

The

HARVARD FOUNDATION Newsletter

FALL 1982

VOL. II, NO. 1

SUGAR RAY LEONARD RECEIVES AWARD FROM THE HARVARD FOUNDATION



Sugar Ray Leonard receiving certificate from Dr. Counter, director of the Foundation, which cites notable contributions to sports.



Lane Kiyami Nishikawa (actor/playwright) and Eric Hayashi (director) of LIFE IN THE FAST LANE, featured on Page 6.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Harvard Foundation (an agency established in 1981 by the President and Dean's offices to bring about improved racial harmony within the Harvard community) is off to a great start in this, its second year. During Freshman Week, the Foundation hosted a brunch for all first-year students and their parents. We were happy to see that this affair was attended by students and parents of all backgrounds. The Third World students did a superb job of encouraging most of the minority freshmen and their parents to attend the brunch. It gave upperclass students a chance to meet and advise incoming freshmen on various aspects of Harvard and it enabled students of all backgrounds to experience and discuss the diversity of persons within our community.

Since then we have sponsored a variety of projects which were aimed at enhancing Harvard's appreciation of non-white American cultures and improving cross-cultural interaction. These activities were: 1) House discussions on race relations, 2) meetings with the University Marshall's office about increased minority involvement in Harvard's internal and external activities (minority students will be among those hosting foreign dignitaries and minority alumni will be asked to represent the University at a number of national and international affairs), 3) a media reception for students and staff of the Harvard Independent, WHRB, Crimson, and Gazette, featuring New York Times reporter, Mr. Anthony Lewis, 4) helped support an American Indian event featuring Rigoberta Menchu, Russell Means and John Peters, 5) provided assistance to students writing grant proposals to the Harvard Foundation, 6) reviewed and sponsored several student projects (see Gazette story), 7) held meetings with the director of Athletics, Chairman of the Faculty Committee on Athletics, and the coaches about the perceived racism in the Athletics Department, 8) sponsored an Asian-American cultural event (see "Life in the Fast Lane" stories), 9) sponsored a Radcliffe Asian-American Women's Group film festival, and 10) hosted a campus visit by World Welterweight Boxing Champion Sugar Ray Leonard. (He discussed with athletes and many other students the importance of racial harmony in athletics as well as in other aspects of our lives. His visit was also part of an effort to host prominent Americans of all backgrounds at our various Houses to discuss race relations.) 11) started a newspaper project featuring Harvard minority students in their hometown papers.

New programs planned for the upcoming spring semester include 1) a Malcolm X Film Series and reception, 2) a conference on "Extremist Groups and their Attacks on Minorities in America", 3) a conference on "Race Relations at Harvard: A Review of the Past 12 Years", 4) an international food fest (will feature foods from all of the different cultures at Harvard and will serve as a fundraiser for the Foundation), 5) a Native American Economic Development Conference and 6) will sponsor a variety of Foundation-funded student projects during the second semester.

The Foundation has embarked on a fundraising drive. Fundraising is a very difficult process, particularly when one is trying to raise money for an effort relat-

Continued on next page

RACE RELATIONS FOUNDATION HELPS FUND STUDENT AND GROUP PROJECTS

The Faculty Advisory Committee of The Harvard Foundation approved the distribution of funds this week to support undergraduate activities aimed at increasing racial understanding at Harvard and in the surrounding community.

The action concludes the Foundation's first major review of student proposals since the agency was established last year to promote racial harmony, according to Foundation Director S. Allen Counter, Associate Professor of Neuroscience.

Eight groups and individuals will use the funds for projects ranging from conferences on Native American economic development and Third World health issues to a Black film festival and a series of community-outreach workshops on Mexican culture.

Committee member John Fox, Dean of Harvard College, expressed "delight that the Foundation is going to be able to help a variety of exciting enterprises and occasions to occur at Harvard. I hope that these grants will stimulate more organizations and individuals to come to the Foundation for help in accomplishing its goal of enhancing the quality of our common life."

"I was happy to see that we received more than a dozen proposals from all the minority groups represented at Harvard and from majority students as well," Counter said. "Each of the projects submitted dealt with improving knowledge about the various ethnic groups in this community. This is the way we would like to see the Foundation operate although this is just one of its roles."

This fall, for example, the Foundation has begun a series of talks on race relations in the Houses, he said. Last year the agency surveyed racial issues in the Houses and began an ongoing investigation of minority concerns in athletics."

