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THE HILLTOP

The Student Voice of Howard University



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General Assembly Approves HUSA Budget

By KERRY ANN HAMILTON
Hilltop Staff Writer

The 2001-2002 HUSA administration should have a easier time getting started now that the General Assembly approved its budget Thursday.

The \$103,090 budget passed the General Assembly without much debate, leaving HUSA President-Elect Stephanie Brown relieved by the prompt approval.

"This is a big step in the right direction, so we can begin to work without budgetary problems which

plagued other administrations," Dixon said.

Minor items to the budget were adjusted by the General Assembly. Brown's budget authorized \$1500 for summer housing, the assembly recommended \$750 for the fee.

The Assembly also added an extra \$750 each in stipend assistance for staff members. The increase totaled about \$3000. It will be reallocated to other budget sections.

Chief of Staff for next year's HUSA administration, Kenrya Rankin was happy with the budget's approval. Rankin said she thought

the budget was approved without much hassle because they did careful research of this year's staff.

"The incoming administration will not have any programming or financial setbacks due to General Assembly apathy," current HUSA Vice President, Nikkole Salter said.

Assembly members questioned allocations for the Bison Ball, the Youth Summit, and stipends. "I think Brown and Dixon fielded questions very well, they well poised and informed about their allocations, I did not agree on some allocations, but their rationale was sound," said

Michael Winston, current graduate trustee.

The present HUSA budget allocation for the Bison ball was approximately \$9,600. That was an underestimated sum. The total cost was approximately \$13,000. The incoming HUSA administration proposed a \$13,000 budget allocation for the Ball, which faced questions from the Assembly. "We made this allocation so that we would have enough money to work with to avoid constantly asking the body for more money, as was the case this year due to the underestimate approved by

the Assembly," Brown said.

Winston said that there are too many paid positions in student government. However, President elect Brown said she saw the need for students to be compensated. "Students are willing to dedicate their time to student government and because so much is required of them we recognize the need to be monetarily rewarded for their work," Brown said.

The General Assembly will have an emergency meeting, April 17, to approve the HUSA 2001-2001 staff positions.



File Photo
HUSA President-elect Stephanie Brown

MIT Will Offer All Courses Online

By KATE L. RAKOCZY
Harvard Crimson

(U-WIRE) CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — MIT announced Wednesday it intends to make materials for nearly all its courses available through the Internet to the general public — at no charge.

The 10-year project, dubbed the MIT OpenCourseWare (OCW), is a radical new step in Internet policy among institutions of higher learning. For most colleges and universities, course Web sites are currently the extent of their use of the Internet for the dissemination of academic materials. A handful of others are involved in developing the technology for distance learning programs.

And MIT's project goes far beyond the scope of most distance learning programs — none of which are offering full courses to the general public without a fee.

The project will feature lecture notes, course outlines, reading lists and assignments for each of MIT's nearly 2,000 courses.

Harvard Provost Harvey V. Fineberg '67 said the University will have to weigh its options carefully before deciding whether to follow MIT's course of action.

"Every university, including Harvard, will need to make decisions about the type, form and extent of information it places on the Internet," he wrote in an e-mail.

Wednesday's press release emphasized the enormous impact MIT hopes the initiative will have on would-be students around the world. In addition to inspiring self-study by interested individuals, OCW may help developing nations build their own systems of higher education, starting with the MIT curriculum as a model.

MIT also stressed the potential OCW has to open the dialogue on education by fostering an environment in which curricula can be more easily discussed and compared.

"We see it as a source material that will support education worldwide, including innovations in the process of teaching and learning itself," said MIT President Charles M. Vest in a statement.

The project is not without its critics. One response to the initiative has been that increasing access to materials offered by MIT courses will decrease the value of an MIT education.

"I hear that as a potential concern," said

Please See MIT, A2



Blossoms in the Basin

If it's spring it must be time for the annual Cherry Blossom Festival, which wrapped up this weekend. Yesterday was a prime time to visit the Tidal Basin where the more than 3,000 Japanese cherry trees.



Photos By Ira Porter

U. Penn Relies On Tuition More Than Ivy League Peers

By TRISTAN SCHWEIGER
Daily Pennsylvanian

(U-WIRE) PHILADELPHIA — A large chunk of the University of Pennsylvania's recent 4.9 percent tuition increase will go towards the school's operating budget, a transfer of funds that differs in size from the majority of its Ivy League peers.

Schools like Harvard and Princeton universities look instead to their skyrocketing endowments to finance their operating budgets — a luxury that Penn does not have with its comparatively small \$3.2 billion endowment that posted losses in Fiscal Year 2000.

Two weeks ago, the University Board of Trustees approved the highest rate increase in the Ivy League for the upcoming academic year.

While administrators maintain that Penn's five-year average tuition hike — which stands at around 3.9 percent — is moderate compared to its peer groups, University tuition nonetheless makes up almost a third of the operating budget.

But at several of Penn's Ivy peer institutions, tuition makes up less than 20 percent of the budget.

According to the numbers from FY 2000, 29 percent of Penn's operating budget — excluding the Health System — is financed by tuition.

Brown and Northwestern universities both rank higher, with tuition respectively accounting for 33 percent and 32 percent of their operating budgets.

However, Dartmouth College, Stanford University, Harvard, Princeton and Duke University all have budgets much less dependent on student tuition than Penn, relying instead on endowments that have seen success in the past few years.

Princeton, Dartmouth and Harvard, by these endowments, also recently announced significant changes to their financial aid systems to reduce the fiscal burden on undergraduates.

But Vice President for Budget and Management Analysis Michael Masch said that Penn is in the middle of its peer group in terms of its financial dependence on tuition.

Masch added that schools like Harvard, Princeton and Yale University, which have very large endowments, cannot be compared with the rest of the Ivy League.

"Harvard, Yale and Princeton are different from everybody else," he said.

In general, the schools that are less dependent on tuition than Penn generate much more revenue from their endowments. Princeton, for instance, which derives 14 percent of its operating budget from student fees, finances 34 percent of its operating budget from endowments.

Please See Penn, A2

The Hilltop Tuesday

Campus

Howard will host the Christian Leadership Conference April 19-21.

A2

News

The Reparations debate hit campus and students spoke out about it. Check it out in News.

A3



Engage

Howard Student publishes his own book of poems. Catch an upclose interview with Droopy.

A5

CAMPUS

Voices & Views

Will You Donate Money To Howard After Graduation?



"I intend to. I think it is important to give back."

—Michelle Johnson
Senior
Biology major



"Most definitely. I feel that attending the University I'm obligated to give back. To attend Howard University is such a great opportunity and I would want my contributions to benefit other students throughout the year."

—Marsha Nivins
Junior
Business Management major



"Probably. I might give back to Howard or sponsor a scholarship so that the students will more opportunities."

—Leland Walcott
Senior
Electrical Engineering major



"I'll definitely donate back to the University; time wise. I just want to have people stay focused on what they came here for and keep high morality and responsibility."

—De' Shawn Nelson
Senior
Psychology major

—Compiled by Shala Wilson

Restrictions On Book Costs Differ Nationwide

By DEBORAH HIRSCH
Daily Northwestern (Northwestern U.)

(U-WIRE) EVANSTON, Ill.—Cost of 11 books: more than \$200. Cost of two course packets: about \$100. Total expense of one course at Northwestern University: pricey.

"I literally couldn't carry the books in two bags," Music senior Dove Burns said about buying textbooks for her Survey of African-American Music course last spring. "You're paying thousands of dollars to go to a university, then to pay \$300 for books for one class is a little outrageous."

Many students have similar complaints about how much textbooks cost. And despite the help of some professors, those who want to save their cash must research the different local bookstores and online services to find discounts. A few universities go

Campus U.S.A. Northwestern University

a step further, employing rental services to mitigate high price tags.

Textbooks are expensive because prices are set by publishers and other costs involved with buying rights, paying authors and marketing increase the cost, said Stuart Lundquist, manager of Student Book Exchange.

"Sometimes (prices) are completely outrageous, but if you asked publishing companies, they would say, 'How can you put a price on this kind of knowledge?'" Lundquist said. "A book as an object isn't that expensive, but when you consider the knowledge contained within it, you can't compare cost."

