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# THE HILLTOP

The Nation's Largest Black Student Newspaper



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"Being that this is the 'Mecca,' we of all schools should be pumping up this election,"  
— KAREEM NULAN, Student

## Presidential Race in a 'Dead Heat' Days Before Election

By ANDREW BUCHERT  
The Technician &  
JASON T. SMITH  
Hilltop Editor-in-Chief

(U-WIRE) RALEIGH, N.C. — The outcome of next Tuesday's presidential election will be very close and largely dependent upon several key states, namely Florida, Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Washington and California, according to leading political scientists from Howard to North Carolina State University.

And according to most political scientists, the black voter turn out will be key to deciding Tuesday's election.

"The polls showing the marginal difference of one to two percentage points giving Bush a minuscule edge might be reversed in the electoral college at present," said Dr.

Lorenzo Morris, chair of the Black Politics field at Howard.

"Not a single Democrat would be in the White House today if it wasn't for Blacks," Morris said.

With key issues like racial profiling, community development, urban pollution and the selection of Supreme Court Justices at stake, Morris said he believes that blacks will likely turn out in larger-than-expected numbers Tuesday.

Still students are pleading for other students to take Tuesday's election seriously.

Kareem Nulan, a senior international business and finance major, spent most of his week with a stapler in one hand a stack of Gore/Lieberman placards in the other. He and a small group of Howard students canvassed Georgia Avenue with the placards in the hopes students and passersby remem-

bered to vote Tuesday.

"[Student apathy] bothers me more than anything. Being that this is the 'Mecca,' we of all schools should be pumping up this election," Nulan said. Nulan, a Colorado native, said he would be voting by absentee ballot.

"This election could yield one of the closest election outcomes in maybe 60 years," said Oliver Williams, North Carolina State University political science professor and expert in contemporary politics.

The nature of the electoral college, Bush's and Gore's strengths and deficiencies in each of the key states, as well as the effects of third-party candidates Ralph Nader and Pat Buchanan, will prove to be the critical factors in determining the outcome of the presidential race, said Michael Vasu, NCSU associate professor of political science and public administration and director of the Social Sci-

ence Research Laboratory.

"The most important factor is the Nader factor," Vasu said. "Nader is taking more likely voters from Gore than Bush, and it appears that the west coast states of Oregon, Washington and California have a higher proportion of Nader voters."

Although Nader and Buchanan are not registering much support in the polls, with Nader showing between 3 to 4 percent and Buchanan boasting a mere 1 percent, their presence on the ballot may prove critical to the outcome of the election, Taylor said.

"Because Nader is getting more of the third-party vote than Buchanan, and because he takes almost exclusively from the Democratic Party vote, Nader is going to cause a problem for Gore," he said.

See ELECTION, A5

### Where To Vote

The following polling sites are the closest to Howard's various residence halls.

Date: November 7, 2000  
Time: 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**Slowe and Carver Hall:** Auditorium of Gage-Eckington School, located at 3rd and Elm Streets, N.W.

**Bethune Annex, Tubman Quad, Cook and Drew Hall:** Gymnasium of Bruce Monroe School, 3021 Georgia Avenue, N.W.

**Howard Plaza Towers:** Multi-purpose room of Meyer School, 11th and Clifton St., N.W.

**Meridian Hill Hall:** Lower level auditorium, H.D. Cook School, 17th and Euclid St., N.W.

### To Borrow or Not to Borrow

## As Registration Nears, Students Debate Cost Of Educational Loans

By AKOSUA AMOAKO-ATTA  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Frenchie Davis, a senior Music Theater major, University, knows too well what it means to be in debt. For her, owing began when she first enrolled at Howard and applied for a loan. A simple misinterpretation involving the process of signing of promissory notes led to the complete cancellation of her financial aid and a surprising bill that stated that she owed the University \$11,000.

"The problem was partly Howard's and mine," Davis said. "My freshman year, I was under the impression that when I signed the required promissory note for the loans that that would be used for the following semesters here at Howard. Then my sophomore year, when I was notified that that wasn't the case, the University canceled my aid without my knowledge. I completed my sophomore year, then at the end of the year they sent me a back balance statement of like \$11,000." As students prepare to register for the Spring semester in the General Mandatory Registration Monday, more and more people will again be looking for ways to pay for college. Though most of them have signed their promissory notes already, many students will be looking to lend from the Government for the first time.

And many college students, like Davis, who apply for loans to finance their education are realizing that there will be big price to pay long after gaining that coveted degree. As the University's tuition increased by three percent this year, the demand for loans and other forms of financial aid increased. This year a total of \$57,408,414 million in federal funds were awarded to Howard students. Each award averaged \$13,424 per student. Howard students are now finding out that applying for loans may be a difficult process but paying them off is even more frustrating.

"Grants and things like that, do not really pay for anything. Because this University is so competitive, even if your g.p.a. was through the roof you still wouldn't get sufficient aid," Davis said. "Getting loans is much easier than any other available financial aid."

Currently Howard offers two federal loans to students. They are the Stafford, Plus, Federal Perkins and Federal Nursing loans.

According to the Princeton Review, the average Howard University freshman loan is \$9,457.00. Most of these loans have reasonable interest rates ranging from 5-8 percent.

"But loan is the easy-sure way, though you will be paying for a long time," said Giselle Dean, a senior public relations major. "I will probably owe more than \$19,000 after I graduate. I feel like I am placing myself in debt, but gaining at the same time," Dean said.

Some Howard students say owing money is one thing, but getting it on time is another.

"Every year I have problems with student financial aid and my loan processing. It's like a tradition for Howard," Dean said. "I fill out my loan applications in May for the following semester and the loan request will still be pending by the time I register," Dean said.

Donald Griggs, a direct federal loans specialist for the University, explained that the blame lies on students and the Student Financial Aid office.

"The blame goes both ways. Sometimes you have kids who come in saying that they just put their paperwork in two weeks before school began and they come in wanting their promissory notes. Then we have those who did turn in their paperwork in on time, but are still waiting. I think that it is unfair to those students," Griggs said. Despite the debt disadvantage of using loans as a means of financial aid, students still believe that they are making the right choice. On

See LOANS, A7



Photo by Dana Bingham  
It's halftime at Howard's Homecoming game, in which Howard defeated Norfolk State. Members of the band took the time to put on a good show on and off the field.



Photo by Dana Bingham  
Thousands of students cheer as the Bison score against the Norfolk State Spartans during last week's game.

## Homecoming Fades, Memories Linger

By WALTRINA N. MIDDLETON  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Howard University celebrated more than just a 14-0 homecoming victory on Saturday, at Greene Stadium. In the midst of battle songs between Norfolk State and Howard's "Show Time Band," there were more than cheers for defense and a fancy touchdown dance—there were tears shed, hugs and sweet memories that resurfaced when many Bison family members returned home. It was a reunion for many and a personal victory for at least one.

"A lot has changed and a lot has not," Miguel Burke, class of 1975, said. Burke traveled from Houston, Texas to the game with three generations of his family to support his daughter LaVonne Burke. LaVonne is a chemical engineering major and reigns as Miss School of Engineering 2000-2001. "The spirit is still here..." he said. Burke also recognized the change in styles, dress and music. "I really appreciated the band when they took us back down memory lane. They played traditional songs like 'Stay In My Corner' by the Dells." Miguel Burke and his wife smiled as they reflected on the "good ole days."

"I'm glad to come back and especially to support my daughter... We attended the Coronation Ball and we were here (in D.C.) a few weeks ago for the School of Engineering Pageant," LaVonne's mother, Linda Burke, explained. Linda Burke, a graduate of the class of 1973, majored in marketing with a minor in economics. Miguel Burke, who studied microbiology and chemistry, attempted to visit his old classrooms in the "Valley" on Friday, but couldn't because of Yard Fest activities. This didn't seem to take away from the spirit or the fun for the Burke family.

"This has been a fun-filled weekend, but also a time to remember. My daughter, Jacqueline Jones, passed away last year around this

See MEMORIES, A7

## Poor Planning Gives Way to Average Week

This News Analysis was reported by the Editorial Board of The Hilltop.

If Homecoming 2000 was a hurricane, it would have barely knocked down a house.

There were a lot of things wrong with Homecoming 2000. And there were a lot of things right with the week. But somehow it seemed like the bad outweighed the good.

For example, the campus became a weekend zoo. Thousands of revelers swung through campus from all over the country. The crowds posed major security concerns.

There were a few reported cases of armed robberies on or near campus. The West Towers was flooded with visitors who patrolled hallways as if they were campus police. Female students were subjected to taunts and disrespectful treatment from male visitors. Some say they were even followed to their rooms by strange guests.

The cause of the breakdown in security is unclear, but some students said they felt unsafe, even in their own dorms.

Some students said Homecoming was more appealing for visitors than themselves. Visitors sipped champagne in front of the West Towers, spit out their best pick-up lines to female students, and caused the shut down of parts of Georgia Avenue for hours.

Homecoming seemed to be missing something this year: alumni partici-

See ANALYSIS, A7

Homecoming Report Card

C

See Editorial A10

## The Hilltop Today

### Life & Style

Howard students speak out about the controversial drug, marijuana.

B4

### Nation & World

Two candidates, one choice.

A6

### Campus

Find out what Puff Daddy was doing on campus last week.

A2

# CAMPUS

## Voices & Views

### What can we do to ensure a large voter turnout among African-Americans Tuesday?



"To ensure a large voter turnout among African-Americans, there must be a strong visual presence of African-Americans around the metropolitan area reminding people of the importance of taking five minutes to vote."  
Gabrielle Charles, Biology, Junior



"To ensure a large voter turnout among Blacks, influential Black leaders should go to churches and spread the word because this is a place of fellowship and the word can be further spread from its members."  
Joshua Mercer, Business Marketing, Sophomore



"I think to ensure a large turnout polls need to be setup around campus, so that students don't have to travel, giving them excuses not to vote."  
Erika Jordan, Psychology, Sophomore



"Have party systems choose individuals who are more representative of minority community and more cognizant of minority issues."  
Sean Brown, Biology, Senior

—Compiled by Karleen Roy

## Students Deal With the Horrors of the L-SAT

By Errica Dotson  
Hilltop Staff writer

While prospective law students were anxiously cramming for the test that could potentially shape their destiny beyond their undergraduate studies, Senior legal communications major, Dawn Henson did not allow herself to be caught up in all of the pre-LSAT hysteria.

"The night before the test, I went home, lit some candles, turned off the television and the phone and began reading a book," she said. "I felt very confident and very prepared for the test however, I wanted to be in the right frame of mind. In a lot of ways, the LSAT is just a mental game."

However, many feel that this "mental game" serves as a disadvantage to minority students.

Last year, former University of Texas student Selwyn Pieters filed a complaint with

the Ontario Human Rights Commission stating that because of the LSAT's racially biased testing methods, he was denied entrance into law school. He also sought a court injunction to prevent the use of the LSAT in law school applications across the province until the Commission made a ruling on his complaint.

"I think the standard the law school's are using to determine an applicant's ability is unfair," he said. "The LSAT they're using does not tell them anything about a candidate's potential, and does not tell you how well a candidate will do in school...it should be disregarded," he argued.

Pieters insists that he was rejected from University of Texas' Law school because of his LSAT scores, despite extra curricular

activities and a high GPA.

The faculty of the Texas university agrees that there is much controversy about the test. However, they attribute it more to lack of proper academic training.

"Some racial groups tend to score lower on the LSAT," said Ron Daniels, Dean of the Faculty of Law at the university. "The debate around the test is quite complicated. Systematic discrimination is an elusive concept," he said.

"I believe that because LSAT preparation is not incorporated into our curriculum, we are somewhat at a disadvantage in correlation to predominately white institutions," said Henson. "White students do better because they have had preparation from the beginning...and taking outside preparation courses is often times difficult and not

always helpful."

The Working Group on Racial Equality in the Legal Profession prepared a report for the Canadian Bar last year. It stated that even though many point to cultural biases, the LSAT scores usually do reflect how well a student will do in law school. However, it also argues that low scores received by minority students are usually due to racial barriers encountered during an applicant's undergraduate experience.

The Law School Admissions Committee is currently conducting extensive tests on LSAT questions to determine whether they are fair.

## All In The Family



Photo By Dana Bingham  
Entertainer and former Howard University student Sean "Puffy" Combs poses for a picture at Greene Stadium for the Homecoming game last week. Combs was one of several hip-hop artists, including Jay-Z and Ludacris, who made appearances throughout the week.

## New Professor Brings Fresh Air

By Stephanie Hill  
Hilltop Staff Writer

### Alumni Profile: DR. GREG CARR

In a classroom filled to capacity, Dr. Greg Carr manages to hold the attention of everyone present. His dashiki and beaded necklace seem to fit perfectly with his style of teaching, which is reminiscent of the '70s, when professors stressed the importance of black intellectual life. His young appearance makes him look barely 25, but many students still show shocked expressions when they witness the energy behind his explosive lectures.

Carr, 35, is an African American studies professor in the department of African American Studies, and teaches three classes per week. His style of teaching, which many students call charismatic, has drawn the attention of students of many disciplines.

Sitting in Carr's class is like watching the History Channel with an edition of BET music videos added for flavor. He says that his intention is to help students learn by connecting things they can relate to things with things they find unfamiliar.

The impression thus far is that Carr is "a reminder of why we are here at Howard," said senior Carl Pollard.

On any day, students may witness Carr's impressions of comedian Bernie Mac and Jim Crow, which are somehow appropriately displayed in the same classroom, no matter how different the characters may seem.

This is a professor who will not chastise you for being late to his class, but will offer his desk as a chair.

"Just get here if you can," he says, quoting the Oleta Adams song.  
Originally from Nashville, Tennessee,

Carr has been teaching at the University for a couple of months. His presence, students agree, has been a breath of fresh air. Finally, a professor has brought to the classroom an energy that is inspiring, many say.

"He is energetic and has a talent for teaching," said freshman Jeremiah Smith.

Carr said he came with expectations of "intellectual excellence and social responsibility." He says his excitement is due to his desire to have his expectations met. His reasoning for why he is a rarity among his peers is that "black people break your heart, because you love black people." "With any relationship where there is passion involved, if you feel disillusioned or rejected it transcends into your behavior. It can only transcend into that type of behavior if you were passionate about it to begin with," he said.

Before coming to Howard, Carr spent two years with the Philadelphia school district. He wanted to teach high school, but was not certified. He received a position in administration writing curriculum. He earned the title of "scholar on race and culture," he said. The District gave him this title after he wrote an essay to train teachers in African American history and culture.

Temple University in Philadelphia was the place where he received his first classroom position. At the time, Temple was the only University in the United States that offered a Ph.D. in African American Studies. Upon receiving his Doctorate, he taught African American history, Social philosophy, Afro-centricity, and African American Studies, among other courses.

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You may be eligible to participate in a 7-9 week, 4 visit research study to compare the effectiveness of two Inhalers on exercise-induced asthma.

### Qualifications:

- 12-50 years of age
- Currently using inhaled corticosteroids for asthma
- Able to complete a 10 minute exercise challenge test.

This study involves 2 nine hour visits. Financial compensation of up to \$600.00 is available to qualified participant. For more information call Frank at (202) 877-5506.

### Institute for Asthma and Allergy

Dr. Martha White Dr. Michael Kallner Dr. Athena Economides

# CAMPUS



Christopher Windam

## Let's See... Gore or Bush? Naw, Give Me Clinton

Millions of Americans will jam voting booths Tuesday in hopes of picking the right man for president.

But when voters receive their election ballots — which could seal America's fate for the next four years, a familiar name will be missing: Bill Clinton.

That's right, Clinton, the most qualified man for the job.

It's too bad the two-term limit will keep "Ole' Bubba" from casting his shadow in the oval office for another four years.

Vice-President Al Gore's "Mr. Know-it-all" attitude, and Gov. George Bush's "I-don't-know-anything-at-all" attitude is enough to make me scream for a repeal of the law which was designed to prevent an American dictatorship.

Under Clinton's leadership the American economy is flourishing. The unemployment rate is down, and more Americans are going to college than ever before.

America has gone eight years without an official war during Clinton's term. I don't think George W.'s father can say that.

The country is good shape. Everything is moving in the right direction. From the economy, to crime policy, to welfare policy, all seems stable.

If it's not broke don't fix it. I wish I could tear that law to shreds.

Wait a minute I take that back. We must uphold the constitution. After all, it does grant African Americans the right to vote. Seems like only yesterday when black men and women

were classified as only 3/5 of a man. Clinton's triumphs as president are enough to erase his shame as a playboy.

Most of what happened with the impeachment was just the cost of Clinton doing business. I can't say the Republican Party was blameless in the hearings. The Republicans were trying to use Clinton's infidelity for political advantage.

I, like most Americans didn't want Clinton to leave 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. The country was sailing along and I didn't want my government to go away.

College students have also benefited from eight years of Clinton.

The earning power of college students is widening over that of high school graduates, and more Americans are continuing their education including African-Americans.

Clinton's stay in the White House has certainly been very pleasant. In a perfect world he would still be commander and chief, but unfortunately this world is anything but perfect.

If it were perfect, we wouldn't have to vote any of 2000's candidates into office. But we must. So I choose Gore.

Gore has a lot of good qualities. He has good knowledge of the position, the intelligence in foreign policy, and he has pushed for environmental issues. But Gore has been known to tell a lie every now and then. Can we believe him when he says he would lower class sizes, fight to end racial profiling, and make two years of col

See Column A7

## Pot Use by College Students Levels Off After Rise

By United Press International

BOSTON, Oct. 31 (UPI) — The use of marijuana increased by more than 22 percent among college students in the United States between 1993 and 1999, but was still well below the peak levels of the 1970s, a new study shows.

Harvard School of Public Health researchers found that though the rates leveled off in 1997, they remained at the higher level through 1999. The researchers found use of other illicit drugs followed the same trend. They urged efforts to stem illegal drug use be increased. "These

new findings should be a source of concern for those involved with the prevention and treatment of illicit drug use among young people," Henry Wechsler, a director of the study, said in a statement posted on the school's Web site. "Although rates of drug use stabilized at the end of the decade, no significant decreases have yet been observed," Wechsler said. "Prevention efforts aimed at illicit drug use should be stepped up and tied to those already in place for binge drinking and cigarette use."

He said that the study demonstrates

the need for drug-abuse prevention programs in the secondary schools as well as in college.

The study was based on responses of more than 14,000 students selected at random each year in 1993, 1997, and 1999 from 119 four-year colleges in 40 states.

Use of marijuana rose from 12.9 percent in 1993 to 15.6 percent in 1997, an increase of 22 percent. Wechsler said the increase occurred across all types of colleges and races and types of students, indicating a strong national trend.

The researchers said the increased college rates found in the present study may reflect the group effect of high school drug users enrolling in college.

In contrast, researchers said drug use in the 1960s often started on college campuses and trickled down to younger high school and junior high school students.

Marijuana use among students reached a high of 37 percent in 1978, Wechsler said.

## Campus Digest

### Islamic Week to Begin Next Week

This year's Islamic Awareness Week will run from Friday, November 10th to Friday, November 17th. The week's theme is Surah Al Maun - Neighborly Needs, the 107th Chapter of the Holy Quran.

The event is provided by the Muslim Students of Howard University. Kamilah Munir, the organization's president presents an open invitation to the entire Howard University community to participate. "I want to make it clear that Islamic Awareness Week is for the entire Howard University community, Muslim and non-Muslim."

