

Reflections on a Glimpse of my Career

During the summer of 1982, I was given an extraordinary opportunity, through the Lake Forest College Health Careers Internship Program, to spend ten weeks at St. Francis Xavier Cabrini Hospital on the Near West Side of Chicago. During this ten week period, I rotated through various departments of the hospital such as Cardiology, Histology, Microbiology, Pathology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Pediatrics, General Medicine, the emergency room and the nursery. I got a first-hand view of how the hospital runs from a practical and administrative point of view. My internship was coordinated by Dr. Clyde Phillips, who is a surgeon at St. Francis-Cabrini. I was given the opportunity to observe several surgical procedures performed by him and other surgeons. Some of the most interesting procedures I observed include thoracotomies, biopsies, hysterectomies (both vaginal and abdominal), Cesarean Sections, hernia repairs, and Mastectomies. The physicians were very cooperative and many of them explained their procedure to me as they proceeded.

The majority of my experiences were educational and enjoyable. However, two particular departments of the hospital were most impressive to me, and I feel the experiences and exposure I received there provided me with the strongest motivation and insight into the true rigors of the medical field. These experiences also led me to recognize my possible entry point into medicine.

The two departments to which I am referring are the general clinic and the obstetrical and gynecological departments. In the general clinic, I worked with Dr. Ayesha Sultana. Dr. Sultana is an internist and full-time physician in the clinic. Other specialists come in at scheduled times to see patients requiring their attention. Most of the patients seen daily in the clinic complain of illness such as high blood pressure, diabetes, common colds, etc. However, I also saw some really different types of cases such as unexplainable pains, heart attack victims, infections, bruises, sprained ligaments, broken bones, and a host of other complaints.

The patients seen in this clinic were approximately 75% Black, 20% Hispanic, 3% White, and 2% of other races. Mostly everyone was on the lower end of the economic scale. I had dreams of setting up practice in an urban area to serve these types of people. This experience definitely gave me a chance to get a very close approximation of what I will probably encounter. The patients were basically very nice people, but the effects of the conditions in which they live—environmental, social, and economical—were strongly reflected in their attitudes, medical histories, and their overall health. For example, a 55 year old man came into the clinic complaining of chest pains. His electrocardiogram (EKG) reflected that he had already sustained 2 or 3 minor heart attacks and was headed towards another. Another young woman (age 23 years) with 3 children was in a severe state of depression. The father refused her admission to the hospital because of his financial difficulties and the young woman (so young) was referred to the psychiatrist and started on drug therapy to reduce her depression. These types of cases make our socio-economic system questionable in regard to the physical health effects that it is having on society, especially members of the lower class.

Overall, however, I have found that the clinic experience was an excellent start to my internship because I became aware of many issues and areas of specialty in medicine.

In the Obstetrical and Gynecological department, I spent a large amount of time in the labor and delivery rooms. I observed and actually scrubbed and assisted in several of the approximately 50 deliveries in the two week period designated for rotation in this department. I assisted in the adjoining nursery feedings some days and I learned about newborn evaluation using the Dubowitz Assessment. I learned about techniques for prenatal evaluation and testing of expectant mothers. I observed several circumcisions, cesarean sections, and even a miscarriage. With all of the present controversy about cesarean section, I took special note of the situations in which they were used. In all of the cases that I observed, the cesarean section was absolutely necessary and the procedure was delayed until all other efforts

for a normal delivery were exhausted.

Of all the departments through which I rotated, I found the Obstetrics and Gynecological department most interesting. There was almost always some action going on and a special relationship between the patients that I attended and myself developed.

I observed the severe rigors of this specialty (such as long, unpredictable hours, constant studying for new information, and quick emergency decision making) but somehow I feel that I would get the most satisfaction from this field of medicine.

Thus, in a ten-week period filled with excitement, education, and observations, I was able to get a "glimpse of my career."

by Shelly Dunson



Black Freshmen Arrive with Flying Colors

1986. It seems a long way off, doesn't it? Well for a special group of students here at LFC this is the year to look forward to. I'm speaking of this year's "crop" of freshmen. That's right, once again the campus has been invaded by that special group of young men and women who will compose and create the future of LFC. Yep, there's no doubt about it, this year's freshmen class looks to be a great one.

