

THE ORATOR

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT NEWSPAPER

Empowering the voice of the urban student.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Pg. 2 • From the Newsroom
- Pg. 3 • Student Voices
- Pg. 4 • Campus Notes
- Pg. 5 • All Around HCCC
- Pg. 6 • Campus Notes (Cont.)
- Pg. 7 • Special Interest
- Pg. 8 • Sports

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FREE

Bernie Sanders Must Continue Connecting with Young African American Voters

CHRISTOPHER G. RODGERS
STAFF WRITER

If Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders expects to win the Democratic nomination in 2016, he will need to secure the millennial African-American vote. This is the demographic that came out to vote in record numbers in 2012 and the demographic that helped Barack Obama become the first African-American President this country has ever seen. This same demographic has no guarantee of a repeat performance at the ballot box with absence of an African-American candidate on the ticket. Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, just like she did in 2012 versus Obama, has a strong hold on the elderly African-American vote. These are the people who supported her husband Bill Clinton when he was Commander-in-Chief in the 90s. Conversely, she does not have a strong showing among young African-American voters. This leaves a large number of undecided voters, who showed up for the first time in 2012, without a candidate to back. Enter Bernie Sanders. According to a recent Reuters poll, African-Americans support Hillary Clinton by more



Senator Bernie Sanders pictured here with Rapper Killer Mike from "Run The Jewels" is tapping into the Hip Hop Community to help gain the millennial African American vote. (photo courtesy of Huffington Post)

than a 3-1 margin nationwide, but among young African-American voters 18 to 29 years old, that margin shrinks to 46 percent for Clinton versus 33 percent for Sanders.

Sanders seems to realize how important it is to make this valuable demographic "Feel the Bern." Hip-hop music is more popular than ever all around the world amongst all walks of life and is also more

SEE SANDERS ||CONTINUED ON PG. 3

Hudson County Community College Student Leaders Volunteer at Food Bank



BY CHRISTOPHER GUILLEN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The executive board and fellow members of the National Society of Leadership and Success HCCC chapter lent a helping hand to the Community Foodbank of New Jersey in Hillside, a township in Union County, on March 12, 2016. Back in November of 2015, several society members, such as myself and board members, were introduced to this welcoming and generous organization in which we assorted canned goods, pastries, and other foods to accommodate and fit the needs for those with limited resources. All of the staff were so friendly and helpful. It was not hard to believe such a notable organization the food bank has become. However, during this semester's visit to the food bank, we gathered more society and executive board members.

It was a pleasant environment with a great deal of unity among the leaders of the society, as well as the staff. I interviewed three students who never visited or volunteered at the food bank to share their experience. Among the three was Jereison Binoya, a business major at HCCC. According to Jereison, "the experience was fulfilling because back in the Philippines, I was already serving through talks, but I have never actually done anything physically, like community service so it was a change of pace to work with my peers. I would definitely recommend it to everyone." The food bank is a great way to get in touch with your leadership abilities and actually change one

person's life by just committing three hours out of your day to help those less -fortunate.

Another student majoring in business, Sophietou Ndiaye, had a few things to say about her experience. According to Ndiaye, "I would recommend everyone to do it. The staff was very accommodating and funny, and all of the volunteers helped each other out. There was never anybody doing anything by themselves." These activities really put the leadership perspective into action. Leaders become leaders because of their empowerment, not orders. And finally, I interviewed Lato-niguelo Sagnon, a student majoring in computer science. According to Sagnon, "It was a great experience for me because I was with my NSLS team, and this was my first time doing this kind of service, so they made it enjoyable. I would definitely recommend it." Overall, visiting the Community FoodBank of NJ is always a joy. It really humbles a person and makes us feel fortunate and grateful for the things we have everyday.



