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The Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 84, NO. 22

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2001

http://hilltop.howard.edu

Low Numbers at Speak Outs Pose Problem for Elections

By JOI RIDLEY Hilltop Staff Writer

Low attendance at recent student Speak Outs has prompted concern among General Election officials.

In the past three Speak Outs held in Drew Hall, Tubman Quadrangle, and the Bethune Annex, student support has been sparse.

Programs Director of General Elections Ronald Hysten said that the low turnout is due to a lack of student activism. "Some people would rather watch their favorite television show than to come out and listen to the candidate," said Hysten, a senior

acting major. "People just don't care anymore, that's evident just by the number of people that have shown up (to the Speak Outs)."

Hysten's conclusion on students' indifference may be accurate considering the relatively low number of candidates in this year's election.

Officials cite the number of students contending for this year's offices of HUSA president, vice president, and Undergraduate Trustee have reached all-time lows. There are three candidate slates for HUSA and two Undergraduate Trustee candidates. There are two Graduate Trustee candidates, both are law stu-

"People just don't care anymore, that's evident just by the number of people that have shown up,"

-Ronald Hysten, Programs Director Of General Elections

Another possible cause of the problem could be the disparity in publicizing the events. "We (the General Elections Office) just got things straightened out with our budget for the campaign, so past Speak Outs

have not been as highly publicized as they could have," said Brandee Gresham, administrative assistant of the General Elections Office. "But, that is no excuse, we have distributed handbills and placed flyers in some buildings."

Some students have said that they do not go to the Speak Outs because they have already decided which candidate will get their vote.

"People have already made up their minds," said Lavette Brooks, a freshman marketing major.

Gresham, a senior English major thinks that students should attend the Speak Outs to hear the views of each candidate. "Every student has a platform and students must come out and see which one is right for them. Whether they believe it or not, their vote definitely does count," said Gresham. "Besides, if they are not involved and do not vote, they cannot

complain if they are not satisfied with the service they get next year with the new officials.'

No one knows the stresses of reaching the Howard University student body better than current president and vice president Sellano Simmons and Nikkole Salter.

"It's a hard thing to speak to Howard students," said Salter. "But, just because you don't see them on the Yard does not mean that they are not working. Howard has other campuses and the candidates must reach those students, too."

Simmons agreed. Please See Speak Outs, A3



Students who toured both the Law and Health Sciences Libraries said that the inside of the Law Library, left, was both inspiring and impressive. Photo By Jamal

As Libraries Near Completion Excitement Heightens

Swygert Takes Student Leaders On Tours of New Buildings

By ERICA N. HOLLEY-MARTIN Hilltop Staff Writer

With shelves still lacking books and workers still scurrying about, students were given a rare inside glimpse of Howard's two newest buildings Wednesday.

University officials tookless than 17 student leaders, including the candidates for HUSA and Undergraduate Trustee positions, on a tour of the new Law Library and the Louis Stokes Health Sciences Library in hopes of spurring excitement about the libraries while also updating the students on the status eight people comfortably. of construction.

Though the buildings are not yet complete, they overflow with technology and luxury.

"This building, we hope, will set the standard for the kind of construction that will signify Howard,"

beamed Howard President H. Patrick Swygert in speaking about the Health Sciences Library. "There is no library in the country that compares to these two libraries."

The new Law Library, which is located on the Law School campus will be able to seat more than 295 students and house a book collection of more than 215,000 volumes. The main Reading Room is three stories full of books and comfortable study space. There is a total of 11 private study rooms complete with a desk and marker boards and 11 group study rooms that accommodate up to

That is not all, however, that makes the new Law Library impressive. Nearly every room is provided with wall-to-wall and floor-toceiling windows that show attractive views of nearby Rock Creek Park Please See Libraries, A3

Students tour the Louis Stokes Health Sciences Library

Photo By Jamal Pope

Suspect Arrested in Gallaudet Slayings

By JAMYE E. SPILLER Chief Copy Editor

Tensions were eased at Gallaudet University Tuesday when Joseph Mafnas Mesa Jr. was arrested for the murders of two Gallaudet students.

Metropolitan police said Mesa, a 20-year old student at the school, killed both Benjamin Varner and Eric Plunett after failed robbery attempts.

Mesa was brought in for questioning for the latest murder of Varner, who was stabbed to death in his room February 3.

"It looks like it was a straight-up robbery," Executive Assistant Police Chief Terrence W. Gainer said in an interview with the Washington Post. "He went right into the room and was going to rob him, and a fight ensued."

Mesa allegedly took one check from Varner's checkbook and wrote himself a check for more than \$600 police said.

After Varner's body was found, police found a bloody knife and jacket in a trash bin outside of the dorm. A picture was publicized of the jacket and tips were reportedly received from friends of Mesa that he owned a similar jacket.

Mesa was a resident of Cogswell Dorm along with Plunkett and Varner. After the slayings, the residents of the dorm were moved next door to Krug Hall. Police found blood on clothes and a pair of shoes after searching Mesa's room in Krug Hall. Mesa seemed relieved after

informing police that he killed his fellow students, Gainer said. "I detect that he's happy to get off his chest."

In interviews with Gallaudet students, Mesa was described as a "pushy, bully-type individual."

Since the slayings, Gallaudet security has been increased on the campus. Gallaudet has strictly enforced a policy of proof of identification before entering the gated campus.

Twenty-four hour patrols by faculty and staff have been put into action in all Gallaudet dorms. Seventeen security cameras have been added outside the dorms.

Gallaudet University President I. King Jordan said there was a real sadness at the news conference when Mesa was arrested, but the campus is seeking closure to the issue.

Gore's Presence Sparks Protests at Middle Tennessee State U.

By EILENE VEALE Middle Tennessee State U.

(U-WIRE) MURFREESBORO,

Tenn. -- Middle Tennessee Solidarity, a campus organization at Middle Tennessee State University that promotes socialism, feminism and antiracism, protested Monday afternoon against Al Gore's course on community building.

The protest began on the steps of the James Union Building at 3 p.m., one hour before Gore's class was to begin. The protesters marched across campus to the Business and Aerospace Building, the site of Gore's first lecture, chanting, "Al Gore's a corporate whore. We demand so much more," and carrying signs

reading, "Practice What You Preach" and "Money's Tyranny is Shamefully Ugly.'

The protesters believe it hypocritical for Al Gore to claim to advocate community building while supporting organizations like NAFTA, which attempt to globalize the economy, which they say has very negative effects on many third-world com-

By allowing free trade between Mexico, Canada and the United States, making it oftentimes more profitable for a corporation to move across the border, and by giving corporations the ability to avoid U.S. governmental regulations on health, safety, labor and the environment in

Please See Gore, A3

The Hilltop Friday



Campus

Student Promoters Are Learning Entrepreneurship Through Club Life

A3

News

Fake Licenses an Issue for District Cab Drivers

A4



Life & Style

Chris Rock Proves He's Pretty Fly for a White Guy.

A5

CAMPUS

Joices & Views

What are your thoughts on this year's General Elections?



"I am very concerned with the University. Therefore, I am concerned with our student leaders. I hope our next president and vice president are truly concerned with the students needs and the improvements of the University."

-Megan Moore Sophomore Legal Communication Major



"Right now I really don't care about this year's Howard's General Election. First things first, they need to produce results in order to get results from me. All General Elections means is that someone or somebody gets to put a few new extras on their college transcript."

-Khary'Miles Fullard Jr. Junior Finance Major



"I do care about General Elections but as of now I don't. I mean I know who's running and I voted last year so they can pretty much count on me this year. But seriously, the HUSA president and vice president need to get some things done."

"I can definitely say that I care about

working scholars that will be placed in

these important positions will affect not

only myself, but the entire student body

-Mayo Loving III

-Compiled by Vince Smith

Sophomore, Theatre Arts

educationally, financially and socially.

But what I really want is cable in the

General Elections because the hard

-Pawlos Girmay Junior Tele-Communications Mgt. Major

Physical Therapy Accreditation Almost off Probation, Department Officials Say

By NIQUANDA BROWN Hilltop Staff Writer

The physical therapy department is about a step from removing its name from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy's probation list, department officials said.

The department, which was placed on probation in November 1999 because it did not meet facility, financial, and curriculum requirements set by the commission, is preparing to submit its third and final progress report - required for clearance, before the March 1 deadline. The department is also proposing a new academic cur-

"The major focus of the criteria that we are still not in compliance with, revolves around the curriculum and the physical facility," said Dr. Kamran Tavakol, interim chairman of the physical therapy department. "The faculty is doing its best effort to revise the curriculum."

Originally granted a two -year deadline to regain its accreditation, the department has completed 75 percent of the non-compliant criteria with the commission.

In order to implement and organize new curriculum by fall 2002, the faculty decided not to admit a new class into the professional program for fall 2001. The old program included a six- year program, a three-year pro-professional phase and a three-year professional phase.

Under the new curriculum, the six -year program will include a four-year pre-professional and a two-year professional phase, all leading to a Master's degree in Physical Therapy. Therefore juniors who were supposed to enter the professional phase next semester will instead continue in the pre-professional phase.

"Students in the pre-professional program are not affected at all by the change and will continue into the fourth year to attain a Bachelors of Health Sciences degree," Tavakol said. "Existing students in the professional program will graduate from an accredited program."

Tavakol assured that the department will be off of probation by the fall 2002 dead-

The selection and application process, which is mandatory for admission will however, remain the same at the professional phase. "Being in the pre-professional program prepares students for admission into the professional stage, for Howard and other Universities, it does not guarantee admission," said Bernadette Manuel, interim assistant chair of the physical therapy department. "Under the new curriculum students will need a BA to get into the professional program."

Both Manuel and Tavakol said they are confident that students in the physical therapy department are aware and understand the changes that are happening within the department. Faculty met with juniors and some of their parents on January 24, 2001 to inform them on the changes and address their concerns.

"The faculty sees an urgent need to develop and implement a new curriculum for the Masters of physical therapy in order to comply with the national trend in physical therapy education and the mission of the profession for the future," Tavakol said.

The profession is hoping to phase out the present Masters of physical therapy for a Doctorate in physical therapy. "HU plans are fully in line with the mission of the profession," Tavakol insisted.

ampus Diges

Freshman Woman Needed for Essay Contest

The Ladies of Alpha Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated are searching for freshman women to compete in the annual Sadie Yancy Scholarship Essay Contest.

For a \$500.00 prize those interested should answer the question: How did Election 2000 alter your perception of African American women?

Qualifications to compete in the essay contest are full time, first year, undergraduate female students currently enrolling in any of the schools and colleges of Howard University.

The essay should be approximately and no more than 500 words, typed, double-spaced and on white paper. Please include your name, local mailing address, telephone number(s), and e-mail address. Entries must be postmarked by Monday, March 12, 2001.

Please forward all entries to: The Ladies of Alpha Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Inc., P.O. Box 75358, Washington, DC 20013, Attn: Sadie Yancy.

Discussion to Outline African Legal Compensation

The Black Law Students' Association of Howard University will conduct a black history month panel discussion. The discussion called "Reparations-It's About Time!" will outline the legal case for compensation of people of African descent in America for the past and current effects of enslavement,

denial of human rights, and inadequate protection of the law. The discussion will feature litigates, leading thinkers, and organizers in the field of reparations.

Guest speakers include Litigation Committee Chair Adjoa Aiyetro, Esq., Howard University School of Law professor Nkechi Taifa, Georgetown School of Law Professor Richard America, Patricia Allard, Esq., and Hilary Shelton.

For more information, please call Andrea Ritchie @ (202)

Poetry Readings in Bookstore

Students can come share poetry, short narratives at the Howard Bookstore today from 5-7 p.m. as part of the DC area-writing project. For more info cal 806-7524.

Calling All Actors

The Howard University Department of Theatre Arts is holding auditions are seeking 6-8 to appear in the University production of "Timbuktu" a musical comedy. The auditions will take place Tuesday in the Ira Aldridge Theater at 6:30 p.m. Requirements are muscular well-developed bodies. Rehearsals are mandatory.

-Compiled by Hilltop Staff Writer, Niquanda Brown. Campus Digest is a weekly colum detailing news and events on and around the Howard University campus. Send listings by e-mail to thehilltop@hotmail.com (attn: Digest) or by fax (202) 806-4758.



Photo by Shala Wilson

job fair Jast Thursday.

