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THE HILLTOP



Volume 77, No.8

Serving the Howard University community since 1924

October 22, 1993

19th-ranked Bison look to keep perfect record against A&E

By Monica M. Lewis
Hilltop Staff Writer

It seems as if every week there is a different hero in a Howard University football uniform, someone who steps up and helps the Bison keep their perfect record in tact. Last weekend was no exception as seldom-used wide receiver Germaine Kohn caught the game-winning catch with no time on the clock, propelling the Bison to a 44-41 win over Towson State.

And tomorrow is what some call the "pre-MEAC Championship game," as the Bison travel to Greensboro, N.C., to take on the also undefeated Aggies of North Carolina A&T for their championship.

With last week's victory, Howard (6-0, 2-0 in the Mid-Eastern Atlantic Conference) moves up to the Number 19 spot in the latest Sports Network 1-AA poll, while remaining at the

number three spot in the Sheridan Black College Poll. The come-from-behind victory was Howard's first win over Towson in five tries.

After being down 21-0 in the first quarter, the Bison offense awoke to score 24 second quarter points off of three rushing touchdowns from junior fullback Rupert Grant, two one-yarders and a seven yard run, and a field goal from freshman kicker Jason Decuir.

After the half, Howard added 20 more points with an eight-yard touchdown pass from Jay "Sky" Walker to wide receiver James Cunningham; a three-yard pass from Walker to senior tailback Andre Owens in the fourth quarter, putting the score in Towson's favor at 41-38; and the game-winning pass to Kohn with no time remaining.

Walker, who had another record-setting day with three

touchdown passes and 38 of 52 completions for 429 yards, was named MEAC Offensive Player of the Week for the second time this season. Walker is also 12th in passing efficiency in Division 1-AA.

While he did not score, Gary "Flea" Harrell had 13 receptions for 124 yards in last weekend's action. Harrell is now just eight receptions shy of the University's all-time career mark held by Tracy Singleton at 159. Harrell also needs 26 catches to break the MEAC all-time record. Harrell is sixth in receptions among all Division 1-AA receivers.

The Bison offense amassed 612 yards against Towson. They lead the MEAC in passing offense, third-down conversions and kick-off returns, while ranking 14th among all Division 1-AA schools in total offense, averaging 421.3 yards per game, and ninth in passing offense with 287.8 yards per game.

Punt returner Harrell and kick returner Cunningham are two of the top return specialists in Division 1-AA with 10 yards a game respectively.

Defensively, Howard's "Horrible Herd," who was held sackless against Towson, has collected 29 sacks so far this season, while being ranked second in the MEAC behind South Carolina State in total defense.

"We've got a very good defense," Wilson said. "We thought that they played very well against FAMU three weeks

ago and down at Bethune-Cookman two weeks ago. With that type of defense, you should be winning."

Sophomore Marc Christie and junior Jose White have come up with some big defensive plays this season. White leads the team in sacks (7 1/2) and tackles (46), while Christie has collected 45 tackles. The defense has forced 16 fumbles, while intercepting opposing quarterbacks eight times.

Cornerback Dondre Owens, who has 31 tackles of his own, believes the defense has been playing exceptionally well.

"I feel good about my play, but I can only play as good as the entire defensive line," Owens said. "When they don't play well, I can't play well."

As six more games remain on the schedule, hopes are high that the team will be able to play for a title.

"Of course we look forward to making it to the NCAA Division 1-AA play-offs," said defensive lineman Aaron Kinchen.

Said Wilson, "We still have to go on the road and play some tough conference games against teams like North Carolina A&T and Delaware State."

The Aggies of North Carolina A&T (6-0, 2-0 in the MEAC) are the number one rated team in the Sheridan Black College Poll, while holding onto the number five spot in the Sports Network Division 1-AA poll. This is, according to Wilson, always a

big match-up [Howard versus A&T] with an unusual ending. Last season, the Bison fell to the Aggies, 16-14, after a missed field goal by then place kicker Cedric Rawls. Under Wilson's five-year reign, Howard has not beaten

North Carolina A&T. The Aggies, who are two-time defending MEAC Champions, hold a 13-8-1 advantage over Howard.

"It feels good to be undefeated, but we still have a long way to go," Owens said.



Above, #6 Germaine "Bino" Kahn after his game winning reception from Jay "Sky" Walker. Below, Kahn and #1 Gary "The Flea" Harrell celebrate after the Bison sixth straight victory.



THE HILLTOP

THIS WEEK

BACK TO BASICS

FASHION SHOW WILL BE MORE PROFESSIONAL, LESS SUGGESTIVE: The Homecoming Fashion show, according to director Nicole Williams, will focus less on drama and more on fashion. A2

HOMECOMING HOUSING

METROPOLITAN AREA HOTELS GEAR UP FOR ONE OF THEIR BUSIEST TIMES OF THE YEAR: This handy guide to some of the area's hotels will help some out of town guests looking for accommodations for Homecoming. A9

SEEING DOUBLE

HU TWINS SPEAKOUT: Three sets of twins at Howard talk about their experiences throughout life and being mistaken for each other. B1

INTRAMURALS BEGIN

ANOTHER KIND OF COMPETITION: Intramural season begins this week, allowing students to show off their athletic prowess. B5

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"The function of a university is not simply to teach bread-winning...it is above all, to be the organ of that fine adjustment between real life and the growing knowledge of life, an adjustment which forms the secret of civilization."

--W.E.B. DuBois
The Souls of Black Folk

Homecoming week offers a little something for everyone

By Aliya Davis and
Monica Lewis
Hilltop Staff Writers

They want to excite you and take you from Be-Bop to Hip-Hop.

The Homecoming Steering Committee has prepared a week of activities that they hope will allow the student body, alumni and guests to celebrate their differences and diversity.

"This is a revenge year. This is a pay-back year," said Tyrone Johnson, Homecoming's marketing director, referring to Howard's 7-0 loss to Morehouse last year in Atlanta.

The theme, From Be-Bop to Hip-Hop "Culture in Motion," symbolizes the progression of African-American music and African-American culture throughout the years. The committee hopes activities will reflect this progression.

"We are not forgetting who we came from and that we are going forward," Johnson said. "I am totally confident that this will be

the best homecoming of the decade, I am even tempted to say ever."

The week kicks off Sunday, Oct. 24, with the Call to Chapel and the gospel concert. The gospel concert will feature the Howard Choir and the contemporary gospel group, New Sounds. The event will be hosted by Rosiland White, 1992 Ms. Howard and 1993 Miss Collegiate African American. In addition to emceeding the event, White will also perform. The Ms. Howard pageant, which will take place on Monday, is \$4 for Howard students, \$5 for general admission. The pageant promises to be non-traditional and will hold a few surprises, Johnson said.

The fashion show, "Total Recall," will feature the usual creativity of the clothes and the models, but this year there will be no skit or drama additions. There will be two shows, one at 7 p.m. at \$7 for Howard students, \$9 general admission, and the other at 10 p.m. The second show will cost an extra dollar for Howard students

and the general public. It will have more of a "New York runway appeal," said Erika Woods, the public relations director.

Wednesday will be a day to relax and listen to some jazz, rhythm and blues and poetry, and to see cultural and modern dances. "From Be-Bop to Hip-Hop: Five decades of Soul," formerly known as "A night at the Cotton Club," will show the progression of African music and expression. "From Be-Bop to Hip-Hop: Five decades of Soul" will be held in the Blackburn Ballroom from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Admission is \$5 for Howard students, \$7 for general admission.

A night of laughs is planned for Thursday as the "Fat Comedy Jam" takes center stage, featuring Michael Collier, Adelle Givens of the Def Comedy Jam. Comedian Royale will host the event while rap star Biz Markie will deejay. Tickets for the "Fat Comedy Jam" are \$12.50 for Howard students and \$15 for the general public. Howard alumnus Booker T. Wash-

ington III, also known as Chip, will perform.

"The cost of the 'Fat Comedy Jam' is considerably low compared to other comedy shows," said Homecoming Committee Chairperson Beatrice Jean. "The last time Adelle Givens was here was when she was with comedian Bill Bellamy, and tickets for that event were \$22 and \$24," Jean explained.

The Howardfest/Internationalfest will include many cultural events, entertainers and vendors. This event will also feature a new talent showcase of local hopefuls and nationally-known artists from such record labels as Columbia, Epic and RCA. An autograph session completes the planned activities.

Friday evening, the main event will take place when current hip-hop superstars Ice Cube, Redman, Boss and others will entertain up to 10,000 people.

University faces lawsuit over 1992 Blackburn shooting

By Derricke M. Dennis
Hilltop Staff Writer

The shooting death of a 22-year-old United States Naval Officer last October at Howard University's Blackburn Center is now the subject of a \$10 million lawsuit filed in District of Columbia Superior Court.

Reportedly, Craig Austin, an enlistee with the U.S. Navy and stationed in Norfolk, Va., was attending an annual dance sponsored by the LeDroit Park Civic Association at the Armour J. Blackburn Center just before he was killed. His cause of death was reported as multiple gunshot wounds, which he suffered after trying to settle an argument between his girlfriend and another woman over a balloon centerpiece. The shots were fired by the

other woman's boyfriend.

The law firm of Kennedy and Dolan, which is handling the suit, is citing negligence by University security as the primary justification for their court action.

"Just after the shooting occurred, there were people searching all over for a security guard and could not find one," said John Kennedy, Esquire, the attorney handling the case. "We feel, had there been some kind of security at the event, Mr. Austin would be alive today."