Images courtesy Christopher Guillen

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CORRECTIONS:

Notice an error? Please submit all corrections to The Orator Editors at orator@live.hccc.edu



Meet The Orator 2016

Staff

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



Hi, my name is Clara Orozco, I'm a Graphic Arts major here at HCCC. I am a writer, artist, and musician. I love being a part of The Orator because I want to spread awareness of the issues pertinent to students. Feel free to follow me to read

more of my writing @NomadInJC

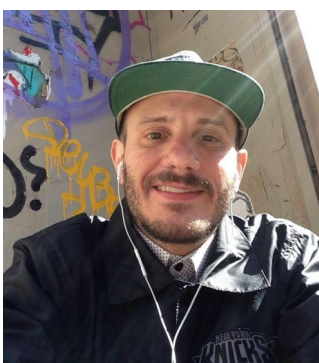
PRODUCTION EDITOR



Greetings! My name is Jonnathan Riera. I am a Computer Science major. I enjoy learning about business and technology. My goal is to one day become a successful investor, entrepreneur, author, and motivational speaker. Follow me for some motivational tweets,

@Riera_Jonnathan

STAFF WRITER



Hello, my name is Christopher G. Rodgers and I am a first year student at HCCC. I've always had a passion for sports and recently decided to pursue a career in sports journalism. I hope to help bring more sports stories to the readers of The Orator. I also enjoy writing about Politics, Music, and Film. Follow me on Twitter @CGRsports

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

CHRISTOPHER GULLEN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

RENE HEWITT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

NATALIE FLIX
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Correction:

In our Spring 2016 edition, we neglected to mention that Betsy Apena, Natalie Blanco, Arrian El Hassan, Jorge Sargenton, and Christopher Canela also attended the 29th Annual Conference of the HACU (Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities) in Miami, FL along with Mary Mercado.



HACU 29th Annual Conference

Championing Hispanic Higher Education Success: Empowering Students, Enhancing Collaboration



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SANDERS || Cont. from Pg. 1

popular than ever in the young African-American community. This community is where the art form was originally created. The Sanders campaign is tapping popular hip-hop artists on the shoulder to join their jamboree. Rapper T.I. is a recent addition to the growing list of endorsers. “Killer Mike” AKA Michael Render of Hip-Hop group “Run The Jewels,” who is well known for being politically active, has been heavily involved with the Sanders Movement for quite some time now. He has even joined Bernie on the campaign trail. He has appeared and spoken at many of Sanders’ rallies. Render told *TheDailyBeast.com* in February, “I think more rappers need to endorse Bernie Sanders.”

One Emcee that Bernie’s Campaign should be tweeting about is Compton-born Kendrick Lamar. Kendrick is widely considered to be hip-hop’s most current and greatest rapper. He actually shouts out Killer Mike on the track “Hood Politics” from his critically acclaimed Grammy award-winning album “To Pimp a Butterfly.” With his monumental live performance at the Grammy Awards highlighting the “Black Lives Matter” movement, Kendrick Lamar should be a prime candidate for the Bernie Sanders campaign to focus on next. An endorsement from King Kendrick himself could be a game changer in the fight for the millennial African-American vote.



From left to right: Killer Mike, Bernie Sanders, and Rep. La Shawn K. Ford (D). Image courtesy InTheseTimes.com

Vaginas Need Love Too: HCCC and Saint Peter’s University Partner to Put on Performance of *The Vagina Monologues*

NATALIE FELIX
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Students from Hudson County Community College and Saint Peter’s University remembered February as the month of love, but more so, for the love of vaginas.

In celebration of “V-Day,” the institutions collaborated with Speranza Theatre Company, a women’s theatre company in Jersey City, N.J., to stage production of Eve Ensler’s *The Vagina Monologues*.

“V-Day” is not only a day of romance but a day dedicated to the goal of bringing awareness to and eventually stopping violence towards women and girls.