"The Foundation's ultimate goal is to make Harvard work for all of its students and to have them feel that it works for them," Counter said.

More than \$5,000 in Foundation funds will be divided among the following projects:

Ballet Folklorico Workshops, proposed by the Ballet Folklorico de Aztlan, to be held in local schools and community organizations to teach Mexican history and culture, accompanied by short performances.

Economic Development Conference, proposed by the American Indians at Harvard, dealing with problems of economic development among various Indian tribes and featuring speakers and workshops.

Harvard Latin Music Dance Orchestra, proposed by Patrick Dowling '83, to introduce the Harvard community at large to Latin music.

"Life in the Fast Lane" a play to be presented by the Harvard-Radcliffe Asian-American Association that focuses on the cultural heritage and current experi-

ences of Japanese people in America (the drama will crown AAA's Asian Awareness Month).

Fourth Annual Harvard Black Independent Film Series, proposed by Reginald Hudlin '83, featuring screenings and discussion of award-winning Black films.

Asian Women Film Festival, proposed by the Association of Asian-American Women, featuring a speaker and two films to educate the community about Asian women in the U.S. and Asia.

A brochure, workshop, and dinner, proposed by the Latino Health Organization, to increase Harvard awareness of the Latin community's health care problems.

Third World Health Conference, proposed by the Third World Health Organization, focusing on health issues of American minorities.

The Foundation will consider other projects at the start of the spring term.

reprinted from Marvin Hightower's article that appeared in the Harvard Gazette, November 19, 1982.

NATIVE AMERICAN COMPOSER VISITS HARVARD

Louis Ballard, a Cherokee-Quapaw composer, visited Harvard on November 22, 1982. Mr. Ballard gave a lecture and music presentation to music students and Indian and non-Indian people of the Harvard community.

Mr. Ballard's topic covered "developments in American music which result from alliances of seemingly disparate musical personalities from the early 20th century to the present day."* This lecture was accompanied by traditional songs: the Acoma rain song, an Alaskan death song, the Navajo shi nasha' song, and examples of his orchestrations: the Ritmo Indio--a study in American Indian rhythms, appeared in three sections: The Source, The Soul, and The Dance; The Four Moons--a ballet which Mr. Ballard composed for five Native American ballerinas; and Incident at Wounded Knee--which was presented in its entire four sections: Procession, Prayer, Blood and War, and Ritual. His lecture also included discussions of misinterpretations of traditional "Indian music", such as that played as the background music for John Wayne movies, experiences that he has had in his study of how native tribes express their music, and origins of the sounds and instruments used in traditional Native American music. Throughout his presentation, Mr. Ballard pointed out significant similarities and differences between native tribal music, which varies from tribe to tribe, Indian and non-Indian music, and how he has brought many of these elements together in his orchestrations.

Mr. Ballard was born in Oklahoma and received his musical education there. His works include ballets and orchestrations that have been premiered and commissioned by such orchestras as the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra (which included a performance tour in Europe), the American Composers Orchestra, the Harkness Ballet, the Dorian Woodwind Quintet, and numerous others. Louis Ballard is currently an instructor at the Institute of American Indian Art in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

*excerpted from an announcement by the Great Composers Series II. Guthrie Theatre, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Charlene Avery '82

DIRECTOR'S LETTER *(Continued from page 1)*

ing to race relations. Many problems exist and they must be faced honestly. In this era of tight money squeeze and cutbacks, fundraising for "minority efforts" has become an even greater challenge. If you know of any persons or groups, Third World or otherwise, who are interested in supporting Third World student projects, please have them make donations to the Harvard Foundation. These donations will be used to fund student projects.

QUEEN'S HIGH ROAD

For My Grandmother

"Abandon all Hope..., ye Mighty, and despair."
-- Milton, Shelley

An infinity of verisimilitudes awaits him
Who seeks to follow
That path grown inextricably long
And confusing, a trek into
The wilderness, into a chaos
Of flying thoughts and darting impressions,
A place where reason
Degenerates into madness, where
Apathy replaces patience, where supreme
Good is transformed into absolute evil:
Look upon this place and be not startled
To recognize your own home.
The men in blue are just doing their job;
We know that, why do you seek
To resist?

"And dost thou not fear the juggernaut, my son?"
"Yes, grandfather. With all my heart and all my soul."
"And wilt thou not succumb to a power incarnate?"
"No, grandfather. Though it mean my life, I will not
Stray from the dream you have allowed me to glimpse."
"Truly, thou art thy grandfather's son."