The week begins on Friday, November 10th with "Movie Night." The documentary film, Make It Plain, which focuses on the life of Malcolm X, will be shown. A discussion about the film will follow it's viewing.

On Saturday, a networking brunch will be held by the MSHU.

On Sunday, November 11th, the MSHU will be sponsoring "A Day of Community Service."

Monday's event is the "Coffee House, Poetry Cipher." The event includes poetry recitations, and creative writing exhibitions accompanied by the sounds of the African drum.

On Tuesday, November 14th, Howard University's professor Dr. Sulayman S. Nyang of the African Studies dept. will give a lecture on the African-Islamic experience. The lecture will discuss the development and practice of Islam in Africa, the experience of Muslim African Slaves in Antebellum America, and the African-American Islamic movement from emancipation to the present time.

The Ralph Bunche Center will host a series of discussions on studying abroad on Wednesday from 3-5pm. Three students will speak about their experiences in Senegal, Morocco, and Spain relating each country to the Islamic experience. Representatives from each country's embassy will be present. Later on that day, El-Hajj Muji Saalakhani, founder of The Peace and Justice Foundation will host a lecture and discussion on Human Rights. The lecture will

focus on the current imprisonment of H. Rap Brown (former Black Panther Leader and activist) a.k.a. Imam Jamil El-Amin, and the Prince Jones case.

The Israeli Conflict will be the focus of Thursday's lecture. The two-hour informative session's goal is to give the Howard University community a better understanding of this seemingly endless struggle in the Middle East.

Friday, November 17th, marks the ending of this year's Islamic Awareness Week with a "Game Night." Food will be served and the night will include a game of "Islamic Jeopardy."

All Islamic Awareness Week events will begin at 7 p.m. (excluding Ralph Bunche Center event.) Bean Pies, along with other refreshments will be served at most of the events. All events are free and everyone is invited. For more information, email the MSHU @hu\_msa2000@hotmail.com.

Nsenga A. Knight

### Students Needed For Religious Survey

If you are an African-American or Asian-American Catholic between the ages of 18-39, you are invited to participate in a focus group discussion about religious life. The project is part of an overall survey of young adult Catholics sponsored by the leadership organizations for Catholic religious orders and congregations. Each participant in the two-hour discussion will receive \$30.00. For details, contact Marita Eddy at (301)588-4030.

Africanisms in the Gullah Dialect: A Linguistic Legacy of Africans in America presents a conference on the 50th Anniversary of Lorenzo Dow Turner's Africanisms in the Gullah Dialect. Keynote speakers include: John R. Rickford of Stanford University and Salikoko S. Mufwene from the University of Chicago. The conference will take place on Friday, November 3, 2000, at Howard University in the Blackburn Center Forum. For more information, call Dr. Paul D. Fallon at (202)806-5611.

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# THE CITY

## Race 2000

On Tuesday, Nov. 7, it will be time for District voters to cast their ballots for the 2000 elections. Along with voting for the President, the ballot will consist of Congress, District council and board of education candidates. The candidates are as follows:

### DC Congressional Representative

Eleanor Holmes Norton	Democratic
Robert D. Kampia	Libertarian
Edward Henry Wolterbeek	Republican
Sam Manuel	Socialist Worker

### DC Council at Large

Carol Schwartz	Republican
Harold Brazil	Democratic
Matthew G. Mecurio	Libertarian
Chris Ray	Independent
Daphne M. McBryde	Independent
Arturo Griffiths	DC Statehood Green

### DC Council Ward 4

Adrian Fenty	Democratic
Renee Bowser	DC Statehood Green

### US Senate

Florence Pendleton	Democratic
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### US Representative

Martin Thomas	DC Statehood Green
Ray Browne	Democratic
Kalonji T. Olusegun	Umoja
John Shumake	Republican

### President of the DC Board of Education

Robert G. Childs  
Peggy Cooper Cafritz  
Lawrence A. (Larry) Gray

### DC Board of Education District #1

Thomas E. Smith  
Linda E. Softli  
Glenn J. Melcher  
Ann C. Wilcox  
Harvey C. Jones  
Julie Mikuta  
Lenwood "Lenny" Johnson  
Malcolm Lovell

Compiled by Jonathan C. Sims

## Jerusalem Rally Draws Thousands

By NSENGA A. KNIGHT  
City Editor

More than 10,000 people marched for the National Day for Jerusalem Rally last Saturday. The group marched from Freedom Plaza and assembled in front of the White House at Lafayette Park. The rally was to show the solidarity of Americans opposed to the violence being perpetrated against the people of Palestine.

Imam Johari Abdul Malik, Howard University's Muslim Chaplain, said, "Leaders of the rally along with The National task-Force for Jerusalem, and rally attendants made it clear that they want an end to the US funding Israel with 5.5 billion dollars to kill Palestinians."

Malik viewed the rally as not only a Muslim issue, but instead one of human rights. Speaking about the importance of the general public attending the rally, Malik said, "It is an issue of human rights. The occupation is a modern day form of settler colonialism just like the apartheid of South Africa. As Martin Luther King said, 'An injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.'"

Suad Abdul-Khabeer, a District resident, went to the rally because she personally identified with the experiences of the Palestinians as an African-American and Hispanic female. Abdul-Khabeer believes, "It is about people being completely

disempowered...When you see some of the pictures, you see people in protest of an

oppressive government and terrorism. I see African-Americans protesting U.S. structural racism. Institutional racism still exists. Blacks and Latinos are still being put in prison as a modern plantation."

Among the groups in attendance at the rally was Neturei Karta International and Jews United Against Zionism. It's representative group of Orthodox Rabbis came to the rally to endorse the Palestinian protest. In a statement made by Rabbi David Weiss, the organization's spokesman said, "We are grateful to the Creator for allowing us to participate in Washington today with The National task-Force for Jerusalem's demonstration of solidarity with the suffering of the Palestinian people. The wrongs committed over the past 52 years and reaching back into the last century by Zionist against the indigenous people of the Holy Land are a ghastly crime."

Rahma Abdur-Rahman, a Howard University freshman chemistry major, said that one of the most profound things she learned at the rally was, "...that not all Jews are in support of the Jews in Israel. I didn't know there was a difference between Zionism and true Judaism. I learned this (that there is a difference) from the four Rabbis; when they came they sent a powerful message."

Kamilah Munir, the president of the Muslim Students of Howard University, felt that it was her obligation to attend the rally, as a Muslim and she identified with the issues presented at the rally stating that "as an African-American

I feel I can identify with the Palestinian situation. Their history is similar to ours. They are people uprooted from their homes and treated unjustly and discriminated against similarly to the way African-Americans have in America. Other HU students, Muslim or not, should be able to identify with them and support them."

The Committee of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement showed their support for the Palestinian struggle with their attendance at the rally. In a handout distributed by the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement, they stated their views, "We join with them and call upon the proletariat and masses of the world to resolutely condemn and oppose the aggression of Israel's criminal army and secret police against the Palestinians. Let us once again be clear that it is the US that arms and finances the Zionist state of Israel whose very existence is based on the illegitimate occupation of Palestine."

Emphasizing why he felt that the issues surrounding the rally are important to members of different beliefs, Imam Johari stated, "It is important for Christians to make it emphatically clear that Jerusalem is not only a holy city for Jews, but for Muslims and Christians as well. The money the government takes (through US taxes) from us is being spent to murder children. Unless we do what we can to stop it we are co-conspirators in the murder of women, children, high school and college students."

## Moment of Silence Stirs Debate

By KENRYA MALIKH RANKIN  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Jeffrey B. Smith, Vice President of the Student Bar Association at the Howard University Law School, feels that the First Amendment is not being fully examined in the case of the Virginia Moment of Silence Law.

Smith said, "The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) often interprets the first

clause of the amendment, 'Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion,' and forgets the second part, 'or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.' Smith feels that considering the clauses together is the best way to ensure that neither is unconstitutionally abridged to permit the proposed moment of silence.

Smith's interpretation is prompted by the recent dismissal of an attempt to halt the execution of a law mandating that all public schools in the state of Virginia begin the day with a minute of silence. Smith feels that the second part of the amendment asserts that if prayer were not listed as an option in this law, the rights of students who want to pray would be violated.

Smith's view is consistent with that of Senator Warren E. Barry (R-Fairfax), who was quoted in the Washington Post as saying, "The word 'pray' was used in the legislation, so that the statute would not discriminate against prayer." Some students in Virginia public schools feel they are being "ostracized" by this law. Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Fairfax, allows students to leave the classroom during the minute, provided that they are quiet

and respectful while in the hall. Fairfax County has made it clear that students in each of its schools can decide not to observe the minute.

Late last month, the state chapter of the ACLU and 12 students of Virginia public schools sued the state and asked U.S. District Judge Claude M. Hilton for an immediate injunction against the law. Hilton refused to suspend the legislation.

The new law is an amendment to a law passed in 1976, which made the moment of silence optional. This law states that during the mandatory minute, students have the option to "meditate, pray or engage in any other silent activity" that does not interfere with the choices of other students. Bernard Richardson, Dean of Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel, feels that the new law is fair. "You cannot mandate prayer, one always has the choice to pray or not to pray. We are living in a time when there is a breaking down of the wall that exists between the sacred and the secular, and as a nation, we are still struggling to understand the implications of this on many levels."

Tasha Gibson, a senior Chapel Assistant, feels that the teachers in these schools can have a major impact on how the students perceive this law. She suggests that teachers discuss the purpose of the moment, and emphasize that its function is to simply allow them to "get their focus back during the day." Gibson said, "Teachers could help them come up with stuff to do during the time of silence." She also supports this law as a way to give students time during the day to "just be still," and collect their thoughts.

Derek Kindle, a 19-year-old legal communications major, does not support the minute being required by law. Expressing his objection to the new law, he said that the law is "too suggestive of condoning religion in the schools, and appears to actually mandate prayer. I think it should be at the school and/or county's discretion to allow prayer."

Dean Richardson cautions against that action, saying, "I hope and pray that as a society we do not take the easy path of denying religious freedom for the sake of convenience."

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# Presidential Race in a 'Dead Heat' Days Before Election

From ELECTION, A1

"Nader will receive no electoral college votes, but in some pivotal states he could take enough of the Gore vote to give those states to Bush."

Nader is also receiving indirect Republican support, as several of his television advertisements are financed by nonpartisan groups that are partial to Bush, Hall said.

As the clock continues to count down to Election Day, it is unlikely

that there will be an external event to shake things up and cause a break toward one candidate or the other, Taylor said. But there are, in his opinion, several things that each candidate should focus on in order to swing the election in his favor.

"Bush needs to portray himself as a winner and be confident of victory so that people will think of him as a winner," Taylor said.

Taylor added that Gore needs to appeal to the conservatism of the

American public in a non-ideological sense by suggesting that change is not a good idea at the moment, as well as suggesting that he would be the best steward of the economy because of Bush's inexperience and seemingly radical plans, such as his tax plan and Social Security plan, that could very well upset things.

"Gore has the trump card of the prosperity of the last eight years, which he may have played too late," added Vasu.

"It is plausible that we might see a break one way or the other in this last week," said Taylor, "but it is equally plausible that we'll go into Election Day in a knife edge as we are currently."

Regardless of the outcome of the election, there will more than likely be little or no drastic policy changes, because whichever candidate wins the election will have won by a very slim margin and will, therefore, have little mandate from the public to

implement his plan, Taylor said.

"What would make the next two years productive is not really dependent upon the outcome of this election, but could be dependent upon something like if the economy tanks or a considerable amount of public pressure for some kind of government action," he said.

But the outcome will have an important effect on the U.S. court system, particularly the Supreme Court, said Hall, as it is very likely

that the next president will have between two and four Supreme Court vacancies to fill within the next four years.

"(The election) will have a significant and profound influence on the court," he said. "Issues such as federalism, abortion and gun control could be seriously challenged by whomever is appointed."

## Proposed Southeast Freeway More May Bring Traffic Woes to District

By JONATHAN C. SIMS  
Hilltop Staff Writer

The downtown area of the District may have more traffic woes in the coming years if the proposed Southeast freeway is picked up by the D.C. council.

If enacted, the plans for the freeway will include the building of a new boulevard going along the Anacostia River and tunnel in replacing the bridge which connects Southeast to the rest of the District. The plan also calls for a tunnel which will run under the Potomac River, replacing the bridge.

The proposal came from Joseph Passoneau, a private contractor of DC, who sees the project as a revitalization of the Anacostia neighborhood. Passoneau said, "New businesses will be built and nothing will be torn down." Crystal Kunglall, a local business owner in the area, was concerned about the project. "The project will affect me personally not just because of my business, but because I live right under the 8th and G St. ramp," Kunglall said. Passoneau assured that, "This proposed project will not tear down the ramp instead it will shift it. And no one will have to move."

Pennsylvania Avenue, one of the district's busiest streets, would be under construction around 8th and

G streets, where the ramp begins.

Passoneau also said, "This is just a proposal, this is not definite." The plans have to go to the DC Office of Planning and then the DC Council for approval. If approved, the Federal Highway Commission must pass a budget and the plan will be set in stone.

Passoneau said, "The cost for this is not known, yet since this is preliminary." If everything goes as planned the project will start in two to three years.

"The project will have two phases, phase one will start with H street to Barney Circle and phase two will consist of the expansion of Virginia Ave to 160 feet, and the construction of the tunnel," said Pas-

saneou.

Some are concerned about the the project because they see it as a way to kick out residents of Southeast by raising housing rates due to revitalization. Passaneou assured that this is not going to be happen. "No one will have to move," Passaneou said.

Tum Num, of Capital Hill Cleaners said that it will affect her traffic commute. "I live in Virginia and I will have to go that way to and from work, so I hope the traffic situation will be under control," Num said. Since the project occurs in two phases, traffic woes of Pennsylvania's 90,000 passersby will be reduced.

## Virginia Foster Parents No Longer Have to Spare the Rod

By TINA MARIE MARTINEZ  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Outrage, disappointment and concern are the feelings of many social workers and children's advocates after a Virginia agency passed a rule allowing foster parents the right to spank children placed in their care. The shortage of foster parents is what officials cite as the cause of the decision.

Most states have some type of restrictions or rules against corporal punishment, including the District of Columbia and Maryland. Many fear this new ruling will have irreversible damage on foster children.

Louis H. Henderson, President and Founder of the National Association of Former FosterCare Children of America, DC Chapter, said, "I personally grew up

in foster care and spanking was never reinforced with loving care. My concern is who will monitor these foster parents. The system is not equipped to monitor foster parents who care for children with emotional abuse. I do not support the ruling."

Virginia's past regulations prohibited spanking, pinching, and shaking. The new rule still bans pinching and "harsh" shaking. In addition, foster parents will be required to provide a written disciplinary plan to the foster placement agency. Virginia officials feel the new ruling will boost the number of foster care parents, since, in the past foster parents have opted not to take children in because they feared being charged with child abuse for what they viewed as disciplinary action.

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# NATION & WORLD

## Election Commentary

### Vote your Conscience Tuesday

By EWA UNOKE  
Nation & World Editor

One laments that this great nation with great intellectual gurus, selects the least visionary for leadership. According to Rousseau, you don't have a right to enslave yourself. We enslave ourselves when we do not choose the right leadership who understands that we live in a world where extreme poverty of the many is in conflict with the extreme wealth of the few.

We live in an age where governments legitimize and endorse the stealing of public funds by the so called billionaires. It is an age where we now have globalized oppression and citizens have become pawns in the wings of their nation states. In this scenario, the freedom of the individual is lost to the general will. What he has is but a limited freedom.

Our new leader, Gov. George W. Bush or Vice President Al Gore, will become the leader of the free world, come November 7. This new leader must have the ability and capacity to discover why the rest of the world hates America instead of spending \$14 billion to protect the U.S. Embassies abroad.

Furthermore, education, healthcare, social security are non-big issues. Subsequent leaderships have harped on them, so much so, that the issues

are now trite and over flogged. Have the American people lost their power to the government? People and leaders must be directed to do things on the basis of knowledge. It is only a knowledgeable leadership which will understand that there is conflict between black and white; rich and poor, wife and husband, family and work, the controlling elite and the controlled. In the absence of such leadership, I would rather advise my race that it is not yet time for uhuru, therefore, we must vote our conscience come Nov. 7.

If Gore loses the popular votes, he may win majority of the electoral colleges and still win the election. If we can rely on latest vox popli, Bush may win by popular votes, but both are still close in several electoral college counts. It is a dicey situation. Hotline Political Newsletter gives Bush 252 electoral votes, Gore 231 electoral votes; ABC 205 and 204; EBS News 205 and 204; NBC 209 and 175; CNN 205 and 175; Fox News 235 and Gore 228. Suppose there is a tie? In the election of 1800, Thomas Jefferson had a tie with Aaron Burr. Scholars are dusting off constitutional textbooks in preparation for thinking the unthinkable - where House delegates would cast a single vote each to elect the president if both candidates score equal votes in the November elections.

## The Contenders



Vice President Al Gore



Texas Gov. George W. Bush

## Howard Graduate Students Predict Next President

By EWA UNOKE,  
Nation & World Editor

The American people are familiar with the axiom, "uneasy lies the head that wears the crown." But a head must wear the presidential crown come November 7, 2000. It is hard to tell whether Al Gore and George W. Bush chose to contest the crown, or if they were chosen through popular mandate. If so, was such choice based on intelligence, wisdom,

or wealth? However, the White House will soon receive a new tenant who may not be as charming as Bill, but whom the world will soon begin to watch closely as he leads the most powerful nation into history.

History is on the side of Howard University too. It was an Act of Congress which gave birth to the Mecca, whose motive is leadership for America and the global community. Political science graduate students have been talking about the next political prince of the free world.

Tiffanee L. Dykes, law school graduate and PhD student of International Relations, feels that neither Bush

nor Gore has "fully addressed the African-American problem." She agrees that Bush has credentials and a practical sense of what is going on since he

has been a governor, but "he has no expertise in any area especially in foreign affairs." Speaking on Gore, she says, "I think Gore will win. He has stronger domestic platform. The strong economy favors his candidacy also, but his reputation is no doubt linked with the present administration." Dykes further feels that both men have serious flaws. "Al Gore has been a senator for many years yet, he is quite

removed from the people. He has also been overshadowed by the Clinton image. Gore does not have a strong awareness of what peoples' interests are. He also lacks the personality and tact which Bill Clinton has in dealing with administrative issues and the public.

Commenting further on Bush, she insists that "Bush has no clear policy strength or expertise. What is he good at?" She concludes,

Tasha L. Davis, President of the Graduate Political Science Students Association and a Master's degree student

of International Relations, believes that both Bush and Gore are not natural. They tell their audience what such audience wants to hear. "Gore came to Howard and talked about education because he knows about the hardship students from the minority group go through in the payment of school fees. I think their political campaign policy is different groups, different agenda to get their votes," she said.

"Bush has no good sense of foreign policy and that plays into the American life. How can we have a President who cannot articulate the relationship between our nation and the rest of the world?" She believes the race will be close "but Gore will win. The determining factor will be African-Americans getting out to vote."

Asked whether there will ever be a Black President in the U.S. Davis said, "Yes, 400 years ago if you asked whether a slave would be free, it could have been unimaginable, but today he is. Yes, society is changing and just one day, a black president of the United States will emerge. We have to be optimistic."

Does it mean that Black Nationalism is a dead issue?