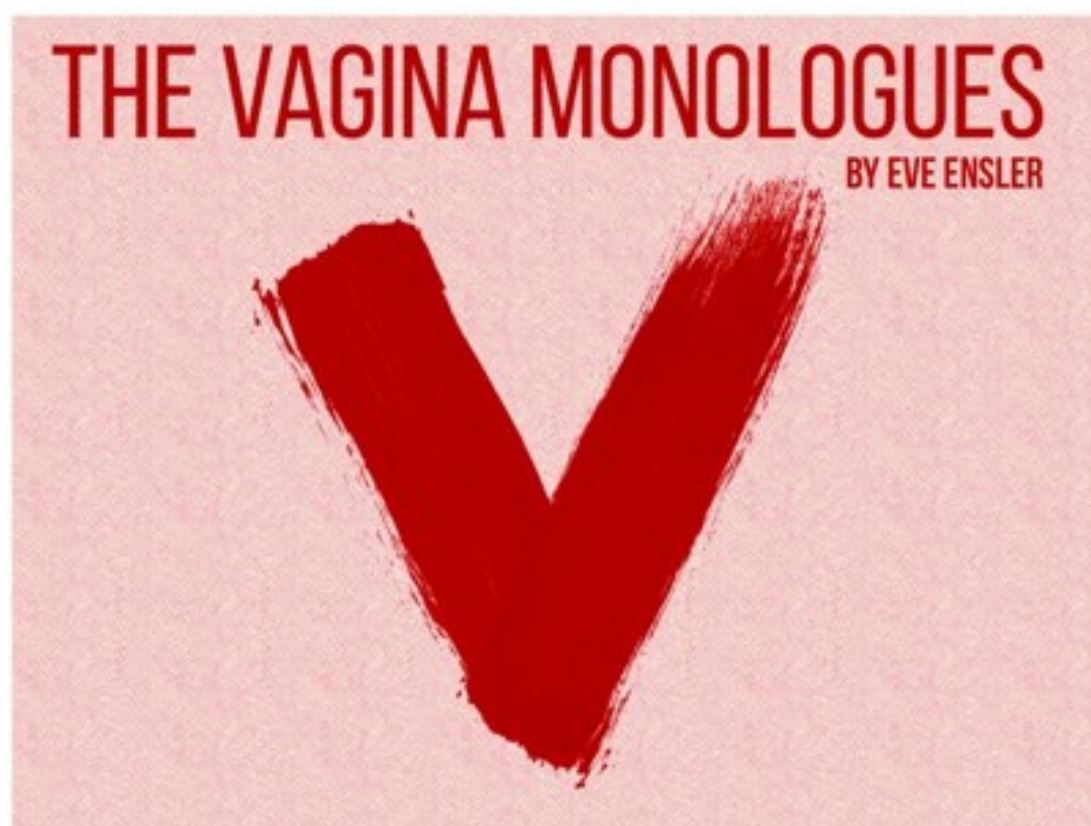
The Monologues, initially published in 1998, are the personal stories of a diverse group of women and their vaginas.

“We’ve come a long way to gain the power that we need to try to be equals with men and I think one of the big things is power of the body.”

“We always look at the penis as the power,” said Sally Deering, a Liberal Arts major at HCCC and one of the student performers. She continued, “We’ve come a long way to gain the power that we need to try to be equals with men and I think one of the big things is power of the body.”

The readings covered a range of topics from the list of nicknames for vagina and the controversial conversation of pubic hair to the repressed horrors of rape and female genital mutilation.

Altogether the five women of HCCC and lone representative of SPU performed 18 pieces about what may be a notorious word but is otherwise most natural part of a woman’s body.



The Vagina Monologues performance at Hudson County Community College, featured Jessica Garcia in foreground.

Both images courtesy of speranzatheatrecompany.com

Celebrating Our Students: 2016 Student Achievement & Excellence Awards



Assistant Director of Student Activities Angela Tuzzo poses with Candice Fernandez, Student of the Year. Image courtesy HCCC Communications



Some of HCCC's award-winning students. Image courtesy HCCC Communications



Jazmin Vergara '16, Interim Director of Student Activities Dr. David Clark, and Cindy Ruberto. Image courtesy HCCC Communications.



From left to right: Anthony Choo-Yick, Head Tutor for English and Humanities, Excellence Award-winner Alyssa Smith, and Dr. Pamela Bandyopadhyay, Assoc. Dean, Division of Academic Development and Support Services. Image courtesy HCCC Communications.



