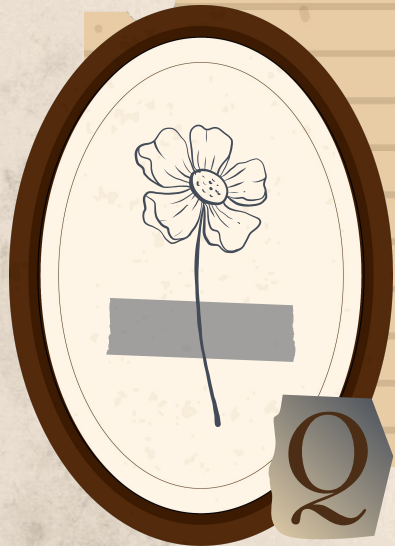
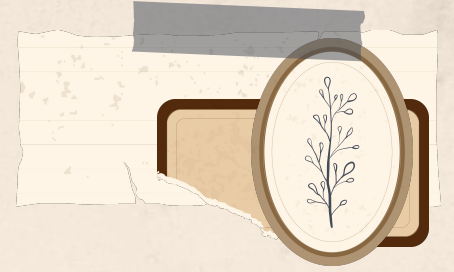
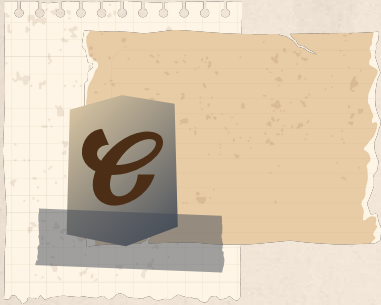


Alumni of Color Slideshow

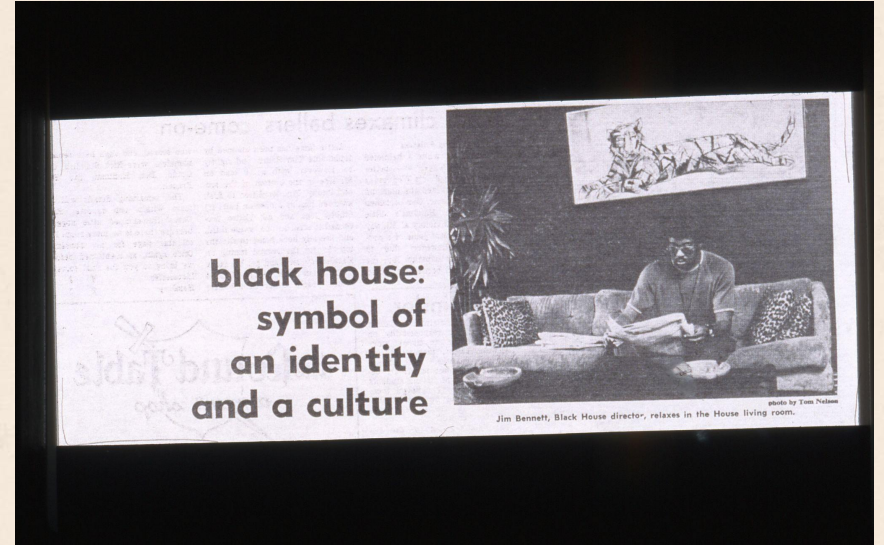


Sanaya Cruickshank





May 1, 1970 Black House



April 30, 1971

The Mac Weekly

Minority students denounce EEO cuts, Seek resources to teach themselves

by Bijan Mossavar-Rahmani

When the faculty filed into Olin Auditorium last night, they had come to discuss the formation of an ad hoc committee to recommend faculty reductions, if any, for 1972-73--and not to listen to students spread "gossip and rumors."

After a series of motions, amendments, substitutions, and a lot of talk about the future of Macalester, an acceptable proposal for the formation of the committee was drafted and passed. The Committee on Priorities and Planning will consist of six faculty members and four students. Vice-President Garvin and Deans Goodrich and Braden will serve as ex-officio, non-voting members.

But as the meeting came to a

Then Dayton Hultgren, Director of the Individual Learning Center made a startling announcement. "The rumours about EEO are more than just fantasy." This greatly angered the minority students at the meeting, and the mood became very tense. Someone even raised a clenched fist, and shouted, "After this, no one should be held responsible for the actions of minority students on this campus."

As time had run out, the official meeting was adjourned, but both students and faculty stayed on for an hour of honest and even critical discussions.