But Francis Smith, general counsel for the University, said the University does not provide extra security for non-University events unless it is requested and contracted.

"The LeDroit Park Civic Association was responsible for either contacting campus

security or the metropolitan police for assistance ahead of time," Smith said. "And as far as I am aware, they didn't do that."

Captain Harvey G. Armstrong of the campus security force said everyone was "shocked" by the incident because the event has been held annually without the need for special security coverage.

"We felt this event did not warrant any extra man-power other than the regular security presence around the campus," Armstrong said. "If we felt otherwise, an extra person would have been assigned to the area."

According to Smith, the death of Mr. Austin is tragic, but the University should not be considered at fault.

"It is not our view that we

are legally responsible for the death of Mr. Austin. If it is found that settling the case would be in the best interests of the University, then that's what will happen," Smith said. "But I'm not going to just give money away and give up unnecessarily and without an investigation."

The case, which was just filed in D.C. Superior Court last Friday, is being reviewed by University officials and the litigating attorneys to determine further plans for action.

"Right now we are waiting for the University to respond within the allowed 30-day period," Kennedy said. "After that, I will have to get statements from eye-witnesses, University officials and others involved in the incident

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SPEAK OUT

In reference to Howard University, what does the word "Mecca" mean to you?



"The Mecca is a highly respected place where you're supposed to work together as one race. Originally, that is where the Muslims would go as one and form their pilgrimage."

Zainab Fofana
Pre-med
Freshman



"Howard is the epitome of education and universities everywhere, and HU stands above them all. If you look at our alumni and the type of leaders and people we produce, we are not saying it falsely, but validating our statements all the time."

Edward Rice III
Public Relations
Junior



"The Mecca means a place where there is a melting pot where all intellectual black people come together and study harmoniously together as one."

Odell Cleveland III
Management
Junior



"All African Americans should journey to Howard before their life is complete. Just like the Muslims had their journey to Mecca, I believe it is something they had to do just like it is something we have to do to travel to the University."

Angie Pigott
English
Junior



"The Mecca means strength and unity of African-Americans, where we stand and fight together to make a change in these crucial times of the world."

Brice McElroy
Film Production
Junior



"Coming here and coming together, putting your life together and finding your purpose. It is a center for learning, spiritual learning within ourselves."

Lynn Cunningham
English
Junior

SPEAK OUT SPEAK OUT SPEAK OUT SPEAK OUT SPEAK OUT SPEAK OUT SPEAK OUT SPEAK OUT

Howard students find peace through yoga

By Melissa James
Hilltop Staff Writer

In search of better health and a means to connect with their ancestors, some members of the Howard University community are choosing to learn the techniques of Ancient Egyptian yoga.

Nura Dina, an Egyptian yoga teacher, has been offering yoga classes on campus for about a year at Truth Hall in the Harriet Tubman Quadrangle. She said yoga is more than learning how to flex one's body into complex positions.

"Yoga is an art-science. We're working with chemistry, physics and geometry and with the spiritual, mental and physical self. When you can do a position that directly affects the flow of blood, that's chemistry. When you put your leg in a 90 degree angle, that will help you comprehend geometry on a physical level," Dina said.

Dina, who also has an instructional television show

on Prince Georges County Cable Television called "Yoga Plus," claims there are many benefits to yoga.

"Yoga encourages weight loss, builds a strong body and flexibility. It helps increase concentration and focus. It helps you to control your emotions and circulation," the yoga instructor said. "All of this is done through breathing. Most people do not know how to breathe."

Dawna Ballard, one of Dina's students, feels yoga is beneficial because it allows one to find peace.

"We don't breath right. I felt so relaxed after that first (yoga) class. After a good session, you just feel energized and ready to take on whatever. Yoga gives you strength," said Ballard, a senior Speech Communication major.

Yoga classes are open to all members of the University community. According to Dina, there are currently 15 to 20 students and faculty

members in the class.

The cost for students is \$4 per session; however, Dina is trying to change that. She is interested in having the Howard University Student Association sponsor her yoga classes, so the sessions can be free for all within the University community. The current HUSA administration is in favor of Dina.

"I'm willing to support [Dina] and other students who want to take yoga," HUSA president Terri Wade said.

According to Dina, Bowie State University's student government pays for the yoga classes and they are free for all students.

Dina enjoys teaching and hopes that more students participate in her class.

"I knew that I had to work with my people. A lot of students are taking drugs and eating foods that are toxic to their minds. What I'm doing is a community service," Dina said.

HOMECOMING UPDATE

Sunday, Oct. 24 Gospel Concert Place: Cramton Auditorium Performers: Howard Gospel Choir "New Sounds" Contemporary Gospel Choir Time: 7 p.m.	Time: 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 27 "Be-Bop to Hip-Hop: 5 decades of Soul Extravaganza" Place: Blackburn Ballroom Time: 8 p.m.	Friday, Oct. 29 Concert Place: DC Armory Performers: Ice Cube Redman Boss and many more Time: Doors open at 7 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 25 Ms. Howard Pageant Place: Cramton Auditorium Time: 7 p.m.	Thursday, Oct. 28 Comedy Jam Place: Cramton Auditorium Performers: Michael Colyar Adele Givens Booker T. Washington III D.J. Biz Markie Time: 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.	Saturday, Oct. 30 Game against Morehouse Place: RFK Stadium Time: 1 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 26 Fashion Show Place: Cramton Auditorium		Saturday, Oct. 30 Step Show Place: D.C. Armory Time: 4 p.m.

The Graduate Newsletter

School of Divinity
Howard University School of Divinity sponsors an Evening Fellowship Service every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. It is open to the University community and the general public. This week, Dr. Rena M. Smart, a visiting professor of Ethics, will be the guest speaker.

churches, pastors and community leaders will be held at the HUSD on Oct. 25 and 26. The conference titled, "Our Youth Today & Tomorrow," will feature U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno. The conference will consist of various panel discussions and presentations. For more information, contact Cassandra Newsome at 806-0500.

The first meeting of the International Law Mentor Program sponsored by the D.C. Bar will be Tuesday, Oct. 26, at 5 p.m. in the 2nd Floor Conference Room, Notre Dame. Students who previously registered for the program should contact L. Conti immediately.

The Howard C. Westwood Fellowship Program (sponsored by Covington & Burling) seeks applicants for its

one-year fellowship program beginning in the fall of 1994. Fellows work as staff attorneys with the local neighborhood Legal Services Program, providing free legal services in civil cases to lower-class D.C. residents. Applications are due by Jan. 31. Packets are available in the Office of Career Services.

The Graduate Student Assembly
GSA President Patrick Oates wants to familiarize the grad-

uate community with its following officers:

- Tamika Jackson, vice coordinator (Medicine)
- Benjamin Gilbert, financial coordinator (Dentistry)
- Tanya Bender, executive secretary (Communications)
- Heidi Lovett, program planning committee (MBA)
- Michael Edwards, public relations committee chairman (Law)
- Stephanie Ellis, grievance committee chairperson (Divinity)

GSA goals are to address graduate student concerns to the administration and to foster a climate for the progressive academic development of the University graduate and professional student body.

Please submit articles to the Graduate Newsletter: c/o George E. Holmes, M.A., H.U. Blackburn Center, Suite 102
Office numbers: (202) 806-7007 or 7008

HU CRIME REPORT

Oct. 1 A resident of Carver Hall and two other subjects were found to have been involved in an armed holdup of a food delivery man.

Oct. 2 A Bethune Hall resident reported that two video cassettes were stolen from a couch on the sixth floor of Bethune. The two individuals found with the tapes were issued a warning notice and escorted off the premises by Howard Security.

Oct. 3 A Howard coach reported several items taken from the equipment room in Burr Gymnasium. Some of the property was recovered by Howard Security after a chase.

Oct. 6 A car on Parking Lot C was broken into and personal items were stolen. Howard Security found no sign of forced entry into the car.

Oct. 10 A person struck the southeast wall of Cook Hall driving a vehicle. Investigation revealed that three subjects were detained by Metropolitan Police.

Oct. 11 A Howard resident of Meridian Hill reported to security that while he and other students were waiting for a bus across the street from the dorm, two unidentified black males approached them. Subject one held a gun, wore a tan hood and commanded all to drop their money and wallets, while subject two removed properties from all. The incident is under investigation.

Oct. 12 A Howard Plaza resident reported that he placed his 14-karat gold-linked bracelet on his desk in his apartment and upon his return to his room, he noticed that unknown person(s) had entered his room and removed his property. The incident is under Howard University investigation.

Oct. 13 A car on Parking Lot T was broken into and the car radio was stolen. The radio was recovered by Howard Security.

Oct. 14 A Sony color television and computer circuit board was reported missing in the engineering building by an office worker. Howard Security was notified and responded.

Compiled by Aliya Davis

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Understanding the real issue in Somalia

What is the purpose of President Clinton sending more troops to Somalia? What does this country have to gain?

The original purpose for U.S. troops being sent to Somalia was to feed starving women and children. President Bush sent troops for the goodwill mission last December. When they arrived in Somalia, they arrived to a country where the government appeared to be in a state of disunion. There were so-called "warlords" who ruled Somalia and made it somewhat difficult, if not impossible, for the troops to send food to the starving people.

The United States had no interests in the country as far as profitable resources were concerned. It was strictly a humanitarian trip for the U.S. troops.

Now, it has been nearly a

year since the U.S. troops first arrived in Somalia. Starvation is no longer the main issue, so what is the new mission for the troops?

