

THE ANTIOCH RECORD

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THE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



L E S L I E F E I N B E R G

Feinberg's novel, *Stone Butch Blues*, published on March 1, 1993 by Firebrand Books, has received a wildly popular response in the United States and has been translated into Chinese, German and Dutch. The novel won the prestigious American Library Association Award for Gay and Lesbian Literature and a LAMBDA Literary Award in 1994.

Feinberg's non-fiction work, *Transgender Warriors: Making History from Joan of Arc to RuPaul* (Beacon), is the first analysis of the historical roots of transgender oppression. *Transgender Warriors* won the 1996 Firecracker Alternative Book Award for Non-Fiction. In Spring 1996, Beacon released the paperback edition, newly subtitled: *Making History from Joan of Arc to Dennis Rodman*.

Feinberg is also the author of *Trans Liberation: Beyond Pink or Blue*, published by Beacon in 1998. The book was reviewed in the annual Village Voice 25 Best Books supplement.

Feinberg is a national leader of Workers World Party, and a Managing Editor of *Workers World* newspaper. S/he

is well-known in the U.S. and many other parts of the world as an activist who works to help forge a strong bond between the lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans communities. As a trade unionist, anti-racist and socialist, Feinberg also organizes to build strong bonds of unity between these struggles and those of movements in defense of oppressed nationalities, women, disabled, and the working class movement as a whole. Feinberg has worked for more than 25 years in defense of the sovereignty, self-determination and treaty rights of Native nations and for freedom of political prisoners in the U.S. S/he is an internationalist and has been part of the anti-Pentagon movement since the U.S. war against Vietnam.

Since October 1993, s/he has appeared on the Joan Rivers show and scores of other television and radio programs. Feinberg has been interviewed and reviewed by virtually every lesbian/gay, transgender and feminist publication in the United States as well as publications in Argentina, Japan, Germany, Australia and England.

M U M I A A B U – J A M A L

Mumia Abu-Jamal is an African-American journalist and activist. He is a leading international spokesperson for economic and racial justice, and against the death penalty. He speaks and writes from his cell on Pennsylvania's death row, where he has resided for over 16 years.

"Whatever the cost to me, I knew I had to offer to the world a window into the souls of those who, like me, suffer barbaric conditions on America's death rows." That's how Mumia explained in court why he wrote *Live from Death Row*, knowing it would earn him ninety days in the "hole" (solitary confinement) and other punishments. Mumia has since released a second book, *Death Blossoms*.

Mumia began his political career at age 15 as the Minister of Information for the Philadelphia chapter of the Black Panther Party. There he learned journalism by writing for the party newspaper. At the time of his arrest, he was President of the Philadelphia Association of Black Journalists. He became known as "voice of the voiceless" for his broadcasts on National Public Radio and Mutual Black Net-

work, and he hosted his own talk show on WUHY-FM. He was known especially for his coverage of police brutality, particularly the vicious attacks on the MOVE organization which culminated in the 1985 police bombing of their housing unit, killing 11 adults and children.

As an outspoken critic of mayor Frank Rizzo and the police for their racism and brutality, he was marked as their enemy and targeted for surveillance and harassment. The police and FBI watched him throughout the 60's and 70's as shown by 900 pages of FBI files uncovered by Mumia's legal team. Although Mumia's activities were legal and should have been protected under the First Amendment guarantee of free speech, he was repeatedly arrested on trumped up charges that could not be substantiated.

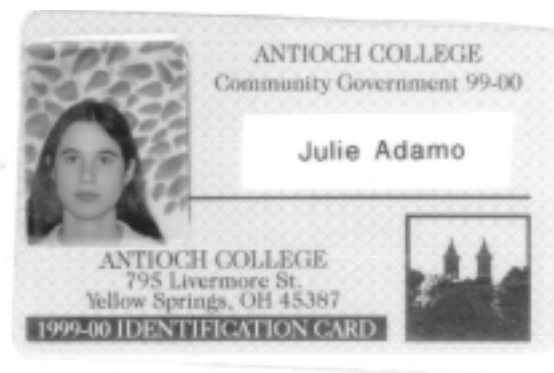
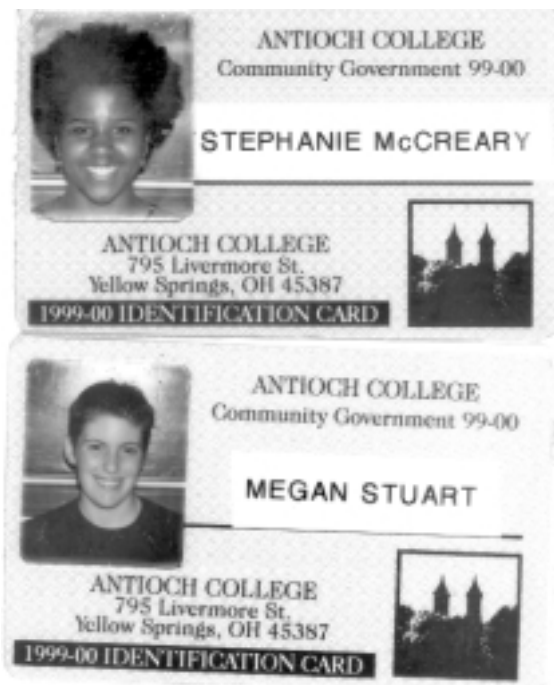
But when Mumia was 27, an incident occurred that finally gave the state the opportunity to silence him for good: He was sentenced to death after being convicted of killing a police officer.



