

Jan.-Feb. '74

ARTIST NOTE:

The spirit is one's roots which holds him or her strongly to someone or something.

As long as these roots are strong that person  
will survive no matter what. Thank you.

SABIAN



**"SHARING"**

YORK COLLEGE LIBRARY MAY 8 - 1975

**SPIRIT**

**MAGAZINE**

**VOL. 1, # 2**

**YORK COLLEGE**

## To Our Readers:

by Editor Brian Land

At 4 pm December 6 the York College Association held its initial meeting of the semester. The Association, in case you haven't heard, is the group that decides how student activities fees are spent in the school. Then editor-in-chief Don Johnson presented the formal Spirit Magazine proposal for this school year. The Radio Club, Pandora's Box and the Student Government were among the many other groups crowded onto the agenda.

But first, I wish to provide a little background for those of you who have seen our flyers and wonder exactly what has been going on. Our magazine received \$1000 under the name of Black Journal last year but failed to produce a single issue. Under the Association by-laws, this money reverted back into student activities funds. Since that time, Spirit Magazine has been labelled a "special interest publication" which "should be produced on school facilities." The school facilities, we found out, was the Gestetner machine, which was purchased over the summer. As a result, our budget was reduced to \$72 for "operational expenses" like mailing costs and office supplies. When Spirit Magazine first inquired about this change, we were told that the Gestetner would produce a perfectly acceptable product. It could handle not only ourselves but Etz-Chaim and El Casique besides all the student clubs.

It sounded too good to be true and it was. After some rather unfortunate experiences (discovering that the Gestetner machine was operated by a novice who couldn't get it to function properly; it wouldn't print on both sides of the paper and the sheets looked terrible anyway), Spirit Magazine was forced to use the university printing service. Because there were complaints that Spirit Magazine had received favoritism (?!), received favoritism (?!), our press run was limited to a mere 500 copies. We had expected at least 1000.

Well, our 500 leaflets disappeared so quickly that Don was forced to use a XEROXED copy when we went to meet the Association. One interesting point was brought out at that first meeting. The Student Government's request was for more paper. Is this the kind of planning that goes on at York College, we have wondered collectively.

I suppose that everyone read Hilary Kalman's story (Pandora's Box December 14) telling how much the Association had a lot on its mind, many proposals awaiting its approval, and didn't act on many of them. That's where Spirit fits in, of course, as we were put off until a second meeting on December 11. We were thus given a second opportunity to present our case before the body. Our argument stressed the Gestetner machine folly: Harriet Vines told us about their "growing pains". Her point is well-taken, and preferably with a grain of salt. Apparently, at least one member of the Association agrees that their policy has done more harm than

good. He disclosed this to us just before the recess.

It has become obvious to us that the problem goes beyond just getting our fair share of the pie. Students have very little input into these Association meetings. They are hardly publicized and little or no reason is ever given for favorable or unfavorable decisions. Spirit Magazine is the only "special interest group publication" on the agenda waging a campaign of support throughout the school. We would like to acknowledge the nearly 500 students who signed our petition and the SEEK Department for giving us a hand, and faculty members Milton R. Lane of the Afro-American Studies Department and Dr. Hilda O. Fortune for writing letters of solidarity.

The Association, which contains student, administration and faculty representation, has set up a system that pits students against one another in competition for the same rotten deal. We find students who will work against each other's aims if they feel that someone may come out ahead. Why not come out openly at the Association meetings and voice your opinions? All three "special interest groups publications" should be on the agenda with their own budget requests.

Spirit was tabled a second time at the Dec. 11 meeting - this says something about the decision-making process in York College. However, truth is on its way in the form of a major policy revision that is expected to come from a Jan. 21 session. Students should get involved and find out exactly what clubs and publications must go through around this school in order to be funded. Don't say we didn't warn you if Spirit Magazine becomes a ghost.