Tasha argues that "that is not the way the world works. Interdependence is the issue. We need to know how to use the resources available to take advantage of what is there. For now, the black people are kind of stalked. Yes, you were cheated. Yes, you were enslaved. Now it's time to say no more. I am going to get up. I've been held down for too long. I am going to get up and help fellow brothers and sisters."

Anthony U. Murphy, a Master's student of Public Administration, thinks that Gore will win the elections. He contends that the Democratic party has targeted the African American society while, the Republican party has not done a good job. It has not reached out enough to the minority. On the question of a black president, Murphy said, "What will it prove? In terms of improving the African American society, no., I do not think the white people will believe that a black president is good enough. Remember the case of the first black governor of Virginia, L. Douglas Wilder? Asked whether the African American society has been integrated enough as to forget the issue of black nationalism? He answered, "No."

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# Let's See... Gore or Bush? Naw, Give Me Clinton

From **COLUMN A3**  
lege free? Then again we are also the same country that forgave Clinton after he admitted he deceived the American public with his denial of sexual actions with Monica Lewinsky.

As for Bush, the buck should stop in Texas. Under Bush's leadership, the state fried more blacks than KFC. Texas has had the most executions in the country. And African-American executions heavily outnumbered the white.

But according polls, Americans

agree with his views on the death penalty. Most Americans agree that the law is for deterrence, not revenge. Bush also says he is not proud of Texas's high death penalty totals.

But Bush has some clever views on education. He wants a \$275 million pre-paid college tuition tax credit, an \$1,800 increase in the maximum Pell Grant amount, and \$400 million for after school programs.

It sounds good on paper, but is Bush really qualified to be president? He has only held public office for six years, and on several occa-

sions he has looked incompetent after questions were fired at him by reporters.

Gore definitely has the edge. It's as if I would chose the lesser of two evils.

If I can't get Clinton, I'll take the next best thing: his Vice-President. Sorry Bush but I have had enough of the Bush family. Isn't that why American didn't re-elect your father?

When I cast my vote for Gore on Tuesday, in a sense I'll be registering a vote for the person who should be in office: Bill Clinton.

## Students Debate Taking Out Student Loans

From **LOANS, A1**  
the other hand, students do not dispute the fact that scholarships and other forms of financial aid are more reliable since it is "free money."

"I apply for work-study. I haven't applied for scholarships. The best choice will be through scholarships if you have good grades. The money is out there," Dean said. "The scholarships ought to be the first thing that you look at. Loans, to me, being a parent myself, would be the last alternative. If your child is doing well in school,

scholarships are the first thing that you, as a parent, should go after," Griggs said.

Griggs attributed the problem to lack of knowledge as to where to find the best scholarships available to students. "There is a lot of money out there. There is no discrimination in giving away scholarships. You just have to go seek them, Griggs said."

As a result of the increasing demand for loans, the Department of Education has moved to improve the quality of loans that are available to students. Last month the Department, in a press

release, mentioned lower interest rates on Direct Student loans. The U.S. Secretary of Education, Richard W. Riley announced that "millions of student borrowers who repay their loans on time or consolidate them into the direct loan program can expect lower interest rates beginning this year."

"These new incentives, combined with earlier Administration improvements in lending programs, now enable students to save more than \$1,300 over the life of \$10,000 in loans," an official from the Department of Education said.

## From **MEMORIES, A1**

time," Bertha M. Jones from Beaumont, Texas said while flanked by her daughter Linda Burke and son-in-law Miguel Burke.

"Jacqueline wanted to come back to Howard before the new millenium. She and her classmates from the class of 1969 came together to celebrate Homecoming (in 1999)," Jones said with a glimpse of sadness in her eyes. But the sadness quickly turned into pride—Bison pride, as she spoke of what Howard meant to her late daughter.

"She lived in Crandall Hall and Meridian Hill. She was also a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. graduate chapter. My daughter was very involved in campus life."

LaVonne Burke remembers Homecom-

ing last year and the time she spent with her Aunt Jacqueline.

"My aunt passed three weeks after she left me for Homecoming on November 26." For LaVonne, remembering her aunt this Homecoming is more important than wearing the crown for the School of Engineering. Although, she explains, representing her school holds a great significance too.

"I feel really great to have the opportunity to represent the School of Engineering. We have a presence here on campus and I want others to know it. But this title is not about the crown only. I wanted to compete last year, but I was unable to. My aunt didn't have a chance to see me do this. My victory—my crown, is for my aunt too," LaVonne Burke said. Her brother, Miguel "Miko" Burke II stood by his sister's side in reflection. "Miko" graduated from the School of

Communications in 1996 and now works for Vibe On-Line as an editor. This is the first time he has returned to Howard since graduation.

Joining him in this four-year reunion was his girlfriend, Tawanna Allen from Milwaukee, WI and a 2000 graduate from Howard's School of Business. This recent graduate is now a tabulator for Sound Scan, a company that compiles the "Top 10 List" for Billboard.

Jones ended their weeklong celebration "with a big dinner and a nap," Jones said. The rest of the Burke clan smiled in agreement before joining hundreds of vendors and other Bison families who traveled by plane, bus, car and train for the opportunity to celebrate and to reflect.

## From **ANALYSIS, A1**

pation.

Alumni events were few and far between. There were a couple events where graduating classes got together to mix and mingle with old classmates, but it was not enough to represent the thousands of Howard graduates.

Homecoming was also very expensive. Event prices were not geared towards a student's budget. The worst part is that most of the shows were not worth the money charged for admission. It seems the ticket prices rise as the quality of Homecoming events fall. Most students probably couldn't afford to attend all the events even if they wanted to.

Homecoming did have some highlights.

The football game had to be the week's best attraction. It showed the visitors the true essence of Bison spirit. The stands were jam-packed—a little too tight—the team was winning—finally, and the crowd was lively. The best part about the game was that it was free for students.

The step-show was well organized and security did a good job managing the crowd. Students attested to the creativity of the fraternities and sororities that stepped. The event was a winner.

The comedy show, the Mr. & Ms. Howard pageant, Coronation Ball, and Yard Fest were also winners.

But as good as those shows were, it can't erase the disappointment of the hip-hop concert. Rappers Ludacris and Prodigy couldn't muster up enough hype on the yard to get students excited.

Students got a real treat when rapper Jay-Z performed songs from his extensive repertoire for free Friday. Even though his visit was not the doing of the Steering Committee, it still gave students a lasting memory of the week.

The club scene during the week was also a highlight.

Some clubs charged as much \$100 for admittance inside, but students still flocked to sites hoping to see the next celebrity. It seemed as if everyone went out to enjoy Homecoming.

Overall the week was luke warm at best. It had more holes in it than Swiss cheese. Next year's committee should tie up some loose ends. They can start by giving at least a two week guest notice. Maybe the committee can also lower tickets prices, and give students the opportunity to get seats first.

The 2001 committee should learn from the mistakes of their predecessors and then Homecoming will return to its fabled glory.



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# IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN...

## General Mandatory Registration for Spring 2001

Monday, November 6 - Friday, November 17

### SCHEDULE

DAY	DATE	CLASSIFICATION*
Monday	November 6	Senior
Tuesday	November 7	Junior
Wednesday	November 8	Sophomore
Thursday	November 9	Sophomore/Freshman
Friday	November 10	Freshman
Saturday	November 11	Graduate/Professional
Sunday	November 12	All
Monday	November 13	All
Tuesday	November 14	All
Wednesday	November 15	All
Thursday	November 16	All
Friday	November 17	All

\*If you are not sure of your official classification, please contact Enrollment Management/Records (806-2712), "A" Building Room 104.

- ◆ Students are required to meet with their academic advisor for discussion and approval of proposed course selections before using HU B.I.S.O.N. (202-806-4537, 7AM-7PM).
- ◆ Printouts will be available in Cramton Auditorium November 6<sup>th</sup> through November 17<sup>th</sup>.

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- Sophomores and student leaders enrolled in CEACS

**PARTICULARS:**

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- No cost to students
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NOVEMBER 3 - 4, 2000

**SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3**

- 3:30 p.m. Leadership Lecture

**\*\*\*Open to HU Community\*\*\***

- School of Business, Auditorium
- Speaker: Dr. Delon Hampton, President, American Society of Civil Engineers
- 5:30 p.m. Banquet (invitation only - must RSVP)
- Sophomores and student leaders enrolled in CEACS

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4**

(Invitation only activities)

- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast & Welcome
- Plenary Session: The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People
- Concurrent Workshops: Leadership 101, Effective Presentation Skills, Entrepreneurship
- 2:00 p.m. Closing Reception

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**Wednesday, November 8, 2000  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**WHERE**

**Howard University School of Law  
2900 Van Ness Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20008**

Please RSVP attendance only at  
The Admissions Office at (202) 806-8008/9

**You Owe It To Yourself To Visit Our Law School**

*The Application Deadline for Fall 2001 is March 31<sup>st</sup>*

**Sponsored by the GSA**

**Patricia Roberts Harris Public Affairs Program  
Howard University**

The Patricia Roberts Harris Public Affairs Program of Howard University is  
pleased to announce the availability of several internships for Spring 2000



*"Failure to share our concerns and to spark others to equal concern...is to break faith with the democratic process"*  
Patricia Roberts Harris (1924-85)

**ELIGIBILITY**

Students must be enrolled at undergraduate or graduate/professional level in Howard University, AND should have at least one full semester (preferably, one full year) remaining at Howard following the internship.

Undergraduates must have completed at least twenty-seven credit hours at the time of application AND have at least a 2.75 cumulative grade point average AND a 3.0 average in the major area of study.

Graduate/professional students must have completed at least one semester of study at Howard University AND have at least a 3.0 grade point average in their graduate and/or professional coursework.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

- ❖ Academic Performance
- ❖ Potential for professional growth and development (to be ascertained from material submitted by the applicant and a personal interview with then Selection Committee).
- ❖ Knowledge of the career and accomplishments of Patricia Roberts Harris

**HOW TO APPLY**

The application consists of six parts:

- ❖ Completed application form
- ❖ Official Howard University transcript
- ❖ Submittal of a current resume
- ❖ Three letters of recommendation (on recommendation forms) from Howard University faculty members and/or staff persons familiar with the accomplishments of the applicant

Pick up applications in the Patricia Roberts Harris Public Affairs Program office, located in the Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center (2218 6<sup>th</sup> St. NW). For further details, contact Mr. Howard Hardy@ (202) 806-4363. **DEADLINE: November 15, 2000.**

# EDITORIALS



## THE HILLTOP

JASON T. SMITH, *Editor-in-Chief*

IRA PORTER, *Managing Editor*

MICHAEL WINFIELD, *Editorial Editor*

Founded in 1924

CHRISTINA ACKAH, *Business Manager* KALILAH BARNES, *Advertising Manager*

### We Support Gore

Vote. Need we say it again? Finally, the time has come for your opinion to count to the entire nation. Four days from today, you will make one of the most critical decisions of your life. Don't throw the chance away. We need not say that it will be you complaining, protesting and mourning if you allow George W. Bush to be elected.

We need not say that as Americans, young Americans and especially young African-Americans, your vote has never been more imperative to your country's security within the last decade than it is now. The Hilltop, without question, firmly endorse Al Gore for U.S. President. In the words of Reverend Jesse Jackson, we encourage you to do the same and "stay out of the Bush-es." Gore and Lieberman aim to lead America forward technologically, socially, environmentally and economically while Bush aims to regress eight years and pick up where "dad" left off. Whether Republican or Democrat is your party of choice, we need not say that this election is no longer based upon party divides and preferences but on moral responsibility to prevent a man who defends hate crimes to enter the White House.

We need not say that there is a widespread, gut-feeling that tells us that Bush has degenerative intentions for African-Americans and minorities as a whole. And as for those supporting Nader on Tuesday, we need not say that you are giving away votes that will actually mean something if they are cast for Gore. Nader, though showing budding promise for our nation, realistically has less of a chance being elected than President Clinton (and we all wish that were possible).

Never in the last 40 years has an election race been so close in the polls where every vote carries weight. We need not say that you, reading this, you have an obligation if not to your country, then your family, friends and yourself, to vote. Remember, not voting is the same as voting for Bush. Do you want to be responsible for that disaster? We need not say this, but just in case you need to be told one more time: Vote. Gore. November 7. Gore. Tuesday. Gore.

### An Average Homecoming

The balloons have deflated and the Jumbotron on the main yard has been disassembled. The sweet smells of grilled corn and chicken wings that hung heavy over the Yard during the Yard Fest have long since dissipated. Only memories remain of Howard's first Homecoming of the millennium.

But unlike the balloons and the corn, the memories will not be colorful or sweet.

This year's Homecoming lacked the awe-inspiring hype and aura of a truly great event. The Steering committee, though they worked hard for the few days leading up to the start of the week, failed to fully prepare for activities which left gaping holes in the overall Homecoming experience.

Advertisements for most of the events were produced only one week before the start of the week. This perhaps was the most egregious error made by the committee. Traditionally the biggest part of Homecoming is the expectation leading to it. Why the committee failed to advertise the cost of events, or offer ticket packages for students as was done in the past, is beyond comprehension.

What's more is that this year's Homecoming activities offered nothing new in the way of events. There have been no new activities during Homecoming since Haiki Halisi, Homecoming chair

1997-98, began the tradition of an opening ceremony fireworks display. And switching the venue of the hip hop concert to Club 2:K:9 was not an improvement over last year's canceled concert.

The Homecoming steering committee was wrong in believing that students would anxiously await or avidly support a repeat of last year's average Homecoming.

The only jewels in the crown of this year's Homecoming were the pageant, step show, Yard Fest and the football game — most of these events were beyond the control of the lack-luster Steering committee. It needs to be noted here that the biggest alumni event during Homecoming week was a party at a club sponsored by someone who can barely be called an alumni: Sean "Puffy" Combs.

Encased in a bulletin board at the end of power hall are the photos of the students who worked on this year's Homecoming festivities. Underneath the snap shot of each Homecoming staffer is an adjective, supposedly describing the person in the picture. However, after a review of this year's less-than-stellar activities, one descriptive word is conspicuously missing from the display: average. We give Homecoming a grade of "C."

### Homecoming: The Dissenting Opinion

Whenever people complain, it is petulant and juvenile. Homecoming this year was decent: Jay-Z appeared, the venerated Jumbotron arrived and worked, Yard Fest was smoky as ever and full of freaks, there was human jump-roping at the Step Show, the Fashion Show was slick, we won the game, there were balloons, etc. What exactly was the problem?

So the concert was not Puff Daddy. Puff Daddy blows. So Christ did not descend from the heavens and anoint Mr. Howard on the basis of his perm.

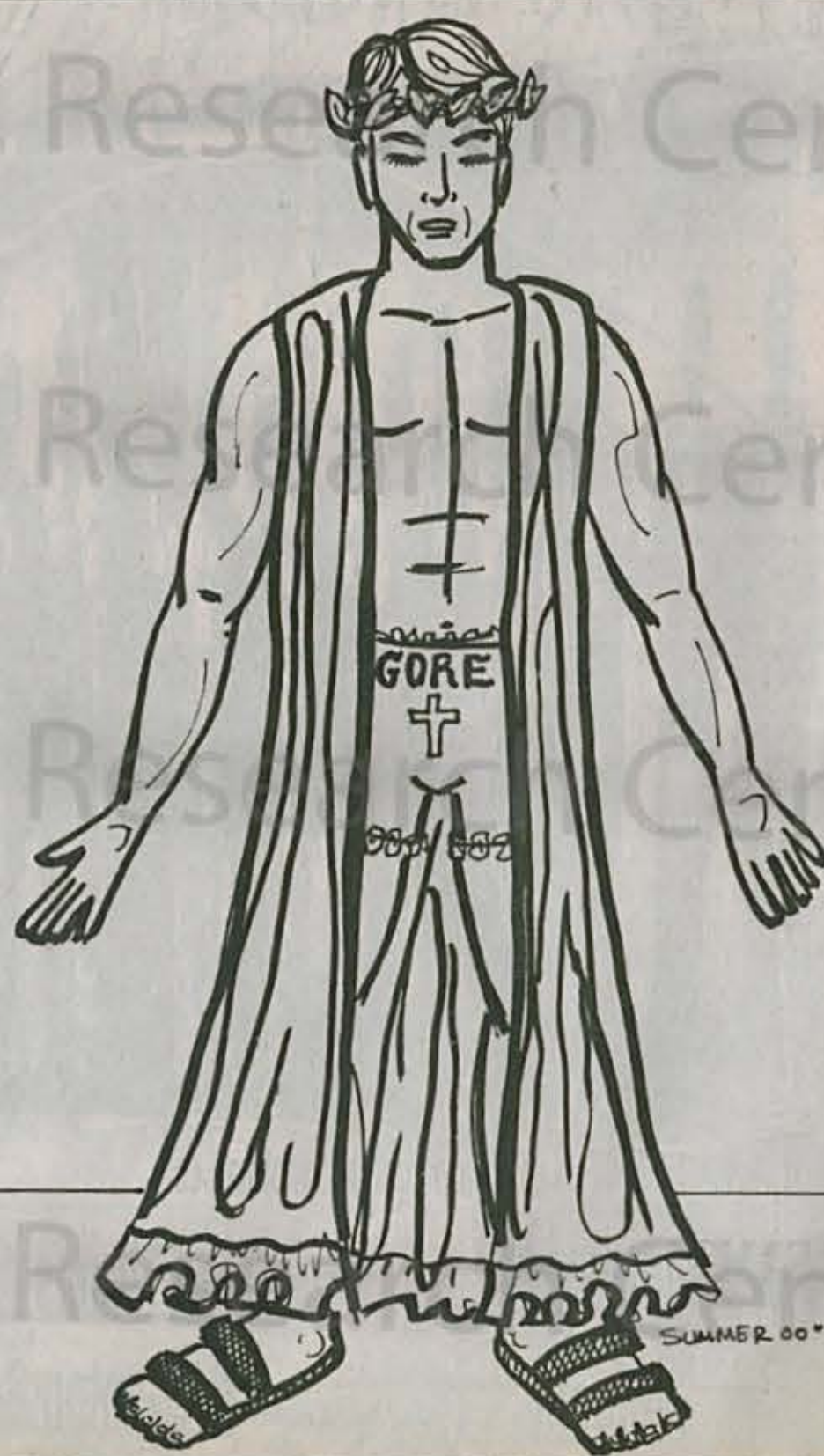
Who cares? Homecoming was a big party like it always is, and for those who sought to party, it was fun. For those who chose to complain, well, who cares? You should have run to Robin's earlier to get your liquor. As the only editor who did not attend any Homecoming events, perhaps the "B" that I give the festivities are out of ignorance, but it seemed like any other Homecoming to me, a well-oiled party locomotive with a gang of freaks on the train platform.

—Michael Winfield

### An Unjustifiable Murder

The Fairfax County District Attorney has taken down the value of a human life another notch. Calling the Prince Jones shooting a justifiable murder, he has said that the officer had the right to shoot Prince Jones. The officer who felt his life was in danger. The officer who followed a man for so many miles in an unmarked car and pointed a gun in his face. This same officer who failed to run Jones' plate numbers, call for backup, or identify himself as a Prince George's County police officer. He was right because Prince Jones was wrong for being a black man in a SUV. At least that's what the District Attorney says. What about the danger Jones felt as he was being followed? What about the danger he felt as he was being hunted by this person in the gray Mitsubishi? What about the

impending danger that Jones felt he was leading to his fiancée and daughter? Is Jones just an afterthought, a sad case of mistaken identity? Now, Jones' daughter will never have her father rock her to sleep, walk her down the aisle, or see her graduate. His fiancée will never know him as her husband. His mother will never hug her son again. No murder is ever justifiable. Each life is as important as the next. While the "blue" race may think they've won another victory, the truth has yet to be seen. Officer Jones will pay for killing Prince Jones. There's one man that he must face that none of us can escape. Officer Jones, we may have never seen your face or know the real reason behind your action, but your day in court is coming.



