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The Student Voice of Howard University



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Coleman Makes Lasting Impact With R.E.A.L. Agenda

By JOI C. RIDLEY
Hilltop Staff Writer

As more than two hundred students waited on the first floor of the Administration building for the result of their protests over proposed tuition increases, Charles Coleman, Jr. prepared to deliver some of the worst news of his term as Undergraduate Trustee.

He had not delivered on his promise of avoiding a tuition increase and he had to come greet the mass of students who stood supporting him for more than six hours. Although the average person would have stood petrified of the crowd, Coleman emerged not successful in his initial pursuit, yet triumphant in raising stu-

dent activism to an all-time high. The image of a confident and determined Coleman reflects his entire term, one full of self-assurance, respect, and most of all results.

With the academic year practically over, Undergraduate Trustee Charles Coleman, Jr. of the R.E.A.L. (Reliable, Effective, Accountable, Leadership) Agenda has completed all of the points from his platform, as he explained in a meeting with *The Hilltop* Editorial Board.

"I feel I've done a sound job of representing the students," said the

current Trustee of his work in the 2000-2001 academic year.

Coleman points to his three main accomplishments during his term, the first of which was the confirmation from University President H. Patrick Swygert that tuition for the 2002-2003 academic year would not be

increased. Coleman also pointed to his role in making the I-Lab and Undergraduate Library 24 hour facilities. Furthermore, Coleman referred

to his works on the Trustee Development Committee, which focuses on the University's Capital Campaign.

A large part of Coleman's efforts have been centered on Swygert's Strategic Framework for Action II. The plan, which Coleman sees as being research oriented, focuses mainly on the service element of many University activities.

When asked of the feasibility of Swygert's plan, Coleman replied he is confident in the President's results.

"Because of what he's done, I'm more of a believer. He's already built two extensive libraries within a year and a half," Coleman said.

Coleman also addressed many student concerns he has met during this

academic year. These include the renovation of Drew Hall, the construction of a new student union, and increased parking facilities on campus. Since Coleman is actively involved with a number of organizations on campus, he feels that he has a "comprehensive idea" of what students want. Coleman also addressed students' dissatisfaction with the University's contract with food service provider Sodexho Marriott. Coleman says he has not brought the issue to the Board because it must first be brought through

Please see Coleman, A3



Photo By Jason T. Smith
Undergraduate Trustee Charles Coleman, Jr.

Undergraduate
Trustee
Report Card:

A

Please See Editorial, A7

Riots Plague City After Shooting

Mayor Sets First Citywide Curfew

By CHANEL VESTAL
News Editor

Howard University student Taryn Jackson is worried about her family in Cincinnati. For days, the city has been plagued by rioting by the black community in reaction to the shooting death of a 19-year-old by a police officer.

"There has always been tension between the cops and the black community," Jackson told *Hilltop* reporters. "No one has spoken out about it until now. Everyone is bitter now."

For three days, looting vandalism and violence have plagued the streets of Cincinnati's predominately black neighborhood Over-the-Rhine in protest of the death of Timothy Thomas at the hands of Cincinnati police officer Stephan Roach.

In response to the rioting, a curfew was imposed on city residence. Jackson said her brother has to be in the house by 8 pm. Police have arrested 187 people for curfew violations and got calls about shots being fired, and sporadic instances of rocks and bottles being thrown at police cruisers since Saturday.

The Easter Holiday prompted Cincinnati mayor Charles Luken to extend the cities curfew. "Hopefully today can be a day of prayer, a day of peace, a day of coming together,"

Luken said to Associated Press reporters.

The police officer accused of shooting the unarmed teenager is currently suspended with pay.

"Police officers need to be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law," Jackson said. Since 1995, the Cincinnati police force has shot and killed 15 black men. Thomas was the fourth fatality since November. The Rev. Al Sharpton and NAACP President Kweisi Mfume have spoken out against the police violence in Cincinnati. Last month, the American Civil Liberties Union and the Cincinnati Black United Front sued Cincinnati, accusing the police department of failing to end 30 years of police harassment of blacks.

"Outside of Oakland (Calif.), I don't believe there is a city that has this many people dead at the hands of police," Kweisi Mfume, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said Thursday while touring the streets of Over-the-Rhine. "Do you believe that when an unarmed suspect is running from police, has no weapon, makes no deadly moves, should be shot down in a dark alley like a dog, like a pig, like

Please see Riots, A3

Blue and White, Purple and Gold Glaze the Yard



Photos by Shula Wilson

The members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. introduced the new members of their organizations on the Yard on Friday. Above, new members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. stand at attention during their show. At left, a new member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. is congratulated by a fellow member of the sorority. The ladies stepped, sang songs, and chanted during their annual coming out ceremony.



Dr. Gardner Taylor Delivers Easter Address in Cramton

By DERRICK K. NAVO
Hilltop Staff Writer

The heavily anticipated influx of Easter Day worshippers filled Cramton Auditorium for Sunday's service that featured Rev. Dr. Gardner C. Taylor, who delivered a sermon on the relevance of Calvary to the present day.

"Calvary is as contemporary as today's television. Calvary is today's newspaper," Taylor said.

The Easter holiday is the celebration that observes the resurrection of Christ after his death. Taylor showed how the congregation should recognize the miracle.

"We long for some event and specimen of our hope and here it is. Christ rose from the dead and his resurrection is our hope," Taylor preached. "And because he lives we

live; so let the trumpets sing!"

Taylor's sermon focused on Calvary and how modern-day affairs resemble the period of Jesus' crucifixion.

"Calvary is represented by today's singers and the women who laugh at their insults," Taylor said.

He even drew a correlation between Jesus' enemies and the Supreme Court, saying there is someone who sits on the Court who is not what he seems.

Freshman computer science major, Donald Darling, said Taylor had a unique message that really hit home.

"I liked how he related Calvary to modern America," Darling said. "His examples of music and the Supreme Court were quite relevant."

The reverend opened his sermon

with jokes about people who attend church only during special occasions.

"I would wish a flippant 'Merry Christmas' (to the congregation) because I do not expect to see them until next Easter," he said.

Sunday's service had a very large turnout, which almost completely filled Cramton auditorium's 1500 seats. The service was also broadcast live on WHUR-FM.

Civil Engineering major Micah Garrison did not attend the service for the exact reason that most people did attend. He said he did not want to attend church for the wrong reasons.

"Since I have been attending church off and on as opposed to every Sunday growing up, I decided not to be hypocritical and attend service because it was Easter," Gar-

risson said.

During the service, calls to chapel were made by the Ambassadors for Christ, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Phi Beta Sigma, and the School of Business.

Taylor is Pastor Emeritus of Concord Baptist Church of Christ, in Brooklyn, N.Y. He graduated from Leland College, Oberlin College, and has obtained an honorary degree from several universities including Howard.

Taylor has authored "The Words of Gardner Taylor," which includes notable lectures and sermons covering over 40 years of ministry. He has taught at Harvard Divinity School, Princeton Theological Seminary, and Colgate Rochester Divinity School.



AP
Police arrested more than 100 people in Cincinnati after the Mayor imposed a city-wide curfew for the city's residents. Riots broke out all over the city for more than three days following the death of black male teen by a white police officer.

The Hilltop Tuesday

Campus



Check out the latest fashions unveiled at the Spring Black Arts Festival Fashion Show Thursday.

A2

CAMPUS

Voices & Views

How Has Undergraduate Trustee Charles Coleman Jr. Performed This Year?



"As the only undergraduate representative on the Board of Trustees, I think that his capabilities are limited, however, other than the tuition increase he's done a pretty good job."

-Latrice R. Foster
Junior
Biology



"The past two elections I have witnessed as a sophomore and the one term that I have seen, I have to come to realize that the position of Charles Coleman is very profound."

-Erin Carrier
Sophomore
Telecommunication Management



"Although I don't know Mr. Coleman personally the fact that his name is less than frequently mentioned when concerning school policies and advances tells me that maybe his calling in life has yet to be heard."

-Whitney Caldwell
Sophomore
Graphic Design

—Compiled by Vince Smith

'Fiesta' Offers Fun, Fashion Students Can Relate To

By GINGER F. SKINNER
Engage' Editor

It was a "Fiesta," at Cramton Auditorium Thursday for UGSA's annual Spring Black Arts Festival's fashion show. Typically, the show reeks of extremes from makeup to hair to clothing, and all the bare necessities, but "Fiesta" offered something Howard has not seen in shows of recent years: class.

The celebration-inspired show was originally called "One Big Ass Party," but was changed to "Fiesta" due to disapproval by

and the resounding hip-hop influence. While sounds of Jay-Z, Snoop Dogg, Trick Daddy and Beanie Man provided the backdrop, hot pinks, silvers, fiery oranges and khaki greens created a spring-like aura.

One student designer, freshman Cecily Stewart, said Howard fashion shows should feature student designers just as they feature student models.

"It just doesn't make sense not to promote ourselves," said Stewart who contributed creations she calls "clothes that you'll normally see people wear, with an African influence."

No stone-faced mannequin-like models flanked the stage this year; fresh-faced "ordinary" students walked the stage with all the confidence of runway pros in Milan and Paris.

"We weren't necessarily aiming for any type of look," Lima said. She and Moore chose to display the fashions of local and student designers as opposed to the mainstream and often very expensive designers that are neither realistic nor affordable for Howard students.

More importantly, Moore and Lima, using fashions from Savvy Elle, All About Jane, Seek Abundance, Pelaa,



Photo by Shala Wilson
A runway model gets her make-up applied moments before she struts down the catwalk of the UGSA Spring Black Arts Festival fashion show.

the Office of Student Life and Activities. "We still wanted a party theme where people would have fun," says Fiesta's co-coordinator, sophomore Legal Communications major Megan Moore. "Our goal was to create fashions, themes and music that students could relate to."

Moore and co-coordinator Jessica Lima wanted to avoid the usual haute couture-like fashions and images that seem to be customary in recent Howard fashion shows.

"Fiesta" gave function to fashion as students strolled down the runway in glitter, Capri pants, headscarves, hooker heels, tugged-out pants, t-shirts, swimwear and even wife beaters with a millennium flair

Manyilestraveled and True Soldiers, wanted to present Spring with colorful and fun clothes.

From everyday outfits, to nearly nude, to "I-wouldn't-be-caught-dead-in-that-garments," "Fiesta" roared with ghetto-flavored symbols and gritty diversity. A male model gave bandanas a new meaning by wrapping black, red and green scarves around his entire head and strutting bare-chested down the runway. Meanwhile, a female model displayed plastic bubble-wrap as a dress that



Photos by Shala Wilson

Models grace the stage, adorned in student and local clothing lines in the "Fiesta" fashion show in Cramton Thursday.

was ripped from her body to expose, let's just say, her bare attributes.

Students had their own reasons for giving the show a passing or failing grade, but all agreed the fashions were trendy. "It was definitely well put together and the music was off the hook," said senior Tiffany Maxwell.

Howard Students Travel Abroad to Seek Knowledge

By JOSEF SAWYER
Hilltop Staff Writer

Like most Howard University students next fall, KiShawnda McRoyal will be packing her bags to embark at another semester of college. However, unlike most of her peers, McRoyal will be one of the five students selected for next semester to do her studies outside the borders of the United States.

"I chose Ghana because I love West African Culture," said McRoyal, who will be departing for Ghana on August 26th. "I feel obligated to go there to fully understand myself."

Aside from wanting to take a respite from the normal occurrences of Howard life, as well as a change of scenery, some students were interested in traveling overseas simply because of personal ambition.

Sophomore broadcast news major Kerry-Ann Hamilton will be studying in London, England next fall. Hamilton said her motivation to study abroad was something she always wanted.

"Studying in London has been a life-time dream. I am a political science minor and plan to complete my minor courses as well as other electives in London," Hamilton said.

There are few students who come into Howard with the intention of study outside the country for at least one semester. Most are content with just being in a different region of the United States than where they were raised.

Last year Jennifer Darefoot-Smith was not only able to abroad for one semester, but two consecutive ones. Wanting to study in a "Spanish-speaking country in the Caribbean," Darefoot-Smith cites as her reason for going to

Puerto Rico during her first semester in a foreign nation.

For her second semester, she traveled to the West African nation of Ghana. "I wanted to learn about the country and Howard had a program going there I could get credit for."

The mission of the International Studies Program is to produce leaders that are prepared and willing to make positive contributions to national and international society. One would think a program with so much opportunity to expand knowledge and gain experience students would be turn in applications in droves. However, this is not the case. This semester only ten students applied for International Studies. Of the ten only five were selected to complete some of their course work outside the U.S.

According to Betty Aikens, the director of the International Studies Program, the program has seen a diminished num-

ber of applicants in recent years. Aikens, who has headed the service since 1983, says a reason for the recession may be due to the fact the "domestic exchange program was separated from the international exchange program."

For any student interested in the program they must be classified as at least a sophomore, and have one full year completed at Howard University. Also students must have a minimum grade point average of at least 3.0 cumulative g.p.a. to be eligible to apply.

Still, those students who do get the opportunity to study abroad get the experience of a lifetime.

"This is a vital time in our life, we can't waste it or hold back because we are worrying about making time or going to work, I want to be bold," McRoyal said.

Author Speaks to U. Maryland on Reparations and Legacy of Slavery

By RHEA PETERSON
The Diamondback

(U-WIRE) COLLEGE PARK, Md. — When Randall Robinson first began to write his book, "The Debt: What America Owes to Blacks", he wasn't attempting to call for reparations.

Robinson decided, though, that for the United States to heal from its injurious past, reparations must be made.

Robinson, however, didn't focus his talk to the 400 people in the University of Maryland's Nyumburu Cultural Center Wednesday night just on reparations to people of African descent. Rather, he wove a tale of a nation that can only move forward by paying reparations to compensate for the past.

"This notion of reparations in a way is for all Americans, for the soul of this country," Robinson said. "It's our best hope of surviving as a reconciled society."

Before Robinson began his book, his wife told him to travel to Washington and the best way to have a great marriage, he said, is to "just do what you're told."

Campus U.S.A.

U. Maryland College Park

He looked at the Vietnam Memorial and thought about a war where blacks fought and died and saw none memorialized. He surveyed the National Mall, and in a city that is 60 percent black, he said, he saw six blacks. He looked various places and saw no indication slavery ever existed.

"You feel large when you can draw life out of images of former greatness," Robinson said. "This is what history does." But the reason there were no blacks on the Mall, he said, was because "there's nothing there that has to do with us."

Blacks literally built the nation's capitol, and everybody got rich, but the people who were growing tobacco and cotton, he said, they were never paid.

"As we talk about old slavery let us be

keenly aware of the dawning of a new slavery," he said. Robinson cited statistics, such as eight out of 10 black males will be arrested during their lives and half of the people who receive the death penalty are black. "Let us not think tonight that we are talking about something far away and long ago. We can draw a line straight from 1619, from Jamestown, Virginia, to the University of Maryland. The hand of history is always on our shoulders."

Robinson said he sees only two options: The United States can continue to operate in this mode of denial and in doing so ensure the coming apart as a country, or repay those whose lives have been damaged because of the history of slavery, just as it urges other countries to do.

"The issue isn't who's responsible, but when a nation commits a crime they have to make restitution," Robinson said.

Many people in the audience said they didn't know their position on reparations, but were keeping an open mind.

"The whole reparations thing, certain things need to be tailored," said Sean Augustine, a senior journalism major. "But

I wanted to come to see what he was about."

Other students said they thought he made some pertinent points.

"I didn't know where I stood," said Shirin Saiedi, a junior government and politics major said before the speech. "But I want to see how he plans to support it and I was also disturbed by the ad The Diamondback ran. I thought it was offensive and it should be offensive to everyone."

Robinson mentioned the ad by David Horowitz, "Ten reason reparations are bad and racist too." He said he wouldn't debate Horowitz because he didn't want to dignify him with a response.

"It's not about the money," Robinson said when asked about reparations. "It's about denial. The money will be useless if we don't repair ourselves in the head."

Robinson served as executive director of TransAfrica, a lobbying organization on Africa and Caribbean policy since 1977, and as executive director of TransAfrica Forum since 1981. In 1995 he was named president of both organizations.

Coleman Makes Lasting Impact With R.E.A.L. Agenda

From Coleman, A1
HUSA. In addition, Coleman said he felt the University was not upholding its current status as a Division I research institution.

"As of now, we can't compete (with other schools). But, we can't expect to get revenue from the school until we put revenue in," Coleman said.

According to Coleman, his plan for an early graduation/walking policy is beginning to take form. The plan, which is 75% complete, would allow students to walk as long as they can complete the required credits before the end of the following term. Coleman pointed to the fact that many other HBCU's maintain similar policies. The policy would require the approval of the University

Provost, as well as various department chairs.

"Students shouldn't have to wait an entire year to graduate because they are missing one class," Coleman said.

Coleman said he has worked this year at attending as many General Assembly meetings, as well as meetings of the student councils of many schools and colleges. Aside from his accountability to students and the Board of Trustees, Coleman also works actively with other University student governing bodies, such as HUSA.

"HUSA proved to be much more helpful to me in the second semester. The first semester they dealt mostly with Prince Jones, but they were still willing to work with whatever ener-

gy they had," Coleman said of HUSA officials. Coleman referred to instances where he and current HUSA President Sellano Simmons worked jointly towards common initiatives; specifically during the tuition increase protests on campus.

Another strong point for Coleman was the issue of interim and acting positions in administrative positions. Coleman said he has been pressing Swygert since September. Interim positions are currently held in the Student Activities. Although he had student support, Coleman says that many students remained "tight-lipped."

"Students this year were a bit lazy, they weren't willing to participate actively," Coleman said. "I know I had a lot of student support, but as for

vocal support, I was left standing."

Coleman also touched upon alumni giveback within the Howard community. He said the lack of alumni participation was not only because the University did not have an accurate database of alumni, but also because the University has not been aggressive in asking alumni.

Coleman said he has accomplished most of what he set out to do. However, if given the opportunity, Coleman said that he would have wanted to award an honorary degree to Howard alum, Amiri Baraka. Baraka, considered by Coleman as a genius, is known to many as an acclaimed poet and writer. Coleman said he was not able to nominate Baraka because of scheduling conflicts and the eventual cancellation of

the nomination meeting.

Yet, Coleman said that student unawareness is not readily available to students. He said those students who wanted to be active and informed had plenty of opportunities to be. Coleman feels that various programs and his public e-mail address gave students a greater accessibility to him.

Coleman points out that many students still do not know the function or importance of the Undergraduate Trustee.

"When looking for an Undergraduate Trustee, students must ask themselves 'will this person compromise student concerns? Will they fight for me with 100 percent of their energy? Will they be effective?'"



Riots Plague City After Shooting

From Riots, A1
an animal?" Mfume asked Fox News Sunday. City officials claim they have made strides in race relations. They created a citizen police review board and last month adopted a requirement that officers record the race of every

driver during traffic stops as a hedge against racial profiling. Jackson said they have not done enough. "Police separate themselves from the community they need to reach out to the community to show that all cops aren't bad."

After the riot, no easy answers for Penn State U.

By CHARLES BARTLETT
Daily Collegian

(U-WIRE) UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Herb Sharpe, 53, decided to watch the Pennsylvania State University-Temple University basketball game March 23 at the coffee shop where his roommate works. When it was over, he stopped at the ATM machine on the corner of Hiester Street and Beaver Avenue.

"I was really kind of in the wrong place at the wrong time," Sharpe, a State College resident for more than 30 years, said of that night.

Sharpe did not expect to go to the hospital. And he did not expect to have surgery to repair damage to ligaments in his knees.

Sharpe saw the crowd gathered on Beaver Avenue that night and asked some students what was going on. The students explained that some people had gathered in "Beaver Canyon" after the basketball game. But they told Sharpe the crowd was rather celebratory despite the loss. They also said police were present, but they were posing for pictures and joining in Penn State chants.

But then the atmosphere changed. "I saw two streetlights rocking back and forth," Sharpe said. "That's when I thought, 'Oh sh-t.'"

Sharpe was knocked to the ground after a crowd of people ran down Hiester Street to avoid being pepper sprayed by police during Penn State's third riot in four years. He was knocked over and fell onto a piece of pressure-treated lumber. A group of people, most likely students, helped him to a safe area and protected him until his roommate came to take him to the hospital. An ambulance would not have been able to navigate its way through the

Campus U.S.A.

Pennsylvania State U.

tumultuous situation, Sharpe said.

The ligaments in his knees were cleanly torn, and because of the injury Sharpe will have to endure a recovery process that will last anywhere from six to nine months, forcing him to miss work. The injury put him in a wheelchair, causing simple things like getting out of bed or making a pot of coffee to become long, uncomfortable ordeals.

Despite the inconvenience of the injury and medical costs that could become "astronomical," Sharpe has not developed a vendetta against students.

"I don't hate students, because I was a student," he said. "When I was a student we went out and drank and partied, but we never got violent." Sharpe said he does not think the person who pushed him did so deliberately.

But some area and town residents are not so quick to excuse rioters.

William Kunkle of Port Matilda said at an April 2 meeting of the State College Borough Council that any students convicted of any riot-related crimes, even if the students are innocent bystanders, should be subject to expulsion from Penn State.

Other residents expressed not only resentment toward students but fear as well. At the same April 2 meeting, State College resident H.W. Bernard said that he would not walk down Beaver Avenue anymore because of the objects thrown off balconies.

"Even when somebody throws a bottle at a police officer, he throws it at all of us," Bernard said during the meeting, which was convened in an effort to bring students and townspeople together to offer riot prevention suggestions.

Earlier this year, the council came up with 44 suggestions for riot prevention. The suggestions were compiled by borough staff and about 24 local citizens. Among other things, they called for stiffer penalties for rioters, balcony control, more police, free movies on weekends, modified bus services and parking changes.

But Sharpe, a Penn State alumnus who has worked as an apartment manager in State College and as a police officer in Patton Township, does not think stricter penalties or rules are in order — but that a better understanding of students and potential rioters is.

"I'm not a Ph.D., but I'm older, smarter and educated with richness of life experience," Sharpe said. He said students now tend to make the news not because of activism, but because of violence.

"Students today have nothing they can grab onto and say, 'This is our challenge, this is our goal,'" Sharpe said. He said that when he was a student the Vietnam War was going on and students around the country were united in protest of it. "We had violence in the streets, but we let our anger out in constructive ways," he said.

F.Y.I.

The Last Issue of The Hilltop is April 20.

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NEWS

Multicultural Education a Step in the Right Direction

By KERRY-ANN HAMILTON
Hilltop Staff Writer

The Howard University, School of Education Early Learning Programs (HUELP), has bridged the gaps of diversity, fostering programs which are grounded on multicultural education. After 33 years HUELP has continued to evolve into an institution which provides a sound education for young children.

Many programs in the District of Columbia attempt to add diversity as an element of their curriculum, however, HUELP has mastered the art. "It is not just chalk and talk, it is hands on," says Anita Funcherss, a preschool teacher at HUELP. The programs at HUELP engage students in activities, which involve educational displays and tangible learning tools and strategies.

HUELP has achieved accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and is also a member of the National Coalition of for Campus Children Centers. The program has 3 main divisions, the Adele B. McQueen Preschool, the Howard University Kindergarten, and the Howard University Summer Day camp. Classrooms are arranged as a community of learners bringing together children of ages 2.9- through 6-years old.

The multicultural aspects of the program are at the core of HUELP's curriculum. "We have several major programs each year that focus on diversity, these programs involve both parents and children," says Tabitha Ishmael, Director of HUELP. Some of the major events for the year include the UN Day

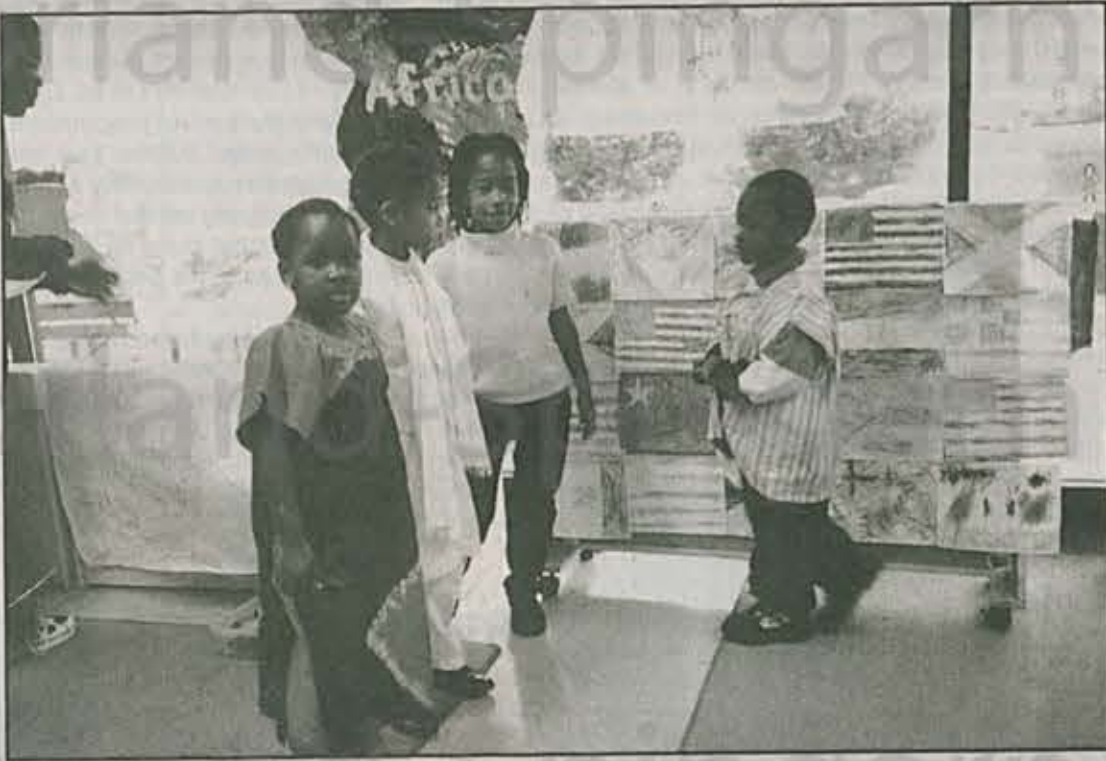


Photo Courtesy of HU Early Learning Center

Children participating in the Multicultural Program at Howard's Early Learning Center.

celebration, where children and their parents present on various countries. Other programs include the celebration of the Chinese New Year, Mexican Fiesta, Hispanics heritage month, Kwanza, Ramadan, and Black History month, this year's focus was prominent women.

Maximilian Younginer, a 5-year-old kindergarten student and his parents did their country profile on the island of Jamaica for the UN Day celebrations. Younginer chose Jamaica because his parents got married on the Island. When asked what did he learn about Jamaica Younginer said, "I learned that the island is surrounded by water and that the

weather is hot." As a part of the Younginer family's display, there were souvenirs and pictures of the island.

Students embrace the teachings and are enthused about learning. "I think multicultural education is important especially when children are young. They have not developed prejudices and, or stereotypes," Ishmael said. The Director further stated that the programs do not make judgements as to which culture is better, but more so make students knowledgeable, thus expanding their frame of reference.

"The structure of our programs give students an appetite for learning, we

focus on areas of history, literature, international foods, dance, and music to name only a few," says Funcherss. The learning environment provided by HUELP exposes children to various cultures and allows them to become more appreciative of others.

The HUELP is a teaching facility for graduate and undergraduate students. "The HUELP provides me with classroom experience and it also allows me to facilitate learning about different ethnic groups," says Alicia Bates a Human Development and Teacher's Certification major. Bates maintains multicultural education is a step in the right direction. "I only learned about other countries briefly in Geography

class, we never got into the various cultures. It is good that these children are being exposed now," Bates further stated.

The HUELP caters to children of faculty, students, and other members of the community. The programs are year round, as the summer fast approaches; HUELP will have their annual summer program. The program in the summer is no different in terms of the multicultural component. This environment will nurture and expose more students like Younginer, who confidently said while being interviewed that Martin Luther King was a scholar of Mahatma Gand-

Students Turn Deaf Ear to Corps Foul Practices

YUSUF KHAN & CHANEL VESTAL
Hilltop Staff Writer & News Editor

Students on campuses throughout the D.C. area have built an alliance with colleges and universities across the country to demand more ethical practices by the Nike Corporation, a major manufacturer and trademark that has been accused of unjust labor practices in its foreign markets. Despite activism on campuses nationwide, Howard university students feel no desire to join the cause.

"I'll be rocking Nike until the day that I die," said Drew Romear a second-year shoes and finance major. Romear has worn Nike tennis shoes ever since he can remember. "Picture me rockin a pair of payless, that's just not Drew."

In 1997, the New York Times printed a checklist of human rights violations in the sporting good corporation's shoe plants in Vietnam. Since then, 153 colleges and universities around the nation have terminated their contracts with the Nike or have refused to do business with the multinational corporation. Among those are area colleges such as American University, University of Maryland, George Mason and Anne Arundel Community College. Even, Lincoln University, an HBCU in Philadelphia has joined the campaign. But, the Howard community has remained silent.

Michael Hill, a sophomore accounting major, said that Nike has become a cultural icon. "Since we were young children, we were constantly bombarded with images of icons wearing Nike," he said. "We were victims of sensationalism and glamorization."

But, Hill said that he did not think a boycott of the brand name would do much good. "It's a no-win situation, Nike isn't the only company that does dirt, the majority of these companies engage in these filthy practices."

Freshman Ashley Mitchell said she doesn't care about the accusations against Nike, she will still wear the products. "I don't really think about all that stuff. I buy Nike because I like the way they look in my feet," she said.

UC-Davis Sends Students to U.K. to Help with Foot-and-Mouth Epidemic

By ROBERT WITMEYER
The California Aggie

(U-WIRE) DAVIS, Calif. — The recent outbreak of the contagious livestock virus known as foot-and-mouth disease in the United Kingdom has prompted University of California-Davis veterinary medicine experts to take extra precautions in avoiding contact with the virus. While foot-and-mouth disease is not hazardous to human beings, the disease could have a devastating economic impact if spread to California livestock.

UCD veterinary researchers believe the outbreak of the disease was caused by someone importing that a person imported contaminated meat to Europe, which ended up in the garbage and was then fed to pigs. The pigs then came in contact with sheep and cows, and subsequently contaminated other livestock, researchers suspect.

"This is one of the most highly contagious diseases," said School of Veterinary Medicine Dean Bennie Osburn. "It can spread on clothing or live in people's noses and throats."

Currently, the UCD veterinary program is training vet students to prevent the foot-and-mouth virus from spreading to the United States.

"Part of the UCD vet students' curriculum includes viruses that cause disease in livestock," UCD veterinary professor Bradford Smith said. "We place more of an emphasis on diseases of California and the (U.S.) so the foot-and-mouth virus is treated like an exotic disease."

Smith, who is director of the UCD Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, added that the foot-and-mouth virus has not appeared the United States since 1929, and that the disease is more common in Europe. While the virus is very contagious, it can easily be contained with proper precautions.

"There is no risk of spreading the disease if you fol-

low ... basic protocol," Smith said.

Prevention techniques include avoiding livestock for a period of five days if one has been in contact with infected animals. Washing infected shoes and clothing in hot water and detergent is another technique that can prevent the spread of the virus, according to Smith.

The foot-and-mouth disease has also raised worldwide economic concerns.

Animal agriculture is sixth largest contributor to California's economy and the largest contributor to California's animal agriculture is the dairy industry. If the disease were to spread throughout California's dairy farms, it has the potential to wipe out the state's dairy industry because infected cows are unable to produce milk.

"The disease doesn't kill adult animals," Smith said. "It affects their tongues, hoof bands, utters and teats, causing the animal to stop milking."

The virus also causes lesions on the tongue called vesicles, which leave the area raw after they pop. Infected animals consequently avoid eating, which then inhibits production of milk.

UCD veterinary professor James Cullor said that while the epidemic in Europe is severe, the disease will most likely not be spread to California.

"It's not something we should be paranoid about, just careful," said Cullor who is also the director of the Veterinary Medicine Teaching and Research Center in Tulare, Calif. "We are sending vets to the U.K. to help because there is a shortage of vets trained in livestock medicine."

"What we are attempting to do is be prepared should the virus enter the country," he continued. "As long as we limit visitors who have come in contact as well as foreign food and livestock, the disease should stay in the U.K.," he added.

Professors Say Bush Handled China Situation Well Despite Tension

By RYAN BROWN
Iowa State Daily (Iowa State U.)

(U-WIRE) AMES, Iowa — A resolution was reached Wednesday between U.S. and Chinese governments for the release of American military personnel being detained there.

U.S. Ambassador Joseph Prueher sent a letter to Chinese Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan expressing regret that the spy plane had entered China's airspace to make an emergency landing, which prompted the detainment.

"We are very sorry the entering of China's airspace and the landing did not have verbal clearance," according to the American statement at CNN.com. "We appreciate China's efforts to see to the well-being of our crew."

China agreed to release the 24 crew members of the EP-3E spy plane which collided with a Chinese military fighter plane April 1. A chartered plane from Guam landed on Hainan Island late Wednesday. Final negotiations are now under way for the release of the crew members and the crew should be back in America within 24 hours. Negotiations for the spy plane, however, have not come to a resolution.

"There are going to be a lot of Americans who are going to be sour at China," said Richard Mansbach, professor of political science. "The relationship between the U.S. and China won't go away."

The United States government still has to decide if it will sell weapons to Taiwan, he said, and China has already spoken against such a deal. Congress might reconsider a vote last year making China a most-favored nation, Mansbach said, allowing them to become members of the World Trade Organization.

This has yet to be voted on by the WTO.

"In terms of day-to-day activities, [the relationship] will do just fine," he said. "The Chinese tend to forget easily."

Although the United States apologized for the ordeal, Mansbach said the government hasn't totally conceded to fault. The Chinese are trying to become a global power both in the economy and military, he said, and top Communist leaders in the Chinese government wouldn't want their public to perceive them as weak in the eyes of the world. This is why, Mansbach said, the Chinese are demanding an apology, claiming the U.S. plane hit theirs.

Reaction to yesterday's news put an end to assumptions about how President George W. Bush would perform under pressure.

"He did fine, assuming this thing is all wrapped up," said Steffen Schmidt, university professor of political science. "Initially, it looked like we're caught off guard. This shows [Bush's] foreign-policy team is a little divided, and he went back and forth in dealing with this problem."

Schmidt said this crisis will better prepare the United States and the Bush administration in their dealings with future international situations.

"I think it has kind of been like spring training for the Bush administration," he said, adding it definitely won't be the last time the United States will deal with China.

Mansbach said he thinks Bush took advice from others during this crisis, which isn't a bad thing because the president shouldn't always assume he knows everything.

"I think Bush took other people's advice," he said. "I think this is a triumph for Secretary of State Colin Powell."

Chinese Activist Visits George Washington University

By ALEX KINGSBURY
U-WIRE (DC BUREAU)

(U-WIRE) WASHINGTON — Chinese dissident and human rights activist Harry Wu spoke at Monroe Hall at George Washington University on Wednesday night to discuss strained relations between United States and China following China's release of 24 U.S. servicemen whose plane collided with a Chinese fighter plane over the South China Sea.

"Our money is saving this dying communist nation," said Wu, to the filled lecture room. "Investing American money will not change China and will not bring democracy."

Wu talked about his experiences in a Chinese labor camp and the nature of the American policy in the communist nation in the speech sponsored by GW's Students for a Free Tibet.

"You cannot teach a tiger to become a vegetarian," Wu said. "We cannot simply change the situation in China with

money."

He called the release of the 24-member air crew from Chinese imprisonment a temporary solution to a problem that is all-too-frequent in U.S.-China relations.

"This happens very frequently," Wu said. "They can see American planes coming on the radar. This time they sent up their jets and crash."

Numerous highly publicized incidents have complicated the U.S.-China relationship.

The Chinese government detained U.S. military fliers for more than a week. A recent bill introduced in Congress a few days into the crisis proposed to reverse an agreement signed by former President Bill Clinton to pave the way for normalized trade relations.

Tensions were also raised when Chinese officials jailed American University fellow Gao Zahn, accusing her of spying.

Wu said China was testing the Bush administration's policy on China when it detained Zahn.

"Hundreds of scholars from the United States and Australia and other countries

are qualified to be spies by the Chinese government," Wu said.

In 1960 Wu, who now serves as the director of the Laogai Research Center, was arrested and spent 19 years in a labor camp for expressing his political views. He left China in 1985 and is now an American citizen.

"I was a skeleton in the camp. I couldn't walk, I couldn't stand, I lay on my back and didn't open my eyes to save my strength," Wu said.

He described his arrival in San Francisco with less than \$100 to his name.

"I worked in a doughnut shop for a time," he said, smiling at the crowd. "The good thing about working in a doughnut shop is that you get free doughnuts."

Despite his efforts to leave his experiences in the Chinese work camp behind him when he came to America, Wu said he was unable to let his fellow countrymen suffer.

"I could not turn my back to them," he said.

Wu said American investments supporting the communist government

repress the country's people. He said that American businesses investing in Chinese businesses are directly supporting the Chinese government.

"Spending money in China will only further stabilize the communist government," he said.

Almost 20 percent of the tax revenue for the Chinese government comes from foreign investment, Wu said.

"Imagine what would happen if they lost that money," he said.

Wu, who spoke for an hour, answered questions from the audience.

He discussed the recent proposed sales of Kidd-class warships with advanced Aegis weapon systems to Taiwan, which also has turbulent relations with China.

"Weapons mean nothing for Taiwan," Wu said. "You have got to work to restrain your business in the country."

"In China these days you can buy many things, you can buy a hamburger and Michael Jordan is very popular," Wu said. "But you cannot buy freedom."

Don't forget to
check out the
last issue this
FRIDAY!!!

/aⁿ_gazh_a/ A Section Devoted to the Fine Arts, Entertainment and Self Expression

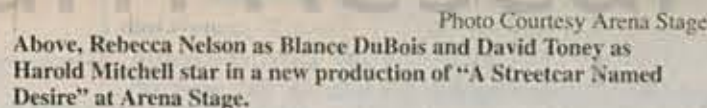
Life and Times of A Black Man

Before the slave trade began and millions of Africans were shipped to this side of the world, most of Europe and Asia viewed our male ancestors as brutes, savages, beasts, and killers with no sense of knowledge. These "beasts" were good only for working in the eyes of Eurasia who realized that the "savages" could be contained as slaves and utilize their strength to build the New World and maintain the physical stability of the rest of

If African American males themselves appreciated more positive aspects of African American males and we uplifted each other, then maybe things would be better and the "other man" will have less to point out about us. Then maybe someday everyone—Blacks, Whites, Jews and Gentiles one day will be viewed as equal. Am I asking for too much? I do not think so because we have come through so much so far. Why should we settle for less now?

'Streetcar' Has a Different Driver at Arena Stage

The play has no "good guy." Blanche is too high and mighty, Stanley is bull-headed and chauvinistic, and Stella is too weak. Another underlying



theme of the play was the relationship between Stella and Blanche. Blanche's control over Stella was obviously the dominant element of their relationship since childhood. All in all, the play was interesting, and should be seen because of its popularity in American literature. Szasz's version of it, however, only made me curious as to what the original version was like.

A Streetcar Named Desire runs through May 6th at the Arena Stage's Fichandler. For more information, visit www.arenastage.com.

HU Rap Artists Vie for 'Fame' With New Releases

Groups Look to Enter Nationwide Scene with Lyrical Assaults

Two of the singles that will be released on the sampler are "Nationwide Takeover" and the title track, "5 Minutes of Fame." "Nationwide Takeover," is

If "Five Minutes of Fame" is concrete, then "Organic Compounds" is abstract. "Organic Compounds," the latest album by Verbal Armageddon veteran Perfecto, is a journey of twelve tracks, from high-tech hip-hop to organic verses. "The album is a wonderful mix of education and entertainment, with a state of the art rhyme structure," said the fourth-year student from Inglewood, Calif.,

If you can't wait until the albums drop or you just want a taste of what artists from "Five Minutes of Fame" and "Organic Compounds" are cooking, both will be performing live at The Cage, 1811 14th St. on Friday, April 20th. For more information, visit www.uhohentertainment.com.

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On Friday:

SportsWeek Superheroes
Bison Round Up
Free Throw
and
the Extra Point

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

Michigan State Coach Supports Freshman's Decision to Enter Draft

The State News (Michigan State U.)

(U-WIRE) MARION, Ind. — At the tender age of 18, Zach Randolph feels he's ready to take on the physical and emotional burdens of the NBA.

"I think I'll go first round, late lottery to 18," Randolph said at a press conference in his hometown Wednesday of his intentions to leave MSU after just one season.

"Every kid dreams of the NBA. It's a challenge, and I like challenges."

Randolph is the second MSU player to declare for the June 27 NBA Draft early. His closest friend on the team, sophomore guard Jason Richardson, declared Tuesday.

They're the first two Spartan basketball players to leave early for the NBA since Earvin "Magic" Johnson did so in 1979 — a year the squad won a title. MSU head coach Tom Izzo said the loss of both players is a setback to the program, but added it was expected. He said both players are chasing their dreams, and he supports that 100 percent.

Izzo said he believes Randolph's decision was based heavily on money. He said the freshman's jump to the NBA will allow him to financially support his family.

"Even if he's a low pick in the first round, it's a million a year," Izzo said. "So yeah, you're guaranteed \$3 million. It's nice to see a guy have a chance to take care of his family."

Randolph, who averaged 11 points a game this season, has yet to sign with an agent, leaving a possible return to MSU open. However, he said his heart is set on the NBA and his family will meet with several agents in coming weeks.

Randolph said he understands success at the pro level will not come easily. He said he also understands he could be a project player for a few years.

Randolph attributes his newfound work ethic to Izzo. The freshman said when he arrived at MSU, his work ethic left much to be desired — but Izzo taught him you get out what you put in.

"I appreciate coach Izzo," he said. "He comes through all the time. He's a great coach."

Scholarship Rule Puts Clamps on Recruiting

Daily Nebraskan (U. Nebraska)

(U-WIRE) LINCOLN, Neb. — Barry Collier has two words for newly hired Texas Tech basketball coach Bobby Knight and his appeal against the NCAA's five-and-eight rule. Good luck.

Collier would like nothing more than to see Knight win his appeal against the rule prohibiting coaches from signing no more than five players in one season and eight in a two-year period.

"This rule was a piece of fast-track legislation," said Collier, who had a similar request for a waiver turned down this past season. "It went through and had next to zero foresight — an unbelievable lack of foresight."

Collier said Knight had no chance in his appeal to the NCAA, in part, because the committee hearing his appeal was the same one that passed the rule.

Collier is in a similar situation to Dana Altman's Bluejays because the Huskers graduated five seniors and had five juniors on this year's roster. This will cause the Huskers to lose one scholarship from the allotted 13 available for next season, and NU will only be allowed a total of 10 in 2002-03.

The NCAA has already denied Knight's first appeal, which asked for the right to recruit six new players, while the latest request asked for seven.

The rule's two basic points, Collier said, were founded upon the NCAA's goal to cut down on transfers and minimize the number of players run off by coaches because of lack of skill and productivity.

The five-and-eight rule affects all three levels of Division I basketball programs — high, middle and low.

Lower-tier programs must worry about their players aspiring to play at higher levels. The mid-majors are affected because coaches have a high turnover rate at that level, thus leading to different systems and philosophies. And finally, high-scale programs are affected with the professional ranks taking away players — sometimes two to three years early.

Gardner Reflects on Lady Bison Winning Season

By ALICIA JOHNSON
Hilltop Staff Writer

People say that you can spot a warrior from the look in their eyes as they head into battle. That fire which lets everyone know that it is their time to take over. Andrea Gardner is a warrior. Not only do her eyes reveal the heart of a warrior, but her dominating presence in the post sends fear into the hearts of her opponents. She was named MEAC Player of the Year after leading the Lady Bison to the MEAC Championship and averaging 19 points and 14 rebounds, making her the top rebounder in the nation. Her intensity and uncanny ability to rebound the ball has left victims throughout the league. Just ask Morgan State, Villanova, or Norfolk State, she dropped a combined 71 points and 53 rebounds on the three teams.

The 6'3" junior from the District recalls hearing the news of her MEAC honors at halftime. "I heard it at the last home game [during] halftime," Gardner said. "I was so excited that I wanted to jump through the ceiling." Much hard work and determination was put into achieving this goal but Gardner credits God, her mother, and fiancée who supported her this season. She also points out the importance of having the support of the team. "Knowing my team is behind me makes me want to go out and do things," she said. Gardner has also provided guidance for the freshmen this year. Forward Shauna Ruglass and guard Simone Agee consider Gardner as an educator. "She wants to teach everyone the skills she



Andrea Gardner takes it to the hoop during a regular season game.

Photo By Mark Coleman

knows...she takes in knowledge and dishes out knowledge." Gardner believes she is just passing down a legacy. "I have to teach someone all I know, [because] I'm leaving and I want to continue the tradition."

Her ability to read the ball is a major factor that sets Gardner apart from other big women in the league. "Drea has great rebounding skills, she can tell where the ball is coming off," said Ruglass.

Gardner looks to continue her success by building up her strength. "I want to make myself stronger mentally and physically... I need to be more

confident in my outside game and build stronger relationships with my teammates."

Proving that they can stick with top seeded teams is a major goal the Lady Bison are focusing on for next year. "We need to put up or shut up in order to show people what Howard is really made of," said Gardner.

Webster defines domination as the ability to rule or control using superior power. Her performance this season has created a whole new definition of what dominance truly is. Like many fans who came to see her play, they know she played in the paint, but they didn't know she owned it. Look for Gardner to dominate again next season.



2 MINUTE DRILL

I'm Blessed

By TYRONE MCCANDIES

Hello everybody, this is Tydigga hitting you off for the last time of my collegiate career. The next time that you hear from me will be as a graduate of this great University. Before I get into my article this week, I want to thank a couple of people. First and foremost, Ed Hill and Romanda Noble (I got my Maryland Eastern-Shore basketball jersey ready for next year) for hooking a brother up with all the information that I needed. Much love to the Athletic department (especially you Ms. Jeffries) for allowing a brother to roll with the Howard's finest on the road over the past 2 years. Next up, much love to Kimothly Brown and Kevin Stewart for putting me down on the Hilltop Sports staff. Much love to Clark Kent (Brandon Bickerstaff) and Camille Harvey for giving me the freedom to do my thing. Finally, much love to the Hilltop staff and the Howard community for reading my articles.

After leaving chapel on Sunday I begin to realize how blessed I am to be a Bison. I didn't realize it at first because of all the trouble that you go through here, but as far as Gregory Tyrone McCandies is concerned, I'm blessed. Like most of the other writers here at Howard, I could have went to a Carolina (you can fill in another school) and covered a big time program, but I would have missed out on my blessings. You ask, what are these blessings Tydigga? I shall tell you my friend. I'm blessed to have watch Ted White rewrite all the passing books in the MEAC. I got a chance to see Elijah Thurmon make cornerbacks look silly every Saturday afternoon. I was there when Howard won the Heritage Bowl (no age, jokes please). I'm blessed to be able to see the women's basketball team dominate team in and year out. Names like Denique Graves, Amanda Hayes, Alisha Hill, Chanell "Shakedown" Washington, Andrea Gardner, and Essence Coggins (future MEAC player of the year) run roughshod over MEAC opponents. I'm blessed to be able to watch the beginning of what should be a very competitive men's basketball team. I've been able to see some great coaching from the likes of Steve Wilson (football), William Moultrie (track), Sandra Tyler and Cathy Parson (women's basketball), Frankie Allen and Mike McLeese (men's basketball), and Larry Strickland (tennis). Okay, we don't own a boatload of national titles nor do we play in the NCAA tournament every year, but I have been treated to some great games, as well as some good people. I won't get into players, but if you're a Howard Athlete or Bison supporter, I would like to thank you as well as God, for the blessings that I've received.

Tyrone McCandies is a Senior Radio Production Major from Lexington, North Carolina.

Swimming Teams End Season on High Note

By CAMILLE M. HARVEY
Sports Editor

The men's and women's swim teams experienced a lot of ups and downs this season. Some may attribute the ups and downs to the transition that they went through. However, throughout all of the transitions, both teams proved one thing: they are a force to be reckoned with in the swimming pool.

At their conference championships, every member put forth a note worthy effort. For the first time in their careers, seniors Salim King and Douglas Harris received medals in the 1650-yard freestyle and the 200-yard breaststroke respectively.

"It was a great feeling," said King. "I had never medalled before and to do it my senior year was a real accomplishment."

Seniors Edith Rickett and Ngozi Monu performed well individually at the NEC championships. Rickett set a personal best time in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 59.50. According to Rickett, it has been a goal of hers since high school. Monu received a bronze medal in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 24.94.

The women's 200-yard medley relay team led by Casilda Trotter, Miriam Lynch, Angelique Diaz and Monu won first place. The women also placed 2nd in the 200-yard freestyle relay consisting of Trotter, Lynch, Monu and Jilandre Atkinson, falling short of breaking the school record by a few hundredths of a second.

Other Lady Sharks who gave impressive shows were Casilda Trotter, who broke her own NEC record with a time of 58.28 in the 100 backstroke.



Photo By Mark Coleman

She was also fifth in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 25.09.

"I look forward to doing better next year," said Trotter. "I didn't do bad, but there is always room for improvement."

Danielle Wilson won the consolation heat in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 1:03.70. Miriam Lynch was just as impressive in the 100 and 200-yard breaststroke as well as the 200 yard Individual Medley. She medalled her breast stroke events. The lone lady diver Lauren Arrington, just missing middle contingent, won fourth in the 1-meter Women's spring board diving.

For the Sharks, Charles Washington represented well in the 100 and 200-yard butterfly. He was also key in the relays for the Sharks. Another key

member for the team was freshman Donte Coleman who swam an impressive leg on the 400 yard freestyle relay which gave the team a third place finish in the final event of the championships. Coleman also gave impressive shows in his individual events as well. Darcy Crute, the lone diver for the men, fifth place in the 1-meter springboard diving. Olufolahan Oluwole also did well in the relays with an impressive leg in the 200-yard freestyle relay in 48.80 as well as in his individual events.

With the loss of six seniors, the team looks forward to bringing back experience and leadership not only during the championships, but also throughout the season.

Wrestling Program Latest Target of Minnesota Investigation

Minnesota Daily (U. Minnesota)

(U-WIRE) MINNEAPOLIS — According to a published report in Wednesday's Minneapolis Star Tribune, the University of Minnesota is looking into possible recruiting violations by its wrestling program.

Compliance Director Frank Kara told the Star Tribune the probe stems from alleged recruitment signing malpractices and whether or not the alleged actions were intentional.

In November 2000, an official statement released by the program announced the names of eight wrestlers who signed national letters of intent, when only four of the wrestlers had signed.

The other four signed acceptance letters, not letters of intent.

Once an athlete has signed an official letter of intent, he or she may not be recruited by other schools.

The other two include signing four non-scholarship athletes to admission acceptance forms before they were accepted into the University.

In April 2000, the program was found guilty of a minor recruiting violation in which coach J Robinson illegally approached a recruit at a high school tournament.

Robinson has denied any wrongdoing.

The current allegations are also classified as "minor" and the internal investigation should be completed by the end of the month.

Robinson is attending the U.S. National Wrestling Championships in Las Vegas and could not be reached for comment. Kara is out of his office until Thursday and also could not be reached.

At the national championships last month in Iowa City, Minnesota won its first-ever team title and the first NCAA championship for any Minnesota team since 1979.

The announcement comes one week after Minnesota women's basketball coach Cheryl Littlejohn was placed on a paid leave of absence in the wake of an internal investigation into the program.

In November 1999, an internal investigation on the men's basketball team revealed widespread academic fraud leading to the deletion of the team's 1997 Big Ten championship and Final Four appearance.

Opinions & Editorial

Are My Eyes Playing Tricks?

ANDREA WATKINS

Over Spring Break I paid a visit to my former high school. I ran into my old year book advisor and she showed me some of the ads that students had purchased.

I flipped through pages of "Congratulations John...Love, Mom" and "Best of Luck in the Future" and many other senior year book advertisements. Then one particular page caught my eye. It had a big picture of a group of six girls in a standard "Detroit club pose" with their names listed below. Along side their names was a short passage, and in this case each passage consisted of them revealing that they were lesbians to their families and friends.

It's time we include homosexuality in the curriculum of sex education because people need to know the truth

This caught me completely off guard. At first I was shocked, but then I scolded myself for being so close-minded I mentioned the page to another student, and she nonchalantly shrugged it off. But I can't just shrug it off.

I am concerned. Is homosexuality becoming a trend? Many gays and lesbians might resent this question, but it isn't meant to offend or insult anyone. It's just an observation. And please, if the shoe doesn't fit, don't play it off and wear it anyway. Over the past few years I have witnessed people actually convert to homosexuality more than I've witnessed people just "come out of the closet."

Honestly, how can a phrase like "turned out" meaning somehow encouraged to change your sexual preference, become familiar to us, if we aren't witnessing a trend evolving right before our eyes? I may be over-exaggerating, but I think being gay is becoming the thing to do. Well, I know you're saying if it's the thing to do, how come everyone isn't gay. The answer is simple; it's rebellious and it's risky. On a slightly lesser scale, it's the same reason why some people haven't gotten tattoos or piercings. Young people are being exposed to homosexuality before they have even become comfortable with their own sexuality, and they are losing the ability to differentiate between the two.

From my own personal experience, I've had friends who walk along the sexual preference line, not committing to either side, just because they're curious. I'm sorry, but let's kill the curiosity. Maybe it's time that we include homosexuality in the curriculum of sex education because people need to know the truth. They need to know that homosexuality is not a default option just because you couldn't find a date to prom. For the females, it's not automatic just because you don't like to wear dresses, and you've never kissed a boy. For the males, it's not automatic because you dress really nice, and your voice is a couple of octaves above Barry White's. You don't have to jump over the line just because you feel like you don't belong.

I am not judging homosexuals; I'm judging those bandwagon riders who get pulled in by every fad or trend. This wouldn't be the first time that our generation tried to imitate a serious issue just to be cool. After all, why did we wear glow in the dark Band-Aids on our bodies when we weren't wounded? This is what I've noticed, but hey, maybe my eyes are playing tricks on me.

Andrea Watkins is a student with an undetermined major. She can be reached at ac Watkins@howard.edu.

Point of View

By Antijuan Jackson



Rioting In Our Neighborhoods Not the Answer

If there is anything black people should have learned from the riots of the 60's and 70's it's not to destroy our neighborhoods. If there is anything they should have learned from the 1992 Rodney King riots in Los Angeles is that damaging property, stealing and trashing black-owned stores is a disservice to our people. What is the point of rioting and expressing disagreement with a decision or actions if we only hurt ourselves in the long

run?

The most recent case of black people knocking over vendor stands, breaking windows of storefront businesses and destroying our property was in Cincinnati. It is a crime toward young black males that white officers keep taking their lives. The fact that Timothy Thomas was shot dead by white police officers while he was unarmed is a cause for protests. Thomas's murder was the fourth time police

killed a black person since November of 2000. His death was number 15 for blacks shot dead by police since 1995. These reasons are enough to take to the streets. But this was not a reason to destroy our neighborhoods.

Take it to theirs. What is the use of rioting if the people you are hurting are you own people? You are only making an example of yourself and the economic repercussions will be long lasting.

Black people in Cincinnati need to think rationally and actually give some thought before they take action to the point when they are going to start destroying and defacing property.

The Graduation Lottery: Will You Win!!

Heather A. McField

It is crunch time for the completion of papers and examinations for Howard Students during the month of April. Many Howard students are socializing on 'the yard' because spring is here! For some students the anxiety is building as the time when they will graduate and receive long awaited congratulations for four, and sometimes five years of hard work and perseverance. At Howard, however, this story all too often comes to a crashing end. The picture remaining is one of lost records, the misadvising of some so called "professionally trained counselor," or you miraculously owe additional funds for classes that you never enrolled in. These are just a few of the stressful situations that many prospective graduates are faced with right up to the last week prior to graduation. The so-called solutions to these quandaries are statements of "you'll just have to graduate next semester" or "there's nothing we can do at this point," and if you are especially fortunate you will hear them both.

In December 2000, after double majoring for four years, I completed my bachelor degree program from Howard University, or so I was led to believe. On April 1, 2001, after my first semester in graduate school at Howard University, I was informed that I had not graduated from Howard's undergraduate school. Try to imagine the feelings of disbelief, anger and eventually horror, that I was nearing the end of my first semester of graduate school, had invited all of my family and friends from the Cayman Islands, and had mentally prepared myself to walk across the yard on May 12, 2001, only to have someone insouciantly inform me "you'll just have to enroll in summer school for the three credits you're missing and graduate in the summer."

Some might assume that my misfortune was due to an err on my part; others may suggest that I should have either followed my scheme more closely or visited my academic advisor more frequently. Actually, I did follow my scheme for graduation. I went to the advisory center every semester for four years, and I visited my advisor in October, December and again in January. Each time I was assured that as long as I passed the classes that I was enrolled in at the time, I would graduate in December. I passed my classes, and as far as I knew I graduated in December. I received academic clearance in October 2000 and my advisor sent a letter to the graduate school, January 2001 stating that I had

graduated from Undergraduate school in December. However, only at Howard is it possible for a person to have graduated without actually graduating.

There is something fundamentally wrong when an institution claims prestige and excellence, yet its administrative system which is at the core of its survival, operates on such levels of incompetence and inefficiency that the institution is incapable of performing the same tasks that it was created to perform. Not to mention the staff, whose job is to provide customer support and service but instead their lack of professionalism and basic administrative skill only provides another excuse for more incompetence. I am certain that I am not the only student that has almost been evicted due to unprocessed loans late in the semester and been told, "you should not have expected your loans to be processed because you know how Howard is." There is no excuse for incompetence and especially not for the terrible attitudes that accompanies it.

The process of graduation should not imitate the procedure of a lottery. With the odds depending upon whether or not one is fortunate to have a last name, which assures you an advisor who is capable of fulfilling his/her job description, or whether or not the 'Banner system' will choose you, as a candidate for the unhappy picture depicted above.

My fellow Howard students, how long are we going to sit back and accept this, and pay increased tuitions in return for platters of poor treatment and a lack of beverages to chase it down? How long are we going to not only aid in the keeping the registration lines long, the continued hiring of inept employees, and the overall strain of the administration process, but fund it as well? In order to obtain an improved administrative system we have to demand university officers to recognize and remind their employees that we are the key elements to the existence of this institution. Without us students, Howard could not exist.

Therefore, we cannot allow ourselves to receive the treatment of vagabonds, instead of direly needed, paying customers. We are at "the Mecca"; we have a legacy of excellence to carry on; we, as Howard students, need to acknowledge this and operate in a manner, which perpetuates this truth. I extend this challenge to and everyone else, who due to complacency, contributes to the continuation of our own failure. We are the products of the Uni-

A Job Well Done

As the year comes to a close and students begin to look back at their time at Alma Mater, chances are that they will fondly remember this year's Undergraduate Trustee Charles Coleman, Jr.

Coleman was elected to the position last year on a platform that emphasized reliable, effective, accountable leadership. Now, as he prepares to hand the reigns over to next year's

attended Meet Your Trustee Night, the event did serve to introduce Coleman and Graduate Trustee Mike Winston to the student body.

Past trustees will quickly note that their voice in the board room is diluted if they don't have the support of the student body. Most often, students withhold support because they don't know who their student representatives are. That is not the case for Coleman.

His occasional visits to the General Assembly and his meetings with the executive boards of the various schools and colleges should serve as an example Undergraduate Trustee-elect Breana C. Smith. Good leadership in the boardroom starts at the grassroots level.

Since reporters are not allowed in the boardroom it may be hard to say how Coleman voted on particular agenda items facing the Trustees.

It can be said with some degree of confidence, however, that Coleman's voice (amplified with the support of thousands of student supporters) did help open the iLab and Undergraduate Library around the clock.

And when the Board balked at a recommendation by the Tuition Rates and Review Committee not to raise tuition, Coleman stood by hundreds of protesting students. His diplomatic approach to the hot topic landed him kudos from top-level administrators and President H. Patrick Swygert vowed not to raise tuition for the 2002-2003 school year.

Coleman's skills in diplomacy and persuasion deserve to be lauded. His stay in office will be remembered for some time to come.

Editorials

Undergrad trustee, it is clear that Coleman has achieved most of his original goals.

This year, Coleman helped bridge the gap between the Undergraduate Trustee position and the students, raised many student concerns to the board, and helped forge a coalition between the student and faculty trustees.

Throughout the year, Coleman has proved himself to be a thunderous voice on issues of most concern to students. At the beginning of the year, Coleman began pushing issues such as parking on campus, more funding for the athletic program and decreasing the number of Interim/Acting around campus — an issue that has just recently been picked up by other campus leaders. All of the issues have since been addressed by President H. Patrick Swygert in his Strategic Framework of Action II. Swygert said that the interim/acting positions will be filled by the new University Provost (and not a moment too soon).

Though few may remember the sparsely

What's your Opinion?

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THE HILLTOP

The Student Newspaper of Howard University Since 1924

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Now in its 77th year, The Hilltop is written and produced every Tuesday and Friday by the students of Howard University. With a readership of more than 10,000 students and community members, the Hilltop is the largest black collegiate newspaper in the nation. The opinions expressed on the Editorial Page are the views of the The Hilltop Editorial Board and do not directly reflect the opinion of Howard University, its Administration, individual Hilltop Policy Board members, or the student body. The opinions expressed on the Perspectives page are those of the writers and do not represent the view of the Editorial Board. The Hilltop encourages you to share your opinions on articles published in the newspaper. The Hilltop Editorial Board reserves the right to edit letters for space and grammatical errors. All letters should be typed, signed and include a complete address and telephone number. Please send letters to: 2251 Sherman Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20001. Questions, comments and letters can also be sent via email to: thehilltop@hotmail.com.



National Medical Laboratory Week April 15-21, 2001

Open House

Highlights

- Information on HU's Clinical Lab Science Program
- Games
- Door Prizes
- Meet our Students and Graduates of the Program

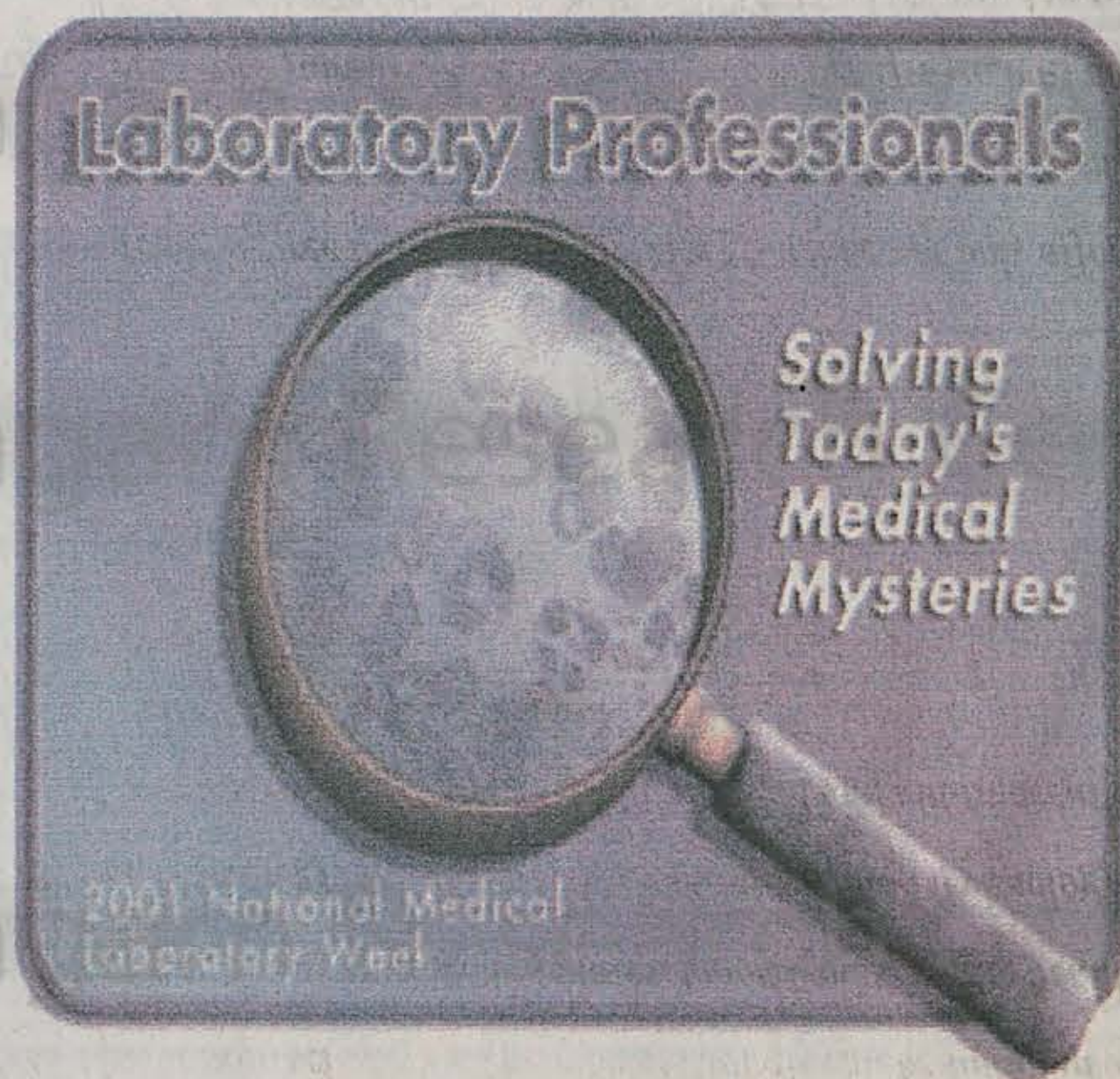
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Time: 1:00 PM

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Annex I
(Across from
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