The sun glints on half hidden carbines,
Their owners taut and tense,
Awaiting the secret signal for a scheme
To develop, a planned execution
Of a gambit of war;
Witness as a gloved hand falls,
Its murky yellowness mirrored
In that of the sun,
Whose desperate action leads silent steel
To spring to fiery life,
Instantly felling a band of hunters,
Of men who seek their livelihood
But who will do so no more.
Now the disguised troop springs into action,
For they know the destination of these hunters,
And they know also that life there still
Remains, the weak and elderly of an enemy
At war, but members of the enemy,
Nonetheless.
Listen to the sound of the galloping horses,
The shrivelled shrieks, the angry outcry
Of a camp rudely surprised.
Hear now the moans of the dying, the
Impotence of the helpless, and sense
The swell of vengeance required of a people
Murdered, the silent, desperate cry
Of a righting of a wrong,
Listen closely and hear the spirits
Of a thousand, thousand people cry out,
Yes, all at once now,
Like candles brightly burning
In the blackest night,
Hear the ear-piercing scream and

Try not to think of a thousand wrongs,
Of countless crimes, try even
Not to go mad as that piercing
Wail strikes to the very core of your soul.

Wonderment, wonderment and amazement,
And one finds that he must ask himself-
What of war?

"Grandmother, why do you cry at night?"
"Grandmother, are you sick?"
"You didn't know your grandfather, did you, my son?"
"No, grandmother."
"They still carried six-guns in his day.
He was born in 1875, you know.
He could remember even before the
Reservations."
"Tell me more, grandmother."
"His was the old way, when a man had
To depend on himself.
This cannot be taught, you know, rather
It is inherited. You have it too,
Though you may not even know it.
Promise me this, my son,
That you will remember the old ways."
"I promise, grandmother."

In a mountainous castle nestled deep
In the jagged crags of a sprawling
Underworld realm,
A lonely queen sits high atop her
Throne of command, her lackeys
Busily organizing various mirrored orbs,
Orbs through which this queen views
The many paths which lead into
Her land, paths which descend from
The highest mountain pass to the
Lowest valley crossing,
And the highest path of all, she
Remembers, is reserved for
Him called the Red Man.
On this lonely, rainswept night,
A queen, herself the portrait of majestic
Distance, mused, and in her musing
Wonders, if the Red Man has not,
In all the suffering that she has witnessed,
In his epic fall from self-dependency,
Found it necessary to stop and think,
And thinking ask, what of life?
A sad thought, she thinks,
As she continues on with her duties.

--Joseph Russ, Jr. '83
Covelo, CA.
July, 1981

☆☆☆☆☆

Life in the Fast Lane as directed by Eric Hayashi of the Sansei Theater Company has an encompassing appeal. One does not have to be Japanese to be drawn into its power and scope. Our awareness of aspects of the Asian-American minority experience is inevitably heightened. Lane uses his voice and physical stances to underline his points brilliantly. His clear gaze, modulations of tone, and gestures invite us into the world of the fat youngster, the funky and troubled adolescent, the bewildered nephew, the proud Asian-American, and the contemplative prophet. Sound effects like falling rain and the San Francisco highway create moods for the talk-stories, and the lighting smooths transitions between the persona.

The dramatic development is particularly strong in the earlier poems. Various segments of the later poems like "2 A.M. in San Francisco" may have been

harder to follow. Lane has an incredibly dynamic and quick manner of delivering his lines. He says that the regionally-oriented Bay Area suicide monologue may be replaced by a poem based on touring next year. An informal question and answer session after the show with Lane and Eric Hayashi also helped ameliorate difficulties of comprehension. They hope to publish the talk-stories in a complete book within the next six months.

Life in the Fast Lane was planned during the summer of 1981 and began a year-long national tour last April. It is a very human and honest show and that is the key to its success. It's clear that Lane feels his talk-stories deeply, and he is able to communicate this intensity, joy, and sadness so that we in turn involve ourselves in the show.