### What's Your Opinion?

We encourage our readers to write letters to the Editor. Tell us what you think about the paper and its contents.

We strive to produce a quality weekly with news pages that are devoid of slant or personal bias. Please address all letters or comments to The Hilltop, 2251 Sherman Ave., NW, Washington, DC, 20001. You can also e-mail us at thehilltop@hotmail.com

The Hilltop. Be Heard.

### CORRECTIONS

In the article, "Dominica's Prime Minister Rosie Douglas Dead at 59" (10/29), we incorrectly reported Prime Minister Rosie Douglas' birthdate. The late Prime Minister of Dominica was born on Oct. 15, 1941. He died 14 days before his 59th Birthday. He was buried one day short of his birthday. We regret the error.

In the article, "AKAs, Sigmas Win First Place at Annual Step Show" (10/29), the reporters failed to note the performance of the ladies of Sigma Gamma Rho. We regret this omission.

The Hilltop is dedicated to accuracy in its reporting and editing. Corrections should be reported to the editor at (202) 806-4748.

Corrections will run on the Editorial page each week as they are identified.

## THE HILLTOP

JUDGED BEST NEWSPAPER AT THE  
2000 HBCU NEWSPAPER CONFERENCE

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CHIEF COPY EDITOR

Now in its 76th year, The Hilltop is written and produced every Friday by the students of Howard University. With a readership of more than 10,000 students and community members, the Hilltop is the largest black collegiate newspaper in the nation.

The opinions expressed on the Editorial Page are the views of the The Hilltop Editorial Board and do not directly reflect the opinion of Howard University, its Administration, individual Hilltop Policy Board members, or the student body. The opinions expressed on the Perspectives page are those of the writers and do not represent the view of the Editorial Board.

The Hilltop encourages you to share your opinions on articles published in the newspaper. The Hilltop Editorial Board reserves the right to edit letters for space and grammatical errors. All letters should be typed, signed and include a complete address and telephone number. Please send letters to: 2251 Sherman Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20001. Questions, comments and letters can also be sent via email to: thehilltop@hotmail.com.

The deadline to submit ads to the paper is the Friday preceding publication. The advertising department can be reached at (202) 806-6867. The editor can be reached at (202) 806-4748.

VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOV. 7

# PERSPECTIVES

## Can I Get An H-U?

Dane Bailey

Some things are inevitable. No human being can possibly live a full life without being shaped by interactions with others. The sense of self is born of a reaction to outside stimulus. I was talking with a friend of mine a few days ago about how surprising it is to discover that you have friends who you won't ever lose touch with. Maybe this was sparked by Homecoming, seeing all the alumni come back just to kick it with their people one more time made us see ourselves in their place. I know who I'll be looking for at the reunion, who will be coming to the barbecues and who my children's play aunts and uncles will be. I am a different person than the freshman who walked through the doors of Drew in 1998 (it was hot as hell and all my boys from 3rd floor know what I'm talking about). I'm sure that I've changed for the better in some things and not so sure about other things but I'm learning to cope with it all. I've also seen my acquaintances change into my friends and grow in their own way. The most important lessons I've learned at Howard are the ones my friends have taught me. When I return home for the summer I can see the change in my friends and they notice the change in me too. I have invested part of myself in the culture of Howard University. I can't escape how Howard has shaped me, its traditions have become a part of my life. The last time I went to church back home and we sang "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing," I wanted to put my fist in the air and bow my head. My friends from back home tell me that I've become a Howard man; I take that as a compliment. I like what Howard has done to me and for me. This university does the absolutely necessary job of transforming young people into leaders. If you don't think so you've either been wasting your time here or you haven't been examining yourself properly. The opportunities that Howard students take for granted are in truth absolutely unique. Every day, we walk the same path that so many great men and women have walked. This school is our history, so we should dedicate ourselves to furthering its tradition of excellence.



## Hos Wit' No Clothes Shakin' Dat Azz Like Some Pros

Shannon Washington

To rest from getting our groove on, my friends and I collapsed to a couch in a semi-secluded area of the club near a group of guys I had known since freshman year. Spirits were high. Everyone knew each other; the atmosphere was of a family-reunion; all was cool. Then she came. She was "wasted," she and her friend. Being led by a guy whom I knew by sight. I was under the impression that she knew everyone there.

Being the Sagittarius that I am, I was in my own world. So I didn't pay much attention to her. Until I noticed a shoe on my knee. Not your typical high-heeled club shoe. No. One of those shoes with the 4" heel. Tacky and on my knee? I pushed it off and shifted my position to see who it belonged to. Indeed, it was she. With legs wide, straddling the brother next to me in a semi-lap dance. Now, I had two options: either scream on them both to make my presence known or just move. I was frozen. Luckily, she got up and left.

So my friends and I are screw-facing the brother next to me. He felt it. So he left too. A little bothered, I went outside to get some air and then went to the bathroom. I expected the rest of my night to be okay. She was gone; it was over. To my dismay, she was back when I returned! This time she seemed more collected and was sitting quietly. Watching her friend get "fingered" by her "date." No, my eyes were certainly not deceiving me! But I could pretend. It was pretty dark. So I socialized with the surrounding sisters and brothers. I guess girl #1 decided that her friend wasn't going to have all the fun. So she danced with one of my friends. The brothers had the same facial expression that my sisters and I had: bewilderment. But I couldn't be mad at him: I'm not anyone's mother. So I just concentrated on my own experience.

But I wanted to scream. She eventually settled back on the couch and gave

another lap-dance to another brotha. One who I happen to know quite well. He has always come off pretty cool. Even in the club scene. Just an all-around nice guy. But this night he lifted up her skirt and moved her around on the couch to see how far he could go. He turned into something dark and very ugly. I believe in the right to get freaky every once in a while... as long as it is IN PRIVATE and CONSENSUAL. Not when you're in a club. With about 10 strangers surrounding you.

I felt helpless. I wanted to pull her off of him and proceed to give them both swift kicks in the a\*\*. I wanted to stop the music and throw the turntable at the both of them. I wanted to know how not only he could take advantage of her, but how she could let herself get taken advantage of. But being me, I just left and went to another room to release.

When we returned, she was still there. A few minutes and she suddenly left. All attention snapped to the brother. I was horrified to the pounds and nods he received as if he had done something good. After looking down at the floor and seeing a used condom and condom wrapper, I wanted to cry and cuss. I ask every one reading this, especially the brothers, do you ever think about the consequences of this type of behavior?

Sometimes I just want to shut my eyes and zone out and concentrate on bettering myself. Maybe we should all try that sometime.

Shannon Washington the Hilltop Production Editor and can be contacted at s\_washington@howard.edu.

## I, Bitch

Breana Smith

I am a bitch.

Or at I least I can be. And I don't mean the trite little acronym of Beautiful, Intelligent, Talented, Charming, Honey, either. I am mean, demanding, at times manipulative, power hungry, and even downright nasty. On more than one occasion, and often more than once a day, the bitch that I am just can't be contained.

Never call me a bitch.

So bitch, I asked myself, what's up with that? After all, I sing along proudly to Trina's "Da Baddest Bitch," and would easily refer to any female friend of mine with this moniker when recounting a story. For example, "Let me tell you about this bitch..." Yet I do not mean her nor myself any harm.

After much careful thought, study and deliberation I came to the conclusion that in addition to occasionally being a bitch, I contradict myself. I also came to the conclusion that as a woman, despite our numbers, I am a member of a marginalized group. As a woman in a patriarchal society, I am socially oppressed. As a BLACK woman, I am just thankful to still be here, living and breathing. As a member of this marginalized, socially-oppressed group, I am free to use words that historically have served a tools for the oppressor, towards my own internal liberation. So yes, I am bitch. And what is worse—I like it.

But no male may ever utter such words against me. As a man, he will inflict countless indignations and iniquities upon me. As a man, despite his numbers, he is not a part of a marginalized group. As a man, he is a card-carrying member of the patriarchal establishment that seeks to oppress me. For any man, particularly any black man to call me out my name to face or otherwise, he is asking to receive a fury borne of centuries of disrespect, disregard, and disdain for whom I am. For any man to refer to women as bitches, he is affronting his very passage into this world.

Nevertheless, the words we speak become our actions, and ultimately define us. Am I a bitch? And rather what does that mean? If it means ambitious, power-hungry and tenacious, then sign me up for the bitches. But if it means petty, small-minded, and vicious, then I would assuredly refrain from the term. Sadly, we are too often being defined by someone else, and rarely is liberation the outcome of our language use.

Truly, there is no true freedom to come from profanity or self-deprecation. Trina and Little Kim are not uplifting our gender. The only real effect of using bitch so ubiquitously is that we become inured to it, hardened from the vigilant protection of our identity.

Breana Smith is a Physics/ Political Science Major.

## Don't Be a Resume-Builder

Brittney Cooper

Howard University is the quintessential microcosm of the real world, much more so than similar universities. The diversity in perspectives, hometowns, and hair, represent the very best that the world has to offer. I am sad to say, however, that student leadership on this campus also reflects the uninformed, selfish, and myopic views of those whom we call world leaders today.

Considering the amount of talent and skill that is contained within this body of ten thousand students, I'm surprised that we are not more disgusted with our archaism, lack of innovation, and repetition in student government. Each year students claim that it is this disgust which motivates them to run for office—all in the name of CHANGE, ACCOUNTABILITY, and last spring's buzz word: ADVOCACY.

Why don't things change from year to year? Simple. Student leaders never really change their perspective. They have no understanding of how government works. Take for instance the fact that it is necessary to read the student constitution before running for office. Now, ask how many of your elected officials did it? How do you change things, advocate for students and make leaders accountable if you are unaware of students' rights and your constitutional duties? Each year student leaders go into office with the same mind as their predecessors (although they'll swear it's different): to put on successful programs for the students and keep students informed. That's not what student GOVERNMENT is about. There is one programming body in the government and that is the Undergraduate/Graduate Student Assembly. How many students know this?

For those of you who don't, it is our duty as student leaders to inform you, and we obviously have not done a good job. This means that each student on this campus must take the initiative to become informed him or herself by reading the H-Book, the Hilltop, using Howard e-mail and encouraging your friends to do the same. As you engage in personal fact-finding, then you will have a clearer view of how to lead at Howard, and how when put in a position on the infamous HALL, with lots of politics, power, and politically puerile people to handle it and make sure that students benefit in the end.

Don't get me wrong. There are some "soldiers" in our little hall on the Hilltop that take your concerns home each night, that strive to make sure things get better, that refused to be swayed by money, people or power. Unfortunately, those efforts get lost amidst the politics and self-interests of the RBs (resume-builders).

You may ask what the impetus for this article is. Simple. Start planning now to add true, genuine issues to the spring campaigns. Many students have begun planning their next addition to their CVs, at your expense, and I'm urging you to prepare by finding out now what the issues really are, who really has the power to solve the problems, and what can realistically be done in one year of effective student administration. Don't be the next uninformed, apathetic victims of our less-than-silver-tongued, misguided, albeit well-meaning Power Hall Yes Men. The yeses very often have nothing to do with you. Think about it.

Brittney Cooper is an English major and member of student government.

## Autonomic Pilot

About two red-brick blocks from Stowe Hall, a geriatric gentleman screams from his porch. He cannot manage to manipulate his mandibles anymore, so his screams are guttural and muted, the cries of maimed children. Every day I stroll from the cafe, and choose the circuitous route, without fail, I see and hear this man. He is always accoutered nattily, that is, for a man depleted of discipline by age into a doddering town-

Michael Winfield

crier. Like heroin-addicts who loiter in front of methadone clinics, his pants and jacket match, his shoes and belt match, his shirt completes the color wheel triad. Junkies, of course, are junkies because they have been enabled into inefficacy by loved ones, the same loved ones who dress them so fondly. This man was most likely dressed by his wife or his daughter or someone who similarly encouraged and ignored his rampant senility.

The first time I saw the senile stranger, he paused in his raging rant to reply to my inquisitive glance, which had lasted only a second, and had been beamed out of the periphery of my pupil. His eyes shone lucidly. His head raised in sanity. His dogged face grizzled with gray hairs became elastic with expectancy. "Have a nice life," he said, with austere profundity and absent finality. He then repeated it to himself, but his lips barely managed to mouth it. Since I overdosed on science-fiction before the age of twelve (from Flash Gordon to Buck Rodgers to The Bantus of Mars!!!), I have a penchant for paranoid delusions with a science-fiction element. I could not help but think that through a quantum-mechanical temporal mishap, somehow this raving lunatic was myself, and I, overburdened by both the onus of telling myself something great and the Minotaur of senility charging through the labyrinth of my nervous mind and the opprobrium of not knowing what to say, settled on:

"Have a...nice life." Yes, that works. It is one of those things that if you are listening, and your mind is open, actually makes sense.

The next time I saw him, he ranted: "The Bible does not say that God damned the Negro...that is a lie to persecute!" There are scholars who would take tenfold the time to elaborate and explicate this idea. But it needs no more hermeneutical exegesis than the amount afforded it by this polemicist. His neighbor, spitting in the wilted grass of his lawn, cared not for the sentiments of the senile sage across the street. He then scratched his head, lifting up his netted baseball cap, revealing a head shimmering in sweat seduced into existence by the sun.

Another time, he growled about something or other, but I was lost in an apiary of mental activity, and did not hear. He leaned forward suddenly and asked, "Have you got a cigarette?"

No, I don't smoke," I replied. I did not think he did, either. Not now, anyhow. Perhaps he did before, when

he was a person. Now, he was just a husk, wasn't he? A senile soothsayer on autonomic pilot?

But everything he says is cogent and concise, and what is even more, true. Maybe he was just kicked in the jaw by a horse several months ago and hasn't healed. But then, no, he is screaming at no one, no one at all. There is no audience that he seeks to educate, and he screams whether I am walking down the street or not. Or does he? For all I know, he could be trying to tell me something; for all I know, he is a Bantu King from Mars!!!

Just walking down the street where he is situated isn't enough, truly. The crazy man will still scream at me, or at the imaginary footmen he believes his words slay, at the imaginary sands he believes his words change to snakes, at the shadow of himself flitting through the tree leaves and lurking at the curb that he is desperately trying to make corporeal again.

So: the other day, I bought a pack of cigarettes, pulled up a chair, and sat down next to the man. I don't smoke; neither does he. But he appreciated the gift of cigarettes and conversation, senile or not. And so did I.

# ***The Mighty Bison !!***

## **MEN'S BASKETBALL**

@ *The BURR !!*

**TONIGHT, Friday, Nov. 3**  
**BISON vs. Three Aces (AAU)**

EXHIBITION GAMES

**@ 7:00PM**

FIRST HOME GAMES

AND NEXT WEEK

**Thursday, Nov. 9**

**vs. Team Canada**

**@ 7:00PM**

## **SWIMMING & DIVING**

**HU SHARKS vs. St. Francis**

@ *The BURR Pool*

**TOMORROW, SATURDAY**

**Nov. 4, 1:00PM**

## **WOMEN'S SOCCER**

@ *Greene Stadium*

**LAST HOME GAME**

**HOWARD vs. Spelman**

**TOMORROW, SATURDAY**

**Nov. 4 @ 3:00PM**

## **BEST OF LUCK TO:**

**BISON FOOTBALL**  
@ South Carolina State

**WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL**  
@ Hampton and Norfolk

**Women's Bowling**  
in Lancaster, PA &  
MEAC Championships

**Women's & Men's  
Tennis**  
@ ITA Regionals

**Men's Soccer**  
@ Oneonta  
**GO BISON !!**

## **...And CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

**BISON FOOTBALL - THE HOMECOMING VICTORY!**  
**WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL - THE SENIOR DAY WIN**  
**CROSS COUNTRY - WOMEN 2<sup>ND</sup> & MEN 4<sup>TH</sup> in MEAC**  
**CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**WOMEN'S & MEN'S SOCCER - VICTORIOUS DOUBLE**  
**HEADER**  
**BADMINTON (CLUB SPORT) - DC OPEN**

**REMINDER: Student tickets to Nov 11 Football game will be distributed at Blackburn Center next Thursday and Friday, 11AM to 7PM**



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2000

## THE NEW AUTHORITY ON HOWARD SPORTS

B1



Mark Coleman

The seniors on the Lady Bison Spikers volleyball team say goodbye in their final home game of the season.  
Story on B2

## Also Inside

Life & Style  
Engage

B4  
B7

## ON POINT:

Check out [www.bisonmania.com](http://www.bisonmania.com) for the latest in Howard University athletics, alumni updates, and current events happening in Bison Country.

THE HILLTOP

<http://hilltop.howard.edu>

## BISON ROUNDUP

A LOOK AT THE TOP SPORTS NEWS &amp; EVENTS AT HOWARD AND THE WORLD

## MEAC FOOTBALL SCORES

Last Week's Results October 28

Florida A&M 53, Hampton Univ. 24  
Howard Univ. 14, Norfolk State 0  
N.C. A&T State 30, Bethune-Cookman 19  
Delaware State 57, S.C. State 32  
W. Illinois 73, Morgan State 17

## SATURDAY'S GAMES

Schedule for week of November 4

Bethune-Cookman at Hampton Univ. (MEAC-TV) 12 Noon  
N.C. A&T State at Delaware State 12 Noon  
Howard Univ. at S.C. State 1:30 PM  
Morgan State at Norfolk State 1:00 PM  
Florida A&M at Southern Univ. (non-conference) 6:30 PM (est)

## MEAC STANDINGS

Team	Conference Points			Overall Points								
	W	L	T	For	Opp	Pct	W	L	T	For	Opp	Pct
Florida A&M	6	1	0	317	123	.857	7	2	0	358	141	.778
Bethune-Cookman	4	1	0	168	76	.800	7	1	0	233	106	.875
Hampton Univ.	4	1	0	191	161	.800	6	2	0	290	232	.750
N.C. A&T State	4	1	0	125	52	.800	6	2	0	181	86	.750
Howard Univ.	3	2	0	90	108	.600	3	5	0	133	218	.375
Delaware State	2	3	0	146	188	.400	4	4	0	239	268	.500
Norfolk State	1	5	0	63	164	.167	2	6	0	94	230	.250
S.C. State	0	5	0	113	227	.000	1	7	0	109	337	.125
Morgan State	0	5	0	72	186	.000	1	7	0	108	296	.125

## SPORTS BRIEFS



Rod Strickland

## STRICKLAND ACTING BAD

Washington Wizards point guard Rod Strickland was arrested last Saturday after refusing to obey police officers' orders. Strickland, 34, refused to leave the Republic Gardens nightclub after law enforcement ordered people to leave due to overcrowding concerns. Strickland faces a misdemeanor charge of unlawful entry and disciplinary action from the NBA if convicted.

## JOHNSON SIDELINED

Washington Redskins Quarterback Brad Johnson suffered a partially torn knee ligament in the 'Skins' 27-21 loss to the Tennessee Titans Monday night. Johnson says that he will not play this weekend against the Arizona Cardinals if it means risking more damage to his knee. As of press time, Johnson had not practiced this week.