Students Turnout For College of Engineering Job Fair

By SIMONE MASON Hilltop Staff Writer

The College of Engineering, Architecture, and Computer Science (CEACS) hosted its annual Career/Co-Op Fair, last Thursday in the Engineer-

Sponsored and well promoted by the Office of Student Services, the high turnout of both students and prestigious corporations and government employers like JP Morgan Chase and NASA made the event even more successful than previous years according to CEACS President, Russell

The fair provided students with an opportunity to familiarize themselves with both large and small companies that wish to recruit college students for internship and post-college opportuni-

If students expect to solely see engineering corporations don't be fooled, next time the fair rolls around, even the CIA had a vendor set up. According to their representative many students are surprised to find the agency at a CEACS fair, but the CIA hires more engineers a year than

those in any other profession. In fact, there are more black engineers at the CIA from Howard than any other HBCU.

If you were thinking that this fair was confined to those in CEACS think again, there were also a lot of companies seeking those pursuing degrees in business management and information systems or technologies. Furthermore, Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics majors were especially welcomed to take part in the event.

Channel Small, a sophomore Biology major, even made sure that she attended the fair, passing out her resume to various companies. ComEd, Chicago's top electric company representative stated that students from all fields are welcomed to hand in resumes to be passed on to their various departments.

Although the general consensus was that the fair was both informative and helpful for those looking to get experience in their field, there were some complaints.

However, the majority of those in attendance were optimistic about pending opportunities and a career fair that catered to their majors.

Professor Lectures on How to Survive Corporate Racism

By NIA MCLEAN Hilltop Staff Writer

Howard professor Dr. Marcia Clinkscales lectured students on how to fight racism in the workplace during her address at "Surviving Racism in Corporate America" on Tuesday in the Blackburn Center reading room.

"How many of you are interested in going into the corporate world?" Clinkscales asked the small group, most of whom were members of Howard's NAACP chapter. Few raised their hands, but all paid close attention to the friendly, yet booming voice of a woman who has just been asked to serve on the NAACP's Educational Task

Clinkscales, who teaches organizational communication and is also a reverend, asked students to form a semi-circle around where she was seated so the program would be more of an exchange than a diatribe.

"If you know who you are, you will be

Tips for surviving in the workplace, internships:

1) Do your research (Understand how the organization/company functions) 2) Don't let compliments go to your head (A compliment given with the wrong motive can be just as damaging, if not more, than a damaging remark)

3) Be confidant, not arrogant

4) Be consistent in all interactions and in all that you do. 5) Do not be thin-skinned (Accept criticism for what it is, a means of learning)

6) Understand the politics wherever you go

Know written/unwritten protocol

8) Avoid discussing your personal life at work 9) Record (write down) all verbal interaction especially that which makes you suspicious -Compiled by Nia McLean

able to survive not only racism, but all of the isms that will confront you in life" she instructed.

Clinkscales offered tips to combating corporate racism. Others tips she provided include, being prepared, identifying strengths and weaknesses, keeping a daily journal of interactions, asking for a performance appraisal at the beginning of any job, as well as periodic feedback sessions,

Clinkscales pointed out that introspection was the key to success. "You must listen to the sound of the genuine you. Once you know what you want, you will begin to equip yourself and the racism will not mat-

Clinkscales, who earned her PhD at the age of 29 and whose goal was to enter the corporate world before teaching in order to instruct from experience rather than theory, shared many tales of the ups and downs of her career, including times that she had been stabbed in the back due to what she calls "naiveté".

"Assume nothing. Clarify all communication and ask questions if you have to." Students like Brandon Ray, a freshman international business major, seemed to find the discussion very enlightening.

"She provided an insight on how you have to look out for yourself in the corporate world. No one has your back but you. It gave me a better idea of how to handle myself."

As for her role on the Educational Task Force of the NAACP, Clinkscales says she feels empowered to be representing student voices; she even asked members of the audience to offer some suggestions on how Howard as an HBCU can be supported by the National Education Board of the

NAACP.



Club promoters Carlton Washington, James Compas and David Smith use jobs as nightclub promoters to network and bring students together.

Student Promoters Learn Entrepreneurship Through Club Life

By CHRISTOPHER WINDHAM Campus Editor

Senior Carlton Washington, sophomore James Compas and sophomore David Smith's job is to insure that the line of about 500 plus club goers that has formed around the building has a good time once they reach the inside.

The three friends are club promoters. They are creators of Promoholics, a promotion company that promotes club events, house parties, and calendars. The student group has swiftly become one of the

top promoters in the DC area. "I like seeing people enjoying themselves," Compas said. "I want people to be happy."

The troupe often promotes a party a week. The parties combine students from almost all DC universities. Schools like Georgetown, American and George Washington all attend Promoholics's parties.

"We bring more people together than any student organization, "said Washington who is a marketing major." The best part is going home and saying wow, I had 500 people come out."

The troupe has an effective system at the club. Often times Washington collects the money, Smith works security, and Compas checks ID's. "You're creating something," Smith said. "You're taking an average night and

making it happen." And make it happen is what the group has done. Each week hundreds of student flock to their parties in hopes of having a fun time, hearing the latest in hip-hop, r&b and reggae and meeting Mr. or Ms. Right. "We make concepts and things that appeal to students," Washington

The group formed last year. Washington and Compas began to promote parties and Smith, who was friends with Compas, joined soon after. "People started looking for people to throw parties," Washington said.

The Promoholics are professionals. "Think of trying to get 800 people to come to a place at the same time," Washington said. "That's hard." It takes about a week to fully promote a party, Smith said. He said dorm sweeps are almost necessary to get the right party "vibe."

Promoting comes natural for the group. "If there is anything that needs to be promoted we can do it if the price is right," Washington said.

But promoting does have its down side, they say. "It's a gamble," Washington said. "The anxiety before the club is the worst." He said the fear of poor attendances often makes him uneasy.

Club promoting gives the group more than the satisfaction of having a good party- it gives them networking opportunities. "We all want to network," Compas said. "All three of us are entrepreneurs. I'm where the money's at.'

Smith said he also benefited from promotions. Smith, who is an acting major, said he has connected with club owners and some celebrities while promoting.

Through all the club promoting and nightlife drama, the troupe still contends they are the best of friends. "We're all regular students just trying to make some money. I also want to give a shout out to South Side Sity: Bobby, Seneca, Big Mike and Robio," Compas said.

Few Students Attend Speak Outs

From Speak Outs, Al

"It doesn't matter if students don't come," said Simmons. "The candidates must still continue with their plans. They need to get out and hit the pavement to meet students."

The pair also emphasized the need for student involvement in all aspects of University functions. Salter noted that students must definitely be involved

in their government to let their officials know what they want.

"Students just assume that events such as the \$14,000 Bison Ball that is held each year is mandatory. It's

not. Such events," said Salter, "are usually hosted by HUSA based on the leaders' decisions. If next year's leaders choose not to host the event, there will be no Ball. Students need to come and find out their candidate's plans and make their wishes

Simmons added, "Our University is unstable right now, we're on an influx and students must remain active during the transition. Students definitely need to show their support."

Salter also reminded students that they are part of the election process whether they realize it or not. "Students pay their elected officials each year with their student activity fee. They might as well come to see whose salary they are paying and what the person plans to do with the

their funds," said Salter. Simmons continued about the ioint responsibility of both candidates and students. "Candidates must make themselves available,

approach them," Simmons said. The next student speak-out will be held tonight at 7 p.m. in Carver

but students have to come out and

New Libraries Near Completion

From Libraries, A1 and the stretch from the Capitol to the Washington monument.

Tours of the library will be conducted by the Director of Development, Dwayne Boyd. Boyd will carry out tours by appointment until the Grand Opening, expected to be in October of 2001.

The Louis Stokes Health Sciences Library is suited for health care students and professionals. The facility was named after former Congressman Louis Stokes. Unlike the Health Sciences Library, the Law Library remains unnamed, but demands an estimated \$5 million price for the name slot.

The Louis Stokes Health Sciences Library is loaded with approximately 12 smart classrooms specialized for assisting students with simulated surgeries and other studies. The 80,000 square foot, four-story structure accommodates approximately, "1,518 people" according to senior project manager Leonidas Williams.

The library is complete with all seats wired for power and data, a number of presentation rooms, a telemedicine room and an exhibit gallery that holds archival displays from the university. The wonderful structures hold wall-to-wall win-

dows that have views of the new miniature quadrangle and of Howard University Hospital, a major motivation for the health care students while studying.

Students who participated in the tours of the two new libraries seemed very impressed. "The tour was very informative," said senior graphic design major

Jamal Pope. "It was exciting to see the future of our university right before our eyes. Now we see where our money is going to."

The grand opening of the Louis Stokes Health Sciences Library is scheduled for the fall of 2001.

From Gore, Al this process, members of Solidarity claim that it is a social injustice to allow communities to be exploited in the name of corporate profit.

"We're demonstrating not so much against Al Gore, but just that he represents a political movement that undermines communities, and then when asked to teach a class on community building, he's welcomed

with smiling faces," said Solidarity member Ryan Husak. "We think there should be some kind of tension here. That's the main focus of our protest."

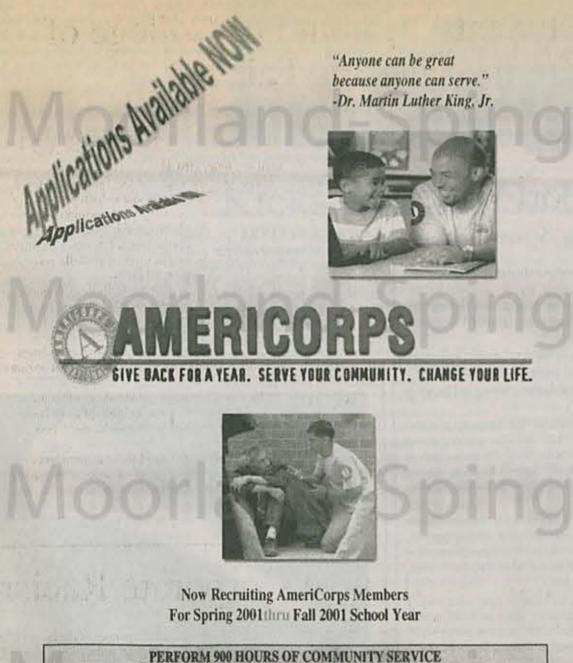
Thanks, Ardella!

The Hilltop Staff Would Like to Say Thanks to Ardella C. Coleman, Hilltop Administrative Assistant. Many Thanks for Your Hard Work and Patience.

Good Luck and See You in the News!

Asthma Volunteers Needed for NIH Research Study

Pulmonary-Critical Medicine Branch Care at the National Institutes of Health is looking for individuals with asthma between the ages of 18-65 to participate in a 3 to 4 day research study. A thorough medical evaluation and monetary compensation will be provid-If interested, please call (301) 402-1553.



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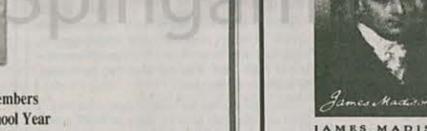
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For more information, contact The Howard University Community Association

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Moorland-SpinNH

Ashcroft and Norton Assume Cabinet Roles

By ALEX KINGSBURY U-WIRE Washington Bureau

Hotly debated Cabinet members John Ashcroft and Gail Norton are settling into to their new positions this week, less than two weeks after their Senate confirmations.

The Senate cleared the way for Ashcroft as attorney general on Jan. 31 and for Norton as secretary of the Interior on Feb. 1.

Ashcroft, a hero to the conservative right, was confirmed by a vote of 58-42. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas swore in Ashcroft last Thursday after the most contested Senate vote for attorney general in 76 years.

Voting 75-24, the Senate confirmed Norton, whose record drew sharp criticism from environmentalists. Ashcroft promised last week to "reinvigorate" the war on drugs and to stop discrimination when he encounters it.

Speaking in an interview for the first time since his appointment, Ashcroft told CNN's Larry King on Wednesday that gun violence and drugs are top

Ashcroft still faces stern scrutiny from many who fear his conservative roots may interfere with his ability to act fairly as the nation's chief law enforcement officer.

"I will confront injustice by leading a professional Justice Department that is free from politics; that is uncompromisingly fair; a department defined by integrity and dedicated to upholding the rule of law," Ashcroft said upon his confirmation.

In a January report, the American Civil Liberties

Union described Ashcroft as someone who "supports major erosion ... of our democracy."

"John Ashcroft's record demonstrates that he is willing to change the law to impose his particular religious and moral views on all Americans," said Laura W. Murphy, director of the ACLU Washington Office. "Integrity in pursuit of such a goal is no virtue."