First, Doug Bolstorff, Associate Professor of P.E.K. explained that a faculty member, had, in fact, drawn up a petition recommending that the EEO program be eliminated, but that minority students be admitted through the regular admis-

aire Trustees" dig into their own pockets to help save the college. A third proposal, made by a faculty member was that the college community unite to raise money through contacting alumni, congressmen, senators, and events like the Ice Follies.

Dean of Faculty, Murray Braden then spoke of a "wall of separatism" that divided the whites and minority students at Macalester. He warned that if these walls weren't broken down, the future of Macalester would be jeopardized.

The exchange continued for an hour and ended with a statement read by the minority students about the future of EEO. Macalester's minority students feel that this education is unrealistic, as it relates only to the experience of bourgeois whites. They proposed that EEO be given academic status, so that, for example, Blacks will be able to go out into their own com-



April 30, 1971 Minority Students Denounce EEO Cuts



Dec 1, 1972

Mac's Black Press

(Imani)



Mac's Black press

by Stuart Smith

The Imani, Macalester's Black student newspaper, is edited by Randy Royals, a tall mustachioed senior from Detroit, Michigan. The third issue of the Imani appeared last week. We spoke with Randy this week about his paper, its significance, and its future.

WEEKLY: How did the idea for the Imani start?
ROYALS: It was one of the original things that Black students had planned to do when they got here. After the second group of EEO students got here, it was decided that some type of communication was needed. Jim Bennett suggested the name Imani. As the Director of Black House, he had his own ideas on what Black House should do, and that was one of the things.

The only reason it was so late in starting was that it was hard to find somebody that wanted to get the students interested in doing it; making it something that would be

as an isolated one? It's not something that might signal a new mood in the whole country?
ROYALS: I doubt it. It's hard for me to make a statement like that because it's common that when Black students come to a Black campus, they automatically separate from White students. Especially Black students who have never lived around White students. For Black students to come in and all of a sudden start hanging around White students or eating with White students and singing, or whatever, would just be odd. Black students just aren't used to doing it because they've never done it before.

WEEKLY: You mentioned that Black reaction to it has been very positive. What has White reaction been?
ROYALS: It's hard to say, because I don't know how many White students know the students that are on my staff.

As far as letters, we've only received one letter from a White student.

I'm not really sure, except for the students I know. The students I know personally come up to me and say, "You're doing a good job on your paper. Liked your last issue." This and that. As far as what the overall reaction is, I really don't know.

WEEKLY: Time Magazine pointed out in an article this week that there is a trend, on college campuses anyway, for Black students to set up their own institutions, formal or informal. Imani certainly seems to be an example of that. Do you think that this is actually a trend?

ROYALS: I saw that article. I don't think that saying it's a "trend" is always necessary. Not when you look at the Minnesota Daily. They have a lot of Black articles in there.

This is why we thought there was a need for Imani. I've been here

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"We'll probably be able to get the 75 back," he thought about the fact that the first group of EEO students had come four years ago. Seventy five might be graduating, and it would only be right to bring in 75 to replace those other 75. That's why we're really hot about that.

As far as administrators, I think it's good, finally. As I understand it, before Black students got here, there was only one Black administrator and one Black faculty member. After the first group got here, there were ten new Black faculty members. I think it helps students to realize that the position of Black people here at Macalester is a permanent thing.



Randy Royals

WEEKLY: Given the situation of a decreasing number of Black students, do you think the Imani can survive for very long?

ROYALS: As long as there's Black students here, I think it can survive.

J

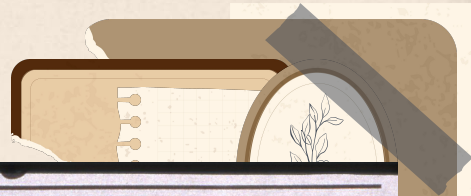
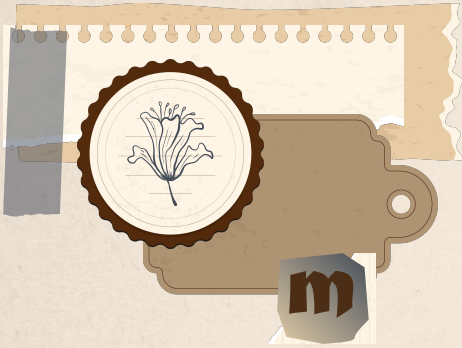


E



From One Extreme to Another
This Happened Over the Weekend

March 23, 1973
Imani Article



Sep 27, 1974 End of Building Takeover

September 27, 1974 526

Take it easy you're out, you're free'

Marilyn Hannas

Minority students filed out the business building door late Tuesday night raising clenched fists and cheering supporters.

