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Life & Style

A review of
"Antwone Fisher,"
Denzel
Washington's
directing
debut.

B2

THE HILLTOP

The Student Voice of Howard University Since 1924

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Ubiquity and NSAA Host Pre-Kwanzaa Event

By Josef Sawyer
Campus & Online Editor

Kwanzaa for some is a holiday that gets in the way of celebrating Christmas but for Katryna Savoy it's a way of life; a tradition that been celebrated in her family since 1978.

"I had my daughter late in life at age 40 and I named her 'Nia,' which mean 'purpose,' which is also the fifth principle of Kwanzaa.

Savoy a Howard Alumnae and Ubiquity Incorporated member regularly brings her daughter to functions and feels there is no conflict between Christmas and Kwanzaa.

"I view Christmas a religious holiday Kwanzaa is a cultural holiday," she said.

Tuesday night shouts of 'Umoja,' 'Kujichagulia,' and 'Ujima' could be heard from the Hilltop Ballroom, as Ubiquity Inc., and Nsaa Dance Ensemble hosted its annual Pre-Kwanzaa celebration. All were invited to the celebration in Blackburn, which focused on education, appreciation, and reverence of a holiday that began in 1966.

Ubiquity Inc., members Ali Topai and Akousa Brent-Kirh opened with a brief greeting and introductory history of Kwanzaa.

The event not only celebrated, but also tried to educated attendees about the concepts of Kwanzaa, which include unity, community uplift, self-definition and determination, Brent Kirh said. Candles, corn and fruit were passed around to familiarize the crowd with several of the primary symbols of Kwanzaa.

Brent-Kirh who regularly attends Kwanzaa celebrations said students would identify with different portions program depending on their interests.

"Some people may take away a better understanding of Kwanzaa, others may take it home and practice it but they will not leave here ignorant, she said.

Students like Shantel Varnes a senior anthropology major attended to not only enjoy the festivities but also become educated about Kwanzaa, a topic she had little knowledge on.

"Before coming I thought Kwanzaa was for Jewish people. I am from Connecticut and the only people I saw take part in the event were Jewish.

Livening up the festivities were the Nsaa Dance Ensemble who performed two acts dressed in African garb while gyrating to rhythmic beats of hand drums.

See KWANZAA page A8

The District Sees First Snow Fall Thursday



Photo by Harvey Jenkins

Andrew Murphy, a junior education major, plays in the snow early Thursday morning. By morning, three inches had accumulated and classes were canceled. Schools across the region were closed and the three major airports canceled and delayed flights. Some students at Howard missed in-class finals. See A2, to find out what to do if it snows again during finals.

Snowball Fight Turns Violent

By Josef Sawyer
Campus & Online Editor

What started as a snowball fight on the yard turned into an attack involving students. Al *Diggs* a 21-year old junior business major was standing between the Ubiquity Inc. Tree and Locke Hall packing a snowball when he was allegedly attacked by a group of football players.

Diggs was unsure of their names, but has seen his alleged attackers on campus before.

"I am positive they were football players. I have seen them coming from practice in their pads and slippers," he said.

According to Diggs the attack was unprovoked and unnecessary.

"I was standing there and all of a sudden I looked up and I was hit by a guy running full speed. He hit me football style, shoulder in, knocking me to the ground," Diggs said.

After the first hit I tried to get up and a second assailant

See FIGHT page A9

Affirmative Action Questioned in Supreme Court

By Amber Mobley
Nation & World Editor

A landmark affirmative action case may be in jeopardy if the U.S. Supreme Court decides to reverse a 24-year-old decision and authorize public universities to disallow race as a determining factor for admittance.

If the Court votes that race cannot be used as a determining factor the number of minorities enrolled in public universities is expected to make a sharp decline.

On Monday, the high court said it would reopen the case because of a recent suit brought by white students against the University of Michigan who claim they were denied entrance because of their race.

University of Michigan President Mary Sue Coleman said in a statement, "We are urging the court not to turn back the clock on our ability to assemble a diverse student body."

The high court agreed to review cases involving the university's law school and its undergraduate admissions and determine whether racial violate the equal protection guarantee in the U.S. Constitution or federal civil rights laws.

In the court's 1978 "Bakke v. Board of Regents" decision, a divided Supreme Court struck down racial quotas in school admissions, but allowed race to be considered in deciding which students a university to accept.

Howard University junior physical therapy William Hayes,

says he will be not be phased if the court's ruling is reversed. He said he plans to gain entrance into medical school on his academic strength and not his skin color.

"I wouldn't want to get into medical school based on my race," said Hayes. "In regards to my academic performance, I've been done no injustice based on my race."

A U.S. appeals court ruling had previously upheld the use of race by the University of Michigan's law school because it helped to achieving a diverse student body.

The University of Michigan has argued that diversity enhances the education of all its students and that race is only one of many other factors in the admission process.

Yet cases of whites wanting to gain admission and being denied has brought cases of reverse discrimination to appeals courts across the nation and the Supreme Court as well.

Barbara Grutter, a white woman, appealed to the Supreme Court, claiming she was denied admission because minority students received preferential treatment.

Grutter, who applied for admission to the University of Michigan's law school in 1996, at age 43, said she had better grades and test scores than some minority applicants who got it. The states of Alabama, Delaware, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Oregon,

See COURT page A5

HUSA Hosts First Housing Fair Today

By Akeya Dickson
Contributing Writer

After fielding numerous grievances about the Office of Residence Life cutting the visitation period by two hours in some of the dormitories the Howard University Student Association (HUSA) is opting to give students the opportunity of leaving the residence halls for off-campus housing.

Harold Allen, HUSA's director of Undergraduate Student Affairs, is heading the "Can I Live" off-campus housing fair being held in the Blackburn Ballroom today and has property managers that have openings to be filled as early as next semester.

Housing falls under HUSA's Undergraduate Student Affairs division.

According to Allen, this fair is not in competition with the off-campus housing fair the University puts on. The HUSA fair is to relieve some of the workload of Residence Life in finding suitable housing for students.

"This initiative would make things easier for Residence Life having to place students in the limited dorm spaces," said Allen, junior chemical engineering major. "It will also encourage students to assume more responsibility. Students speak so often about wanting to be treated more like adults, so we're providing them with an opportunity to do so."

After researching possible housing providers for the fair, Cara Brown, sophomore international business major and assistant director for the Undergraduate Student Affairs division, found that oftentimes off-campus housing may be a better alternative for some stu-

dents. "Living off-campus can be a more affordable option than living in dorms. It can be easier to pay a monthly rent than to pay a lump sum up front," Brown said. HUSA is predicting a larger turnout than last year's off-campus fair held by Residence Life citing more publicity was given to their fair and depending on the success of today's event, HUSA plans to host another one in the Spring.

"Many students are searching for off-campus housing, and we want to allow them enough time to look for housing for next semester," said Cornell Williamson, HUSA President.

"Instead of protesting these visitation policies, we decided to take a proactive approach."

The participants in the housing fair were found through word-of-mouth, volunteers and freelance realtors. Proximity to Howard, metro accessibility and reasonable prices are just a few of the criteria that were also used to decide what renters would be involved.

"We looked for housing that would be convenient for students in the Maryland, Virginia, D.C. area. We asked people who live in popular apartment complex areas such as The Vantage, The Cloisters and Cypress Creek in Hyattsville," said Allen.

The housing fair primarily targets upperclassmen due to the overwhelming population residing in University housing are in their first or second years.

Jameese Holland, a senior insurance major now residing in Bowie, MD recommends that students attend the fair.

"I probably could have used it last semester. Looking for an

See HUSA page A8

President Swygert Hosts



Photos by Jazelle Bellavance

Clockwise from top, President H. Patrick Swygert speaks with vice provost for student affairs, Raymond Archer, on his left and student Frenchelle Davis, at his right. At right and below, students enjoy the open buffet of chicken wings, quesadillas, meatballs, pastries, chocolates and fruit, among other things.



CAMPUS

VOICES & VIEWS

Has your opinion of Whitney Houston changed since she has admitted to using drugs?



Name: Creighton Lee
Classification: Senior,
Major: rtvf
Origin: Connecticut

Admitted? Lie to me
Whitney, lie to me.



Name: Jeff Henry
Classification: Sophomore,
Major: Intl Business
Origin: California

My view was negative since the suspicion of her drug use, but now that it's confirmed I feel she's worthless as a role model.



Name: La Shundre Lender
Classification: Junior
Major: Radiation Therapy
Origin: Georgia

My opinion of Whitney did not change because I figured that she was doing some type of illegal substance.



Name: Corey Manning
Classification: Senior
Major: Design
Origin: New York

I still respect her. I don't know what it's like to be in her position so I can't judge her too much.

Compiled by Harvey Jenkins

Possibility of School Cancellation During Finals Small

By Ruth L Tisdale
Hilltop Staff Writer

Students awoke Thursday morning to winter wonderland and a day without class. But with many teachers deciding to have finals the last week of class some students are scrambling to see what changes will be made.

Howard University has closed school only once during exams in the past twenty years due to snow. Barron Harvey, dean of the school of business, said that the

last time that exams were postponed due to snow the exams had to be made up the following semester.

The Office of the Provost made the recommendation that exams be made up in

January and it was up to the discretion of the faculty on whether to follow the recommendation, Harvey said.

According to the office of the provost in the absence of the need to

postpone examinations individual faculty members, acting with the expressed

approval of their department Chairs and Deans, may seek permission to postpone individual examinations because of weather conditions that may be unique to their particular communities

Even though some students feel that if exams were postponed it will give them more time to study, others feel that the delayed time would only be a disadvantage.

"If exams were to be postponed because of weather then most students

Wouldn't even study dur-

ing the extra time," Vonte Boyd, a junior Afro-American studies major, said. "If exams would be postponed until next semester, most people would forget the information over Christmas break."

Students who commute to the university worry about traffic and road conditions.

A student who lives off campus will miss out on not only class but also other campus activities due to the weather, Cordia Smart, a junior political science major, said.

The Office of the Provost hope that students will understand that because these are the winter months and that temporary adjustments might have to be made.

Our students, faculty, and staff have usually made the adjustments and completed required examinations and academic and administrative activities,

Alvin Thornton, vice provost, said.

Even though many students are worried about the postponement of exams, some students are eager to see snow.

"I am from California and I have never seen snow before so I hope that it snows all winter," said Inez Moore, a freshman.

Howard University functions under three operating conditions: normal, curtailed, and closure. When the university functions under normal conditions, academic and administrative activities proceed as normal. Under curtail conditions classes are suspended, but administrative



Photo by Harvey Jenkins

Snow fell Thursday morning, causing the University to cancel classes for the day. Above, the view from the West Towers.

operations continue with liberal leave for non-essential employees. Deans in the Colleges of Dentistry and Medicine and the Schools of Law and Social Work determine the status of classes. Under closure conditions all classes and administrative activities except essential operations are suspended.

The Executive Director for Physical Facilities Management and the Chief of Campus Police monitors weather conditions and alerts the Associate Vice President for Administrative Services of those conditions and of the decisions of the District of Columbia Public Schools, area

colleges and universities, the District of Columbia Government and of the Federal Government pertaining to operation.

The Associate Vice President for Administrative Services will then inform the President and Provost/Chief Academic Officer about the weather conditions and governmental decisions regarding operations along with a recommended plan of action.

The Associate Vice President for Administrative Services will relay the decision of the President to all members of the Executive Cabinet and to the Assistant Vice President for University

Communications. The members of the Executive Cabinet will ensure further dissemination of the decision to University units under their respective jurisdiction.