But there's a subdivision of this larger group that needs to be recognized. This section is composed of a group of brothers and sisters that will, I'm sure, leave a lasting impression on the campus of Lake Forest College. Ranging from as far east as Mattapoisett, Massachusetts, to as far west as Aurora, Colorado, to as far south as Memphis, Tennessee, these special freshmen come to LFC to add their talents and contribute their Blackness for the betterment of the school.

Although small in number (16 to be exact), this remarkable group of individuals has already begun to make its presence known. Stepping in to become an integral part of the Forester football team on the defensive line has been Earl Barnes.

Exhibiting their skills out on the intramural volleyball court are Cherice Morgan, Peter Andrews,

Steven-Eric Murray, Philmore Anderson, and Lisa Copeland.

Through the efforts of Mr. Ed Sheely, there has been a resurrection of the Black Gospel Choir. The voices of Cynthia Gordon, Regina Rogers, Steven-Eric Murray, and Kizzie Bell will be a large part of the inspirational music that will radiate from this group.

Cecelia Hayes shows her versatility as a part not only of the Gospel Choir but also of the school choir and a member of the cast of the first school play, "You Can't Take It With You."

Showing aspirations of future leaders are Jeff Walker and Steven-Eric Murray as General Assembly Representatives.

Handling your bookstore goodies is Jackie Thornton behind the counter and at the cash register.

Helping to keep the library files and circulation running smoothly are Mark Little, Minnette Chatman, Kizzie Bell, and Cynthia Gordon.

This year's cheerleading squad is composed largely of Black freshmen. Cynthia Gordon, Kizzie Bell, and LFC's first male cheerleaders, Mark Little and Steven-Eric Murray, will cheer our teams on to victory.

As you can see, the Black freshmen of LFC are well-rounded as well as ambitious. Each individual has become an active part of LFC

as a whole.

The Black freshmen have made a good first impression on LFC and, for the most part, the feeling has been mutual. Many positive opinions have formed due to the friendly people, beautiful campus, and the generally good atmosphere that are all unique qualities of Lake Forest College. Of course with the good qualities come a few setbacks.

There has been talk among some of the Black freshmen that the Black Class of '86 has lost a sense of unity that should be present in a small Black group. They feel that with so few of us here on campus, we cannot afford to lose the oneness that we have fought for so long to obtain. The identify that once was ours seems to have been misplaced in some of us.

Theoretically, this problem is easily solved by having us band together and re-analyze ourselves, thereby regaining the sense of identify and unity that seems to have been forgotten. But this is easier said than done, and for this reason we must learn to deal with each other, accepting the way we are as individuals. With the bright minds that make up the freshman class I'm sure that this goal will be realized.

The Black Class of '86: each an individual, each in his/her own way unique. Yet a powerful group of brothers and sisters that look toward the future with the hope that the strength exhibited by their ancestors will help them through the challenges of today.

by Steven-Eric Murray

The Dedicated Few

We all have our little campus jobs that really don't mean that much to us. Some of us do more for our money than others. Among the jobs on campus, the job of Residential Assistant (R.A.) is one that has been underestimated for a long time now. It's easy to look in from the outside and comment on the efficiency of another individual, but none of us actually realizes the dedication and discipline involved in this job.

The prospective R.A., whose job it is to help the residents of his/her dormitory, must first acquire three character references. These references are obtained from a number of sources, the most influential ones coming from faculty members.

The candidates are then tested to measure how well they work with others. This comes in the form of a group project in which the candidates must exhibit their ability not only to speak effectively, but also listen with both an open ear and an open mind.

In addition, they undergo interviews with previously employed residential staff members and the deans of students.

After being selected, the easy part of the job is over. The R.A. now takes on numerous responsibilities that will become a major part of his/her college life.

The responsibilities of the R.A. is the general maintenance of the dormitory, and to act as a liaison between the students and the deans. The latter point is more important than it sounds. It is the job of the R.A.s to effectively represent the students of their particular dormitory. In doing this, they will convey the opinions of the student body and attempt to cater to the student body needs.

Another responsibility of the R.A. is to try to unify the residents as much as possible. In order to accomplish this, the R.A. is required to initiate two Dorm Projects per semester. These projects can be anything from a speaker on the effects of alcohol to an ice skating party. These projects can be fun, as well as informative, but the R.A.'s need our help. I am sure that any suggestions for Dorm Projects will be welcomed.