They cheered for more that the opportunities (EEO) program won agreements signed that night between their student negotiating team and the administration. They cheered for a victory in what they called a nation-wide struggle against a declining commitment minority programs.

The cheering turned to hugging seven friends who had been touched other for 12 days.

Flashing TV camera lights focused the occupiers into the friendly crowd from the building and into waiting cars.

A committee to check for possible damage to the building traced from the third floor, to the second, to the first; shutting off lights as they came.

By midnight the library lights across the street had gone out. TV cameramen went home and the formerly occupied building was dark as the crowd thinned, and many disappeared.

The students took the building, March 1974, two weeks ago to fight EEO budget cuts made in August. They held the building for 12 days and issued six demands to college President James Robinson.

With the help of an outside mediator, the nine-day-long negotiations ended Tuesday. The EEO team won a Hispanic counseling position, two secretaries, a larger operating budget, and a director for the Black Education Institute (BEI).

The student negotiators also won amnesty for the occupiers.

once started about 10:30 p.m. Craig, a Carleton College professor and DFL national committeeman, entered the negotiations late Friday night. Robinson requested a mediator that afternoon and the student negotiators gave Craig's name.

Robinson asked for a mediator because a telegram that quoted the negotiations and offered to play a tape of the sessions had been sent to Board of Trustees chairman Donald Garrison. Robinson said the telegram broke the confidentiality rules the negotiators had set up.

Robinson also cited an anonymous hand-out containing what he said were libelous personal attacks.

After three days as mediator Craig managed to bring the two sides together. By Sunday night he was working on the draft of the first agreement. By noon Monday, Craig said he was on the third agreement.

As part of the agreements, Craig also headed a committee of 12 students, administrators and faculty that gave the building a quick, top-to-bottom inspection immediately after the 21 minority students left.

"The building has been very well taken care of, there is no sign of damage," Craig said, as a handful of EEO supporters signed with approval.

The occupiers agreed to pay for any damage to the building or its contents.

The agreement also protects the occupiers against any legal action by the administration.

They cannot, however, be prosecuted from legal action by persons

AGREEMENTS to page 3



photo by Paul Shambrum

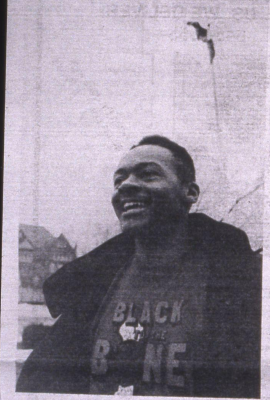
Protestors leave the Matalster business building after 12 days. The 21 students who barricaded themselves in the building were

protesting cuts to the Expanded Educational Opportunities program.

1990 Michael Curry - BLAC President



Macalester needs to wake up



Senior Michael Curry says Macalester is not immune to racism and prejudice.

by Kieran Gordon
After the desecration of the Hebrew House, many students said they were shocked something like that could happen at Macalester. Some of those same people weren't surprised when police shot and killed a young black man in Minneapolis.

Macalester's community immune to racism and prejudice because we live and study under the reputation of being a liberal college?

Senior Michael Curry has spent almost four years here and he says it isn't.

Curry was president of the Black Liberation Affairs Council (BLAC) last year. He has worked to recruit students of color and to make them feel comfortable enough to stay once they arrive.

He says racism is as prevalent at Macalester as it is outside of its grounds.

"So many people of color come here and don't survive," Curry said. "That's because the college doesn't create an atmosphere for their survival. You can't survive in a place that doesn't accept who you are."

He said the problems Macalester has with racism are problems that other schools have too, but that doesn't make Macalester better or

worse.
"The problem with racism, especially at Macalester, is too few people understand what it is and fewer people decide to make it their life goal to get rid of it," he said.

He does believe people can change their ways.
"I think Greg Ricks said it best," he said. "The only way to make people realize that other people's problems are their own problem is to see how it affects them. He would say that this is what happens to black people—as a woman, don't you feel that."

"If you realize it affects you and you say, 'I could have been born black.' Then, you'll be willing to do something about it."