Gale Norton, who also received a hostile reception in the Senate, is expected to undergo similar scrutiny during her first weeks at the Interior

"Unless Congress and the public hold her feet to the fire, Gale Norton as Interior secretary will be a natural disaster," said Sierra Club Executive Director Carl Pope. "We applaud the senators who voted against Norton to protect America's wild lands for our families and for our futures."

Democrats and environmental groups who opposed Norton's confirmation said they would monitor her progress closely.

"I take Ms. Norton at her word and expect that she will honor her commitments," said Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-N.M.) the highest-ranking Democrat on the panel that approved the Norton nomi-

"I sincerely hope she will justify the trust placed in her by the Senate," Bingaman said.

The Sierra Club's Pope said they felt a responsibility to illuminate Norton's "radical record" on the

"Norton's nomination is a giant reward to the oil, gas, and mining industries that funded President



Photo courtesy Ashcroft.Com Attorney General John Ashcoft settled into his new cabinet position this week.

Bush's campaign," Pope said. "This election was no mandate to pillage our public lands."

Fake Licenses an Issue for District Cab Drivers

By RASHIDA KOROMA Hilltop Staff Writer

On a chilly night, Kristin Creo tried to hail a cab on Georgia Avenue. "Many empty cabs flew by me," the 19-year-old Howard University student

She finally hailed down an old broken down taxi. "The inside didn't even look like a cab, there was no photo I.D. of the driver or anything," Creo said as she explained how the driver charged her \$14 to go less than a half mile from where she had been picked up. Creo who said she felt that she had been ripped off, asked to see the driver's license before paying the fare; however, she could not judge whether the license was real or not.

Over the last few months Sandra Seegars, one of the District's Taxicab Commissioners, has given special attention to taxicab violations because many of them can be linked to unlicensed drivers who are unaware of the rules.

In fact, Seegars recently assisted in the arrest of a cab driver that attempted to bribe her into giving him a fake license. "I had heard that they were selling licenses for thousands of dollars and in June I got a call from a man."

The man offered the Commissioner \$4000 in exchange for a license. "I thought it was a joke," said Seegars. She did not understand why a person would call a District Taxicab Commissioner to obtain a fake license.

However, Seegars says she knows enough about the business of fake licenses to put two and two



together. "It's someone inside of the Commission," said Seegars. She confirmed that Ron Stokes, former Chief of the District Taxicab Commission, was found guilty of selling licenses.

"If one person is doing it they all know about it." said Seegars.

Nathan H. Price III, Chairman of the District Professional Taxicab Driver Association, agreed with Seegars on the fact that the job may be an inside one. "[There is]definitely more than one person involved," said Price. According to Price, license requirements such as District residency, letters of reference, FBI clearance, and fluency in English, are fueling drivers to find another way.

Price, who drives his cab regularly, said that many of the District's cab drivers are foreigners. and therefore, fear that they will be unable to licensed or not," Creo said.

obtain a license because of poor English-speaking skills. In addition, Price feels that many are discouraged because the test is now given on a computer and many do not feel that they have the basic skills needed to complete it.

Maynard S. "Bob" Mobley, a Distict taxi driver for more than 43 years, confirmed what Price said. "They can't or at least think they can't pass the test, so they take the easy way out," said Mob-

Recently, Mobley took the test on the computer and failed it three times.

"But when I took the written test I made a hundred," said Mobley. He feels that the nerves that build up before taking a test on a computer is what causes many to do poorly.

Commissioner Seegars explained that inspectors are now inspecting cabs for fake licenses as a precautionary measure. This step was taken because she and others in the Commission realize that the average rider will not be able to distinguish a real license from a false one.

The inspectors also have the right to randomly

"I hope that those inspectors are able to get unlicensed drivers off the streets, because the majority of the times that I have been overcharged it has been by a driver that I couldn't even tell was

block roads and check for violations.

As Trial of Alumni Continues Student Support Wanes

By Errica Dotson Hilltop Staff Writer

Students continue to watch the drama unfold in the criminal case against Howard University alumni Sean "Puffy" Combs. Combs, founder of the multi-million dollar music conglomerate Bad Boy Entertainment, was indicted on charges of bribery and possession of an illegal weapon, all of which could

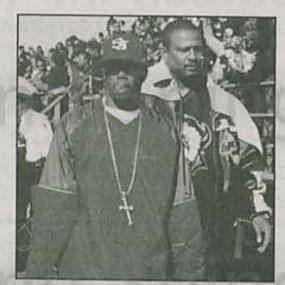
land him up to 15 years in prison.

Combs' indictment is the result of an alleged shooting incident, which occurred December 27, 1999, in a New York City nightclub. According to reports, an unidentified man insulted the rap mogul and threw money in his face. Bad Boy

artist Shine, whose real name is Jamal Barrows, then allegedly opened fire, hitting three bystanders. Combs' entourage, which included singer/actress Jennifer Lopez, bodyguard Anthony "Wolf" Jones and limousine driver Wardel Fenderson, then fled

Combs has denied any involvement in the shooting and continues to maintain his innocence. Barrows, however, has been charged with attempted murder and Jones is faced with an illegal weapons charge. "The decision to indict me was wrong," said Combs after his indictment by a Manhattan grand jury. "I'm innocent, and we will prove it. I am putting my faith in God, and I know my name will be cleared.

Combs was charged with second-degree posses-



Rap Mogul and Howard alum Sean "Puffy" Combs is seen here at the 2000 Homecoming game.

sion of a weapon, meaning he had a loaded gun with intent to use it. He is also charged with thirddegree possession of a weapon, which is simple possession of a gun. There were two guns involved, one of which was thrown from the car window and the other was retrieved from the front floor of Combs' Navigator. Directly following the shooting, Combs allegedly offered Fenderson a pinky ring that he bought for

Lopez, with an estimated value of approximately \$40,000 plus an additional \$10,000 as collateral to take the charge. The incident is said to have happened

in the squad room of a police precinct surrounded by officers.

"He is 100 percent innocent," said Harvey Slovis, who along with attorney Johnnie Cochran, is representing Combs.

Yet, Combs does not seem to be receiving much support or sympathy from his alma mater.

"Obviously he did something wrong and he needs

punished," said Rosella Washington, a senior psychology major. "Just because you're famous doesn't make you exempt from the consequences of your behavior. And I haven't heard of anyone denying the bribery charges so he should definitely do time.'

Quinton Moses, a sophomore finance major agreed. "I wasn't surprised about what happened, especially after he assaulted Naz's producer over a stupid video. But, if he did what they are saying, he needs to do the time."

Some students did not seem to care either way. "I don't consider him an alum since he didn't graduate. I really don't care what happens either way," said April Hill, a junior international business

Hill added that just because he went to school here doesn't mean that students are automatically going to be in his corner. "He should face charges for excessive sampling of other peoples music."



SOUTH AFRICA - The court recording of Nelson Mandela's last speech before he was sentenced to life imprisonment was released on Sunday, at the 11th anniversary of Mandela's release from Robben Island jail. This is the first time the speech was heard since 1964, thanks to the expertise of the British Library in London.

MALAWI- An Indian pharmaceutical company has offered to supply a low cost triple-therapy AIDS drug cocktail to Malawi. The Indian pharmaceuti cal company, CIPLA Limited (a major manufacturer of generic drugs), has made the offer to MSF -Medicines Sans Frontier- in Malawi and the gov ernment. If the deal is sealed, MSF says the cocktail will cost patients 350 US dollars a year.

ERITREA/ ETHIOPIA- On Monday, more than 600 Ethiopian soldiers began withdrawing from territory captured from Eritrea last May. They have two weeks to withdraw completely under a December agreement. Eritrea will then reform its lines 25km away and UN troops will patrol the buffer zone

KHARTOUM, SUDAN -The leader of the Libyan revolution, Moammar Khadhafi, along with other leaders of the Sahel-Sahara community, arrived in Khartoum Sunday night to participate in a two-day third summit of the community of the Sahelian-Saharan states, which began on Monday. The summit is expected to consolidate the projected African Union as well as the Sahelian-Saharan community.

LAGOS, NIGERIA - As an unprecedented event in recent years, the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR), is acting according to its mandate as it shuts down 21 filling stations for profiteering. The Department of Petroleum Resources has closed down 21 filling stations in Imo, Abia, Enugu, Anambra, Bayelsa and Rivers in the last two months. Ten stations were shut in Imo; eight in Abia; Anambra, four; Enugu, three, Rivers, one and Bayel-

KINGSTON, JAMAICA- A total of US\$31 million has been allocated to re-organize the Jamaican agricultural sector, Agriculture Minister Roger Clarke said. Clarke gave a breakdown of the figure at a recent Jamaica Agricultural Society (JAS) meeting, stating that a loan of US\$22 million was received from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Jamaican government provided the remaining US\$9 million.

PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD- Caribbean Communications Network (CCN) became the first listed company with a December 31, 2000 year-end to release its final results. Profit attributable to the Group was up by 48.36 per cent from \$12.739 million for the year ended December 31, 1999 to \$18,900 million for the year ended December 2000. The increase was solely due to a gain on sale of the DirecTV operations of \$9.881 million. Net Sales reached \$154.300 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, an increase of 3.84 per cent over the corresponding 1999 figure of \$148.595 mil-

PARAMARIBO, SURINAME, CANA - Ten people, possibly including Brazilians, died on Sunday when a small plane crashed in central Suriname, authorities said. The cause of the accident is unknown. Justice Minister Siegfried Gilds said the Nomad aircraft, owned by local company Gum Air, may have crashed into a hillside on its way to Nyun Jacobkondre, a goldrush village in the remote interior of the country.

ST. THOMAS, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS - U.S. Virgin Islands Governor Charles Turnbull has nominated Cecil Benjamin, a well-known teacher and trade unionist, to be Commissioner of Labor, replacing Sonia Dow who resigned four months ago following criticism from senators and other leaders. Benjamin, a Guyanese citizen, who has been residing in St. Croix for more than 25 years, is the second non-native to be a member of the Turnbull

CASTRIES, ST LUCIA - St. Lucia's Prime Minister, Dr. Kenny Anthony, will lead a discussion on three issues of critical importance to the region's future when Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM) leaders hold their 12th Inter-sessional Meeting in Barbados next week. The three issues going before the February 14-16 summit relate to the proposed Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ), the region's bread-and-butter tourism industry, and the vexing problem of crime, which has become a major challenge for CARICOM governments in recent years.

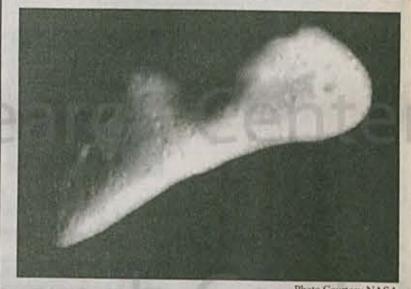


Photo Courtesy NASA

On Tuesday, NEAR became the first space probe to ever land on an asteroid. Eros (the asteroid) is 21-miles long.

NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo Set for Tomorrow in Washington Convention Center

By LOUGENIA BAILEY Hilltop Staff Writer

In such a fast-paced society as the one we live in, it is easy to forget about our physical health. Often, we aren't aware of our health until there is a serious problem. For some of us, a lack of health insurance keeps us from maintaining good health. This is the main reason why the NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo came into existence.

The Expo, now in its eighth year, has risen the awareness of all those in attendance. Angela Owens, the director of station communications, admits that the Expo is her favorite event.

"It is an amazing and powerful community outreach," Owens says. The Expo was conceived in a meeting in which NBC4 was looking for a "real and tangible" way to make a difference. The first annual NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo included more than fifty non-profit providers. This year's Expo will include over one hundred sponsors including The Children's National Medical Center, The Washington Health Center, and Howard University Hospital.

The Health Expo offers many different exhibits including lessons in baseball, golf, tennis, cardiokickboxing, and dancing. There are demonstrations on healthy cooking and even free certification for CPR. However, the part of the Expo that Owens says provides the most "immediate results" is the free screenings.

She says that many people who do not have health insurance come to the Health Expo to get tested. The tests available this year are for conditions including diabetes, depression, breast cancer, skin cancer, blood pressure, anemia, even deficiencies and dental problems. Last year Owens recalls when a few people were actually taken from the floor of the Expo to the hospital because of high-blood pressure so high it was near stroke

In between testing for attendees for diabetes and high blood pressure, those in attendance can talk with fitness experts, attend scheduled lectures, or meet special guests including professional women's soccer player, Mia

The NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo will be held this weekend, February 17th and 18th from 9am to 5pm in The Washington Convention Center. The Convention Center is located in downtown DC on 9th and H Streets, NW. It is two blocks from both the Metro Center and Gallery Place METRO stops. Best of all, the Expo is free to the



If it's Tuesday...