As it has been reported in the past week, American troops are being injured, killed and captured by Mohamed Farah Aideed's men, and the president of the United States wants to send more troops to protect and/or defend the ones who are already there. But wait a minute. Wouldn't it make sense to pull troops out of that country right now and maybe leave Somalia alone? After all, the U.S. has no business in that nation. Could President Clinton's decision have been made on the basis of pride? His philosophy is "Hey, they can't get away with that. We're the United States of America, leaders of the free

world."

There's no doubt that what Aideed is doing is wrong. He is right now the leader of Somalia's government—a government that is tattered. And it doesn't appear that Aideed has his people's interests at heart. What is Aideed's agenda for his African countrymen? It's obvious that he doesn't want the white man in his country. When the American troops leave, how will Mohamed Farah Aideed want to be remembered by Americans? As a warlord who is oppressing his own people or a leader trying to establish a new government that will hopefully bring order to a sloven country?

Letter from HUSA: Our Black men are dying

Warning: Being a black man in America may be hazardous to your health. The ravage of AIDS, drug abuse and black-on-black crime, to say nothing of the rise in the usual scourges that have traditionally plagued African-American males, specifically disease, poverty and incarceration, indicate that being a black man in America may indeed be hazardous to his health. It certainly reduces his life expectancy.

Not only is an African-American man born in Harlem more likely to die before the age of 40 than a poor peasant born in Bangladesh, but his chances of well-being as a survivor are dismal as well, according to a study in the prestigious *New England Journal of Medicine*. Data collected by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) supports this grim analysis. The life expectancy of a black man is 69.4 years; that of a white man is 75.6 years.

This vicious life cycle begins at birth, from the moment we draw our first breath. Black male babies, as opposed to white male babies, are twice as likely to die shortly after birth. A key factor behind these deaths is that too few black women have access to prenatal care in the first three months of pregnancy. This results in increased low birth weight

rates, which is one of the leading causes of infant mortality and can be a result of socioeconomic conditions, smoking and substance abuse.

Why is this happening? A combination of poverty and inadequate health care services has struck mortal blows in African-American communities. If statistics of this great magnitude of death were occurring as a result of a natural disaster, we would be living in a "designated disaster area."

Like after a war, a major political and financial commitment is needed to eradicate the root cause of high mortality: vicious poverty and inadequate access to the basic health care, a right of all Americans.

In light of the fact that the life expectancy of black males in America is under scrutiny, what actions should be taken to address this dilemma? We must first increasingly focus on the prevention of disease and the promotion of health, to ensure healthier and more productive futures for all Americans, a by-product which will also reduce the cost of health care.

Furthermore, in order to halt the spread of drug abuse and AIDS, curb teen pregnancy and repair our broken families and shattered neighborhoods, we must cultivate a

stronger ethic of personal responsibility, a culture that nurtures values such as moderation, self-discipline and self control. As a Ghanaian proverb states, "The ruins of a nation begin in the homes of its people." Efforts to deal with these problems must begin at home—in the black community.

The tougher issues that we must tackle are the impact of AIDS and homicide in the black community. Statistics maintained by the NCHS show that AIDS is the ninth leading cause of death for black males. Homicide remains the leading cause of death for black males between the ages of 15 and 24 and is the leading cause of death of one in every three black men between the ages of 20 to 24. I believe that African American men will face an uphill struggle to maintain a decent quality of life.

America, will you help to change a dying and diseased black male into a living, healthy black male? Remember the Ethiopian proverb: "When spider webs unite, they can tie up a lion." In 1993, the lions of poverty, violence, ignorance and apathy are alive and strong.

Bryan Jay Parker is the HUSA Coordinator for Health and Human Services.

Letter to the Editor: Black racism is an oxymoron

I was somewhat upset by an article that appeared in *The Hilltop Perspectives* (Sept. 10, 1993). The article, as far as I am concerned, was extremely negative and way off base. The author, instead of dealing with the real issue of white racism (the only real racism), attacks a fictitious enemy, which he conveniently deems black racism.

The author says in the article that blacks who term whites as devils are just as bad as whites who condemn blacks as inferior. This could not be farther from the truth. If you look at the historic and current treatment of black people by whites, "devil" is not too strong a word to use when describing whites. Blacks, on the other hand, to this very day try to love white people and appreciate them, even though they almost always are rewarded with some form of injustice. To compare blacks, who are not afraid to call out

the crimes of a criminal group, with white people, who have made a career out of raping and pillaging the world, is a joke. It is like attacking a flock of sheep deciding to fight back against a pack of wolves.

The author picks an easy target in attacking black people. It's the Amerikkkan way to attack black people, and it's easy to attack your own people since white Amerikkka will always support you. What is not so easy, is to go against the grain and not attack the victim but to take the criminal to task for his crimes. White people have never and never will be victims of black racism since there is no such thing. Black racism is an illusion, wielded by the powers that be, used to make whites out to be victims. But one need only look and examine who has enslaved and who has been enslaved, and who has killed and who has been killed, who oppresses and who is oppressed, and who is on top and who is on the bottom

to see who the real victims are.

It is imperative that we blacks unite and see that white people have almost never, and almost never will do anything that is in the best interest of blacks. The author of the article must also realize that white people do not need him to defend them. It's us who see genocide as an unfortunate reality looming overhead who are in need of defense. If the author cannot say anything positive about blacks who have seen fit to defend other black people and attacks those who have only demonstrated an intense desire to rid the world of blacks, then he need not say anything at all. It would be much more beneficial to us, as a people, if he and others like him would stop attacking their own and would just sit back and watch as we attempt to build a nation.

Ta-Nehisi Coates is in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Setting the record straight

We, deans within the Divisions of Academic Affairs and Health Affairs at Howard University, have read Dr. Franklyn G. Jenifer's statement, "Setting the Record Straight", and find it to be a fair and accurate account of the background and issues concerning the controversy about the new faculty handbook.

In addition to being deans, we are also tenured faculty members at Howard University and are as concerned about the academic freedom as anyone. In both capacities, we express our strong support for the approach that President Jenifer has taken in this matter.

We agree that there are provisions in the faculty handbook about which reasonable people could disagree. The disagreement, however, should occur in an atmosphere characterized by reasoned debate, mutual respect and collegiality. We urge all members of our University community to avoid the use of hyperbole, inflammatory rhetoric or irresponsible conduct.

It is critical that we conduct ourselves in a manner that will support and strengthen the basic values and goals of our beloved Howard University.

Dr. Lawrence Johnson, School of Business
Dr. Jannete Dates, School of Communication
Dr. Gene Gary-Williams, College of Arts and Health Sciences
Mr. Harry Robinson, III, School of Architecture and Planning
Dr. Clarence Lee, School of Arts and Sciences
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Dr. Charles Epps, Jr., College of Medicine
Dr. Dorothy Powell, College of Nursing
Dr. Wendell Hill, Jr., College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Dr. Richard English, School of Social Work
The Honorable Henry Ramsey, Jr., School of Law

Letter to the Editor: Jenifer has some faculty support

Raymond G. Dobard

Dear President [Franklyn G.] Jenifer:

Please accept this letter as indication of my support of your presidency. As a 19-year veteran of quality teaching and creative research, I find *The Hilltop* article [Oct. 1, 1993 *The Hilltop*, which spoke of the faculty's

no-confidence vote] distressing and distorted. To my knowledge, no poll of the entire faculty has been taken. The consensus of the 15-member Senate Committee is not one that I share. For those of us who constitute the backbone of the teaching faculty, the new position regarding tenure is not threatening. In fact, I believe that an institution must have the ability to rid itself of non-productive fac-

ulty if the university is to move forward.

I find it fascinating that some faculty have so much time on their hands that they are able to engage in defamation. Please know that you have my support.

Raymond G. Dobard is an associate professor.

Letter to the Editor: How Afrocentric is Howard

This is in response to Dr. Russell Adams' column, "Afrocentricity Defined at Howard" (Oct. 8). Though it was stated that the column was just an overview of what Afrocentricity is, it nevertheless, left more questions from the issues it raised.

For instance the column argues at least indirectly that the Howard administration has always supported the African-centered concept even before the word became en vogue. If this is true, why was student demand necessary to establish the Afro-American Studies Department in 1969.

Dr. Adams also

noted that some 131 courses have an Afrocentric emphasis. But what about the thousands of other courses offered at Howard? If they are not Afrocentric, what are they? This point is especially relevant with many Humanities and Philosophy courses that glorify Greeks and so called Greek culture. It would seem that minimal requirement of anyone who promotes Afrocentrism would be able to resolve the debate on the originators of Western civilization—the Greeks or the Egyptians. Speaking of the Greeks, Howard also maintains flourishing Greek letter fraternity and sorority organizations. Are

they too Afrocentric?

Without ever addressing the poor defense of not linking Afrocentrism with Pan-Africanism, it seems Dr. Adams left too many questions unanswered. Therefore, Howard has a long way to go from its current, limited, fragmented and above all—surface Afrocentrism—to truly embracing an Afrocentric perspective as its University-wide curriculum foundation.

Tracy Boyd is a senior studying African Studies.

WE WELCOME YOUR LETTERS AND COMMENTS

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2251 SHERMAN AVE. N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20059



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PERSPECTIVES

Love: A rarity on Howard's campus?

Love, according to 1 Corinthians 13: 4 to 7, is very patient and kind. It is never jealous or envious. It is never boastful or proud. It does not demand its own way. Love does not hold grudges. Love is never glad about injustice, but rejoices whenever truth wins out.

It goes on to say that love is being loyal to someone no matter what the cost. Love is believing in someone and always expecting the best of that someone and always standing ground in defending that someone.