The Orator's own Clara Reyes-Orozco, Editor-in-Chief accepts the third place award for layout and design from the New Jersey Press Foundation's 2016 College Newspaper Contest. Also pictured are Heather DeVries and Joseph Pascale. Image courtesy HCCC Communications.



Christopher Canela '16 wins a Peer Leader Award. Also pictured; Sabrina Magliulo, Director of Advisement and Counseling. Image courtesy HCCC Communications.



Professor Lloyd Khan is awarded for 10 years of service to HCCC's Phi Theta Kappa chapter. Also pictured: Aaron Kates '16 and Dean Michael Reimer. Image courtesy HCCC Communications.



The Excellence and Achievement Award-winning students pose with Dr. John Marlin, Dean of Instruction/Science. Image courtesy HCCC Communications.

Race Against Racism: Junius Williams Visits HCCC to Discuss Racism Past to Present

BY CLARA OROZCO
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Hudson County Community College students had the amazing opportunity to experience history as Junius Williams spoke about his past and present while presenting his book *Unfinished Agenda: Urban Politics in the Era of Black Power*. The talk was hosted by the The Benjamin J. Dineen, III and Dennis C. Hull Gallery's opening of our November exhibition "Changing America: The Emancipation Proclamation, 1863 and the March on Washington, 1963," which was created in conjunction with Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture.

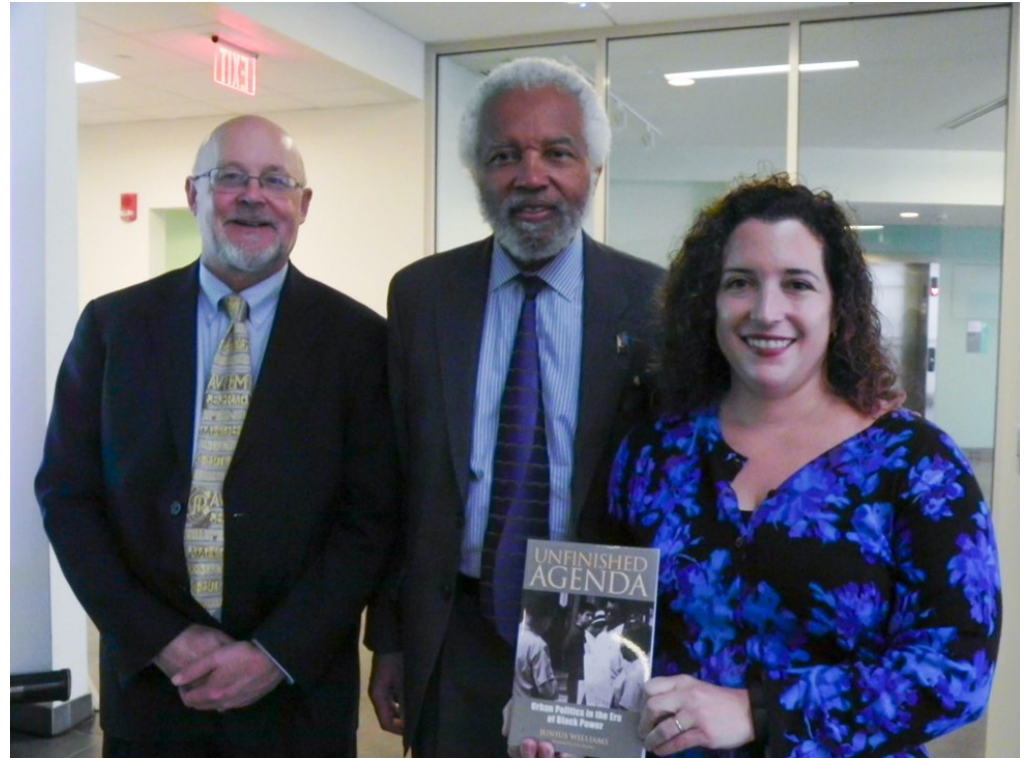
Williams' storytelling was enlightening. He spoke of his experiences at his high school alma mater, Armstrong High School in Richmond, VA, which was segregated and heavily influenced by the politics of the Civil Rights Movement. He also discussed how his path as a civil rights activist and lawyer formed after seeing the reality African Americans faced then and now. Wil-

iams spoke about the dynamics of power and how they interpolate with the struggle to overcome racism. After the talk, Williams had time to speak with this reporter about multiple topics ranging from the March on Washington and the right to affordable college to Black Lives Matter and why the movement towards racial equality is not over, just evolving.