Obviously, a job of this nature would take a lot of one's time. The extra time spent on this job does not seem to have had a drastic effect on the academic standing of the R.A.'s as a whole. This really illustrates the discipline that must be learned before accepting the position of Residential Assistant.

With all of the responsibilities that one must tackle, there must be something that draws students to seek such positions as R.A. The most obvious advantage is the fact that the R.A. gets his/her own room, but the Residential Assistants seem to get a real pleasure from helping people. Therefore, the R.A. obtains a sense of fulfillment that I feel is a unique quality in a college student and one to be admired. The Residen-

tial Assistants shouldn't have to take on all the responsibility. As students of Lake Forest College, we have a duty to make their job as easy as possible. We can accomplish this task by going to our R.A.'s and letting them know what we want, not merely complaining, but constructively conversing about our living conditions. The Residential Assistants are here for you. They can't do their job without some kind of input from you, so for everyone's sake, talk to your R.A.

by Steven-Eric Murray

Can We Judge

As a Black American, I speak the English language according to specific situations. However, I attend English class so I may learn how to use words and phrases more effectively and so they may flow smoothly when I engage in conversation. I used to look forward to English class when we focused on speech and enunciation, rather than phonetics and word origin. These latter aspects of the class emphasize how "Black" my speech is, and how "improperly" I speak English. Is this to say my so-called "Black dialect" is any less correct than standard Anglo-Saxon English? Does this suggest that I must conform to the dominant "White" English dialect? Perhaps it would suffice if I changed my heritage, but NO, OH NO!!!

by Kizzie Bell

"Street Dreams"

On Sunday, November 14, some of the Black students on campus, supported by B.U.C.S., journeyed to Chicago to see "Sweet Dreams" at the Appollo Theatre. The play was inspirational and full of life. The expressions on the faces of the audience clearly proved that "Sweet Dreams" possessed all the fire and fervor of the first rate off-Broadway presentation that it was.

The theme centered around the everyday struggle to survive in the impoverished areas of the world (nation). The main characters Carl Hall (Stewart), renowned vocal arranger and singer, and Delores Hall (Rosella), solo recording artist that is best known for her 1977 Tony Award winning performance in "Your Arms Too Short To Box With God," gave excellent performances that were highlighted by the performances of the other members.

by Cynthia Gordon

Yesterday- Today

During the time of slavery Black men were treated like animals because the White man believed they were inferior to him. The men were beaten and humiliated for trying to stand up for what they believed in, and for protecting the Black woman, who was also beaten and abused. We were stripped of all pride, self-respect, and of all sacred things, and forced to leave our motherland in order to work for the White man. We were not permitted to learn how to read, to write, nor to improve our state of being. In fact White society rewarded our ability to work the land with more demanding duties; and when we were not able to produce as they wished, we were beaten. Our family units were broken, as were our spirits; we were constantly told that we were good for nothing but farm work. We were often told that our duty in life was to serve the master; but we knew better! Thanks to the Black leaders of the past, like Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we were able to hold tight to some unseen driving force.

There were many instances when the slaves would gather in the field and sing spirituals while hard at work. While the master, who was supposed to be superior, laughed at the songs, the slaves were able to send messages to one another and some were able to escape their bondage. The spirituals seemed to be a driving force that helped them make it through the day. God made all of mankind equal in all aspects, so how did the White man get the idea that they were superior?

We were all created by the same source, the only difference is our hair and skin color. Who is to say that Black isn't beautiful? If this is true, then why do people continually attempt to darken their skin color and change their hair styles?

It has been found that people fear the things they don't understand. Mankind needs to repress the weak and impress the strong; but who really knows what strong means? Being strong doesn't mean being able to look down on someone who has less than you do. I means that we, the Black race, have the ability to overcome the trials and tribulations that society has placed before us. The White man was unable to relate to the culture and religions of the Black man, therefore we were immediately looked upon as inferior animals and not human beings.

The Black man has shown the White man how to survive throughout history. We receive very little reward for our success, but we seem to receive a lot of punishment for the slightest sign of failure. It is because of this kind of negative reinforcement that the Black race is so far behind today; it is easily seen in today's society.