The Assistant Vice President for University Communications will immediately contact the Associate Vice Provost, Information Systems and Services, to have the announcement placed on the web site and the switchboard, and pass the

decision of the President to WHUR-FM, to WHUT-TV Channel 32, local radio and television stations, and to other communications media for announcement and response to inquiries.

Campus Crime Report

12/1/02

West campus
unlocked door

HPT East
sick transport

HPT
sick transport

UGL
unlawful entry

12/2/02

Blackburn Center
lost property

Blackburn Center
theft

Wheatley
Hazardous elevator

Burr Gym
Sick transport

HUH
sick transport

12/3/02

HUH
Theft

Carnegie Hall
Theft II

HPT West
Theft II

ILAB
Lost property

Blackburn Center
Injured Person

12-4-02

HPT
Credit card fraud

Student Health Center
Sick transport



File Photo

WHBC, Howard's student-run radio station is located in the basement of the School of Communications.

College Stations Get Pinched for Royalties

By Chizoba Udeorji
Contributing writer

On the ground floor of the Communications Building students can hear their favorite songs each day as they walk to class.

"I love listening to the radio on my way to class. It's motivating, and if a song I really like is on, I get hyped up before class," said Cameo King, a sophomore radio-television-film major.

Like many Howard Students, King enjoys listening to the latest hits on WHBC radio. Unbeknownst to the average Howardite, college radio stations across the country are facing royalty problems.

Congress approved a bill on November 15 that would allow non-commercial radio stations that play music online [such as WHBC] to negotiate new royalty rates with the recording industry.

Representative F. James Sensenbrenner created the bill, known as the 'Small Webcaster Settlement Act of 2002,' whose purpose is to help small businesses negotiate reasonable rates to play music on-line. This act is in response to the problematic royalty fees produced by the Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998.

In accordance with this act, non-commercial college stations that simultaneously plays its on-air

broadcasts online will have to pay one two-hundredths of a cent for every song it plays.

An average radio station plays about twelve songs an hour that would be a minimum of \$500 annually. If the station is popular, fees could run into the thousands.

This was the case for the University Of Akron's WZIP, whose estimated annual rates were over \$10,000 dollars. The Station ended its web cast in March.

The Small Webcaster Settlement Act has restored hope for many college stations. The new act placed an extension on royalty fees due, for those who had already paid, giving them until June of 2003. This period will give small businesses time to negotiate more affordable rates with record companies.

While this has given many college stations reason to be optimistic, however some still feel that the agreement on pending web cast fees will not help college radio stations at all.

Many university radio stations are not considered small businesses. College stations typically are owned or attached to large universities. WHBC is a station operated by college students, and because it is owned by Howard University, it may not be considered small business.

See WHBC page A5

Emmett Till, The Untold Story

By April Williams
Contributing Writer

Movie producer, Keith A. Beauchamp of Till Freedom Come Productions, LLC, successfully debuted "The Untold Story of Emmett Louis Till," a story on fourteen-year-old Emmett Till who was brutally beaten and lynched in Money, Mississippi, in 1955 for whistling at a white woman.

"The Untold Story of Emmett Louis Till," is a six-year investigation that surfaces new evidence relating to the 1955 Emmett Louis Till Case.

Beauchamp's documentary could possibly reopen the 1955 Mississippi Emmett Louis Till Case. The Mississippi Court has already asked Beauchamp to review the 1955 case.

To create this movie, Beauchamp worked closely with Mrs. Mamie Till-Mobley, Emmett Till's mother, the movie included several exclusive eyewitnesses that

never told their accounts of what they witnessed.

"My soul is happy," Till-Mobley said. Mobley says she had no problems working with Beauchamp in making this project a success.

Mobley has doubts that Emmett was making a pass at a white female, which happened to be the storeowner's wife. At age five, Emmett was diagnosed with Polio (a disease that attacks the nervous system and is common in young adults and children) that left young Emmett with a speech impediment.

Emmett's whistle may have been a misunderstanding and the result of his speech impediment.

"I told him to whistle when he was stuck on a word," says Mobley. "A whistle is a way to relieve tension," Mobley says. [Perhaps]

See TILL page A5



Bison in France

Study Abroad in Cannes

By Adrea A. Simmons
Contributing Writer

Spending Thanksgiving in Cannes, France was a extreme deviation from spending time with family and friends, watching the Detroit Thanksgiving Parade, volunteering at a soup kitchen, watching the football game, and eating a huge meal after giving thanks.

However, the American holiday did not go by unacknowledged at the College International de Cannes where approximately one-third of the students are American.

The huge American Thanksgiving dinner that was prepared by the college's French chef included a mixture of ham-coleslaw, turkey filets, mashed potatoes, and pumpkin pie was sub-standard, as reported by several nostalgic American students. But, the Cider party afterward with a live disc jockey and a tape of a recent football game mailed from home cured all those who left the dinner feeling a little homesick.

However four months spent in Cote D'Azur was worth the sacrifice of a Thanksgiving at home. Life here consists of miles of sand, a sea of mixed blues and a vibrant yellow sun. Life is also a steamy "petit café" and an amazing nutella crepe at a cozy café after a seafood pasta dinner on "La Croisette," after class. Cannes,



File Photo

Adrea A. Simmons is studying abroad in France.

France and its low stress way of life is not at all difficult to adapt to when considering the Accounting exams, ten page papers, and 8:10AM lectures that are temporarily left behind.

French people of Cote D'Azur, Southern France, refer to it as 'gagner du temps,' that certain 'art du vivre à la française,' based on the ability to gain time through relaxation. My 'Société Française,' professor at the College International de Cannes, refers to it as the reason why the average life span in France is 83 years.

Société Française is one of my courses here where the student body of approximately 170 students of which none are French. It creates an interesting

See BISON page A5

Transfer Students Feel Alienated

By Shari James
Contributing Writer

Transferring from St. Johns University in the fall of 2001 was hectic for sophomore print journalism major Tamika Gittens. Coming to a new city with only basic knowledge of the university from a relative and Howard Alumni, she was forced to figure things out on her own.

Gittens was awarded housing but opted to stay with family to alleviate living costs. She now works two jobs to pay a portion of her tuition. Gittens was unhappy at her former school.

"I felt forced to attend St. Johns because it was close to home," she said.

According to a recent survey done by the National Survey of Student Engagement, which measures how colleges encourage learning, transfer students are less engaged in academic work and college life than other students. Now in its third year, about 135,000 freshmen and seniors at 613 four-year colleges took the survey.

George D. Kuh, director of the study and professor at Indiana Bloomington said, "Many colleges offer the bulk of orientation and other programs freshman year, so students who enroll later are left out."

Survey data shows that, "students who attend diverse institutions or participated in diversity-related activities, showed more progress in per-

sonal and educational growth, were more involved in active and collaborative learning, and reported greater satisfaction with their college experience."

The survey also concluded that students who "experience diversity" report higher levels of engagement than other students.

"The bottom line is that diversity is good," Kuh said. "It's good for all kinds of reasons, not just being exposed to different people."

Gittens feels that transfer students at Howard are ignored by administration and treated with apathy.

"They don't sponsor a formal welcome program for us and they assume that we know everything about transferring

credits and other things like validation."

If it wasn't for the Campus Pals warm welcome Gittens said she would have felt totally alienated.

"I learned more from the campus pals than I did from any administrative figure or even my advisor."

Transferring it not an easy task Gittens said. She found it hard to do enroll into classes with little help from administrators who expected her to know the process.

"I don't see how I could register without knowing which of my credits from my previous institutions would transfer or

See TRANSFER page A8

Students Making Strides Under Math Professor

By Nagilia Greaves
Contributing Writer

Students on Howard's campus can be very critical and callous when it comes to evaluating a professor's performance but professor Seyoum Getu receives nothing short of an 'A,' according to his students.

However, according to the majority of his students, Professor Seyoum Getu receives nothing short of an A for his teaching ability.

Getu has been teaching at Howard for twenty-eight years. "I didn't really plan to be here, one year became two years and two years became three and so on!" Getu said.

Getu, a native of Ethiopia originally came to America to conduct research. He then returned to his birthplace to pursue a career in teaching.

Unfortunately, things for Getu were not running as smoothly as originally anticipated. He therefore crossed the ocean and made his way to Howard where he currently teaches Patterns of Math.

Getu said he enjoys teaching at Howard because of the environment. Getu also believes Howard is the ideal university for students seeking to further their education.

"I love teaching and I do my best and as a result most students like it," he said. Students agree with Getu's

statement and say his class is not only inviting, but it is taught in an atmosphere that is very relaxing. Laughter is usually heard throughout Getu's class because he often finds something humorous about the material being covered, and according to some students he is just plain funny. Students say their professor should be commended due the fact that many of their other professors continue to make failed attempts to be funny. Kelli Carter a junior in Getu's Patterns in Math says, "I like both the professor and the class because he does a really good job of turning a challenging problem into one that students can relate to."

Word of Getu's teaching style is spreading throughout Howard's campus. The first-class professor as labeled by his students, has a spot on the famous list of good/bad professors. Getu's name can be found gracing the good list. The professor very humbly said, "That list doesn't mean much to me because I am just trying to do my job." The fact that Getu's classes such as Patterns in Math were quickly filled to capacity speaks volumes. Professor Getu has spent much of his time at Howard and sees himself there for about three more years.

ARE YOU HOOKED ON THE INTERNET?



To find out, please participate in a preliminary research survey investigating the Internet usage patterns of African-American college students at Howard University. The survey is short and easy and will only take about five minutes of your time. There is very little existing research on African-American Internet use—this is your opportunity to be a part of history.

DON'T MISS OUT!!!

<http://www.howard.edu/asp/InternetSurvey.htm>

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ONLY

*F*irst there was Shauntay Hinton, Ms. USA 2002...

*T*hen there was Diahann Doyen, Ms. D.C. USA 2002...

*W*ho will be next?



Will Howard's legacy of excellence continue as 8 of Howard's finest are among those competing for the coveted title of Ms. D.C. USA 2003?

Come out and support Howard Contestants:

AMIRA BAKER
KRISTEN BEDOYA
RUSSELLA DAVIS
LYNN JEROME
MERCEDES LINDSEY
HORESCIA LOVE
SHAKIA ROSE
SABRINA SIMMS

MS. D.C. USA PAGEANT COMPETITION
Saturday, December 7, 2002, 7p.m. at Cramton Auditorium

*L*et's see if Howard's legacy continues...

A limited supply of FREE Howard University student tickets is available and can be picked up (one per student) at Cramton Box Office with a valid Capstone I.D. card. Additional student tickets are available for \$20.

Courtesy of the Office of the Vice Provost for Student Affairs and coordinated by Holland Johnson.

HEALTH & FITNESS

Depression At a High During The Holiday Season

Attending college can cause a person to suffer from extreme stress. Not only do students have to deal with stress from academic work and obligations, most are also involved in extracurricular activities, internships, and part-time jobs. With all of these things going on in a person's life, having the ability to handle stress is imperative. Here are some simple ways to relieve stress.

It is important to share feelings of stress with those whom a person can trust and feel comfortable with. Being able to express these feelings without being negative, or imposing too much on another person can be extremely helpful.

According to Taiwan Lovelace, a psychology intern at Howard University Counseling Services, socializing and peer support are good stress relievers. Lovelace claims that these factors are necessary because, "it is important to have a balance. If there is no balance, there are no outlets for anxiety."

Laughing is a very effective stress reliever. One can release stress and tension by simply taking the time to watch cartoons or a comedy.