A BRIEF FAREWELL...

I would like to take this opportunity, for it is my last, to thank the Antioch community who have made my experience as editor of The Antioch Record both possible and tolerable this Spring 2000. Although it has been a rather tumultuous four months (from Emily Howell and Emily Eagan to Mumia Abu-Jamal), I have done my best to represent the diversity of persons and events this term with all of the fairness that they deserve. I would also like to extend special thanks to Seamus Holman, my co-editor. He has been an invaluable resource throughout the partnership, has demonstrated efficiency, patience and humor and has literally made our campus weekly possible. Best of luck to the Summer 2000 editorial crew, Julie Adamo, Stephanie McCreary and Megan Stewart, of whom I am most confident.

Cheers,
Yours,
Neil Coletta



GOOD LUCK TO THE SUMMER RECORD EDITORS, STEPHANIE MCCREARY AND JULIE ADAMO, CONTENT; AND MEGAN STUART, LAYOUT.

THE ANTIOCH RECORD

CONTENT EDITOR • Neil Coletta
PRODUCTION EDITOR • Seamus Holman

WRITERS

Julie Adamo *Jaffer Batica*
Laura Campagna *Joelle DelRose*
Andromeda Evans *Teishan Latner*
Stephanie McCreary *Aleah Nestyby*
Karia Solano *Sam Trantum*
Nick Wilkinson

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Cristian Villalobos
Abby Anzalone
Brittany Stull

PRODUCTION

Gloria Maximo

THE ANTIOCH RECORD MISSION STATEMENT

- * To serve the information needs of the Community in a continuous fashion.
- * To provide all members of the Community with access to their newspaper.
- * To serve as a reliable instrument for recording the college's history.
- * To serve as a reliable instrument for education in civic and journalistic responsibility.

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We welcome all inquiries into advertising but reserve the right to make the final decisions regarding ad content. We will not censor any ads, regardless of whether I, the editor, agree with the advertisers political affiliation or not. We hold to the belief that our readers have a sense of their own biases as well as a basic respect for each advertiser's freedom of speech. Please contact us with any further inquiries.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To subscribe to the Antioch Record, please mail or hand deliver a check to the Record office in the basement of Antioch Hall at 795 Livermore Street. We are reachable at record@antioch-college.edu, (937) 767-6418, by fax at (937) 767-6320. Subscriptions are \$14 per term.

ABOUT THE RECORD

The Record is published weekly during semesters at Antioch College. It is an editorially independent newspaper funded by Antioch's Community Government. Bembo is our primary serifed text font, Univers Condensed, fills out the sans serif side. Our employees are a handful of Federal Work Study students although we do occasionally hire a freelance writer, or artist. Please inquire in our offices to find out more about the paper or job opportunities we might have.

LETTERS TO THE COMMUNITY

To the community:

I have been following the case of Mumia Abu-Jamal and so too have been interested in our local media's take on the "controversy", as well as input from folks in general. I'll spare enormous detail of his case as much information has been given and the facts truly are before us, one needs only to do some research to get them. What I will say is that I really don't think it is possible for me to be in any greater solidarity than that which I am in with my brothers and sisters at Antioch College. Their decision to have Mr. Abu-Jamal share some of his thoughts and experiences during their commencement demonstrates an apparent social consciousness, capacity for critical thought (mentioned here as so many critics have contended in various ways that the students' supporters seem to lack it), sensitivity to contemporary racial struggles and a clear passion for justice we should all strive toward. I

commend not only the Antioch students and staff who have been instrumental in this decision but also some other outstanding contributors to this most interesting turn of events in our local and national histories.

President Devine's eloquent and thoughtful support of his campus' decision, shown particularly in his response to the FOP's outrageously fascist request that Mr. Abu-Jamal be removed from the event's program, was inspiring and gave me hope. An "analytical digest" provided by Ms. Gail D. Taylor (Yellow Springs News, 4/13/00 (also reprinted in this issue of the Record)) indicated an obvious dedication to both truth and journalism and the demonstrated yet all too infrequent union of the two. Thank you, Ms. Taylor! In fact the Yellow Springs News, Impact Weekly and others have done a fine job in opting to give as many takes as possible and to not revert to such "Enquirer"-esque strategies as some media counterparts have in

splashing "cop killer" at will without the crucial quantifying adjectives.

I feel Antioch has made an insightful decision by seeking to have this closing of a chapter in their formal education made that much more enlightening by looking at a situation currently existing in our country and listening to the man right at the heart of it all. The bottom line for me is justice and I hope Mr. Decker of Bristol, Connecticut (letter to the editor, Yellow Springs News 4/13/00) has the opportunity to read these words as they are spoken by one who thinks for herself from a place of "moral courage" and strives to be a leader in so doing. I say it is justice because that is what is hatefully lacking in this case for Officer Daniel Faulkner, Mumia Abu-Jamal and all of their friends, family and supporters.