Today's Black man sees society as a harsh, negative world that

extracts all it can and returns nothing. Our society recognizes Ground Hog Day as a holiday, but when the Black population demands that Dr. Martin Luther King's birth or death be recognized, we are ignored.

The White society has a lot of flaws, but the newspapers fail to capture their faults but manages to capture all the hardships of the Black community. It is time for everyone to wake up and face the fact that one day very soon, we, the Black race, will be knocking at the door. Society must either move aside or down and allow a growing race to take the ball and run with it. Society will change its order of priorities and we will walk in their shoes and they in ours.

by Elton Richardson

"Black Unity"

"Black Unity" is something that is seldom achieved in our college. It would seem just the opposite, in a college of one thousand-fifty students. The attitude of many of the black students on this campus is one of arrogance and indifference. They just don't care to unite. They express their ideas in isolation and criticize the efforts of the few people who do care. I think that this is a shame and should be curbed, because we as black students face enough difficulties as it is without having to deal with the negative attitudes of our own black people.

Instead we should aid our fellow black students in their efforts to unify us as individuals on this campus. We should make our presence and unity known through activities such as Black Week, career counseling, and black student involvement in campus organizations such as student government. This is the kind of participation we need in order to turn our efforts in a positive direction. Such students as Rose Fung-Cap, Shelly Dunson, and Selena Marable are a few of the Black United Concerned Students (B.U.C.S.) that help us maintain our "Black Unity." Their guidance, time, and effort are greatly appreciated by me and some of the black students at this school, but appreciating the efforts of others is not enough.

I feel we should have more leaders and greater participation in order to represent ourselves better. I came to L.F.C. as a freshman knowing that it was predominantly white, but that didn't stop me from maintaining my pride and remembering my heritage. And after being faced with negative stereotypes and subtle hints of prejudice, I have developed a stronger desire for Unity. That is why I have decided to become editor of *Black Rap*. And if every other black student contributes his or her talents, time and effort to this campus and the community, we can reach "Black Unity."

by Jeffrey C. Walker

Sisterhood Lives

For those of you who don't know, Sisterhood, this year, has taken a new focus. Instead of going to workshops off campus, I decided to bring the workshops on campus.

This year, Sisterhood is committed to including the entire Lake Forest College community in its activities. How is this accomplished, you might ask yourself? Well, I have asked Black women to come and speak here at Lake Forest. Why? This way, there's no excuse of no money or not enough time. The speakers, paid by S/L/F/A, have their money and have committed their time, so now it's your turn. These lectures are not limited to the Black population on campus. You, as a PERSON, are invited to the workshops.

The first speaker was Dr. Maisha Bennett, sister to the founder of Sisterhood. The workshop entitled, "Enhancing Black Male/Female Relationships," included an opportunity for the participants to "exchange genders." The Black men role-played what it's like being a Black female, and the women stepped into the shoes of the men. The workshop also gave us a chance to look at the positive rather than the negative side, which is so commonly done by (or in) society.

The second speaker, Dr. Shirley Simeon, did a workshop entitled "Are You Packaged for Success? — A Discussion on Selfpresentation in the World of Work." In this workshop, Dr. Simeon addressed issues such as the need to be flexible and the option of risk-taking (or taking risks). Also, she emphasized that in the world of work, you have a chance to make many choices about the way you dress, the way you talk and the way you behave. She explained that a person has to make his/her own choice, but the choice you make may not be accepted by society.

That workshop leads to the next one in February about how Black students can cope with the challenge of being on a predominantly White campus. This will be led by Karla Spurlock-Evans.

I wanted again to state that these speakers are invited to broaden your spectrum on life. These workshops are not intended to segregate one ethnic group from another. On the contrary, I want to bring the L.F.C. community together so that we can experience the differences we would not ordinarily share.

I hope to see you there.

by Jacqueline Harris

A Letter from the Editor

While reading the most recent *Black Rap* newspapers, I have come to the conclusion that my predecessors, such as Henryne Green (Editor-in-Chief), have accomplished the job that they set out to do. Their job was to unite, represent, and identify themselves and the Black students of Lake Forest College as aspiring, talented, Black, young men and women.