Check out the latest in Fine Arts and exhibits. Read the Engage' section every Tuesday in The Hilltop.



ТНЕ НІІЛТОР

POINT OF VIEW

Black History Month Everyday

JACQUELYN N. HICKS Hilltop Staff Writer

It is the story of our inventors, Benjamin Banneker who developed the first striking clock, Bessie Blount known for creating the first eating device for the handicapped, or Lewis Latimer praised for his groundbreaking work in exploring the human cell. Ourhistory is full of heroes and heroines that did not get statues built in parks in honor of them, that did not get their names written in the big white textbooktelling their story truthfully. Can I be truthful? Are we ready as a people to speak truth?

Black history month is filled with slave stories, escape routes, old spirituals and a lot of pain, but it goes far beyond the plantation and far beyond the auction block. You should say "so what" to Black history because it's a period of time where Black people can pretend to be black and white people can feel that they are giving back what they violently stole. Go out and get your little Black history fact book from a McDonalds Happy Meal; that won't make you black. OH! I know. buy a ticket to that one woman play depicting the life of Rosa Parks, that will definitely make you an informed African-American. It is true, respecting what our ancestors did makes us aware of what we are now able to do. but what is it exactly that we are doing. How could I forget, we're performing, right? Couldn't nobody touch Michael Jordan on the court and who can create songs after songs that are continuously bumped in clubs of all origins like Jay-Z can?

We know their names, ages, places of birth, dates of birth, and where and when they got their big break but how's that enlightening me? How is that paying my rather "expensive" Howard University tuition?

We, as young black people forget that all of these oh so talented people get paid for what their doing and we're wasting our voice screaming for them when we could be screaming at a rally, march, or protest. We look up in thanks to Allen Iverson for coming out with

crazy cornrolls but what about Lyda Newman? Who? Lyda Newman, inventor of the hair brush. All we hear about is Madame C.J. Walker and a lot of us still couldn't tell a younger brother or sister what exactly she did.

Let me get to my point rather expediently. Black History Month is a month. Does everyone understand that? Carter G. Woodson founded it originally as a week and later it became extended to a month. I guess it was figured that our history couldn't fit into seven days but slavery could definitely be covered in twenty-eight. Let me make a personal request to anybody who's anybody, extend it even further in your life. Let your culture, your presence, your voice, your skin color, your hair texture (or relaxer brand), and your struggle be known at all times, not just the time that we are told it's okay to talk about it.

It's almost like a relationship. If your significant other only takes you out on Valentines Day and only calls you on your birthday, how is that love? Love and respect is built on studying each other and spending time trying to understand the purpose of one another, anything less just isn't real.

I truly hope that you are not celebrating specifically Black History Month, but your Black History Life, constantly sharing, teaching and studying our culture and coming to grips with our heavy oppression and facing the incredible reality of our undeniable greatness and sadly our sometimes unused potential.

Point of Views appear every Friday. Submit them to thehilltop@hotmail.com

Chris Rock Proves He's 'Down to Earth'

By JONATHAN C SIMS Life & Style Editor

Death is definitely not a funny subject. But Chris Rock makes it a laughing matter in his new movie 'Down to Earth.' Rock plays and aspiring comic, Lance Barton, who is trying to make his big break in the industry. Lance becomes overwhelmed with the attempts to make others laugh but has no talent at all to make it big in the business. In a goal to make it to the Showtime at the Apollo so he can make it big.

All of his efforts are tragically ended however when he is involved in an accident. Lance must embark on a short stay in heaven, which the movie pokes fun at. Heaven is a club in the movie, filled with pretty girls, famous faces from Biggie to Tupac, and the essential VIP. Since Chris is now dead it is revealed through one of God's angel's that they made a mistake in killing him and must take him back to earth to find a replacement body.

Rock's character decides to take the body of one of the richest white men in America, Charles Wellington. He takes the body of a rich man with many enemies. Two of which are his wife and his accountant. These two enemies of Rock's character are also lovers in the film. Rock (as Charles Wellington) knowing that his wife and lover plotted to kill him, exposes them and thanks them for "showing him his ways".

Rock then abruptly meets Santi (Regina King) who he falls for instantly in both of his lives. Santi, a registered nurse is trying to fight Wellington and his plans to get rid of a community hospital. Rock wins her over by keeping the hospital open and saving the people from being kicked out on

the street. Chris Rock in the body of a rich, fat, white man woos King's character and they fall head over heals in love.

The funniest parts in the movie come from Lance's soul of a black man in the body of a white man, who fails to realize the color situation. In one scene Rock, as Wellington rhymes to beat of Ruff Rhyder's "Anthem." Saying "niggas wanna die" gets him into hot water with some of the 'home boys' people and gets him knocked out.

Rock is funny in the movie but the highlight of the film is definitely the role of Wanda played by Wanda Sykes. Wanda, the ghetto fabulous maid for Mr. Wellington provides ghetto insight to rock's character. In one scene Rock gives her a raise and then she adds a sarcastic remark to what he said. Wanda later gets a fur coat with her new found raise but displays that you can take the person out the ghetto but not the ghetto out of the person.

The funniest scene in the movie would definitely be when a protestor pours red paint resembling blood on her fur and she chases her down the street. Sykes is definitely a sight to be seen I the next few years. Her character is not funny for what she says but who she is and her representation of the ghetto culture.

Down to Earth has its ups and downs but mainly its ups. Rock gives a comedic performance with merit while Sykes steals the show. The characters are definitely complex and lovable. "Down to Earth" has a share of surprises and a cute love story intertwined. This weekend is definitely going to be a weekend at the box office where Chris Rock might be able to battle Hopkin's "Hannibal" and bring him back down to earth.



Chris Rock proves to Regina King that he's pretty fly for a white guy in "Down To Earth."



'Sweet November' A Tasty Treat

By Jonathan C Sims Life & Style Editor

Imagine your life changing in a matter of hours. Well for Nelson Moss and Sara Deever it happened and the repercussions of a "hellish" day at the DMV would be monumental. Keanu Reeves (The Matrix) and Charlize Theron (The Legend of Bagger Vance) star in this romantic drama by Warner Bros. Films.

Reeves takes on the role of Nelson Moss, a workaholic who has let the coldness of the world take over him. Sara on the other hand has a love for life and its promise. The two meet at a DMV and the journey begins. Nelson, who doesn't have a passion of life at all towards the beginning of the movie, begins to open up to Sara. Nelson's fear of repeating his father's reputation of being an unsuccessful businessman becomes so focused on becoming the success that his father wasn't and forgets about everything else. Reeves' character is so self absorbed that he is unable to notice the issues around him. Everything changes when he meets Theron's character.

She pulls the cold, self-centered, loser of Nelson Moss out from hiding and turns him into someone filled of emotion and warmth. Sara is just plain loveable. She has a joy that is totally unavoidable from those that are around her. Theron's character is the type that walks in the room and it lights up immediately.

The truth be revealed that Sara and Nelson need each other. Nelson needs Sara for the possibility to love and to feel again. Sara needs Nelson for the projection of what she sees as a better man. Nelson is more like an experiment to Sara.

The two who at first are apprehensive about getting together become inseparable through the month of November. Sara gives a shot to Nelson by an agreement the two have that they will date one another for the span of one month. Not thinking that he will catch feelings for Sara, Nelson takes everything lightly. However he begins to open up to her spilling his world into her lap. Intrigued by Nelson, Sara becomes more and more wrapped up into his world.

Sara at first tries to avoid becoming involved seriously with Nelson for an underlying reason in the movie. This is something I will not reveal. (Some movies just have to have their secrets.)

Their relationship and love is put to the test, as they must come to terms with something that could separate them forever. This is makes the film so 'sweet.

Kicks That are So Fresh and So Clean

By DANIELLE POINTDUJOUR Hilltop Staff Writer

Kicks, tennis shoes, and sneaks are commonly the given name for athletic footwear. This spring a new name will come to the horizon...style. Sneakers have gone where they have never gone before. They're coming in all colors, styles, and fabrics, which are promising buyers the top in hot fashion footwear.

Blue is always known for calming and cooling your spirit, but this spring it is stepping up to heat and excite your wardrobe. The Nike Air Presto's are back and in blues of all shades. "You will see a lot of blue this spring," Joi Carter, a representative of Foot Locker said, "Every company is using it, blue is hotter than ever."

Puma's are making a come back. "It's funny that people in DC are coming in and buying them now," Carter said, "while they have been popular everywhere else for six years." The Puma Street Cat is definitely on the prowl this year. With its classic Puma style and new tread sole it's definitely worth the \$64.99.

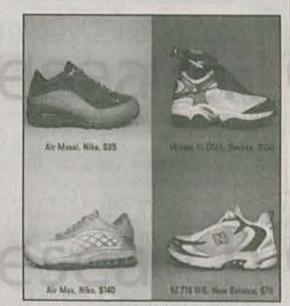
If Puma is not on the top of your list then the Air Masai from Nike is right up your alley. At \$85 for both Men and Women, the Air Masai is a force to be reckoned with this Spring and a must have for everyone's wardrobe.

The sneaker disappointment of the season is Reebok. In an attempt to imitate the Hirachi's, Reebok fell flat on its face with its Winter III DMX sneaker. With its black and yellow design and silver spider web with mesh backing this sneaker is hardly worth the ridiculous price of \$135. Reebok needs to take Aaliyah's advice and "try again."

Another candidate for the "try again" category would be New Balance WW 721 GB. The name says it all. What possessed New Balance to come out with a clunky brown and blue sneaker for the Spring anyway? This obvious fashion no-no, is just that ... a no-no. However, all is not lost. Some of the top designers in women's and men's sneakers have created vibrant designs to ensure that we're step out in style.

Tennis pro Serena Williams' pink and black, all leather, zip around Puma is a guaranteed hit for the spring. Next up, is the Addias Ozmosis, promising to make waves with its array of blues, purples and greens. Another sure-fire favorite is the Addias Turbulence, which is sure to rock the fashion scene. In electric colors and a sock like design, Turbulence is sure to be felt.

Women aren't the only ones that will be feeling things this season. Men can expect a Wink, an Answer and a Response from Reebok, Nike and



Addias. Steve Francis' Wink by Reebok has not lost its flavor, but has added a metallic gray that is sure to turn heads. Scoring big is nothing new to All-Star MVP Allen Iverson, that's why when AI's Answer by Nike dropped this past weekend we all knew it would be a winner. Since AI demanded an Answer, Kobe decided to give a

Please See Shoes, A9

The Annual East Coast Jazz Festival Returns to Metro Area

By ERICA N. HOLLEY-MARTIN Hilltop Staff Writer

The 10th Annual East Coast Jazz Festival has returned once again loaded with live jazz musical performers, exhibits and much more. This year's festivities are being held at The Double Tree Hotel in Rockville, Maryland running from February 14- February 18. It is a weekend filled extravaganza, fun and music due to the many great shows and activities that take place year after year. It never fails to be a major success and plans to be no different this time around. The annual festival showcases an outstanding line-up of musical talent and celebrities and will also have performances by the Walter Johnson HS Jazz Ensemble and The Paul Laurence Dunbar HS Big

Band.

This festival includes not only extraordinary performances and guest appearances but also offers lessons and workshops with musical instruments such as the saxophone, piano and drums. These lessons are absolutely free and taught by some of the best musicians in the business. Over thirty exhibitors will be on hand to display fine art, jew-

elry, books, posters, music and other merchandise.

One of the major highlights of the showcase will be the Winard Harper Sextet who recently released their latest album entitled Faith. Leader and drummer Winard Harper, who is no stranger to the East Coast Jazz Festival, began playing in clubs at the age of seven and had his first major gig playing with Dexter Gordon at the age of 20. Through the years has played with the likes of

Johnny Griffin, Betty Carter and other jazz greats. The Baltimore native insists that his major musical influence was his family who

was always around music. Harper began The Harper Brothers Band with his brother Phillip who is a trumpet player. The band played all throughout Washington, DC and Harper has grown tremendously in the music world since then. His newest album, Faith, released with Savant Records has a fierce mix of jazz and African drums with a groove that inevitably touches all listeners, young and old.

What is Harper's message behind Faith, you might ask? "Just that," he says simply. "Faith. How important it is in your life, for everyone. It's about putting God first. Then everything else falls into place."