## DEFENDING CHAMPS HOLD OFF PORTLAND

Shaquille O'Neal and the Los Angeles Lakers continued where they left off last year with a 96-86 win over the Portland Trailblazers in their NBA season opener. O'Neal recorded 36 points and 11 rebounds in the victory. Blazers forward Scottie Pippen sprained his ankle in the first quarter and did not return to the game.



Shaquille O'Neal

## VICK QUESTIONABLE FOR MIAMI

Just four days before No. 3 Miami is set to host No. 2 Virginia Tech, Virginia Tech quarterback Michael Vick is still nursing a sprained right ankle and his prognosis for Saturday's noon showdown at Miami remains in question. With Vick in a protective boot through today, fifth-year senior Dave Meyer has been taking all the snaps in practice.



BISONROUNDUP WAS COMPILED BY BRANDON BICKERSTAFF

## FREE THROW

## Did You Know?

THE HOWARD UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL TEAM IS CURRENTLY TIED FOR SECOND PLACE IN THE MEAC AND CAN STILL CLINCH A DIVISION I-AA PLAYOFF BERTH

## Bison Get Down and Dirty

## Football Team Grabs Ugly Win at Greene Stadium

By TYRONE MCCANDIES  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Howard University used 120 yards from senior running back Jermaine Hutchinson and a huge goal line stand to defeat Norfolk State 14-0 in the Bison's Homecoming Game at Greene Stadium. In a game with 17 punts through howling winds, the Bison were able to get the ball to bounce their way for at least one afternoon. In posting the shutout, Howard's first since a 52-0 rout of Morehouse in 1997, the Bison move to 3-5 overall and 3-2 in the MEAC. Meanwhile, the Spartans drop to 2-6 overall and 1-5 in the MEAC.

At first, it looked like neither team wanted to win. Howard was forced to punt several times into a wind that started off light, but became brutal by kickoff. The Spartans did not fare any better, until Mike Sanders, forced to punt into the wind, had his punt drop for only a 10-yard gain. Norfolk State, ranked dead last in the MEAC, could only muster a few yards on the ensuing drive. The Bison defense blocked Terry Cornett's 47-yard field goal attempt to survive a huge scare.

In the second quarter, Howard would get a huge break. With a minute and 29 seconds left, Norfolk State would take its turn punting into the wind from their own 16-yard line. The punt only traveled 10 yards, placing the Bison on the Spartan 26. Six plays later, Bobby Townsend found Shaun Miller, who plucked the ball out of the air for the Bison's first touchdown of the game. Charles Card's extra point made it 7-0, Howard at the half.

The Bison would catch another break early in the second half. With 10:16 left in the third period, Cornett would have the snap go over his head. In an attempt to keep Howard from scoring the touchdown, Cornett illegally kicked the ball out of the back of the endzone. The penalty gave Howard the ball at the Spartan one-yard line. From there it was academic, as Hutchinson scored on the one-yard run play. Another Card extra point made the score 14-0, Howard. The Bison relied on its defense for the remainder of the game.



Photo By Mark Coleman

Senior running back Jermaine Hutchinson racked up 120 yards and a touchdown to propel the Bison to a 14-0 Homecoming victory over Norfolk State.

After receiving perfect field position in the fourth quarter, Norfolk State's Damien Smith raced to the Bison endzone for what could have been a sure touchdown. However, Smith was tripped up by Bison safety, Brian McDonald saving the shut out for the time being. On the following play, the Bison defense stiffened and Smith was stripped just as he crossed

Please see HOMECOMING, B2

## Cross-Country Finishes the Distance

## Women Place Second; Men Fourth in MEAC Championships

By DANA E CRAWFORD  
Hilltop Staff Writer

While most Howard students cheered and danced to the music of the band last Saturday, while watching our football team beat down Norfolk State, enjoying the chaos of Homecoming. Instead of partying, Howard's cross-country teams were running for the reward of a lifetime, a Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) Championship.

Early that morning the women lined up to run a 3K and the men an 8K event at Hagan Stone Park, in Greensboro, NC. The temperature on the course was in the high seventies, with humidity making it unusually warm for a cross-country meet. Meets held during this time of the year made breathing the long distances a challenge.

The men's team finished fourth behind Norfolk State, Coppin

State, and Florida A&M. Throughout the season, the men struggled with placing due to the lack of distance runners on the team. They experienced a number of small problems, such as one of the top runners having physical difficulties on the course. Despite challenges, Michael Zipf placed 8th in a field of 71 runners with a time of 26:53.

"Considering the pressure of it being championships and the small problems along the course, I think we did very well as a team," Zipf said.

Ngata Nganga, who placed 11th with a time of 27:17, thought the team had an overall good performance. "It was kind of challenging (mentally), but I felt good. I think the meet was great, I was proud of everyone's performances," Nganga said.

Head Coach Michael Merritt felt the team broke down some misconceptions others had about them. "They surprised a few people by doing better than what people thought they would and could

do," Merritt said.

In the past, the women's cross-country team had come close to taking it all, but felt this truly was the last chance for a MEAC championship. Three of the team's top runners, Adrienne Trice, Jamila Jordan, and Crystal Henderson, are graduating in May.

Freshman Krystal Perkins, Howard's first finisher, felt that her finish was one for the team. "When I was running I wanted to stop because my stomach hurt, I had a cold so I couldn't breathe, everything just hurt so bad but I knew I had to do it for my team. I wanted to help win it especially for Jordan and Trice. They have worked hard for Howard for four long years." Perkins finished with a time of 19:47, placing 5th in a field of 73 runners.

Most of the team had the mindset to win from the first meet of the season up until the last runner crossed the finish line at the

Please see CHAMPIONSHIPS, B2

## Howard Basketball--Changing Faces

## New Women's Basketball Coach Ready for Challenge

By CAMILLE M. HARVEY  
Assistant SportsWeek Editor

Photo By Mark Coleman

Cathy Parson is pinned by Sandra Norrell-Thomas.

Coach Cathy Parson wants to take the women's basketball team in a new direction. Armed with a positive attitude, the new head coach has big plans for the defending MEAC regular season champions. However, the result will be the same, a winning program.

A native of Hagerstown, MD, Parson is no stranger to women's basketball. She was a head coach and an assistant for eleven years at the University of Richmond. She also coached with the Washington Mystics, where she served as assistant coach and interim head coach. She's also coached in Division III collegiate basketball, where she took her team to the Sweet 16. However, because of the lack of resources and limitations, Parson knew that she wouldn't be able to do much more.

Please see PARSON, B2

## New Men's Coach Looks to Rebuild Basketball Program

By ALLEN POWELL II  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Looking at coach Frankie Allen's basketball past might cause a person to wonder what he's doing here as Howard's as new men's basketball coach.

As a high school All-American assistant coach at Virginia Tech for 11 years, head coach at Virginia Tech for four years, leading his team to three Ohio Valley Conference championships in nine years as head coach at Tennessee State University, and coaching several players in the NBA, Frankie Allen looks to be a coach on the rise. Yet, he is here at Howard University coaching a program that has won three games in two years, and is still under NCAA investigation. So the question - why is Frankie Allen here?

According to Allen, the answer isn't that complicated. "...You never know where this (coaching) profession is going to take you," said Allen. "However, Howard was a good fit for me and my

Please see ALLEN, B2



Photo By Mark Coleman

Frankie Allen will try to rebuild a struggling Howard men's basketball program.

# Soccer King Rules

## Super Senior Lights Up the Field

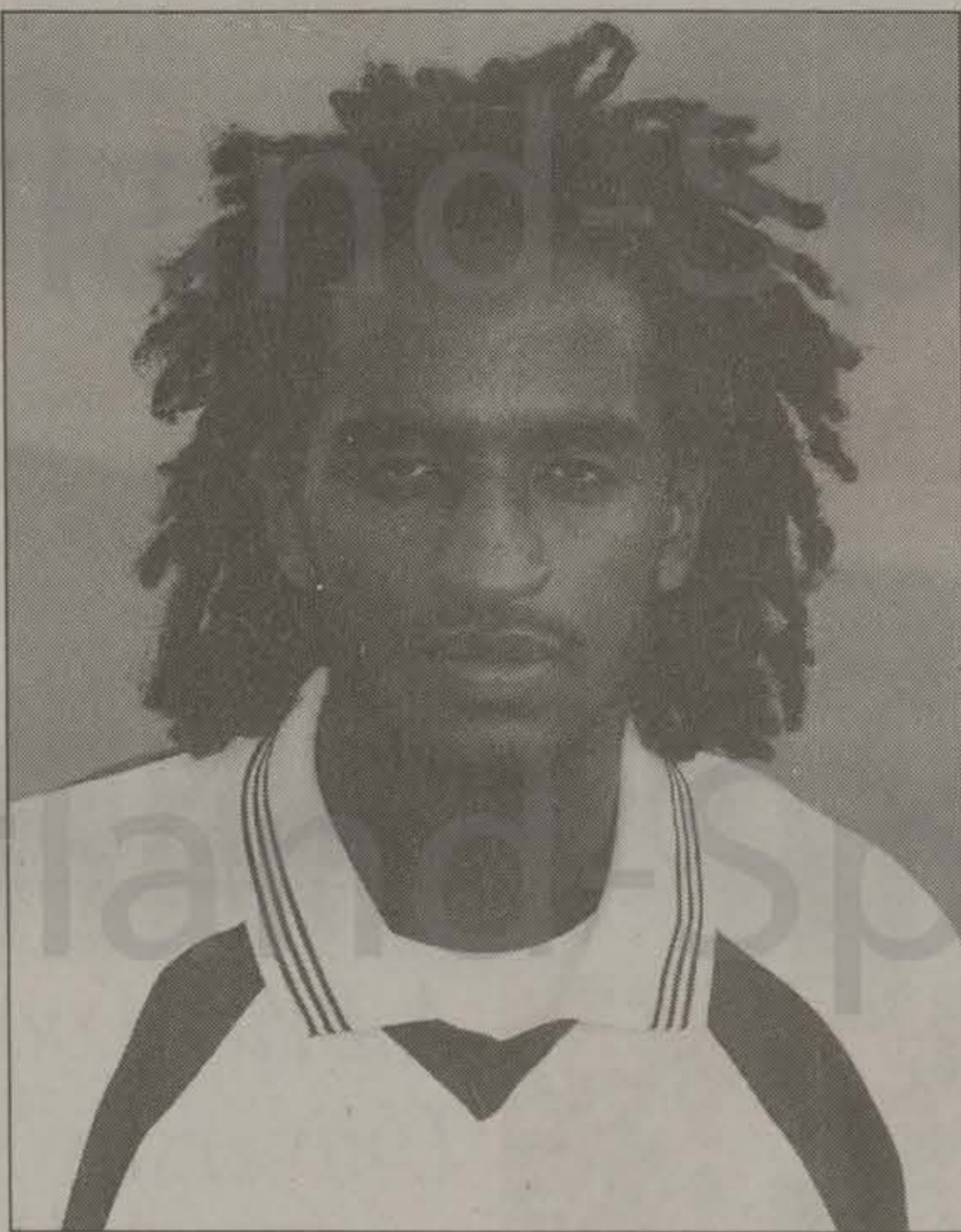
By JODI REID  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Sennai Cham, senior International business major and captain of the men's soccer team, will pursue his dream of playing professional soccer after graduation. Cham, a native of Fort Washington, MD, is currently playing in his fourth and final season of men's soccer at Howard University. Cham has been playing soccer since the age of four, playing on the school yard as a pre-schooler. It was then that Cham realized that he liked the game of soccer. His parents encouraged him to play, but it was Cham who made the decision.

The 21-year-old center middle-fielder played for Maryland's Olympic development team before coming to play for Howard. Cham has made a significant contribution to Howard's team. In his freshman year, he was on the Howard team that won the conference championship and made it to the first round of the NCAA Championship. This was the most exciting and memorable moment for Cham.

"We played against the University of Virginia and lost 3-0, but it was an amazing game, and a great experience for me," Cham said.

Cham is inspired by Greg Simmons, Raymond Goodlett, and Jumani Anderson, three men that played and graduated from Howard and went on to play professional soccer. Pro soccer is



Sennai Cham looks forward to a professional soccer career after leaving Howard.

Photo By Mark Coleman

a goal that Cham definitely plans to achieve.

"After school I will continue to play soccer," Cham says. "I want to see how far I can go." Cham's short term goal is to end the current soccer season with a strong finish. The current record for the men's team is 3-11-1. Cham, who is also the leading scorer for the team, scored the winning goals in two previous games. In the match against Hartwick University, Cham pulled through and scored two goals for Howard in ten minutes to take a 3-2 win.

As team captain, Cham prepares himself by what he calls "zoning out."

"I focus on what needs to get done and I make sure that my team is focusing as well, so when we do go on the field we act as a unit," said Cham.

Howard's team consists of a large group of freshmen that will gain a lot of experience playing with each other which will benefit them in the future.

"We have a young team, but they have a bright future," Cham says. "I enjoyed playing with them and I wish them the best."

In the future, Cham would like to work for the New York Stock Exchange or Wall Street, that is, if pro soccer does not go as planned.

The love for the game that Cham speaks about is evident in him. Cham's aspirations, commitment, and passion should take him far in life. Cham will play in his final game for Howard on Sunday, November 5, against Oneonta.

# Lady Bison Shut Down Coppin State

## Seniors Bid Farewell in Dynamic Victory

By LORINDA BULLOCK  
Hilltop Staff Writer

For five of the Lady Bison, the exciting and hard-earned victory over Coppin State was a bittersweet one. The game was the final home game for seniors Khalilah Birdsong (Middle hitter), Christalyn Carraway (Middle hitter), Diahann Doyen (Outside hitter), Tinisha Mott (Outside hitter), and Robin Webber (Right side). It was a four game battle in which Howard won the first, second, and fourth games with scores of 15-4, 16-14, and 15-7. Coppin State won the third game, 15-13.

In the first game, Howard (9-18 overall, 8-5 MEAC) and Coppin State (3-19, 2-9) went point for point for the first three points. Thanks to hustle and strong serving on Howard's part, the Lady Bison Spikers quickly widened the gap between themselves and the Lady Eagles, winning 15-4.

The second game was probably the most intense. Coppin led the way for most of the game, leading by as many as five points. Doyen, one of the Lady Bison's defensive specialists, gladly accepted the challenge to serve with authority to help revive her team, tying the game 13-13.

"You always want to play well," said Doyen regarding the clutch situation. "You have to get your concentration and get the ball in."

Along with the collective effort of offensive powerhouses Birdsong and Carraway, who combined for 19 kills, as well as resilient defense from Doyen and Mott (each with thirteen defensive digs), Howard revived themselves from their temporary deficit to squeak to victory.

In the third game, Coppin began on an 8-0 run and continued to dominate. The Lady Bison once again came from behind, dazzling the crowd with powerful blocks, and kills. When Howard battled back to a 13-13 tie, fans thought the Lady Bison would seal

the victory. The Eagles quickly dashed that hope and held on for the third game victory.

The fourth and final game became the score setter. If Howard were to win, they would win the match. If Coppin won, there would be a fifth, tie-breaking game to decide. Knowing the task placed before both squads, in a do or die fashion, they gave all they had. The score was tied 7-7 and once again Doyen was placed in the driver's seat to serve and serve well. She did not disappoint, helping Howard rally to overtake Coppin in the final game.

Knowing that this was the final home game for her seniors, Coach Linda Spencer only had positive memories and thoughts of her team members.

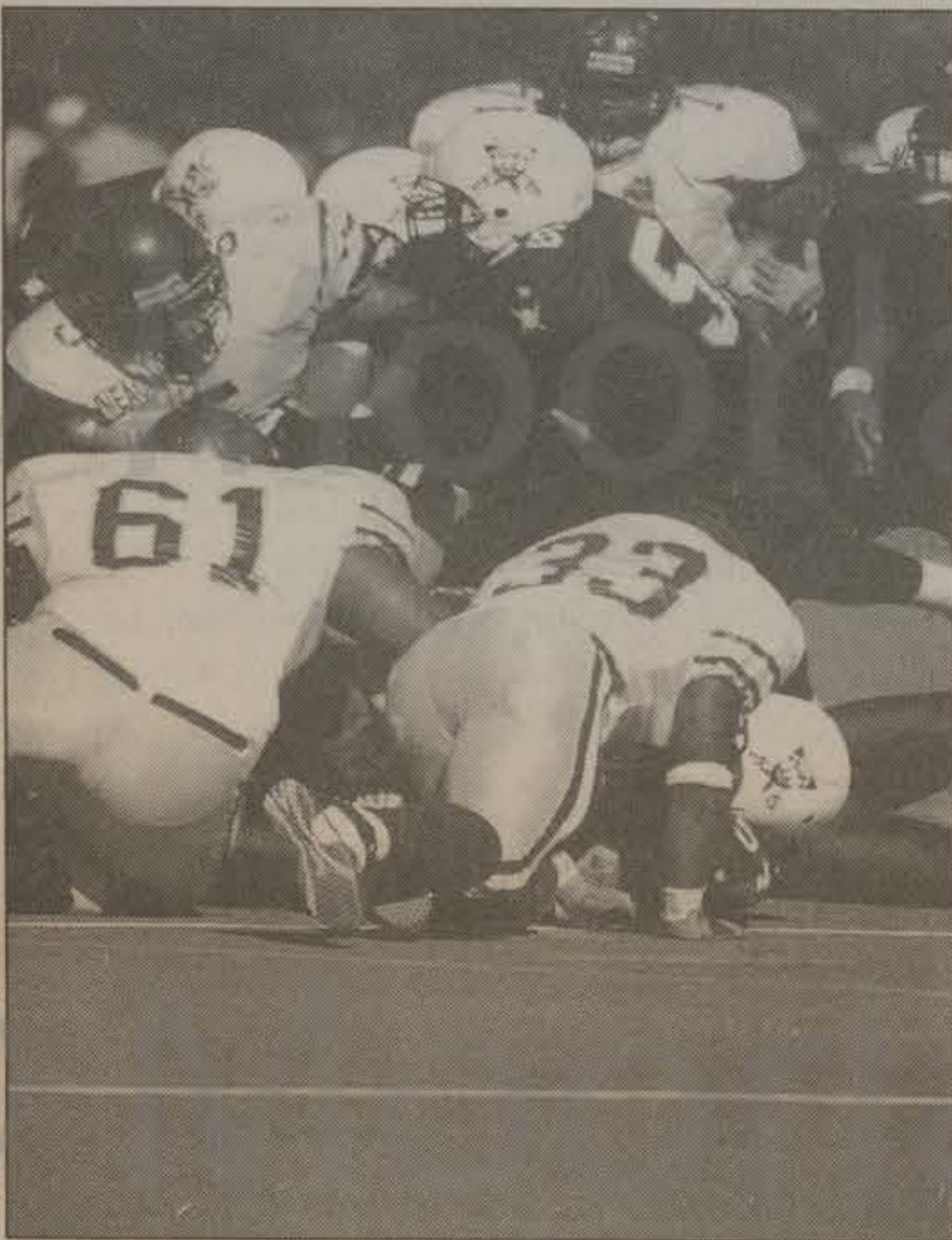
"They helped create what was there. They set the team leadership and commitment on and off the court and it's showing." The leadership and commitment Spencer refers to especially shows through the younger players. Players such as freshman middle hitter Jerri Hayes, MEAC set assist leader Jessamyne Rice, and junior outside hitter Denise Corbett all look to contribute largely to next year's Lady Bison team.

Doyen agrees that through commitment and support of fellow teammates, there will be successful results.

