

Fayetteville State University

presents

The Media Shaping the Image of a People

A Black History Month Kick-Off Celebration

featuring

Mr. Bill Overton

Guest Speaker

and honoring

Mr. Sam Dove

Dr. Stanley W. Johnson

Mr. Bill Jordan

Tuesday, February 4, 2003

2:00 p.m.

Seabrook Auditorium

Fayetteville, North Carolina

The Media Shaping the Image of a People
Celebrating Black History Month at Fayetteville State University
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Program

Dr. John I. Brooks III - Presiding

Welcome		Dr. John I. Brooks III
Pledge to the Flag		Audience
Star Spangled Banner	Francis Scott Key	Mr. Jamaal S. Dunham
Statement of the Occasion		Ms. Sheryl E. Woods Vice-President, History Club
“I Hear a Voice a’Praying”	Houston Bright	FSU Concert Choir Dr. Marvin V. Curtis Conductor
Introduction of the Speaker		Dr. Stanley W. Johnson
Guest Speaker		Mr. Bill Overton Author, <i>The Media Shaping the Image of a People</i>
“Ride the Chariot”	William Henry Smith	FSU Concert Choir Soloist – Ms. Chantal Tyson
Recognition of “Unsung Heroes”		Miss FSU - Yvonne Richmond; Mr. FSU – Rufus Johnson
Presentation of Awards		Dr. Booker T. Anthony Associate Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Closing Remarks		Dr. John I. Brooks III
“Lift Every Voice and Sing”	James Weldon Johnson /J. Rosamund Johnson Arr. Roland Carter	FSU Concert Choir

The audience is invited to a reception in the lobby of the Helen T. Chick Building immediately following the program.

Guest Speaker
Mr. Bill Overton

A middle class African-American from Boston, Overton was the only black student on an all white campus in Nebraska, studying both there and later at Wake Forest University on football scholarships. He briefly joined the NFL but was quickly discovered by Madison Avenue. After signing with the FORD modeling agency, Overton soon graced the pages of *GQ*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Playboy*, and *Ebony*, posing with the likes of Lauren Hutton, Maud Adams and Renee Russo. Modeling led to acting. Overton ultimately played the Sidney Poitier role in the TV version of "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner", directed by Stanley Kramer. He co-starred as Will Smith's potential step-father in "The Fresh Prince of Bel Air", with many other starring and co-starring roles in TV, film and on stage in between. Today, he and his wife, the former CBS sportscaster, talk show host and actress, Jayne Kennedy, run an entertainment production company in Los Angeles.

THE MEDIA SHAPING THE IMAGE OF A PEOPLE

Drawn to *Harpers' Weekly* images over the course of his life, Bill Overton's fascination with them went deeper than mere curiosity. He became intrigued by their power to both inform and enrage. The images reached inside and connected with him. After collecting these images for many years, he decided to share them with others by putting them in a book. *The Media Shaping the Image of a People* examines the ways in which *Harper's Weekly* and other popular newsmagazines portrayed minorities during the nineteenth century. It also includes more recent images as well as thought-provoking texts from important image-makers. Overton's work challenges readers to reflect upon the complex interaction between images, ideals, and stereotypes.

Sam Dove

Sam Dove grew to maturity in Kinston, N.C., where he attended Adkin High School from which he was graduated in 1960. Later that same year he matriculated at Fayetteville State University, where he studied political science and sociology. Mr. Dove was active in extra-curricular affairs but he also showed a serious bent for social matters. During this period a national Civil Rights Movement was gaining momentum. In 1960 students at Fayetteville State participated in civil rights activity; however, their efforts were short-lived as their actions were curtailed until 1963. At that point eight students, including Sam Dove, resumed the protest with the resolve to continue until change was accomplished. Mr. Dove played a vital role in this campaign to end discriminatory practices in Fayetteville. He served as line coordinator with the responsibility of keeping the marching groups moving in an orderly and well-spaced manner. His responsibility also included redirecting students who might be overwrought as a result of abuse and stress. Under Mr. Dove's direction the marching groups continued to be orderly and well organized, even during times of provocation.