At NU there are no official stan-

dards associated with textbook purchases or authority over which books are ordered and how many are required for each class, said Jeremy Boni, manager of the textbook department at Norris Bookstore, owned by Barnes & Noble, Inc.

"Some professors order 17 to 20 books for one class," Boni said. "There's no limitation whatsoever."

Establishing standards for textbook purchases would restrict professors' discretion too much, said Steve Fisher, associate provost for undergraduate education.

"It strikes me as somewhat artificial for the university to say, 'You get \$100 worth of books,'" Fisher said. "The faculty members of each course know which books are best for that course."

But without any restrictions, the costs for students can add up. Black Women's Writing, a graduate course in African-American

Studies taught last quarter, required 16 books at a total cost of more than \$200. This quarter Prof. Gary Fine's Collective Memory course required 10 books costing about \$230 altogether. Classes in literature, sociology and African-American Studies tend to have the most books, Boni said.

As an alternative to buying expensive texts, the University Library's course reserve system allows all students an equal opportunity to use textbooks for free, Fisher said. But he also acknowledged that textbooks costs are a problem for most students, especially those on financial aid. "I don't know how to solve that issue," Fisher said. "I don't know (of a) better system."

While costs pile up, independent bookstores, chain vendors and Internet services battle to tap into students' pinched pockets. But even in this technological age, local bookstore managers said

most competition comes from other bookstores.

Textbooks are very important for business at independently owned Great Expectations, making up about 50 percent of all sales, manager Marc Giordano said. Although the bookstore does not deal with used books or competitive pricing like SBX, Giordano said some professors specifically order from Great Expectations "because they want to support a bookstore instead of an industry."

English lecturer Bill Savage orders books from Great Expectations to support "intellectual sustenance" even though prices might be lower at a chain store.

"Great Expectations is high quality food for the mind," Savage said. "SBX is quick and cheap, equivalent to Burger King or McDonalds. If places like Great Expectations go out of business, superstores will take over the world."



Photo By Jason T. Smith
Students danced the night away at the Bison Ball Friday night. Sponsored by HUSA, students say the event gave them a chance to hookup with old friends.

Howard to Host HBCU Christian Leadership Conference

By KELLIE CARTER
Hilltop Staff Writer

Howard will be the site of the first Historically Black College Leadership Christian Leadership Conference: "Commissioned to Conquer," April, 19 through April 21.

The summit, sponsored by the Ambassadors for Christ, will feature a series of programs that include "empowerment" and "encouraging a new nation of leaders." The root of the lectures stem from Acts 1:8, organizers said.

Students from all over the globe plan on attending the event, organizers say. "I am so excited for the Commissioned to Conquer conference," said Lennon Parsons Jr., a junior at North Carolina A&T. "I know that it's going to be off the hook." Ambassadors for Christ have raised over \$50,000 for the conference.

Guest speakers include from

Kenneth C. Ulmer of California, Howard's Dr. Debyii Thomas, Pastor Sheldon McCarter of North Carolina, Pastor Harvey Carey of Chicago, and Congressman Elijah Cummings. Entertainers for the event include John P. Kee and the New Life Community Choir and Cavé.

"What blesses me most about Commissioned to Conquer is that it was planned completely by students, from letter writing to fundraising," said Safia Mohamoud co-chair for the conference. "It is only by the grace of God and through the Lord's strength that we are able to maintain this balance."

Tickets for the conference's step show and "praise fest" are available at Cramton Auditorium. The workshops for Howard University students for free. Registration information can be obtained by calling the conference hotline at (202) 777-2642 ext. 8638.



Photo Courtesy Ambassadors for Christ
After more than six months of planning the Ambassadors for Christ say they have prepared a conference that will "empower" students.

University of Pennsylvania Relying Heavily on Tuition

From A1
Penn, on the other hand, finances only 8 percent of its budget with income from endowment. Princeton's endowment measures more than twice Penn's, checking in at over \$8 billion for FY 2000.

School of Arts and Sciences Dean Samuel Preston said that there is a definite correlation between the size of a school's endowment and the amount on which it is dependent upon tuition.

"The schools that have a high-

er endowment have a higher percentage of their income from endowment," Preston said. "Obviously, we would like the percentage of term expenses that come from endowment to decrease."

And Vice President for Finance Craig Carnaroli said that Penn would do well to increase the amount of income derived from endowment, especially considering so much of Penn's endowment is restricted.

"Because two-thirds of the endowment is restricted, what we

would benefit from is having more of the operating budget from unrestricted endowment," Carnaroli said.

Masch agreed that Penn needs to look at diversifying revenue sources but noted that making Penn less dependent on tuition will not happen quickly.

"The goal always is to diversify revenue sources," Masch said, but then added, "None of these strategies [for diversifying sources of income] can change things overnight."

Masch also said that schools

that are less dependent on tuition than Penn have generally been in existence longer.

"The institutions that have the greatest diversity for revenue, they're in better shape than us," he said. "They [specifically Harvard, Princeton and Yale] have been doing it for a century longer than us."

Currently, Penn's operating budget sits at \$844 million dollars - the equivalent of more than a third of its \$3.2 billion endowment.

The biggest portion of Penn's

expenses is accounted for by salaries and benefits for faculty and staff. Collectively, these comprise 46 percent of Penn's expenses.

In FY 2000, Penn's endowment lost 1.8 percent due largely to a value bias while schools such as Princeton and Harvard saw their endowments shoot up after heavy investments in technology stocks and venture capital.

Fineberg would not say whether the Harvard administration would approve of a program like MIT's initiative. Last year, Harvard turned down an offer to join a distance learning alliance among Princeton, Yale, Stanford and Oxford.

"Harvard hasn't decided to jump on the distance learning bandwagon, but clearly MIT hasn't either," Mazur said.

From MIT, A1

MIT spokesperson Patti Richards, "but this is not meant to replace a MIT education."

Richards pointed out that the experience of being in the classroom, listening to lectures and interacting with one's peers, cannot be duplicated over the Web. Furthermore, MIT will not offer any form of academic credit as part of OCV.

Other critics noted the legal complications that may arise with the distribution of copyrighted materials and intellectual property. But MIT has said the same policies

currently followed by its faculty when dealing with these issues will apply to the Web courses as well.

Despite some criticisms, Richards said the response to the initiative has been overwhelmingly enthusiastic.

"We made the announcement only this morning and already I have received so many e-mails from people all over the world thanking me — they're really touching — saying this is the most wonderful news in the world and asking, 'Where can I make a tax-deductible contribution?'" she said.

The response at Harvard has been equally positive. Harvard faculty members have previously expressed interest in using the Internet to disseminate the academic resources Harvard has to offer, and many said they are intrigued by the promise of MIT program.

"I think it's phenomenal," said McKay Professor of Applied Physics Eric Mazur. "If you look at my own course Web site, I've always insisted on making it available to everyone. I think this is really the way to go. I'm just saddened that we didn't do it before them."

NEWS

Reparations Debate Reaches Campus

By CHANEL VESTAL
News Editor

African Americans have been living in the shadows of slavery for generations. Even after the federal government abolished slavery in 1867 many Black people living in the United States still suffer from the residual effects of this horrible institution. The idea of reparations has been discussed for generations.

Howard University's Blackburn center hosted a forum on reparations sponsored by the Carnegie Council of Ethics and International Affairs last Tuesday. A panel of distinguished politicians and scholars gave informative speeches and fielded questions from the students and staff that attended. The panel included Andrew Walls, professor at Morehouse College, Dr. Ricardo Laremont, distin-

guished author and lecturer Congressmen John Conyers, Robert Fullinwider, University of Maryland Professor and South African Human Rights Advocate, Fikile Mazibuko, and educator Lili Cole.

The conference comes on the heels of the controversial legislative introduced by Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.) to set up a commission that would examine the impact of slavery and the feasibility of reparations. The fact that Blacks still remain one of the countries poorest ethnic groups and make up the majority of those in the prison system fuels the debate that the residual effects of slavery are still felt by African Americans.