"The most important thing is to support the teammates and always play with your heart. If you play with your heart, you will always play your best, and never settle. I think our team has performed well. We've come a long way."

Birdsong, Carraway, Doyen, Mott, and Webber have indeed traveled a long and hard road, but it is not time to hang up their kneepads yet. The Lady Bison still must continue to work hard in their next four road games before going on to participate in the 2000 MEAC Volleyball Tournament being held in Baltimore, November 16-18.

## Bison blank Norfolk in 2000 Homecoming game



From HOMECOMING, B1  
the goal line. Howard safety, Vontrae Long recovered the fumble, ending the Spartan threat.

On the next drive, freshman defensive back, Brian Johnson picked off a Jon Roberts pass deep in Bison territory to kill another Spartan drive. Finally, with the crowd on its feet and music producer Puff Daddy wandering the sidelines, Long sealed the deal with a late interception.

Howard has been unbeaten at home so far this season, with the next Howard home game coming November 11 against Bethune-Cookman College.

The Bison will set their sights on South Carolina State at Bulldog Stadium in Orangeburg, S.C.

Photo By Mark Coleman  
The Bison defense (l) came up big against Norfolk State last week.

## Women's Cross-Country Falls Just Short of MEAC Title

From CHAMPIONSHIP, B1

championships. In spite of the drive, dreams, and dedication toward being named champions, it just was not meant to be for the ladies. The women placed second to Bethune-Cookman College by just three points.

Merritt said, "They did everything they could, it just didn't work for us. Bethune is a good team, but then so are we. Three points is about as close as it gets in cross-country scoring."

Faith Murray said, "If everyone would have done what they were supposed to do, we would have won. But one team member had a bad day, therefore we all had a bad day in placing second."

Trice and Jordan each ran near personal bests, coming in at 20:08 and 21:08 respectively. Henderson finished at 21:26 to earn a sixth place finish for Howard. Henderson is usually Howard's second finisher. Henderson had no comment on her performance in the meet.

Murray went on to say, "I was hurt in every part of my body, but I kept going because I was determined to win and not let my team down." Murray ran a personal best of 20:35.

Maya Caldwell, who contributed to the performance of the team by placing 19th overall with a time of 20:59, added, "I was just thinking as I was running to put it all out there for my team."

Junior Ramsi Bethany ran a 21:36, and ran in place of two valuable runners, Tania Rhone and Siobhan Walker who helped the team throughout the season before being sidelined with injuries.

"I know Ramsi put it all out on the line for the team even though she is a sprinter, not a cross-country runner," said Perkins. "I have so much respect for her."

Bethany felt the team has come a long way from last season's MEAC championship. "Some of us may not have had our best day of the season individually, but we still placed second in the MEAC, which is an improvement from last year's fourth place," Bethany said.

Coach Shivers felt this was only a continuation of something that has been going on a long time. "I think we are building on a dynasty and a legacy and I'm just proud to be a part of it. Also, I thank my seniors for taking us this far," Shivers said.

Merritt added, "They (the team) have finally opened people's eyes. People are recognizing HU as a legitimate program. Sometimes, you have to crawl before you can walk and our teams took a huge crawl in the right direction."

## Tydigga States the Facts on Howard Athletics

From 2 MINUTE

Hey people, there are two more home games this season. You should go to both of them, instead of faking like you're a Howard fan at Homecoming, taking up all the seats from the real fans. Nobody cares what you're wearing at a football game for pete's sake!

Oh, while I'm naming people who deserve praise, let's talk about the women's soccer team. People found ways to down them, and didn't believe that they could get the ball across midfield, much less win a game. What did the Lady Bison do? They went out and proved a bunch of people wrong. Not only are they getting the ball across midfield, these women are scoring points. Just ask South Carolina State, who got blasted 10-0, or Catholic University, who Howard drubbed 7-0. The women have seven victories on the season and will be look for number eight against Spelman College (They have athletics at Spelman?), who is only the third Historically Black College to field a women's soccer team behind Howard and South Carolina

State. You people should make a trip to see them play. The game against Spelman this Saturday will be their last home game of the season. Since the football team is out of town and I know you claim you don't have the money to go see them in South Carolina, stay home and support another Howard team. It wouldn't hurt to cheer the girls on. Plus, it's senior day, so the girls will be more than willing to give you a good game.

Gosh dam it, I almost forgot to talk about the women's cross-country team, who placed second at the MEAC Championships this weekend. Congratulations ladies, but then again haven't you been whipping tail along with the men's squad, for a while now? It just goes to show you that with hard training and belief in yourself, domination is possible. Now, I won't chastise you (non-athlete's) on not going to these meets because I need to check a meet out myself. But don't worry, most of runners are on the track team, so we have the entire year to go and enjoy their performances. As a matter of fact, try to see every Howard squad play this year. They do represent the school, you know.

## Parson Takes the Helm of Howard Basketball

From PARSON, B1

Parson also knows something about playing the game, as well. She is the leading scorer in West Virginia State University history with 2,128 points, and was voted Most Valuable Player three out of four years.

Parson considers her hiring a result of being in "the right place at the right time."

"I wasn't looking for a job...I had my resume' sent down just for that day," Parson said. "A week later, I got a phone call and I was shocked."

When Parson initially met with Interim Athletic Director Sondra Norrell-Thomas, the two were in conference for more than three hours. The two came to the agreement that Howard was where Parson needed to be.

"After reviewing numerous applications that I had...I found her to be the type of person I thought would fit into our program... and fit into our athletic family," Norrell-Thomas said.

Parson's first impression of the team was one of warmth and acceptance. That feeling, according to Parson, was a relief. Parson is in a difficult position. She is following not only the winningest coach in MEAC history, but in Howard history as well.

One challenge that Parson will face will be proving herself not only to her team, but also to the Howard University community. This is a challenge Parson embraces head on.

"I know that I will be tested and that these players will prove me," Parson said. "They will prove the things that I am teaching, they will prove that they are as great athletes that I believe they are and I will prove to myself and to others that I am every bit a fundamental teacher as I believe that I am."

Former All-MEAC Rookie, sophomore Andrea Gardner is optimistic about her new coach and the upcoming season.

"She makes us work very hard. She's very friendly to us. At the same time, she's very patient with us," Gard-



Photo By Mark Coleman  
Parson poses with Interim Athletic Director Sondra Norrell-Thomas and Howard President H. Patrick Wygert.

ner said. "She starts from ground zero and she works us to perfection."

Parson considers herself to be fun loving and wants her life to be a blessing to everyone she meets. She wants people to be glad about the time they spent with her and feel that it was well spent. She also wants the team to say that she was a strict coach, that she laughed with the team, cried with the team, and felt what the team felt. The ultimate goal that Coach Parson has for the team is for them to say that she prepared them for the world, academically and otherwise.

One expectation that Parson has for the team is also one that she has for herself: excellence. Parson is one who practices what she preaches and tells her team to never quit, no matter what the task is at hand.

Parson's outlook on the season can best be described through her motto, "Do better today than you did yesterday."

## Ooh La La

### Dancer of the Week

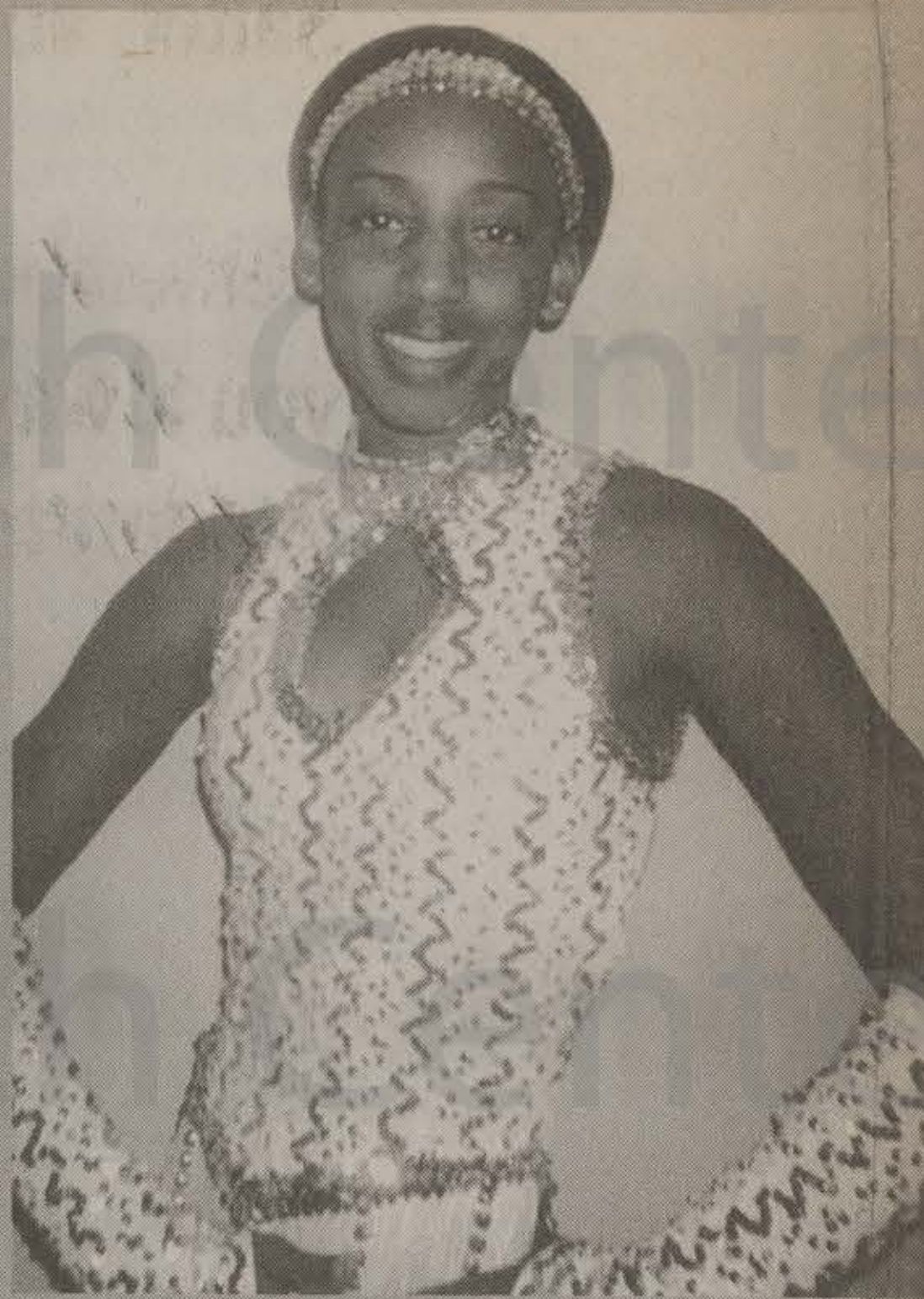
Name: Yaminah "Mia" Williams

Birthday: July 18, 1981

Sign: Cancer

Hometown: Decatur, GA

"Though obstacles may block your path, persevere and continue to strive for your goals."



## Allen hopes to take Howard basketball in a new direction

From ALLEN, B1

family, and I think we can really do some positive things here."

Coach Allen does care about the team's past record and recent turmoil. In fact, he's here for one reason; to make a change.

Allen, a Virginia native, is committed to returning Howard to its glory days of the 80s and early 90s. He said that while the last few years have been "chaotic," the team has grown a lot and made some progress.

"You have to look at the positive in every situation," said Allen. "The players have gone through a lot. These kids were basically playing without a coach, and were still competitive in many conference games. That's impressive."

Coach Allen, or simply Coach as he is called by his players, believes that with a creative scheme, hard work, and good shooting, the Bison will be vastly improved this season.

"Our goal is to be competitive in the MEAC. We want to make it into the tournament, not the play-in game," Allen said.

To accomplish this, Allen has instilled a new attitude into his team. Practices are upbeat, and players are supportive of each other, yelling out encouragement as they go through their drills. Players seem focused and excited, a far cry from the aura of apathy that they exuded last year. Every drill and every segment of practice is closed out by players answering Allen's call of "There is no substitute for..." with their own responsive cry, "Hard Work"! Allen said that this chant and a sense of family is the mantra of this team.

However, while Allen can change the attitude of his players, he cannot change his players. The Bison's pre-

sent nine-player roster lacks any real big men; their only true center is sophomore Nick Dotson. Therefore, any attempt to escape the MEAC's cellar will be difficult. Allen said that he and his team know that they will only go as far as their guard play takes them.

In order to maximize his only asset, Coach Allen may utilize a four-guard lineup, and an aggressive, team-oriented man-to-man defense.

"We need our guards to be aggressive," Allen said. "We also need them to shoot high percentages if we were going to win."

Allen hopes that the mismatches his style of play will create on offense will balance the liabilities it will cause on offense. Nevertheless, Allen knows that if he doesn't develop or recruit some post talent soon, the Bison will never be a force in the MEAC.

"Recruiting is the key. Howard has made a commitment to our recruiting program. It was one of the things I needed to come to Howard," said Allen.

Allen says that the basketball program plans to focus its recruiting efforts on some of the lesser-known local, regional, and national talent to improve its program. Allen came to Howard with two transfer students from the University of Colorado and may receive some more talent when certain players receive clearance from the NCAA.

Frankie Allen inherited a program in disarray, a program starved for improvement, a program in need of help. Allen believes all he needs is hard work from his players, support from the administration, and patience from the fans.

Why is Frankie Allen here? Isn't it obvious? He's here to win.

## HOWARD UNIVERSITY

HOMECOMING STEERING COMMITTEE

November 3, 2000

Dear Howard Family,

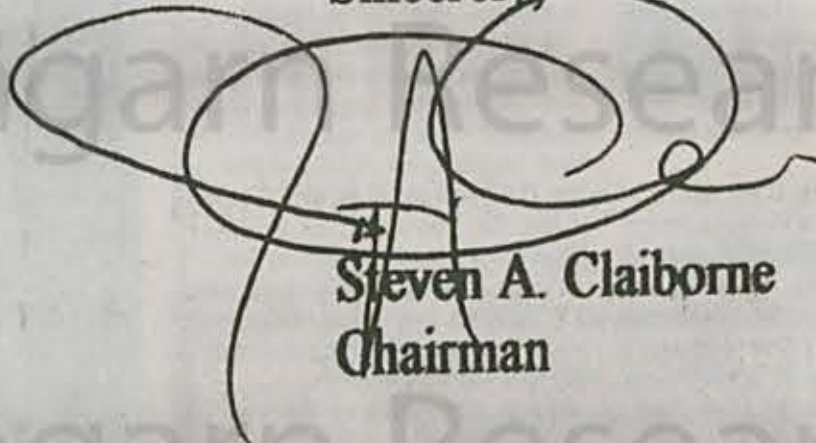
Homecoming 2000 was a SUCCESS!!

It was an extreme honor to act as host to the students, alumni, faculty, and administration of Howard University at *Genesis2000: A New Dawning*. It was a time to reflect on all that the 21<sup>st</sup> Century has in store for the Howard Family. It has been an extreme honor to serve as this year's Homecoming Steering Committee Chairman. Moreover, I felt it to be my duty to alma mater.

I would like to thank the following for their guidance and support throughout the planning of Homecoming 2000: Dr. Franklin Chambers, President Swygert, Executive Vice President Elzey, Vice President Archer, Marlene Richardson, Cornell Dancy, Sharon Banks, Keith D. Miles, Cramton Auditorium, Dean Belinda Watkins, Mr. Terrance Samuels, The Office of Student Activities Staff, Department of Theater Arts, Campus Police, Auxiliary Enterprises, Mr. Richard Dawson, Blackburn University Center Staff, Todd Pilot, Jason Smith, Christina Ackah, Sellano Simmons, Nikkole Salter, and the staff and volunteers of the 2000 Homecoming Steering Committee.

Remember that it is our duty to give back to alma mater. Howard continue to shine as you always have and on behalf of the 2000 Howard University Homecoming Steering Committee, thank you for making Homecoming 2000 a success.

Sincerely,

Steven A. Claiborne  
Chairman

# LIFE & STYLE

## Beginning to Breathe Again: Learning From a Failed Relationship

By **ERRICA DOTSON**  
Hilltop Staff Writer

A few months ago, I woke up with the worst headache of my life. It was the night after the man who I thought I would one day marry told me that he wanted to see other people.

### POINT OF VIEW

Being the type of woman that has a hard time putting her pride aside, I acted like it was of no consequence to me whether we stayed together or if we parted. "There are plenty of other people out there," I said to myself. Plus, he wasn't all that anyway. I was doing him a favor. He should have counted himself lucky to have someone like me in his life.

Trying to make myself believe these things after we hung up the phone was what started the endless parade of tears, symbolizing the myriad of questions that clouded my brain—from why, to how, to what now. I laid down on my couch, staring at the ceiling until my mind went from weary to numb and my restless body became exhausted. As the morning sunlight began to peep through my curtains, I finally drifted off to sleep.

The next morning while I surveyed my room—seeing pictures of us, his Guess jacket that I claimed as my own, three of his CD's—I began to realize that I had lost myself sometime during the course of this year-long relationship. The question I was now faced with was when did I begin living solely for him? Was it the day I cancelled plans to go shopping with my best friend to go watch *The Box* with him and his little brother? Or was it the night I chose to talk to him on the phone instead of eating dinner with my family? Or maybe it was the day I spent my last few dollars on a gift for him instead of paying my cell phone bill. Either way, I realized that one of the biggest mistakes that I made in this relationship was losing sight of my priorities and neglecting those people who were important to me; the same people who were going to help me survive this disastrous break-up.

Later, I realized that my broken heart leaked issues of insecurities as well as feelings of inadequacy. For if I was as strong and as self-confident as I thought I was, how would I have been able to so easily lose sight of what I claimed to be about? I needed this time apart from this man (he never liked to put a title on it), in order to reestablish a positive self-image of myself.

So often we judge ourselves based on society's stereotypical standard of beauty. From size to eye color, many women will make any necessary alteration in order to be validated by others around her. However, in order to make anyone else happy, we must first be content with ourselves. Your looks may not mirror the images of Halle Berry or Naomi Campbell, but a heightened self-esteem will make you attractive to others. When you don't value yourself, how can you expect anyone else to? It is only then that your inner beauty will radiate in the eyes of many.

It is also important to have a life outside of your man. More times than not, he is going to make time to go play ball with his boys or talk to his mama, so you should do the same. Plus, many say that spending time apart will make the heart grow fonder.

And finally, don't submerge yourself in the relationship. If you do, you will always end up on the short end of the stick, walking away feeling empty and used. So protect your emotions and your heart by learning how to say no sometimes. Yes (often times) costs too much, especially if that commitment is not leading up to something greater.

Basically, I try to count every experience, good or bad, as a lesson learned. Next time, I will think of myself (in terms of feelings) first and the relationship second. This is the only way to ensure that I will not be so hard pressed to have someone there in order to feel complete and will remain emotionally stable if the walls of that relationship come tumbling down. I cannot and will not let a selfish man impede my progress. Besides, I refuse to let a failed relationship keep me at Howard any longer than necessary.



Photos By Blue Powell

DJ Tony Touch tears it up at Coco Loco's this past Homecoming Weekend.