Sometimes taking a 10-15 minute nap can be quite refreshing to a stressed person.

Exercise is not only important to remain physically fit, but according to Lovelace, it can also help to release feelings of stress.

Picking up a hobby is a good outlet when one is suffering from a stressful situation.

Having a midday fantasy break can temporarily distract one from his/her stress.

A person can give his/her self a massage on the forehead, or the back of the neck.

Believe it or not, singing in the shower can alleviate some feelings of stress.

Practice relaxation therapy. Just sit in a quiet, relaxing atmosphere, and relax all of your muscles, while focusing on deeply inhaling and exhaling.

—Compiled by Simone Scudder

By Simone Scudder
Hilltop Staff Writer

They say 'tis the season to be jolly," but for many it's the season to be melancholy. To some, the holiday season can be quite demanding. Therefore, people tend to become overwhelmed by expectations that they have set for themselves, or that they feel others have set for them. Unfortunately, depression around Christmas time is quite common, affecting many people who have no history of depression, or mental illness.

There are many factors that can be associated with holiday depression, including financial strain, loneliness and feelings of having less than anticipated accomplishments at the year's end. There is also a common factor referred to as the contagion affect.

According to Jules Harrvell, professor of psychology, people are more likely to get depressed because they hear about depression in the media. This affect occurs when one sees and hears about depression or holiday depression, and then it becomes contagious, so to speak. That person then experiences feelings of depression for his/herself.

Finances also play a large role in being depressed around the holidays. The media tend to be

very suggestive in buying a lot of gifts for Christmas. This puts a financial strain on a person, causing depression after the holidays due to decreased amounts of funds. Also, if one cannot afford to purchase gifts that he/she would like to, depression can set in.

If a person does not have the romantic life that he/she has hoped for or if they don't have any close family members around, then feelings of loneliness can cause depression. People often have certain ideals of how they should spend their holidays, or with whom. When those ideals are not realized, then they can become depressed.

The same concept can be applied to feelings of minimal accomplishments. People set goals for themselves at the beginning of the year, and if those goals are not attained by the year's end, then they can feel hopeless.

"People have misconceptions about what they should be doing or who they should be with," said Kellina Craig, associate professor of psychology.

"People have disabilities to reach life goals and this hits home around the holidays," said Harrvell.

According to Harrvell, depression can also occur because, "a lot of memories are associated with the holidays." People have loved ones who have



Photo by Maya Gilliam

Depression is at an all-time high during the holiday season.

passed away.

Holiday depression may also largely affect college students. Nia McLean, a senior print journalism major, believes that, "in college, you have so many responsibilities, there is no time for getting into the holiday spirit. Whatever holiday that you celebrate may get over-

shadowed by all of the work you have to do."

She also believes that many students can be affected by holiday depression because, "they may not be able to buy presents, or they may not be able to go

See SAD page A8

Dating With STDs, How to Cope

By Erica Williams
Hilltop Staff Writer

When discussing relationships and sex, one topic that is not discussed as often as it should be is dating and sexually transmitted diseases. STDs are infections that can be transferred from one person to another through sexual contact.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, more than 15 million cases of sexually transmitted disease cases are reported annually. Based on research, the Centers for Disease Control also say young adults (15-24) are the age group at the greatest risk for acquiring an STD with 3 million affected annually.

While most STDs are curable, there are some that are not such as herpes, AIDS, and genital warts. All of these are caused by viruses and have no cure. Some of these infections are very uncomfortable, while others can be deadly.

Syphilis, AIDS, genital warts, herpes, hepatitis, and even gonorrhea have all been known to cause death. Many STDs can lead to related conditions such as pelvic inflammatory disease, cervical cancer, and complications in pregnancy. Therefore, education about these diseases and prevention is important. It is important to recognize STDs and how they are contracted.

Kathery Kuman, a doctor and gynecologist at the George Washington University Health Center says people must realize that sexual contact includes more than just intercourse. Sexual contact can include kissing, oral-

genital contact and the use of sexual toys.

"If any of these acts are taking place, the acting people should discuss the consequences and safety measures," says Kuman.

Sex in the context of a monogamous relationship where neither party is infected with a STD is also considered "safe."

Many people think that kissing is a safe activity. Unfortunately, syphilis, herpes, and other diseases can be contracted through this apparently harmless act. All other forms of sexual contact also carry some risk.

Aliana Hulin, a gynecologist at Howard University Hospital says condoms are commonly thought to protect against STDs. While they are useful in helping to prevent certain diseases, such as HIV and gonorrhea, they are not 100 percent effective. Because condoms are not 100 percent safe, the safest protection is abstinence.

If one is involved in any sexual relationship, both partners should be open with each other about STDs. Getting tested with your partner is one way to know each other's status. "Being open with each other is vital for both partners in a relationship," says Kuman. "Getting tested or at least knowing and seeing your partner's results are vital."

Dating can be fun and allows us to meet new people and form new relationships. However, when sex becomes a part of dating, then STDs



Photo by Maya Gilliam

Although there are many types of contraceptives to prevent STDs, the safest method of prevention is abstinence.

become a factor whether they are noted or not.

Information can be obtained at hotlines such as the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (1-800-227-8922) and the HIV/STD Hotline (1-800-533-4148). These services provide information to those who seek it by simply calling.

These are only a few steps

that can be taken to educate you and your partner about STDs. However, the initial step is talking to each other about it openly and then taking further actions. Simply talking to your partner about STDs will not only make your relationship stronger but will aid in protecting your life in the process.

Studies Show Wine Can Improve Health

By Natalie Swain
Contributing Writer

Drinking on college campuses typically involves consuming large amounts of alcohol in a short period of time. With the Christmas holiday around the corner drinking a glass of wine can be a drink that improves ones health.

Studies show moderate wine drinking lowers the risk of a stroke. A glass of wine per day is a type of "home remedy" that may reduce unwanted health problems. A 16-year study of 13,000 people in Denmark has confirmed that a daily drink of wine will in fact significantly reduce one's risk of a stroke. Those who drink roughly one glass of wine per day, have a 32% reduction rate in the risk of having a stroke. These facts are not true for beer, or liquor.

This study is not the first time wine has been linked to good health. Last month, American University researchers found that what makes wine so compatible with reducing unwanted cardiovascular occurrences, are the elements within red grapes.

Stuart Siedes, a Cardiologist with the American Heart Association points out the fact that, "Because Americans are diverse with their dietary habits and ethnic background, this 'home remedy' may not be 100% effective for everyone."

Seven Hundred thousand people die of strokes each year, 32% of those who had a stroke could have reduced the risk by drinking one to two glasses of wine daily.

Middle-aged French men who drank two or more glasses of



Photo by Maya Gilliam

Student Latina Franklin drinks a glass of wine.

wine per day regularly were less likely to have a second heart-attack, or any other cardiovascular complications, compared to non-drinkers by more than 50%, according to a study in the Journal of the American Heart Association.

The best time to enjoy a glass of wine is anytime. White wine is at its best with fish, chicken and other white meats. Also, fruit salads, caesar salads, and other light food combinations can be enjoyed with wine. Red wine is best with steak, pork chops, and thicker substance meats.

A bottle of wine can start at anywhere from \$7.99 to \$500.00. Wine is known to be better with age. The wine after many years soaks into the cork so the tannin brings the flavor out much more.

Randall Byer, a sophomore Architect major, was unaware of this discrete finding, he said, "Though I now have learned of this new information, it does not make me want to run to the liquor store to buy bottle of wine. I do think this study will make me consider it more, occasionally when I'm out to dinner I'll enjoy a glass...preferably Chardonnay."

How Much Sleep Does Your Body Need

By Reynolette Etienne
Contributing Writer

On an average, most Americans do not get enough sleep and recent reports from two studies conducted in Boston, have found co-relations with the amount of sleep one gets nightly and cardiovascular conditions such as heart disease.

The research suggests that sleeping too little (less than seven hours) or too much (more than eight hours) may eventually lead to the development of heart disease and other heart conditions. The study found that of all the participants, those who slept for nine hours or longer were more likely to die over a fourteen-year period

than those who slept seven to eight hours.

Too little sleep according to the study raises the risk of death by causing insulin resistance, increasing the stress hormone levels and impairing the immune system.

Ahmed Moen, doctor and Health Management Professor in the College of

Allied Health Sciences agrees with the findings and recommendations of the study and states that the average recommendation for sleep is at maximum eight hours if one wants to perform at his/her optimal level.

"There is a strong co-relation between sleeping, resting, and quality of life. Sleeping is a form of rest and

the body must be given enough time to rest," said Moen.

Moen also says that sleep requirements vary with age.

"For the college population, about five to six hours of sleep is reasonable since they may not be able to afford the recommended eight hours, especially during the hectic exam periods," said Moen. "Consideration should also be taken to the high activity level of this population."

But how much sleep does the average college student get? Monique Lee, a senior anthropology major, gets an average of six hours of nightly sleep.

"I work best on eight hours, but it's nearly impossible to get that much in nightly," said Lee. "I think the body definitely needs a time to rest, especially if you're

See STD page A8

NEWS

COURT from A1

South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Virginia and West Virginia supported Grutter's appeal.

In another case, a federal judge upheld the University of Michigan's use of race in undergraduate admissions.

The Supreme Court's conservative majority has generally restricted the use of government affirmative action programs designed to help minorities.

While accepting appeals from whites based on claims of reverse

discrimination, the court has refused to hear separate appeals by lawyers for black and Hispanic students at the university who supported the affirmative action program.

The Supreme Court will hear arguments in the cases next year, with a decision due by the end of June 2003.

Lloyd Freeman, junior business major that has aspirations of law school upon graduation is concerned about the ruling.

"If the court's not ruling until next year, that's crucial," said

Freeman.

"I don't plan on depending on my color to get me into law school, but every little bit helps," he said. "But hopefully I'll already be accepted to a law school by that time (a decision is reached)," Freeman said.

Freeman plans on applying to a variety of law schools, but wants to attend Howard Law School.

TILL from A2

this is why it worked so well for Emmett."

Witnesses say that on the day in question Emmett may have used the method his mother taught him to get through a sentence he was trying to say while shopping in the store. The people in the store, unaware of Emmett's speech impediment, may have mistaken his efforts to break his stutter as flirtatious pass at the white woman behind the counter. There is other testimony that says Emmett was whistling at a chess game.

Beauchamp says he always

believed that it was more evidence to be found in relation to the case, especially since many witnesses were urged not to testify in the proceedings.

Mr. Beauchamp feels he has a deep connection with Emmett and this is why he pursued more finding more evidence. "This story was told to me as a child. I can remember going through a Jet magazine around the age of ten and I came across Emmett Till, the corpse. And it shocked me so much I didn't know what it was," says Beauchamp. "From then on, the story just seemed to happened to resurface and my life seemed to coincide with Emmett

Till's."

"I would like to put on another venue for the world to see [The Untold Story of Emmett Louis Till]. It's not just a black American thing, it's an American civil rights piece," says Beauchamp.

"My whole objective is to prompt state of Mississippi. I have had the pleasure of speaking with the assistance attorney general of Mississippi and he asked me to come aboard to investigate the case again because of the evidence that I have," says Beauchamp.

College Radio from A2

Therefore, stations like WHBC will probably continue to pay high royalty fees for broadcasting on-line.

Joel Willer, a lobbyist for Save Our Streams believes that college radio organizations need to continue to lobby congress to stop prohibitive fees from taking effect.

"We're still going to see some Webmasters forced out

of business because of this," Willer said.