E-BRIEFS

Enterainment News in Brief

As rumors continue to swirl that DMX has left the Ruff Ryders, there are reports that they've added another rapper to their roster. Fiend, formerly signed to Master P's No Limit Records, has reportedly signed a deal with Ruff Ryders. The New Orleans based rapper recently released the compilation album "Fiend Presents Can I Burn?" on his label Fiend Entertainment.

Guys can stop dreaming again. Its official that Halle Berry and Eric Benet secretly wed about three weeks ago at an undisclosed location. Berry made the announcement at a party for the launch of her new website www.hallewood.com.

On what would've been his 56th birthday, reggae legent Bob Marley received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. The ceremony was attended by his family and friends including his widow Rita. Marley died of cancer in 1981. Marley will also receive a posthumous Lifetime Achievement Award at the Grammy Awards on February 21st.

Marking the one year anniversary of the death of rapper Big Pun, the Tats Cru graffitti crew painted a mural in his memory at 163rd Street and Westchester Avenue in Big Pun's hometown, Bronx, NY on February 6th. A commemorative mural was painted at the same location last year but the Tats Cru whitewashed it and completed a new one. Big PUn suffered a heart attack on February 7th last year. He was 28 years old and reportedly weighter almost 700 lbs. at the time of his death.

R&B group Lucy Pearl reportedly is disbanding. The group Lucy Pearl is made up of former Tony Toni Tone member Rapael Saadiq, former Tribe Called Quest Member Ali Shaheed Muhammad and singer/songwriter Joi, who replaced former En Vogue lead singer Dawn Robinson in the fall. Sources say there is major conflict between their label, Pookie Records, and distributor Beyond

Moorland-Sop/Ed

RESPONSE TO KELLIE CARTER

Michael J. Hudson

It would be remiss of me not to respond to the February 9th article written by Ms. Kellie Carter regarding Michael Eric Dyson. Apparently, Mr. Dyson preached a sermon in the chapel the prior Sunday that Ms. Carter found rather offensive. Because I am a supporter of Mr. Dyson, I took it upon myself to listen to Mr. Dyson's sermon on WHUR last Sunday morn-

After listening to his sermon I was saddened, not by what Mr. Dyson said, but by Ms. Carter's apparent inability to receive it. Contrary to the claims of Ms. Carter, I did not hear Mr. Dyson curse, but I did hear Mr. Dyson preach about highbrow and static religiosity, which is counterproductive in a struggle for a strong and prosperous community. Ironically enough, it seems that Ms. Carter was too religious to receive a message about being too religious.

In regards to Mr. Dyson's reference to backing up big booty: to get hung up on a tasteless little joke made toward the end of a very powerful and relevant sermon is to miss the entire point of the sermon! Religiosity has us preoccupied and sidetracked by insignificant, individual human transgressions, while our entire people are being swallowed by systemic oppression. Breaking out of religiosity will prevent us from getting sidetracked by our flawed human nature so that we can continue to fight the good fight. Wouldn't it be better to have a promiscuous warrior on our side rather than a sinless sellout?

I was also very saddened by Ms. Carter's statement that she questions "anyone who puts [his] blackness and political views before Christ." Mr. Dyson was not putting his blackness and political views before Christ; he was applying the meaning of Christ to his and our lives. What good is Christ if he cannot be applied to our existential situations? If all we want to do is go to church to sing the psalms and celebrate the name of Christ, that's fine, but don't expect that to change our lives. Any life changing experience must consist of an intersection between the reality of Christ and the reality of our lives. That is why Mr. Dyson talked about Jesse Jackson, President Bush, and even J-Lo. Those were not irrelevant tangents; they were the experiences of our lives.

A stagnant growth in Christ occurs when we are consistently and exclusively celebrating the life and times of Christ, happy to be saved and sanctified, and thinking that all is well simply due to the life and death of Christ. Conversely, True growth in Christ occurs when Christ is allowed to inform our consciousness, get us over our fears, and moves us toward a necessary revolution. Anything less than the latter is not the true word from God that Ms. Carter seeks, but rather an overly pious religiosity that has more to do with human escapism than Godly presence.

Michael J. Hudson is a thirdyear law student at Howard University. You may e-mail him at thehilltop@hotmail.com.

Point of View

By Summer Brown



Clinton Heads For Harlem

William Jefferson Clinton is headed for Harlem. The President's office, in Harlem, would cost the taxpayers more money than all of the previous post-Presidential offices combined. Already, this is causing turmoil. Republicans, who raise Reagan up for judgment as an argumentative straw-man who cannot recognize straw, i.e., "He's the greatest President we've ever had - let's build the Reagan memorial!" are predictably having hissy and conniption fits. None of the Republicans who are angry are elected officials in New York City: all of those Republicans realize the other side to the scandal of Clinton's expensive office: money, money, money, With crime down, and upstate finally coming close to balancing its budgets and exciting its economy (although this is partially due to the mass exodus into neighboring states, viz. New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut), the state, and more specifically, the city, is in good condition. Republicans have been its sentinels, and now claim its boom.

Clinton's office in the center of Harlem, a Presidential office in the center of Harlem -Harlem will boom. Businesses will move in, real estate will get sold, schools will get fixed up, and money will flood the streets like fire hydrant foam on a hot day in Spanish Harlem. Hey, black people might even be

able to catch cabs up there. Or perhaps not. Perhaps Clinton's office will turn Harlem into a type of midtown, perhaps the same thing that happened to Times Square will happen to Harlem. As property values increase, and the consumers in the area become more, let's face it, white, and Harlem becomes hip, then Harlem will refill with blacks from the suburbs and blacks who cannot afford to live there anymore will move to the suburbs (where property will depreciate), creating an asteroid belt of poverty ringing the city. The exodus of middle-class blacks out of the city and upper-middleclass whites out of Harlem, which occurred around the same time, will reverse. We will have another economic hot spot, and a whole new tourist area. Gentrification will move

Will this help working poor blacks? No. They'll probably move to New Jersey, where Haitian and West Indian labor doesn't beat them out for manager at McDonald's. The important part: even though Clinton is not in office, he has found a way to make policy; Clinton has made revitalization of Harlem. the symbolic center of Black Consciousness in America, attractive to white-folk. William Jefferson Clinton is headed for Harlem, y'all.

faster than Neo dodging bullets. Real estate

brokers are already sizing up Harlem.

Letter to the Editor

It was highly refreshing to note your willingness to publish Kellie Carter's

heartfelt column, "Don't Curse In Church", written for the February 9th Hilltop in reaction to Michael Dyson's Chapel appearance earlier that week. Alas, it is the national vogue of Black pulpits today to feel obliged to ape the mantle of entertainers and rap stars with both their suggestive language and ranting, rapid-fire, high decibel preaching styles. I urge you to forward a copy to Dr. Dyson for the publication of his reactions!

I differ with her, however, on her demand for the ubiquitous mention of "Jesus Christ" as an indispensable validation of Chapel as a church or a place of worship. For me it was precisely the ecumenical range of Rankin that confirmed me in my Christian spirituality. I found it of enormous value to hear the tenets of Hinduism, Buddhism, Bahai, Islam, Ethicists and Judaism compared and contrasted with those of the various Christian denominations at the Chapel. And I think it especially important today that we not let our Christian majority obscure the universal elements of faith, discovery, wisdom and wonder, humanity and humility, which both feed and can be fed among believers from the various religions of the world, regardless of time and circumstances. If not at our own Rankin Chapel, then where?

Sincerely Yours, Timothy L. Jenkins LA' 60

Letter to the Editor

I was very pleased to find an article in The Hilltop covering the 70th Annual Student Art Show in the February 13, 2001 issue. However, inappropriate recognition was give to the artists and their work. The images shown were bare, with no captions naming the artwork and the artists.

In addition, the pieces discussed in the article were not photographed for the advantage of the reader and those photographed were not discussed. It would be wonderful to have some consistency in the format of the articles, which would in turn reflect the professional skill of the Hilltop staff.

Sincerely, LaKisha Neely HU Graduaté, Painting Major

Grievance Column

ue to the overwhelming response that my last article on teaching improvements received. I was compelled to submit a compilation of your ingenious suggestions to the office of the president for immediate implementation. Rrrilight... and if you believe that you are definitely a newcomer to our grand institution where students and administrators tend to pack more rhetoric than results. In fact, if I didn't know any better, I would believe that everyone has much better things to do than thinking about why our steadily-increasing tuition includes payment for classroom babysitters in addition to the tried and true teaching staff.

That's a whole 'nother article, but since we're on the subject of customer service and accountability (yep, that's what this boils down to), you should probably know that your HUSA Vice-President Nikkole Salter took the initiative to see how you as students feel about Howard U, as a service provider. Who knows, you may even remember one of us harassing you, I mean kindly asking you, to fill out one of the bright blue customer service surveys. At any rate, the surveys are an attempt to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of HU in two critical areas of service: Health Services and

Financial Aid.

The deterioration of the health centers has been an issue for quite some time. Students and administrators alike have raised concerns about the health centers being over capacity and understaffed. There also appears to be dissatisfaction with the way that the women's clinic handles patients. How many times do I have to tell you "I am not pregnant?!"

This brings us to financial aid. An office that should incite happy thoughts and spell relief for students, has for many become synonymous with confusion and grief. But, perhaps these are just more non-issues, mere figments of my imagination created solely for the purpose of filling space in the Hilltop. Only time will tell fellow Bison, so tune in next week for... Customer service evaluation analysis (A.K.A. "What va'll said").

Kirstyn Fields is a junior finance major from Decatur, GA and the Grievance Coordinator for the Undergraduate Student Assembly. Send comments and questions to her at hugripe@hotmail.com

Letters to the Editor

What's your Opinion?

We encourage our readers to write letters to the editor. Tell us what you think the paper and its contents. We strive to produce a quality biweekly product with the news pages that are devoid of slant or personal bias. Please address all the letters or comments to,

The Hilltop 2251 Sherman Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001

THE HILLTOP

The Student Newspaper of Howard University Since 1924 JASON T. SMITH, Editor-in-Chief

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Now in its 77th year. The Hilliop 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 Hillop is the largest black colleguate newspaper in the nation. The opin expressed on the Editorial Page are the views of the The Hillion Editorial Board and do not directly reflect the opinion of Howard Unversity, its Administration, individual Hilliop Policy Board members, or the student body. The opinions expressed on the Perspective page are those of the writers and do not represent the view of the Editorial Board. The Hilliop encourages you to share your opinion on articles published in the newspaper. The Hilltop Editorial Board reserves she right to edit. Ieners for space and grammatical error 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, commonis and letters can also be sent via email to thehilltop@hotmad.com

Celebration of President's Day

We wrote companion articles three weeks ago: Wimp and Pimp. We appeared naked with an Afro and a Mongolian hat. We ran articles two weeks ago: Poor Planning and Poor Pimp. We appeared with Guinness extra stout and a tie. In the last set of articles we mentioned the President's Day Weekend "Shindig" House Party. We drove into Maryland and bought jugs of wine. We bought sweet exotic fruit and soaked it in liquor. We got the burgundy light bulbs. We got the Twister mats and the baby oil for the VIP room (a.k.a Red Light Special Room). We nixed the bathtub of J-ello. We got the house for the house party. We got the DJ and the records. Come Sunday, Presidents Day Weekend, with no school on Monday, we're set to party.

We got the fliers, which read: "Exclusive President's Day Weekend "Shindig" House Party, 1 DJ + 1 House + 1 Kitchen Full of "Dat Red Sh*t = 1 Off Da-Hook Party, 18 to chill, 21 to spill, Ladies free with invite, Another Alcoholics Anonymous Production, Call 865-*** or 865-*** to R.S.V.P" We got the answering machines with the dope messages. One of us is singing insanely, another one of us has a naturally deep, smooth voice. You may have been handed one. You may have not. If you were: girl, you sure is lookin' good, ya heard? See you on Sunday, Cuz come Sunday, President's Day Weekend, with no school on Monday, we're set to party.

set to party.

Michael Winfield is Editorials Editor of the Hilltop and junior Political Science major/Film minor. Usson Bryant is a junior Computer Science major.



The Hilltop



STRIKE ZONE

Meet SportsWeek's first Bisonette of the Week for the year 2001. See Page A9

ON POINT:

Track your favorite MEAC team at www.meacsports.com. Get the latest stats and news about all the conference teams.

