree or any other piece of paper that would vault her out of the clock-punching class.

If ever a statement was made about the importance of work in the lives of people, for coping over their heads but also for their sense of community and self-worth, this movie makes it. In one particularly powerful sequence, after Ruby has lost her first job, she drives down the highway, fills out applications, get rejected everywhere, and decides not to sell her body (at a strip joint called "Show & Tail"). The Upper West Side audience I saw the movie with was very quiet during this sequence. As she writes in her journal after she has established herself in a job: "I like selling. Is that good? Five days of doing one thing for two days of doing something else."

She lost her first job after rebuffing the advances of the son of her employer, who she let talk her in to an affair. Men, of course, have troubles nowadays in jobs, but they have other sets of problems, not someone like Ricky whose come-on to Ruby, when she first declines his advances, is, "Let's get this out of the way. I dare you." So, Ruby, trying to learn to know herself, goes to bed with a man she hardly knows. She even tries shoplifting (which the Upper West Siders found hilarious), another way of discovering the connection between one's life and a moral sense. As she writes in her journal: "Are there reasons for living right?"

The Dante-esq echoes are sounded in the title and in a comment by Rochelle, a fellow sales clerk at the gift emporium: "It's a great place if you like ghosts." The two girls are walking on the beach from which summer vacationers have departed, past boarded-up shops waiting for spring break. In another scene, in an industrial laundry where Ruby takes a job for a while, women unfurl great white sheets as they load and unload them into giant washing machines. (Souls? Of all the doodads that overflow from the shelves of souvenir shops, the one Ruby is most taken by is a plate embellished with photolithographed scenes of lovers backlit by blazing sunsets.

All these hints come in bits and pieces; and while the movie makes no large statement, it does suggest the necessity of such redemptive universal symbols, however attenuated, while stressing that it is as an individual that we make our life's journey, on our

Convicted Drug Dealer Scores Big Legal Break

By Pam Donovan
OF THE ADVOCATE STAFF

Brian de Palma's non-thriller is about a convicted drug dealer who scores a legal break, freeing him from jail. Carlito Brigante (Al Pacino) then makes a promise to himself to keep his nose clean, but the streets are quicksand. They keep threatening to draw him in every which way. Carlito wants to save his lawyer Davey (Sean Penn) from big-time wise guys and his ex-girlfriend Gail (Penelope Ann Miller) from wasting her dance talent on Times Square. He's

MOVIE REVIEW

Carlito's Way

also got to watch his back against a young upstart, Benny (John Leguizamo). Pacino and Penn are in fine form, as usual, but Miller's role is too boxy to say much about.

The main problem is, well, the story line. The movie attempts to foreground things the audience already knows. The telegraphing is so constant that the people in back of me in the theater predicted each next line of dialogue exactly. They hadn't seen it before. I'm not the only one who got so bored with the plot that I began looking for anachronisms in the set (the story takes place in 1975). I must admit the accuracy, in this respect, was excruciating. Except for the ATM and the video store.

Much has been made in the press about the movie's violence, but even if you like gangland-slayer films, you're bound to be disappointed by the predictability of the violent confrontations. Characters practically walk on to the set with "soon to be cinematic dead" on their foreheads, and each scene ends the way you think it will. Actually, so does the movie.

own two feet. Ruby has a few guides. Besides Rochelle, there is Mike, a very pessimistic environmentalist ("morose," she writes in her journal, but kissing him makes her "lips hum"), and Mrs. Chambers, her employer ("Dreams are important," says Mrs. C. when kids from southern colleges invade the town at spring break, "but so are beach towels").

Ruby has one thing going for her. She's seen plenty of bad stuff where she came from ("I got out without getting beat up or pregnant," she writes), but no one ever promised her life wouldn't be tough. She never takes the easy road, say, Mike's offer to let her live with him when she is jobless. In dwelling on people close to the edge financially, the film reminded me of Italian neo-realist films (Rossellini's "Bicycle Thief"). But this is an American movie, not one of those fatalistic Italian ones, which makes a big difference. "I can take care of myself," you seem to hear Ruby say. "I will discover who I am, even if I only make \$4.25 an hour."

SHORT CUTS

Walt Disney's "The Three Musketeers" does what Hollywood does best. It is a mile-a-minute romp with laughs. There are excellent production values, beautiful costumes and settings, and great fight scenes, without Masterpiece Theater authenticity. The fabulous four speak with American accents, for instance, and there are all kinds of things that strain belief (two of the musketeers racing overnight on horseback to Calais to stop a spy, without once stopping to eat or go to the toilet) as well as historical accuracy. Best of all, the movie doesn't take itself seriously. Tim Curry, as Cardinal Richelieu, puts a lascivious spin on every comment he makes to a female and rolls his eyes menacingly whenever he considers how to dispose of the musketeers, who are a threat to his plans to put himself on the throne of France. Warning: the scene of D'Artagnan (Chris O'Donnell) learning to wench may offend some sensibilities though probably not anyone under thirteen. Rated: PG.

EDITORIAL/OPINION

Yomi: An Independent Investigation, Yes, But Take Your Exam Like Everybody Else

Amid Michael Yomi and his supporters' charges of racism in the economics department, most students have wanted to more information. In Yomi's refusal to take his program's first exam, too many holes existed for most students to take up his case. Students want answers, and that is why the Advocate has covered his case.

In our investigation, we discovered that many of the points Yomi raised seemed to merit some kind of administrative investigation. He has alleged serious accusations at Professor Michael Grossman, chairman of the economics department. Yomi says Grossman is biased against him and cannot be trusted to grade his exam fairly or choose a grading committee to do likewise.

The DSC and some student groups have written to President Frances Degan Horowitz on Yomi's behalf, demanding an independent investigation of the charges. The Advocate hereby adds its voice to the call for an investigation, but for slightly different reasons, perhaps, than Yomi's other supporters.

First, we believe that when a charge as grave as racism is leveled, the burden of proof is on the accuser. This is true in any case, but in this climate on university campuses — when accusations of racism are voiced almost daily — too often it is the damaged reputation of the accused that lingers in the air, regardless of whether the accuser's charges are investigated or not. Thus, we must be careful to remember that just because Yomi has accused Grossman and the university of racist actions, the burden of proof lies with him to show that this is so.

Second, we believe that for Yomi's case to have legitimacy, he must take the first exam he so loathes under the same conditions as all other students in his program. Only then will it be possible for him to present his case above suspicion that he is simply stalling to get out of taking a test. If he passes, problem solved. If he fails, then the exam can be taken to an independent grader for evaluation. Either way, Yomi will have behaved honorably and in the same manner as all other students who must pass exams regardless of relationships with professors.

Last, we think there is a difference between structural racism, and racist actions targeted at one or more individuals; thus, we believe Yomi made a tactical error in making his taking the exam contingent upon the university investigating the larger questions of racism at CUNY. For one thing, American institutions are all, probably, to some degree, racist. Given American history, demographics, and power relations, how can they and CUNY not be? An investigation of structural racism at CUNY — given the fact that CUNY, including the graduate center, has a higher rate of admissions and graduations for minorities than most universities — would be almost trite.