Camille Jordan, a sophomore radio-television-film major believes that most of these legal issues could be fixed if record companies were not so greedy.

"All radio stations should have to pay a fixed rate based on the amount of revenue they receive," Jordan said. "Royalty rates are an issue because of the fat cats in government and

the music industry. They have no real concern for small businesses and aspiring dj's like me."

Tiffanie Horne, a disc jockey for WHBC said she thinks the act will have a negative affect on the station and other college stations.

"This in an ongoing issue that college students should follow," Horne said.

Kwanzaa Celebration Takes Place

KWANZAA from A1

A vibrant speech was given by Gregory Carr a professor of African American Studies. Carr took the podium and called all to celebrate Kwanzaa a holiday, which he said lacks the commercial luster of Christmas.

"There is no wrong way to celebrate Kwanzaa, as long as at the core the celebration remains African," he said.

Carr spoke of the Kwanzaa's history, which he said was started by Maulana Ron Karenga and has gained momentum because of its uplifting concepts.

"Kwanzaa is contagious, it sneaks up on you and once you try it you love it," Carr said. "It [Kwanzaa] is not something linked to commercialism with a fat old white man named Clause telling you to buy more."

Although Carr said he is not condemning Christmas but feels all people need their own rituals grounded in their beliefs which is what Kwanzaa means to him.

Carr was reinforced by Baba Tehutti who also belongs to the

black nationalists party.

Tehutti spoke on Kwanzaa tradition but also expressed his disdain for some Howard professors who he feels are misinforming students about African history.

Both Carr and Tehutti said one of Kwanzaa's purposes is to give back some of what was taken from blacks by bringing a sense of unity through education.

"Kwanzaa is not a traditional African holiday it was created by African Americans so we can get in touch with ourselves and our African heritage, Tehutti said." In the early days of celebrating Kwanzaa I am sure we are going to make mistakes but one day I hope we will all celebrate Kwanzaa.

Kwanzaa is a seven -day festi-



Photo by Josef Sawyer

Nsaa Dance Ensemble perform at recent Pre-Kwanzaa celebration in Hilltop Ballroom.

val celebrating African American culture and history. It highlights celebration, community gathering, and reflection. Kwanzaa begins on December 26th, and continues until January 1st.

BISON from A3

learning atmosphere, where aside from learning the French language and culture one stumbles into almost 30 other cultures as well. Therefore, unexpectedly it's probably at the college where I experience the least French culture.

French culture is in the open-air markets, the specialized shops, the cinema, and the restaurants where speaking French is a must. For Ingrid Faulkerson a French major from Howard, French culture "is the appreciation for life outside of things that are materi-

al."

On another level life in France is how James Baldwin described it in his essay, A Question of Identity—a self-actualization experience, a battle for individuality, and a question of relativity.

For American students living in France, perhaps the most difficult adaptation is to realize that, especially with a war pending, there is little interest in Americans as individuals. For the first time, I am forced to think of America in the general sense—the sense that attempts to gather

all Americans under the same label without regard of our differences. Through all of this it is easy to gain a sincere appreciation and respect for individuality and the value of the individual.

But at the same time the lesson I appreciate the most from this study abroad experience is social awareness. Studying on the same side of the world as so many countries where violence and death devastate the people daily has raised my awareness and sensitivity immensely past the detached perception received from World News Tonight.

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NATION

Analysis: Howard University Students Spend Over Budget

Analysis

Compiled by
Contributing Writers

Students on Howard's campus spend more money than they actually expect to. With all of the distractions in the world it's difficult to determine what to spend your money on.

With paying for your necessities and your needs, students need to learn to budget their money wisely. The Student Service Survey Group (SSSG) conducted a survey to better understand how students spend their funds.

The survey was conducted on one hundred males and females in each classification to assess the needs and wants to help devise a budget that is suitable for students at the Mecca.

The results are based on how much students spend monthly on necessities such as food, transportation, clothes and toiletries as well as wants such as bills, car notes, entertainment, shopping, personal upkeep and travel.

The report on their findings is below:

Class of 2004

Of the one hundred incoming freshmen polled an overwhelming majority (95 percent) reside in on campus housing. This statistic did not raise any red flags since the University requires most freshmen students to live in the dormitories.

The majority of freshmen participating in the survey divulged they utilize University dining services (88 percent have meal plans, and 8 percent dining dollars respectively). Again not surprising due to the University requiring residents to have meal plans in many of the dormitories the freshmen live.

In the needs category transportation tops the list for the class of 2004. Next in line are toiletries followed by clothes. Bringing up the tail end of the needs category is food. This may raise eyebrows for some, but due to the University providing food for many living in the dormitories because of meal plans,

food may not be as in demand as it is when students no longer have one.

The freshmen wants are listed in order of importance: entertainment, car notes, travel, personal upkeep, shopping and bills. College is said to be the most exciting part of your life. Students will go to parties, shop, and travel back and forth home spending tremendous amounts of money. The incoming students on average spend the most money on entertainment than any other classification according to the SSSG survey.

Class of 2005

The second year students usually have adapted to the environment so their expenses change. At this point in student's academic career, many students have begun to balance their cash inflows and outflows. Ninety-three percent of sophomores surveyed live on campus.

Not as many sophomores have meal plans or dining dollars as the freshman. Many students opt to discon-

tinue their meal plans after their freshman year. On an average, second year students spend between \$30- \$60 per month on food alone.

The survey found that sophomore's needs listed in order of importance: transportation, toiletries, clothes, and food.

In order of wants the sophomores polled said car responsibilities topped the list.

Personal upkeep, entertainment, shopping, travel, and bills rounded off the list. Again between \$0 - \$30 was spent on all of the above wants, except for bills where at the most \$60 is spent.

Class of 2003 & 2004

Juniors and seniors are showing the most responsibility with money. These students are trying to graduate and start their careers in the real world. The upper classmen at Howard have put their priorities in order. In your first two years as a student you learn how to handle money. It kind of helps you

see how hard it is to get money and how to use what you have sparingly.

Fifty-two percent of juniors live on campus and 48 percent live off campus. More than half of the juniors eat other places other than Howard's cafeteria. Sixty-eight of the seniors feel the same way and spend their money on neither a meal plan nor dining dollars. By the time you are a junior or senior your needs and wants have changed. Juniors and seniors spend between \$0 - \$60 on food, but the majority of these students spend between \$61 - 90 on food.

Toiletries are the peak on the needs list followed by transportation and clothes. The senior's list of needs has a different order, which are listed below: clothes, toiletries, food, and transportation.

More than half of the juniors and seniors polled have cars and if they do not they use public transportation.

The poll results revealed that juniors rank their wants in order from greatest to least: travel, personal upkeep, entertainment, shop-

ping, car responsibilities, bills.

Seniors wants are as follows: entertainment, travel, personal upkeep, shopping, car notes, and bills.

Besides bills, where almost \$100 per month, everything else is in the category was \$0 - \$30.

Analysis

Although students from freshman to seniors have varied spending options, each student should utilize a budget to help increase the money saved each month. Students should help one another by focusing on things that are most important and at the same time have fun.

The Student Service Survey Group is a project from Mary Kay Perkins' Economics class conducted by Jamaal Hackett-Cook, Faith Davis, Shanna Wellman, Aaron Abernathy, Angel Carpenter, Regina Dowdell, Melissa Irving, Kendall Bates, Sakeenah Kinard.

Coast to Coast: News Briefs from Across the U.S.

Former Bush Aide Apologizes for 'Machiavelli' Jibe

- A former senior aide to President Bush (news - web sites) apologized on Monday after being quoted in an article saying a band of "Mayberry Machiavellis" were running a White House where politics trumped policy.

The Esquire magazine article - which extensively quoted John DiIulio, the former head of Bush's stalled effort to aid religious charities - represents a rare criticism by a one-time insider of



a Bush White House which has placed a near-total lid on internal dissent.

The article, in the January issue of Esquire, quoted DiIulio and unnamed

White House officials as saying top Bush aide Karl Rove had assumed unprecedented power at the White House and that political calculations regularly trumped policy concerns.

'Spam' Likely to Clutter E-Mail for Some Time

- Sick of being inundated with get-rich-quick schemes and Viagra ads in your e-mail?

Well, get used to it because, despite concerted



Experts are saying that the unwanted pop up ads and email, a.k.a. spam, will increase before it lessens.

efforts to fight it, "spam" is expected to get worse before it gets better, analysts say.

The average American will get more than 2,200 spam, or unsolicited bulk e-mail, messages this year and 3,600 by 2007, Jupiter Research forecasts.

Supreme Court Could End Miranda Warnings

- For five years, Oliverio Martinez has been blind and paralyzed as the result of a police shooting. Now he is at the center of a U.S. Supreme Court (news - web sites) case that could

determine whether decades of restraints on police

interrogations should be discarded.

The blanket requirement for a Miranda warning to all suspects that they have the right to remain silent could end up in the rubbish bin of legal history if the court concludes police were justified in aggressively questioning the gravely wounded

Martinez while he screamed in agony.

Supreme Court to Decide



Photo courtesy of Lawenforcement.com

Police officers may soon have the "right to remain silent" if the Supreme Court revokes Miranda rights.

Affirmative Action Cases

- The U.S. Supreme Court said on Monday it would decide whether public universities may use a student's race in admission decisions, revisiting the politically charged issue of affirmative action for minorities it last addressed in its landmark "Bakke" ruling 24 years ago. Taking up an

important national issue affecting higher education, the high court agreed to hear two constitutional challenges to affirmative action policies at the University of Michigan's law

school and its undergraduate admissions

American Convicted in Monaco Killing

- An American male nurse was convicted Monday in the 1999 arson deaths of billionaire banker Edmond Safra and a nurse, and was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Ted Maher was convicted of arson leading to death. The fire in this wealthy Mediterranean enclave also killed one of Safra's other nurses, Vivian Torrente.

The prosecution had requested 12 years in prison for Maher in closing arguments earlier Monday. The charges carried a maximum penalty of life in prison.

Briefs courtesy of the Associated Press and Reuters.



Photo courtesy of supreme court.com

Affirmative action guidelines in relation to college applications may soon change.

Courtesy of NICKATNITE.COM

A former Bush aid apologized for calling the administration a sort of country royal family - sort of like the Clametts.

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Back to Africa

News from the Motherland and Other Lands

Michelangelo the Miser

- Michelangelo, who painted the ceiling of the Vatican's Sistine Chapel and designed the dome of St Peter's Basilica passed himself off as poor but was actually too miserly to show his huge wealth, a U.S. art historian says.

Michelangelo complained in his old age that he was living in poverty, but researchers say he had amassed a massive fortune from creating masterworks such as his gleaming white marble David, now in Florence's Accademia gallery.

Archeologists have unearthed two of Michelangelo's bank accounts and numerous deeds of purchase that show the prolific painter, sculptor and architect was worth about 50,000 gold ducats when he died in 1564, more than many princes and dukes of his time.

New archeological findings are showing that Michelangelo was extremely rich.



Photo courtesy of artstaly.com

Nightclub Blaze in Venezuelan Capital Kills 47

- A fire ripped through a packed basement nightclub in downtown Caracas early Sunday, killing 47 people, most of them suffocated by smoke in what was one of the deadliest blazes in Venezuela's recent history. Witnesses described scenes of panic as several hundred revelers stampeded for the exit trying to escape choking clouds of toxic smoke, which filled the downstairs Goajira bar and nightclub in Caracas' Baralt Avenue.

