

Culture House & Minorities

Remembering the Culture

By: Gabriela Parra

'Minority' minorities beef, get bigger wad of federal grant

by Brian Roragen

Students of three minority groups occupied Old Main Wednesday in the most effective political move the campus has seen this year, excluding Paul Davis.

The sit-in followed a rally in Cochran by Mexican-American Native -American and Puerto Rican students. The issue was fair distribution of a federal grant Macalester gets for having a minority student program. At stake was \$140,000 which federal rules say must be aimed at helping minority

students in college. It does not provide tuition, but salaries for minority counselors and administrators.

The sit-in took place at a meeting of a committee which handles the grant. Since several of the students on the sit-in were also on the committee, and Dosier and Garvin were also there, the usual breakdown in communication lasted only about an hour.

The initial positions were roughly these:

The three protesting minorities wanted the grant split into four equal shares for Blacks, Indians, Puerto Ricans and Mexican-Americans. They argued that only \$8000 of the grant is financing their part of the minority program at this time. They also said their survival as students depends on getting counselors and administrators of their programs who are of their race.

Black representatives at the sit-in seemed to be in basic agreement with the other minorities, but hesitated to name a price. They said they would agree to the extent that gains made by Blacks would not be lost in the shuffle.

The administration was naturally a bit flustered at first, and reacted reflexively, trying to postpone the whole question. This didn't go over too well.

"Promises! Promises!" cried one frustrated girl, "that's all we've heard for two years! I've gone to about 40 meetings and you still haven't decided anything!"

When it became obvious that an agreement would have to be reached the administration and students began working together. Dr. Garvin and VP Dozier retired to Garvin's office with leaders of the sit-in, and Johan Warfield and Chinula Chinula of EEO.

It took them about five hours to work it out. By 10 p.m. the weary negotiators had split next year's grant about like this: 35% Black, and about 22% each for Puerto Ricans, Mexican Americans, and Indians.



The rally moved from Cochran Lounge to the President's office

Minority Share of Federal Grant

1971

Minority students at Macalester College protested the distribution of a federal grant. Students conducted a sit-in protest at Old Main, which was followed by a rally on Cochran. The protest was based on the demand for splitting the \$140,000 grant into four equal parts for Black, Indians, Puerto Ricans, and Mexican-Americans.

This protesting movement works as inspiration for future minority students of Macalester, such as myself. For the longest time, minority voices have been silenced, but this sit-in worked as a groundbreaking milestone in advocating for minority needs at Macalester College. This specific protest upholds the ideals of embracing culture at Macalester College by gathering students from multiple culture and ethnic backgrounds in search for meeting a specific community goal - acquisition of minority support.



Adelante gives Latinos a voice

Originally the group was working under the title of the Hispanic Student Organization. Lopez pointed out that the term "Hispanic" is the name the U. S. government gave to Latino persons but it was not one that the organization preferred. It was difficult to come up with a better name for the group, one that reflected the differing ethnic backgrounds of members, and simultaneously said something about the goals they had set, Lopez said. The name Adelante means "moving forward" in Spanish. Lopez said that she believed it was the best expression of what the group wanted to say.

This year, it has been somewhat difficult to plan programs due to the limited budget Adelante received from C.C., Lopez said.

In the long term, however, the organization wants to develop ties with other Latino

most of its attention on the 20th annual Latino week which will be April 29 through May 4 of this year.

On Monday, the events will be inaugurated with a convocation entitled "The Chicano Movement and Its History." Narciso Aleman will be speaking at 7:30 p.m. in Weyerhaeuser Chapel.

Aleman was involved in the Chicago Latino movement. He is also a former District Attorney for Milwaukee. He currently teaches at the University of Minnesota. Aleman was involved as a witness to a student uprising in Mexico in 1966.

Tuesday, a film will be shown at the Cultural House with a discussion to follow. The title is yet to be publically announced but it promises to be of interest.