## NEWS FROM THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

A program in Afro-American studies leading to a bachelor's degree was established Tuesday, November 27th, 1973 by the Board of Higher Education at York College, City University of New York's four-year campus in Jamaica, Queens. The Board also approved a two-year campus in child care at CUNY's Kingsborough Community College in Manhattan Beach, Brooklyn.

The program in Afro-American studies will give students an understanding of Black history and culture. It will link the African scene to the Black experience in the Caribbean, South America and North America. Students will be advised to take courses in related disciplines, such as sociology, economics or anthropology, in order to prepare for jobs in those fields.

**NAP**  
**Teddy DuBose**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING,  
& URBAN AFFAIRS:  
"INTERN, RESEARCH, AND FELLOWS PROGRAM  
1973-74"

by Leonard Casso - Community Professional Program

In recent years there has been an even harsher demand for local government to alleviate the problems of the urban poor. And, though it is not possible for government to guarantee the stability, politics just won't allow it, the cry has been for more and more efforts by local government to deal with the social, economic, racial, and psychological pressures brought on by . . . racism and unscrupulous politicians.

During the last year, the State Charter Revision Commission held numerous public hearing throughout the five boroughs. As expected, New York City's citizenry was almost universally dissatisfied with the quality and consistency of services delivered by the Department of Sanitation and the Department of Highways, and numerous other municipal agencies. Communities were also dissatisfied with the scope of community involvement in areas of community planning and development.

**The South Jamaica Neighborhood Action Program, known as NAP,** is designed to be a liason between the residents of Community Planning District 12 and the numerous agencies which provide municipal services. At NAP, complaints can be aimed at the officials who are directly responsible for the services. After a reasonable period of time, the condition is reviewed to see if the responsible agency remedied the situation. If there is no positive response by the agency, pressure can be applied to gain compliance, via the Mayor's Office and other elected officials.

The program is designed to allow the community a greater SHARE in the implementation processes of capital investments, and the overall area of neighborhood improvement.

NAP is a resource for the community. Its activities are not restricted to complaint handling, but also include information and referral services. Through various committees, the community SHARES in the responsibility of reviewing and

advising on all programs and budgeting policies. NAP has resources to help interested people form their own community organizations. There is also an effort underway to bring together established groups who have common interests (i.e., Youth Federation).

Make the South Jamaica Neighborhood Action Program the first place you go for help with municipal problems.

Telephone Number . . . . . 739-2600  
Address . . . . . 162-04 South Road, Jamaica, N.Y.  
Mon. thru Fri. . . . . 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Mr. Carl L. Turnquest . . . . . Area Director  
Ms. Karen P. Bracy . . . . . Deputy Director

The Intern, Research, and Fellows Program provides opportunities for participation by a broad range of persons. College students, both graduate and undergraduate as well as persons possessing substantive expertise are all provided an opportunity to take part in the activities of a Senate office.

Internships are primarily for college students. Interns perform various office duties. These duties include: letter writing, casework, filing, press work, typing etcetera. In addition to being exposed to the broad range of office activities, they may concentrate their efforts within on particular issue area. Interns usually perform their activities on a full time basis.

Applications are now being taken for the fall, winter, spring, and summer terms of the 1973-1974 school term. Financial support cannot be provided to most participants in the above programs. They usually receive assistance from their universities, foundations and most participants provide at least part of their own support. Anyone interested?? If so please contact:

Senator William Brock  
254 Old Senate Building (Office)  
Washington, D.C. 20510

or call:  
(202) 225-3344 Ask for the office of  
the research director: Mr. Harrison Fox PhD.

**GOSPEL CHORUS**

Congratulations are in order. On November 27th, 1973, over in the Humanities Building, the celebrities of the day were the York College Gospel Choir. These young, spirited voices, under the direction of Mr. Samuel Dixon, performed with dignity. The audience became deeply involved as the choir members encouraged them to participate.

The dynamic voice of guest singer, Reverend Charles Banks, dazzled his listeners with a blaze of down-home lyrics and soulful music. The choir is planning another recital in the Spring and it is recommended that you make every effort to attend. You won't be sorry you did attend.

Yvonne B. Browne