Curry said Macalester students don't understand students of color. He said Community Council (C.C.) has shown their lack of understanding consistently.

He said that even last year when C.C.-approved funding a BLAC trip to a Pan-African conference they showed their ignorance. "They said to us, 'come back and tell us what you learned.'"

The conference, he said, was to help people of color feel better about being a part of the community.

"It helped us understand why we have trouble in classes even though we went to schools that prepared us to go to Ivy league colleges and then can't survive at a school like Mac," he said.

He also said most of the white students who call for cultural diversity at Macalester are expecting students of color to be the teachers.

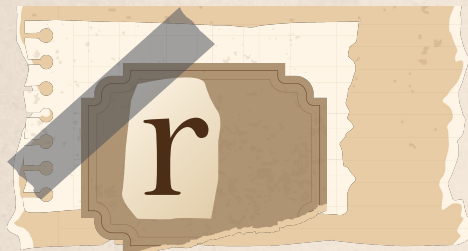
"Everybody says, 'We want cultural diversity. Come here and educate us on who you are,'" he said. "People of color ought to be paid if they're supposed to be teaching."

He said BLAC does more than it should. Aside from organizing campus events BLAC is a support group for black students because they don't always feel comfortable here.

There are a lot of misconceptions about what BLAC is, Curry said.

"I've come up against people who say 'I heard it's a militant organization and you all sit around in black uniforms and talk about killing white people.' That's a racist image that people create," he said. "It's not like that."

He said it is hard to tell if Macalester students appreciate see Curry page 9



Early 1990s BLAC stages protest

cause them to go on welfare.
"We have a big fight on our hands, in Minneapolis, in every state capitol, all problems with the... at 1:00 P.M. He said that there are over two hundred protests at the Capitol each

MPJC continued on page 3

BLAC stages protest

By JENNY AHERN

The Black Liberation Affairs Committee (BLAC) staged a protest last Thursday to rally against what they called institutional racism at Macalester College. The protest was a culmination of an ongoing conflict between BLAC and the administration over the college's role in multicultural education.

Students gathered in front of the Student Union and then marched to Bob Gavin's office in Weyerhauser Hall. Upon discovering that he was not there, the leaders of BLAC directed students to the Weyerhauser lounge to hear speakers.

Sharon Cage, co-chair of BLAC, explained that the three main areas that the committee is concerned about are "programming pertaining to people of African-American descent as well as other students of color, the recruitment process, and the tenure process."

In a handout that BLAC passed out at the rally, the organization also addressed:

- the President's lack of involvement and/or acknowledgment of Black History Month
- lack of programming for Black History Month
- responsibility for organizing multicultural events resting on the shoulders of students of color
- lack of continuity and stability in the Multicultural Affairs office
- lack of support (excluding monetary support) for Multicultural Affairs-sponsored events
- lack of tenured black faculty
- declining numbers of incoming African-American students



First-year Peter Lindsay expresses his views at BLAC's Thursday rally. Photo by Eric Geigle

- lack of African-American representation in key administrative positions

BLAC continued on page 5

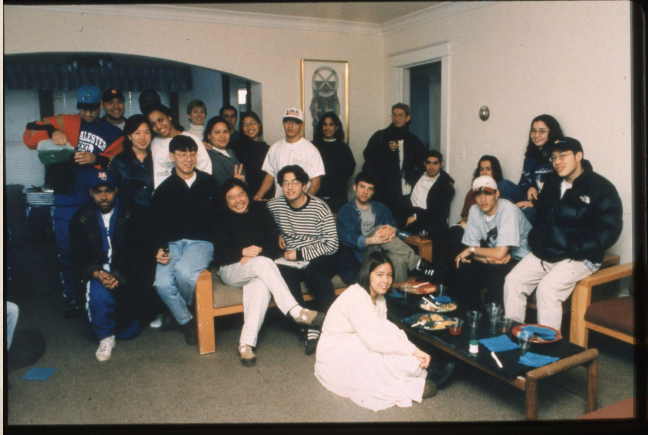


1995 Cultural House





1997 Cultural House



Sep 25, 1997 Diversity at Macalester



Diversity at Macalester: We aren't as tolerant as we think

By Members of Black Liberation Affairs Committee

After all that has taken place this past weekend, not to mention the years of racism before this, many students of color are wondering "what next?" No, they are not wondering how many prospective students of color they will be hosting this fall, they are not concerned with how much time they have to activate their organizations or how much time they have to create programs. These are not major concerns for most students of color today.