Susie Chao '86

SUGAR RAY LEONARD AT HARVARD



Joe Winn

Sugar Ray with, Boxing Coach Tom Rawson and Team Captain Paul "Red" Casey



Joe Winn

Luncheon



Allen Counter

*With
Raul
Pallares,
'83*



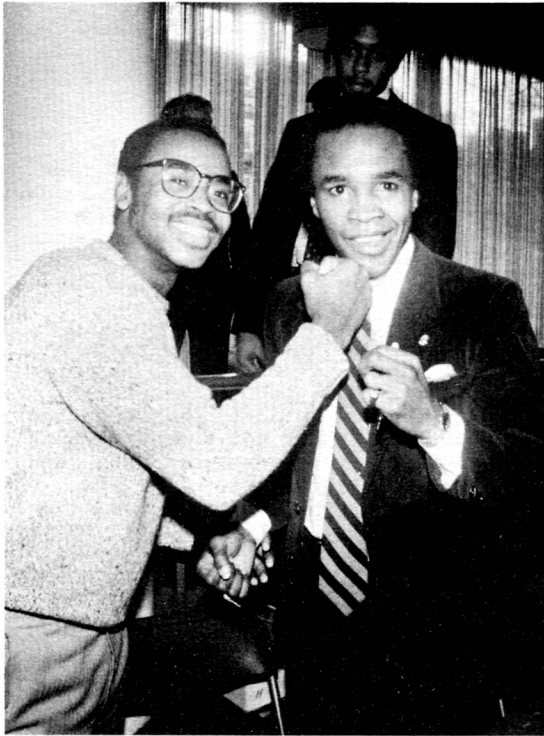
Joe Winn

Meeting the University Boxing Team



Jane Reed

Sugar Ray with President Bok and Dr. Counter



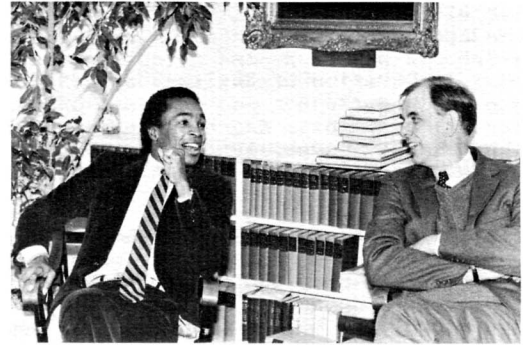
Joe Wrinn

With Calvin Dixon, co-captain of Basketball team



Jane Reed

Sugar Ray with University Marshall Richard Hunt (↑), Dean John Fox (→)



Jane Reed



Joe Wrinn

With Kuumba Singers



Joe Wrinn



Joe Wrinn

With the Radcliffe Pitches



Joe Wrinn

PERCY JULIAN SCIENCE ORGANIZATION SEMINAR NOVEMBER 13, 1982

The Percy Julian Science Organization of Harvard University is an organization dedicated to stimulating interest in the sciences among Black students at Harvard. Recently, the organization sponsored two very successful events.

On November 13, 1982, the P.J.S.O. sponsored a medical school information and recruitment seminar. Student representatives from the eight most popular medical schools (as chosen by the P.J.S.O. members) participated in this event. The list was as follows:

Howard University College of Medicine--
Drs. Denise Clark, Johnye Ballenger, Peter Clarke
Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons-- Paula Randolph
Washington University School of Medicine--
Jerry Johnson
Stanford University School of Medicine--
Karriem Ali
Harvard Medical School--
Garry Gibbons
Harvard-M.I.T. Division of Health Sciences and Technology-- Eric Mortenson
University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine-- Andre Campbell
The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine--
Eric Sibley

Many of these representatives were themselves past Harvard graduates and members of our organization. Their presentations provided information on the admissions process and general facts concerning their respective schools. The candidness of the speakers was helpful to many of those who attended. Invaluable information was gained when speakers elaborated on the many insights they had observed or experienced as undergraduates and now as medical school students or doctors. The communication of these insights gave the audience a unique 'Black perspective' of the medical schools, a perspective which was deeply appreciated and helpful in making the seminar a success.

On the sixteenth of that same month, the P.J.S.O. invited Levon O. Parker, the Equal Opportunity Officer of the National Institute of Health, to give a presentation on the Institute and its summer job opportunities. Mr. Parker is affiliated with the Department of Neurobiological and Communicative Disorder and Stroke (NINCDS), one of several departments which together form the National Institute of Health. Mr. Parker's presentation included a slide show and lecture about N.I.H. After concluding this presentation, Mr. Parker distributed summer job applications and provided upon request more information and contacts for the N.I.H. All those who attended found the event informative and useful.

Here at Harvard the P.J.S.O. augments its members' needs with study sessions and 'help lists'--a list of students one can call in order to receive help with certain subjects. The P.J.S.O. is also active in the outside community. Members have visited high schools throughout the Boston area encouraging Black students to seek careers in the sciences. The P.J.S.O. hopes to instigate many new programs in its years ahead as an undergraduate science organization committed to addressing the needs of Harvard's Black students interested in the sciences.

