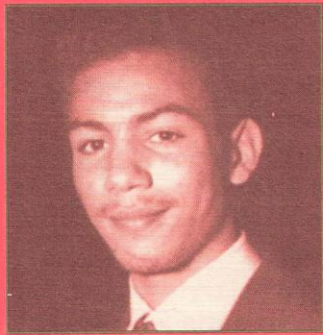


A PROJECT FROM THE PROJECTS



Jamel Oeser-Sweat

It is a remarkable achievement for even the most fortunate high school student from the best of schools to be named a winner in the Westinghouse Science Talent Search. Jamel Oeser-Sweat is only one of the above.

An African American student, he was only four years old when his father died of cancer, forcing his mother to move with her three sons into a homeless shelter. When Jamel was 13, just after his family had found a home in the projects, his mother became depressed and had to be hospitalized. Jamel was put into a group home and his brothers into foster care. An entire year went by before Jamel and his family were reunited.

Turning Point

In the eighth grade, while living in the group home, Jamel realized that school could be an anchor, a place where your friends are, a place where you can learn things that can make life better. And so, Jamel decided for the first time in his life to study hard and become a good student.

Many people expect that by age 17, a boy who has had to live Jamel's kind of life would be running with a gang, selling drugs, in jail or even worse. But not Jamel! By the time he was 17, Jamel was a member of The National Honor Society, an Eagle

Scout and a youth advisor. Most of all, Jamel was a winner in the 53rd Westinghouse Science Talent Search.

In the tenth grade, his science teacher at New York City's Martin Luther King, Jr., High School convinced him to join Secondary Education Through Health (SETH). This program is a joint effort of Mt. Sinai Hospital and the New York City Board of Education, which encourages disadvantaged students to consider health careers.

Jamel's science project, under

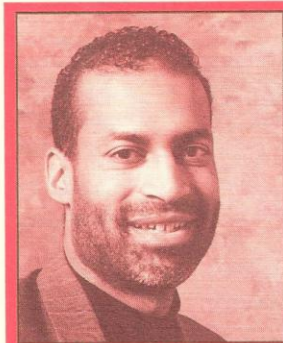
SETH auspices, traced the origins of a bacterial infection that had caused a hospital employee to develop skin lesions. Because of its implications for disease transmission, Jamel's project made him a 1994 Westinghouse award winner.

Harvard and Yale begged, but Jamel chose a full scholarship to New York University so that he could be near his family.

For further information about SETH or Jamel, contact Dr. Lloyd R. Sherman at 212-241-6089.

MATH IS A BLACK THING; SO IS SCIENCE, HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

Toronto-born Warren Salmon is a black man who believes that everyone, regardless of race, should have an appreciation for African history and culture. Remembering his days as a student in Canada, Salmon recalls, "...not feeling included in the material that was provided in the school system and the negative portrayals in the media of people of African descent."



Warren Salmon

On Board

So, once armed with a degree in computer science, Salmon founded Black Board International and set out to develop Afrocentric educational software. The result is ten titles which range from an examination of African history and geography to the contributions of science, mathematics, music and social studies that come from Africa. The various programs are designed to educate ages 3 through adult. All titles are available for both

the Macintosh and DOS platforms, and will soon be available in CD Rom.

Global Reach

Similar software programs have been developed in the U.S., but Salmon says his are much more comprehensive. For one thing, they offer a more global view, incorporating the experience of African people around the world.

Salmon's software programs are now being used by schools in such cities as Detroit, New Orleans, Toronto, New York and

Chicago. They are also being tailored for use in Britain.

But, for all of Salmon's successes, he says that, "My biggest battle has been convincing teachers in schools where there are no Blacks, that the software will do a good job for them too. After all, we all have to understand each other, don't we?"

For further information about Black Board International, call 800-822-1080.