

COLUMBIA SPECTATOR

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Dear Editor:

It seems that many of the recent minority letter writers buy into Richard Griff's message, "Blame it on the white man." Of course, Griff's statement on integration ("As far as this integration stuff, nah, it won't work. We have to be separate.") does not prevent these minority activists from suggesting that whites who support their efforts are engaging in subterfuge and are merely fostering a continued dichotomy between whites and minorities. Who needs whites to drive a wedge when there is someone who says he is not "one of those scared handkerchief-headed

negroes’”? Griff just says everything that pops into his head, no matter how stupid, e.g., “AIDS is a man-made disease” resulting from an experiment on Africans. And I thought Al Sharpton was unbelievable. Further, to suggest, as Lisa Williamson did, that charges of anti-Semitism against some blacks are trite acts of modern McCarthyism is to demonstrate an unapologetic willingness to elevate blacks’ opinions of themselves by denigrating Jews, much as Hitler deftly redirected the attention of the German people from their own problems. She criticized the Board of Managers for withdrawing its support from what she calls the celebration of Black History Month; what precisely did Griff contribute to this celebration other than denigrate other races (always the crowd pleaser)?

A column appearing on Feb. 12 stated that there is an obligation to fund the Black Student’ Organization (BSO) and respect its principles; no, there is not, especially if there is sharp contrast between what the BSO purports to do and what it actually does. The BSO would never have received its request of \$9000 if it had made mention of the fact that Griff was essentially to be a keynote speaker at the time of its request. By playing down the fact that Griff was slipped in after approval for funding and by suggesting that to attempt to limit this outlay was some form of “white man pulls plug, again”, the BSO has had a field day with the Columbia community, including those organizations who dug into their own allotments from student fees to support what was to be an event to improve race relations on campus. The spiteful statements made by

various BSO members with regard to the Holocaust demonstrate that present day pseudo-martyrs like Jesse Jackson are great symbols of the BSO's celebration of Black History Month.

I recently saw a display for this retrospective which included a picture of Malcolm X captioned by the phrase, "Remember Malcolm X"; there is only one thing missing from that quotation or, for that matter, ones under pictures of Luis Ferrakhan or Richard Griff—"...as a racist."

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