How many times on Howard University's campus have couples said "I love you" to each other and then turned around and been unfaithful? Now, I know this happens all across the world everyday, but my experiences with relationships and the "I love you thing," I've seen firsthand on this campus.

People say "I love you" not knowing or sometimes not even caring about all that comes with it. Some people say it because that's the quickest way to get in the "draws." Some people say it

because that is what's expected of them to say when someone else says it to them.

Do these people ever stop to think what love truly is and how beautiful and rare true love is? In a world filled with so little love, why are people on this campus so willing to abuse it, discard it or take it for granted.

When you say "I love you" to someone, it should be an honest, deep personification of your feelings for that person. With the exception of making love to someone, these three words are the deepest, most personal avenues to someone's heart and soul.

When you say those words to another person, you are accepting and giving a lot of responsibilities. Notice I said responsibility. People often confuse that concept of a relationship to



mean sacrifice. When you truly love someone, the things you give up aren't sacrifices but reinforcers. You do those things to reinforce your love and commitment to that other person.

With true love comes responsibility. You have to be more

responsible for yourself and the one you're with. The things you do can greatly affect the one that loves you. You should not do whatever you want and have no consideration whatsoever for your other half. You almost in part become responsible for that

look like. Those are some of the silly things you do when in love, and those silly things mean the world.

Do not say you love someone because you have nothing else to say. Do not say it because they

person's feelings.

When you truly love someone, you find yourself concerned and interested in everything they do. Things you never paid any mind to before mean the world to you now. A phone call from this person leaves you smiling the whole day through. If this person is unhappy, you find yourself unable to be happy too.

Eventually plans are made. You promise to be with that person forever and a day. You name your children and wonder what they'll

said it to you and now you feel obligated to say it to them. True love is something beautiful, rare and extremely special. It requires a great deal of patience and hard work. If you take the time to work and nurture that love, you'll be blessed with the true happiness of life: to love someone who loves you just as much as you love that person.

The luckiest person on the face of the earth is the one who finds true love. Don't abuse it, turn away from it or take it for granted. It may never come back.

I used the definition of love according to the Bible. It, in my opinion, is the best description of something so abstract. I myself have never been in love or been loved like described above; and looking at the way people at Howard University love, I can do without. Too many of you just don't know the meaning of the word.

Anonymous

To know its history is to define 'nigger'

Yohance Maqubela

Rarely do I feel moved to respond to letters that express views contrary to mine. However, after reading Thucuma Kamara's letter discussing the "nigger," I felt compelled to speak.

The use of nigger by Africans to refer to one another reflects a lack of knowledge of our history. When one looks at the origins of nigger, one finds that it is a derivative of negro, which is a derivative of the Greek word "neko," which means dead.

Europeans used this image of death as a basis of a term to define all Africans. While some people argue that nigger means any ignorant person, regardless of race, in actuality, the term was first used, and exclusively created, to refer to Africans.

I challenge anyone to produce literature from past times where a European refers to another European as a nigger. Therefore, the only definition is the European definition, which defines us as dead, ignorant sub-human beings. When you don't know your history you are doomed to

let other people teach you their version.

Today, nigger means the same thing that it did for hundreds of years. Contrary to popular belief, nigger is not our word. While it is possible for a group of people to change the meaning of a word in their subculture, this is not the case here. To transform a negative into a positive, the usage of the term must be innovative (changed), as displayed with the term "bad".

However, our usage of nigger has never changed, and is exactly the same as white people's

usage. Through slavery, reconstruction, civil rights and the present, we have called ourselves "niggers."

If we have changed the meaning of "nigger," why is it that our interpretation has the same meaning of a slave master in 1790?

"This is a fine nigger here." "What did you say nigger?" "My strongest nigger fight your nigger." "Niggers, you better get in here before massa sees you."

If today's meaning of this term is so different, why did our parents, grandparents, and so

on, use the word just as we do today? Not all white people used and use nigger as an intentional insult, but rather as we use it, as a substitute for black person. The only change here is from "er" to "a".

The most damaging aspect about defining brothers, sisters and yourself as "niggers," is the fact that this action totally cuts us off from a glorious heritage of kings and queens, and replaces that with an existence of jail, drugs and miseducation that began as a slave, because there were no niggas in Africa.

A nigga is some self-hating, self-dehumanizing creature that the devil created here. Whether one likes it or not, this is how Africans who refer to themselves as niggas project themselves to the world. And if you don't respect yourself, then no one will.

So whether they be "my niggas," "they niggas," "big niggas" or "fine niggas," they are all the same niggers, and white people look at us, laugh and say, "dumb niggers."

Yohance Maqubela is a junior majoring in finance.

Don't be surprised by a brother doing a good thing

Tracy Mellencamp

Two weeks ago I was in the Blackburn Center headed for the campus store when I noticed a nice-looking young black man giving away movie posters and selling an newspaper/magazine called Artistic Pedigree. All of the movie posters surrounding his booth on the ground floor plaza attracted me to the magazine that he was selling. The magazine, printed on standard newsprint, had the cast from "Living Single" on the cover so I decided to buy the paper and get the free poster from the movie "Bopha."

But not before I found out a little information on the guy selling the paper. His name is Preston Jenkins and he is a senior in the College of Fine Arts. The newspaper/magazine that he was selling was his. He owns it, publishes it, edits it and obviously, he markets it.

Needless to say, I was impressed. Not only because he was so young and positive, but because the paper looked better than some other newspapers currently on the market. And I'm sure the owners are much older than Preston Jenkins.

I was really impressed with his attitude. He is so positive,

self-motivated and profound. He didn't view me as a dollar sign. He viewed me as a valuable reader and even gave me a number to call to offer some suggestions on how to make the paper even better. And when I went home to read Artistic Pedigree, I was even more impressed. I read all of the articles. I could relate to all of the articles. Artistic Pedigree included excellent articles and reviews about recording artists Toni Braxton, Lenny Kravitz and Ziggy Marley. It also included book reviews on Pearl Cleage's *Deals With The Devil* and Marita Golden's *Wild Women Don't*

Wear No Blues. In essence, Artistic Pedigree was very well done.

What I will remember the most about my five-minute conversation with Preston Jenkins is what he said when I said "It's nice to see young black men doing positive things." As he looked me straight in the eyes he said, ever so politely, "you've been reading too many newspapers and watching too much television. There are many more brothers doing positive things than negative things. And don't get caught up with how young I am. You have to remember there are 22-year-old brothers mak-

ing major motion pictures and making them well."

He was right. Without being rude, what he was really saying was that we should not be surprised when young black men are doing positive things. We should be surprised they do negative things.

Needless to say, I look at things differently now because of Preston Jenkins and Artistic Pedigree. For one dollar (the cost of the newspaper) I got a poster, entertainment news and information and an education that you will not get in a classroom. I learned to expect great things from my brothers and sis-

ters. And I now know that when we are shown in a negative light it is the exception rather than the rule.

Notwithstanding the fact that he is a Howardite, Preston Jenkins is expected to do great things. Notwithstanding the fact that he is only 22-year-old, Preston Jenkins is doing great things. Notwithstanding the fact that, yes, there are a lot of brothers doing great things, I am still impressed by Preston Jenkins and his Artistic Pedigree.

Tracy Mellencamp is a Howard student.

Animals have rights in biology lab too:

A letter from the Humane Society of the United States

Dr. Jonathan Balcombe

I will always remember the small, dead, black and pink, squint-eyed, piglet I purchased in a see-through plastic pouch for \$9 from a shelf at the back of the campus bookstore. I remember lying the four tiny cloven hooves to the edge of the dissection tray with rubber bands and the animal lying there prostrate, splayed-legged, tongue protruding. I remember the first incision down the chest and belly, the soft skin splitting open.

My pig was just one of hundreds of thousands of animals killed that year for use in college dissections. This year will be no different. New shipments of cats from the shelters and the

streets, dogfish from the gill nets and fetal pigs from the slaughterhouse will arrive for the general biology or the comparative anatomy courses. Dissecting trays will be plunked out of cupboards and slithery, gray, lifeless bodies will be plunked onto them. Sometime this spring or fall, the smell of formaldehyde will permeate the biology halls as the annual ritual of dissection is once again carried out.

In the physiology labs, too, life will be taken from sentient creatures while students look on with mixed emotions. Pithing probes and circular saws will invade the bodies of frogs and turtles so their still-living body parts can be

watched and manipulated. Once again, animals will be made lifeless, both literally and symbolically — educational resources used, then discarded.

I also remember asking myself if all of this is okay. Should an animal die so I can see exactly how a pancreas connects to a small intestine? Does my education justify the gassing of a stray or abandoned cat, the "harvesting" of wild frogs or the exsanguination (bleeding out) of a pregnant pig? Will this exercise foster respect for the environment in my generation of policy-makers? Is it possible to affirm life while extinguishing it? I eventually answered "no."

By the time I was a grad-

uate student teaching biology labs, I made sure my students gave thought to these matters and decided for themselves whether they would dissect. Many of them wouldn't. They had to submit a statement to the course coordinator explaining their objection to the exercise, and they had to attend classes and take the exam like all the other students. But they didn't buy a pig, they didn't dissect and they did well on the exam.

If you are to take a course in which animals will be harmed, you too, needn't harm animals. As a student, you are entitled to an education that isn't adverse to your sincere beliefs, and there are many ways to learn animal struc-

ture and function that don't involve the termination of an animal's life. Today, there is an abundance of computer programs, video discs, models, self-study modules, charts and manuals to help you learn without harming any animals.