A Coffeehouse, featuring the Andean Music Ensemble, poetry readings, the Pleneros



Minerva Lopez, Adelante president

photo by Liz Puhl

independence, Solis will speak Doty basement party in the

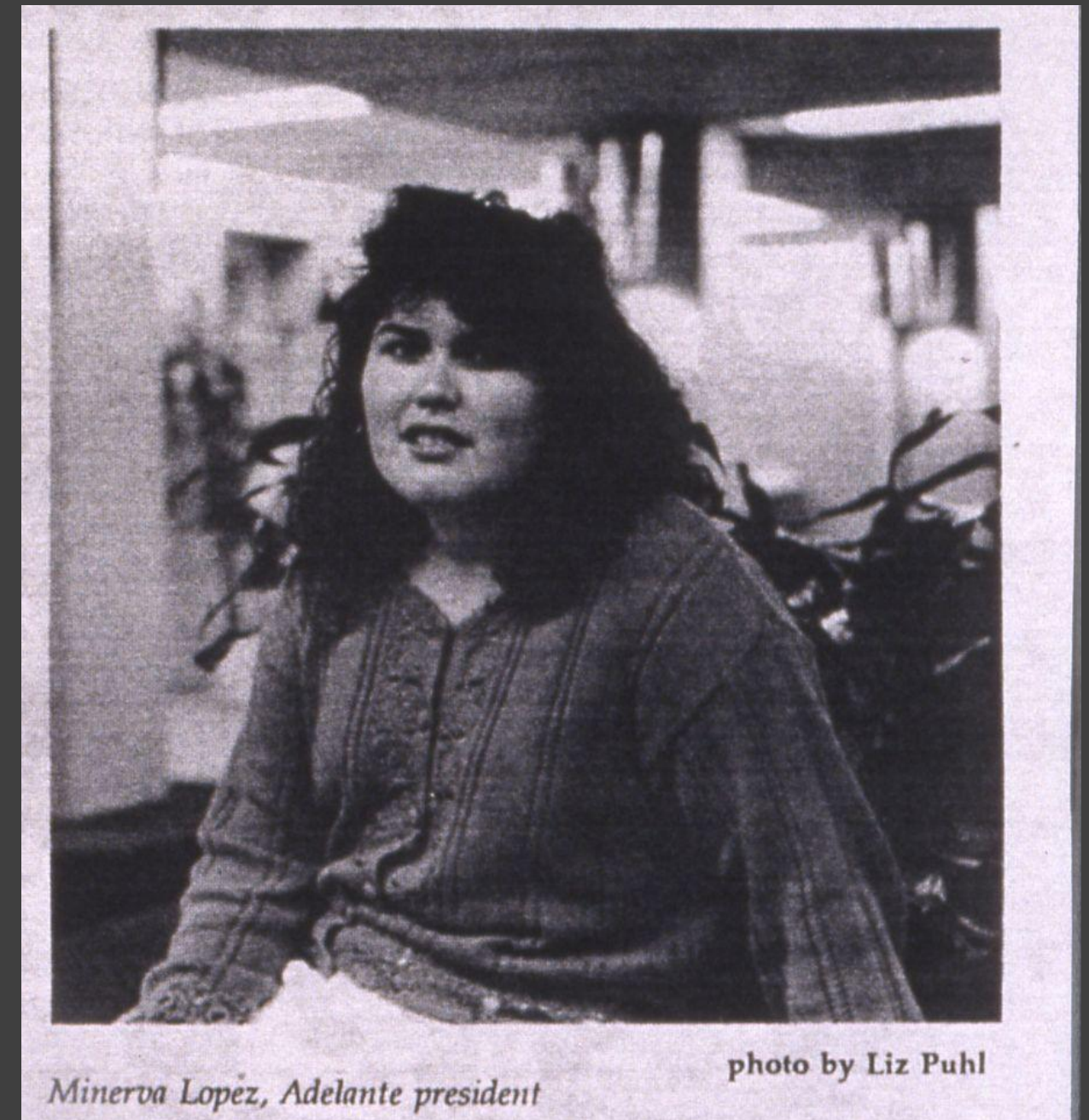
Wang will be leaving

Adelante Cultivates Latino Voices

1992-1993

The group transitioned from adopting the name Hispanic Student Organization to Adelante to move away from the U.S. government term “hispanic.” The name “Adelante” better represented the group’s various ethnic backgrounds and best signified the group’s goals of moving forward. Adelante continued to coordinate programs in support of latino students, like conducting the showing of a film at the Cultural House.

Adopting the name Adelante symbolized Latino progression, and reinforced the concept of cultivating the Latino legacy at Macalester College. Hosting club events at the Cultural House emphasizes the importance of a social space dedicated to celebrating the various cultures at Macalester. The Cultural House has worked as a fundamental part of cultural identity clubs, like Adelante, and its inevitable destruction will come as a true heartbreak for minorities who viewed the house as a fundamental part of embracing their own ethnicities, identities, and cultures.



