

COLUMBIA SPECTATOR ARCHIVE

Columbia Daily Spectator, Volume CXIX, Number 50, 7 April 1995 — Letter to the Editor Not so Eazy [ARTICLE]

Letter to the Editor

Not so Eazy

Editor:

Unfortunately, I must take the opportunity to congratulate Jean-Luc Létard (a.k.a. Scott MacKenzie, CC '96) and the *Spectator* staff for a job well done. MacKenzie's ignorant, disrespectful and racist contribution to *Spectrum* ["Gang-star offers ghetto world vision," *Spectator*, Mar. 31], exemplifies *Spectator's* disregard and haste in dealing with issues concerning black people on and off campus.

Spectator is riddled with a past full of shabby and unprofessional journalism, where misquotations of anyone from Peter Conti and Sharod Baker (targeted members of the BSO for *Spectator* articles) to off-campus speakers such as Tony Martin and Khalid Mohammed, contribute to my cynicism and apathy towards a tabloid that gives precedence to photographs and articles on football and baseball instead of the black community.

The afro and goatee that was scribbled in on the photograph of Jean-Luc Létard, the caricature of Eric Wright, and the article itself compelled me to offer Scott a sug-

gestion, a bit of guidance for his future journalistic endeavors. Scott, avoid writing about an issue you have little if any knowledge and understanding about.

Your desperate attempt to convey humor and belittle the thematic content of Eric Wright's music illustrates your sick sense of humor and haughty ignorance with respect to an issue you and many other racist Americans label "gangsterism" and "gangster rap," avoiding the real issues of racist institutions, the corrupt political system, and poverty.

The illustration of Eric Wright portrays the artist wearing a hat labeled "rubber," another twisted attempt at humor with respect to the disease that brought about the death of Eric Wright, AIDS. Scott, avoid poking fun at deceased black people and leave issues of "gangsters," "black rage," and the "ghetto" out of your journalistic itinerary.

If you are insistent on belittling the dead in your column, try writing parodies about dead white people—Kurt Cobain, Richard Nixon, and many others, for example.

Steven Clarke CC '97