Non-invasive field study is another excellent "alternative" to many traditional exercises. Moreover, a growing number of published reports are revealing that students are saying "no" to harming animals in their schooling. The availability of alternatives and the number of dissection choice policies are rising steadily.

But it is only by speaking out — politely but firmly — that you will make a

difference. Change comes not from quiet acquiescence to dubious practices; it comes about when those practices are questioned and challenged. As your college experience unfolds, you can wander through it as one would an art gallery or you can participate actively in it. I recommend the latter option. Invest in it with your conscience as well as your mind. If you believe it's time for a change in how animals fit into college education, do your part to bring about that change.

Dr. Jonathan Balcombe is a biologist and assistant director for Education with The Humane Society of the United States.

PERSPECTIVES II

Society, not male aggression, manifests date rape

Paul Arnold

I am a rapist of women. I have been one for a number of years, and I offer no apologies for my actions. You see, what I consider rape to be and what many champions of the "rape crisis movement" consider rape to be are two totally different things. Let me explain.

When most people think about rape, the usual image is that of a lone victim walking alone at night suddenly being attacked and violently raped by a crazed stranger. However, the more enlightened realize that acquaintance rape or, as it is more popularly known, "date rape," occurs far more often than the stereotypical model.

Date rape is a very real crime, and its perpetrators should be punished. However, I have a problem with a frightening new trend coming out of the "rape crisis movement." It is the attempt to expand the definition of rape and, by consequence, label me and countless other men as rapists.

In 1989, the Stanford Rape Education Project included "psychological coercion" in its definition

of what constitutes sexual assault. To many feminist "rape awareness" vigilantes, this interpretation includes being ridiculed, humiliated or pressured, either verbally or emotionally, into an unwanted predicament. To me, it means the door is left wide open for women who engage in sexual activity with me to cry "rape" if they feel confused or uncertain about the situation afterwards.

I cannot remember how many times I have met a woman somewhere and eventually persuaded her to come home with me "just to talk." Then later on, after consensual sex, she feels reservations about having gone so far with me. Should I feel guilty because I knew I had more than conversation on my mind? Ask any man how many times he's been on the couch with a girlfriend, when she asked him to stop his advances because things were getting too hot and heavy, but he continued anyway and eventually had sex with her. More often than not, he will tell you he can't remember. While these actions may be insensitive, they certainly are not criminal.

In both instances, the woman

may or may not have wanted to engage in sexual activity but because male intentions were otherwise, and female resistance was either absent or passive, sex occurred. Am I a rapist for following natural urges? Is a man a criminal because he somehow verbally or emotionally "pressures" a woman into sex with his sweet talk? I would hope not.

Apparently many Howard University women feel as I do, if you take a look at Howard University Security crime report records for 1991 and 1992. Only one instance of rape was reported on campus during each of these years. However, "the numbers are misleading," according to Lawrence Dawson, the director of Howard University security. "Date rape is a very underreported crime due to the embarrassment women feel and the lack of confidence they have in the system."

Every semester Howard Security offers acquaintance rape awareness seminars for interested students. At these programs, women are educated about the dangers of date rape and how they can avoid sticky situations because

as Dawson put it, "men still don't think 'no' means 'no,' and women think they can act however they want to."

Howard Security follows D.C. laws and treats date rape just like they would any other rape. Thankfully, the University has not taken an ambiguous position akin to those of the feminists.

Another problem I have with the new "awareness movement" is with the attempt by feminists to use the supposed date rape crisis as another example of male oppression of women. In fact, I believe that a large reason there may have been an increase in date rape activity in this country is a direct result of the feminist agenda of the 1960s and 70s. By tirelessly fighting for equality and sexual liberation, the feminists have created an environment that fosters date rape. It's the same environment that allowed Desiree Washington to naively visit Mike Tyson's hotel room at two in the morning.

Contemporary women are exposed to pressure for casual sex much more often than their mothers would have been, simply because they put themselves in

that position. Today's woman has been taught to freely discuss and explore her sexuality. That's fine. But when a man misinterprets a woman's intentions, you cannot label him a rapist.

The whole date rape problem could be solved if the feminists concentrated their efforts on building up women instead of tearing down men. Men have always pressured women for sex and they always will. That will never change. What should change is the pervasive view of women as the perpetual victims of man.

Would advocates of the "rape crisis awareness movement" deny that women are capable and independent? Would they declare that women are innately passive, spineless and easily exploited? I don't think so. Why then, do they seek to bolster images that depict women as hapless victims without control over their own lives.

Supposedly, women are trained and culturally indoctrinated not to question people in authority. The Howard University Security acquaintance rape handbook goes so far as to claim that because women are taught they are weak

and should be passive and that strength is unfeminine, "a social environment conducive to rape" is created. Why have we come to characterize women as unconfident and pliable beings, desperate to please men?

One way to ameliorate the date rape problem is to encourage women to be more self-confident. What kind of subliminal message does it send when we tell women that we don't expect them to be able to withstand "verbal or emotional pressure" from a man? Women are capable of more than that.

The bottom line is that sex should not be viewed as something imposed on women by men. Until that popular notion is challenged, we will continue to see situations where shortfalls in communication, confidence and experience land people in trouble. Unless you have developed beyond that point ladies, do me a favor: If I ever ask you to come over to my place "to talk," just say "no."

Paul Arnold is an Editorial writer for The Hilltop.

Greek letter organizations must stop arguing, unite

Adrian and Shaunda Barrett

Calling ALL Greek-lettered organizations. . . what is the problem? We say we all stand for the same things: community service, scholarship, uplifting the African race, striving for the perfection of manhood or womanhood, brotherly or sisterly love and to provide positive role models for our young African-American brothers and sisters. So why do we argue and bicker over petty issues that won't help us build a greater tomorrow?

The oldest of our organizations, Alpha Phi Alpha was founded in 1906. Those men paved the way for African-American males in fraternity life. In 1908, some very capable women formed the first sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha for African-American women. Since that time several other organizations were founded including our Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta. However,

this is not a history lesson, but a genuine plea for our fellow members of Greek-lettered organizations to rise to the high standards that our founders have set for us.

Black fraternities and sororities have not only enriched the lives of their members but have also made great contributions to society as a whole. Each organization has an impressive roster of members who have made their marks in history. But it is not necessarily the organizations that they belonged to that made them great but their commitment to their people and their hard work.

This is a point that we think needs to be reiterated. Whether Alpha or Omega, AKA or Delta, we all pledged our lives to improve our communities. In order to accomplish this goal, we have to come together. Gangs fight over colors, not intelligent college-educated men and women. By being so parochial in our scope, we are

not only sending a negative message to those who are not members, but we are also ignoring great strength and resources.

When we finally graduate into the real world, many of us will see how great—but also how small—our organizations really are. Some of us will be glad to see that Kappa or that Sigma Gamma Rho that we didn't associate with in our undergraduate years.

In the final analysis, who cares who "pledged" the hardest, or who originated a step? The fact of the matter is that there is a lot of work to be done in our community, so let's get busy! Remember, it is not the organization that makes us great, but it is what we bring to the organization that makes it great.

Adrian Barrett is a Howard University alumnus, and his wife, Shaunda, is a graduating senior.



Fraternal organizations must end color war

Roosevelt Carter II

Once again, it's on! Or is it?

Recently, Howard University has been experiencing a lot of "color" problems. Some of these problems are internal, some are external. Some are seen, and some aren't seen.

The problem I am about to discuss has not been seen by many, but now it is time to bring this problem to light. I am a member of Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity, an organization founded on a white campus in Missouri in

1916. Phi Sigma Pi became an honor fraternity in 1966, and in the late 1970s it became coeducational. Its Alpha Tau Chapter was established at Howard University in 1991.

Forget the history for now because the problem does not lie with the fraternity's history or the men and women involved in the great organization. The problem can be summed up in three words: purple and gold.

Purple and gold are our organization's colors. There are two other fraternities on this campus that have the

same colors, the International Fraternity of Delta Sigma Pi (founded in 1907), and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. (founded in 1911). A lot of brothers and sisters in my fraternity wear these colors with pride but not without ridicule and criticism.

For instance, one day a brother in my fraternity was walking on "the Yard" with his Phi Sigma Pi T-shirt on. There were also members of Omega Psi Phi on "the Yard." As my brother was walking toward his destination, one member of Omega Psi Phi

yelled, "Take that s---t off, Melvin Farmer!"

This has not just happened once; there have been many occasions where my brothers and sisters have been ridiculed by members of Omega Psi Phi for wearing purple and gold.

I feel that organizations choose their colors for various reasons and symbolisms. No fraternity or sorority can copyright a color. I don't think that the founders of my fraternity were concerned that two fraternities before them had similar colors, but

then again my fraternity was not founded at Howard University, where it seems to me that having the same color of someone else's Greek-lettered organization violates an unwritten color law.

I would understand the criticism and ridicule if my fraternity were trying to impersonate another Greek-lettered organization, but we're not! These are our colors, too. This is not Los Angeles and fraternities are not gangs (God, I hope not)!

I wrote this article to shed some light on this "purple and

gold thang." It is such a petty issue to me, but I don't want to see this petty issue develop into some large, unnecessary conflict. Instead of criticizing and ridiculing the fine men and women who earned the right to become brothers and sisters of Phi Sigma Pi (whom I love so dearly), why not try to find out why things are the way they are. Maybe then, we won't suffer from a lack of knowledge.

Roosevelt Carter II is a senior majoring in political science.

Keeping church, state and homosexuality separate

Rev. Derek Grier

A word of caution: This article is written to the thoughtful but should be avoided by those given to knee-jerk reactions.

In the middle ages, an aberration of Christianity emerged. This "Christianism" became a state religion for the Roman Empire and helped spawn what we term, The Dark Ages. During this period, Bibles were kept from the common people and chained to pulpits.

Indulgences were sold to the desperate masses to ensure the "salvation" of themselves or some departed loved one. This religious order was ruthless. The church had gone to bed with world system and begot a monster. Until Christ himself returns to establish His earthly kingdom, there must remain a separation between church and state.

The Bible teaches in the Epistle to the Romans that the origins of the church

and state are in God. Furthermore, members of the spiritual church must obey civil law, unless they are in opposition to the Laws of God (Acts 5:29). Thus, the church should take an aggressive stand against the state only when the church's exercise of divine law is reasonably hindered. To attempt to transform America into a Christian nation is blasphemous. America was never a Christian nation. Our forefathers have the scars on their

backs to prove it. Howbeit in America, during slavery and currently, thrives a weak but certain Christian church.

This nation has a right to legalize homosexuality. However, when government demands that my children study and accept it, the war is on. If the day comes that I am sued for being unwilling to perform a homosexual wedding, the war is on. If I am considered at best narrow-minded, bigoted and even hateful for cham-

pioning heterosexuality as God's plan for humanity, based on conviction and reason, what designation should be given to the naysayers that base their presumption on passion and experience?

I love homosexuals. Their lives are equally as valuable as fornicators and adulterers of which many of us are or have been. However, I must have a right equal to those who disagree to say in any forum that homosexuality is

a result of choice. If some can parade down Pennsylvania Avenue to declare that this painful lifestyle is O.K. and even desirable, perhaps a writer could be allowed to write, repent! God loves you and he will heal you of all your diseases.

Rev. Derek Grier is founder of Song of Faith Churches of North America.

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INTERNATIONAL PLUS

Students offer relief to earthquake victims

By Kimberly M. Bryant
Hilltop Staff Writer

As a result of the earthquake that shook India's Southwestern heartland of Maharashtra on Sept. 30, the Asian Students Association has organized a fund to help ease the suffering of about 20,000 victims.

"It is a ... tragedy. Our sincere condolences go out to the families of the victims," said Venugopal Muttangi, president of ASA.

While offers of aid have been coming in from Pakistan, Russia and the United States, the ASA members have created the Indian Earthquake Relief Fund to

to aid relief operations in India.

The association is asking that students and faculty to assist them with donations. The money collected will be turned over to the American Red Cross.

The International Students Association offered its sympathy to the Indian people in a statement and called upon all Howard students "to give generously in the face of this horrible human tragedy."

The earthquake that rocked the western state of Maharashtra at 3:56 a.m. (6:26 p.m. EDT) with a force of 6.4 on the richter scale killed more than 11,000

thousand people and left thousands of people injured and homeless.

Donations will be collected on Monday, Oct. 25 and can be made out to the American Red Cross-Indian Earthquake Relief.

For information on where donations will be collected contact Venugopal Muttangi at (202) 526-0938, Anad Kota (202) 635-6256 or Kanishka Malawaraarachchi at (202) 232-3055.

The Asian Students Association, a recognized university organization, works to promote Asian culture and greater harmony at Howard University.

US envoy calls for changes in United Nations' organization

By Kimberly M. Bryant
Hilltop Staff Writer

As the spiritual sounds of the Howard University Gospel Choir fell upon the ears of attendants to the recent UN Celebration, key speaker Edward J. Perkins rose to the platform expressing a need for change in the United Nations.

"The United Nations will be what its member nations want it to be. [The year] 1995 marks the 50th anniversary of the UN. It is time to take a look around and see where we are going," said Perkins, ambassador designate to Australia, as he addressed an audience at the celebration's grand opening at the Armour J. Blackburn University Center Oct. 2.

In light of changing times, Perkins urged the UN to revolutionize its traditional workings in maintaining an equilibrium in this new world order.

He proposed that the UN get involved in debatable issues, such as the implementation of a human rights organization and the creation of a standing military force.

Further, Perkins added: "There is a question about whether the



Photo by Kenya Smith

committee system of the general assembly is in fact useful. How can a body as large as the general assembly formulate itself so it can be useful as a world body, a world legislative body and a world operational body?"

The general assembly is comprised of all UN members. Each nation may send as many as five delegates, but each nation has only one vote.

The assembly has no enforcement powers, but it can recommend action by other UN bodies or by member nations.

Perkins also suggested several changes that he said would improve the UN's security council. One suggestion called for an increase in permanent members of the security council.

"Japan wants to be a permanent member and so does Germany, and there have been some questions about whether we should have

International flags to brighten Howard homecoming festivities

By Omowale Elson
Hilltop Staff Writer

More than 100 international flags are expected to be displayed around the perimeter of "The Yard" on Friday, Oct. 29, as part of the International Fest activities of Howard Homecoming celebrations.

A parade of flags will start at 10 a.m. in the "valley," move on to 5th Street and then to "the Yard."

According to Michelle Skeete, parade coordinator, the day is expected

to be a very colorful event as international students are expected to wear their national dress. She said the parade is also open to all students who want to express solidarity with the international students.

More than 100 foreign embassies have been asked to loan their countries' flags and many have responded, Skeete said.

Marching under Homecoming's theme, "Culture In Motion," the parade will create an awareness of the various national colors, costumes and flags of the Howard

international community, she said.

From 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Armour J. Blackburn Center Auditorium, a series of 15-minute videos will be shown on life in several countries in the international body, including countries in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East and the Near and Far East.

Students interested in the parade are asked to contact Skeete at 806-4050 or Gale Baker at 865-2415 or 806-4547.

Prime Minister Sandiford suffers mild heart attack

By Omowale Elson
Hilltop Staff Writer

Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford of Barbados suffered a "mild heart attack" on Wednesday and was hospitalized in the intensive care unit at the Mount Hope Eric Williams Medical Center in Trinidad and Tobago. Sandiford, 65, was attending the Caribbean

Community Heads of Government Summit at the Hilton Hotel.

Twenty minutes into the meeting that was discussing the North American Free Trade Agreement and Drug Prevention in the Caribbean, among other issues, Sandiford leaned forward on the conference table, complained of chest pains and was "rushed to

the hospital in a wheel chair," said Roxanne Gibbs, associate editor of the Barbados Nation newspaper.

His doctors said he is in stable condition but would remain under observation for 48 hours.

The Crisis in Somalia- No Easy Answers

A Front Line Analysis

By Professor Sulayman Nyang



Since the collapse of the regime of former military dictator Siad Barre of Somalia, the international community has expressed concern about the fate of the Somali people and the responsibilities of the members of the United Nations in the resolution of the Somali crisis. What propelled most of us to discuss the Somali crisis and to figure out the best ways to address the pressing problems of that society were the press reports of famine in that part of the world. Bombaraded daily with gruesome pictures of young and innocent faces of Somalia barely holding on to their lives, and worried about the tragedy that was bound to follow the breakdown in law and order in Somalia, many people in the world community started to agitate for action in Somalia. The Muslim, African and Arab states who should be the first to show concern and interest in what was happening in the Republic of Somalia, responded slowly.

It is true that those that are in the immediate vicinity of Somalia tried to mediate between the competing factions, but the majority behaved as if the Somali tragedy was just another political imbroglio erupting in another part of the world. The Egyptians, it must be stated, tried to do something. The leaders of Djibouti, who are definitely affected by the trend of events in Somalia, showed some concern about what was happening. The same was true of Ethiopia even though the new leaders of Ethiopia recognized the long-standing problem their country had with Somalia.

Unlike the leaders of the Muslim Arab states that share the same religion with Somalia, the new leaders of Ethiopia did not share any religious affinities with the Somali people and their interest in and involvement with the latest crisis in Somalia could best be explained by their concern about peace in their neighborhood.

In examining the state of affairs in Somalia, it should be pointed out that five major developments have taken place since the overthrow of former dictator Siad Barre in the early part of 1991. The first major development was the emergence of a Hobbesian state of nature in Somalia. This

development in the East African state has tremendous consequences for the Somali people. It has ended the social compact that kept the Somali people within one socioeconomic system and under one political roof. The collapse of the state has led to "the war of all against all", a nightmare described by Thomas Hobbes several centuries ago. The most serious consequence of this state of affairs had been the loss of dignity of the Somali people and their inability to mobilize their individual and collective resources to assert themselves as members of the international community of nations governed by laws.

The Somali situation, one must strongly state, is a living testimony to the potential degeneration of man into state of primordial violence. By allowing their passions to rule their mental estates, and unwilling to allow the forces of reason and compromise to rule their society, the so-called Clan leaders and Warlords of the Somali people have brought destruction and devastation to their country. Their acts of violence do not only underline the absence of a state in their country but it has opened a Pandora's box whose contents were never suspected to be as destructive of Somali dignity and pride as we now witness in our newspapers and on our TV sets.

The second development which has taken place in Somalia is the marriage between nomadism and urban guerilla warfare. Being a country inhabited predominantly by nomads and ruled since the last century by an urban culture originally inspired by Islam but largely strengthened, in recent times, by the military muscle of western colonizing forces, Somalia now becomes an example of what is likely to be a slice of political reality in the so-called Third World under the New World Order. What we now see in Somalia is the potential exploitation of political ecology by dissident groups either disillusioned with the current state of affairs in their countries or badly terrorized by an existing political order whose custodians have little or no legitimacy. What do we mean by political ecology? Here we mean the exploitation of the human and non-human resources within a given ecosystem for the specific purpose of terrorizing, what is believed to be, an external for interfering with a society's mode of self-government. This second development in the Somali case is linked to the third development, the intervention of the United States and UN troops in Somalia.

This intervention was occasioned by the tragedy that accompanied the collapse of

the state in Somalia. The absence of an effective government led to the breakdown of law and order and the displacement of people who could no longer feed themselves or guarantee their safety. The UN intervention was seen by most of us as an external remedy to cure a political ailment of the Somali body politic.

Although different interpretations of the UN involvement in the Somali crisis have been made by Somalis and outsiders, the fact remains that the end of bloodshed in Somalia can come about when the Somalis themselves come to the realization that war is not an answer, their individual and collective dignity can be restored only when they sit down and negotiate a peaceful solution to their national problem.

The UN and the Western Powers that dominate the forces serving under the UN umbrella, by themselves cannot resolve the problem. In fact, the way the crisis is unfolding suggests a new look at the role of the UN and its efforts at peace-keeping and peace maintenance. If the UN is to be effective, it must not allow itself to be perceived by Somalis as partisan.

Being a multinational force, the UN has limited coherence and its efforts at peace-keeping can become a reality only when those who are potential beneficiaries of its peace-keeping efforts view it without fear and suspicion. So long as Somalis as a whole, or a sizeable portion of them, view the UN as partisan and compromised, the politics of the nomadic Rambo (a creation of Hollywood and the Pentagon) will continue to hold sway in Somalia. This likelihood surfaced recently when the Italians, the former colonizers of the Somali people, felt it impolitic not to open a door of diplomatic opportunity for the renegade General Aided. Unless the external powers working within the framework of the UN come to the realization that in the politics of ecological warfare, it is not guns that rule but people and their support, the Somali imbroglio will continue and a war of attrition will bleed many a soldier from the peace-keeping forces.

Next week, part 2: Deep religious suspicion undermines the Somali peace-keeping effort.

The writer is the former chairman of the African Studies Department at Howard University. A Gambian, Nyang served in his country's foreign service in Somalia, Ethiopia, Egypt, Sudan, Iran and Kuwait.

Have any ideas or stories you'd like to see on

the

International page?

Contact the

International editor at

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LOCAL

Area hotels to profit from homecoming festivities

By Genea Luck
Hilltop Staff Writer

Students, parents and friends planning to stay in hotels Homecoming Weekend in the Washington, D.C., area for a reasonable price may get spooked by the prices of hotel rooms.

Many of the hotels in the District will average \$100 a night, and this may be just for a single room. In addition, there is an 11 percent hotel tax, plus an additional \$1.50 per night charge. For instance, the Carlsyle Suite on Dupont Circle has single rooms priced at \$119 for one person and for two people the rate is \$129.

But the hotel rates in the

District are cheaper during the weekend compared to during the week.

Barbara Jones, a reservation sales agent at the Capital Hilton located on 16th Street, N.W., says that many of the hotels near the Convention Center will be booked during the week because of annual fall conventions many of the hotels will host for different companies.

"We don't have as many travelers on the weekends because of business travelers during the week. Also, some of the prices will be lower during the holidays," Jones said. She advises homecoming guests to check in on Friday, Oct. 29. The Capital



photo by Lloyd Alleyne

As usual the Howard Inn is already booked for Homecoming weekend Hilton charges \$250 per night.

Many of the other hotels contacted are already sold out for Homecoming Weekend.

One of the better priced hotels is The Best Western Skyline Inn located at Capitol & I streets, S.W. It has single rooms at \$69 and doubles at \$79.

However some students say motels may be what out-of-town guests are looking for that weekend.

"If I were visiting from out of town, I would just need a place to lay my head; you really don't need anything glamorous," said Wendell Roby, a Howard senior. He suggests that students check into the Super 8 Motel at 501 New York Ave, N.E. Single rooms are \$49.88 and double rooms are \$52.88. There is a 10 percent hotel tax.

Some people may find the hotels in Maryland and Virginia to be cheaper, if they don't mind the drive.

The Rösslyn Westpark Hotel located in Arlington, Va., has a special during the Halloween, Homecoming Weekend at \$67 a night for two beds. The room can

sleep up to four people at no additional charge. Also in Virginia, the hotel tax is 9.75 percent.

The Days Inn on 13th Street in Silver Springs, Md., has single rooms for one person at \$54.50 and single rooms for two people go for \$58.50. The rate for double rooms is \$62.50 per night.

The Howard University Hotel is sold out for homecoming and has been for about three months. The hotel does not give discounts during homecoming or graduation. The prices are \$98 for a single and \$108 plus tax for double rooms. The regular rates for students and parents are \$68 for a single or double.

Between the boundaries

of Malcolm X Park...

By Ayoka Campbell
Hilltop Staff Writer

These are just a few of the beautiful aspects of the Mal-

Henderson. The 12 acres of land form the boundary between the Adams-Morgan and Colum-



colm X Park, which sits next to the Park Square dormitory in the midst of 15th, 16th, Euclid and W streets, N.W.

Actor and Civil Rights Activist Dick Gregory has been arrested five times in

bia Heights neighborhoods.

But Gregory may remember the park during the late 1960s and '70s when it was given the name, "Malcolm X," from city council members.



In the last few weeks as he tries to save this historical park from drug dealers.

Gregory has set up a tent in the middle of the park illegally, where he tries to ward off drug dealers and at the same time protest the park's lack of security.

The Malcolm X Park, formerly known as The Meridian Hill Park, was built between 1912 and 1936 near the home of Sen. John

The French-style manicured lawns with cascading fountains, pools, sculptures and statues was a place for different races to come together for music, picnics and, more importantly, rallies.

A committee of nearby residents, known as "Friends of Meridian Hill," volunteer weekly to clean the trash, needles and graffiti-painted walls in the park.

Organization shows the "caring" side of D.C.

By Alexei Alexis
Hilltop Staff Writer

To the individuals who work with D.C. Cares, volunteering is not for the public hero. It is the business of bringing together hosts of talented men and women to meet the essential, everyday needs of people in the community.

D.C. Cares has been addressing such needs in communities throughout the District, since it was founded in 1989. The organization invites Howard students to join in the group-sponsored community work.

In Adams Morgan, volunteers serve meals to homeless men who live in a medical recovery facility called Christ House. In Anacostia, volunteers get together to clean up the Anacostia River Watershed. In Columbia Heights, volunteers renovate homes that will later be sold to low-income families.

Everything from AIDS to the environment and everyone from disabled children to the elderly is encompassed in D.C. Cares' daily activities. What makes the organization so comprehensive and diversified is that it works through agencies and community organizations across greater Washington. In other words, a volunteer who is sent to a shelter in Alexandria, Va., today might be assigned to a children's center in Arlington, Va., tomorrow.

D.C. residents are happy with the work D.C. Cares has done.

"I think they're one of the best volunteer groups I've ever worked with," said Diane Roche, a former resident of Sursum Corda Village, a housing complex that D.C. Cares has helped to renovate. Roche said that Sursum Corda received assistance from other volunteer organizations, but D.C. Cares was the "most consistent group that came."

Meridian Hill resident Matthew Plagianes said the presence of volunteers from D.C. Cares and from the non-profit organization, "Friends of Meridian Hill," has brought a substantial change to the Malcolm X Park. "People were very concerned for a while," said Plagianes, "but things have improved con-

siderably, not only in crime, but in maintenance."

Members of "Friends of Meridian Hill" reported that the park has seen a crime reduction of 95 percent over the past three years. It is also free of the trash that used to abound in the park, according to Plagianes. Today, Malcolm X Park is a quiet getaway, where kids can gather to play football on a warm afternoon, mothers can wind down as their toddlers roller skate and Plagianes can relax and read the evening paper.

D.C. Cares has had an impact, not only on its beneficiaries, but on the many volunteers who have worked with the organization.

Brooke Masters, a Cleveland Park resident and reporter for The Washington Post, said she has enjoyed being part of D.C. Cares this past year. "It's something you can do even though you have a demanding schedule," she said.

Masters heads a project that involves a community service organization called Barney Neighborhood House. Masters and other volunteers deliver meals to home-bound elderly men and women in the upper Northwest section of D.C. "I feel very strongly about this project," Masters said. "We are providing a basic service. Without us, some people might not have food to eat."

D.C. Cares volunteer Gwen Davis, a secretary at the law firm Shaw, Pittman, Potts, and Trowbridge, goes to Howard University Hospital the first Saturday of each

month, where she supervises games and other activities in the pediatric ward. The project has allowed Davis to do everything from entertaining toddlers in the "play room" to diapering babies in the nursery. "I get a sense of joy out of helping people who need help," Davis said.

According to Robin Haytowitz, executive director of D.C. Cares, the organization staffs about 125 projects a month. She said D.C. Cares has been growing extraordinarily in terms of the number of volunteers it recruits and the number of communities it

serves.

The only requirement for becoming a volunteer is to attend an orientation meeting. Volunteers also are able to select which groups of people they would prefer to work with. Tutoring, going places with the elderly and going on mountain hikes with children are just some of the activities D.C. Cares volunteers engage in.

D.C. Cares is located at 2399 N St., N.W. Persons interested in joining the organization should call (202) 663-9207.

Upcoming Events in the D.C. Area

Gospel Concert
Sunday, October 24, 1993
Sponsored by The Saint John Baptist De La Salle Catholic Church Music Ministry
Location: 5706 Sargeant Road, Chillum, Maryland
Donation: \$7.
For more information call: (301) 559-3636.