That leaves Yomi and his particular case. By all means, it should be investigated. In the meantime, we commend the economics department for holding Yomi to the same standards as everybody else.

Students: Your Free Press Depends on You

While we were laying out this month's Advocate, we received telephone calls from two elected DSC representatives asking about the headline on our front page story on Michael Yomi. While both of the elected officials told Advocate editor Christina Pretto she could "do whatever she wanted" they both strongly advised that the headline be changed; otherwise, they warned, the exposition of the fragmented effort behind Yomi would do irreparable harm to his case.

We won't name these two leaders, but we will say how they found out the paper's contents. An Advocate staffer sneaked into the December edition file and then reported the contents to members of student government. The members, instead of expressing disgust at the staffer's sabotage effort, went ahead and asked that the headline be changed. Also, word soon leaked to other quarters.

We publish this little incident because we are deeply concerned about some student government representatives' attitudes toward the student press. The actions of the two mentioned above illustrate an arrogance that cuts to one main reason why student efforts to further their interests have become lodged in the mud of internal contention.

Any effort to censor reflects condescension. Maybe your elected representatives think you are stupid. After all, anyone who believes that by not printing the Yomi headline or story, the fact of the faltering student support behind him will somehow be obscured, changed, or forgotten is living in a dream world. Moreover, because the headline and story do not fall neatly in line with Yomi's agenda, the Advocate is clearly doing its job to provide the student body with a panorama of information, not one person's opinion.

But more than one DSC official disagrees with this assessment. On countless occasions this year, DSC members have told Advocate editors that since the opposition — the administration, that is — has so many opportunities to propagate

See CENSORS, page 9

Advocate submissions policy:

The Advocate welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be submitted on a 3.5 computer disk in Microsoft Word. Conversions from other programs can be done in the Computer Center on the Third Floor. If you need a 3.5 disk, we can lend you one. Letters must be no longer than 1,000 words. Deadline for the March issue is February 25.

Letters to the Editor

Student Gives History of Dispute With Economics Prof

Dear Editor:

I thank you for running an article in the October issue of the *Advocate* about my complaints of racial discrimination in the Ph.D. program in economics. However, in order for your readers to really understand what is going on, they must have more information than is made available in the article.

Based on the article, your readers may have the impression that the first examination is the main problem I have with Professor Michael Grossman. That is not so. I have done everything possible to take my first exam. My problem with Professor Grossman started long before I was a student in the program. In 1989, Professor Grossman rejected my application for admission in the program because of my GRE score, even though I had an MA in languages and an MBA in finance. This abuse of the GRE is a violation of the US Department of Education policy, the GRE Board guidelines, and the Educational Testing Services guidelines for the proper use of the GRE.

Professor Grossman told me that the GRE is the best predictor of success in the Ph.D. program in economics. But research on the subject proves just the opposite. In the three years I spent in the program, I found that Professor Grossman's use of the GRE is a pseudo-scientific, racial theory of intelligence, albeit more covert than the ones that cause controversy in the media every now and then. If Professor Grossman's rejection of my application was not an act of discrimination, why did he refuse to let me in as a non-matriculated student, asking me instead to come back with a third master's degree?

Regarding Professor Grossman's comment that I got my MBA in Finance "from a rather obscure university...", I have asked Southeastern University to respond. I think Professor Grossman is just trying to find an excuse. He is trying to hide his embarrassment. The truth of the matter is that Southeastern University is obscure only in Michael Grossman's imagination. Southeastern University, which is located in Washington, D.C., is 116 years old; it was started in 1879, that is 82 years before the inception of the Graduate Center. It is chartered by the Congress of the United States, and accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, the same that accredits CUNY. It is perhaps the only university in the US which offers classes 7 days a week, and it has famous alumni, like auto industry CEO, Lee Iacocca.

In your article, Professor Grossman says that when I came back with a third master's degree, I was "treated like any other student." Let your readers make their own mind from the following example: I graduated from City College in the summer of 1990, with a number of white students who, like me, were admitted that fall in the Ph.D. program in economics here at the Graduate Center. Professor Grossman gave the white students 30 credits of advance standing each, and denied me the same privilege; instead, he told me that I would

not last more than one semester in the program. After a year in the program, when I insisted to have my advance standing credits, I was advanced to level II, but Professor Grossman immediately wrote a memo changing the rules for advancement to level III. This is what being "treated like any other student" means to Michael Grossman; but is this what it means to your readers?

When I took my second exam in development economics in March 1992, the grader said that I failed the exam. Another professor graded the same exam and found that I passed. The first grader, Professor Peter Chow, said that he made the decision to fail me after a long telephone conversation with — guess whom: none other than Michael Grossman, the soothsayer who prophesied that I would not last more than one semester in the program! That, and other evidence I uncovered, indicated that Professor Grossman had tried to influence the outcome of my comprehensive examination. From that time, I decided I would not have anything to do with Professor Grossman. In particular, I decided that I would not take my remaining examination, which is set and graded by Michael Grossman and his deputy. Rather than investigating these serious incidents, the administration opted for a cover-up.

In your article, Professor Grossman says that "throughout last semester, he worked with Yomi and Floyd Moreland...to accommodate Yomi's claim that Grossman was biased against him." That is patently false. I have never had any communication of any nature with Michael Grossman regarding an alternative first exam. As for the exam proposal Floyd Moreland made to me, it had a catch: it gave potential examiners the incentive to speak to Michael Grossman, the Executive Officer. But the aim of the alternative exam was to avoid this type of communication in the first place.

Floyd Moreland and Michael Grossman dealt in bad faith in the matter of my alternative first exam. Moreover, to put the focus on the first exam is a cover-up of the true story. As stated above, Grossman declared war on me long before there was any problem of first exam.

In January 1992, I presented to Frances D. Horowitz complaints of unequal treatment of Blacks and Hispanics in the Department of Economics. And mind you, I was not speaking on my own behalf: I was mandated!! President Horowitz ignored our complaints and never opened an independent investigation. I and the other students involved considered that as a slap in the face. The incident of collusion in my second exam came only two months after our complaints to the President. In colluding to fail me, Grossman was fulfilling his own prophecy that I would not last long in the program, and at the same time punishing me for complaining to the President about his treatment of Blacks and Hispanics. The other students have been punished also: of all

See ECONOMICS, page 7

OPINION

Reformer? Autocrat? *Chronicle* Ponders Reynolds

By Pam Donovan
OF THE ADVOCATE STAFF

The *Chronicle of Higher Education's* December 1 issue profiles CUNY Chancellor W. Ann Reynolds and the controversies surrounding her performance. The headline tellingly asks, "Reformer or Autocrat? W. Ann Reynolds inspires outrage and praise with her efforts to change CUNY."

The choice between reformer and autocrat is a misleading one. Can't she be both? It is strongly implied in the article that her detractors are mostly put off by her style, and thus her otherwise laudable efforts to "change" CUNY are stymied by small minded and possibly sexist individuals who don't like her brashness. Lost amid the many observers who are asked to comment on her "way"

of doing things, who suggest gently that, well, yes, she might have handled it all with more *finesse*, is the possibility that there might be any *substance* to the criticisms of her actions. That is, that various individuals and constituencies might actually disagree with her and contest with conviction her vision for CUNY.