## Have You Ever Been 'Touched' Like This?

By **SHANNON WASHINGTON**  
Hilltop Staff Writer

*Saturday Morning, 4:30 a.m. ...*

Normally at this time, my feet are screaming and the only partying I'm looking forward to is the groove I'm going to get on in my dreams. But tonight is different. I'm at Coco Loco's after-hours party featuring Brooklyn's Finest, Tony Touch. Known in NYC as one of—if not the—mixtape king. The thought of actually dancing to music other than the standard Ruff-Ryders and Cash Money sets, not to mention that damn song "Shake You're A\*\*," actually made the idea of being at a club inviting. To be quite honest, anyone from the NY Tri-state area who reads this article knows that seeing Tony Touch is a treat. With jewels such as "50 Emcees" and "5 Deadly Venoms," Mr. Touch reigns supreme when it comes to mixtapes. Currently, Touch's latest, "The PieceMaker," his first mixtape/ed released on a major label, is in stores now. With appearances by Mos Def, Total, the late Big Pun, Prodigy, Royce the 5'9, and Doo Wop, "The Piece Maker" only solidifies Tony's success in the game of hip-hop.

Born Joseph Hernandez thirty years ago in Brooklyn, NY, Tony started off in the b-boy movement of the eighties. Already making his mark in Central Florida by pioneering the hip-hop movement there, it was only natural that Tony picked up the needle in '85 and started to DJ. Eventually he moved back to NYC and started to release his mixtapes. His name started to spread beyond the borough of Brooklyn and eventually past the tri-state area. In 1996, Tony gathered 50 freestyling emcees to make his historical 50<sup>th</sup>

anniversary mixtape "50 Emcees". He then followed up with "50 emcees part 2" and "Power Cypha". As if that wasn't enough, Tony collaborated with DJ Premier, Evil Dee, Mister Cee, and P.F. Cuttin to make "5 Deadly Venoms", which is regarded as a must-have for mix-tape collectors.

*Rewind about 5 hours.....*

Earlier in the evening, I had a chance to catch up with Tony Touch as he prepared to experience Howard's Homecoming for the first time. In between him trying to hook his DVD player up to the television and me finagling with my broken-down tape recorder, Tony informed me that he is indeed preparing to drop another album and is still doing mixtapes. Also, the Diaz Brothers album, his collaboration with Doo-Wop (fellow DJ/MC), where not only do you catch Touch production but his rhymes as well, is dropping soon. You can also catch Tony rhyming on the BeatNuts new album when it comes out. In the game for 15 years now, Touch's plans for the 2001 are quite clear. "At this point I'm just constantly trying to elevate," said Touch. For the year 2001, Touch plans to keep the hits coming. Touch said that he plans to produce "just a hotter mixtape/album." Tony also wants to incorporate more of a performance structure into his live shows. He plans to add emcees and b-boys/girls. When asked about his plans for the party he was set to DJ later that night, Tony replied "I'ma go crazy, I like to play all types of music for the crowd. Not just hip hop, but soul, r&b, house—everything." Tony not only shows, but definitely proves that elevation in his art form is inevitable.

*Fast forward, 2am ....*

Okay now Coco Loco's is crazy packed. Turning the corner, I nearly turned around at the sight

of all the people, not to mention the three-block line they were forming. It was cool though, the door was running smoothly and in less than 10 minutes, my comrades and I were whisked inside. Once inside we proceeded to dance our senior year troubles away while listening to DJ Supreme. However, after 2 hours of the smoky breath, bad weaves, dark lights, and watching my fellow students simulate sex on the dance floor (some people call it dancing), our spirits grew weak. Between the same guy asking to dance with me and getting my toes stepped on, it was almost lights out for us. "When is Tony coming on?" "I'm tired", "My feet hurt," and other moans were heard. Just when we thought that we couldn't stand all of the club behavior anymore, we were informed that we were in the wrong room and Tony was performing. You know that song "Last Night A DJ Saved My Life?" Well, I know it sounds strange, if not corny, but that is exactly what I was thinking. Could this be the mild-mannered gentleman I was kicking it with earlier that evening, no that was Joseph Hernandez talking about the Tony Touch that I am listening to right now. I can't believe it's almost 5am and I'm dancing like it's only 12am and I'm 18 and at the Spy Club (only a select few know what I'm talking about). Unfortunately I had to leave (I did have to wake up to write the story). But after hearing through the grapevine that it got even more ridiculous after I left, I was permanently impressed. Thank you Tony, for a most wonderful evening.

*I would personally like to give a warm thank you to DC LIFE, Sab Serrano, Jamal Sally & Danielle Lott for all of their assistance.*

## Marijuana And The Howard Student

By **SEAN BOGLE**  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Whether it is referred to as chocolate, chronic, ghana, the beast, herb, buddha, or Mary Jane, marijuana definitely has a strong presence on Howard's campus. Although Howard has never been associated with universities that have heavy drug users and sellers, the number of marijuana smokers and sellers on campus appears to include a substantial portion of Howard's students.

"I sold weed all through high school, just to get enough money to go to Howard," said sophomore business major, Silas Taylor. "And besides selling marijuana, I accredit smoking blunts daily to my academic success up to this point." This is a small part of the striking reality that has permeated through the walls of "The Mecca."

Fifty-two out of seventy-five students questioned on campus about marijuana smoking and distributing admitted to smoking at least twice a month.

While most of the students would not release their names or any further information on their smoking habits, three students opened up and shared

information about their association with the drug.

Norris Robinson, a freshman journalism major, said, "It (marijuana) helps to relieve all the stress that I deal with as a college student. I didn't even smoke before I came to Howard, but I'm glad I started. I know it's not the best thing for me in the long run, but as long as I can get a nickel bag of weed for four dollars at the Towers I won't stop. I see it as a convenient hobby."

Marijuana smoking is not just limited to males. Carita Pierce, a junior political science major, also admitted to smoking marijuana. "I hate myself for it. Believe it or not, I don't smoke because I like it. I smoke because I just can't kick the habit." Pierce started smoking at the age of 16, with her uncles in her home state of California. Teary-eyed Pierce admitted, "I don't see a way out."

Silas Taylor confessed that marijuana is not good for him in the long run either, but he believes he can kick the habit whenever he is ready. "There may come a day when I decide I don't need to light up a blunt to go to my classes. Marijuana is far from crack. I don't see it as addictive. I see it as a part of my daily routine. Robinson expressed similar views,

saying that smoking weed is just a "college thing" for him.

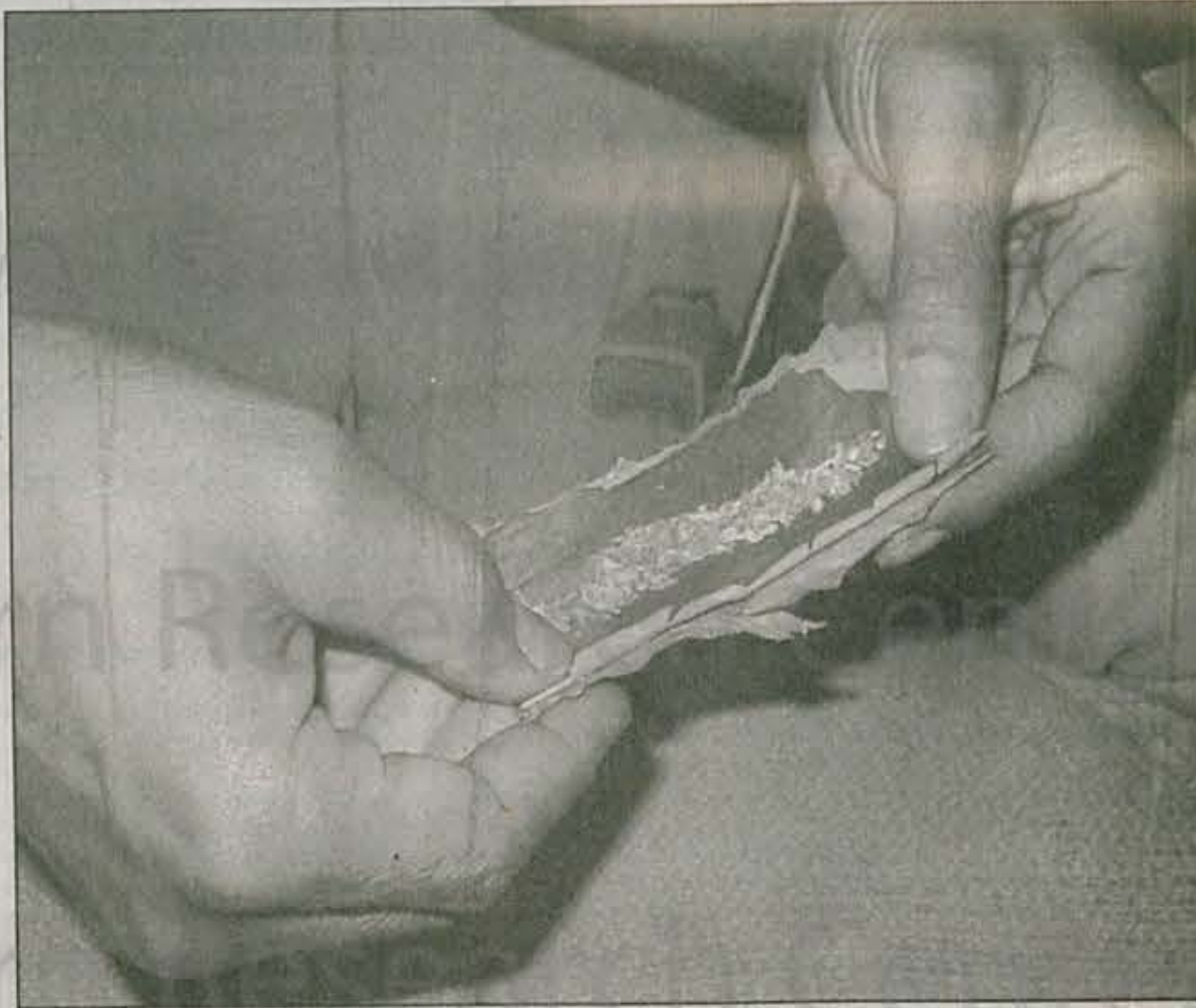
Students that don't smoke have mixed opinions about students that do smoke marijuana.

Chante Morgan, a sophomore Spanish major, said she was fed up with marijuana smokers and sellers.

"I don't understand how people can say they need to smoke weed to go to class. If you have to sell weed to be in school, then you don't need to be here (at Howard). That just says to me that you need to bring others down for you to be an achiever. That's not what Howard's about."

Tyrone Belmon, a sophomore radio, TV, and film major, feels differently about the issue of selling and smoking marijuana.

"Look, I've smoked the best of blunts. There's not much you can tell me about weed. I feel like weed gave me some type of imaginary edge in the classroom. However, what made me stop was one day in my principles of speech class I started to stutter, and I wasn't even nervous. I knew then that weed wasn't worth risking my future. I don't have a problem with those who smoke, but as they keep inhaling, they all know it's going to catch up with them one day."



## 'Boston Public' Review

By **JULIE J. SUMMERS**  
Hilltop Staff Writer

I know what you're thinking. Not another boring bite off "90210" and "Dawson's Creek" high school drama. But, "Boston Public" is different. It shows the average modern public school's everyday life experiences with a mixture of different races, social classes, and personalities.

Lead by a black male principal and diverse teaching staff, "Boston Public" creates a view of different mind sets and how they all eventually come together. The student body contains your average high school prom queen, nerd, jock, and bully. Only, in this case, the jock can't play because he failed two classes. Other students face dilemmas such as the beauty queen refusing to wear a bra, the nerd getting stuffed into a locker in a hugies diaper, and a student sleeping with her teacher.

At the same time, teachers also have problems. In a teacher-less classroom with "Gone to kill myself—hope you're happy" written on the board, students jam to Eminem. Some teachers also find out that they are being mocked in cartoons on the Internet. In the meantime, the football jock's father decides to sue the school for ruining his son's chance to go to college. However, that's the least of Pubic's problems. The show is very realistic and presents a true image of society until a teacher walks into a classroom strapped with a gun to get the students atten-

tion (which it does). After forcing the students to chant "gun" repeatedly, because he believes it's the only thing they respect he fires it a couple of times in the classroom. As a result, he doesn't just get the students attention, he scares them and their parents as well. As it turns out, the gun only had blanks so the teacher was not fired. This also happens to be one of the same teachers that failed the football jock. After being confronted by the no-bra wearing student about a sexual confrontation they may have had, he quickly decides the jock, Jason, should have received a "D" in his class instead of an "F."

"Boston Public" is an interesting and well cast show that brings new flavor to high school dramas with typical issues such as a bully harassing another student, a co-worker asking another uninterested co-worker out on a date, and real life students with fed up parents who are trying to get through high school.

Fall  
Fashion  
Preview  
Inside

## Enlightenment for the Technologically-Challenged

By CHAUNCY GURAH  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Every new mechanical device has its day. Popular gadgets in the past included CD's and VCR's. Today, Howard students are fired up about gadgets such as palm pilots and two-way pagers.

On a quest to catch up with the rest of the world on this new wave of the future, fellow Howard students gave pointers on what palm pilots and two-way paging are all about.

"Some people get those palm pilots just because everybody else is getting them," senior Guerlaina Hickson said. "And especially for people with cell phones, you have to have one because it is so convenient."

"I've had mine for a year and I use it for convenience, and I think that is also why they are so popular," sophomore Earnst Scott said.

But what exactly are pilots and two-way pagers? At first glance, palm pilots look like regular calculators with large

length screens that could fit in your hand.

Anthony Briscoe, Marketing/Merchandising Manager at the Howard University bookstore also explained that, palm pilots could be used to access the internet, send and receive email messages and arrange your life. "They are like a large book organizer."

Two-way paging devices are also handy because they allow you to immediately send a response to a message.

The typical cost of a palm pilot or two-way pager is between \$80 and \$160.

"They are expensive," Antwan Clinton, Director of the Howard University bookstore said. "Most stores would have them locked up. At the bookstore, we have a sign (up) but people have to ask specifically for them. For people who are always moving, it is a very cheap way of getting information," Briscoe said.

"I like using my palm pilot, and I think if people can afford it, it is a good idea to use a palm pilot," Earnst Scott said.

## 2000 Fall/Winter Runway Report

By JENNIFER ANDERSON  
Fashion Columnist

So you wanna know what's hot for fall and winter, huh? You wanna know the trends, eh? Are you sure? The 2000 fall/winter collections hit the catwalk with a well-supplied arsenal of sharp styles, edgy trends and of course drama.

This season designers have emerged tossing out, revitalizing and bringing together all at the same time, styles creating a new

movement in the design of ready to wear. Ignoring the old fashioned rule of never combining the two, designers, both new and established, have applied characteristics of couture to that of ready to wear. In doing so, whether it be retro, rocker, deluxe or ladylike, this season is chock full of luxury meets cutting edge designs.

At the New York Collections, rich earth tones dominated the Oscar de la Renta showing. Skirts and pants embroidered with gems and knee-high boots teamed up with black pony skin miniskirts and sexy jackets. In the tradition of going against the grain, Anna Sui went the route of bohemian chic. Bright tights matched with floral

print silk chiffon skirts and big buckled belts.

Over the top is the only way to describe the 2000 Milan collections. Fendi took excess to the max with its bursting colors and use of accessories. Gold lame, gold accessories, leather skirts, fur, fur and more fur were all over the showing. Representing the fast pace of the luxe life, Tom Ford at Gucci brings the biker chick into the new century on a new level of fast paced excess. With leather dominating the scenes in different colors such as gold, military green and black, he accentuates the line with leather bows at the neck

and fur trimmed skullies. Christian Dior used plenty of ostrich skin and

crocodile during the Paris collections. Waist length mink and chinchilla jackets along with cable-knit sweaters bring a strong, feminine and ladylike feel to the collection while maintaining urban style.

For those on a budget, there are many designers not featured in the collections as well as specialty shops that have you just as dipped in this seasons luxe designs without your credits cards being maxed out. Dollhouse, Wet Seal, Arden B, BCBG, BeBe and Express are just a few of the specialty shops that follow the word from the runway pretty close. Check in your local directory to find the nearest location.

## Picks Of The Week

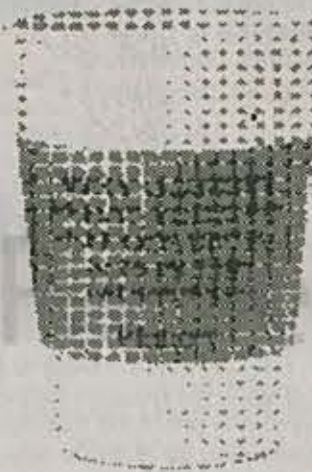
Top Ten Accessories for Fall

- Fur
- Metallics
- Monochrome prints
- Fishnets Stockings
- Eye popping color images
- See Through Materials
- Ladylike suits
- Crocodile
- ultra-suede
- Abstract patterns
- 80's styles
- Anything retro from the twenties, forties and seventies

—Jennifer Anderson

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can assassinate  
a leader  
without firing  
a shot.

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## Smithsonian Celebrates the Lady and the Legend

By SHOLA ADEWUMI  
Hilltop Staff Writer

More than a lady, she is a legend. Ella Fitzgerald came to reign as America's "First Lady of Song" throughout her 60-year career. For those who do not know of her, her rags-to-riches climb to international fame as a jazz and popular singer coincided with the rise of an American entertainment industry that brought music to millions of people.

The Smithsonian's National Museum of American History is featuring the memorabilia of Fitzgerald in an ongoing exhibit reflecting her achievements and honors. A videotape of some of her most memorable songs and performances is shown repeatedly to compliment the layouts of her biography in three showcases.

This detailed exhibit documents the life history and singing career of Fitzgerald through awards, trophies, records, pictures, and certificates of excellence. Shining in a glass showcase was a display of the original red suit and hat, along with a leopard fur, worn by Fitzgerald in her commercial for American Express.

Ella Fitzgerald was born in Newport News, Virginia, in 1917 and was raised in Yonkers, New York. She began show business as a teenager in 1934, singing in a talent contest at Harlem's Apollo Theater. She took the first prize and caught the attention of Chick Webb, a bandleader, whom immediately hired her as his vocalist in 1935. However, Webb died and the members of the band asked Fitzgerald to take over. So, the group appeared on tours as "Ella Fitzgerald and the Orchestra," until 1942.



Photo by Shola Adewumi

The original red suit and leopard fur worn by Ella Fitzgerald is on permanent display at the American Museum of American History.

Between 1935 and 1955, Fitzgerald was under contract to Decca Records, but in 1942, struck out on her own as an independent solo jazz vocalist. She began to appear as a guest at jazz festivals around the world during her concert tours. Besides all her work in concerts and on recordings, Fitzgerald also reached out to the audiences through other media. She appeared on television broadcasts, radio, and was featured in four motion pictures. Even when rock came to dominate commercial popular music in the 1960's, Fitzgerald remained a beacon for the traditions of jazz singing and the art of the American popular song.

Due to her talent, she was also signed by Norman Granz, as an exclusive artist of his company, Verve Records. She recorded her landmark series of "songbook" albums devoted to major song writers like Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, and Duke Ellington. For her work on this recording, she received a Grammy Award.

Health issues gradually limited Fitzgerald's concert appearances in the 1980's however, she continued to perform until 1992. She died at her home in Beverly Hills, California, in June 1996.

She received several awards and honorary degrees from American universities and colleges. She received an NAACP Image President's Award in 1992, and featured by the American Express card in an advertisement photographed by Annie Liebovitz, just to name a few.

The exhibit can be viewed from 10am - 5pm at the National Museum of American History. The exhibit is permanent and located on the 3rd floor in the West Wing.