Minerva Lopez, Adelante president

photo by Liz Puhl



Cultural House 1995

From the beginning, the Cultural House has functioned as a home for people from various cultural and ethnic backgrounds. The house's purpose is to function as a space for celebrating and emphasizing culture for the purpose of community unity and cultural appreciation. The Cultural House tenants uphold the house's mission by honoring their own cultures alongside those of their housemates.

The creation and appreciation of the Cultural House begins with embracing the community it comes with. It is inspiring to see the multiple milestones of the Cultural House starting with the students in the photograph who embodied the need to celebrate various cultures. Our first year course titled "We Demand" upholds the legacy of these students by demanding for the truth and honoring the Cultural House through class assignments and discussions. We have become keepers of the Cultural House by working to maintain its legacy through research and community building.



Racial hate crime shocks campus community

By ADAM FEDERMAN

Last Saturday, an African-American female student living in Dupre returned to her room with another student to get a toothbrush. She came home to a message on her door stating, "We hate you, We hate you, Hugs and Kisses—The KKK." Next to the message the student's poster of Tiger Woods was also defaced with KKK written across it. It had been written sometime between 1:45 and 2:30 a.m.

Aishah Jackson '99, President External of the Black Liberation Affairs Committee (BLAC), said, "We want to have a campus wide convocation. It is not just a black issue. It is a campus wide issue that needs to be addressed and discussed." No one knows who the perpetrators of the crime were, but according to Jackson, the main issue behind this is that racism exists at Macalester and people of all colors need to be aware of its effects on the entire community.

administration to send out an all campus statement so that everyone is aware of what happened.

Macalester apologized for the incident, but because it is a hate

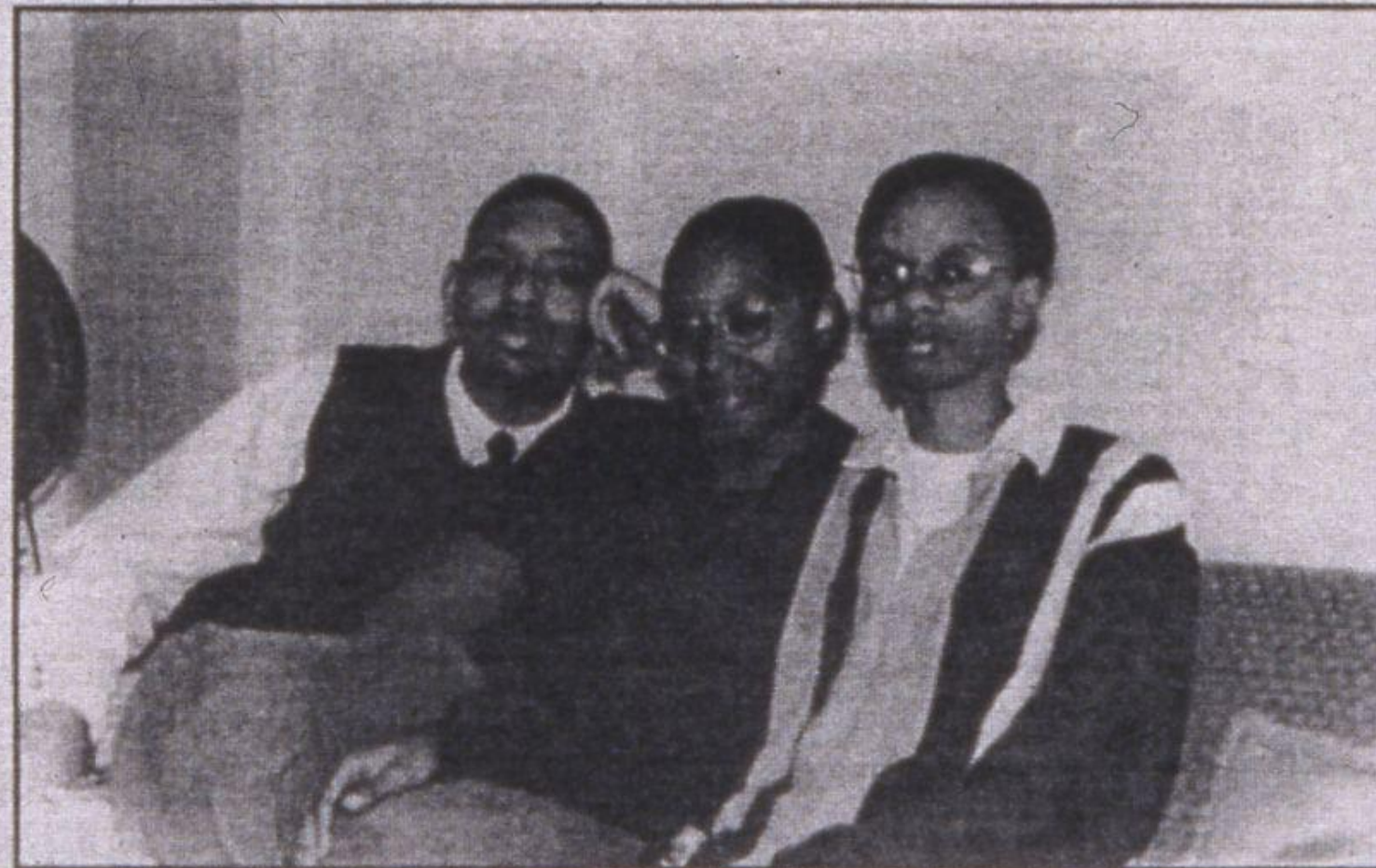
and Campus Community Roberto Ifill stressed that, along with the administration taking action, the students must play an equally supportive and active role. The first