The article, for instance, takes up the College Preparatory Initiative as a policy that generated much "controversy." Needless to say, only straw critics could be found: those who think CUNY should "encourage creative teaching, not impose standards from

the top." Instantly, the bells go off in one's head: well, that's sweet but flaky, flaky, flaky. It's a perfect setup: the rigorous and ambitious reformer against the slackers and also-rans (you know who you are). The question should be: why does Reynolds want to restrict access to the community colleges?

Think about it: in your home town, does your community college have any other standard than a diploma? Isn't that what a community college is — general access higher education? *Sharp* critics have pointed out that many high schools in the city don't even have the facilities to offer what CPI requires. In effect, restricting access to community colleges essentially consigns an entire segment of high school graduates, disproportionately poor and minority, to minimum wage livelihoods. *Sharp* critics have said, yes, let's improve college preparation — in the high schools themselves. *Sharp* critics are very scarce in the *Chronicle's* article.

In sum, the profile sets up the chancellor as a bold administrator taking on stalwart special interests (like the student body, the faculty, and campus administrations, for starters) amid a constant hail of fire from Albany. It admits that she could have been more diplomatic about it, as if such a disposition would have made the rhapsodizing of planned shrinkage a good thing.

'Can't she be both? It is strongly implied in the *Chronicle of Higher Education's* article that Reynolds' detractors are mostly put off by her style, and thus her otherwise laudable efforts to "change" CUNY are stymied by small minded and possibly sexist individuals who don't like her brashness.'

Letters, Continued

To the Editor: While I often agree with Tom Smith, especially on political correctness and the contradictions of conservatives, I must part company with him on what he regards as the solutions to these contradictions.

Tom claims to resonate (with qualifications) with Elizabeth Powers' statement "Liberals don't love the world: They're always thinking about how to fix it." I can resonate with Tom where he inquires "How can you love the world today?" I think that Elizabeth Powers misses the mark with her original statement; it is not the world that

ECONOMICS, from page 6
the group I represented, I am the only student left. The others have been kicked out, and I am on my way out now. Ironically, I stand accused today and have to go through an administrative labyrinth to present my defense, because I dared to challenge an entrenched and powerful insider.

To understand Professor Grossman's persistence in getting me out of the program, you must understand the embarrassing situation he has put himself into: everybody but Michael Grossman knows that the GRE is culturally biased against certain ethnic groups. There is abundant research to show that the GRE is irrelevant for mature individuals with graduate degrees and extensive life experience. And even for younger students straight from college, to use the GRE as the sole criterion for admission is dishonest and unconscionable. So much so that the GRE Board has promised to testify in court for any victims of such abuses.

The particular GRE score used by Grossman to make a prophecy about

today's so-called liberals have a problem with it, it is human nature. And it is here where I disagree with Tom Smith.

Tom implies that "personal morality and attitudes" are irrelevant to social change, that it is the "conditions" of capitalism that must be changed. But what are referred to as "conditions" do not exist in a vacuum, detached from human action. It is people's morality and attitudes that move the world through the very institutions Tom Smith derides. Such institutions (private property, markets, and organized religion) result from needs inherent in human nature.

But human nature is imperfect. Man

me raises many people's eyebrows: I took the test years before I applied for admission in economics, and most importantly, I took the test as a mere formality and not for purposes of admission in any graduate school. So there was no incentive for me to do well on the test. In other words, Professor Grossman made a prophecy based on a useless GRE score, thus placing on the line his reputation. Is Professor Grossman a distinguished professor or a distinguished prophet?

For so many years, Grossman and his entourage invented their own academic world based on their pseudo-scientific theory of statistics and intelligence. They put your GRE score in a hat, do a little prestidigitation, say a few incantations, and when they take it out, lo and behold, it's not a GRE score anymore!! It's either a Ph.D. degree or a letter of termination from the program. No wonder knowing the color of the skin of the student, anyone could tell, with some accuracy, what would come out of the hat.

is capable of good and evil; he possesses free will. Thus, the contradictions of liberals and conservatives under "capitalism." However, what is called the "market" is the manifestation of the human need to engage in trade of material goods to facilitate the efficiency of what is called the "division of labor." No society can escape the "market." Even in Soviet Russia, where free markets were forbidden, the "capitalist" aspects of human nature could not be erased; they were merely driven underground.

I have conversed at length with Tom Smith about political correctness. He fully understands the war against free

If I took my exams outside the control of Michael Grossman and passed, my chances of graduating from the program would be greatly enhanced, and if I actually graduated, Professor Grossman's theory would come tumbling down. That's a situation Professor Grossman never prepared himself for. It never occurred to him that to make a prophecy and then insist on having full control over the fulfillment thereof is to be a self-fulfilled prophet, which is tantamount to being a false prophet. Professor Grossman has so much power in the system, and has used it in such a dishonest way, that it never occurred to him that some day one of his victims would be desperate or foolish enough to challenge him before everybody, and brave enough to expose his deeds for the world to see. It seems that I am just that desperate, foolish, and brave victim Professor Grossman never expected. So many dreams have been shattered in the Ph.D. program in economics that I just want to make the likes of Grossman think twice before making and self-

CUNY Schools
That Have Voted No Confidence
in
Chancellor W. Ann Reynolds:

Queens College

Brooklyn College

Lehmann College

Graduate Center

LaGuardia Community College

College of Staten Island

**COULD YOUR
SCHOOL BE
NEXT?**

expression and intercourse waged by PC thought police. Yet he advocates a social system which advocates communal ownership and redistribution of property. He proclaims: "We radicals love the people who try to live in this world."

I don't think so. Marxist radicals such as Smith may have a very noble regard for human potentiality. But they nevertheless suffer from a mind/body dichotomy in which it is abhorrent for the state to censor the thoughts and expressions of individuals, yet has no qualms when it comes to confiscating and redistributing the products of man's

See Smith, page 10

fulfilling their despicable prophecies.

Let me make a few other corrections:

1. Although I was terminated from my program, I remain a matriculated student in the program until the appeal process is exhausted.

2. Thank you for calling me a level III student in the title of your article. In reality that is what I am, even though Grossman wrote a memo to stop me from advancing to level III.

3. In your article, Professor Grossman says that the number of Black economics graduates I gave you is "factually wrong." Apparently, by looking very hard in the hat, Professor Grossman was able to pick three Black people to graduate from the Department. But are we supposed to jump up and down and say alleluiah because the statistics were updated from zero Black Ph.D. in economics in 28 years to three in 32 years? In any case, I got the statistics from the Graduate Center administration.

Finally, it is important to inform your

See YOMI, page 10

ADVOCATE RECOMMENDATIONS

How to Avoid Commodity Fetishism During the December Holiday Season

By Christina Pretto
OF THE ADVOCATE STAFF

December brings holidays, and the holidays in question bring to most people a furtive grab to wallets as obligations demand cash and aggravation to fuel trips to Houses of Stores.