Clara Orozco: Your children have attended college. One was at NYU and the other is at Harvard, and you were speaking about how they're going to leave college with a mortgage in their hands. How does that make you feel?

Junius Williams: I think they're gonna have considerable amounts of debt. I truly wish that wasn't the case.

CO: Now that college is accessible because we can freely enroll, students can pick any college they want. Do you think that we have a financial glass ceiling between affording



From left to right: Dr. John Marlin, Junius Williams, and Professor Laurie Riccadonna

an education and actually being able to get an education?

JW: I can see there's two trains of thought going on--ask them both.

CO: Do you think the fact that college costs do not keep up with inflation and the standard of living is a method to keep youth enslaved because they cannot access an education without signing them-

selves into debt?

JW: I would not use the word *enslavement*. What I will say is that college is a necessity to reach the other side, which is financial security. There are people who are interested in seeing that happen. However, there are sufficient people who will not allow the government to be used as a last resort for people who cannot afford college.

SEE WILLIAMS ||CONTINUED ON PG. 7

GMO vs. Organic Food: What is the Difference?

BY RENE HEWITT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In the 21st century, people are apprehensive about purchasing organic foods. One reason is because they have been told the food is better for them. Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) are when a plant or animal has been genetically engineered with DNA from bacteria, viruses, or other plants and animals. Do you really know if you are eating GMO food and can you do anything about it?

According to Foodbabe.com, there are significant differences between organic and non-GMO foods. Both organic and non-GMO foods do not use GMOs, but the similarities end there. While organic foods do not include synthetic pesticides, Roundup herbicides, hexane, sewage sludge, growth-promoting antibiotics, or ractopamine, the same is not true for non-GMO foods. According to: Hudson B. Kingston, "Since the commercialization of the first genetically engineered (GE) crops in the 1990s, countries have been trying to create policies that sufficiently regulate and oversee these new technologies."

Why the concern now?

At the turn of the century, the Center for Food Safety and the International Forum on Globalization created a genetically engineered food policy map to

show "the patchwork of import bans, planting bans, international treaty ratifications, controlled releases, and mandatory labeling laws pertaining to GE foods" (gmoinside.org).

In the beginning of 2013, India adopted a binding labeling law. With this said, a lot of countries cannot find any need to label foods. Countries like Zambia, Benin and Serbia all have total bans on genetically engineered imports. However, Turkey is the first country to label genetically engineered animal products such as meats, milk, eggs, cheese, and other products from any animal raised on genetically engineered feed.

Sixty-four countries around the world label genetically engineered food. Where does all of this leave us when it comes to what we eat? Do we have any say about it, and do they care? We have no say about the products, because the larger manufacturers have control over what we eat. If each and every manufacturer of food labeled our intake and we were educated about its contents, some of them might go out of business.



