

LE JOURNAL

West Virginia State College Office of International Affairs Newsletter

Vol. 2, Number 2

Spring 1999



Spring Break 1999—Quebec, Canada Bonjour Quebec-Au Revoir les Etats-Unis!!!

On the evening of Friday, March 19, WVSC students accompanied by James Natsis headed north for Quebec, Canada to begin a Spring Break *extraordinaire*! Among student participants were Jana Morgan, Mardis Hall, Sherice Goff, Autumn Furby, Eric Bias, and Jason and Cherice Lewis. The trip was sponsored by the Office of International Affairs, Department of Modern Foreign Language, Student Affairs and Academic Affairs.

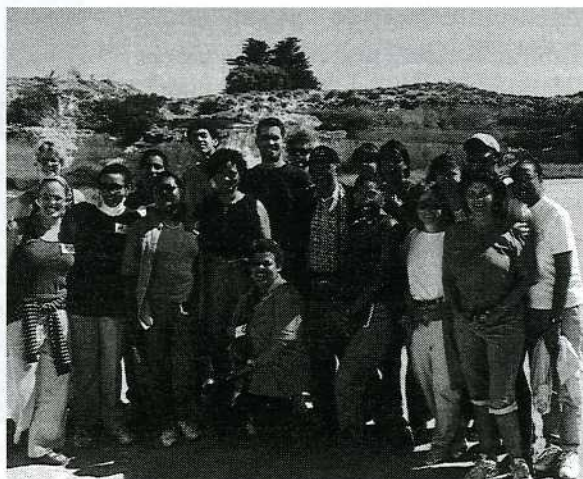
The group spent four nights in downtown Montreal including a day trip to Quebec City. Apart from the linguistic difference between Quebec and the United States—French is the official language in Quebec—students were intrigued with handling a foreign currency (the Canadian dollar) and navigating the metric system. In addition, where else can you go in North America and listen to French hip hop and rap, walk the narrow streets in a fortress city, see stop signs marked “Arrêt”, and eat at a PFK, or *Poulet Frit Kentucky*, a.k.a. KFC!

Spring Break 1999-South Africa “Somewhere over the Rainbow”

Adrienne Belafonte-Biesemeyer led a group of 18 students and other participants to South Africa on a nine-day Spring Break tour. The group visited Cape Town; Durban, the Indian cultural center of South Africa; a Zulu village; and Hoedspruit, a game reserve in the Kruger National Park.

The students toured the University of Cape Town and met with Memphela Ramphela, companion to Black Consciousness Movement Leader, Steven Biko. They were also led on a tour of Robben Island, the prison island where President Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for 18 years. The tour was led by Ahmed Kathrada, who was imprisoned with Mandela and is considered by some to be his right-hand man.

They also enjoyed the experience of the game reserve where they mixed and mingled with wild animals. They had breakfast with a wart hog and went on a morning walk accompanied by a lion and two elephants.



International Potpourri

The initiation for this year's *Alpha Mu Gamma* honorary society was held on Friday, March 12, in the State Dining Hall in Sullivan Hall on the WVSC campus. In addition to welcoming a number of students, the honorary society inducted Drs. Bob Hall and James Natsis as honorary members. After the initiation ceremony, Dennis Hedrick, O.D., shared a slide presentation on VOSH (Volunteer Optometric Service for Humanity) and on his experiences in Bolivia.