Disease-Ravaged Africa Marks AIDS Day

- Southern African countries marked World AIDS Day on Sunday with hopes that the region, which has the highest rate of HIV (news - web sites) positive people on the planet, can slow the spread of the disease.

There are 42 million HIV positive people worldwide, with sub-Saharan Africa home to 75 percent of them, according to UNAIDS (news - web sites), the U.N.'s AIDS agency.

South Africa has more HIV positive people than any other country in the world. Figures released by the government more than two years ago showed that 4.7 million people — one in nine — were infected, and the figure today is believed to be substantially higher.

Nude Calendar Sells Courage, Not Cars

- Calendars in Italy use bare breasts to sell everything from cars to coffins.

Now, a different calendar uses photos of nude women who have had breast reconstruction to sell a very simple but vital message — that there is life for women after breast cancer.

Two colleagues at the Genoa Tumor Institute came up with the idea to encourage women who have undergone

Radical mastectomy and reconstructive surgery to lead Normal lives.

The calendar, which will go on sale throughout Italy next week will raise funds for the Italian League to Prevent Tumors.

The Herd Shot Round the World...

- First, it was flying pigs, now it's flying cows.

China Southern Airlines Co Ltd, the country's largest carrier, gave a whole new meaning to the phrase "cattle class" recently when it flew 200 Canadian cows from Seattle to China aboard a Boeing 747.

The airline said in a statement that the purebred Holstein-Friesian cows, which are prized for their high milk production, were transported to the central

Chinese city of Zhengzhou, where they will be used in a breeding program.



Cows were recently flown into China for mating.

Courtesy of Keatinspeak.com



Photo courtesy of CNN.COM

Djibouti, in Africa, is becoming a strategic place for the war against terrorism.

U.S. Warns of Possible Djibouti Terror

- The State Department on Saturday warned Americans in the East African nation of Djibouti, where U.S. troops are posted, that terrorists may be planning attacks similar to those last week in Kenya.

The government had not confirmed the credibility of information concerning the threats, which also were thought to cover other countries in the region, according to a State Department statement.

"Due to the preponderance of threat information, the department believes it prudent to share this information with American citizens so they can make an informed decision in deciding whether to travel to or remain in East Africa," the statement said.

1 Hurt, Houses Burned in Haiti Protest

- More than a dozen houses lay smoldering and a man was injured in a shooting Monday during an anti-government protest, the latest in three weeks of violent demonstrations that have left at least three dead and scores injured.

Barricades of car carcasses and logs remained after Monday morning's protest, which residents said broke up after the shooting in this town where Haiti's declaration of independence was signed in 1804, creating the world's first black republic.

One man was shot in head and was hospitalized, according to townspeople who were salvaging furniture and cleaning sewers logged with political posters after the protest. Officials could not immediately be reached to confirm the report or the man's condition.

Once a stronghold of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and his Lavalas Family party, Gonaives has become increasingly polarized. Many in the town about 95 miles north of the capital, Port-au-Prince, have turned against Aristide.

On Sunday, pro-government thugs set at least 17 houses ablaze and at least one person were killed.



Photo courtesy of ICCFX.COM

A fire broke out at a club in Venezuela in South America. The death toll was very high.

Suspicion of al-Qaida, Kenya Link Grows

- U.S. suspicions that al-Qaida was behind last week's terrorist attacks in Kenya grew stronger after counter terrorism officials deemed a claim of responsibility credible and tied missiles used in the attack to an attempted hit on a military plane in May.

U.S. authorities are treating the claim as authentic, officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The claim, posted on the Web site <http://www.azfalrasas.com>, is attributed to "The Political Office of al-Qaida Jihad Organization."

Briefs courtesy of the Associated Press and Reuters

NEWS

SAD from A4

home."

There have been studies on the affects of the environment on people around the holiday season. There exists the seasonal affective disorder, which is caused by the days being shorter, and fewer hours of daylight. Harrvell says that, "there is a need for light stimulation to keep moods in balance."

Though the holidays may cause depression for many people, contrary to popular belief, suicide rates actually decline in December. They are at a peak in the months of April, June, and July.

Holiday depression can affect anyone who becomes

caught up in all of the media portrayals of what the holidays are supposed to be about.

"People need to think more spiritually," said Craig. "What Christmas is about gets lost in the media hype."

So, what can be done to prevent or treat holiday depression?

"Try to be of some service to people over the holidays, rather than purchasing mass amounts of gifts," Harrvell suggests.

McLean suggests that holiday depression can be cured "if people focus more on the spirit of the holidays, like family and togetherness. Be thankful for the blessings you received during the year. Think about what you can do better for the next year."

TRANSFER from A3

not, and my advisor took forever in processing my paper work."

Gittens said she is fortunate to only have lost a semester of credit hours.

"I was blessed, out of 30 credits 22 were transferred."

Despite her rocky start Gittens said she has no regrets; her academic performance has increased.

"I study harder and more than I did t my previous school, and I am a member of the Caribbean Students Association and some others."

Things may soon change for transfer students like Gittens

with a new organization called Transfer and Non-traditional Students Association. The organization is co-founded by senior political science major, Irene Schwoeffermann who is a transfer student herself. Schwoeffermann said the organization is designed to meet the needs of incoming transfer students who are currently not being served by the university.

"We have already cemented the official paper work and hopefully by next fall the organization will be in operation," she said.

According to the Undergraduate Bulletin a stu-

dent transferring to Howard University needs a minimum of 15 credit hours, a 2.5 cumulative grade point average and a passing grade of a C in english and a math course. Transfer students may also need to submit scored on standardized test, such as the SAT.

Howard University Counseling Service offers group counseling on adjusting to college. They work along with several student organization fraternities and sororities to help our students adjust to life at HU.

The dean of Counseling and Career Development and Director of University

Counseling Service, Dr. Thomas R. Wessel, said that many students take advantage of the service.

"Adjusting to the University can be difficult for transfer students. For those students who suffer from social anxiety and lack interpersonal skills can become isolated and lonely. We do offer groups on social anxiety and relationship issues."

The outreach component of the University Counseling Service is constantly trying different ways to reach our students.

STD from A4

really busy and especially if you're not eating properly."

Duane Walters, a senior dietetics student from South Carolina, also gets six hours of nightly sleep and echoed Lee's sentiments of eight hours of nightly sleep.

"For me to perform at my maximum, I would need to have had at least eight hours of sleep the night before," said Walters.

Lateef Olopoenia, doctor of the Physicians Assistant Department, agrees with the fact that eight hours of sleep is the maximum for normal functioning; but suggests that when one begins to go over this recommended time, it is necessary to look at other predisposing facts.

"There must be a primary condition that's causing someone to sleep this long. There will most likely be some other disease state present in that individual that causes such long periods of sleep. It is therefore not correct to say that the relationship between sleeping long hours and heart disease is synonymous," said Olopoenia.

One of the researchers, Najib Ayas, doctor of the Harvard Medical School, also expressed this view.

"There is no good physiological explanation for long sleep causing death, proposing that lengthy sleep may actually be a proxy for some other undiagnosed condition," Ayas said.

Moen suggests that to get the recommended hours of rest, one has to have a set time to sleep.

"Train the body to fall asleep at a certain time and also try to avoid items such as caffeine and pills designed to keep you awake. These [things] place unnecessary stresses on the heart and the circulatory system, and also affect one's mental concentration. There is also the issue of dependency."

Olopoenia also advises against the use of sleep aids, and suggests that they only be used temporarily for acute cases of sleep deprivation.

HUSA from A1

apartment requires a lot of time and attending a fair would have been a lot more time efficient than driving around and looking," said Holland. "If your parents are paying for your apartment or helping you to pay for it, it's that much more important to start in advance so that you present them with a variety of prices and options.

Interim Dean of Residence Life, Franklin Chambers, did not know about the HUSA-sponsored housing fair. He voiced two concerns: "I hope that it's legitimate and I hope that all the steps were taken to insure that our students are not victimized."

Chambers also encourages students to research the reputa-

See FAIR page A9

"An indescribably funny, altogether remarkable movie from the creators of 'Being John Malkovich.'"

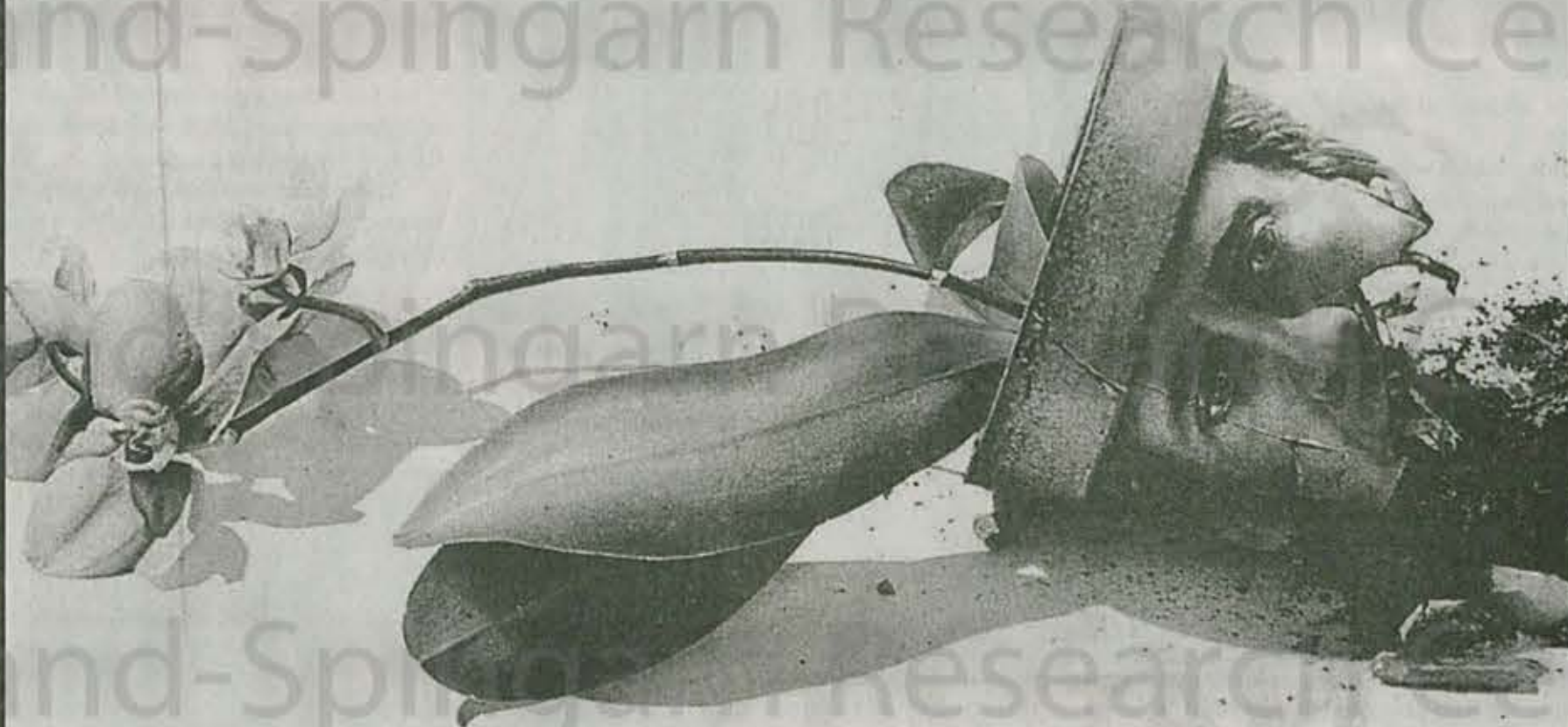
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NEWS

FIGHT from A1

knocked me back down me in the same manner. "I feel like I got smashed into the ground," he said. Diggs was not angered and thought the hits were just horseplay until a third assailant tackled him and a fourth kicked him in nose.