Image courtesy AppforHealth.com

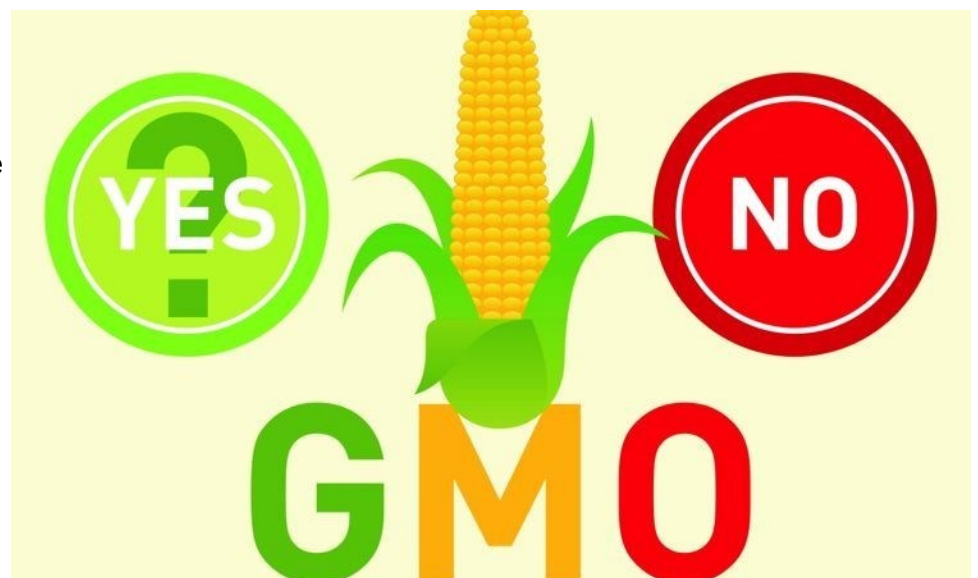
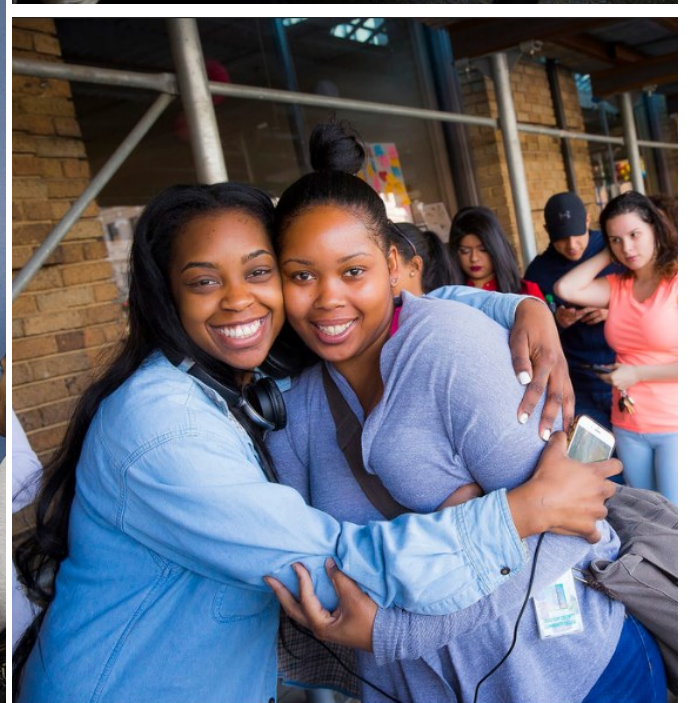
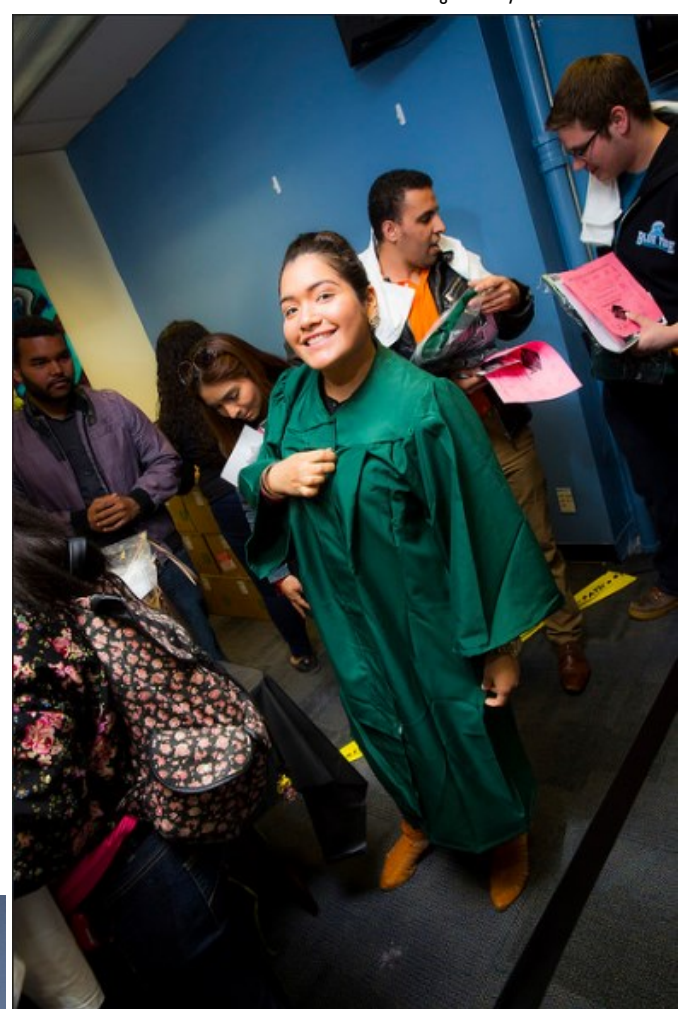