National Hearings on Violence in the Child's Life
at home, at school, on the streets
October 25-27
Location: National Education Association Conference Center
1201 16th Street, NW
Will be broadcasted all day on Howard University Public Television Station, WHMM Channel 32.

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INTERNATIONAL

HU professor stresses importance of Afrocentric way of thinking

By Leslie Harris
Hilltop Staff Writer

Howard University economics professor and author of the book *Afrocentricity and African Nationalism* Kofi Kissi Dompere wants Africans at Howard University to adopt Afrocentric thinking if they are to free themselves from mental slavery.

Dompere was speaking on the topic "For the Betterment of Africa: Defining Ourselves" at a meeting of the African Students Association on Oct. 15 in the School of Business. The meeting also discussed the surcharge and an up-coming conference on African unity.

"The problem all blacks are facing is that the minds we hold are keeping us in bondage," Dompere said. "They are contrary to what will lead us to emancipation."

If black people were liberated from mental slavery, Dompere said, they could then change the conditions that they are in. First black people need to realize that they are African no matter where they were born.

"We are all offsprings from one stock. We are all Africans and we have to accept what we are," he said.

According to Dompere, after black people accept that they are African, a new African thought system built on unity can be created.

He also warned of the dangers of having a Eurocentric frame of mind. He stressed that an African needs to be trained to think like an African, not to think like a European.

"An African can never be a European," he said.

This European mindset often causes black people to flee the cities for the suburbs without contributing to the black community, he said.

Dompere said education is essential to redeveloping the African mind.

"Education and liberation are inseparable," Dompere said. "Take your education very seriously because it is the emancipation of a people ... Put yourself at the center

of learning." While education should be African-centered and ideologically correct, Dompere said math and science should be applied to improving the condition of black people.

"If you want to support the race, you have to be technologically sound," he said.

Dompere stressed the need for a stronger bond and concern among all black people in the diaspora.

"Put our people at the center of your thoughts," he said.

Some students found Dompere's presentation enlightening and informative.

"Dr. Dompere made me think about the mind-set in which black



Regine Clemens, assistant international coordinator of HUSA, tells students about the tuition surcharge.

people are in. And it showed me what black people need to do," said freshman Charity Rash.

Many students at the presentation agreed that there is a need for greater focus to be given to Africa.

"I think it [discussion] was good

because it touched the essence of the problem of Africans not knowing themselves," said Kanfitine L. Lantone, a ph.D student in economics from Togo, a country on West African coast.

Palestinians ready to make word peace their goal

By Gloria McField
Hilltop Staff Writer

Palestinians are willing to work toward world peace if they are treated with the respect they deserve, said Anees Barghouti, the Washington representative of the Palestinian Liberation Organization in a panel discussion at the Armour J. Blackburn Center on Oct. 13.

"The PLO and its chairman, if treated with respect and dignity, not only for their sake but for the people as well, could be considered partners in world peace and especially Middle East peace," Barghouti told the forum organized by the International Affairs Center in cooperation with the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

Barghouti was one of several speakers in the panel discussion, "Prospects for Peace between Palestinians and Israelis." Other panelists were Nimrod Barkan, Minister for Public Affairs with the Embassy of Israel, and

Thomas J. Miller, Director of the Office of Israel and Arab-Israeli Affairs in the U.S. Department of State. Moderator was Dr. Ronald Walters, chairman of the Political Science Department.

According to Barghouti, PLO's expectations include the freedom of Palestinian political prisoners and the use of negotiation by "people of goodwill" as a means of progress instead of resorting to violence. Barghouti, speaking of the violence between the two peoples said "enough is enough."

"The whole world has lent support financially, technically and otherwise and both Israelis and Palestinians must embrace it for future generations," He said.

Barkan, who represented the Israeli's position, agreed to "let bygones be bygones." He said the peace talks should be taken a step further by considering the element of the Syrian conflict. He supported a move to "lead the Syrians also into the negotiations table."

Barkan pointed out that the collapse of socialism has dealt a severe blow to the Arab's ideology particularly for the younger generation because of the mounting socio-economic problems of Palestinians, the forecasted collapse of Arab political stability and the present positive mindset of the Arab people were factors influencing the peace process.

Barkan said Israel's willingness to compromise surrounded the fact that the "Administration in Washington was not going to deliver Israel." There was one point, however, in which there could be no compromise, he emphasized: "Palestinians must denounce the basic tenant of the demand for the destruction of Israel!"

Miller, who represented the state department, said Israel-PLO agreement was just the beginning which the U.S. hopes will secure peace in the Middle East.

Caribbean student hold political forum to support Haiti



Dr. Bamijoko Smith tells Caribbean students of US control of their region. (L) Betty Clarke and Che Keens-Douglas are CSA officers

By Staci N. Hill
Hilltop Staff Writer

Support for Haiti was the item that topped the Caribbean Students Association's political forum on Oct. 15 at the Armour J. Blackburn Center. Several speakers and students agreed that Howard University was indeed a place to start promoting the issue of restoration of democracy in Haiti because of the university's large Caribbean community.

Dr. Bamijoko Smith, professor of political science, questioned the United States sending peace-keeping troops to Haiti.

"Does it matter that the U.S. should be physically present in Haiti

to maintain order, to maintain hegemony or control over the (Caribbean) region? The answer is simply no," Smith said.

He said the United States has had economic control of the Caribbean without having a physical military presence. The Caribbean has had economic control of Europe, which is consolidating into a single economic market. According to Smith, this consolidation was having a tremendous, negative economic impact on those countries that traditionally traded with Europe.

Dr. Lorenza Morris, professor of political science and an observer of Haitian affairs, said each time he visited Haiti the economic state of the country was worse. He said

there is a need for a cultural revolution before peace and stability can be restored in Haiti.

Myriam Joseph, former president of the Haitian Students Association, said there is a need for their assistance in trying to help Haiti. Joseph called for the United Nations to activate economic intervention in Haiti against the military.

"If we do not act now there will be no happy future for Haiti," Joseph said. "General Raoul Celes has destroyed the economic state of the people in Haiti as well as its morale."

Joseph reminded the audience that the United Nation's mission in Haiti included laying the foundation to reform the justice department and to separate the army from police.

"The army needs to be reformed and trained to guard the country's border. The police department needs to be reformed so that they are able to deal with and work with the people," she said.

Banbose Shango, director of the All-Africans Peoples Revolutionary Party, said the military represented a minor interest.

"The leadership in Haiti does not represent the people," Shango said.

He said that Haiti's problems should be seen against the background of Caribbean unity.

"To get unity and change, we must find the common bond that all because we are all African," Shango said.

US Role in Somalia

Restoring 'Operation Hope' is a must in Somalia

A Front Line Analysis
By Carline Windall

If truth is the first casualty of war, then historical amnesia is a major side-effect. What started as a mission of humanitarian assistance in Somalia has become a bounty hunt by the United States for General Mohamed Farah Aideded, leader of the largest Somali clan.

There can be few who disagree with the initial role of the U.S. Marines, which was to provide much-needed food and medicine to war-torn Somalia. It was appropriate that the United States offer such humanitarian assistance, since, for a number of years, it had been Somalia's most important source of economic and military aid. U.S. interests in Somalia included a naval and military facility at the port of Berbera, as well as other similar facilities elsewhere in the country.

The initial humanitarian efforts were successful, and much of Somalia is returning to civilian life. Farmers are planting their crops and Somalis are beginning to rebuild their communities. Between the spring and the summer, a kind of undeclared war broke out and is being fought in a small area of the capital, Mogadishu.

The United Nations peace-keeping forces, which included for the first time American soldiers, have had to deal

with some vicious attacks, allegedly

by followers of General Aideded. The worst of these attacks was an ambush in June that killed 24 Pakistani soldiers. Following that event, a price was put on General Aideded's head by retired U.S. Admiral Jonathan Howe, the top U.N. soldier in Somalia.

Almost two weeks ago, more than 15 U.S. soldiers were killed, a U.S. helicopter pilot taken hostage and more than 75 other U.S. soldiers wounded following an attack by Somali fighters. Attacks on U.N. peace-keeping troops are unacceptable, but the latest dispatch of troops from the United States must not turn the Somali mission into a search and seizure operation.

The United States has in Somalia approximately 3,000 soldiers under U.N. command, a smaller U.S. led troop of specially trained soldiers, and since August, 400 Army Rangers for whom "a snatch mission is a specialty." The latest addition of more than 1,500 troops will bring the number of U.S. forces in Somalia to more than 5,000. President Clinton has said the capture of General Aideded must not be the focus of U.S. policy in Somalia, but instead, a way must be found to return the country to the people. The President, his administration and members of Congress

should also remember that the United States is part of a U.N. peace-keeping mission and, within that context, should not act unilaterally.

So far, it has been unclear who is in charge of this mission and what are its goals. The United States' action is a reflection of the indecisiveness and vacillation of the United Nations.

If a withdrawal of U.S. troops would plunge Somalia back into the chaos and starvation of a year ago, then every effort must be made to avoid this. U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali and Admiral Howe should clarify and reiterate the goals of the U.N. mission in Somalia and if the United States is to be part of that mission, it should agree to abide by mission guidelines. Otherwise, a quick withdrawal of U.S. troops would be best.

Unfortunately, the scenario in Somalia has a certain *deja vu* — in Korea, in Vietnam and Lebanon, in Grenada and Panama — and each time it has ended in a nightmare for the United States.

Whatever happened to "Operation Restore Hope?"

Carline Windall is a senior in the School of Communications majoring in political science.

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