

# YOU HAVE HEARD ABOUT BLACK HISTORY MONTH... BUT HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW?

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Business Manager

Isn't it ironic that Black History Month has come and gone and has received little recognition and yet we still question the need for a Black History Month? The following excerpt is from an article that the Black Student Union has come across and feels the need to share. Where would America be without us??

There are very few crops that have flourished because the nation was built on a slave-supported system. There are not cities with tall skyscrapers because Alexander Miles, a black man, invented the elevator, and without it one finds great difficulty reaching high floors. There are few if any cars because Richard Spikes, a black man, invented the automatic gear shift, Joseph Gammel, also black, invented the supercharge system for internal combustion engines, and Garret A. Morgan invented the traffic signals.

Furthermore, one could not use the rapid transit system because its precursor was the electric trolley, which was invented by another black man Elbert R. Robinson. Even if there were streets on which cars and a rapid transit system could operate, they were cluttered with paper because an African American, Charles Brooks, invented the street sweeper.

There were few if any newspapers, magazines and books because John Love invented the pencil sharpener, William Purvis invented the fountain pen, Lee Burrige invented the type writing machine and W A. Lovette invented the advanced printing press. They were all black. Even if Americans could write their letters, articles and books, they would not have been transported by mail because William Barry invented the post-marking and canceling machine, William Purvis invented the handstamp, and Philip Downing invented the letter drop.

The lawns were brown and wilted because Joseph Smith invented the lawn sprinkler and John Burr the lawn mower. When they entered their homes, they found them to be poorly ventilated and heated. You see, Frederick Jones invented the air conditioner and Alice Parker the heating furnace.


Their homes were also filthy because Thomas W. Stewart invented the mop and Lloyd P. Ray the dust pan. Their children met them at the door barefooted, shabby, motley and unkempt. But what could one expect, Jan E. Matzlinger invented the shoe lasting machine, Walter Sammons invented the comb, Sarah Boone invented the ironing board George T. Samon invented the clothes dryer.

Finally, they were resigned to at least have dinner amidst all of this turmoil. But here again, the food had spoiled because another black man, John Standard invented the refrigerator. No light to eat their spoiled meal because the filament within the light bulb was invented by a black man.

**WHAT WOULD THIS WORLD BE LIKE WITHOUT US??!!**

To learn more about the contributions of Blacks stop by and visit the Black Student Union which meets Tuesday at 12:30 in the Oliver LaGrone Cultural Arts Center.

Men's and Women's  
Hair Cuts



Nexus  
Products

**Olmsted Plaza Barber Shop**  
Jamesway Plaza No. 10  
944-9364  
Shop Hours

Monday-Thursday	8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Friday	8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday	8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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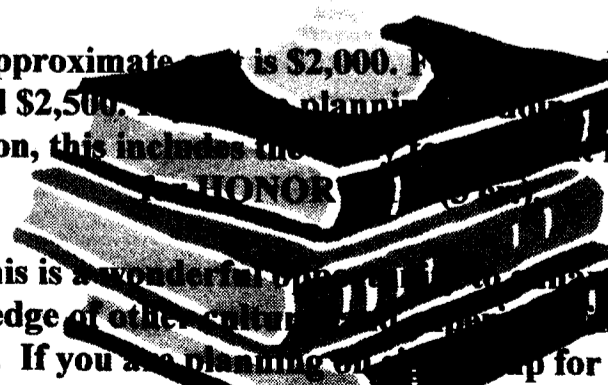

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**HONOR 401H (3 cr.)**

**Honors Seminar: Comparative Justice and Political Systems (Summer 03)**  
Assoc. Professor **Toni DuPont Morales** will be the faculty member for this trip.

**This trip includes a two-week trip to London with four (4) optional days in Paris.**  
Departure Date for London: July 31, 2003  
Departure Date from London to Paris or back to the USA: August 14, 2003  
Return Date to USA from Paris: August 17, 2003

The approximate cost is \$2,000. For the London portion and \$2,500 for the Paris portion, this includes the cost of travel, not tuition.



**HONOR**

This is a wonderful opportunity to enhance your knowledge of other cultures and to experience international travel. If you are planning on applying for this, please stop in Room C216 and see **Vivian Syck**. We would also appreciate you advising us here in the Honors Office (Room C-118).