On these trips down Aisles of Junk, we mutter — perhaps sputter — at the artificiality of it all. How have we allowed ourselves to be manipulated by the economy's fundamental principle of Buy Buy Buy? And how have we translated our love for dear ones into worries of Will they like it? Will they like it? Will they like it?

Our communities — our ties to families and friends — should be glued with the concern of the status of our relationships. Instead, they are tied through the trends of the marketplace.

But there are ways to avoid the commodity fetishism of December and retrieve our relationships through gifts of love and practicality.

1. **Abolish gifts in your holiday get togethers.** Plan your holidays around making yummy things to eat, like homemade cookies, pies, and fruitcake. Spend the day in the kitchen with loved ones. Then, consume your hard-earned booty.

2. **Make cards and write letters.** A suggestion for those who loved kindergarten. Cut and paste from magazines to make handmade cards. Then write your dear ones letters reflecting your thoughts on life and love.

3. **Volunteer your time to help the homeless.**

Instead of shopping, call to volunteer with the food program of the Coalition for the Homeless, which distributes meals through a mobile soup kitchen to homeless all over Manhattan. The number is 212-695-8700.

4. **Exchange poems.** Give your creative juices a jolt and surprise your dad!

5. **Talk to family and friends and establish holiday plans through democratic discussion.** Attempt to reach consensus on what the holidays mean and how they should be celebrated. Spend quality time with your family debating the merits of holiday commodity exchange.

6. **Make love, not war.** Seriously. Drop the petty conflicts, smile at the token booth clerk, and admire the majesty of New York City. And remember all you heterosexuals, use birth control to prevent unwanted pregnancy.

7. **Forgive your parents for being demented.** They gave birth to you, so what the hell. Give them a break and open your heart to their love — and yours for them.

8. **Go to your neighborhood library.** Where else to touch base with your community, thumb through your favorite books, and see kids goggling. Maybe it will inspire a solution to cause your angst to subside.

9. **Tell jokes.** Even ones that are terrible. People love them.

10. **Study.** The point of pursuing graduate education is to enhance the betterment of humanity. So hop to it, fellow graduate students!

Be Among The 23 Most Influential Students at the Graduate Center

The governing body of the Graduate Center, the **Graduate Council**, consisting of both faculty and student members, conducts most of its business in committees. The memberships of these committees is determined by the **Graduate Council Committee on Committees** according with the guidelines expressed in the Graduate Council bylaws. Although some of these appointments must be drawn from the membership of the Graduate Council, many committee members need not be Graduate Council members.

Occasionally seats on these committees are vacated, and every two years when the members' terms come due, the Committee on Committees reconstitutes their memberships entirely. To fill these vacancies, the Committee on Committees needs a pool of volunteer students who are willing to serve on a committee of their choice.

If you are interested in serving on a Graduate Council Committee, please contact any of the following members of the Committee on Committees:

Faculty Members:

Ottavio DiCammillo (Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literature)

Rolf Meyerson (Sociology)

Martin Moskowitz (Mathematics)

Horst Schulz (Biochemistry)

Student Members:

Farukh Hakeem (Criminal Justice)

Robert Hollander (Linguistics)

Jonathan Lang (Psychology)

Joanna Sharf (English)

The Doctoral Students Council, Room SC001 in the Basement Mezzanine, also submits recommendations to the Committee on Committees and may be contacted, or the staff assistant to the committee, Ms. Alice Eisenberg in the President's office.

A list of the committees and their charges follows:

Committee on Committees

1. To solicit nominations from the faculty and students of the Graduate School and University Center for faculty and student candidates for the committees of the Graduate Council, to prepare a slate of faculty and student candidates from these nominations, and to prepare a list of alternates to fill such vacancies as may arise on these committees.

2. To supervise the counting of ballots in committee elections.

3. To provide a continuing review of the system of preferential voting, and alternatives to a such system when deemed to be warranted.

4. To provide advice to the President prior to the appointment of the members of the President's Faculty Advisory Committee.

Committee on Student Services

1. To consider and make recommendations for such matters as student employment, housing, food services, health services, recreational facilities, and other similar services.

2. To review, from time to time, in consultation with the Committee on Structure, student participation in the governance of the Graduate School and University Center.

3. To recommend standards and policy for the discipline of students within the guidelines set by the Board of Trustees Bylaws.

4. To review and recommend policy and standards concerning financial aid to students.

5. To review and recommend policy for registration and payment of tuition and fees.

Library Committee

1. To recommend policies for developing library resources for instruction and research.

2. To recommend policy for operating the Mina Rees Library.

Computer Committee

1. To consider recommendations from faculty and students regarding policies and practices on computers and computing (the committee should con-

And How to Minimize It If You Can't

And for you die hards who can't escape the store route, consider these eclectic gifts and strategies emphasizing their use, not commercial value:

1. **Homemade first aid kits filled with generic brand items.** Instead of supporting Johnson & Johnson, fill a box with cheaper versions of bandaids, cotton balls, alcohol, scissors, tape, antibiotic cream, and gauze. It isn't a romantic gift, but when Fred cuts his hand washing the dishes, no one will freak out.

2. **Socks bought from street vendors.** They are cheaper and everyone can use five pairs of new socks.

3. **Books published by university presses.** Forget Stephen King and John Grisham. Patronize original thought, not mass-driven crap.

4. **Economy-size bottles of vitamins.** Your friends and family need their Cs, Es, and B complexes.

5. **Records, tapes, and CDs put out by non-mainstream companies.** Patronize the arts, not Madonna's clitoral fantasies.

6. **Magazine subscriptions to non-mainstream publications.** Patronize ideas, not state propaganda.

7. **Harmonicas and kazoos.** People should make their own music.

8. **Go to crafts fairs.** There are a lot in Manhattan and Brooklyn, most notable the WBAI crafts fair at Ferris Booth Hall at Columbia. Check newspapers for listings. We don't have enough room for them.

9. **To pet-owners, good quality pet food and snacks.** Talk about a nice gift for both Fido and his Owner!

10. **Wrap gifts in newspaper.** Recycle during the holidays!

By Christina Pretto

sult with the responsible staff of the Computer Center in arriving at its recommendations).

2. To communicate its recommendations to the administrative officer responsible for computers.

Committee on Structure

1. To review on a continuing basis the structure and operation of these bylaws.

2. To consider the organization of the University for work leading to the doctoral degree and degree granted in other educational programs of the Graduate School and University Center.

3. To serve as the steering committee of the Graduate Council responsible together with the Secretary of the Graduate Council for preparation of the agenda.

Committee on Curriculum and Degree Requirements

1. To consider general educational policy concerning curriculum and the review and reevaluation of graduate programs.

2. To make recommendations to the Graduate Council concerning courses, programs, and curricula leading to a graduate degree. This responsibility includes recommendations concerning the addition and withdrawal of programs and courses; and changes in titles, descriptions, and prerequisites for courses.

3. To review standards and requirements for doctoral degrees to be granted by the University and for degrees granted by the University in nondoctoral educational programs of the Graduate School and University Center.