Garfield Bryant '85

LIFE IN THE FAST LANE

☆☆☆☆☆

"I write, yeah, I'm a poet" opens the play Life in the Fast Lane as performed by actor/playwright Lane Kiyami Nishikawa at the Hasty Pudding Theater, Sunday, December 5. Through his freestyle verse, a kind of poetry that talks and sings to you, and an on-running conversation with an unseen interviewer, Lane explores many facets of the Sansei--third generation Japanese-American--experience.

Lane was raised mainly by his grandparents in Hawaii. In his gripping monologue, he remembers his oba-chan (grandmother) for whom "I love you" is not enough. He has images of her singing so softly as she washed dishes or closing her eyes as her heart drifted back to Japan. Lane's versatility and extraordinary range are apparent as he makes the transition from the touching "Oba-chan" requiem to accounts of his teenage years in California. He captures the impressionability and naivete of a boy who wore a Giants baseball cap to cover a crewcut. The attitudes of a prejudiced society which were forced into his consciousness are revealed in his comic yet biting portrayal of the Bigot who calls the Japanese, "l'il stinkin' fellers".

Because they had no heroes, Lane and his friends lived out their fantasies by creating a unique character, the "Black Jap". His snappy, upbeat rap reflects the dual cultures, one of his own and one of his people, which are a part of his life. Clad in a taut cut-off t-shirt, well-worn Calvins, and a black leather jacket, Lane struts with ease across the stage. The Black Jap was definitely cool--he was 5 inches taller than the average Asian on the census; he was definitely bad, sooo bad that he wore shades in the movies!

Lane began to write about his crazy times as an adolescent for a college creative writing class and hasn't stopped since. Later talk-stories in the show recall the painful experiences of Japanese-Americans during World War II. They were guilty simply for being Japanese; America was their home. To a hushed silence, Lane talks about his beloved Uncle Blackie who had fought in Germany and survived. Yet nightmares haunted him, and he eventually took his own life. His nephew has to come to terms with the suicide.

The suggestion in the title of the play that by slowing down, something will die, reveals itself in the rousing "I Was Born" poem. Asians are moving fast, perhaps too fast, as they are pseudo-westernized. Yet the pain of racism is modified by a pride in seeing parts of Asian culture inexorably bound to American culture. Lane concludes this monologue fiercely: Asian America is in the heart! It can be mean!

Lane feels that his main theme is expressed in the last few lines of "Japanese Junkies", the final talk-story which comes as a dramatic afterthought. We find that the rest of the play has prepared us for this disconcerting and possibly confusing conclusion. "Samurai/Some will lie/Some will die" is a warning blending commercial cynicism and underlying hope. Everything from punk rock to Time-Life to the Chinese is turning Japanese. But the striking fact to note is that the time when the Japanese practiced Hara-kiri is gone; the pride is no longer there. We must wait and see what direction the Sansei and fourth generation will take in the future.

BLACK POLITICS CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 12-13, 1982

Black leaders from across the country gathered on the campus of Harvard University this past weekend to attend the Black Politics Conference at the Kennedy School of Government.

The conference was organized by a group of Black undergraduates with the intention of addressing political issues of concern to Blacks.

Representative Parren J. Mitchell (D-Maryland), J.A. Parker, President of Lincoln Institute, and Manning Marable, Director of Race Relations Institute at Fisk University, were among the many participants who met to discuss strategies for constructing a strong base of power within a unified Black community.

Through a series of panel discussions, seminars, and a final debate, the conference illustrated the broad range of Black Political thought. The panel discussion, "Political Strategies for a Multi-Dimensional Community," defined Black politics as "a thrust for power." Martin Kilson, professor of government at Harvard University, and Samuel Cornelius, of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, asserted, on the one hand, that Blacks are not politically powerless. Kilson stressed that Blacks have great potential for political power but often fail to utilize it.

Marable, on the other hand, said that the powerlessness of Blacks results from an open attack on the Black community by Reaganism. He cited "random attacks of racist nature" on Black individuals and institutions and the current economic crises as "forces undermining the Black community." "Blacks can defeat these forces by fighting racism, defending their institutions, and defeating corporate capitalism," added Marable.