While on the ground Diggs said his nose began to bleed and before he could stand he saw a fifth assailant running towards him about to kick him.

Diggs then rolled into a defensive position.

"I balled up on my back with my feet towards him about to kick and he ran to the side of me," Diggs said.

Diggs then rose to his feet. "Somebody else was going to rush me, but I sidestepped him and he stopped and got mad at me for defending myself."

According to the six-foot, 350 pound Diggs, onlookers who were also friends of the assailants saw the confrontation and gathered around him.

"They all crowded around me and began pushing me," Diggs said. "It was just like they

were playing keep away...but with a person."

Diggs exchanged words with the group and said an assailant wearing a black jacket and gray shirt punched him in the face.

"It was a pretty good hit and I heard something in my jaw pop," Diggs said.

The punch left a cut on his left cheek and his jaw swollen.

They tried to provoke me to fight back but I knew I was outnumbered he said. "If you want to shoot a fair one I will fight you right here," Diggs said. "But clearly the guys were not looking for a fair fight they wanted to jump me so I left," he said.

Diggs contacted campus police but said he could not get a dispatch due to officers trying to stop students from stealing treys from the cafeteria to use as sleds in the snow.

Diggs dialed 911 and officer W.L. Douglass from the D.C. third district responded.

He filed a report with Douglass and investigation is underway.

Douglass said with no named suspect an investigation is difficult and the report will go into a pot [file] until a definite

suspect is named.

An upset Diggs said he does not want his case to go into a file because it may go unsolved.

"Putting it into a pot is just

like putting it in the trashcan because nothing will happen. Diggs said. "It's just like when I got robbed at gunpoint— nothing happened."

Diggs filed a report with campus police and an investigation is pending. Campus Police declined comment whether any arrests will be made.

Names have been changed to protect the integrity of the investigation.

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FAIR from A8

tion of the housing providers, read leases carefully and to check with D.C. Housing Authority to see if there are any housing violations.

"In the future we plan on collaborating with Residence Life and their off-campus contacts, but this was a venture we took on to assist the students and to test the success for the next fair," said Allen. "We also want to increase the number of graduates and alumni who are realtors in this area."

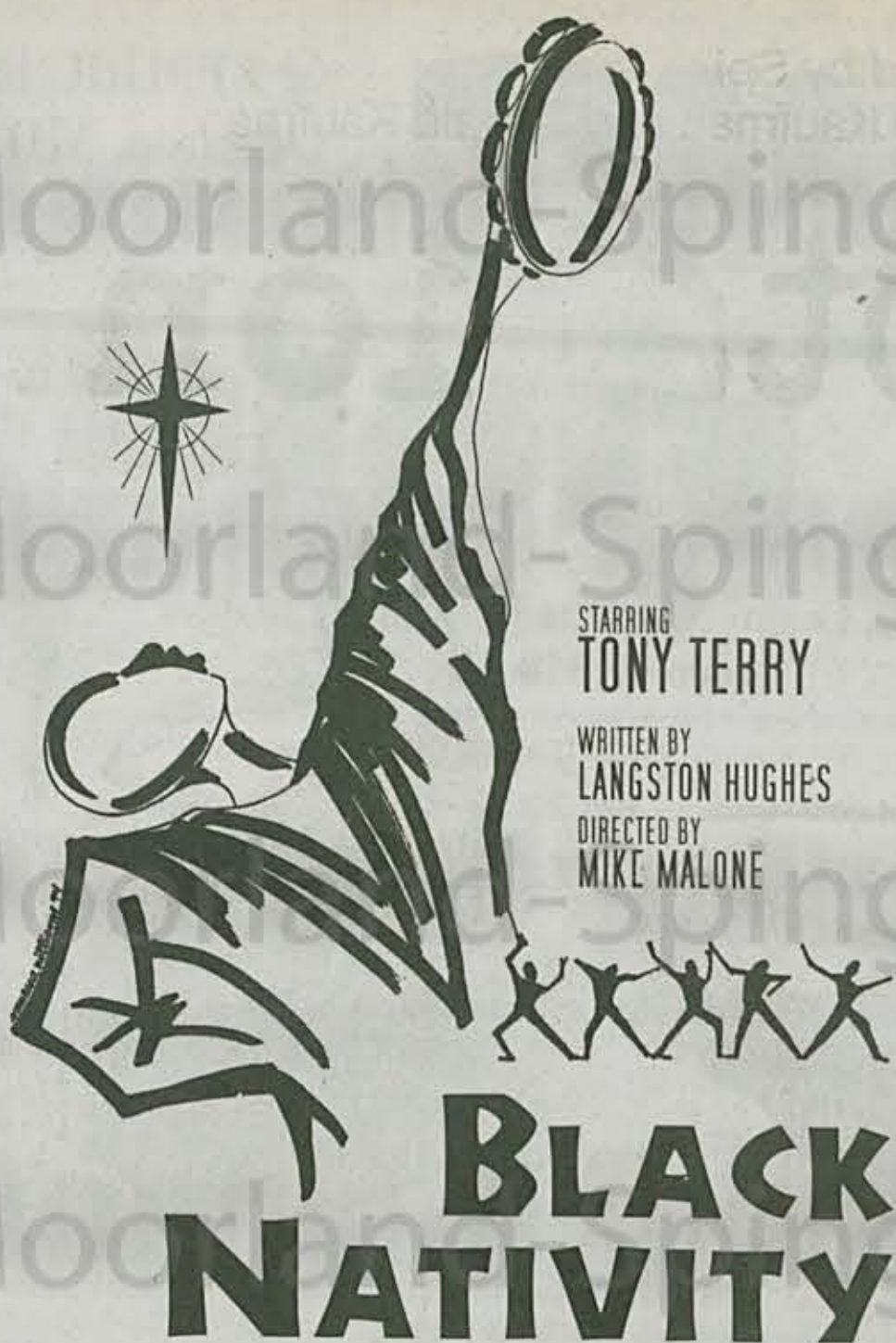
This year's HUSA adminis-

tration said they hope the housing fair becomes an annual affair, but understands that the need for one depends on what the priorities of the students are for any given academic year.

"It has a lot to do with assessing what the student body's needs are. Looking for housing, especially as college students is a tedious process and difficult to do if you live out of town," Allen said.

The fair will begin at 11 a.m. and all are welcome to attend.

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MERCEDES LINDSEY	HORESCIA LOVE	SHAKIA ROSE	SABRINA SIMMS



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Life & Style

Hilltop Holiday Movie Guide

Three Vets Tries to Make Hollywood Adapt

By Enoch Tims III
Hilltop Staff Writer

Cinema's function in modern society is what novels performed in decades past. The director, screenwriter, and producer are now the elite storytellers.

Nonetheless, believing this claim is easier said than done, especially when considering recent offerings such as 2001's "Glitter" starring Mariah Carey or that Madonna stinker, this year's "Swept Away."

Perhaps, in answer to all those habitual doubters, "Adaptation," a new movie by writer Charlie Kaufman may open their eyes.

There are surely critics who would balk at such a declaration. After all, how could one make such a claim about the novelist when their craft isn't even dead yet?

Whatever.

Kaufman, along with his previous partners-in-crime, director Spike Jonze (1999's "Being John Malkovich"), and Academy Award winning actor Nicolas Cage, have created such a unique experience in "Adaptation," that critics must acknowledge the progression films have inspired in the art of storytelling.

The foundation of the unique nature of this film is in its peculiar story. The film tells of a screenwriter's problems with adapting a novel about an orchid-hunter's



Photo courtesy of Columbia Pictures

Twin-brothers Charlie, left, and Donald Kaufman (both played by Nicolas Cage) couldn't be less alike, in Columbia Pictures' unconventional comedy Adaptation. Photo Credit: Courtesy of Columbia Pictures

passion for the species.

Yes, it sounds simple, but this is one of those story within a story within a story stories. Add to that mix real life events at every level of plot, and one has a truly exceptional and challenging film.

"Jonathan [Demme] and Ed [Saxon] commissioned me to adapt this critically acclaimed book, The Orchid Thief, by Susan

Orlean," Kaufman said. "And I thought it would be no problem. However, the lack of any narrative structure in the novel posed a serious problem for me, but I felt like I had to find the answer—I had to adapt this film."

Not many screenwriters would find the answer to their writers' block by actually writing themselves in the movie, but then

again, Kaufman is not your average filmmaker.

"My depicting my own problems with the screenwriting process by inserting myself into this adaptation became another way to represent the theme of passion in this film," Kaufman explains. "It became a metaphor for ideas feeding upon themselves and how they eventually tie

together in the end."

Any average player would hesitate at such a puzzling movie, but not Nicolas Cage.

"The film gave me an opportunity to do something totally brand new, to really transform myself," Cage said. "I'm playing the writer of the movie in which I'm appearing and also his brother. It's a Cubist thing, very exciting."

Seeing Cage return to the more quirky roles that initially cast him into mainstream popularity should be refreshing to many of his old fans.

"It does help that I had one of the more eccentric characters in Charlie to base my portrayal on," Cage said. "When I would study him, he would intentionally do things to throw me off, just to see if I would add these false traits to my portrayal—I only hope that I do the man justice."

On the other hand, when it came to portraying Kaufman's fictional twin brother, the job became that much more challenging. Cage credits Spike Jones for helping him shape his depiction of his latest role.

"Luckily, Spike was there to direct me through the process," Cage laughingly remembers. "He would enthusiastically stand in for my imaginary twin, complete makeup and all, just to make the whole process that much more seamless."

Fans familiar with Jonze's

previous film, "Being John Malkovich," knows he has to have a very imaginative vision, and he was only ready to apply his gift to the "Adaptation" script. In fact, in many ways, Jonze served as an emotional support for Kaufman.

"As I grew more and more interested in his ideas," Jonze recalls, "Charlie grew more and more nervous that he wasn't doing what the producers had hired him to do. I just tried to support him but then again, unlike Charlie, I didn't have anything to lose. It just sounded like fun to me."

The only things that put a strain on the fun for Jonze were the scenes involving the characters of Charlie and his brother.

"We used pretty much every technique that exists for shooting doubles – split frames, motion control, green screen, etc. It required a lot of exhausting work from Nic and the crew," says Jonze.

Hopefully, these three will find the time to collaborate on more films in the future. After all, they agree "Adaptation" is much more than a film. Saxon puts it best, "The movie is about challenging yourself. It's a movie about admitting to the basic human frailties and yet being able to adapt to all the curve balls that life throws our way."

Two Newcomers Make Their Mark on the Industry



Photo courtesy of Fox Searchlight Pictures

Actor Derek Luke, makes his film debut as the lead role in "Antwon Fisher."

Derek Luke: A Fresh Face for the Silver Screen

By: Harold J. Eichelberger Contributing Writer

With eminence and a load of happiness, the success and wisdom that makes Derek Luke is obvious from the exchange of dap and hellos. Lying relaxed in a Four Seasons suite with tope décor and fresh muffins on a sterling silver cart, the satisfaction of life and accomplishment adorn Luke's personality.

Luke, who stars as Antwone Fisher in FOX Searchlight's upcoming film "Antwone Fisher," directed by and co-starring Denzel Washington, is a remarkable young man and a fresh face that Hollywood can call its

own.