His contributions were not confined to the direct action stage of protest. He participated in the planning efforts of "Committee of Eight" and offered meaningful suggestions for making the protest more effective. As community supporters became divided over their roles in the campaign, Sam Dove made convincing comments, which, along with the "Herring Plan", had a settling effect. Throughout the period of protest Sam Dove remained a model of calm deliberation and action. His superb self-discipline was a major reason for the success of the campaign.

After his departure from Fayetteville State Sam continued to wage a struggle for social betterment. He served as an organizer for the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) and the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). Sam also established a Black Media Workshop in 1965 that enabled Blacks to gain positions in media outlets. He participated in developing independent schools in Brooklyn, N.Y, and a Pan African Skills Project, which provided teachers for Tanzania and Zambia. He also served as a consultant to the United Republic of Tanzania for the Sixth Pan African Congress. Sam still found time to serve on the Howard County (Md.) Board of Education's Curriculum Review Committee as well as on other boards and committees. But he also continued to develop himself.

Sam went on to complete the Bachelor of Science degree at Fordham University and the Master of Library Science Degree at Pratt Institute in New York. He pursued further study at Rutgers University. Professionally, Sam was reference bibliographer at Ramapo College in New Jersey. He later headed a processing unit at the National Library of Medicine, and still later he worked as head of the circulation section with the Library of Congress. He has been a consultant with the University of Maryland- Baltimore County and he has served with other institutions.

The statements covered here are by no means the extent of the significant things that Sam Dove has done here and elsewhere. His efforts to bring change and improvement are part of a way of life, which, no doubt began at Fayetteville State and has been conducted in other parts of the nation and abroad. His deeds exemplify a social conscience most worthy of recognition. He was a leading soldier in the army that fought for civil rights.

Stanley W. Johnson

Dr. Stanley Webster Johnson was born in Rocky Mount, N.C. Shortly after his birth, his parents, Edward and Valaska Johnson, moved their family to Washington, D.C. After graduating from Eastern High School, Dr. Johnson enrolled at Fayetteville State Teachers College in the fall of 1959.

As a college student, Dr. Johnson played a critical role in forming what was later to be known as the "Demonstration Committee." The activities of this group of students included the organization of non-violent marches in downtown Fayetteville to protest discriminatory practices by area merchants. Their actions encouraged Fayetteville Mayor Wilbur J. Clark to appoint a bi-racial committee that facilitated the end of these practices. Dr. Johnson's role in organizing the marches and assigning groups of protestors to particular stores made a vital contribution to the success of the group. Dr. Johnson also played a role in Attorney Sylvia X. Allen's city council campaign.

Dr. Johnson graduated from Fayetteville State in 1963. Since then, he has earned a master's from Indiana University and a Ph.D. from the University of North Texas. His professional career has included teaching in private and public schools in California and Maryland and positions at Grambling University and Los Angeles South West College.

Currently Dr. Johnson is an assistant professor of history at Fayetteville State University. While he has only served there since 1998, his peers have already recognized his leadership abilities. He has served in a number of important positions including the Chair of the Faculty Senate, Co-Chair of both the University's Black History Month Kick-off and the College of Arts and Science's Black History Month committees, and as one of the faculty representatives on the search committee for a new chancellor. Dr. Johnson has further enriched the community by his contributions as the coordinator of Fayetteville State University's Social Studies Education program and his work as a member of the Averasboro Battlefield Commission.

William “Bill” Jordan

Mr. Bill Jordan became active in the Fayetteville community long before he graduated in 1973 from Fayetteville State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology. While an undergraduate, he was actively involved in the Poor People’s Medical Clinic in 1971. He volunteered at least three nights a week, along with other professionals to offer free health care in Fayetteville, NC. Before starting college education he entered the US Air Force and was honorably discharged in 1970 after a tour in Vietnam.

Once back in North Carolina and completing his undergraduate degree, he immediately continued his education by attaining a Masters of Education from North Carolina State University in 1974. He further studied at NCSU in the summers of 1977 and 1978. As a volunteer at the Sampson County Prison Unit, 1976-1980, he served as the chairman of the local advisory committee for prisoner concerns.

In 1974, he joined the staff at Sampson Community College, Clinton, North Carolina. Bill Jordan has been untiring in his devotion to students. Traveling each day from Fayetteville, he has been the Director of Tutorial, a federal program for students who lacked basic skills, and in 1976 he became the Director of Admissions and Testing at Sampson Community College.