Our guess is that they are wondering if a cross will appear in front of Dupre, blazing with fire, stating "Go home niggers, chinks, spics, prairie niggers, and Jews!" Or maybe signs will appear saying "Go Back To Africa!" symbolizing "shut the hell up—if you don't like it here [at Macalester], go home." Some students may find the above language crude or improper for the politically correct Macalester College. However, there have been several instances on this campus that have had the same impact on our fellow students.

We'll start at the beginning:

CASE I:
Two weeks ago, two Black students were walking down a hall in Dupre. Some white male students directed many racist and sexist slurs at the Black students, such as "Black men want all our white women," and "since you go white you never go back."

These actions are unacceptable and WILL NOT be tolerated.

—B.L.A.C.

Keep in mind that the above paragraphs are quick synopses of the actual happenings. However, the disempowerment, emotional pain and rage and the loss of personal space are real. They are real to the victims, and they are real to the community. These actions are unacceptable and WILL NOT be tolerated.

On Tuesday, September 23, 1997, we, the Black Liberation Affairs Committee (B.L.A.C.), held a meeting. We invited ALL Black students, faculty and staff. As a Black community, we wanted to hear these students' personal frustrations and their concerns for the entire Macalester community as well as Macalester's Black community. This conversation made it possible for students to vent their frustrations without feeling attacked or persecuted. At this meeting, we also worked on possible solutions for the problems that exist at Mac.

We send this message out not only to other students of color but also to white and international students. We would like to speak for all Macalester students when we say we do not find these actions acceptable.

We hope every one of you examines the things you say and do whether you are drunk, high, or sober. Just because you've had one too many drinks or totes does not mean offensive actions are justified. We do not care if you have lost your inhibitions. We do not care if you are serious about your actions.

to vent your anger by defacing someone's property with racial epithets. We will not stand aside and let you get away with such cowardly acts. Contrary to your intentions, your actions will empower, not only Black students, but also any reasonable person who does not agree with these acts, to change. We will not sit silently and wait for the storm to pass.

We will organize our voices heard, and produce serious change, which is the very thing you are not expecting to happen.

We urge all students to join us in a fight against racism. We ask that you involve in your organizations at least one issue concerning people of color. We ask that you support all student of color organizations by participating in their events and by refraining from gossiping about what they aren't doing. We ask that you back up your words with your actions.

To all members of the administration: we are telling you that you need to make serious changes in your policies and politics. It is not enough that you send a letter of apology/disapproval. You need to hold serious discussions for your staff and faculty

agencies. Students of color, we urge you to organize your respective communities. If you feel like you are an exception to racist incidents - YOU ARE NOT. Do not be afraid to talk to students, faculty, and staff of color. We encourage you to join the organizations that are here to support you.

We feel that one thing this incident has shown is illustrate that organizations like the B.L.A.C. NEED to be at institutions like Macalester. It also makes apparent that academic and social programs revolving around multicultural issues are necessities for collegiate academia. The administration needs to provide more events such as dialogues concerning issues of race. More direct action in locating the offenders in this and other situations needs to be taken. It's time to stop being passive and start getting involved.

We also feel that this incident makes it apparent that many more students of color and students from diverse backgrounds need to be on this campus. We know deep within ourselves that the problems occurring around 1967, when our organization was formed, are the same problems we deal with today. Racism is still alive and well, even in

[Quietly and mostly to myself]

Education & Student Activism at Macalester



Being in Democratizing Higher Education this semester, the material that stood out to me the most was the Agents of Change movie. Seeing university students across the nation protest and make demands of their universities was very impactful and inspiring to see. As students, we have the power to create the change we want to see in **our** education, especially here at Macalester. It is our chance to bring our educational philosophies to reality.

There's been a long history of student activism on Macalester's campus and I think it's important for all of us to be part of that history. Personally, I want to create a Caribbean club that not only showcases Caribbean culture and its history but also advocates for what's happening in the Caribbean. I also want to educate myself on other issues and be able to protest and advocate for those issues as well.





Thank You!

I chose to digitize these images because it's important for students like us and those in the future to know that students of color have always been here and the demand for our own spaces has always been present on Macalester's campus. Through protests, publications, and creating our own spaces, students of color have cultivated their own culture here.

I thought it's necessary for people to have easier access to these pictures so they can see the long history of alumni of color on this campus that is not always so visibly seen.