Sommer E. Peters
April 25, 2000

Dear Community,

It's sad and happy to leave this place, since my arrive here my life changed greatly. I did not wanted to leave this college without thanking so many people that helped and showed me their love and friendship and without thanking the entire community for this opportunity in my life.

The person that came here last summer it's not anymore the same, now I'm proud of myself, my talents, my love, my skills and wanting to fight against my fears. I've found under the arms of this community the strength to hold my head up and find the reason of my life (this may sound little cheesy but it's true) and found my own cause to fight for. I was not even a student or had enough touch with the faculty, but it just took 10 months to live here for my life to be changed.

Now I got a tattoo, my belly pierced (I didn't pierced my tongue for monetary

reasons but the intention was in there), found my "heterosexual side" (hell yeah!), found my gay pride and a rare taste for hip-hop music! (but I still believe that Madonna is the best HA!) I found out that friendship and love does not know color or gender and that if you're not part of the solution you're the problem.

Finally I would like to thank Angele ("Oh lord!" love you!); Patti for your support and wise advice; Charlene (please give you a free day!); my boss VICTOR GARCIA who was the best, funniest, intelligent boss I've ever work with; Cathy Lapalombara who pushed me to learn and made my classes fun; Damien (Hola como esta bien y tu!) who...well you know!; Tania (sister!); Indra and Miguel Santiago who helped me a lot, made me feel good and introduced me to my ex (his name? confidential!); To my ex: thank you for your love and even if we're not friends

anymore, I will remember you and I've learned!; Sondra Rhodes for your help, friendship and smile!; to the caf for feeding me and developing my new "my stomach can handle anything" skill; my students; to the sex workshops (oh yeah!); Clare, Andi and Shoshanna and all the members of CG (you rock!); The Administration for the opportunity; and the entire College because you were part of this new life. And if at some point I hurt or made someone feel bad I'm sorry it was never my intention and I've learned the lesson. I am returning to my country with a bag filled with memories, faces, music and good times!

THANK YOU ANTIOCH. I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER YOU!

Luis Aleman
Spanish Teaching Assistant
Summer 1999 – Spring 2000

An Analytical Digest

Mumia Abu-Jamal: a look at the trial and controversy

COMPILED BY GAIL TAYLOR

There may not be a more complicated and controversial murder case today than that of Pennsylvania death row inmate Mumia Abu-Jamal, convicted in 1982 of shooting Philadelphia police officer Daniel Faulkner. Yet, both during and after commencement, his name may become synonymous with the phrase “Antioch radical.”

That’s because the Antioch College Class of 2000 has invited Abu-Jamal to give a six-minute audio address following the keynote address by transgender activist Leslie Feinberg for the 11 a.m. April 29th commencement.

A community teach-in will take place at 9 a.m. the day of commencement in the Glen Helen Building. Representatives from the Fraternal Order of Police, supporters of the Faulkner family, supporters of Abu-Jamal and community members are expected to attend.

In order to help open the dialogue among villagers and the Antioch College community, the *Yellow Springs News* has put together a digest of facts and information associated with Abu-Jamal who is 45 years old and an inmate at a state prison in southwestern Pennsylvania.

A variety of source material was used to put together this report, including information from websites of the following organizations: *APB news.com*, the news/information website of the Fraternal Order of Police; the human rights group Amnesty International; activist groups Refuse and Resist!; and Mumia 2000; Justice for Police Officer Daniel Faulkner; a 1995 article in *Newsday* by columnist Terry Bisson; and Abu-Jamal’s own writings.

This digest is not meant to be the definitive piece on Mumia Abu-Jamal. Instead, it is meant to inspire readers to seek the truth about this case by asking questions, going to the library, surfing the Internet and sharing information.

This case touches our nation’s collective nerve not only because it deals with the values we hold dear – the right to a fair trial, freedom of speech and the right of the individual to pursue Happiness – but also because it deals with two emotional issues, the death penalty and the death of a man killed in the line of duty.

Why Mumia?

A black man with a past history of radical political activism stands accused of shooting to death a white police officer on a Philadelphia street. Add to that a judge known as a prosecutor’s dream for his willingness to impose the death penalty, plus witnesses whose stories keep changing and a medical examiner who admitted making an error on a ballistics report, and you have the 1982 trial of Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Death penalty opponents use this case as an example of why the death penalty is unfair and inhumane. Their critics argue that the evidence is clear – Abu-Jamal shot and killed officer Faulkner and as a result Abu-Jamal should die.

The truth may never be known and the two sides agree on little other than two men were shot – Abu-Jamal and Faulkner – and only one survived.

As one example of just how difficult this case is, consider the question of Abu-Jamal’s supposed emergency room confession.

The prosecution said in court that Abu-Jamal loudly confessed at the hospital where he was taken for treatment of a gunshot wound. Information from Abu-Jamal’s lawyers states: “But the jury never heard from police officer Gary Wakshul who was guarding Abu-Jamal at the hospital and reported, ‘The Negro male made no comment.’ When called as a defense witness, the prosecution contended that he was on vacation and unavailable. The judge refused a continuance so he could be brought in, when in fact he was home and available.

“Supporters claim the emergency room confession never happened and was fabricated after Abu-Jamal filed police brutality charges.”

One of the best articles on the incidents that led to the arrest and conviction of Wesley Cook, now known as Mumia Abu-Jamal, is Terry Bisson’s piece which appeared in *Newsday*. It can be accessed for free via the Internet at www.mumia2000.org/background/thecase.

Bisson’s article identifies why the case has drawn so much attention from those concerned about a fair justice system. “Denied the right to represent himself, Abu-Jamal was defended by a reluctant incompetent who was later disbarred {and who has since filed an affidavit in Mumia’s support detailing his delinquencies). Mumia was prosecuted by a DA who was later reprimanded for withholding evidence in another trial. He was allowed only \$150 to interview witnesses,” according to Bisson’s article.

Bisson writes, “Mumia was driving a cab that night. It is undisputed that he intervened. It is undisputed that both he and officer Daniel Faulkner were shot, and that Faulkner died. What is in dispute is who killed Faulkner. Mumia says it was someone else, and several witnesses saw another shooter flee the scene. Mumia’s legally registered .38 was never decisively linked to Faulkner’s wounds.”

Bisson’s article also casts suspicion on the judge in the case, Albert F. Sabo.

“A life member of the Fraternal Order of Police, branded as a ‘defendant’s nightmare’ by the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, Judge Albert F. Sabo has sentenced more men to die (31 to date, only two of them white) than any other sitting judge in America. A fellow judge once called his courtroom a ‘vacation for prosecutors’ because of bias toward convictions.” the article says.

Bisson continues, “Sabo wouldn’t allow Mumia to defend himself because his dreadlocks made jurors’ nervous.’ Kept in a holding cell, he read about his own trial in the newspapers. A Black juror was removed for violating sequestration, while a white juror was given a court escort to take a civil service exam; in the end all the Black jurors but one were removed.”

Bisson’s story goes on to raise the question of whether this activist journalist ever got a fair trial since the jury was informed of Abu-Jamal’s affiliation with the Black Panther Party at the age of 15.

Lastly, the case touches on the emotional issue of the death penalty. “Sabo instructed the jury: ‘You are not being asked to kill anybody’ by imposing the death penalty, since the defendant will get ‘appeal after appeal after appeal.’ Such instruction, grounds for reversal since *Caldwell vs. Mississippi*, was allowed in Mumia’s case,” Bisson says.

The background

Mumia Abu-Jamal, an award-winning journalist and former Black Panther, was convicted and sentenced to death in 1982 for killing Daniel Faulkner, a white Philadelphia police officer who had stopped Abu-Jamal’s brother, Billy Cook, for driving the wrong way down a one-way street early one December morning.

Controversy has followed this case since it began in December 1981. Supporters of Abu-Jamal question not only the jury’s guilty verdict, but whether he got a fair trial in the first place.

On October 29, 1998, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court rejected Abu-Jamal’s appeal for a new trial upholding the guilty verdict of the original trial. His lawyers are appealing this decision.

According to Abu-Jamal’s lawyers, witnesses saw him briskly walk and then run across Locust Street in Philadelphia toward the scene where Faulkner and Billy Cook were engaged in a scuffle. According to Abu-Jamal’s lawyers, who have posted a legal document with the facts of the case on the Refuse & Resist! website, “This aspect of the incident was never in dispute.”

But defense witnesses reported seeing several people run from the scene.

According to the prosecution, eyewitnesses identified Abu-Jamal as the shooter. In a March 24th legal document filed by Abu-Jamal’s lawyers, they dispute this by saying, “. . . but the jury never heard from a key eye-witness, William Singletary, who saw the whole incident and has testified that Abu-Jamal was not the shooter. Singletary, a local businessman, was intimidated by police when he reported this, and he subsequently fled the city.”

After police officers arrived, they attended to Faulkner’s wounds while Abu-Jamal lay bleeding. According to news reports and Abu-Jamal’s attorneys, a gun lay by Abu-Jamal’s side. Police officers were also accused of beating Abu-Jamal before he was taken to the hospital.

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YET, BOTH DURING
AND AFTER COMMENCE-
MENT, HIS NAME MAY
BECOME SYNONYMOUS
WITH THE PHRASE
“ANTIOCH RADICAL.”

– TRANSGENDER LIBERATION –

SMASHING THE BINARY GENDER SYSTEM

BY LAURA CAMPAGNA

Antioch College is considered by many people to have a radical student culture and to be on the cutting edge of many social trends and movements. Because we have a visible queer community many people assume we have a progressive queer community, but that assumption could be challenged. Although a 'transgender discussion' group was formed on campus last semester, general awareness and embracing of transgender issues and concerns on this campus is low. This phenomenon of ignorance towards transgender issues is not limited strictly to Antioch.

ties that break with the model of the binary gender system. These identities may include people who identify as a gender other than that which they were assigned at birth and people who do not feel that their gender experience or identity fits neatly within the rigid binary gender system. Many people believe that there are a myriad of genders and that not all men must be "masculine" and all women "feminine".

In an attempt to degender language some people, such as Leslie Feinberg, choose to use gender-neutral pronouns such as ze and hir. It is necessary to create new language in order to recognize

mation on these groups. One group which specifically services the FTM (Female to Male) community is The American Boyz. The American Boyz defines transgender to mean, "...someone who transcends the conventional definitions of 'man' and 'woman'. Butch lesbians, transsexuals, radical faeries, boss girls, crossdressers, drag queens, sissies, tomboys, and many other kinds of people vary from the conventional expectations of their birth gender."

FTM describes a specific population of people within the transgender community who were born female but who have male identities or appearances. Some people may

Although there have been no large studies done on the violence transgender people face, smaller studies have indicated that up to 80% of the transgender population has been physically assaulted, 80% have feared for their lives or well-being and 50% have been sexually assaulted, according to The American Boyz fact sheet.

Transgender youth are especially at risk. Transgender youth are often rejected by their families once they discover they are transgender. They also may be beaten or sexually abused as a result of their gender nonconformity by siblings and parents. Transgender youth may be kicked out of their homes or forced to flee to escape abusive situations. Often they are forced to live on the streets where prostitution may be their only option for survival (because of discrimination in hiring practices for employment). This puts youth at a higher risk for rape, hate crimes and HIV exposure. Transgender youth are also at a high risk for suicide as a result of the harassment and abuse they often face.

'Intersexed' people (formerly known as hermaphrodites) are another group that is encompassed in the term transgender. Intersexuals are born with "ambiguous" genitalia which is not completely male or female. Some people may be born "normal", but at puberty will develop mixed secondary sexual characteristics. It is estimated that 1 in every 2000 (0.5%) babies are born with ambiguous genitalia. Dr. Anne Fausto-Sterling has estimated that 1.7% of the population is Intersexed to some degree.

The decision of what constitutes "ambiguous" genitalia is completely subjective and may depend solely on an individual doctors' opinion. In this way the medical industry reinforces the binary sex system by surgical (re)construction of babies genitalia. The gender assignment of Intersexed people often defaults to female because they are defined by a lack of a penis rather than a presence of a vagina or clitoris. Fourth-year student Aleah Nesteby commented, "I find it really hypocritical that so many people in the U.S. feel so strongly about ending female circumcision of African women and girls, yet these same people don't seem to realize that Intersexed babies' genitals are mutilated in the U.S. all the time".

Given that one of our distinguished commencement speakers is transgender activist and author Leslie Feinberg, there may be no time more appropriate for the Antioch community to educate ourselves on transgender issues. Transgender people offer an important critique of the binary gender system which is steeped in sexist and homophobic implications of male and female roles in society.

'TRANSGENDER' IS AN UMBRELLA TERM WHICH REFERS TO MANY PEOPLE WITH DIFFERENT IDENTITIES THAT BREAK WITH THE MODEL OF THE BINARY GENDER SYSTEM.

Within queer communities all over the U.S. transgender people have been making themselves more visible in activism and academics since the early 1990's. Although transgender people have been a part of our queer community since before the Stonewall Riots (which they led), many queer people still do not have a comprehensive knowledge of transgender issues.

'Transgender' is an umbrella term which refers to many people with different identi-

ties that break with the model of the binary gender system. These identities may include people who identify as a gender other than that which they were assigned at birth and people who do not feel that their gender experience or identity fits neatly within the rigid binary gender system. Many people believe that there are a myriad of genders and that not all men must be "masculine" and all women "feminine".

In an attempt to degender language some people, such as Leslie Feinberg, choose to use gender-neutral pronouns such as ze and hir. It is necessary to create new language in order to recognize

choose to alter their physical appearance to become men — these people are considered transsexual. The medical procedures one could undergo include taking testosterone and surgery. MTF is an abbreviation for male-to-female transsexuals who were born men but identify as women. MTF's may also alter their appearance by taking estrogen and having surgery. The legal steps one can take to change one's gender include changing one's name and gender status on legal documents.

Being transgender does not mean that someone is necessarily gay or lesbian. There are people who like to dress in drag but still desire people of the opposite sex. Many transgender people do consider themselves a part of the queer community, regardless of their sexual orientation, because they often face the same if not more harassment, violence and discrimination as gay, lesbian and bisexual people and are often regarded as being a part of the queer community by straight society, regardless of how they identify or align themselves.

Good News Bookstore

Special, this weekend and next:

- **Mumia Abu-Jamal's** *Death Blossoms, Reflections from a Prisoner of Conscience*, reissued by the Bruderhof's Plough Publishing, ~~\$12.00~~ **\$10.50**
- and Mumia's earlier (1995) *Live from Death Row*, ~~\$12.50~~ **\$10.00**
- and 16 of his radio commentaries in *All Things Censored*, 75-minute audio, ~~\$15.00~~ **\$12.00**
- ALSO: Littleton martyr Cassie Bernall's story by her mother, Misty, *She Said YES*, ~~\$17.00~~ **\$14.00**
- and the Bruderhof books *Discipleship* ~~\$16.00~~ **\$12.00**, and *Seeking Peace*, which Cassie was reading the day she died. ~~\$15.00~~ **\$11.00**
- Her parents and friends produced a video tribute about Cassie's last years, ~~\$20.00~~ **\$16.00**

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An Analytical Digest

Mumia Abu-Jamal: a look at the trial and controversy

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Issues raised by Abu-Jamal's supporters

Abu-Jamal's supporters raise a number of questions about his trial, including the following:

- Judge Albert Sabo sentenced more people to death than any other sitting judge in the United States. Six former Philadelphia prosecutors have sworn in court documents that no accused could receive a fair trial in his courtroom.
- Eleven qualified African Americans were removed from the jury by the prosecution.
- Abu-Jamal's lawyer didn't interview a single witness in preparation for the 1982 trial and he informed the court in advance that he wasn't prepared.
- The prosecutor used the fact that 12 years earlier Mumia had been a member of the Black Panther Party as an argument for imposing the death penalty, a practice later condemned as unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in another case.
- Racial bias has been the charge from the beginning since of the 120 people sentenced to death by Philadelphia courts, all but 13 are nonwhite.

What Faulkner's supporters say

The prosecution's case states Abu-Jamal is guilty because four eyewitnesses said Abu-Jamal was the killer. Next, scientific and ballistic evidence points to his guilt, and lastly, three people heard Abu-Jamal shout out two self-incriminating statements immediately outside the hospital emergency room.

An article called "Summary of the Case Facts" on the Justice for Police Officer Daniel Faulkner website states, "Had Jamal

been innocent, their most logical exculpatory eyewitness (other than Jamal himself) was William Cook, who in addition to being the driver of the car officer Faulkner pulled over that morning, was Mumia Abu-Jamal's brother. Mr. Cook was seen by several eyewitnesses to have been only a few inches away from officer Faulkner when he was shot. Yet the defense, which included Mr. Jamal working in consort with Mr. Jackson [the attorney], chose not to have William Cook take the stand in his brother's behalf in 1982.

"Mumia Abu-Jamal, too, refused to take the stand to proclaim his innocence and explain what happened on December 9th. Additionally, the defense never called George Fassnacht, their ballistics expert, to testify in 1982. Nor did they ever request the representation of a forensic pathologist at the trial."

The website also includes excerpts from six accounts from witnesses, plus a list of 14 "Myths About Mumia."

What the evidence shows

Not only is there a question about the fairness of the trial, many have scrutinized the evidence itself. For instance, prosecutors said ballistics evidence proves that Abu-Jamal was the shooter. But a written report by the medical examiner who examined Faulkner's body says the officer was shot "w/44cal." Abu-Jamal's gun, however, was a .38 calibre, according to legal documents. The prosecution believes the medical examiner simply made an honest mistake.

Prosecutors also insist the gun used to kill Faulkner was registered to Abu-Jamal and therefore points to his guilt. According to the Justice for Police Officer Daniel Faulkner website, "The gun found on the ground next to Mumia Abu-Jamal when he

was apprehended was a five shot .38 Calibre Charter Arms Revolver. Jamal's gun contained five (5) spent casings. Four of these casings were from unique Federal Arms .38 Calibre Special +P ammunition, which had a hollow base. This is the exact brand (Federal Arms), type (Special High Velocity Hollow Based +P) and calibre (.38) of bullet removed from Officer Faulkner's brain."

The prosecutor's ballistics test shows the bullet removed from Abu-Jamal came from Faulkner's gun.

His supporters argue there were no tests performed to determine whether Abu-Jamal fired the .38 calibre gun.

A black man, a white police officer

Mumia Abu-Jamal was a radio journalist in Philadelphia, known as "the voice of the voiceless," during the years of mayor Frank Rizzo. He was the recipient of a Major Armstrong award for radio journalism, and was named one of Philadelphia's "people to watch" in 1981 by *Philadelphia Magazine*. He was president of the Association of Black Journalists in Philadelphia, and he had no prior criminal record.

Abu-Jamal was a member of the Black Panther Party, and later a supporter of the MOVE organization.

While he was in jail he was put into punitive detention for writing his book, *Live From Death Row*, which is in its sixth printing by Addison Wesley. Recently the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals found this punishment to be unconstitutional and that prison officials had yielded to pressure from the Fraternal Order of Police. However, journalists are still prohibited from filming or recording interviews with him. As Abu-Jamal has put it, "They don't just want my death, they want my silence."

Daniel Faulkner had been a Philadelphia

police officer for six years before his death. He is described on the Fraternal Order of Police website as "the kind of young man every father and mother wants for a son, every child wants for a brother and every person wants for a friend."

Faulkner was the youngest of seven children. He left high school prior to graduation to join the U.S. Army, where he continued his studies and earned his high school diploma and an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice. After his military duty was completed, he returned to Philadelphia, where he became a corrections officer. In 1975, he joined the Philadelphia Police Department.

He soon purchased a home and in 1979 married his wife, Maureen. The couple would host once-a-month get-togethers for their friends. Faulkner's family and friends remember him as the neighborhood leader for the Muscular Dystrophy Association and the organizer of an annual softball marathon to raise funds for that charity organization.

According to the Faulkner website, "Danny loved being a police officer and planned to spend the rest of his working life advancing his career in law enforcement. He truly represents an American Story and the best traditions of our nation."

The other player: the death penalty

According to Amnesty International, Pennsylvania governor Tom Ridge is an avid supporter of the death penalty, having signed 176 death warrants since his election in 1995. This is five times the number signed by the state's two previous governors over a 25-year period. All but three of the warrants signed by Ridge have been cancelled by the courts; all three of the prisoners executed had given up their appeals and consented to their execution.

"Amnesty International has long-term concerns around the fairness of Mumia Abu-Jamal's trial. The organization first raised its concerns with the Pennsylvanian authorities in 1991. To date, none of Amnesty International's concerns have been adequately addressed," the AI website states.

The organization is preparing a study of the trial transcript and other related documents and will announce its findings later this year.

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NOT ONLY IS THERE A QUESTION ABOUT THE FAIRNESS OF THE TRIAL, MANY HAVE SCRUTINIZED THE EVIDENCE ITSELF.

Senior Profiles

JENNIFER KATHRYN GERBERICK

INTERVIEWED BY: PENNY KEARNEY

P: Where are you from?

J: I'm from Mansfield, Oh, a little city between Columbus and Cleveland; it's a cute place.

P: What on earth interested you in Antioch?

J: I had always wanted to go to Antioch because of the co-op program and because it wasn't as much like high school as traditional schools are.

P: I take it then, that you're satisfied with your decision?

J: I've definitely benefited from my co-op experiences and my course of study in Management, but I can't say that I'm completely convinced that going to college was the right decision. All in all, though, the learning has been fun and beneficial.

P: What were some of your interesting co-ops?

J: I worked at a domestic violence shelter in upstate NY, at the International Association of Chiefs of Police organizing a hate crime summit with the Department of Justice, where I learned a lot about the politics of non-profit work and also that the other side isn't always as evil as we would like to believe. I did my last co-op at an organic farm in my hometown, where I did farm work in the

sun, it was great, I just love to work outside.

P: My, how Antiochian of you.

J: I try.

P: What interested you in the SGS department?

J: I've always had an interest in labor relations. Which was further highlighted for me during my trip to Europe.

P: What does a management major do for a senior project?

J: Well contrary to popular belief, I didn't practice taking benefits away from people. I studied the effects of Communism on the female labor markets of Eastern Europe. People should read it if they want, hopefully I will get it posted on the web page. It's really interesting. I bet a lot of people would be surprised to learn some of the things that went on during those years, especially to women.

P: What memories are you taking with you?

J: My favorite part of Antioch has always been the colors, it's such a bright place. I'll also miss the comfort and the familiarity of our home. People are definitely the best thing about this place, there are some great ones here.

P: What are your future endeavors?

J: I'm going to be a rock star!

ANTHONY BOWMAN

INTERVIEWED BY: JENNIFER GERBERICK

J: Where are you from?

A: I grew up outside of Darby Dale, 20 miles southwest of Columbus, Ohio. I had many dogs, and there was lots of corn.

J: So, why are you at Antioch?

A: Because I heard about this college that described itself as progressive with a really interesting co-op program. It seemed like a good place to grow. In many ways it was, in some it wasn't.

J: What's your major?

A: SSC, concentrating in self – that means me.

J: How'd that go?

A: It went well. I have many different interests. I concentrated mostly on courses in sociology. With that concentration, I have studied queer theory, concepts of identity, mental illness and disabilities. I've also taken a number of SGS courses, which I see as really rounding out my Antioch career. I think more Antioch students should – and need – to take them.

J: What was your senior project?

A: I interviewed individuals labeled "mentally retarded" on their perceptions of and experiences with stigma associated with their labeled status. It was a very positive experience for me.

J: What was your favorite co-op?

A: That would have to be a co-op I did in New Orleans. I worked at Children's Hospital as a temp in the medical records department. It wasn't really the job that made the co-op memorable, though I did learn a lot. Most enjoyable were the friends that I made and the city itself. I really like bourbon now.

J: What's your favorite thing about Antioch?

A: Um...the "transient mode – home" sign above the stoop, and a lot of other things too. I've enjoyed a lot of things about Antioch, especially during my 2nd and 3rd years, I think in the last year I have forgotten what some of them are. I'm sure I'll remember.

J: What are your plans after graduation?

A: I'm moving to Chicago where I will get an apartment and a job and keep them both for more than four months. I'm going to work for a while. In a couple of years I want to get a masters degree in either social service administration or social work and non-profit management.

J: Any concluding thoughts?

A: I don't know...if you see me, someday, on the streets of Chicago...don't talk to me. Kidding.



A different world: skydiving in greene ctý.



