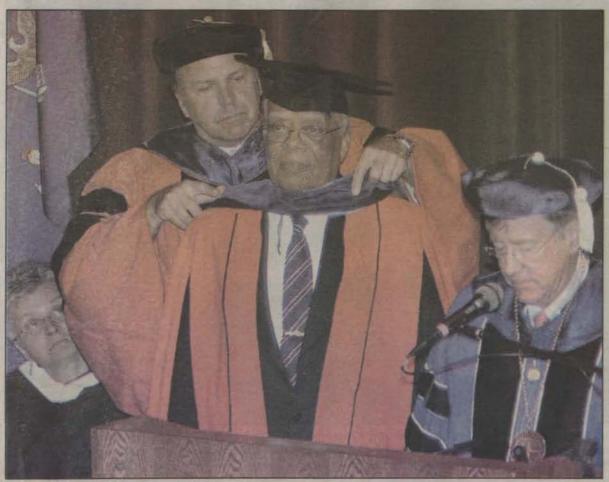
Sir Howard gets honorary degree



Governor General Sir Howard Cooke

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NEW YORK (JIS)

overnor General Sir Howard H.F. Cooke was on Saturday, September 17, presented with the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Civil Law during convocation ceremonies at Hartwick College in Oneonta, Upstate New York.

The Governor General was presented by the Rev. Adrian A. McFarlane, professor of Philosophy and pastor of the First United Presbyterian Church of Oneonta. The Rev. Dr. McFarlane is Jamaican.

The conferment of the Honorary Doctorate of Civil Law was the high point of a busy weekend for the Jamaican head of State.

On Friday, the Governor General met with a group of Caribbean students at the college during which he discussed issues of regional and international importance.

On Sunday, Sir Howard participated in a special worship service at the First Presbyterian Church in Oneonta, NY and was well received by the congregation.

In his acceptance remarks on Saturday during which he urged understanding and tolerance, the Governor General noted that "there are many benefits to the relationship between the Oneonta area and the island of Jamaica."

Prior to his installment as Governor General of Jamaica in 1991, Sir Howard Cooke served the United Presbyterian Church in Jamaica for many years in the capacity as a lay preacher in his hometown of Montego Bay.

The Oneonta area has maintained a strong relationship with Jamaica through the Trans-cultural Nursing Programme, which is linked to the School of Nursing at Hartwick College. Also, the Pringle Home for disadvantaged and at risk children in St. Mary is visited annually by members of the First Presbyterian Church of Oneonta.

Consul General of Jamaica, Hon. Dr. Basil K. Bryan headed the large turn out of dignitaries who attended to congratulate the Governor General.