## Listen Up: The Spoken Word Poet's Bible

By CARLTON JORDAN  
Hilltop Staff Writer

"Education will be delivered not from the tree, but from the root./ So little black girls and boys will check their pockets/ for spirituality rather than loot." This line in Jessica Care Moore's poem, "Black Statue of Liberty" encompasses the major voice in many spoken word artists today; education, black folks, and spirituality. You may be thinking to yourself: "Who is Jessica Care Moore?" Moore is a spoken word artist and has been deemed by many as the daughter of spoken word poetry and the movement that is spearheading the black Cultural Revolution. She and other poets are featured in a new book edited by Zoe Anglesey entitled, "Listen Up! Spoken Word Poetry."

"Listen Up!" gathers the most poignant works from today's promising young poets, including Saul Williams, Jessica Care Moore, Carl Hancock Rux, Willie Perdomo, Tracie Morris, Tish Benson, Ava Chin, Suheir Hammad, and Mariahaddessa Ekere Tallie. These budding artists are the voice of a generation that has been labeled voiceless. They are the leaders of a social, political, and cultural renaissance. In "Listen Up!," each artist's creative genius is exuded through their potent words.

The artists' grasp concepts like fruit from trees, stuff them down your throat and gently, force you to digest them. Their language bites you like a blood-sucking vampire leaving you helpless in their grip. However, it is not blood that these literary luminaries are after; these artists want your mind. They burn images on your brain causing you to re-think what you thought you knew. All this sounds painful, but reading "Listen Up!" is pleasing to the soul.

The book highlights young artists in their prime, and the language being spoken is us. The mood is a melting pot of hip-hop, jazz, rhythm & blues, rock and roll, and funk splashed with intellect, soaked with consciousness. Traci Morris writes in her poem, *writer's delight*, "My writer's delight is meta (1-2-3) 4/ Score with words./ Activist verbiage rounds out primordial sounds." Willie Perdomo writes in *haiku*, "in recovery/ everyday speaks to my soul/ today I'm alive." In *recollect*, Mariahaddessa writes, "I am a tight hole/ a gift to be torn open repeatedly/ a mouth without a tongue/ woman without lips/ my clit has been clipped/ my smile has been stolen." Still Jessica Care Moore's *one afro's blues* says, "There are so many dead pretending to live among us now/ So many who wait for the opinions of others before getting out

of bed/ I recognize sistas hiding in groups of sistas/ bonded by foreign letters, colors, class and the fear of loneliness/ Women who don't like one another/ exchanging false teeth like table salt."

Each "Listen Up!" poet has an individual style that contributes to the continuity of the book. The poets give the reader a piece of their inner selves; expressing their adamant opinions on topics that range from police brutality to sexuality. Emotions run rapid and you feed off their honesty and passion. Although the power in many of these poems comes from the verbal interpretation of them, the words lie on the page with the same exuberance as they would behind the open microphone.

Most of the *Listen Up!* poets are products of a hot spot in New York City called The Nuyorican Cafe, which is the stomping ground for many spoken word artists today. Artists like Saul Williams, with his critically acclaimed motion picture "Slam," have branched out into the world of film. Others have seen successes in the music business, publishing, television, and the theatre. These artists make performing poetry seem as easy as making Kool-Aid, but this is only because of the mastery achieved by these poets. Anglesey's book is the next best thing to seeing the poets perform live.

## Now That Homecoming Is Over...

By JOHNNY J. JONES  
Hilltop Staff Writer

I have to admit, while many students strongly believed that this year's millennium Homecoming festivities were going to be remembered as one of the worse ever, the Genesis 2000 Homecoming was very memorable. However, the fun is over for students the time has arrived to wipe the dust off those books and actually study.

Many activities were excellent, but the best aspect of this year's Homecoming was the Yard Fest and the atmosphere. Witnessing black people come together and act as if we were one big family was a beautiful thing. While artists were performing on stage, we mixed and mingled, noticing the elegance of our race. We appreciated the fact that we are black and that we are unique people who may come in different shapes, sizes, and tones that we encompass. It was amazing.

However, who can forget the football game. It appeared that Mother Nature would bring rain our way. Instead, she pleasantly blessed Greene Stadium with beautiful sunshine and our football team provided a superb victory. The band ripped up the halftime show taking us back in time with old-school hits while we actually completed a wave that reached every corner of the stands. Homecoming 2000 was definitely memorable.

But, reality sets in. Why did you and I come to Howard University? Oh, to gain an education...that's it. While Homecoming week was my excuse of why I have not seen the inside of my books in two weeks, now is the time to re-focus.

The coming weeks are extremely crucial as final exams are closing in on us. Remember, Homecoming was last week. You saw Jay-Z...last week. That person that you thought was the tightest thing you've ever seen in your life was...I think you have the idea now. It may seem difficult, but we have to do it. I mean, think about it, you want to be here for next year's Homecoming, don't you? I know I do. Well, lil' one, let's start handling our business.

## IMAGES OF HOME

The rhythms of African drums  
and dance  
accentuated the spirit of Home-  
coming on the yard. photos by Hao Zeng



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## once again it's on.....FINAL THOUGHTS OF THE WEEK

1. Once again do we have to call you out- who was the boy at the job fair with the timberlands on???
2. Is it me, or are you also getting tired of "Shake Ya A\*\*" by Mystikal??
3. Remember to stay out of the BUSHes during the election.
4. Remember ladies, it is October-NO MORE SANDALS AND HALTER TOPS!!!!!!

The Final Thought is a collection of ruminations made by Hilltop editors and is intended for entertainment purposes only.

# POETRY CORNER

## UNDER THE INFLUENCE

I'm under the influence,  
I'm under the spell that you've woven  
You wrap me with your arms and your  
scent invades me,  
I want to touch just so that your  
perfume can linger on my fingertips.

I call you cap and gown 'cause you gradu-  
ated me  
from infatuation to tender reverberation,  
A million poets have tried to explain you  
with  
words and have ended up broken men,  
Love songs have been written and none can  
capture ya'  
Shortie you the black diaspora.

You're a part of me like the heat within my  
palms  
The teeth within my jaws  
The blood beneath my pores,  
Through my journey in life you are the  
cause.

The sun can't hold a torch to you  
The bottom of the ocean be like a porch to  
you  
Any other guy need like eight legs to step to  
you  
I cover my letters in ornate paper sealed in  
tape  
topped by colorful ribbons just to rap to  
you

I whisper in your sleeping ear just to be a  
thought to you.

Time passes and memories fade away  
Best friend yesterday, who your friend  
today?  
Past, present, future I'd be glad to say  
That's my shortie, my wife someday.

You Africa's diamonds  
Eden's clay  
Shakespeare's plays  
You El Dorado,  
Take away all my sorrow,  
Make me look forward to tomorrow.

You the syllables in my words  
The seeds in my herb  
The action to my verb  
The corner to my curb  
The Ernie to be my Bert  
The buttons to my shirt  
The gold in my dirt,  
The soothing to my hurt.

Purer than a priest's confession,  
Leave me and I'll be tarter than Italian  
dressing,  
If you were my everything  
I would have to buy more possessions...

Down to earth? Ma you gravity  
I'm proud to be  
Under your influence...

—Wally Cambridge

## LISTEN

I feel them...those words  
Grabbing on to the  
Crimson walls of my throat  
Climbing  
Trying to clear my tonsils and  
Trickle down over my tongue  
Trying to burst from my supple  
lips...  
Lips that chase every pore of your  
bronzed skin  
Attracted like raindrops to rose  
petals  
The sensuous silhouettes  
Leaving teasing shadows to haunt  
my mind

I feel them...those words  
Tearing at the roof of my mouth  
It burns like lemon juice on a  
paper cut  
But it's a pleasurable pain  
I love the sound of your name  
It erases the four walls of my con-  
fusion

You are the only one  
There is no other  
A genuine Brother  
Not 1 in a million but  
None in 2 zillion and  
I'm clinging to you  
Like ink to paper  
Like butter to cornbread  
Like lyrics to melody  
Like L,O to V,E  
But you can't hear me though

I feel them...those words Peeking  
through my teeth  
Like children playing hide-and-go-  
seek

It's you who I want to find  
To make love to your mind  
Tear down the confines of time  
4 years under our feet  
Can we make it 400?  
It is you who will plant the beauti-  
ful seed

Within my nurturing womb  
After the sacred vows have been  
said  
It is you who will count the gray  
hairs on my head  
As you grow not older but better  
with me  
It's you who adds flavor to my life  
Like peaches to cream  
It's your loving face that fills my  
every dream

I feel them... those words  
I don't think I can contain them  
any longer  
Or should I say I shouldn't  
Because I know that after their  
splendor is revealed  
You'll care for my heart as if the  
Ceasing of its beat means yours too  
I'll let them out in hope that they  
bring  
Peace and comfort to your yearn-  
ing ears...

I'm in love with you

—Kynesha Rynea

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## Genesis' Revelation

When this feeling engulfs my soul,  
Quivering, shaking, one price one toll.  
I'm here now deciding, put it all on the line.  
Two points of origin exist, connected through time.  
Why do I like this masochism of those fine entities?  
Level headed, no, follow my heart down the road of infin-  
ity.  
Picked up the pieces of my life's extravagant china;  
Don't throw them away now, cause I want to find you.  
Why am I overtaken, Why still do I try to sing?  
Maybe its been mistaken, the hope that love brings.  
Questions may persist thine to dimensions remained  
unknown.  
But answers, shed eternal light, personal resurrection  
shown.  
Contemplate as days revolve into starry nights,  
A full moon's blessing, change fears in slight.  
Turning the page on the Big Dipper's hymn;  
Ice skating forever, on the edge of the sun's rim.  
Straddling the possibility of this equivocal desire.  
Separated on everyday, this bond must I admire.  
The definition of love intertwined.  
The noun found, Sauda\* page 179.  
As a careless whisper dances now and enchants the air,  
Not seeing you once more, a self realization I can't bear.  
Then this epiphany tugs the stars behind,  
This chariot of fire, decides aimlessly that we may shine.  
In loves great naive chants, rise the tides higher and high-  
er.  
A wedding march of circumstance, with long awaited  
marriage of fire.  
From above, I love you, my angel in the masquerade.  
Descend from heaven, for at your altar my heart is laid.

\*In Swahili language defines the English equivalent as  
beautiful.

—Jonathan C. Sims



## My Soul Men

My Friday evenings are with James Brown  
because you passed me by  
I'd much rather be with you  
then he, though he sings so sweetly to me...  
"When your feeling gooooooooooooo...Uhhh!"  
He says sensually, begging, "try me, try me"  
When he can no longer sing  
I move on to Ben E. King  
I don't mean to be a busy body, but you passed me by...  
and I'd much rather be with you  
then he, even though he always stands by me...  
I tell him I love him,  
he says "You know that a lie"  
Now, how did he know he was on standby?  
Still he sings to me telling me  
how I'm "Sweeter than wine, softer than the summer night"  
things you never said, but still I'd rather it be you in my bed...

It's Saturday night and you're still, on my mind  
Who's gonna be first to serenade me  
Otis or B.B.?

I figure I'll start with Mr. Pitiful  
because he has been loving me, and loving me,  
for so long, and I imagine it's you in my arms  
when he sings that song...  
you are still the lover in my prayer  
and though I have the company of these soulful men,  
I wish I could do it all over again,  
But I can't, so I welcome Mr. King  
cause he can make my sorrow sing  
He makes me feel like I'm sweet sixteen,  
he says, "I'll do anything you tell me to" and  
"there's nothing in the world he wouldn't do"  
and still, I'd rather, be, with you...  
but you passed me by  
and it just wouldn't be right for me not to give these soul men  
a try.

—Autumn Joy Jimerson

## UNTITLED

All I've ever done  
is ask you to deliver me from all I've ever  
been...  
but you seem to be at a loss for words, spirit,  
and passion  
and look at me  
I'm lost in your life  
no compass, no compassion  
just lost  
in hopes that you would find me and return me  
to my rightful  
owner and rightfully so 'cause I made a promise  
to me that I  
would and I don't break promises to myself  
which is a lie  
but I did promise myself never to promise again  
or compromise another need for the need of  
another

unless, another needed me and I never need tha  
other again  
'cause it's safer that way  
see I found guilt in the absence  
of reciprocity  
one of my many lessons learned  
sometimes you make mistakes and sometimes  
the mistakes make you  
and permanently stains you, me, myself, and I  
void now of intuition  
extinct instinct  
decisions left in the hands of too many others  
Lord I know not what I do  
but I know not what to do  
so in the presence of mirrors I come face to fac  
with you  
which is me  
then I realized I'm only 50% God  
which really reminds me of how 1/2 a man I  
really am...

—Shihan VanClief

## THOUGHTS FROM AN UNTAMED SOUL...

Happy days go by too fast  
Memories of joy just don't last  
Confusion and remorse seem to over-  
take my day  
Trapping me in a steel cage with no  
chance to get away  
But does my confusion stem from a  
soul that's unknown?  
And is my remorse a result of a hatred  
prolonged  
Is it wrong to be right is your right is  
my wrong?  
Or will my stubborn ways leave me  
desolate and alone?  
I have a burning desire to take the road  
less traveled  
To decide my own fate as my life  
unravels  
Days may go by, as will months and  
years  
But with time on my side I am exempt  
from all fears  
So what is it in me that makes me so  
discontent?  
That makes me long for my fate to give  
me just one hint  
I've spent my entire life in a foolish  
train of thought  
But I have now reached the standpoint,  
that I have for so long sought  
No more living in the debt of a bor-  
rowed happiness  
Owing gratitude to an emotion is  
always disastrous  
Find your calling in life and be sure to  
answer it  
Or life will pass you by and you will  
die anonymous.

—Sharrika Miller

## Pre-College

Free Me Howard!

Enchant away my tears  
Exempt me from all the years  
Of tribulation  
Hold me in your arms and carry me  
Through your land of knowledge  
supreme  
Where my soul may be filled  
My mind, enriched  
No more pain, no more sorrow

Only triumphant skies  
æa serene guise—

Give Me Power, Howard!

Illuminate my words  
Lift what will be heard  
By the masses  
Fill my weary legs with steel  
And Platinum  
Grant me the strength of our ancestors  
The wisdom of our leaders

Here am I!

Pass the baton to my hankering arms  
Stained with the blood of abasement

Oh Howard  
Mighty Howard!

Why do I sing you my prayers?  
You're not pious. You can't hear me.  
You're marred! You're an institution!

But I love you.

—Mia Somersall

## Thin Line Between Love and Hate

I loved him now I hate him.  
I trusted him and I distrust him.  
I wanted him now I can't stand him.  
I owned him now I disown him.

I gave him my heart and he broke it.  
I took him in and he pushed me out.  
I opened up to him and he closed up to me.  
I lived to die for him and he killed me.

He was my only one and I was his favorite one.  
He was my number one and now he's my one.  
He was my dream now he's my nightmare.  
He was my everything now he's my nothing

Why? Because it's a thin line between love and hate,  
Cross it, and it's either Love or Hate.

—Shola Adewumi

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Macy Gray performs hits from her "On How Life Is" album at DAR Constitution Hall on Monday at 7pm.

# CALENDAR NOVEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>-9<sup>TH</sup>

3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th
1983	1971	1956	1973	1989	1966	1868
Rev. Jesse Jackson announces his candidacy for President of the U.S.	After 14 years, Elgin Baylor retires from the L.A. Lakers.	The "Nat King Cole Show" premieres.	Coleman Young becomes 1st African-American mayor of Detroit, Michigan.	David Dinkins is 1st African-American elected mayor of New York City.	Frank Robinson of the Baltimore Orioles is named Most Valuable Player.	Howard University Medical School opens with eight students.

## FRIDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup>

Fridays are Yoga days with certified instructor Kimberly Wilson at Joy of Motion Dance Center (Dupont Circle), 1643 Connecticut Avenue NW. The cover charge is \$11 per class. For information, call 202-387-0911.

Charlie's Angels are back in a brand new spin-off of the 70's favorite girl-cop series, starring Drew Barrymore, Cameron Diaz, and Lucy Liu. "The Legend of Bagger Vance" starring Will Smith also opens today. Check local listings for theaters and showtimes.

## SATURDAY, 4<sup>TH</sup>

Exhilarate is the new exhibit by artist Robin Rose, opening at the Numark Gallery, 406 7th Street NW, today with a reception from 7-9pm. For information, call 202-628-3810.

Celebrate life and family with Docent Shirley Alexander as she tells African folk tales about celebrating good fortune at the National Museum of African Art, 950 Independence Ave. SW. The event is free. For information, call 202-357-2700.

Madame Zenobia presents a party at the State of the Union, 1357 U Street NW. For more information, call 202-588-8926 or visit [www.stateoftheu.com](http://www.stateoftheu.com).

Hampton U. & Norfolk's Homecoming Afterparty presented by Selmo & Big Howie. Homecoming 2000 Blowout featuring DJ Kid Capri @ Chestnut Hill, 4711 Chestnut Avenue Hampton, Va. FIRST 200 LADIES ARE \$5.00. For more info call 757.865.3400.

## SUNDAY, 5<sup>TH</sup>

Jazz meets the classics on saxophone at the Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW. Saxophonist Gary Louie plays the Ibert Concerto with the Washington Chamber Symphony. He will demonstrate jazz and the classics at 1pm and 3pm. For information, call 202-462-1321.

You want the funk? Then you want to be at the 9:30 Club, 815 V St. NW, tonight at 7:30pm when George Clinton performs "Atomic Dog" and other p-funk classics. Bring your flashlight and get your tickets for \$35 by calling 202-432-SEAT.

## MONDAY, 6<sup>TH</sup>

You tried to walk away, but... Macy Gray's world would crumble if you miss her raspy-voiced live performance tonight at D.A.R. Constitution Hall, 1776 D Street, NW, starting at 7pm. This soul songstress will tell us how life is along with opening acts Common and Black-Eyed Peas. Tickets are \$25 to \$35 and can be purchased at 202-432-SEAT. For information, call 202-628-4780.

## TUESDAY, 7<sup>TH</sup>

To get in the election spirit, head to the Newseum, 1101 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, today to see "Every Four Years: Presidential Campaign Coverage, 1896-2000." This exhibit traces the twentieth century relationship between the media and those running for office, by using film clips, sound bites, and election paraphernalia to tell the story. The exhibit closes next week, so see it while you still can. Admission is free and it is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, call 703-284-3544.

## WEDNESDAY, 8<sup>TH</sup>

Sherman, Sherman, Sherman and family will be at Cramton Auditorium tonight, on the movie screen that is, in "Nutty Professor II: The Klumps" starring Eddie Murphy and Janet Jackson. Tickets are \$2.

Bohemian Caverns, 2001 11th Street NW, has open-mike poetry night tonight at 9pm. Cover is \$5. For information, call 202-299-0800.

Metro serves its passionate jazz at Zanzibar on the Waterfront, 700 Water Street SW, featuring Chuck Loeb, Wolfgang Haefner, Mitchel Forman, and Jerry Brooks. The group performs cuts from their new CD "Metrocafe" at 7:30pm and 9:30pm. Cover is only \$15. For information, call 202-554-9100.

## THURSDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup>

Got Poetry? The newly renovated Kaffa House, 1212 U Street, has open-mike poetry readings this and every Thursday at 8pm. Cover is \$5. For more information, call 202-462-1212.

WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND D.C.? If you have an event that you would like to publish in the Calendar, please call Ginger @ 202-806-6866.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF "THE HORSE WHISPERER" AND "A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT"

WILL SMITH MATT DAMON CHARLIZE THERON

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