4. To recommend standards of admission to the graduate programs of the Graduate School and University Center.

5. To recommend standards of retention and matriculation.

See COMMITTEE, page 9

JUMPS

CENSORS, from page 6

its positions, the Advocate should print only students' views, as though those views are somehow monolithic. More than one DSC official has informed editors that to print the administration's side in a case involving a student is tantamount to betrayal of student interests.

Luckily, most students have told us that they want a newspaper that contains reporting. We got many thanks from people on our first Yomi story because it contained information they would not otherwise know. For example, we couldn't take Yomi's word for it that the economics department had graduated no blacks in the last 20 years, because when we investigated, it turned out they had. Marx bless newspapers.

Indeed, it seems silly to us that we need to write about this at all. Most people — the sane, that is — have appreciated our attempts throughout the year to provide balanced coverage of news events. Our efforts have resulted in increased readership and legitimacy. Frankly, they have not gone far enough.

COMMITTEE, from page 8

6. To recommend standards for defining "full-time student" and "residence," and for the granting of leaves of absence to students, as well as for setting maximum periods for the earning of the doctoral degree and for degrees granted in other educational programs of the Graduate School and University Center.

7. To designate curricular items on the Graduate Council agenda as major or minor items.

Committee on Research

To recommend policy affecting research undertaken under the auspices of the Graduate School and University Center or involving the commitment of its resources.

JOAN, from page 4

me, I'm different. They are all like this and I'm not like that. I disapprove of what they do'. If you can understand what someone else is going through in a very visceral personal way it makes it possible to have some kind of dialog. It makes it possible for you to see that other person as a real human being and then the political stuff can proceed from there. You'll be less likely to have the kind of problems that need to be addressed by all these organizations and benefits.

"Willful ignorance pisses me off. I guess there are people who, I've run up against this in the past, who don't want to understand others and they want to hide behind this notion that they're different from all those other people out there that they don't approve of. That's a part of their identity and they guard that very jealously.

"Me, personally, music keeps me going," says Osborne, who is listening these days to Beach Boys outtakes from the "Pet Sounds" era as well as north Indian folk music. "There's a real power that I feel when I'm making music with other people and when people are responding to that. It's a

Whether they will in large part depends on more students getting involved in the paper. The more of a diverse crowd that comes into the Advocate, the more varied the news, arts, and opinion articles we can print. No doubt, this is a difficult goal for busy graduate students, but the Advocate does provide a unique opportunity to be published — and we pay \$25 per article.

And there is a more important reason. The Advocate is structurally

flawed in that it gets its operating funds from DSC funds. While the editor is hired by the Media Board, all cash requests must go through the DSC co-chair for business affairs. Generally there is no problem with getting the money we need, but the tie to student government — however symbolic — is what fuels some of these pompous twits into making such ludicrous requests as changing a headline. Imagine if Ron Brown signed checks for the New York Times. Bill Clinton would

probably ask for a headline change or two.

So we believe with more general student involvement, the day would come someday when the Advocate could support itself solely through advertising. The idea presents a myriad of logistical problems, but it would provide the Graduate Center with something it has never had — a truly free student press.



Sociology student Robert Saute says, WRITE FOR THE ADVOCATE!

very elemental human form of communication that I can't really describe in anything other than esoteric terms."

It is highly possible, even probable that this music is about to reach a much wider audience. Those who have seen her live shows walk away instinctively knowing she's on the road to the Big Time. Laughing at the mention of the word "stardom", Osborne herself professes to have no idea what the future holds either musically or professionally. Far from naive, it is a willful act.

"I try not to think about it too much," she professes. "It's (songwriting) a process that's a complete mystery to me. I really don't know how that happens and I don't feel that there's any reason to examine it. That's part of its power. You shouldn't pick things apart because I want to be able to surprise myself. That's my direction, my goal: to be able to come up with something that I never thought I could do and really stretch creatively. I don't know where it's going to take me. I have a certain fear of maybe losing control because what I do now it's a very...it's still a very small manageable thing

and I'm still able to shape it and have things happen the way I would like them to. But once you get into a situation where you're making a lot of money and you're connected with a big corporation suddenly there are other people who have things at stake. They want to influence things...If you're somebody's meal ticket then maybe that inhibits your freedom or your ability to do things the way you want to. It could end up being a huge disaster. If it gets to the point where I don't enjoy it anymore, I'll stop doing it."

The band slams down the last note of the last encore and an exhausted but happy Joan Osborne stops doing it for at least the night. Grabbing the mike, she addresses an exhausted but happy crowd and thanks them for coming out on a "school night". It will be awhile before she comes back, but, she promises, she will be back. When she returns, things will be different. She'll most likely be on a real tour, backed by a real label and promoting a real studio record. She might even be famous and fans who have grown used to dancing at the foot of an intimate stage

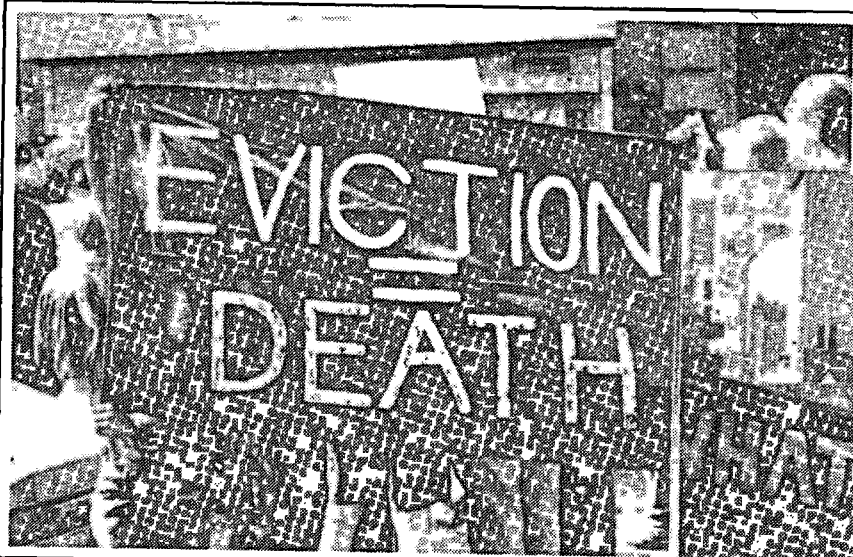
may have to adjust to sharing their secret with the masses in larger venues. While that seems likely, there's always the chance that it won't happen. Either way it doesn't matter because Joan Osborne can't be stopped. Big or small, she'll continue to stun audiences with her very electric brand of rock, blues and soul. In the realm of things that matter, that is the only thing that truly does. As the old saying goes, size doesn't matter. Joan Osborne will continue to amaze with her voice and her music whether people are watching or not. If rock and roll knows what's good for itself it will be watching. And if music is your passion, you'll be watching too.

And in New York...