Image courtesy of the Huffington Post

Congratulations Class of 2016: Snapshots from the Graduate Salute



Images Courtesy of HCCC Communications



WILLIAMS || Cont. from Pg. 5 not.

We have student loans, but they cannot cover the cost of college.

CO: Also banks that lend to students get lower rates on the same loans they give students. Banks got bailed out, but students can't default.

JW: That's right. There are financial institutions in the United States that profit from student indebtedness. That is not fair.

CO: Do you think there's a level of social apathy not only towards student debt and rising tuition, but also in the direction in which society is moving? For example, people claim that we have surpassed racism when we evidently have

JW: Yes there is apathy. I think that the communication institutions bear the responsibility for not making political issues clear. They are not providing the background information so that people can understand that they have to become more active if a true democracy is to prevail.

CO: What is one way that those who are in a position to highlight these issues could motivate people to listen?

JW: Part of being in an organization is education. That's what helped me along. I was able to learn not from books but from people who I listened to. I was able to learn from situations for



Junius Williams speaks about racial injustice, Both Junius Williams photos by Clara Orozco

which I had to prepare myself-- critical thinking: the process of which is the process of learning-- learning during a critical struggle.

Graduating Students: Tell Us Your Story!



Hudson County Community College's Communications Department needs your help in identifying unique and exceptional graduate student stories to use in publicity for the upcoming Commencement ceremony as well as future marketing materials.

HCCC's Communications Department will be pitching these stories to media during the Commencement season and would be pleased to hear from students willing to be interviewed. Some past noteworthy stories covered by media included students who:

- Were age 50 or older while studying at HCCC
- Had served in the military
- Had relatives on HCCC staff or of HCCC alumni
- Were family members graduating together
- "Beat the odds" (earned a degree despite an adversity, disability, etc.)

In addition, we would be interested in highlighting inaugural classes of HCCC's newest degree program!

For more information please contact the Communication Department at 201.360.4060 or email at Communications@hccc.edu or visit the website at <http://www.hccc.edu/communications/submit-your-story/>



The New York Giants Deliver a Solid 2016 Draft Class



The New York Giants selected Eli Apple from Ohio State University with their first round pick. (photo courtesy of CBS sports)

CHRISTOPHER G. RODGERS
STAFF WRITER

The 2016 NFL draft has concluded and the New York Giants have fared quite well. The G-men had six picks to work with. One in each round except the seventh, a pick in which they traded away last year to Pittsburgh for the rights to Punter Brad Wing. The Giants returned home from Chicago, where the draft took place, with three new additions to the offense and three much-needed players to add to their defense that ranked amongst the league's worst last year.

With the 10th pick of the first round The Giants selected CB Eli Apple from Ohio State University. Some experts say this may have been too early to select Apple. This remains to

be seen because he definitely has a first round skill set. Apple was obviously the best player on The Giants' board or they would not have drafted him. The South Jersey native will get the opportunity to play for his hometown team. With a name like "ELI APPLE" it seems as though he was born to be a New York Giant.