Growing up in Jersey City, New Jersey native, Luke always knew he wanted to be an actor. It was a gift that lay in him incubating in the first decade of his life.

"My mother said I was 10 years old when I came up to the front room and told her that I wanted to act," Luke remembers.

And that's when the bug started.

By age 18, he branched out and left Jersey City for New York where he roamed around the city picking up jobs. He even went to audition for director Spike Lee's 1995 drama "Clockers."

Soon he was making cameos on UPN's "Moesha" and CBS's "King of Queens."

But it wasn't until a stint at the Sony gift shop that Luke would get his big break.

Through a chance meeting with the real-life Antwone Fisher, a man he describes as "full of jokes and straight comedy," Luke was able to audition for the part for Denzel Washington.

The rest, as they say, is history.

For Luke, the opportunity was once in a lifetime. "When I got the script it had so much heart in it, something extra," recalls Luke. "There's a universal message of home, hope, family, and unity; and those adversities are colorless."

The film carries themes

See FISHER page B8

Goodbye Howard, Hello Hollywood

By Jozen Cummings
Life and Style Editor

A college degree can take people a long way, but there's something to be said for raw talent.

Howard University alumni Brandon Broussard proves this to be true with his debut film "The Epicureans," which will be showing this Tuesday at Visions Cinema and Bistro.

Upon graduating from Howard University in 1999 with degrees in Political Science and French, the young director followed his cousin Breht Gardner to Los Angeles to assist in the production of two independent films; "Turnover," an action-comedy and "Palco & Hirsch," a crime-thriller.

Inspired by what he experienced, he returned to Howard in 2001 to pursue his Masters degree in Fine Arts and learn about the production process. After one semester Broussard decided he was ready to shoot his own feature.

Armed with only one cameraman, one soundman, a handful of aspiring young actors and a \$10,000 budget, Broussard was able to produce "The Epicureans" without the backing of a major studio.

Described by critics as a male version of HBO's "Sex and the City," Broussard actually came up with the idea after watching "Swingers" – the 1996 comedy about a group of young guys who hang out and talk about life.

"Out of any film, (Swingers) came closest to portraying how my friends and I act," the Houston native says. "To me, life is about the pursuit of happiness, which is a philosophy that is derived from Epicures a student of Aristotle."

The Epicureanism philosophy believes an emotional calm is the highest good. Living a chaotic lifestyle is frowned upon and intelle-

tual pleasure outweighs temporary thrills.

Broussard breaks it down. "Epicureanism is not about all the wine and sex you can have. It's about happiness and how it should all be in moderation."

Besides "Swingers," Martin Scorsese and Spike Lee, two acclaimed directors whose careers were jump-started by making films on a shoestring budget and later became amongst the Hollywood elite, also inspired Broussard.

"People like Scorsese and Lee are my main inspirations," he says. "The way they just went for it was what pushed me to do my movie the same way."

Outside of film, Broussard attributes his achievements an upbringing drenched in imagination. "I've always been thinking of stories since I was a little kid. My imagination never seems to fail me."

Imagination is something Broussard thinks the film industry is lacking.

"Instead of writing a film they want to see," Broussard says. "Hollywood is making films



Photo by Leslie Wills

Howard alum, Brandon Broussard, will take his debut film "The Epicureans" on the road with him in early 2003.

See ALUM page B8

Movie Guide

Audiences Must Adapt to "Adaptation"

By Enoch Tims III
Hilltop Staff Writer

Before seeing the film, I had it on high authority that the new Charlie Kaufman/Spike Jonze collaboration, "Adaptation," would be an exceptionally imaginative vision that should garner its lead actor, Nicolas Cage, two Oscars for his dual role of Charlie Kaufman and his fictional twin brother, Donald.

Admittedly this endorsement did come from its producer, Jonathan Demme, so bias was probably a factor. Yet, a filmmaker of such high esteem would not just put his name on anything and most people would not throw away his opinions—or his ideas for that matter. And that is probably why Kaufman, the screenwriter and center of the film, initially jumped at Demme's offering to adapt the critically acclaimed novel, *The Orchid Thief*, by Susan Orlean.

Unfortunately, it didn't

take Kaufman long to figure out that he might have bitten off more than he could chew mostly due to the novel's lack of a conventional narrative structure. For most screenwriters and subsequently most movies this would be a definite

kiss of death, however, Charlie Kaufman is not most screenwriters, and "Adaptation" is not most movies.

In order to successfully adapt Orlean's book for the screen, Kaufman decided to write himself and his problems with adapting the novel into the screenplay. In turn, the ticket buyer gets a film about a man desperately trying to understand the passions of an alienated author and a passionate eccentric whose latest obsession is the collecting/stealing of rare orchids.

A risk? Definitely.

Crazy? Maybe.

Does it work? Absolutely.

By letting the audience experience his own frustration, neuroses and limitations and

those of Orlean, the author, and La Roche, the orchid obsessed subject of her novel, Kaufman succeeds in adapting the novel's theme of passion for the big screen. "Adaptation" is a genuinely funny, emotional, and challenging film.

Perhaps it was not just Kaufman's talent that resulted in such an innovative and astounding film, but the talented collaborators that he had with him. The unique and curious eye of Spike Jonze, the larger-than-life acting chops of Nicolas Cage, the "Dingo-ate-my-baby" finesse of Meryl Streep (Susan Orlean), and the sleeping talent that is Chris Cooper (John LaRoche) all combine to breathe life into Kaufman's word.

Cinematographer Lance Acord's shots and production designer K.K. Barrett's settings also provide for a decidedly atmospheric world that further emphasizes the emotional journeys of each of the film's principle characters. With such an all-star line up behind Kaufman it is hard to make a bad movie, but not impossible.

Do not misunderstand. This film could have been a

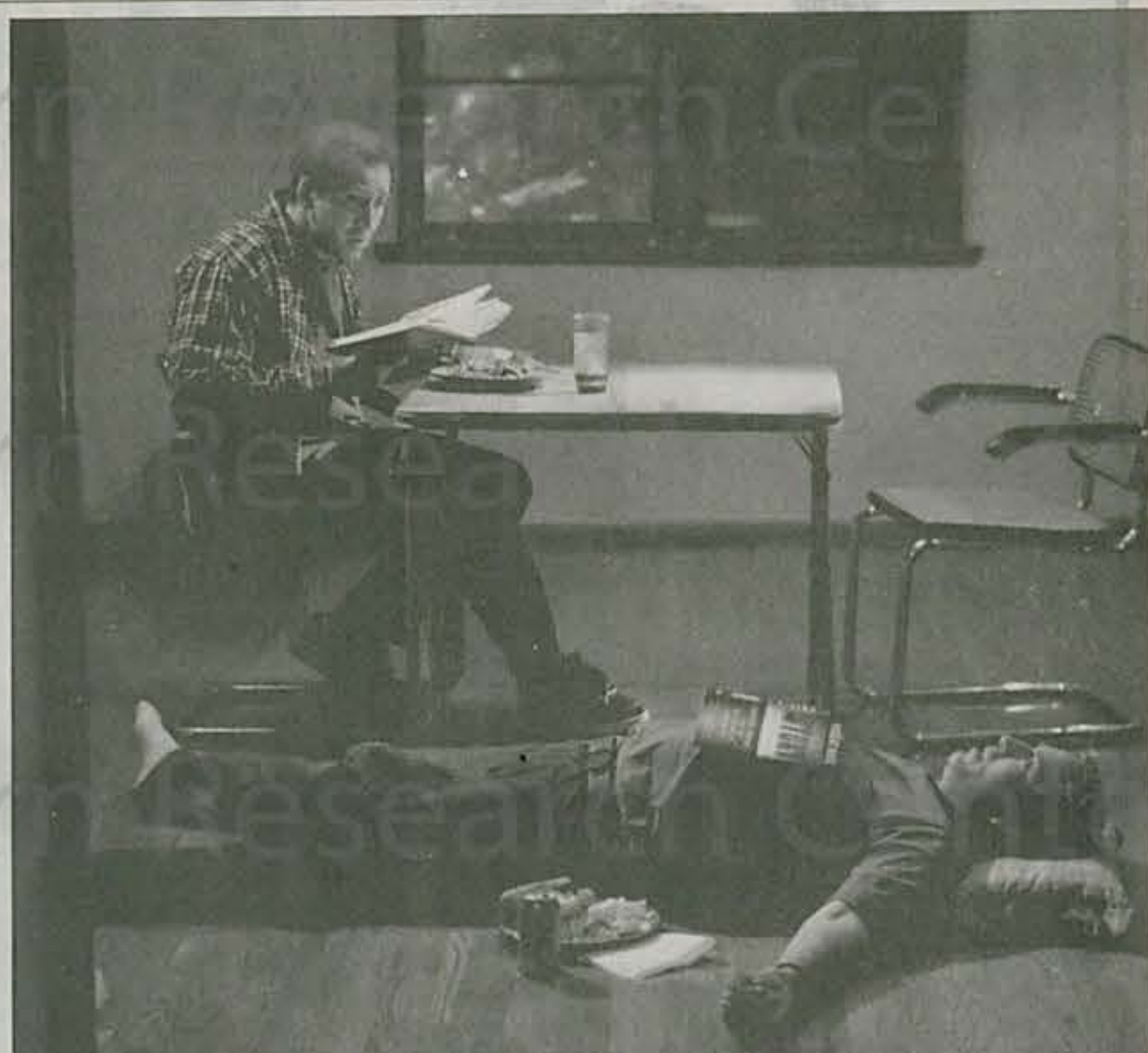


Photo courtesy of Columbia Pictures

Twin-brothers Charlie, left, and Donald Kaufman (both played by Nicolas Cage) discuss the finer points of screenwriting, in Columbia Pictures' unconventional comedy *Adaptation*. Photo Credit: Courtesy of Columbia Pictures

royal snafu. And that fact is what makes it so remarkable. This guy Kaufman had the genius and the guts to pull it off.

Basically, for any one who

wants the usual canned fodder in their film-going experience, you might want to take a pass on this film. However, for those of you who like to take risks in their trips to the cine-

plex, make "Adaptation" your next experience. The film may not be easy to categorize, but it will definitely turn heads come Oscar time.

Nothing Crazy About "Eight Crazy Nights"

By Terez Paylor
Hilltop Staff Writer

Adam Sandler's latest film, Columbia Picture's "Eight Crazy Nights" is shocking to say the least.

Not only is this movie not crazy, it's also kind of mean. I have never seen a mean-spirited Adam Sandler film. In fact, I never thought Adam Sandler could even be mean spirited. But to a point, that's what this animated, semi-musical film is.

While the plot follows along the lines of traditional Christmas films such as "A Christmas Carol" and "A Christmas Story," there is enough of that Sandler flavor to distinguish itself.

Sandler is the voice of

Davey Stone, a 33 year old miser who has become a hated man in the quaint little fictional town of Dukesberry. His temper and his frequent bouts with the bottle have become legendary, and he is a man of little remorse.

He is also a man on his last leg.

After his wild ways get him in trouble with the law, Davey is facing a 10 year jail sentence which he is sure to serve. However, a lovable little old man named Whitey Duvall (also voiced by Sandler) saves him from jail by interjecting on his behalf during his trial and recommending Davey work

with him as a youth basketball referee. From there, Davey embarks on the difficult (and somewhat predictable) path towards fixing

his sad, pathetic life.

Given that Sandler produced the film, you

would expect this movie to be full of gross comedy, amusing cursing and a weak storyline. Well, for the most part, that's true of "Eight Crazy Nights." There is some cursing and plenty of disgusting scenes, which make this a typical Sandler film right?