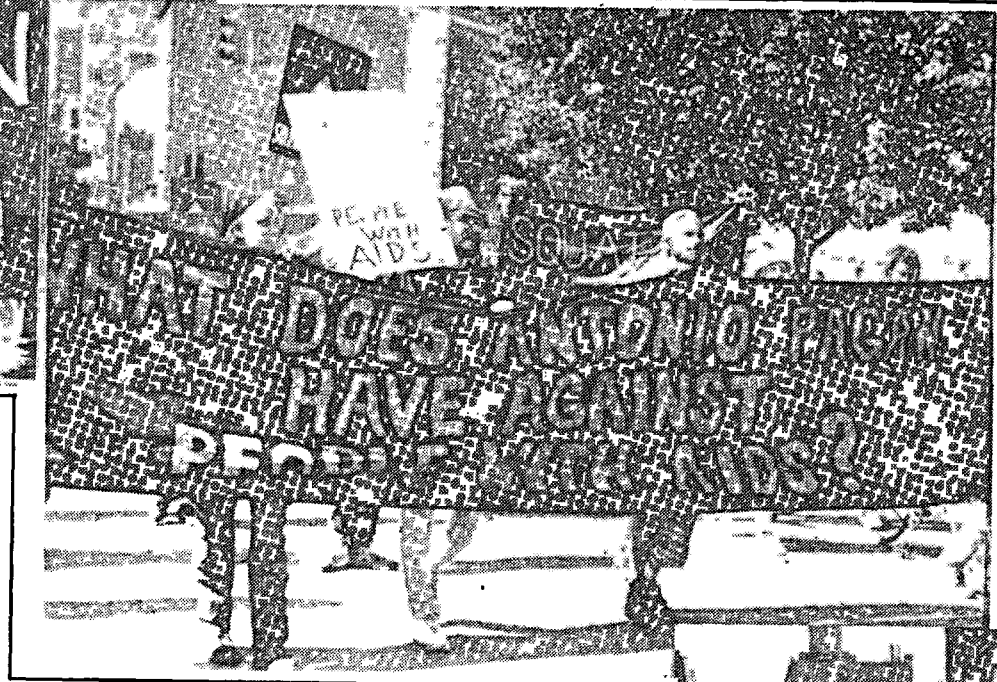
Joan Osborne lives in New York City and plays on a regular basis in clubs such as Wetlands or Irving Plaza. Check the Village Voice for specific dates. Her two CDs and other information are available by calling (800) 292-JOAN or writing to P.O. Box 2596, New York, NY 10009. Her major label debut is currently scheduled for Spring of 1994.

ACTION in PUBLIC

Essay: Faces, Slogans of Graduate Center Activism



We are thinkers, actors, writers, lovers, women, men in the community working for what we believe in.



PHOTOS by
MICHAEL
WEINSTEIN-
MOHAMMED



SMITH, from page 7

labor.

Of course, Marxists don't claim to want to seize the products of "workers" labor, just those of greedy "capitalists." look at the history of mankind during the past two centuries. Certainly, the conditions under 19th century capitalism were filthy, dangerous, and exploitive. But if you want to witness an even more intolerable wholesale slaughter of mankind, just look at the effects of Marxism in its various forms this century under the communist systems such as Red China, North Korea, and the Soviet Union. But it is said these states don't represent "true" Marxism. Quite true, but no nation could. Any ideology that puts effect ahead of cause ("conditions" before "attitudes and morality") is doomed to the failure that ensues from its internal contradictions. There is no other form into which such a communist nation could evolve into than a totalitarian state which tramples upon the intellectual and material freedoms of its citizens, for it is based upon the naive notion that human nature can be molded and shaped into something that it is not. Yet, in the face of the communist states which turned humans into robots, the people kept their faith in God, they traded on the black market, and listened secretly to Radio Free Europe.

Under classical liberalism, there is no such mind/body dichotomy. Today, such an ideology would be called libertarianism. I could cite Locke, Paine, or Jefferson, but the best statement of this world view comes from film auteur Alfred Hitchcock: "When it comes to my freedom of speech and expression, I am a Democrat. When it comes to my money, I am a republican. I am not a hypocrite."

If you want to talk about how people really live in



this world, and have love for the world, the best example I could think of is a man who is very near and dear to me: my godfather, Nick Katsanis. He fought in World War II, three years in Guadalcanal. After the war, he worked as a trucker and rose through the ranks of the teamsters' Union to Local Vice President. He fathered two lovely daughters, voted for Hubert Humphrey in 1968 and Reagan in 1980 and 1984. He owns a little rancher house and a new Cadillac. Yet, to hear the man speak, he is an amazing individual. He was a trucker and a soldier all of his working life, yet can converse on the Peloponnesian Wars, the American labor movement, economic theory, and race relations. I learned more about history and politics from him than from dozens of credit hours taken in college courses, taught by enlightened "educated" academes. Yet he never went to college.

He was someone who truly did live in this world. His life was a worker's life — was a life worth living. This is not a perfect world, but populist reform is inherent in liberalism and capitalism. When I listen to the so-called revolutionaries proclaiming radical marxism, I think about ordinary working men and women, people like Nick, and what would happen to them. I abhor the thought of some commissar forcing the people of this country into the servitude of a marxist state. Tom claims that "it is inequality that conservatives aim to conserve." While I don't call myself a conservative (I am a small "l" libertarian Republican), I do say "damn straight." What liberal democracy aims to conserve is equality before the law. The best thing about America is the freedom to be Unequal. The pursuit of happiness that leads some to be soldiers, others to be artists,



some to be doctors. Some are taller than others, more gifted, etc. I don't begrudge a rich man his money; I use his wealth as an incentive and example to work harder. If you want the antidote to the whining "alienation" of Marx, read the dignity of work by Booker T. Washington.

Marxism, however, is based upon envy. It can't tolerate human nature and thus advocates a system of mediocrity and uniformity - equal square pegs that fit into equal square holes. It is an ideology in which the Jascha Heifetz of this world are brought down to the level of the Jack Bennys, musically speaking.

Robert L. Jones
Political Science

YOMI, from page 7

readers of the following: I have completed 66 credits with a GPA which is higher by many decimal points than the average required at the Graduate Center. I have taken and passed my two second exams: one in development economics and the other in law and economics. I have a dissertation topic; and although I consider the first exam as a mere formality at this stage, I have always wanted to take it, under certain conditions.

I thank all students, faculty and staff members who have given me their support in this ongoing battle against the forces which violate everything the Graduate Center stands for. In bright day we shall have everybody take a look at things which so far were kept behind closed doors. The cause is just, and we shall overcome!!

Michael Yomi
Economics
DSC Co-Chair for Business Affairs

ACTION in PUBLIC

Where it's @!

By Thomas Burgess
OF THE ADVOCATE STAFF

#1 The Club Where Punk Was Borne

@CBGBs, 315 Bowery & Bleecker 982-4052. The best of 2 weeks of the best of 2 decades. Acronym was intended to stand for Country, Blues, Blue Grass.

12/14 Mink Deville Little Anthony in New Orleans.

Also Toshi Reagon

12/16 Living Color; Screaming Headless Torsos

8:30 \$12. Black Rock-Coalition in Hendrix mode.

12/17 Joan Jett & the Blackhearts 8pm \$9. Buy tix early.