Practical means of carrying out these solutions to Black political problems were offered in the three seminars, which encouraged audience participation: "The Black Church: A Perpetual Political Force," "Is There a 'Black Consciousness'?: Political Accountability on International Issues," and "Community Issues: Crime, Poverty, and Revitalization." Among the suggestions coming out of the seminars was the mutual responsibility of persons of African descent throughout the world to be educated about and to be politically, culturally, and economically supportive of each other.

The predominantly Black audience of over 300 clearly favored Ralph Smith, professor at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, in his debate with J. A. Parker entitled, "Should Blacks Support Ronald Reagan?"

Citing reasons why Blacks should support Reagan, Parker said, "It is up to us to make sure we are treated like individuals just like everybody else." He added, "The Reagan Administration has sent out the signal that they intend to do this."

Smith asserted, "It is insane to suggest that those who are victims of assault should support Reagan." He added, the Reagan administration "has conducted an all-out war on poor and Black people."

Bringing the audience to its feet in energetic applause, Representative Parren J. Mitchell closed the conference. He warned, "There is something insidious in this society which will attack you at anytime, anywhere if you choose to advocate for Black people."

He cited as evidence the multiple and fraudulent accusations being leveled against prominent Black mayors and local politicians who have been known to work toward improving the condition of Black Americans.

Mitchell expressed the overall theme of the conference when he said in his closing address, "Wherever Black strength is concentrated, we must ally ourselves to that strength."

Farah Jasmine Griffin '85

TO DEFEAT THE SIMPSON-MAZZOLI BILL

During the month of November, members of the Harvard-Radcliffe Asian-American Association wrote their Congressmen to ask them to vote against the Simpson-Mazzoli immigration bill...

Dear Congressman:

We are writing to you to ask you to vote against the Simpson-Mazzoli immigration bill. This bill is reminiscent of the exclusion acts that severely limited Asian immigration to this country from the time of the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act until the liberalization of the laws in 1965. For example, the Simpson-Mazzoli bill seeks to decrease the number of immigrants. Although it raises the annual ceiling to 425,000, by charging the number of special immigrants and immediate relatives against the quota of the subsequent year, the overall number of immigrants is lowered.

The elimination of or narrowing of eligibility for the Fifth Preference and the exclusion of adult unmarried children from the Second Preference is a direct attempt to limit the number of Asian immigrants. About 80% of the applicants in Asia apply through the Fifth Preference. In light of this and the increase in the percentage of the family reunification quota taken up by the Second Preference for spouses and unmarried children (26% to 65%), the bill seeks to legislate a culturally chauvinistic definition of "family".

The Simpson-Mazzoli bill does not alter the ridiculously low percent quota (600) on visas granted to colonies or dependent territories such as Hong Kong. The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights found that this rule was racially discriminatory.

The compulsory work permit system can lead to employment discrimination against those who do not look or talk like "Americans", for we who do not are the ones who will be subject to greater scrutiny. Furthermore, such a centralized information system can easily be abused to violate the privacy and civil rights of citizens and organizations.

The granting of temporary status to undocumented people who came to the U.S. during 1977-80 and the "guest worker programs" seek to establish easily exploitable workers with no rights.

The Simpson-Mazzoli bill seeks to lay the blame for the country's economic troubles on immigrants, especially undocumented immigrants. We reject such spurious arguments and urge you to vote against Simpson-Mazzoli.

Sincerely, The Harvard-Radcliffe Asian-American Assoc.

As this article went to print, the U.S. Congress had not yet acted on the Simpson-Mazzoli immigration bill.

text by: Seiji Yamada '83 and Todd Lee SOE '83



Russell Means (Dakota American Indian Movement), Rigoberta Menchu (Quiche Nation of Guatemala), and John Peters (Mass. Commissioner of Indian Affairs) Speak on American Indian rights at the Fall Semester American Indian Conference.

Right: Student Media Reception for Anthony Lewis, reporter for the New York Times. Mr. Lewis is flanked by John McGuire (Crimson), Amy Schwartz (Crimson) and Arthur Kroeber (Independent). Right, bottom: Joe Russ '83, Charlene Avery '82, and Alice Kovler (News Office) at the reception.



photos by Allen Counter

Editors: Joseph Russ, Jr., Class of 83
Charlene Avery, Class of 82



THE HARVARD FOUNDATION

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MARTIN LUTHER KING 1929-1968

"I have a dream . . . that one day all God's children, Black and White, Jew and Gentile, Protestant and Catholic will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual: 'Free at last, free at last, thank God Almighty, we are free at last.'"

KEEP THE DREAM ALIVE-SUPPORT A NATIONAL MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY.