

wellesleyweek

11-18
february
2008

former black panther leader headlines quintessence day

From 1974 to 1977, Elaine Brown made history as the first — and only — female chair of the Black Panthers Party. While a member, she established the party's first Free Busing to Prisons program, set up a free legal aid program and ran for political office twice. Since her time with the Panthers, she has continued to focus on radical reform of the criminal justice system.

Brown will present the Quintessence Day lecture, "New Age Racism in America: The Elimination of Race, Gender and Class Disparities," Wednesday, Feb. 13, at 7 pm in Collins Cinema. The lecture, sponsored by the student group Ethos, will focus on the massive incarceration of blacks and other people of color.

"Ethos chose Elaine Brown as this year's Quintessence Day speaker because we feel that she embodies the spirit of Quintessence," said Victoria Allison '10, Quintessence Day and lecture chair. "We feel Ms. Brown represents the proud legacy that black women have bestowed on this nation and world."

Ethos defines Quintessence as the perfect manifestation of black womanhood. Each year they look to politics, media, literature, science, technology, business and beyond to find a woman who best

represents that ideal. Brown also has a personal connection to Wellesley.

"Ms. Brown is very excited about speaking at Wellesley, especially because her aunt, Clarissa M. Scott Delaney '23, was one of the earliest blacks to attend Wellesley," Allison said.

Brown is the author of *A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story* and *The Condemnation of Little B: New Age Racism in America*. She has also recorded two albums, *Seize the Time* and *Elaine Brown*, and wrote and recorded the Black Panther's anthem. She recently ran for mayor of Brunswick, Ga., and announced her candidacy for the 2008 presidential election through the Green Party, which she later retracted. For more information, call x2133.



esp trio brings savvy jazz to wellesley

A trio of women, classically trained but with a diversity of musical experiences, will bring their brand of vocal jazz to Wellesley. The ESP trio will perform Wednesday, Feb. 13, at 12:30 pm in Jewett Auditorium.

The trio consists of Emily Browder, Sandi Hammond and Patrice Williamson, music. Browder maintains a classical career, singing in the Opera Boston choir. In a review, *The Boston Globe* noted, "singers of the caliber of Emily Browder are sheer lagniappe." Hammond is a Boston-based singer-songwriter who writes in a pop-folk blend on both piano and guitar. She also runs her own commissioned songwriting business. Williamson's sensitive interpretations and fluent scat style have made her a fixture of Boston and Singapore's live music scene and earned her a

"Best of Boston" accolade. "She can scat her way skillfully through a standard and charm the audience with ease," said a *Boston Magazine* piece.

The three women met while teaching voice at the New School in Cambridge, Mass., and came together over a shared love of vocal jazz. They are now the vocal ensemble in residence at the school.

Pianist and arranger Mark Shilansky has worked with the ESP trio since the ensemble's inception four years ago. The ensemble will also be joined by Keala Kamehewa, bass, and Steve Langone, drums, for a performance of familiar and lesser known jazz tunes arranged by Shilansky especially for the trio. For more information, call x2028.



greenhouse fun on presidents' day

Looking for an alternative to movies or shopping with the kids on Presidents' Day? Bask in a tropical environment and visit plants from around the world without leaving Wellesley. Join the Friends of Horticulture at the Margaret C. Ferguson Greenhouses for "Greenhouse Kids' Time" Monday, Feb. 18, from 1-4 pm. The event will feature crafts, explorations and scavenger hunts designed especially for school-aged kids (ages 4+). All children must be accompanied by an adult. The event is free and open to the public.

"There are different activities each time, so if your child has enjoyed previous Greenhouse Kids' Time events they will like this one, too!" said Kristina Jones, director of the botanical gardens.

For more information, call x3504.

WellesleyWeek is published each Monday during the academic year by the Office for Public Affairs. All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. For directions, go to www.wellesley.edu/CampusMaps/. Phone numbers are dialed 781 283-xxxx. Campus-sponsored event listings are welcome via an online form at www.wellesley.edu/PublicAffairs/WellesleyWeek/Forms/wellswkform.html or e-mail wellesleyweekcalendar@wellesley.edu. Submissions can be mailed to WellesleyWeek, Office for Public Affairs, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley, MA 02481. Deadline for calendar submissions is noon on the Monday prior to publication. For paid subscriptions, call 781 283 2373. View **WellesleyWeek** online at www.wellesley.edu/PublicAffairs/WellesleyWeek/archiveweek.html. For more events, go to <https://calendar.wellesley.edu/wv3> for the online campus calendar.

news

wellesley professor looks at africans ‘starved for science’

Starved for Science: How Biotechnology Is Being Kept Out of Africa (Harvard University Press, March 2008), by Robert Paarlberg, political science, confronts the sad fact that people in Africa are poor because their labor as farmers has not yet been improved by science, including modern biotechnology.

Paarlberg says that agricultural science has fallen out of fashion in rich countries, even though the prosperity and productivity of farms depends on it, and now, these prosperous countries are telling impoverished Africa, where farms are not yet productive, not to invest in science.

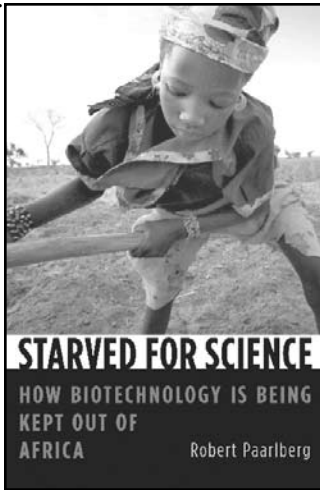
Africa’s small farmers are mostly poor, hardworking women. They have no improved seeds, no chemical fertilizers, no irrigation. With their meager crops, they earn less than a dollar a day. Many are malnourished.

It’s a frustrating situation, says Paarlberg, whose book aims to expose the “technological impoverishment” placed on African farmers by Western governments, nongov-

ernmental organizations and African political leaders. All claim to have African farmers’ best interests at heart, but they exert what Paarlberg calls “an imperialism of rich tastes.”

“This postmodern resistance to agricultural science felt now in both North America and Europe makes considerable sense in rich countries, where science has already brought so much productivity to farming that little more seems needed,” Paarlberg writes. “It becomes dangerous, however, when exported to countries in Africa where farmers remain trapped in poverty because they are starved for science.”

In *Starved for Science*, he defends the potential for helping Africa rise out of hunger and poverty through science. Without it, African farmers are hearing the message that, in the eyes of the world, they may as well remain poor. For more information, visit www.wellesley.edu/PublicAffairs/Releases/2008/020108.html.



how biomedical engineering will change our world

Biomedical advances in the 21st century will depend critically on the response of academia and industry to the unprecedented opportunities that spawn from the simultaneous and astonishing advances occurring in biomedicine, says Martha L. Gray, director of the MIT-Harvard Division of Health Sciences and Technology.

Gray will present the lecture “How Biomedical Engineering is Transforming the Medical Paradigm” Monday, Feb. 11, at 4:45 pm in Science Center 278. Refreshments will be served at 4:30 pm in Sage Lounge in the Science Center.

During the lecture, Gray will give examples of several transformative medical advances for which biomedical engineers played a central role. New technologies are fundamentally altering the approach to advancing new knowledge, identifying and evaluating new therapeutic targets, and refining diagnoses—including stratifying individuals in accordance to their potential to respond to therapy.

“These emerging technologies conspire to bring systems physiology, diagnosis and therapeutics ever closer, and in a patient-specific way,” Gray said. “Biomedical engineers and biomedical engineering is at the center of this transformative paradigm and there is every reason to have hope that over the coming decades, young biomedical engineers, inspired by this opportunity, will lead the way in the transformative advances of the next century.” For more information, call x3156.

colleagues

in the news

[daniel bilar](#), computer science, has recently given talks at the Black Hat Conference in Las Vegas and at conferences in Lucerne, London, Wales and two German universities—University of Dortmund and Ruhr University Bochum. Bilar’s current research focuses on the detection and containment of highly evolved malicious software, risk analysis of networks and quantum computing. He has recently published several papers on new ways to detect malware and argues that the signature-based approaches used in most current virus-detection packages are ineffective at catching the newest virus strains. While at Dortmund, he tracked down the last remaining copy, which was locked in a vault, of a 1980 Dortmund thesis by Jürgen Kraus on self-replicating programs. Bilar realized that the ideas in this thesis predated what was previously thought to be the earliest work on certain aspects of computer viruses. Bilar and Lt. Col. Eric Filiol at the Military Academy in Rennes, France, have translated Kraus’s thesis from German to English and are publishing it in a special issue of the *Journal of Computer Virology*.

[james david christie](#), music, delivered the annual E. J. Lownes Memorial Organ Recital in Sayles Hall, Brown University, demonstrating that a top-notch concert need not include composers with household names, reported *The Brown Daily Herald*. Christie is the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s organist.

Computer science and biological sciences have welcomed [brett pellock](#), a postdoctoral fellow working with [brian tjadén](#), computer science. Pellock is at Wellesley for a two-year position funded by a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, as part of a cross-disciplinary collaboration between the departments. Before coming to Wellesley, Pellock worked as a postdoctoral fellow at MIT and Massachusetts General Hospital. He conducts basic cancer research using the fruit fly, *Drosophila melanogaster*, as a model organism to identify and characterize genes that restrict cell growth, cell division and cell survival. He is co-teaching the CS303/BISC “Bioinformatics” course with Tjadén this semester.

calendar

monday february 11

cws deadline. Recruiting Résumé. Info: x2352 or <http://www.wellesley.edu/CWS/students/sturecruit.html>.

administrative council meeting. 11 am, Academic Council Room. Info: x2333.

arabic table. 12:30 pm, Tower Court dining hall. Sponsor: Middle Eastern Studies. Info: x4827.

cws drop-in hours. Stipends. 12:30-2 pm, Green 441. Info: x2352.

cws info session. The Lumpkin Summer Institute for Service Learning Internship. 4:30 pm, PNE 239. Info: x2352.

info session. University of London's Royal Holloway. 1 pm, Wang 210. Sponsor: International Study. Info: x2320.

lecture. "How Biomedical Engineering Is Changing the Medical Paradigm." Speaker: Martha Gray, director, Health Services and Technology, MIT. 4:45 pm, SCI 278. Sponsor: Physics. Info: x3156. (See story, page 3.)

esl tutoring. 6-8 pm, PLTC small conference room. By appointment. Info: x2480.

cws meetings. "Stipend Q&A." 10 pm, Beebe, Cazenove, Munger, Pomeroy, Severance and Shafer living rooms and Tower Court Great Hall. Info: x2352.

tuesday february 12

lecture. "Nomen-Colonialism: How Conservation Efforts Are Undermined by the Rules of Biological Nomenclature." Speaker: Glenn Adelson, biology. 12:30 pm, Wang 413. Sponsor: Environmental Studies. Info: x2989.

french table. 12:30 pm, Bates Dining Room. Sponsor: French. Info: x2413.

info session. Long Term Care Insurance. 12:30 pm or 3:30 pm, Library Lecture Room. Sponsor: HR. Info: x3202.

film. "Congressman Robert Smalls: A Patriot's Journey from Slavery to Capitol Hill." 4:15 pm, Collins Cinema. Sponsor: Africana Studies. Info: x2563. (See story, page 4.)

math colloquium. "The Mandelbrot Set, the Farey Tree and the Fibonacci Sequence." Speaker: Bob Devaney, mathematics, Boston University. 4:15 pm, SCI 396. Sponsor: Math. Info: x3148.

wednesday february 13

info session. Long Term Care Insurance. 9 am, Library Lecture Room. Sponsor: HR. Info: x3202.

german table. 12:30 pm, Tower private dining room. Sponsor: German. Info: x2584.

concert. ESP trio. 12:30 pm, Jewett Auditorium. Sponsor: Music. Info: x2028. (See story, page 2.)

intramurals. floor hockey. 4:30-8:30 pm, multipurpose gymnasium, Sports Center. Info: x2016.

lecture. Quintessence Day. Speaker: Elaine Brown, activist, writer and singer. 7 pm, Collins Cinema. Sponsor: Ethos. Info: ethosmail@wellesley.edu. (See story, page 1.)

lecture. "Monstrous Galaxies and Mountaintop Gatorade." Speaker: Kim McLeod, astronomy. 12:30 pm, Whitin Observatory. Sponsor: Astronomy. Info: mraffi@wellesley.edu.

info session. Long Term Care Insurance. 3 pm, Library Lecture Room. Sponsor: HR. Info: x3202.

thursday february 14

ois deadline. Applications for Wellesley Study Abroad Programs 2008-09. Sponsor: International Study. Info: x2320.

spanish table. 12:30 pm, Tower Court Small Dining Room. Sponsor: Spanish. Info: x3571.

concert. "Marseille Woodwind Quintet." 5 pm, French House. Sponsor: French. Info: x2415.

esl tutoring. (See 2/4 listing.)

cws meetings. "Stipend Q & A." 10 pm, Bates, Clafflin, Freeman, Lake House and Stone Davis living rooms. Info: x2352.

friday february 15

credit/no credit ends.

paperwork to add Brandeis/Babson/MIT courses due.

info session. London School of Economics. 11 am, Wang 210. Sponsor: International Study. Info: x2320.

cws event. "Guided Internship Search." 12:30 pm, CWS Library, Green 441. Info: x2352.

info session. University of London's School for Oriental and African Studies. 2:30 pm, Wang 415. Sponsor: International Study. Info: x2320.

cws meetings. "Stipend Q & A." 10 pm, McAfee and Dower living rooms. Info: x2352.

saturday february 16

intramural tournament. 1-4 pm, Sports Center. Info: x2016.

basketball vs. MIT. 2 pm, Sports Center. Info: x2900.

film. *Gone with the Wind*, 7 and 9 pm. Info: ohendric@wellesley.edu.

sunday february 17

gathering. Darshana. 11 am, meditation room, Schneider Center. Sponsor: Hindu Students. Info: x2794.

gathering. Catholic mass. 4 pm, blue room, Schneider Center. Sponsor: Newman Catholic Ministry. Info: x2688.

monday february 18

presidents' day. Administrative holiday.

arabic table. 12:30 pm, Tower Court dining hall. Sponsor: Middle Eastern Studies. Info: x4827.

save the date!

2/19: Lecture. "Developing Environmentally Friendly Technology in Israel." Speaker: Michael Granoff, founder of Maniv Energy Capital. 12:15 pm, PNE 225. Info: friendsofisraelmail@wellesley.edu.

2/20: Lecture. "The Making of Roots." Speaker: LeVar Burton, actor, director and author. 7pm, Collins Cinema. Sponsor: Harambee House. Info: x2134.

2/20: Video presentation and talk. Speakers: Artist Liliana Porter and James Oles, art. 5 pm, Collins Cinema. Sponsor: DMCC. Info: x2034.

2/21: Red Cross Blood Drive. 10 am- 3 pm, Tishman Commons, Wang Center. Sponsor: CWS. Info: x2357.

2/21: Film/discussion. Speaker: Alan Ball, director, presents *Towelhead*, film based on novel by Alicia Erian, English. 5 pm, Collins Cinema. Sponsor: English. Info: x2591.

2/24: Concert. Triple Helix Piano Trio. 7 pm, Jewett Auditorium. Sponsor: Music. Info: x2028.

2/26: Lecture. "Sovereignty of the Archive: Photography and African Modernity." Speaker: Okwui Enwezor, artistic director, curator and editor. 4:30pm, Collins Cinema. Sponsor: Art. Info: x2042.

children's activity. "Greenhouse Kids' Time." Children must be accompanied by adult. 1 pm, Ferguson Greenhouses. Sponsor: Friends of Horticulture. Info: x3504. (See story, page 1.)

ongoing:

botany walks. Weekly displays of the Greenhouse employees' favorite plants. 8 am-4 pm, Greenhouse Visitor Center. Sponsor: Ferguson Greenhouses. Info: x3504.

exhibit. Black History Month featuring local artists Laura Palmet Edwards, Crystal Brown-Brattle, Joan Cameron and students Rebecca Amponsah '08 and Taylor Holloway '08. Harambee House. Through 2/29. Info: x2134.

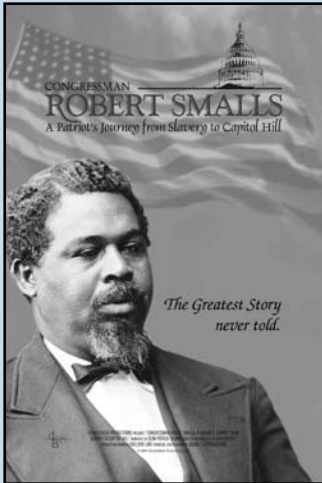
exhibit. "Thanks to the Angiosperms." Watercolors by Susan Swinand. 10 am-4pm, Greenhouse Visitor Center. Sponsor: Friends of Horticulture. Info: x3504. Through 3/29.

don't miss ...

documentary tells tale of patriot's journey from slavery to capitol hill

In 1875, during the Reconstruction period after the Civil War, Robert Smalls of South Carolina was elected to the first of his five congressional terms. A former slave, Smalls tirelessly served his constituents, black and white, with dignity and courage. He fought for equal opportunities among the races in business, politics and education.

The documentary *Congressman Robert Smalls: A Patriot's Journey from Slavery to Capitol Hill* will be shown Tuesday, Feb. 12, at 4:15 pm in Collins Cinema. The film, narrated by actor Sean Patrick Thomas, explores the leadership and legacy of Smalls.



“Smalls’ story is still relevant today as African Americans seek to maintain a voice in the American political system,” said Adrena Ifill, writer and executive producer. “Smalls made a great impact on American democracy by pushing our country to live up to its ideals of freedom and justice for all citizens. Today’s African American congressman and senators are the embodiment of his legacy.”

During his political career, Smalls was instrumental in the creation of the South Carolina public school system. He was also the catalyst for the integration of Philadelphia’s public transportation system. After resigning from office in 1887, Small continued to work to hold back the tide of domestic terrorism designed to disenfranchise African Americans in the democratic process.

“My race needs no special defense, for the past history of them in this country proves them to be equal of any people anywhere,” Smalls wrote in 1895. “All they need is an equal chance in the battle of life.” For more information, call x2568.

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