BISON ROUNDUP

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

MEAC BASKETBALL STANDINGS

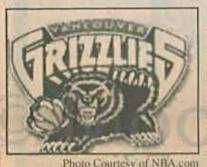
Women's Basketball

	CONFERENCE			OVERALL					
	W-L	Pct.	PF	PA	W-L	Pct	PE	PA	
Howard Univ	11-2	,846	92.4	73.3	14-7	.667	81.4	75.7	
S.C. State	10-3	.769	72.2	67.6	14-7	.667	70.1	66.9	
Florida A&M	10-4	714	72.1	68.3	14-8	.636	68.5	67.3	
Hampton Univ	8-6	.571	76.4	68.4	10-12	.455	76.3	72.1	
Delaware State	8-6	.571	65.2	65.0	10-13	.435	57.8	65.4	
Morgan State	8-6	.571	70.6	71.8	8-14	.364	66.5	73.2	
Norfolk State	6-7	.462	67.2	69.3	10-12	.455	65.5	68.4	
BCC	5-9	.357	67.2	71.4	8-14	.364	68.1	72.6	
Coppin State	5-9	.357	67.7	73.3	7-15	.318	64.3	74.0	
CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE	2-10	.167	51.8	65.7	4-17	.190	53.8	68.0	
N.C. A&T State	1-12	.077	65.5	75.5	3-19	.136	63.0	75.4	

880	min	Bas	bat	hall
IMIG	n s	bas	Ket	nsa

	Met	SDa	Prema	14			
C	CONFERENCE			OVERALL			
W-L	Pct	PF	PA	W-L	Pct.	PF	PA
12-1	.923	72.4	63.5	15-9	.625	66.3	65.2
11-3	.786	79.4	70.3	18-5	.783	77.6	70.5
8-5	.615	74.5	72.0	8-14	.364	72.5	79.0
8-6	.571	65.4	64.3	9-13	.409	62.7	68.1
6-6	.500	70.1	67.4	9-12	.429	67.2	71.1
7-7	.500	66.4	63.6	9-13	.409	62.8	68,5
6-6	.500	67.7	71.9	8-13	.381	64.6	76.3
5-8	.385	69.8	73.8	7-15	.318	70.0	81.5
4-10	.286	60.5	65.9	7-15	318	63.2	68.7
4-10	.286	66.4	74.8	6-16	.273	66.2	80.3
2-11	154	68.8	74.0	3-18	143	67.5	76.5
	W-L 12-1 11-3 8-5 8-6 6-6 7-7 6-6 5-8 4-10 4-10	CONFE W-L Pct 12-1 .923 11-3 .786 8-5 .615 8-6 .571 6-6 .500 7-7 .500 6-6 .500 5-8 .385 4-10 .286 4-10 .286	CONFERENCE W-L Pct. PF 12-1 .923 72.4 11-3 .786 79.4 8-5 .615 74.5 8-6 .571 65.4 6-6 .500 70.1 7-7 .500 66.4 6-6 .500 67.7 5-8 .385 69.8 4-10 .286 60.5 4-10 .286 66.4	CONFERENCE W-L Pct. PF PA 12-1 .923 72.4 63.5 11-3 .786 79.4 70.3 8-5 .615 74.5 72.0 8-6 .571 65.4 64.3 6-6 .500 70.1 67.4 7-7 .500 66.4 63.6 6-6 .500 67.7 71.9 5-8 .385 69.8 73.8 4-10 .286 60.5 65.9 4-10 .286 66.4 74.8	W-L Pct. PF PA W-L 12-1 .923 72.4 63.5 15-9 11-3 .786 79.4 70.3 18-5 8-5 .615 74.5 72.0 8-14 8-6 .571 65.4 64.3 9-13 6-6 .500 70.1 67.4 9-12 7-7 .500 66.4 63.6 9-13 6-6 .500 67.7 71.9 8-13 5-8 .385 69.8 73.8 7-15 4-10 .286 60.5 65.9 7-15 4-10 .286 66.4 74.8 6-16	W-L Pct. PF PA W-L Pct. 12-1 .923 72.4 63.5 15-9 .625 11-3 .786 79.4 70.3 18-5 .783 8-5 .615 74.5 72.0 8-14 .364 8-6 .571 65.4 64.3 9-13 .409 6-6 .500 70.1 67.4 9-12 .429 7-7 .500 66.4 63.6 9-13 .409 6-6 .500 67.7 71.9 8-13 .381 5-8 .385 69.8 73.8 7-15 .318 4-10 .286 60.5 65.9 7-15 .318 4-10 .286 66.4 74.8 6-16 .273	W-L Pct. PF PA W-L Pct. PF 12-1 .923 72.4 63.5 15-9 .625 66.3 11-3 .786 79.4 70.3 18-5 .783 77.6 8-5 .615 74.5 72.0 8-14 .364 72.5 8-6 .571 65.4 64.3 9-13 .409 62.7 6-6 .500 70.1 67.4 9-12 .429 67.2 7-7 .500 66.4 63.6 9-13 .409 62.8 6-6 .500 67.7 71.9 8-13 .381 64.6 5-8 .385 69.8 73.8 7-15 .318 70.0 4-10 .286 60.5 65.9 7-15 .318 63.2 4-10 .286 66.4 74.8 6-16 .273 66.2

SPORTS BRIEFS



GRIZZLIES LOOK TO MIGRATE

The Vancouver Grizzlies, who will lose at least \$40 million this year, were given permission by NBA Commissioner David Stern to explore moving to another city next season. Owner Michael Heisley, a Chicago businessman who paid \$160 million to buy the who gave the "go-ahead" to

begin searching for a new location for the team. St. Louis, New Orleans, Las Vegas, and Nashville, Tenn. have been mentioned as possible destinations for the struggling team. If the franchise wants to move by the start of next season, it would have to submit an application to the NBA by March 1. Should the Grizzlies move, they would be the first NBA franchise to do so since the Kansas City Kings moved to Sacramento in 1985.

IVERSON FINED, HONORED

Two weeks ago, NBA Commissioner David Stern handed Allen Iverson a \$5,000 fine for cursing a belligerent fan in Indiana, the latest incident in the rough-and-tumble career of the six-foot star who commands attention with his always-dazzling play but often dizzying behavior. On Sunday, Stern handed him the MVP trophy for the 50th All-Star Game, capping a "homecoming" weekend that perhaps saw the Philadelphia 76ers' All-Star hit one of the biggest milestones of his young career.

BENNETT BEHIND BARS



Photo Courtesy of NBA.com

Michael Bennett, one of the nation's best running backs last season, was arrested at his apartment building Monday after kicking in a woman's door, police said. The former Wisconsin player - skipping his senior season to turn pro - was released later in the day after his arrest on three charges, including a felony count of criminal intimidation of a victim, criminal damage to property and disorderly conduct, both misdemeanors. Police are still trying to determine what started the dispute between Bennett and a 19-year-old female stu-

dent, who live in the same building but on separate floors, police spokesman Benjamin Vanden Belt said. The 22-yearold running back called the woman several times and then kicked her door, splitting it sideways, but was unable to enter the apartment, Vanden Belt said. Bennett began last season as an unknown commodity, trying to replace Heisman Trophy winner Ron Dayne, But the four-time Big Ten sprint champion ran for 1,598 yards — third best in the nation — and 10 touchdowns in 10 games.

Lady Hornets Turn the Tables



Photo by Mark Coleman Senior guard Chanell Washington and the Lady Bison were upset by Chavonne Stewart and the Delaware State Hornets

Keysha Tiller's Clutch Free Throws Help Bury the Lady Bison

By Tyrone McCandies Hilltop Staff Writer

eysha Tiller hit two critical free throws in the final seconds remaining to lift the Delaware State Lady Hornets (10-13, 8-6 MEAC) to a thrilling 83-81 victory over Howard Monday night in Dover, DE. The defeat snapped a four-game winning streak for the Lady Bison, who held on to the first place spot in the conference but fell to 14-7, 7-2 in the MEAC.

In the first half, the Lady Bison were able to force several Lady Hornet turnovers. Unfortunately for Howard, they could not convert any of them into points. To make matters worse, Andrea Gardner went to the bench early with foul trouble.

With Gardner out of the middle Delaware State, led by the

See LADY BISON, A9

2 MINUTE DRILL

Will Taming of the Terps Mean Berating the Bison?

By BRANDON M. BICKERSTAFF SportsWeek Editor



M SO GLAD I GO TO HOWARD U.

Things are not all smiles for basketball fans at the University of Maryland, and who can blame them? Not only has their men's team been dropping games like they're hot (as if I have room to talk), but a time-honored tradition has been "tossed" in the

After a loss to the Duke Blue Devils on Jan. 27, Maryland fans sought to avenge the defeat by throwing newspapers at members of the opposing team. It seemed fun at the time, and after all, it was tradition, so there shouldn't have been a problem. That is, until some of the Duke players' parents were hit, as well.

Maryland's athletic department, in collaboration with university administration, quickly spanked the petulant students with sanctions restricting the way they watch the game. Needless to say the traditional "Paper Toss" has been banned, but that's not

The athletic department also removed student privileges to 240 seats behind the visiting bench and forced the Mighty Sound of Maryland to remove "Rock and Roll, Part II" (You know, the Heeeeey, you suck!' song) from the band's play list.

I have been one of Howard's rowdiest fans since my descent on the campus in the fall of 1998. I have done it all, from storming the football field after a big win to threatening the lives of MEAC officials during basketball games. It is fans like me, along with those hoodlums who sit in Section 8, that make Burr Gymnasium one of the toughest places for opposing teams to play in.

Can you imagine if Howard decided to restrict its fans in the same way as Maryland? Imagine 240 seats made unavailable to Howard fans in the Burr. That would eliminate a good one-fourth of the seats available in the gym. I can always sit in the press box,

See 2 MINUTE DRILL, A9

Thomas and Keene: Playing their Roles

Interim Athletic Director And Associate Athletic Director Help Hold the Program Together.

By JOI ALEXANDER Hilltop Staff Writer

Monday night in Dover, DE.

As the end of the school year draws near, the student body, President H. Patrick Swygert, student-athletes, coaches, and other University officials are extremely grateful for all the contributions that Acting Athletic Director Sondra Norrell-Thomas and Acting Associate Athletic Director Bill Keene have made.

Last year, several of Howard University's athletic teams were under investigation by both the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) as well as the University. In order to run an infraction-free program University administration felt the need to make some changes.

As acting athletic director, Thomas is not a new face to the University or the athletic department and has been very helpful in rebuilding the Howard University athletic program. Before taking her current position, Thomas was the assistant to Vice President of Student Affairs Raymond Archer.

"It's a great opportunity to have had the chance to hold several positions at this university because they are all learning experiences," said Thomas. "Since coming here in 1964, I started out as an instructor, and just to have the opportunity to move forward into the athletics department makes me very proud."

Keene, former director of housing, has stepped up to assist Thomas in making sure the athletic programs run smoothly.

When Thomas and Keene took their respective positions on June 30, 2000, both had a number of tasks. The two had just a month and a half to handle most of the athletic programs' problems before the student-athletes came back for practice in the fall.

One of the major changes that Thomas emphasized on was each team's budget. In the past, some teams did not have a set amount of money that they could use for recruiting, traveling, and other

Thomas explains, "I met with all of the head coaches, approved all the schedules, and set up budgets for each of the coaches, which had never been done before. Each coach now has their own budget for travel, recruitment, and other miscellaneous (things)."

Along with the set budget for all the athletic teams, Thomas and Keene had to hire several new coaches and staff members so that the program would continue to run smoothly.

See ATHLETICS, A9



Thomas hired just before the beginning of the season.

Sondra Norrell-Thomas pins women's basketball coach Cathy Parson, whom

BISONROUNDUP WAS COMPILED BY JOI C. RIDLEY

FREE THROW

DID YOU KNOW?

GERALD GLOVER (1974-78) LEADS ALL HOWARD UNIVERSI-TY BASKETBALL PLAYERS IN CAREER SCORING WITH 1,712 TOTAL POINTS.

Bison Stung by Delaware State Hornets

Andre' Matthews' 25 Points Help Lift the Hornets to their Third Straight Victory

By ALICIA JOHNSON Hilltop Staff Writer

The Bison took to the road on Feb. 12 looking to snap their four-game losing streak. Andre' Matthews and his Delaware State Hornets (9-13, 8-6 MEAC) had different plans, as they defeated Howard (7-15, 5-8 MEAC) 80-58 to move into fourth place in the MEAC. Matthews scored 25 points and pulled down

six rebounds to lead all scorers.

Delaware State opened with a three-point basket by Sergey Stephanenkov, a junior forward form St. Petersburg, Russia who contributed 17 points and six

Howard kept things close throughout the first half. A layup by Seye Aluko tied the game at 13 early on. Howard again narrowed its deficit to one later in the half, but several scoring droughts allowed the Hornets to open up a 13-point advantage. A tip-in by Bison center Nick Dodson with one minute left brought Delaware State's lead to eleven, and the Bison went into halftime down 39-28.