12/19 The Damned 9pm \$12. Buy tix early.

12/20 The Lemonheads 9pm \$12. Buy tix early

12/21 Band of Susans 10pm \$10. X-band of Page Helmet

12/23 Indians of England vs. Head Talker David Byrne The former stole the show from the latter at the recent CMJ Marathon. Neither is authentic, but at least the youngsters are not juggling identity politics.

12/27 Unsane Return of Vinny Signorelli, a rare drummer content to drive a band. Played with the Dots, Eddie Dixon, Chaz & Tom, and Turbo Powerdrive of Berlin. Only his consistent good luck saved him from becoming the Foreigner's drummer. \$10

12/28 Alice Donut Sonic Youth: the Next Generation.

12/29 Tuff Darts w/ Robert Gordon; The Shirts \$10. The original versions of these early '70s proto-punk outfits.

12/30 The Dictators w/ Handsome Dick Manitoba of 2nd & A. Lenny Kaye The Bob Geldoff of Bleecker Street w/ or w/out Patty Smith.

#2 Meanwhile CBGB Unplugged

@CB's Gallery. 313 Bowery & Bleecker, 677-0455.

12/14 Chris Whitley Guitarist who gave Joan Osborne her big break.

AFRICAN, from page 2

and research center of African-American history and culture; that one or more memorial monuments to commemorate the heritage of all Africans in America, particularly those interred in the African Burial Ground; that a series of signs interpreting the history and culture of these African ancestors be posted in the burial ground area; that the federal office building incorporate educational and memorial artwork in its lobby; and that reinterrment of the remains be accompanied by a sacred international memorial service.

In addition to these plans, an office of public education and interpretation of the African Burial Ground has been established to provide the public with ongoing information. The office is headed by urban anthropologist Dr. Sherrill Wilson. For more information, including tours of the archaeological lab and presentations to community groups, call 212-432-5920 or 432-5707.

REDUX, from page 2

ries are littered with the failures of visions that relied solely on changing certain material conditions. Abortion, carried out as state policy, will likewise return someday to haunt us.

Our lives have become predicated on pure efficiency rather than on the priority of human considerations (to be distinguished from those created by the marketplace). The Nazis tripped up on that priority, and so did the Soviets. In the U.S. we're in danger of tripping up because we have come to insist on the perfect, predictable, designed life, the life where every stomach is full, the life without ugly or dumb children. Increasingly, what it is to be human is defined legally instead of emotionally. And these are liberal values, such as they are. Messy streets, messy people — what's the difference, especially since our postmodernist philosophy tells us there is no human essence.

Proclaim the truth of liberalism as much as you like, Tom, but you will remain like people in a cave



The Indians

12/16 Angelo Moore New book read by offshoot of Fishbone.

12/18 Jeff Buckley New album sung by offshoot of Tim Buckley (the jazz singer, not the DTW dancer.

#3 Jazz in our own backyard

@Club Harambee, 127 W.43 (6th & B'way), 819-1133.

Sundays Charles Tolliver This trumpet beats Marsalis by Miles.

@Dan Shaku Jazz, 300 E.41, 599-8888

12/11 - 12 John Stubblefield w/ John Hicks Stellar sax & piano

#4 Holiday Treats

12/15 Lou Reed @Webster Hall, details 966-3651, 10pm. In conjunction with the premiere of Wim Wender's *Faraway, So Close* around the corner.

12/14-1/2 American Indian Dance Theater @Joyce Theater. Intertribal performance of *Red Cedar Bark Ceremony*, intro'd by Ranking Kwakiutl Bill Cranmer 12/24 - 26 *Solitude: A Tribute to Wes Montgomery* @Dan Shaku Jazz, 300 E.41, 599-8888. Montgomery's rhythm section with Vic Juris sitting in for the master of octave guitar.

12/16 - 18 Noirin Ni Riain w/ Paul Winter @John Devine's Cathedral (being billed as "the world's largest ..."), W.112 & Amsterdam, 662-2133 8pm - 8:30 - 2pm/8pm \$22. I also take issue with the rest of the billing "The 14th Annual Solstice Live!" Solstii are biennials, and have taken place for decades. This one seems to be a premature exhortation, perhaps a Winter perversion of Indian Summer. I'm hoping that for once he'll bring along his brothers Johnny & Edgar.

12/14-19 Roberta Flack, Patti Austin, Peabo Bryson, Jeffrey Osborne, Boys Choir of Harlem @Radio City, 6th Av & 50th 247-4777 *The Colors of Christmas* The ultimate Christmas venue has all the heavenly comforts lacking in the world's largest cathedral.

#5 Putting Christmas Back in the Holidays

finding their way with a flashlight, seeing only the small portion of the wall that their light is focused on. Or you can accept that the world is and has always been full of wrong things and that addressing them requires human solutions, not statist ones. You might just achieve something. Anyone who can remember being a kid knows that some things can only be learned through sorrow, not by being told.

Adorno believed you couldn't write a poem after Auschwitz, and a "liberal" Episcopalian bishop in Newark recently said he would never seek to solve the ethical problems of our century by quoting the Bible. Has either of them really read the Old Testament, pray tell? Do they sincerely believe people back then lived like goatherds in an idyll by Theocritus? That the bishop would make such a statement shows how little he understands about the dark nights of the soul. And Adorno? Just remember that Plato would have banned poetry in his republic, too.

@Bottom Line, 15 W 4th 228-6300 7:30&10:30 \$18. W/o the Roches for once!

12/17-19; 25 Ronnie Spector's Christmas Party The wild child of historic Washington Heights. The Ronnetes still rule!

Tuesdays Darlene Love *Portrait of a Singer (on Phil Spector's Christmas Album)*

12/24 Christmas Eve w/ the Laura Nyro Harmony Group. Prayer beads of sweat.

12/29-1/1 The Turtles w/ Flo & Eddie 14th Biennial New Year's Performance

#6 Every Wednesday: Turner vs. Turn

Pierce Turner @Nevada Smiths, 74 3rd Av (11 & 12) 475-2219 \$5. See 3/92 *Advocate* for full coverage.

Turn @Sun Mountain. 64 E 3rd (Thompson & Sullivan) \$9. Call Economics major Karl L. for specs: 768-7683.

#7 Jazz Workshop of the World

@Sweet Basil, 88 7th Av & Bleecker 242-1785 10pm.

12/14 -19 Richard Davis & Friends: John Hicks, Cecil Bridgewater, Dr. Ricky Ford, Ronnie Burrage. New York's All-Stars.

12/28 - 1/2 & 1/4 - 9 Nat Adderley 5 w/ Vince Herring The Herring apparent to Cannonball.

@Knitting Factory, 47 E. Houston 219-3055

12/24 - 25 Sun Ra's Arkestra. In memorium.

11/30 - 1/1 James Blood Ulmer. Have a harmelodic new year!

#8 Local Heroes

12/18 B.F.D. w/ Felix Cavaliere The old Rascal joins 3 Italian gentlemen & Will Lee. @Zanzibar, 73 8th Av (below 14th) 924-9755 9 & 11.