An article published by David Horowitz opposing the idea that Blacks deserve reparations for slavery is one of the most cited pieces of research in opposition to the reparations argument. Horowitz, a columnist for Front Page Magazine stat-

ed, "If the reparations idea continues to gain traction, its most obvious effect will be to intensify ethnic antagonisms and generate new levels of racial resentment. It will further alienate African-Americans from their American roots and further isolate them from all of America's other communities (including whites), who are themselves blameless in the grievance of slavery, who cannot be held culpable for racial segregation."

Few students were in attendance for the thought provoking panel discussion, but many social, political and racial issues were discussed. Dr. Ricardo Laremont discussed the issue of reparations of other ethnic groups around the world. Jewish victims of the holocaust received reparations from the German Government.

Much of the financial support from war torn Germany was provided by the United States in order to pay for the repara-

tions, but yet the US government has remained silent on the issue of reparations for Blacks. Japanese Americans received reparations from the United States government in 1988 in the amount of 1.6 billion dollars for the unfair internment of 120,000 Japanese during WWII.

According to Laremont, African Americans need to make the fight for reparations "an American Thing. Not just an African American Thing."

South African Blacks have received reparations from the South African Government. The family members of individuals who were killed by the oppressive apartheid government received reparations. According to Fikile Mazibuko reparations were "not a punitive process, but to make up for human rights violations and involved compensation for loss of life and material," said Mazibuko.

Horowitz Denies Need For Slave Reparations at MIT Debate

By CAMBERLY M. CRICK
Harvard Crimson

(U-WIRE) CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — David Horowitz continued his crusade against slavery reparations for African-Americans in a debate at MIT last night against Dorothy Lewis, co-chair of the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America.

Horowitz has attracted significant media attention in recent weeks because of an advertisement he submitted to college newspapers across the country listing 10 points against reparations for descendants of African slaves in America. Many papers — including The Crimson — said the advertisement was unnecessarily inflammatory and chose to reject it.

Falling on the anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination 33 years ago, last night's debate aimed to discuss the validity of such reparations.

The bearded and bespectacled Horowitz said he did not support reparations

Campus U.S.A.
Harvard University

because they would not go to the victims of slavery themselves.

"These slaves are dead. Their children are dead. There's no one to pay the reparations to," he said.

Lewis responded to Horowitz's argument by citing the precedent of reparations made to victims of Japanese internment camps, as well as U.S. aid to Israel.

"Where is the aid for the ... Africans who lost their lives in the African Holocaust?" she asked.

Lewis said that apologies were not enough, stating the need to study and quantify the damage in the present caused by the loss of "the wealth that's created and passed down from generation to generation."

"Charity and school vouchers would be unnecessary with reparations," she said.

Aside from giving new life to an old debate over reparations, the recent controversy sparked by Horowitz's views has led many to question the role of political correctness in America.

Horowitz said the current climate for debate about race was akin to "racial McCarthyism," where politically incorrect views were met with smear tactics and other attempts to suppress debate rather than foster open discussion.

"Not one college paper in the entire country has printed 10 points refuting my 10 points," he said.

In contrast to the overflowing and unruly crowd Horowitz encountered at his address at Boston University last Monday, the roughly 150 students in attendance last night were calm and courteous, remaining seated throughout the moderated debate.

The speakers made opening remarks, followed by a series of tightly timed rebuttals. Questions from the audience were not accepted directly, but had to be written on note cards and passed to the

front for consideration.

Some students said they felt the debate format did not give them the opportunity to approach Horowitz directly.

"I wanted to talk to him afterwards, but they just airlifted him out of here," said Geno White, an MIT senior.

Several other students said they felt the views of both speakers were rather extreme.

"The debate had its accuracies and inaccuracies on both sides, but it did serve its purpose of giving people information to go home and form their own opinions," said Ebraheem Fontaine, a junior at MIT.

Sponsors of the event included the MIT College Republicans and The Tech, MIT's student newspaper, which refused to print Horowitz's controversial ad when approached last spring.

"What's important is that people continue to talk about this issue," said Huanne Thomas, business manager of The Tech. "There is a difference between printing an ad that is so offensive and sponsoring a forum for debate."

Mayor Wants U.Md, State, County to Pay Damages

By FRANCINE GREENBERG
The Diamondback

(U-WIRE) COLLEGE PARK, Md. — College Park Mayor Michael Jacobs said the state, the county and the University of Maryland should pay for destroyed property in the aftermath of the Final Four basketball game Saturday night and asked the state to "commission an independent examination" of the post-game events in a letter sent to the governor Tuesday.

Jacobs is asking the state to make recommendations about how to avoid similar incidents in the future. City Manager Richard Conti said the goal of the letter was "to get the attention of the state so we can move forward in changing the dysfunctional behavior of students. If the behavior changes, the problems go away."

Michelle Byrne, press secretary for Gov. Parris N. Glendening, said both investigating the situation and paying for the damages are local responsibilities and the state will be offering no funds.

City council members were outraged over Saturday night's events at a packed meeting Tuesday night, where they met with members of University and Prince George's County Police departments.

Gerald Wilson, chief of the Bureau of Patrol in P.G. County, said officers did not anticipate the post-game events would spill over into the community because they used the Terrapin's win

Campus U.S.A.
University of Maryland

over Duke Feb. 27 as a model for what to expect. After that game, student activities were contained mostly within Fraternity Row.

Councilman Peter King told police they need to recognize their response was "wholly inadequate within the community." He noted that fire personnel did not feel safe because they did not have appropriate protection, and emergency technicians had trouble getting to a student who was not breathing.

King also told police they "didn't have the understanding you needed to have in your contingency planning." He said "plans for rioting" were widely discussed and available before the game even began, citing student quotes on the Web site Terpldiots.com.

"These people and this Web site need to be looked at as a source of information," King told police. "Students planned the fires early on. [The police] seem to be the only ones who didn't know. There was plenty of information out there in advance so you could do the response planning that needed to be done."

Many council members expressed frustration that no arrests were made Satur-

day night. P.G. Police Maj. Roberto Hilton told council members they could not arrest anyone they did not personally see destroy property, but they are using county and University Police videotapes to identify students. News station videotapes are also being requested.

Officers also presented 22 pictures of individuals destroying property and said they are among the targets of the investigation.

Conti said Theta Chi fraternity has been placed on suspension for 30 days and will be in danger of losing its charter after some of its members were quoted in The Washington Post saying they were celebrating the event whether the Terps won or lost.

Councilman Mark Shroder advocated expelling students caught on videotape. University Police Chief Kenneth Krouse said some cases will be referred to the Office of Judicial Programs, after which the expulsion of students would be a possibility.

George Cathcart, campus spokesman, said although the campus will work with P.G. County Police to identify those who were engaging in criminal activity, any people involved in the events that took place off-campus, such as on Knox Road,

would not be under the jurisdiction of Judicial Programs.

Councilman Donald Byrd said he was not only dissatisfied with the students' reaction and police response, but with campus President C.D. Mote Jr. as well.

"I am appalled that President Mote could not take the time to apologize to the city and its residents," he said. "It is a disgrace and I think he should publicly apologize on television to all of us."

Mote sent a letter to Jacobs yesterday apologizing for Saturday's post-game events.

WORLD BRIEFS

Asia

China Crewmembers of the U.S. Navy EP-3E are entering their second week of captivity on Hainan Island in the South China Sea. They landed there after a mid-air collision April 1 with a Chinese fighter jet. According to the Associated Press, The EP-3E was monitoring military radio, radar and other signals when it collided with one of two Chinese fighter jets sent to track it. Secretary of State Colin Powell addressed the nation on CNN Friday, stating that an end to the Chinese/American Conflict will soon come to an end. The Chinese permitted U.S. diplomats to meet with eight crewmembers Sunday.

USA

Jackson Sixty-six percent of Mississippians surveyed favored keeping the old flag. More than half the blacks surveyed said they want a flag with the Confederate emblem removed, but almost three in 10 said they did not. Four of five whites said they favored the current flag while one in 10 wanted to change it.

Mississippi's population is about 61 percent white and 36 percent black, with small percentages of Hispanics, Native Americans and other groups.

Two-thirds of Mississippians said they prefer the current state flag to a new design that removes the Confederate battle flag from the top corner, according to a poll about an issue voters will decide in a week.

Boston Jane Swift will become Massachusetts' first woman governor this week. Swift 35, who is expecting twins in June, will take over Tuesday after Gov. Paul Cellucci resigns to become U.S. ambassador to Canada. Even her allies concede Swift faces considerable challenges beyond juggling her job, childbirth, and parenting three small children.

As a Republican in a Democratic state, she must fend off potential candidates from both parties for the gubernatorial election 20 months away. An October poll showed only 20 percent of the 400 likely voters surveyed held a favorable view of her, while 46 percent viewed her unfavorably.

Swift, an obscure former state senator and unsuccessful Congressional candidate, won wide attention in 1998 when she announced she was pregnant while campaigning for lieutenant governor as Cellucci's running mate.

Washington A program to make 1 million black families homeowners by 2005 was announced Tuesday by a black lawmakers' group, mortgage-market giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, major banks, mortgage companies and community groups. New mortgages, many with special terms for low-income borrowers and those with bad credit records, could total \$50 billion under the program.

The program, called "With Ownership, Wealth," or WOW, will begin next month in 20 states. Residents in the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands are participating in the plan.

The 20 states in which the outreach programs will be available are Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

Compiled by Chanel Vestal

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To write for the last Tuesday Edition of the semester call Chanel @806-6866 or come to the Hilltop budget meeting tonight at 7:00 p.m. in the West Towers

ESSAY

DC Squirrels: The Tale Behind Why They're Taking Over

By JOHNNY J. JONES
Hilltop Staff Writer

You see them running around campus more "thugged-out" than any freshman on campus can ever pretend to be. They snatch your food when you sit it down for a second. They rummage through garbage cans and emerge with food in their mouth and hate in their eyes. They run over your feet and gaze at you as if to say, "Move it, loser!" Who are they? DC Squirrels. They're bad, they're scavengers, and they're survivors.

As I walked past the UGL, I began to open a Starburst when I accidentally dropped the candy. Before I could bend over to pick up the candy still in its wrapper, a black squirrel (where else do you see black squirrels?) ran at me, "mugged" me, and ran off with my candy in its mouth. Seeing as it was a strawberry starburst—only the best there is—I became thoroughly enraged and chased after the rodent screaming, "Why are you doing this to me?" As if that statement sparked a painful memory from the furry creature's mind, the squirrel began talking and said: "You want to know why? I'll tell you why." Flabbergasted, I just sat on the curb and listened as the squirrel—which told me his name was Red (a black squirrel named... Red?)—began to pour out his innermost feelings to me.

"It all started after slavery ended here in DC. As more and more people began to build houses, and more and more of our homes—trees—began to disappear. Us squirrels tried to accept the fact that our homes were disappearing faster than affordable housing for Blacks in DC is right now, so we figured if we smiled more and presented ourselves as being cute and cuddly, maybe people would like us, feed us and plant new trees. It never happened."

"The people who lived in this city already didn't like our half-cousins, rats, so they said that us rodents are all the same and need to be exterminated. So, as a group, we decided enough was enough. If people thought unfavorably of us, squirrels, we would provide a reason for the thinking."

"We began going through garbage cans, crawling over feet, snatching people's food and anything else that would drive people crazy. And we're so fast that no one could ever catch us. I mean, a few of us catch stray bb-shots—kiss up to my 'rounds Pookie, Keke and Day-Day, the haters got 'em—but for the most part, this spiteful way of living has been productive."

I said to this squirrel who has accepted this poor way of living: "Hey, I'm just a lil' country boy who grew up in Alabama and I have always admired and loved your kind—at least, until I came here. I tried feeding some of your boys over in Southeast and them filthy... I mean, rude characters bit me on the thumb and took my bag of peanuts. I was crushed, trying to help them out and look what at how they thank me. So now, when I see squirrels, I chase after them claiming my territory."

"Your territory? I been here long before your country 'Bama behind was conceived by your country mama," Red said to me. "You humans walk around like you own the land when the ground you walk on is as much mine and 'my kind' as it is you and yours. Everyone seems to forget that fact though. Why are we going to change when you people will not change how you treat us squirrels or our land—our home? "When you humans and your space, we will respect you humans and respect my space."

Red, this black squirrel with the heart of a lion and the wisdom of... a smart squirrel, possessed a valid point. I was stumped, leaving me with only one question left to ask.

"Hey Red?"

"Yeh?"

"Can I have my strawberry Starburst back, please?"

"Naw, dawg, everybody know Strawberry's the shiznit!"

POETRY

The Gospel According to Droopy

HU Student Releases First Collection of Poetry

By GINGER F. SKINNER
Engage' Editor

Maybe you know Drew—or think you know him, or don't care to know him. Well, read this anyway, because there's a lot you will want to know about Drew "Droopy" Anderson, who has published his first collection of poetry through his company Brokeballerbooks, entitled "Droopy: Dat Boy's A Fool." Say it with a Cajun accent and you're ready to open your mind to the world of Drew Anderson and his fluency of the language we call poetry, spoken word, rap, and the list goes on.

So. You have the nerve to enter my world, do you?

Majoring in biology as an undergraduate student and now in his second year of graduate school pursuing a Master's degree in biology, one would think that Anderson is headed for a medical career in either the hospital or the laboratory. Yet, this New Orleans native, who believes in "having many irons in many fires," is focusing primarily on his new book and hopes of being an entrepreneur. "I'm feeding my people right," said Anderson, who is more concerned with exposure now rather than a huge profit.

I own my imperfections so perfectly that I can call them...

Anderson's love for poetry began in high school, where he was a "little rapper" and writing poetry for his then-girlfriend. Upon arriving at Howard in 1995, Anderson recalls that rap dominated the scene then, and in seeking to be different, reclaimed poetry. Now, six years later, the poet who calls himself "Droopy," the District, his home, Richard Pryor one of his heroes, and Nelly Furtado his girlfriend that "just doesn't know it yet," has given poetry-lovers and poetry-haters what they've been asking for. "I just got kind of tired of people telling me that I had so much insight, that they had never heard poetry like mine before, but I didn't have anything to show for it," said Anderson. "It's one thing to hear me perform, but even better to actually be able to sit down and peep it out for yourself and get other meanings out of it."

And it's not that when I write all my problems are erased but...

Anderson says that meanings and interpretations will be different for each and every reader of "Droopy: Dat Boy's A Fool." "I've had people come up to me with things that they've gotten out of a poem that I wasn't even thinking about when I wrote it," said Anderson, who encourages readers to keep an open mind. "What-



Photo by Ginger Skinner
Drew "Droopy" Anderson has published his first collection of poetry through his company Brokeballerbooks, entitled "Droopy: Dat Boy's A Fool."

ever you got out of it...it's ours now. We're sharing it."

If you can't swim, stay out the Deep End...

Besides Malcolm X, Miles Davis and other notables that Anderson calls his "ghetto heroes," he says owes much of his inspiration for the book to author of "Men Cry in the Dark" Michael Baisden, who once told Anderson that selling poetry was very difficult to do. However, Anderson used this advice as encouragement to launch Brokeballerbooks, an independent, underground company named

after one of his poems. "What a Broke Baller is all about is taking the little bit of resources you have and using them to get the things that you want out of life," said Anderson, who wants writers to know that you don't need a powerful publishing company to get your book published. "It's not how much you have, it's what you do with what you have...and that's something else I'm trying to represent through my book."

...being a Broke Baller is based on how you fill inside...

"Droopy: Dat Boy's A Fool" has something for everyone and like Anderson said, "You ain't seen poetry like dis befo'..." He credits music as a large influence, which is largely reflected through most of his poetry. "Music is the soundtrack to my life," said Anderson, who owns more than a thousand CDs and admits that music he cannot live without music.

I stalk the world's chess board a king...

Anderson also speaks out—loudly, about love, lust and heartbreaks throughout "Droopy: Dat Boy's A Fool," in such poems as "You're Not Mine," "She's Funny That Way," and an HU favorite that you'll find isn't quite what you think it is, "Brotha's Ain't Sh*t!" In these familiar lines, Anderson admits that men "do dirt," but also admonishes superficial women who pass up the positive man who will hurt them right for the ones who will hurt them. Through his poems, Anderson hides nothing from the world about the many heartbreaks he has encountered and makes no apologies for expressing his feelings on paper. "Nobody else apologizes for following their heart, so why should I?" said Anderson. He confesses his pain, but says he is not bitter. "Despite all that sh*t, I still believe in love. If you read the poems carefully, you'll see that there's hope in every poem I write."

"Droopy: Dat Boy's A Fool" can be purchased for \$10.00 by contacting Anderson at truepisces@collegeclub.com. He urges students to get their "boot-leg" edition now before the second printing, which will increase the price. His work along with other poets can be viewed by visiting illpoets.com, which he hopes will be a future showcase for his book. Anderson says that he can't wait for his book to get exposure at Howard and even encourages those who don't like poetry to read his book. "I want my book to be like a buffet," said Anderson. "Take what you want from it and leave the rest alone."



DANCE

And the Beat Goes on With Debbie Allen

By ALYSHA COBB
Hilltop Staff writer

It proved to be a perfect afternoon get away and since there was no cost of admission, everyone could partake in this event. Howard Alumna Debbie Allen held a workshop in conjunction with the Atrium at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Entitled "The Debbie Allen Dance Workshop," this three-hour clinic allowed children and parents of all ages to learn fun moves from all types of dance. Featuring the best of modern, hip-hop, and jazz, this dancing diva allowed families and individuals alike, the chance to relax while picking up new moves.

Debbie Allen is impossible to typecast. Simply put, she is an artist. That is probably the shortest definition for this dynamic and multifaceted performer. Allen is known as an actress, dancer, singer, choreographer, director and now, a producer. She has been blessed, not only with boundless talent, but also with

a dedication and zeal that she brings to every project. She firmly believes in the value of hard work and scoffs at the idea of fate—good things happen, if you are ready when opportunity knocks.

Allen attributes much of her success to her mother for "raising [her] with the concept of being a human being in the universe. The universe, that is something much bigger than any street, any city, any state...it means you are not limited. You are boundless." Raised in the midst of bigotry and segregation, Allen never doubted that she was a citizen of the world. This spirit of independence and freedom is exactly why she and her siblings have been so successful in many facets of life.

Upon her graduation from Howard in 1971, Allen set off to Broadway and relentlessly pursued a theatrical career with her daily recited motto—"Be true. Be beautiful. Be free." Her stature as a director was confirmed when she was chosen to direct and produce the Cosby Show spin-off, "A Different World." We are all familiar with her role as dance teacher

Lydia Grant in the movie "Fame," which would later become a mini-series.

Two-time Emmy Award and Golden Globe winner, Debbie Allen has recently directed a new set of national spots for a national restaurant chain. When asked about her recent endeavors, she feels commercials "really push the envelope. Creatively, it is the place [she] wants to be." Through all of her success, Allen remains humble. She feels she is a work in progress and urges everyone to learn from his or her mistakes. Referring to failure as "the really bad 'F-word,'" she confides that "it is something that you cannot be afraid of, because you will stop growing...and the next step beyond failure would be your biggest success in life." Take it from a woman who knows.

Get it...Read it...Every Tuesday and Friday!!!!

HILLTOP HILLTOP HILLTOP HILLTOP HILLTOP HILLTOP

POETRY

Coffee House Returns to the HUB for Open-Mic Poetry

By TANYA HOFFLER
Hilltop Staff writer

The District Area Writing Project presented its 2nd Coffee House Open-Mic Poetry reading on Friday at the University Bookstore.

The National Writing Project was founded in 1974 in Berkeley, California. The HUB is one of the 167 national writing project sites available around the nation. The Writing Project is a program that offers teachers around the country the opportunity to come together and express their writing skills and teaching tactics with one another. Their 'teaching the teachers' model of professional development has expanded their project to more than 212,700 participants nationwide.

The District Area Writing Project Director, Judith Kelly, who has been the director since 1996, one year shy of when the DC Area Project was created, said, "The whole idea is to improve instruction. I taught in DC public schools for 27 years. The teachers of the Writing Project go out in far Southeast DC, the 'forgotten area of the city', and mentor teachers out there

where they could use some help in professional development."

Based at Howard University's School of Education, the Writing Project's MC for the event, Mr. Maurice Butler, a member since 1997, felt that Howard's location was significant because "Howard is the black Mecca. It is one of the first universities designed for African Americans. This campus is symbolic in terms of accessibility and participation. The way Howard University gives back to the community adds a perception of legitimacy to young people that are involved in the project."

The project sponsors poetry sessions around the city, with one at the Martin Luther King Library. Every summer the District Area Writing Project hosts a summer institute at Founders Library. Kelly said, "For 5 weeks teachers come and read about writing, the 'best practices' for teaching, and they demonstrate tactics for each other. The program lasts all day and it is very intense. But instead of feeling super tired, you feel invigorated because it is so much fun." The Writing Project is also sponsored by a number of organizations. They have 3 museum partnership

sponsors:

The US Holocaust Memorial Museum, The Japanese American Museum (Drama), and The Newseum (Journalistic). The Newseum offers its services to the teachers of the Writing Project, and through the Newseum's education center, teachers learn how to effectively use the resources, so they can bring their students there to learn also. Poets from Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia and UNC Charlotte, attended "Coffee House." One of the featured pieces was "I'm Sick and Tired of Being



Photo By Shala Wilson
A poet performs her work at the Howard University Bookstore Friday.

"Sick and Tired" was performed by School of Education graduate student Cherie Ward. For more information about the DC Area writing project contact Howard University's School of Education.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES
That ego trip you're on will get you nowhere this month. Before accusing, analyze all your facts and stay calm. Otherwise, you burn bridges for future endeavors. Remember people will talk and say things. Find out who is real and who is not. You will be surprised.

TAURUS
So things did not go your way this month. It is a blessing in disguise. The goals you want are still within your reach. Use logic and reason to figure out how to get what you want, and for those issues that are still suspect, just remember everything comes to light.

GEMINI
That relationship issue bothering you has forced you to see life in a completely different way. Don't give up hope; just change your way. What you give off is what you receive. Try new things, opportunities and relationship can come about.

CANCER
Get ready for a productive and prosperous summer. Prepare to work hard and know that it will pay off in a year or two. Hold on to your connections and network with everyone who crosses your path, they can contribute to longevity and success.

LEO
The hard work will finally pay off with a lucrative and successful year. However, you must keep focused and not get side tracked by the critics. Remember criticism is a part of the job. Take it all in stride and remember, it is better to be known and critiqued than not to be noticed at all.

VIRGO
Go for that long-term goal now. Start preparing for all possibilities. Do not wait until the deadline is near. Do not be fooled by the amount of time you have, tomorrow is never promised, and regrets cannot be changed. However, success is inevitable.

LIBRA
If too much is on your plate right now, take time to relax. Do not over do anything. Take time and precision on your current projects. Doing too much can lead to poor work. Once one thing is done, then move on, you will get the acknowledgement regardless.

SCORPIO
Prepare for an intense and hectic month. Things that you thought never would happen, will. Do not stay in a bad situation; there is a way out. Nothing too serious, however, it can affect your immediate future. Look to friends and family for support, they can help more than you know.

SAGITTARIUS
Watch how you speak to people this month, those around you are going through a sensitive time right now. Be supportive and avoid the sarcastic tone and exaggerated attitude. You may mean one thing, but it may sound differently to others.

CAPRICORN
It is time to evaluate the people that surround you. Some are true friends to the end, but there are some out for blood. Watch what they say to you and how they conduct themselves around you. The jealous streak is stronger than ever. Do not get defensive, just part ways with that person. Better people are in your near future.

AQUARIUS
Watch that temper, it has been a hard year for many people. You are not the only one. Instead of venting, take up a hobby, exercise, or travel. You must release that stress otherwise friends will become victims of that explosive temperament, and not recover from the blow. Do not ruin a good relationship because of a bad day.

PISCES
Things seem rough now, however, allow yourself time to gather your thoughts and prioritize. By the end of the month, peace and tranquility will come your way. Also, be on the look out for someone from your past; they are coming back into your life with some great opportunities for you.

—Compiled by "Eunique"

poetry corner

3 X Love

Holy Spirit guide me
In darkness and in light,
Provide for me a path
When I have no sight.

Give to me the words to say
When speaking to the lost;
To tell them of the life

slick when you call to say you have a late b-ball practice when your coach just called to say practice is cancelled?.

You can't undermine the mind of a woman.

Why do you think that your lame excuses and obvious lies have this lady con-

they'll find
Waiting at the cross.

Father up in Heaven
Hear me when I pray;
Listen to my heart
Not just the words I say.

Before you give me gifts
Pleasing to the eye;
Give to me the wisdom
That will make me wise.

fused?
No, baby, just keep bringing home that check cause when you're "at church" or "going to visit your mom," you haven't a clue what I'm up to.

Never underestimate the mind of a woman.
—Olivia

I want to tell you Jesus
My love for you is true;
And how I try day by day
To become more like you.

I thank you for the price you paid;
The greatest sacrifice you could've made
You gave to me the gift of love

You loved me with your life.

—Maleko

Empty Promises

Promises mean the world
But, from you to me they are empty words
Words that have lost their meaning over time

How many times can one say "I'm sorry" And be forgiven wholeheartedly? One, two, three, maybe four? I don't know the answer, But I do know when I've had enough

One can only take so much hurt, pain, and empty promises Before the temptations to turn to another Become overwhelming

You asked me the question, "Do you want me to go?" With my lips I answered, "no"

But my heart was undecided
I was taught to forgive seven times seven
Forgive, as you want to be forgiven
But, I will never put one person through so much
For it would be unhealthy to their heart
As it has become unhealthy to mine

So, with this conviction of feelings and emotions
I will give you time
Time to fill those empty promises
Time to lessen the "I'm sorry's"
Time to become a man
But, in the back of my mind
I will remember "Time waits for no man,
and if things don't change
Neither will I!"

—GeminiQB

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UPS INFORMATION BOOTH WILL BE HELD:
When: Wednesday, April 11th
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Where: Blackburn Center Ground Floor (outside the cafeteria)

AVAILABLE SHIFTS:
Day Shift starts at 11:30am, Mon-Fri
Twilight Shift starts at 5:30pm, Mon-Fri
Night Shift starts at 10:30pm, Mon-Thurs & 9:30pm, Sun (3-1/2 to 5 hour shift/day)

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Photo by Mark Goleman

On Friday

Check out the latest results in Howard sports.

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

Compiled by CAMILLE M. HARVEY

Iowa State Having Budget Problems: Baseball, Swimming Suffer

Iowa State University's Athletic Department has decided that they will drop its baseball and men's swimming programs effective next school year.

University officials concluded that after reviewing the budget, expense increases and other "competitive-related challenges", the discontinuance of men's swimming and baseball was necessary.

"I feel that we must discontinue to maintain fiscal integrity that will help us sustain a strong competitive environment in the Big 12 Conference," Iowa State athletic director Bruce Van De Velde said Monday.

Van De Velde, who is facing a \$1.4 million budget shortfall, said the university would honor scholarship commitments and help athletes who may want to transfer to other schools.

Baseball has been played at ISU since 1892, making it the school's oldest sport along with football, while men's swimming and diving began in 1916.

Shawn Kemp to Enter Rehab, Will Miss the Rest of Season

Shawn Kemp's dismal season with the Portland Trail Blazers has come to an unfortunate end.

The team announced Friday that Kemp voluntarily left the team to undergo treatment under an anti-drug program put together by the NBA and the NBA Players Association. Kemp will miss the rest of the season.

Due to privacy agreements, the Trail Blazers were prevented from saying what sort of treatment Kemp will require. It was reported, however, that Kemp would enter a drug rehabilitation program.

Trail Blazers president and general manager, Bob Whitsitt, didn't have much to say regarding the issue with Kemp, partially because of NBA labor laws and such. Whitsitt was not very forthcoming on other issues of Kemp's condition. The former six-time All-Star power forward left the team for "personal reasons" Tuesday, and was placed on the injured list prior to Friday night's game against the Golden State Warriors.

Kemp, who is 31, was acquired by Portland from the Cleveland Cavaliers last August in a three-team trade that sent former Portland Trail Blazer forward Brian Grant to the Miami Heat. Kemp has three years and \$56 million remaining on his contract extension that he signed with the Cavaliers.

Former MLB Player Hudler Hospitalized

Former baseball player and current Anaheim Angels television announcer Rex Hudler was hospitalized Saturday. Preliminary tests found bleeding in his brain.

Hudler, who played 13 seasons in the major leagues, began experiencing headaches while doing a radio talk show from his hotel room on Saturday morning. Shortly after completing the show, he contacted paramedics, who took him to the hospital.

There were no reports on his condition as of late Sunday evening.

Hudler was in Oakland, CA, to co-broadcast the game against the Oakland Athletics with play-by-play announcer Steve Physioc.

Physioc said he checked in with him Saturday morning, but later Hudler's wife Jennifer called him to tell him what happened.

Hudler, who retired from baseball in 1998 began broadcasting shortly after. During his career, Hudler had a batting average of .261 and also 56 home runs and 156 RBIs.

A Tiger Slam



Defending Master's Champion Vijay Singh helps 2001 Champ Tiger Woods with his blazer Sunday. The victory was Woods' second time winning the Master's.

U. Minnesota Women's Basketball Coach Defends Career as Probe Continues

By TODD MILBURN & MELINDA ROGERS
Minnesota Daily

(U-WIRE) MINNEAPOLIS — University of Minnesota women's basketball coach, Cheryl Littlejohn, said Thursday she did not intentionally break NCAA rules and will cooperate fully with a University investigation into possible rules violations.

"I take these allegations seriously," said Littlejohn in a statement. She was placed on a paid leave of absence Wednesday.

Blessing Rugara, Littlejohn's attorney said the University is probing possible secondary NCAA violations in 1998 and 1999.

Asked about the severity of the allegations and reports about extra benefits to players, Rugara said this case is less serious than the recent scandal in the men's basketball program and the allegations are "nothing that would rise to the level of (giving) cars (to players)."

University General Counsel Mark Rotenberg would not comment on the scope of the allegations or focus of the investigation.

He did say that University officials approached Littlejohn in recent months to buy out the final year of her

five-year contract prior to their knowledge of allegations.

"We've had some discussion about her contract; some discussion about her future, that's gone on for quite a while," said Rotenberg.

Littlejohn is in the fourth year of that contract and grossed about \$101,000.

While maintaining his confidence that the University will conduct a fair and speedy investigation, Rugara said he was initially concerned about the University's investigation process.

"You would think, given the history the University has had with issues related to the athletics' departments, both men's and women's, over the years, there would be a well-laid out procedure. Frankly, I was shocked," he said, noting that some of the allegations are three years old.

University officials said they were unsure how long the investigation would take. Women's athletics director Chris Voelz has not hired an interim coach.

Littlejohn defended her career as a coach saying that "throughout my tenure as the head coach of the women's basketball program at the University of Minnesota I have encouraged my players to achieve their potential to be model student athletes."

The investigation in the women's athletics' department comes less than six months after the NCAA placed the men's basketball program on four-years probation for academic fraud. The scandal led the departures of several high ranking men's athletics officials,

Campus U.S.A.
U. Minnesota

UCLA Accused of Recruiting Violations

Athletic director calls charges attempt to hurt basketball program

By AJ CADMAN
U-Wire Daily Bruin Staff

The UCLA men's basketball program finds itself amidst accusations that recruiting violations were committed in an attempt to bring two of the Southland's top high school players to Westwood.

The Los Angeles Daily News reported in its Thursday edition that UCLA Head Coach, Steve Lavin, contacted Erick Craven and Jamal Williams before the NCAA bylaws allow such actions to take place. Craven has since committed to USC and Williams to New Mexico.

UCLA was informed of such actions having possibly taken place through an e-mail sent to Vice Chancellor Peter Blackman, Athletic Director Peter Dalis and Associate Athletic Director Betsy Stephenson. The athletic department believes that the letter was an attempt to tarnish the image of the program and to get Lavin to resign.

However, the e-mail did not mention that the recruits improperly contacted were Craven or Williams.

"It's pretty clear that someone is trying to create an environment and culture where they want Coach Lavin out," Dalis said in a conference call Thursday afternoon. "I am firmly behind Steve right now."

Under the NCAA Guide for College-Bound Student Athletes, universities can get in touch with potential recruits only during the designated contact period. High school players cannot be contacted by phone until June 21 of their junior year by a university representative. College coaches cannot contact players until after July 1 of the same year.

Craven, a senior at Bishop Montgomery High in Torrance, met Lavin at his high school coach's office in March of last year.

"When I first learned about this yesterday, I attempted to interview the high school coach at Bishop Mont-

gomery," Dalis said. "He said that Coach Lavin and Coach (Jim) Saia had gone to visit him. Erick Craven came in to ask his coach about an all-star game he was to play in. The coach introduced his player to Coach Lavin and they just exchanged pleasantries."

The Daily News reported that Williams recalls Lavin having called him "all the time" last season during his junior year at Centennial High in Corona.

"The father of Jamal Williams tried to call Lavin (Thursday) morning," Dalis said. "He was irritated by the story and said it was untrue. He went on to say that he believes his son was manipulated by the writer."

According to the UCLA athletic department, Dalis and Lavin spent most of Thursday discussing the issue at length. Dalis has been in contact with the Pac-10 Conference about the matter. If it is found to be valid, the conference may pass the case along to the NCAA for review.

"I have no reason to believe that the (allegations) are credible," Dalis said. "No one is in trouble here."

Dalis asked Lavin not to discuss the matter publicly until the Pac-10 finishes its inquiry.

The possible misconduct by the men's basketball program comes during the final month of a three-year NCAA probationary sentence that dates back to a violation uncovered in November of 1996.

In that instance it was discovered by university investigators that then-Head Coach Jim Harrick made excessive phone calls to recruits among other unacceptable infractions. Sanctions were released by the NCAA in April 1998, the start of the probationary period.

If the NCAA were to find a major violation in the UCLA men's basketball program within five years of the probationary period, this would mark the school and the program as a repeat violator.

The "death penalty," as it is called for repeat offenders, has strict guidelines for punishment in the event of a major violation.

The NCAA could issue punishment in the form of a "show-cause" order mandating that UCLA dismiss any athletic department staff member involved with

2 MINUTE DRILL

America's Pastime

By CAMILLE M. HARVEY
Sports Editor

I never thought that I could ever get tired of a sport. That was until March Madness rolled around. I saw more basketball than I ever thought possible. I was even accused of not being a real sports person because I said that I would not watch a game during the final four—a game that I ended up watching anyway. But now that the hype is over and the NBA is getting ready for the playoffs, fans of professional sports can now turn to a real sport—Major League Baseball. Now I know most people have stopped reading my Two-Minute Drill because, YES, I did say Baseball. Although the sport itself is kind of slow to watch, if you get past that and look at the rivalries within divisions and players, you can really see just how interesting baseball is. If you look at some of the things that go on with baseball, you too will be amazed.

Speaking of MLB, can we talk about the Oakland Athletics? Although, I am from Oakland, that has nothing to do with the stats. Oakland is a young, bright team with the potential to make a lot of noise in the American League, West Division. If you watch baseball, you probably would have seen how they gave the NY Yankees a run for their money in the playoffs. Just think that with a little more experience and a much better pitching staff, the A's will make some noise in years to come. What about the Texas Rangers? As much as I hate the Rangers, they will be a threat in the AL West. With the return of maybe one of the best catchers in the game, Ivan Rodriguez, along with the addition of some great pitchers and the \$252 million dollar man Alex Rodriguez, the Rangers have a solid team and will definitely make a run when the pennant race comes.

Let me talk about the \$252 Million man. How in God's green earth can you pay someone that much money? Do I think he is a great player? No. Do I think he's a good player? Yes. Is he worth that much money? Absolutely not. I don't think that Michael Jordan in his prime is worth a quarter of a BILLION dollars. That is ridiculous. But the choice wasn't made by me, nor was I consulted when the trade took place, so who am I to say something about it. I will say these two points and be done with it: The A-Rod incident proves to me that Major League Baseball needs a salary cap. Second, A-Rod better not get sick, injured or anything else for that matter. As far as I am concerned, he better play all 162 games for all ten years of his contract for all the money he's making. There should be no excuse for him to miss a game. If Cal Ripken can do it for a lot less money, then A-Rod can do it for all the BIG bucks. That's my story and I am sticking to it.

Camille M. Harvey is a senior broadcast journalism major from Oakland, Ca. She can be reached via email at tuesports@hotmail.com.

Free Throw
Did you know that Tiger Woods was the youngest golfer to win the Master's?

Opinions & Editorial

Inherited Traits

RACHEL PLANTE

Each individual's unique characteristics, qualities and personality is a result of both genetic and environmental factors. In pursuing the purpose for which we were created, we must have a strong understanding of who we are as individuals, and also the aspects of our background and make-up that will affect the fulfillment of this purpose.

Our purpose is not unrelated to our family, community and nationality. God determined the family we were to be born into and, by extension, all defining aspects of that family, whether ethnicity, nationality, family traits or talents. Our genetic makeup or our childhood environment may have predisposed us toward a certain pathway in life. Some born into artistic, creative family environments continue in that family trend. Others may decide to pursue callings in science, business, education or some other path. Whatever it was, something in your past contributed to who you are at present and who you are becoming. But even if we find ourselves predisposed to a particular purpose, we must evaluate the direction of our lives against God's purpose for us.

Family history, practices or traits must be consistent with God's values, principles and standards in order for us to achieve success. Success in this world is based on the acquisition of excellence, fame, wealth or status on the natural level. But true success is fulfilling your God-directed purpose on this earth so as to impact the spiritual realm through a life dedicated to the accurate representation of the eternal God.

There will be aspects of our nature that must be adjusted or re-oriented for us to achieve eternal success. These aspects may have defined us (and our families) in the past and have even been the basis of earthly profit or status. This was the case with Jacob, the son of Isaac and Rebekah and the grandson of Abraham. He was known as a trickster or a conman, a trait that was evident in his mother (Genesis 27) and his mother's brother who tricked him into marrying the wrong woman (Genesis 29:15-30:31). This trait clearly was contrary to God's standards. Jacob had to come to an understanding of his true nature before he could accept who God wanted him to be and proceed on that path to be a prince and not a trickster (Genesis 32:22-32).

We cannot hide from the reality of our history, background or experiences that have affected our personality, psyche and self-concept. We cannot pretend that we did not come from a family with identifiable traits, both good and bad. What we must do is to recognize that we are not restricted to the effects of natural heritage and embrace God's identity for us. Jacob's identity-changing experience was a conscious struggle, but ultimately he was transformed to fulfill the purpose of God.

God has a defined plan and pathway for every life that may involve a significant alteration or departure from the projections of our past. His purpose is not the natural outcome of our life circumstances but rather the powerful pull of a future that He has designed. We are not destined to continue in the cycle of the past. God desires those who will step out of the family line and provide a new standard and model based on His values and, in so doing, chart a new course for future generations to follow.

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Corrections

The Hilltop staff is committed to accuracy in its reporting. Should you have any corrections, please

e-mail The Hilltop at thehilltop@hotmail.com.

Point of View

By Antjuan Jackson



Schools Unfairly Blame Greeks for Deeper Problems

Greek life on college campuses has always been controversial. The misconception that the only purpose of these social clubs is to provide a forum for excessive drinking and sexual promiscuity has long cast question upon the idea of fraternities and sororities being supported by learning institutions such as the University of Virginia. Though dissent from a minority of highly vocal naysayers has always been present on college campuses, most of the time a school's administration keeps its distance from this debate.

However, in reaction to a declining national membership rate in greek organizations, Santa Clara University in California passed measures last month to slowly phase out the greek system, ending all support for it by the year 2003. Similarly, the prominent Dartmouth College is currently engaged in a campaign that may abolish greek life on its campus as well. Justifications for the implementation of such policies are very weak, and the measures taken to eliminate greek life on these college campuses are misguided, unfair and deserve to be reversed and/or abandoned immediately.

At Santa Clara University in California, less than 10 percent of the student population is formally engaged in greek organizations. According to the school's administration, this percentage is too small to be worthy of the "efforts and resources" that the greek system requires to remain in operation. On this basis, a plan has been introduced to eliminate rush and thus slowly kill off the school's fraternities and sororities as old members graduate and new ones are denied the chance to replace them.

This justification for the abolition of these groups is interesting for two reasons. First and foremost, what exactly are these "resources" that are referenced by the administration? Fraternities and sororities are usually financially independent of their universities, and mysteriously absent in the committee report on this decision in Santa Clara was the specific nature of these

LAURA PARCELLS

"resources." In a misguided attempt to rationalize the abolition of greek organizations, Dartmouth notes its lack of student "social and recreational facilities" which might encourage a "more healthy" form of social interaction. This, however, can in no way be connected to the greek system — it is merely a shortcoming of the university itself — and to penalize an unrelated group for the school's own inadequacies is blatantly unfair and highly illogical.

Secondly, Dartmouth and Santa Clara state that by eliminating greek life, they hope to encourage a departure from the exclusivity of fraternal organizations and create a more unified atmosphere on their campuses. Now, either the administrations of these schools are hoping to dupe their students into supporting their plans by feeding them obviously unreachable ideals, or their personal naivete is embarrassing. The fact is that whether or not people have formal ways of separating themselves, they are undeniably going to do it.

Think about your high school. There were no fraternities there, surely this did not make social lines any less apparent. And what about the world outside the isolated community that we call U.Va.? Would anyone claim that there is not a blatant set of status symbols that make flagrantly evident the existence of a social hierarchy?

Finally, Dartmouth has claimed that the abolition of fraternities and sororities will "eliminate alcohol abuse on campus". This is absurd. Would anyone in his or her right mind claim that if greek life were to be abolished at U.Va. tomorrow, that excessive alcohol consumption would cease? A more accurate

Reparations Now

There's been a whole lot of talk about reparations lately.

Hundreds of scholars and supporters of reparations for African Americans gathered at Howard University last week for a candid discussion of the issue.

On Capitol Hill, Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.) introduced legislation that would set

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up a commission to examine the impact of slavery and the feasibility of reparations.

And college newspapers have been lambasted for running ads from former Black Panther David Horowitz which detail his reasons why reparations "are bad for blacks and racist too."

The debate surrounding the issue is heated and multifaceted. Who do we pay reparations to, individuals or institutions? Who should pay, the government or the individuals who profited from slavery? Each question seems to lead to more questions.

However, one question that is easily answered is "are reparations for African Americans needed in 2001?" The answer is "yes."

The fact that Blacks still remain one of the

countries poorest ethnic groups and make up the majority of those in the prison system are evidence of America's institutionalized mistreatment of the African American population.

With crumbling schools in African American neighborhoods, and increasingly limited resources for personal advancement it is clear that reparations are needed and are needed now.

It is also abundantly clear that money alone would not repair a lot of the problems that all the African American community like the breakdown of the traditional family structure, or the high incarceration rate of African American males. However, the possible investments into the African American community that could be made with reparations could give future generations another leg up in life.

It would be wise for our leaders to continue to push this issue to the forefront of the American conscience. More research should be done to devise the best possible plan for any reparations for our community. Of course the best plan must start with an official apology from the American government for their participation in the cruel and peculiar institution of American slavery.

prediction might be that students would get trashed and storm the Dean's office in an angry mob.

Afterward, since this would doubtlessly do little to aid their situation, students would begin — rather than drinking excessively in fraternity houses — to drink excessively in their dorms and apartments. By abolishing greek life, a university would succeed only in making life less enjoyable, appeasing a bitter minority of flyer printing greek-haters, and freeing Escort service from the less than desirable task of transporting belligerent first years three nights out of the week. No authority-imposed restriction is strong enough to counter the overwhelming desire of many college students to party.

One would think that individuals intelligent enough to be managing Ivy League schools would be able to see and accept this — usually — relatively harmless reality.

It's unfair for colleges and universities such as Santa Clara and Dartmouth to take steps to abolish greek life on their campuses. This is disrespectful to current students and alumni who feel strong personal ties to their organizations, and unfair in that the schools themselves have little involvement in their structuring and funding. greek may not be the choice lifestyle of all college students, but the same can be said for any student association. Fraternities and sororities should not be singled out and penalized for their affiliation with social elements that would be present on college campuses even in the absence of greek life.

Laura Parcells is a writer for the Cavalier Daily at the University of Virginia.

Confessions of a Self-Segregationist

MEREDITH OSBORN

I was a self-segregationist. I can't pinpoint when it happened, but somewhere between sixth and eighth grade I started hanging out with the 10 other white kids in my 200-person middle school class. My school, two blocks from my house, was over 50 percent Hispanic.

Attending sleepovers in sixth grade meant going through the torture of having my hair teased, curled, sprayed and finally, in despair, drawn in an tear-jerkingly tight ponytail, the stray wisps shellacked with hairspray or curled on my forehead in a pathetic attempt at bangs.

Maybe it was self-defense, maybe it was common values, maybe it was the fact that my clothes didn't hang right and my hair didn't rat, but by the beginning of eighth grade I hung out almost exclusively with kids who had the same hair as I did, the same fair skin (my sixth grade friends called me Rudolph because of my perpetually sunburned nose) and the same-sounding last names.

My middle school experience is fairly unique in America, which is still 72 percent white. But last week California announced that whites no longer comprised the majority of the state's population, joining eight other states in which minorities comprise over 50 percent of the population. It's an indication of a larger trend towards plurality in American society.

Fifty years from now there will be no majority in America. The terms majority and minority will become meaningless in reference to race in our lifetimes.

But that's the future, and while the future has come to California, it hasn't yet made it to Harvard. The recent defense of self-segregation at Harvard has centered on minority-ness. The argument is either 1) I didn't have any (fill in the blank) friends back home, so I want to get to know other people like me now, or 2) As a minority on this campus I feel more comfortable around others of similar backgrounds.

A third, and I believe more valid, defense of self-segregation among minority groups actually has nothing to do with being a minority.

There are many reasons for people of the same race or ethnicity to form (sometimes exclusive) social groups. They may have similar values, speak the same second language, go to the same church, eat the same food or simply do their hair the same way. There is nothing wrong with this, per se-after all,

in America we have something called the freedom of association.

Whites do it all the time, at Harvard and beyond. They just don't get called on it as often. I was never asked in middle school why I was self-segregating. No one accused me of not getting along well with others.

People cross cultural lines, or don't, for all sorts of reasons. Some are personal, some are societal. It is the societal reasons that we can change, which we must change and which we all bear responsibility for changing.

Without cultural exchange, without some breaking down of cultural barriers, there can be no evolution of the broader American culture. This is a difficult process. It threatens the dissolution of core cultural values; it threatens the replacement of traditionally held values for non-traditional ones. Most of all, it means change for both cultures involved in the exchange.

We all bear part of the responsibility for forging a new American culture that better reflects our shared values, just as we all bear some responsibility for the perpetuation of cultural isolationism. Cultural isolationism is untenable. But cultural evolution can only happen through the dangerous, difficult task of integration.

Ending self-segregation is not as simple as putting people of different backgrounds into the same classroom. Even if we were broken down into randomized blocking groups of one, self-segregation would still happen at Harvard. You can't legislate away the comfort of being with like-minded individuals. That is, after all, the reason we are all at Harvard to begin with. I am pessimistic that self-segregation will end in America even after 50 years have passed and there is no longer a white majority. The increase of the minority presence in America is not enough to guarantee cultural interchange. We must be at once more courageous in our individual acts, and more understanding of our individual choices.

No one person or group bears the responsibility for self-segregation. Rather the imperative to challenge our segregationist tendencies rests on us as individuals, uneasily but equally.

Meredith B. Osborn is a writer for the Harvard Crimson of Harvard University.

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