Howard opened the second half on a 9-2 run led by walk-on guard Sean Blondell. However, the Bison allowed opportunities to gain momentum and take the lead slip through their fingers. The Hornets went on a 1:38 scoring drought. The Bison responded by

going on a 3:58 scoring drought of their own. Missed opportunities such as these allowed Matthews to pick up the slack for Delaware State. Matthews scored 13 of his points in the second half.

Howard never got within seven points in the second half. A jumper by Brandon Calvert with 11 seconds left in the game gave Delaware State their biggest lead of the night.

Jurrell Davis scored all of his10 points in the second half to lead all Howard shooters. Freshman Hekima Jackson contributed nine points in the losing effort. The Bison's shooting woes continued as they shot a dismal 40 percent from the field. The Bison extend their losing streak to five games.

Delaware State avenged a 64-63 loss to the Bison earlier in the season with their highest margin of victory so far this year. The Hornets have won three straight and seven of their last nine games.

Students with Capstone Cards may pick up free tickets for the games:

Feb. 16 - 11am - 7pm - lower level of Blackburn Center Feb. 17 & 19 - Noon - 3:30pm - Cramton

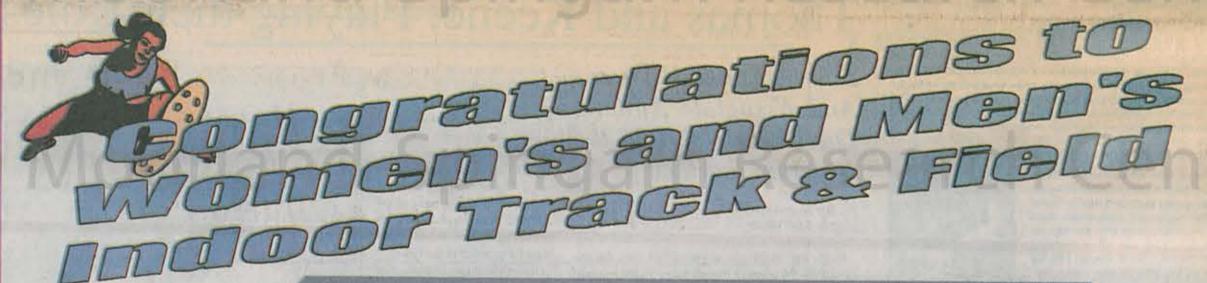
As long as tickets are available

Best wishes to:

Women's and Men's Indoor Track @ George Mason & MEAC Championships Wrestling @ Maryland & James Madison & Duquesne

Women's Bowling @ EPMIBC Baseball @ NC A&T & Mercer

Lacrosee @ Chapel Hill Tennis @ Lehigh & George Washington



QUALIFIERS FOR MEAC CHAMPIONSHIPS

Women's Distance Medley Relay - R. Bethany, A. Franklin, C. Henderson & K. Perkins Men's Distance Medley Relay - R. Anderson, N. Fletcher, K. Foggie & N. Nganga

Women's 55 Meter Dash & 200 Meter - Phakiso Collins

Men's 55 Meter Dash - Jay Colbert, Jamile Jackson & Tariq Mix

Men's 55 Meter Hurdles - Chris Ezell, Bernard Murray & David Oliver

Women's Shot Put - Syreeta Robinson

Men's Long Jump - Lance Gross

Triple Jump - Tilita Lutterloh

Women's 800 Meter & Mile - Maya Cadwell

Women's Mile - Krystal Perkins

Men's 5000 Meters - Troy McArthur & Ngata Nganga

... for VICTORY over:

Franklin & Marshall College (28 to 12)

Division of Student Affairs

Please Note:

Game times for the

Monday, Feb 19

basketball games

vs. Bethune-Cookman

are 2pm and 4pm

February 2001

Will Taming of the Terps Thomas, Keene Play their Role Mean Berating the Bison?

From 2 MINUTE DRILL

but I am sure there are plenty of students who would be pretty upset about having to sit in the aisles throughout the game.

Imagine a game without the Showtime Marching Band chanting, "Man, man, man," every time a member from the opposing women's team steps to the foul line. The band has seen its fair share of censorship in recent years, but frankly, it is the band's bold and blatant actions that help to rattle opposing players.

The one thing that I feel has no place at basketball games is the throwing of objects onto the court either during or after the game. We are all sensible adults and should act accordingly. After all, we are Howard students and we have more class than that. If I wanted to see such actions I would go to North Carolina A&T, where fans have had the audacity to spit on opposing players after games. Hey, I hate Hampton, too, but we can spare the inde-

Before the administration even gets it in their heads that they might want to outlaw some of the behavior at games, I implore that they forget about it. There is just a certain aura that enters the Burr during home games, an aura that leaves opponents shook and empowers our jersey-clad soldiers. To change that would be like cutting Samson's hair; it would sap the strength of the fans as well as the team. In other words, we would look and act more like Hampton Institute fans.

Brandon M. Bickerstaff is a junior print journalism major and SportsWeek Editor

MEAC Academic Team Announced

MEAC Commissioner Charles S. Harris announced today the 2000-2001 Commissioner's All-Academic Award winners from MEAC member institutions. Student-athletes (424 total) who have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better from all sports will be honored and are listed below.

"The large number of student-athletes being honored proves that our member institutions have set a high standard of excellence in their academic programs," said Harris. "I would like to take this opportunity to applaud the student-athletes, coaches and administrators for all of their hard work and dedication."

Howard University had the most athletes honored with 63. They included:

Lamia Alami (WT, 3.70), Natasha Anoka (WB, 3.44), Ramei Bethany (WTR, 3.00), Khalliah Birdsong (VB, 3.66), Christayln Carraway (VB, 3.52), Jennifer Carroll (W-Swin, 3.05), Eric Causey (BB, 3.36), Edwin Chapman (M-Soccer, 3.49), Travis Coleman (FB, 3.00), Denise Corbet (VB, 3.63), Dana Crawford (WTR, 3.46), Chizoba Egbuonu (W-Lacrosse, 3.89), Nicola Fenty (W-Swim, 3.89), James Greer (M-Swim, 3.77), Shyla Hanian (W-Lacrosse, 3.00), Nashunda Harper (VB, 3.68), Douglas Harris (M-Swim, 3.17), Ayodele Harrison (FB, 3.34), Deniella Henrique (W-Lacrosse, 3.76), Jimmy Hernandez (M-Soccer, 3.10), Katrina Hines (W-Soccer, 3.63), Brandon Hogan (W, 3.65), Lillibeth Jones (WB, 3.13), Jamila Jordan (WTR, 3.30), Adrena Kennedy (WTR, 3.47). Salim. King (M-Swim, 3.03), Marguerita Lanaux (W-Lacrosse, 3.06), Tilita Lutherloh (WTR, 3.27), Troy McArthur (MTR, 3.37), Casey McDaniel (W-Lacrosse, 3.39). Shari Madkins (WTR, 3.26), Tariq Mix (MTR, 3.00), Ngozi Monu (W-Swim, 3.82), Shani Moore (WB, 3.56), Reggie Morris (MBB, 3.16), Tinisha Mott (VB, 3.11), Elisha Newsome (W-Lacrosse, 3.76), Ngala Nganga (MTR, 3.19), Olaboyowa Olawoye (M-Soccer, 3.88), Dwayne Pagon (MT, 3.62), Lauran Pruitt (W-Lacrosse, 3.60), Cynae Punch (WTR, 3.31), Hope Rhodes (W-Lacrosse, 3.56), Tania Rhone (WTR, 3.96), Jessamyne Rice (VB, 3.41), Edith Rickett (W-Swim, 3.95), Andrew Ricketts (M-Swim, 3.69), Janique Ricketts (W-Swim, 3.66), Khalid Seleh-Eddine (MT, 3.21), Tiffany Speas (WT, 3.32), Kerri-Anna Steer (W-Swim, 3.25), Jonathan Stokes (MBB, 3.10), Dawn Thomas (VB, 3.29), Adrienne Trice (WTR, 3.61), Casilda Trotter (W-Swim, 3.21), Glen Vinson (FB, 3.28), Ephraim Walker (WTR, 3.41), Robin Webber (VB, 3.52), Delores Whiteing (VB, 3.65), Eric Williams (M-Soccer, 3.02), Polyanna Williams (W-Soccer, 3.50), Danielle Wilson (W-Swim, 3.25), Michael Zipf (MTR, 3.78)

-- Compiled from Staff Reports

Shoes So Fresh, So Clean

From Shoes, A5 golden Response by Addias. Kobe premiered his low-rider footwear at the All-Star game this past Saturday.

Now the moment you've all been waiting for. The "greatest" has returned and frankly folks...he's done it again. Set to debuted Saturday February 17th, the Jordan XVI are

rumored to be the cream of the crop. Estimated around \$150, this is a must have for all the ballers out there.

Whatever your style, personality, or budget, there is a sneaker out there for you. So there is no excuse why this spring your kicks can't be So fresh & So clean.

From ATHLETICS

tinue to run smoothly.

The two were instrumental in the hiring of Coach Cathy Parson to head the women's basketball program. Thomas also hired Romanda Noble as assistant sports information director to help Sports Information Director Ed Hill with compiling statistics, designing media guides, and designing program

"I created a position, which was an assistant sports information director, and hired a female in that position," said Thomas. "I am very grateful because we now have two full-time people in that position to help out in the Sports

Along with hiring new people on the athletic side of things, Thomas hired Tewon Stephens as assistant athletic academic advisor to Sharon Fletcher. Fletcher believes that Thomas and Keene did the right thing by hiring addi-

"With the 20 varsity sports on campus, I am certainly happy that Mr. Stephens was hired to assist me," said Fletcher. "I know Mr. Stephens is going to be a valuable asset to Howard University athletics."

Thomas and Keene have shown the University, student-athletes, coaches and President Swygert that they are here to run a "clean and competitive program." However, Thomas' future as possibly becoming the permanent athletic director is still unknown, even to her.

"I would not be able to answer at this time because there are a lot of factors that go into that position and I believe there is a lot of things that need to be answered before making that decision," said Thomas.

Keene, on the other hand, believes that he does not have enough experience in the athletics department. However, he has enjoyed helping and making sure the athletic program runs smoothly.

"I would personally feel more comfortable if someone with more experience was hired for this position," said Keene.

Lady Hornets Turn the Tables

From LADY BISON

trio of Tiller, Chavonne Stewart and Ashley Etheridge, outscored Howard 10-0 in fast-break points. Essence Coggins' eight points and five steals in the first half, along with Howard's defensive press, kept the Lady Bison in the ballgame, as they ended the half leading 34-32. The Bison women shot 36 percent from the field in the first half, while Delaware State shot 50 per-

In the second half Delaware State found an answer for the Lady Bison's pressing attack. After coughing it up 17 times in the first half, the Lady Hornets begin to take better care of the ball, enabling Delaware State to convert easy layups and get good looks at the basket.

Stewart would benefit the most from the fatigue of a depleted Lady Bison team, a squad with only eight active players. Stewart cut and darted her way to a game-high 29 points. No team led by more than four points in the sec-

Coggins led the attack for the Bison in the second half, finishing with 23 points and 10 assists. Howard, behind 58 percent field goal shooting, took an 81-77 lead on an Asia Petty three-pointer with a minute and a half remaining in the ballgame. That was when the lights went out on the Lady Bison.

Consecutive layups by Etheridge and Stewart tied the game at 81 with 32 seconds on the clock. Then the Delaware State defense stiffened and kept Chanell Washington from getting a good look at the basket. Washington would then foul Tiller, setting her up for her late-game heroics.

Delaware State shot a blistering 78 percent in the second half to snatch away the victory. Stewart had 10 assists to go with her 29 points. Tiller finished with 16, while Etheridge added 18.

In a losing effort for Howard, Coggins was followed by Andrea Gardner with 17 points and eight rebounds. Washington had 13 points and Petty

The Lady Hornets improved to 10-13 overall and 8-6 in the MEAC. The Lady Bison held on to first place, but fall to 14-7 and 11-2 in the MEAC. The Lady Bison will return to the Burr Gymnasium to face red-hot rival Florida A&M tomorrow at 2 p.m.

Bisonette of the Week

Monica Franklin, Captain

Age: 21

Sign: Cancer

Classification: Senior

Major: Psychology

Hometown: Birmingham, AL



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Calendar what's going on in dc???? February 16th -February 22nd

Don't forget to catch Chris Rock's new movie!