In the second round New York drafted WR Sterling Shepard out of Oklahoma. Shepherd comes with great pedigree after playing all four years at OU, three being a starter. He is a very productive slot receiver and should help to take some pressure off of Odell Beckham Jr. while simultaneously providing some insurance if Victor Cruz is unable to return to his old form.

Rounds three and four brought to New York two very talented defensive players. They are S Darien Thompson from Boise State and LB B.J. Goodson from Clemson. Thompson is known to be a ball hawk and holds the career record of 19 interceptions for the Western Athletic Conference. Goodson led a very good Clemson team in tackles with 108. A team that went to The BCS national championship game and produced five NFL players in this draft alone.

In rounds five and six The Giants focused on improving their offense. New York landed and absolute steal in my opinion with RB Paul Perkins out of UCLA in round 5. He possesses the rare ability to run, catch and block effectively and gives the Giants a runner that can create for himself and make people miss. In round six Big Blue addressed a much needed roster spot, Tight End. They drafted Jerrel Adams from South Carolina with the 184th overall pick. At 6'5" and 247 pounds Adams Gives Eli Manning something he desperately needs, a big athletic target down the middle of the field. A better than average blocker, Adams should be able to stay on the field for any down.

The Giants have also been uncharacteristically very busy this off -season. They signed some very high-profile talented defensive players such as CB Janorice Jenkins and LB Olivier Vernon. When you add the 2016 Draft Class to this mix plus their already potent offense The Giants are suddenly becoming a very interesting team heading into next season.

Seton Hall Claims First Big East Title in 23 Years

CHRISTOPHER G. RODGERS
STAFF WRITER

New York- The sold-out crowd roared with 18.5 seconds left as sophomore phenom Isaiah Whitehead made an incredible layup for the go-ahead score. When the eventual tournament MVP sunk the and-one attempt Madison Square Garden erupted into an absolute frenzy afterwards. March Madness has officially begun. With this stunning upset of Villanova, the country's third best team, Seton Hall, captures its first Big East Conference Championship in 23 years while simultaneously securing its first NCAA tournament appearance since 2006. Whitehead, who's had a stellar sophomore season for The Hall, continues to play at an extremely high level thus far into the postseason. He averaged 23.3 points, 6.3 rebounds and 5.7 assists per game earning the Brooklyn native tournament MVP honors.

Seton hall recorded a solid victory over Creighton, 81-73, in the quarterfinal game of the tournament. This win left the Pirates with the daunting task of facing Xavier in the semi-final round. Xavier came into this game ranked no. 5 in the country and eager for a match-up with defending champs Villanova in the championship game. In

front of another raucous sold-out crowd at MSG, Xavier found out the hard way that Seton Hall means business this March. Seton Hall jumped on them early and relentlessly never gave up. Led by Whitehead, Angel Delgado and Desi Rodriguez, they built and held a comfortable lead deep into the second half. They stopped multiple attempts from Xavier to get back into the game and eventually ended with a hard fought four point win, 87-83.

Coach Kevin Willard took his Seton Hall Pirates into halftime that Championship Saturday night with an 11 point lead. Once again they looked dominant as they had all weekend long. Suddenly, in the second half Villanova's Kris Jenkins was unstoppable. He hit ridiculous shot after even more ridiculous shot from behind the arc. Jenkins almost single-handedly kept The Wildcats in the game. His three-pointer with just 52 seconds left put Villanova ahead for the first time all game 67-64 and almost completely sucked the life out of the mostly Seton Hall pseudo-home crowd at Madison Square Garden. Cue Mr. Whitehead and his late game heroics and the rest is Seton Hall history.

The Pirates are streaking into "The Big Dance" winning 12 of their last 14 games.

They are one of the hottest teams in the country. They will play in Denver, Colorado as a 6 seed in the first round of The NCAA Tournament versus perennial tournament participant Gonzaga who is an 11 seed. This Cinderella story may only be in chapter 1 but it is certainly turning out to be a very exciting read. If Isaiah Whitehead and company can sustain this level of play throughout March then they should be a tough out in The NCAA Tournament.



Image Courtesy of shupirates.com