As a volunteer with the Fayetteville Minority Health Professionals and the Old North State Medical Society, he has been a visionary for improving the status of health in North Carolina. He was instrumental in bringing together health care professionals to address key health issues through the program he developed: The Status of Black Health Care in North Carolina. As the panel traveled throughout the state, it focused on preventable disease. He also coordinated some of the largest health fairs in Fayetteville and in the state.

While his daughter attended St. Ann School, Fayetteville, he completed a term as Chairman, Board of Education. During his tenure he led the way to increasing enrollment, instituting before and after school care, as well as grounds improvement. He was also active for several years with Fayetteville Urban Ministry. In 1990, he started the first statewide leadership program for minority students in the North Carolina Community College System. The leadership program is in its thirteenth year. His dedication to the community college student has led to an increase in both supportive programs and scholarships.

His professional organization memberships include Phi Beta Lambda, Lifetime Member of the National Disabled Veteran’s Association, Carolinas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, and North Carolina State Chapter on Black American Affairs.

In 1989, he became a founding member of North Carolina State Chapter on Black American Affairs, which is an affiliated council of the National Council on Black American Affairs. He has been the driving force in the organization and presentation of the Southern Regional Conferences for many years. He has excelled in every way to present a prestigious event annually.

Bill Jordan comes from a long line of outstanding citizens, but he does not stand in their shadows, he is a vanguard of care and action. Whether leading an organization or working with individuals, Mr. Bill Jordan has been instrumental in improving health care and education for us all.

Local Heroes of the Civil Rights Era
Past Honorees

1997

Sylvia X. Allen, Esq.
Dr. C.R. Edwards
Mrs. Sadie Burton
William "Bill" Bowser
Rev. C.T. Williams
The Honorable Arthur Lane
Mr. Elmer Floyd
Mr. Joseph Wilson
Dr. G. Wesley Allen

Dr. Aaron J. Johnson
Mr. Sippio Burton
Mr. Arthur "Monk" Smith
Mr. J. A. McNeill
Mr. Marion "Rex" Harris
Mrs. Inez F. Hasley
Mrs. Mable Smith
Dr. Herbert W. Vick
Mr. Leonard R. Sanders

1998

Mr. Ike Walker
Mr. C. Reid Ross

Mr. Malachi Sharpe

Mrs. Catherine D. McNeill
Mrs. Elizabeth Henderson

1999

Dr. William T. Brown
Dr. Jeanette Council

The Honorable Wilber A. Clark

Dr. C. Mason Quick
Mr. James Florence

2000

Chancellor Willis B. McLeod
Mr. Oscar Jones

The Honorable Thomas B. Bacote

Mr. Fred Farmer, Jr.
Ms. Christina S. Smith

2001

Mrs. Katie Clark Forshee
Mr. Monroe Evans

Mr. James E. Herring
Mr. Pat Reese

2002

Dr. Marion C. George
Ms. Ida Ross

Mrs. Dorothy Melvin

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Words by James Weldon Johnson

Music by J. Rosamund Johnson

First sung on February 12, 1900

1

Lift Every Voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun
Let us march on till victory is won

2

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chast'ning rod
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out of the gloomy past, till now we stand at last,
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

3

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way:
Thou who has by Thy might, led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.

Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee:
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.

Black History Month Committee

Dr. John Brooks – Co-Chairperson

Dr. Stanley Johnson – Co-Chairperson

Dr. Bertha H. Miller – Ex-Officio

Dr. Samuel Adu-Mireku

Ms. Frances Allsbrook

Mr. Keith Coleman

Dr. Blanche Radford Curry

Ms. Mary Dickey

Dr. Andrew J. Dowdle

Dr. Claude Hargrove

Dr. Samuel Henderson

Ms. Socorro Hernandez-Hinek

Dr. Jarvis E. Hudson

Dr. Harvey C. Jenkins

Ms. Marsha Lashley

Dr. Ji Young Kim

Ms. Sondra E. Martin

Dr. Gary McConnell

Dr. Jonas E. Okeagu

Dr. Dianne W. Oyler

Dr. Sonia Rhodie

Mr. Michael Rich

Mr. Joseph Ross

Dr. Guanghua Zhao

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