Friday, 16th

At the movies: Chris Rock stars in "Down to Earth," a remake of Warren Beatty's "Heaven Can Wait," in which Rock plays a comedian who dies, can't get into Heaven due to lack of space and gets sent back to Earth in the body of a rich white guy. Check local listings for theaters and showtimes.

Have coffee and poetry at the HU Bookstore from 5pm to 7pm. The D.C. Area Writing Project is sponsoring another poetry reading and all are welcome to share their lyrics, narratives, spoken word, etc. at the open mike. For information, call 202-806-7524.

Joe Torry, former host of HBO's "Def Comedy Jam," performs live at Jokes On Us Comedy Club, 312 Main Street, Laurel (Md.) at 8:30pm and 10:45pm. Tickets are \$20. For information, call 301-490-1993.

Monday, 19th

Go Bison! The Women's and Men's Basketball Teams compete against Bethune Cookman at 6pm and 8pm in the 'Burr,' 2400 Sixth Street, NW. Non-student tickets are \$6 - \$10.

Come and learn about African Americans honored on U.S. postage stamps Postal portrait cards and other materials commemorating well-known African Americans at the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum, 2 Massachusetts Ave. NE in the Benjamin Franklin Foyer. FREE! For information, call 202-357-2700.

Saturday, 17th

The Bison and Lady Bison take on the men and women of Florida A& M at 2pm and 4pm in Burr Gymnasium, 2400 Sixth Street NW. Non-student tickets are \$6 to \$10.

At the Black History Invitational Swim Meet, teams from more than 20 cities throughout the country will compete in the largest African American meet held in the United States. The meet is being held at Capital East Natatorium, 635 North Carolina Ave. SE and is \$2.50 per event; \$5 per relay. For information, call 202-727-1000.

Sunday, 18th

The "Freedom to Play" exhibit, at Union Station, 50 Massachusetts Ave. NE, includes memorabilia from the Basketball Hall of Fame, plus other exhibits courtesy of the Washington Mystics and the MCI National Sports Gallery. For information, call 800-872-7245.

"Blackface," David Levinthal's controversial series of images featuring large-scale close-ups of African American Americana collectibles is on display at Conner Contemporary Art, 1730 Connecticut Ave. For information, call 202-588-8750.

Tuesday, 20th

It's a swap meet! Swap songs tonight from 7pm to 9pm with the Songwriters Association of Washington at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2306 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria (Va.). This small gathering of dedicated area wordsmiths meets monthly to share songs and solicit constructive criticism from peers. Attendees are encouraged to print their lyrics and bring enough copies for 10 people. A cassette player will be on hand to playback scratch or demo tapes, but lyrics can be read without accompaniment. All genres of music are welcome and it's FREE. For information, call 703-739-9268.

Wednesday, 21st

Dead Cat Bounce? Sounds ridiculous—but this is a production that draws on the rhythms of the Caribbean, the Deep South, Brazil, Eastern Europe and Detroit. Enjoy the show at the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage, 2700 F St. NW, at 6pm. It's FREE. For information, call 202-467-4600.

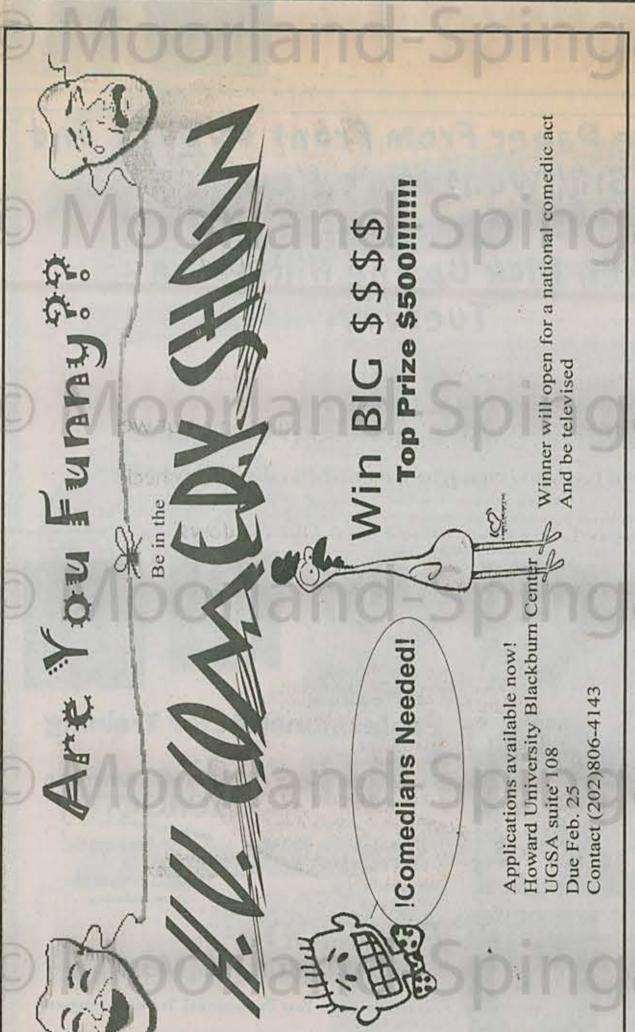
Put Your Event In the Calendar Call Ginger @ 202.806.6866

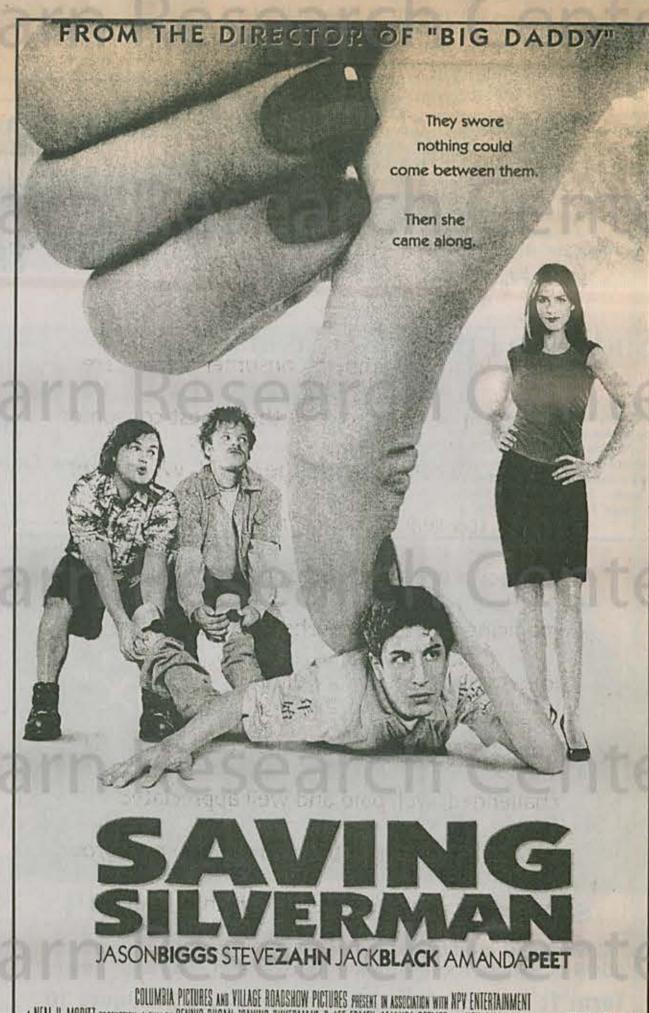
hilltop_art@yahoo.com

Thursday, 22nd

Take a glimpse at the African sky as staff astronomer Sean O'Brien, of the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum, Seventh St. and Independence Ave. SW, takes a look at a number of constellations and their interpretation according to African skylore, starting at 12:20pm. For information, call 202-357-2700. It's FREE.

Light up Black Broadway and relive the glory days of the U Street area, when it was a primary center of African American entertainment, tonight starting at 7:30pm at Republic Gardens, 1355 U St. NW. Tickets are \$20-\$25. For information, call 202-232-2710.





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Hilltopics

All HILLTOPICS are due, paid in full, the Tuesday before publication date. Announcements by campus organizations for meetings, seminars or nonprofit are charged as individuals advertising for the purpose of announcing a service, buying or selling are charged \$5 for the first 20 words and \$1 for every additional five words. Local companies are charged \$10 for first 20 words and \$2 for every 5 words thereafter. Personal ads are \$2 for the first 10 words and \$1 for every additional 5 words.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Applications can be picked up at the
Office of Financial Aid, Blackburn
Center Information Desk, or Founders
Library. Application Deadline is
February 23, 2001.

The sisters of Eta Delta chapter, Tau Beta Sigma invites you to join us in our Founders Week Celebration, Through Beauty & Sound Call to Chapel 10:46 PM "Sisters Day at the Game" HU vs. BCC 2/20 Beauty Seminar Blackburn Reading Lounge /:46 PM "I Wanna Write Right Now" (Music Writing Seminar) Blackburn, Room 148 7:46 PM "Say What Karoake" Blackburn Forum 7:46 PM Tau Beta Sigma Recital

THE ANNUAL
HOWARD UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY
Student Council
Dental Health Fair
Clinical Dentistry
600 "W" Street, N.W.
Saturday February 24, 2001
9:00 A.M.- 3:00 P.M

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1. Free teeth cleaning for adults and children.

2. Instructions in oral hygiene will be given.

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information exchange session to hear and answer your questions about a career in dentistry; an educational tour of the Dental School, and a closing reception for your

enjoyment. If you are interested in attending this opportunity of a ifetime, please contact David Alvaranga at (202) 265-7626 or email Ivory Handcock at 2481@email.msn.com. We look forward to seeing you on February 21st.

Thank You.

HOWARD UNIVERSITY STUDENT ALUMNI GROUP "Connecting Leaders of Today With Future Leaders of Tomorrow"

February 21, 2001
*Alumni Profile I:
"Alumni in Business"
Gallery Lounge 5:30p.m

March 6, 2001
*Professional Development Workshop
Blackburn Center-West Ballroom
11:30 a.m

March 28, 2001
*Alumni Profile II:
"Alumni in the Media"
Gallery Lounge 5:30 p.m.

April 18, 2001

*Alumni Profile III:

"Alumni in Sports"

Gallery Lounge 5:30 p.m.

*An RSVP is required For more information or to RSVP, please contact (202) 806-5857

Calling All Entrepreneurs!

The Howard University Entrepreneurial
Society requests your presence at our
weekly meeting! Meetings are held every
Tuesday @ 5:00 in the School of
Business, room 218.
All majors welcome!

2/21 "I Wanna Write Right Now"
(Music Writing Seminar)

Blackburn, Room 148 7:46 PM
2/22 "Say What Karoake"

Blackburn Forum 7:46 PM
2/23 Tau Beta Sigma Recital
Blackburn Hilltop Lounge 7:46 PM
THE ANNUAL

Are you interested in what it really takes to work for a magazine? Or are you curious about event planning? Maybe you would like to know how to start your own business? Or perhaps you're even wondering whether or not its possible to be an executive, wife and mother...Check out the Women in Business Conference....

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"Starlights" with Mike Wesson addresses

the latest dish in the entertainment industry on Tuesdays & Thursdays at 10:30 pm
(mjwesson@hotmail.com)
"Soul Talk" with Jamie Walker discusses
relationship issues and matters of the soul
on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm
(howardsoultalk@yahoo.com)
"Legal Ease" with Rachman Ford
addresses major legal cases on Thursdays
at 7:30 pm

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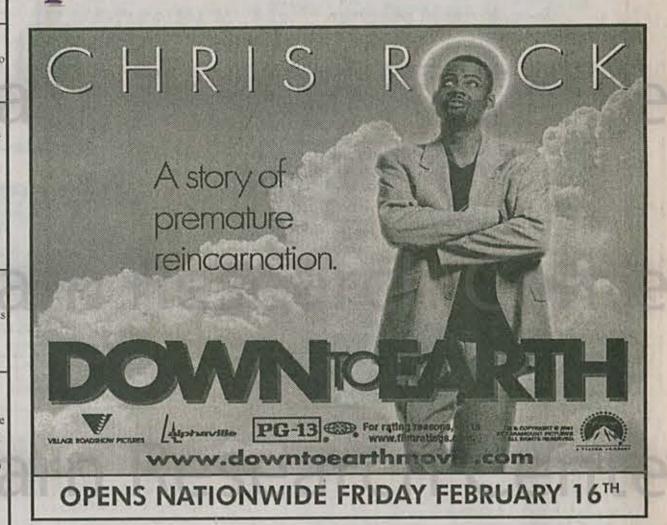
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