BY SAM TRANUM

(Note from the author: Skydive Greene County let me jump for free in exchange for writing this article—it's an advertisement—but it all really happened of course.)

I'm twelve miles south and almost two miles above Antioch.

It's 11 a.m. on a cool gray April day and the wind is rushing in the door of the twin-prop airplane that's carried me 10,000 feet above the checkerboard corn and soybean fields of southwestern Ohio. The clouds brush the top of the plane and my skydiving instructor taps my shoulder to indicate that it's time.

We crawl towards the gaping door in the side of the plane, strapped together for a "tandem" jump. Standing in the doorway, the wind pushing all the skin on my face two inches to the left, I look forward at the spinning propellers of the plane.

"One," yells my instructor, Smitty. He's a giant, friendly guy from Tampa with short brown hair and big hands. I look out at the horizon, bent to the gentle curve of the earth.

"Two," shouts Smitty over the wind. I look down searching for the giant gravel "X" that we're supposed to land on. I can't find it.

"Three," yells Smitty and we go hurtling out of the door, away from the plane, the wind flowing over me like a river, my stomach drops out for a split second and then I breathe and look around. I watch the two other skydivers for a moment, smile and give the thumbs up for the camera — one of them is pointing at me.

And then it's all over; there's nothing but silence.

The parachute is open above me and I float, strapped to the front of Smitty, slowly to the ground. Spinning, circling and drifting until we land gently on our feet at the edge of the giant gravel "X" that was our target.

Standing in the grass outside Skydive Greene County (SGC), my only thought was, "when can I go again?"

SGC instructor Brian Marzluf tells me that this is the same thing that happened to him.

"I came for one jump, just to try it out," explained Marzluf. But he got hooked.

Eleven hundred jumps later he's still hooked. And not just

because of the thrill jumping out of, as skydivers point out so often, "a perfectly good airplane."

There's a special camaraderie among those crazy enough to enjoy hurtling headfirst toward the cold, hard ground at over a hundred miles per hour.

"You'll get guys who work at McDonald's and guys with Ph.ds all hanging out together and it doesn't matter cause you're all skydivers," said Marzluf. "It's a whole different world."

Skydive Green County
(937) 372-0700

www.skydiveohio.com

Located east of Xenia, SGC (est. 1961) is the premier skydiving facility in the area. It is home to the skydiving clubs of Ohio State University, Wright State University, and the University of Cincinnati. The price for the first tandem jump is \$185 from 13,000 ft. or \$165 from 10,000 ft. (A \$10 coupon is available online). For an extra \$65 SGC will videotape your skydive and set it to music of your choice.

GOODBYE GRADUATING HUMANS!

BY ORANGE KITTY (AND ALEAH NESTEBY)

Most of you probably know me by now. Some of you know me by other names, such as "Killer." It's me, Orange Kitty, the big orange cat. Some of you have probably let me into your dorms, or given me food, or tried to pick me up and pet me until I bit you. Don't think that I've forgotten you. Even if I've never killed a squirrel and brought it to you, or even left you the tail, know that you are my family. As you graduate and go into the world like so many belligerent stray cats, remember me. Every time I kill and disembowel a squirrel, I will remember you. Here's my advice: yowl a lot, sleep on hoods of cars, don't let any strangers touch you or think that you like them, and kill lots of rodents. Good luck in the world.



Commencement Schedule of Events

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 3:30 – 5:30 PM | Reception for graduating students and their guests hosted by President Robert H. Devine in Herndon Gallery, South Hall |
| 4:30 PM | Students of Color Graduation Ceremony in Spalt 007 |
| 5:30 – 7:00 PM | Cookout Dinner on the Stoop
\$3.50 per person. |
| 7:00 – 9:00 PM | Dessert reception for Faculty in the Antioch Inn with graduating students and families. |
| 10:30 PM | Senior Party |

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 8:30 – 9:30 AM | Complimentary Coffee, Juice, Bagels, Donuts, Muffins at the Union Stoop |
| 9:00 – 10:30 AM | Teach-in/Forum: Glen Helen Building Auditorium |
| 10:30 AM | Degree Candidates line up for graduation in the area near Weston hall. |
| 11:00 AM | Commencement |

Degree Candidates: Assemble in front of Weston Hall at 10:30 AM. Check in at the desk for line assignment.

There will be a table at the beginning of the lineup area where you will receive a card when you check in. If your card is not picked up, your diploma will not be ready for presentation at the ceremony. It is important that you check at the table, receive your card, and remain close by and reasonably quiet so you hear directions.

Faculty: Assemble near the Antioch Union by 10:30 AM.

The Procession: The procession will begin at 11 AM led by the Administrators and other commencement participants, the faculty and followed by the degree candidates in a single file line. The procession will turn into the mound area, and faculty will

take seats in the area reserved for them. The degree candidates will follow around, directly in front of the mound to their chairs remaining in the order assigned to them. Everyone remains standing until the commencement participants standing behind the podium are seated.

Awarding of Degrees: Degrees will be awarded individually. Degree candidates will be presented by the President. Specific instructions will be given during the ceremony.

procedure