12/23 Copernicus @Nuyorican Cafe, 236 E.3rd (B&C)

#9 Out Takes

1/11 - 13 Duran Duran @Rad City Music Hall, Rockanroller Center, 247-4777 8pm \$25. Synthesizers from the Old Age.

1/21 John Hiatt & the Guilty Dogs @Beacon, 74th & B'way, 8pm.

#10 Neo-Fusioner Drummer Danny Gottlieb w/ 12/9 Pete Levin @Zanzibar, 73 8th Av (below 14th) 924-9755 9 & 11.

12/11 Elements @Zanzibar. Co-starring Mark Egan & young Bill Evans

12/15 Jerry Sokolov 5 @Theater of the Open Eye, 270 W.89 & B'way 7:30.

**BORED?
DEPRESSED?
DISGUSTED?
WRITE FOR THE
ADVOCATE
CALL 642-5852**

BACK PAGE ANGST

YOMI, from page 1

member, they support the general call for an investigation; however, they believe that "no appeal process can be effective" because students aren't effectively mobilized, said Bilal El-Amine. Only a "wider student movement," El-Amine said, can deal with the Yomi case effectively.

In November more than 40 people attended a forum on the Yomi case. Sociology Professor Stanley Aronowitz, lawyer Ron McGuire, Joan Parkin, and Michael Yomi spoke to a sympathetic crowd, but little action followed.

Shortly after, Moreland sent letters to all members of groups that endorsed pro-Yomi resolutions. Many who got letters believe Moreland and the administration were trying to break the coalition's resolve — and were somewhat successful. No one, since the letters were sent, has stepped forward, except for ALLEA, who is due to meet soon with Moreland.

Andrew Long, DSC Co-Chair for Student Affairs, said Moreland, in sending the letters, abused DSC membership lists. Distribution of names and addresses of group members is "the sole right of the groups themselves," Long said, not the prerogative of the administration. Long called on Moreland to "respect the autonomy of the chartered organizations" and said he will refuse to turn over "rosters to the Vice-President Moreland's Office in the future".

While Moreland said that errors may have been made, he said that he was simply attempting to "open a dialogue" with concerned students. He claims that the rosters were used as a last resort when students did not try to meet with him.

The call for an investigation in the Yomi case is unsubstantiated, according to Moreland. That there are few "minorities" in the economics program reflects a national problem in the field of economics, Moreland said. The question, Moreland said, is how to help a student "move forward who is mired down in his studies and not moving ahead."

For Yomi to move ahead, he must take the first exam, which students say is the more difficult of a series of exams all economics students must pass to graduate. The exam encompasses two sections: micro and macro economics. According to Grossman, this is a "make or break exam" for students.

Yomi has already taken the second exam, called a field exam, in economic development. This is the "less significant" exam, Grossman said. Economic development is quite unpopular in the program; thus, only one professor, instead of usual two, graded

Yomi's second exam. Dr. Chow, an economic's professor from City College, the same professor that wrote Yomi a recommendation for admission years ago, created and evaluated the exam.

Yomi said that Dr. Chow originally failed this exam, then mysteriously passed him after months of uncertainty. Yomi believes that some type of discrimination occurred in this process and says it constitutes "bad faith."

But Grossman contends that nothing underhanded occurred in the process. In Dr. Chow's estimation, Grossman said, Yomi "failed the second exam".

Then, a second reader was called from City College to evaluate the exam. Dr. Kellman, a specialist in international trade, evaluated the exam and said that Yomi had passed. According to Grossman, the student is then "given the benefit of the doubt and passed."

At this point, Yomi said he refused to take the more difficult first exam because he believed he would be unfairly evaluated. He was then "terminated."

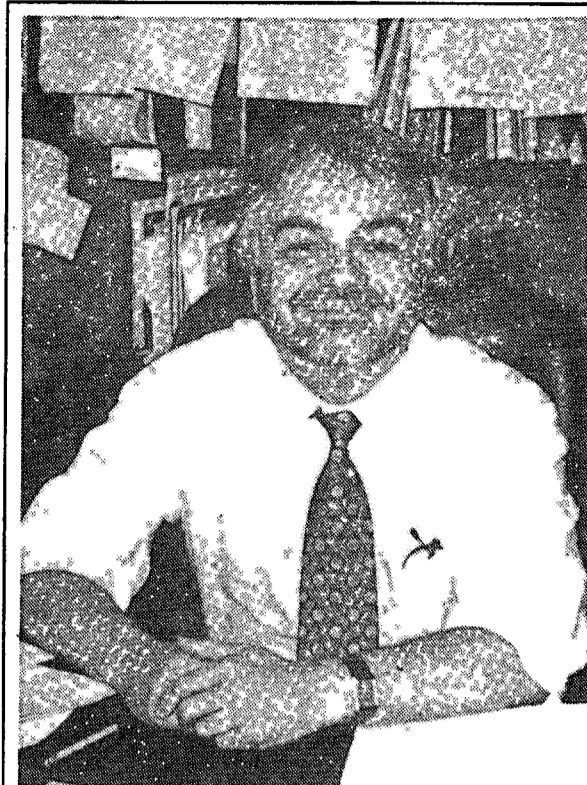
Moreland and Grossman then worked a special deal where Yomi would take an exam created and graded by "members of the faculty who he believed were non-biased towards him." There was a window of roughly one month for Yomi to consider the offer.

But by October 5th, the offer was withdrawn after a committee could not be set to satisfy Yomi's concerns. The program's executive committee voted unanimously (8-0) to rescind the earlier offer and subject Michael to "the same conditions as other students taking these examinations." Moreover, the committee agreed to terminate Michael for what they called "failure to meet the conditions set for satisfactory academic performance."

Yomi has one option, which is to "agree in writing to take the first exams in microeconomics and macroeconomics by June 1994" or be terminated, Grossman said. "Our department is through with (the) special deal; it sets bad precedent for future cases."

On December 14, between 20 and 25 community members and students attended a rally on Yomi's behalf, demanding that the administration open an independent investigation of the case.

During the rally, Yomi met with Assistant Provost Pamela Trotman Reid, sources said. Reid and unnamed economics professors who have been given the authority to either terminate Yomi, waive the



Floyd Moreland

Photo by Michael Weinstein-Mohammed

exam, or devise a solution satisfactory to both Yomi and the economics program, were sympathetic to Yomi's case, sources said. However, the way the issue will be resolved remains unclear.

Meanwhile, students groups are unprepared to deal with the larger accusation that structural racism is rampant at the university. A legal team is not in place; the coalition is fragmented by differences; and no clear road forward is being articulated.

However, the Black Student Alliance, in conjunction with other student groups, has spelled out a way in which problems such as the Yomi case could be resolved.

According to an October memo sent to Horowitz, the alliance said, "we propose that an independent office of examinations be set up to administer and schedule exams with the grading left up to respective departments. Where controversies arise, perhaps an external pool of experts from representative areas can be called upon to give a second opinion."

But as far as Yomi is concerned, "I will never take Grossman's exam unless the administration is willing to investigate what happened in the grading procedure of the first exam."

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

FROM

THE ADVOCATE