dividuals [who committed the crime] do not represent the college, or any group within the college. In fact the weight of the institution is on the opposite side."

The college hopes that the students, faculty and administration can work together in coming up with a solution to the problems that exist, Roberts said.

Dianne Stewart, Professor of Religious Studies, attended the B.L.A.C. meeting. Although she is not directly involved, Stewart has been providing support and acting as a sounding board for worried students. She is concerned about the effects of incidents like this one on the students involved. "It concerns me that students of color are constantly bearing the emotional and psychological burden of processing racism and actually coming up with solutions for solving these problems that they encounter across the nation, on campuses like Macalester," she said.

Her hope is that white students too will begin to recognize that they must actively and openly



Sean Palmer '98, Roslyn Trice '98 and Aishah Jackson '99 are members of B.L.A.C., which called a meeting on Tuesday to discuss the crime

crime and a legal issue, if action is taken it must go through the St. Paul Police. Because there are no leads or evidence as to who wrote the messages there is virtually nothing anyone can do to pursue the matter in a court of law. This is

step that the college took was to follow through on B.L.A.C.'s request for letter from President Michael McPherson discussing the incident and raising awareness about the issues. The letter, distributed to student and faculty mail-

Photo by Julie Gausebeck

Racial Hate Crime

Sept 25, 1997

A Black female student living in Dupre returned to her room and found a message on her door saying, "We hate you, We hate you, Hugs and Kisses - The KKK." A poster of Tiger Woods, which was next to the message, was defaced and had KKK written across it. This incident symbolized the prominent racist qualities of Macalester College. The college responded by going through with B.L.A.C.'s request for discussing the crime with Present Michael McPherson.

The publishment of this incident raised awareness on the racist qualities of Macalester College, and urged the college's officials to address this issue and bring awareness. This incident also embodied the need for social spaces dedicated to embracing culture and community uplift, like the Cultural House. By having a common space used for cultural appreciation and awareness, students are able to connections with others based on their struggles as minorities on a predominantly white college campus.



Sean Palmer '98, Roslyn Trice '98 and Aushah Jackson '99 are members of B.L.A.C., which called a meeting on Tuesday to discuss the crime





Cultural House 1997

The Cultural House has been home to various class years and identities. The tenants of the Cultural House are who truly represent the principle of community uplift by living amongst each other and celebrating everyone's cultures and identities without judgment.

Our first year course continues to embrace diversity at Macalester College by basing a class around the Cultural House that has been a substantial part of embracing minority communities. It is amazing to see that in 2023, the Cultural House continues to be the home of students at Macalester College. Our first year course also works as a milestone of the Cultural House by only housing first year students for the first time in history. It is important for first-year students, like myself, to learn about the Cultural House early on in order to embrace its principles throughout our four years at Macalester College.





Thank you!

I chose to digitize photos that focused around the Cultural House and minority experiences to highlight the need for diversity, community uplift, and cultural appreciation at Macalester College. In order to keep these principles as a substantial part of Macalester College, social spaces, like the Cultural House, are crucial. We must demand for the preservation of social spaces that center around the needs of minorities for the purpose of truly diversifying predominantly white institutions, like Macalester College.