My job as Editor-in-Chief of this year's *Black Rap* is to maintain and update the fine quality that it possesses. Without this newspaper the Black students at this school could not express to each other and to their fellow students their ideas and artistic talents. This year is the year of the better educated Black man and woman, and we as Black men and women should unite our forces and knowledge in order to confirm this [aspect]. That is why I am dedicating this year's paper to the class of 1983, Black students of L.F.C., and all the people who have worked so hard to get *Black Rap* started.

Over the past few years the presence of Black students at L.F.C. has decreased, but the talents of the students have increased, especially in the academic and artistic fields. That is why I am opening the paper to any articles, poems, or suggestions that you, the reader, might have, because *Black Rap* is here to serve you. Without your support, we cannot reach our goal. All I ask is that you give us time and the cooperation that will keep the paper an essential part of our life at L.F.C. I know that my goals will be accomplished this year and every year that I organize *Black Rap*, because I have faith in myself and in everyone involved in the paper. Therefore, I promise you an intelligently crafted newspaper. Before I end this letter, I would like to encourage everyone here to keep reaching for the stars because soon they will be in our hands.

by Jeffrey C. Walker

The Crunch

Today's college students all over the country are feeling the effects of economic cutbacks of federal funds for education. But no group of students has felt the bone-crushing effects of Reagonomics more than America's minority students. Because of those cutbacks in federal funds, many bright, intelligent young Blacks, Hispanics, and other minority students who might otherwise gain the knowledge that would help to make them useful, productive Americans, will be forced to forego this valuable and rewarding learning experience. This is, indeed, a sad commentary on the priorities of a government that would spend more money putting a shuttle in outer space than it would to educate the young men and women who must someday assume the responsibility of building and designing such technically sophisticated machinery.

Individual schools may help students caught in this money crunch by supplementing government money with money from the institution itself.

Here at Lake Forest College, there is, in addition to excellent educational quality, a very good financial aid program designed to meet the needs of each student. Based on an individual need policy, the program allocates supplementary monies from the college's own funds to needy students on an individual basis. This means that all gifted and intelligent young men and women have the benefits of a college education regardless of their economical status.

With cutbacks and unstable economic conditions, the future of this kind of financial aid program is doubtful. A solution to this serious dilemma must be found quickly. The future of 52% of the students on this campus and hundreds of thousands of others nationwide may be at stake.

by Cecelia Hayes

BLACK RAP

February 1983

Black Cultural Week

(Black Cultural Week)

The Annual Black Cultural Week will begin Tuesday February 22 and end Sunday February 27. The theme for this year's events is a tribute to Black Aesthetics. The schedule of events is as follows:

Tuesday, February 22
Reid Chapel
10:30 a.m.

Dr. Kenneth Smith
"Reclaiming Culture/
Rebuilding Community"

Wednesday, February 23
McCormick Auditorium
7:00 p.m.

"Black Orpheus" (film)

Thursday, February 24
Durand Institute (room 209)
8:00 p.m.

Mr. Wilbur Tuggle
"African Art"

Friday, February 25
Roberts Hall Lobby
3:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Registration of Off-Campus Visitors

Reid Chapel
8:00 p.m.

Cicely Tyson

McCormick Auditorium
10:00 p.m.

"Lady Sings the Blues" (film)

House of Soul, Roberts Hall
12:00 midnight

Games Night

Saturday, February 26
Sonnenschein Gallery
Durand Institute
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

African Art Exhibit

McCormick Auditorium
1:00 - 2:30

**"El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz:
The Story of Malcolm X"**
Corliss H.S. Drama Guild

Sports Center
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Sports Activities

Commons
5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Soul Food Feast

McCormick Auditorium
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Black Talent Show

McCormick Auditorium
10:00 p.m.

"Lady Sings the Blues" (film)

Commonplace
10:00 p.m.

Maxx Traxx (band)
(formerly Third Rail)

House of Soul, Roberts Hall
1:00 a.m.

Afterset
Music by Smoke, Incorporated

The main speaker, Ms Cicely Tyson, is an outstanding black actress who has played in such movies as "Sounder", "Roots", "The Autobiograph of Miss Jane Pitman", and many more. For any further information, please contact Tracy Duncan, Chairperson of the Black Cultural Week Committee, or Rose Fung-Cap, Yvonne Powell, Shelly Dunson, & Selena Marable, the Coordinators of Black United and Concerned Students.

by Tracy Duncan