See EIGHT page B9

Grade: C+

Good Times with Epicureans

By Freddie Allen
Contributing Writer

Epicureanism derives its name from the Greek philosopher Epicurus (circa 306 BC) who believed that pleasure was the sole good and that the absence of pleasure was the sole evil.

Therefore, man's primary responsibility is to achieve pleasure at all times and to do so one must surround himself with friends and loved ones.

The movie "The Epicureans" revolves around the relationships of four men in their



Photo courtesy of The Epicureans

Howard student, Hudson Smith, as Damian in "The Epicureans." Moss) delivers an endearing "Chandler Bing" dry wit that a mixed audience will mimic in all the wrong places.

Torn between honoring his mother and ultimately living his life, August (Chrison Thompson) dreads the one decision that the only son of a single parent should never have to make. Damian (Hudson Smith) doesn't seem to care about any of it, as long as he's not paying.

With candor rarely seen in freshman directors, first-time director Brandon Broussard portrays brutally honest dialogue and heart-felt introspection that lends a unique improvisational feel to the film. It's what every man is thinking and what every woman wants to know, but will never hear.

Broussard juxtaposes light-hearted humor with a sense of

See Epicures page B9

Grade: A

mid-twenties, graduates from Howard University chasing the good life in the Chocolate City.

There's Christian (Jon Cook), the philosophical player of the crew. Chase (Michael

In Search of Antwone Fisher A Powerful Man, A Powerful Movie

By: Harold J. Eichelberger
Contributing Writer

There hasn't been a film made by an African-American, and starring African-Americans that looks at life beyond normalcy on the silver screen in years. Not since Spike Lee's "Bamboozled" has a film dug this deep into African-American life.

But finally, such a film has arrived and this time, Lee isn't the one in the director's chair.

Sitting in the chair this time around is Academy Award winning actor Denzel Washington in his directorial debut, with FOX Searchlight's "Antwone Fisher." The film also welcomes newcomers Derek Luke who plays Antwone Fisher, Joy Bryant, Fisher's love interest Salli Richardson plays Berta, the wife of U.S. Navy psychiatrist Jerome Davenport, played by Washington.

The film is set around the brewing emotions of Fisher, a Navy man who has felt the backlash of child abuse, negligence and loss.

Denzel Washington looks into the heart of Antwone Fisher and tells his story appropriately.

Antwone Fisher represents the human in life that carries baggage around and lets it drag him down. Throughout the film, Fisher suffers problems that plague many of our children in our communities. His story is one of life, sadness and the quest of a young man to be free.

The film is a true story set in Cleveland, Fisher's childhood home, and in San Diego, where he serves in the Navy. "Antwone Fisher" is a story about a little boy who was born in a prison and given up by his mother. Fisher's father was murdered and he was placed in a foster home. In this home Fisher faces the spite of child abuse and neglect.

As life happens, Fisher soon breathes the smoke of hatred, and hurt in search of love, family, permanency and freedom. Through



Photo courtesy of Fox Searchlight Pictures

Denzel Washington splits duties as a director and actor in "Antwone Fisher."

the leadership of Navy psychiatrist Davenport, Fisher takes his course full throttle and discovers life.

The acting in this film was incredible and over the top. Derek Luke, does an incredible job in recreating the life of Fisher. Luke stands as a veteran and develops a magical entity on screen with Washington, and Bryant.

Grade: A

There is no doubt "Antwone Fisher" carries the potential of winning awards, and garnering Oscar nominations.

Understand, this film is that great.

The film carries a number of running themes. These themes include family, faith, hope, and love. With the coupling of each theme, the movie leads to a climax that is sure to stun viewers and causes water to well deep in their eyes. Washington does an excellent job with the directions and elements he chooses to use in the film. He utilizes effects of

large shots and scenes with explosive emotion to garner the feelings of each character.

Also, Washington uses flashbacks to help pivot the heart of the viewer. With fine tuned precision, Washington captures the story of "Antwone Fisher." Each shot leaves a small memento to take from each scene.

"Antwone Fisher" is a movie that runs smoothly with no gaps and the right speed and tempo of anticipation. The screenplay, written by Antwone Fisher himself, allows the plot plenty of space to develop itself and tell the story of a little boy's trek into manhood.

But more important is the way the film depicts various levels of African-American life, and the strength of the African-American family. "Antwone Fisher" is like no other African-American film. It takes a look at reality and a quest for life that goes beyond race and class.

Washington carried a mantra on the set of this film simply stated says, "We're doing it for Antwone." In all honesty, this movie was done for everyone who is in search of freedom and happiness.

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SPORTS



Howard Remembers Holiday Magic

By Aisha Chaney & Elena Bergeron
Sports Editors

The holiday season is undoubtedly a magical time, especially in the sports world. Fans across the country are simultaneously waiting for their savior's return (Donovan McNabb, Mike Bibby), hoping that their fuel won't run out (Mavericks, Colts), and awaiting an end to their fast (Bengals, Knicks). This is the time of the year that has given us both the original 'Hail Mary' pass and the 'Immaculate Reception'. What further proof of a higher power could one ask?

It is in this spirit that we took to campus to ask various administrators, coaches and student-athletes about the sports figures that shaped their adolescence and their favorite sports memory. As icing on the proverbial fruit cake, we also asked if Santa Claus could make them into any athlete, living or dead, who they would want to be.

H. Patrick Swygert University President

[The] questions are very difficult for me to answer, difficult because I had (have) two sports heroes. One of my heroes is very well known, the great #42, Jackie Robinson. The other is also a Hall of Famer, but not quite as well-known or talked about today, #39, Roy Campanella (three time National League MVP). Both were great athletes with the Brooklyn Dodgers, both were black and both reached back to the community. My favorite sports memory was going to Connie Mack Stadium in my hometown of Philadelphia to see Jackie Robinson in person for the first time.

Jackie was not the fastest athlete nor the best fielder or the best batter. He was, however, the smartest and the greatest impact player...he made things happen like the time I saw him steal second base, go to third on an infield grounder. Now he is on third base with two outs. Everyone in the stadium knows he is going to try to steal home plate yet in spite of this he does steal home. I saw him do it and, as the expression goes, "you had to be there." I would love to be Jackie Robinson on second base and Roy Campanella at the plate.

Dr. Franklin Chambers III Interim Director of Residence Life

I would have to say without any hesitation that Isiah Thomas (former Piston) is/was my favorite player. Although he was not the tallest or biggest player in the league, he was by far the toughest. (I named my first son Isaiah) My favorite sports memory was when the Pistons won the championship against the Los Angeles Lakers (1989). Although I was born and raised in L.A., I have never been a Lakers fan, so beating the Lakers for the championship was even sweeter.

A.B. Williamson Director of Compliance

Althea Gibson and Wima Rudolph, but I guess because my name is Althea and hers is Althea, then I'll just stick with Althea Gibson. But they both were prolific when I was growing up. As far as males, I'd say Elgin Baylor was my favorite. He was like the Michael Jordan of that time. If I could be any athlete I'd have to be like Mike! He's the best.

Shawn Moore Associate Director of Athletics

OJ Simpson was my favorite athlete when I was growing up because I wanted to be a running back in the NFL. The juice was it! I was five years old at the time ('73) and that's when my interest in football really heightened, from '73-'76. If I could be any athlete I'd have to be Jackie Robinson because I would have wanted to experience the adversity he went through in terms of racism and bigotry, and he broke the barrier for blacks in baseball.

Linda Spencer Volleyball Head Coach

My hero would have to be Donna Lopiano, who is now the president of the Women's Sports Foundation. She was a fast-pitch softball player and she was so great. I was just amazed that women could play like that and it got me involved in sports.

If I could be any athlete, I would probably be one who had to overcome some kind of adversity, probably Juan Dixon, because both of his parents died of AIDS. It's just amazing that he had hopes of going to college at all, much less a national championship team and getting a pro contract.

Frankie Allen Men's Basketball Head Coach

[My favorite player was] Elgin Baylor because he played the small forward, and that's the same position I played. I emulated his style whenever I played. If I could be any athlete I'd be Wilt Chamberlain because he scored a lot of points and I used to like to score a lot of points when I played. He's the best pure athlete (or basketball player) that I can think of. He's just great.

Cathy Parson Women's Basketball Head Coach

My favorite athlete growing up was probably Dr. J because of his creative abilities and how exciting it was to watch him play. If I could be anyone, I'd just be myself because I've been through a lot and attained a lot of goals. I feel like I will always live on because I'll have other people living vicariously through me.

Michael Merritt Cross Country/ Track Coach

I guess for Track and Field my favorite athlete would have to be Lee Evans, he was an Olympic gold medalist back in the 60s. I admired him because he ended up running the event that I ran in college, which was the 400 meters. Overall, the athlete I liked the best was Earl "the Pearl" Monroe. If Santa Claus could make me any athlete, I'd have to go for myself.

A. Toy Caldwell-Colbert Provost & Chief Academic Officer

See WISHES page B



Graphics by Aisha Chaney

From counter-clockwise: men's basketball head coach Frankie Allen as Elgin Baylor; strength and conditioning coach Keith Comeforo as Michael Jordan; Howard University President H. Patrick Swygert as Roy Campanella; Associate Director of Athletics Shawn Moore as O.J. Simpson; and senior guard Kyle Williams as Bill Russell.





SPORTS

Indoor Track & Field Season Ready to Take Off

By **Josef Sawyer**
Campus and Online Editor

"This week it's all about my classes and preparing for finals but after Thursday I am getting focused," said track team member David Oliver.

Both the men's and women's teams will race at the Prince George's Sports Complex tomorrow. According to third year coach Michael Merritt, both teams have been training since September and the first meet will measure the strength and weaknesses of the team. Last year's team was slowed by nagging injuries resulting from poor track conditions Merritt said. But he is confident in the team and said neither the track nor the cold weather will stop him from training his athletes for competition.

"We aren't scared of the cold," Merritt said. "Champions don't melt in the rain."

Merritt's diamond on the men's team remains junior David Oliver who runs the 60m hurdles, 110m hurdles and anchors the 4x4 relay. Last season Oliver was ranked as high as 18th in the nation in the 110m hurdles and hopes to defend his back-to-back titles. Although he has shown promise Merritt still wants more from Oliver.

"I would like for Oliver to be a little more aggressive in the hurdles and more focused in all areas," he said.

The men's team will also be led by senior Taj Alvaranga and junior Lance Gross. Alvaranga runs the 400m, 4x4 relay, and 400m hurdles. Last season he placed fifth in the 400 and second in the 400 hurdles at conference championships. He is the third leg on the 4x4 team.

Gross, who is coming off of a season ending ankle injury, looks to repeat his 24-foot jump, which placed him second at conference championships in 2001. Gross is also the second leg of the 4x4 team, which placed fourth at the conference championship.

Sophomore distance runner Leon Snyder is an up and coming star Merritt said and he seems to have his mind set on what he knows he needs to do in the middle distance races like the 800m.

The sole recruit on the men's team is freshman Chris Williams, who adds depth to an already strong long jump team. Williams is the Illinois high school state champion.

Over the summer, Merritt addressed the needs of the women's team who was left without a coach after Carmella Shivers left.

Recruits like freshman Le'Claire Carter who was the state of Alabama's high school champion in the long jump and 100m, will bring new life to the team. Freshman Kendra Smith from Florida should help the team in sprints. Smith was also the high school state champion in the triple jump.

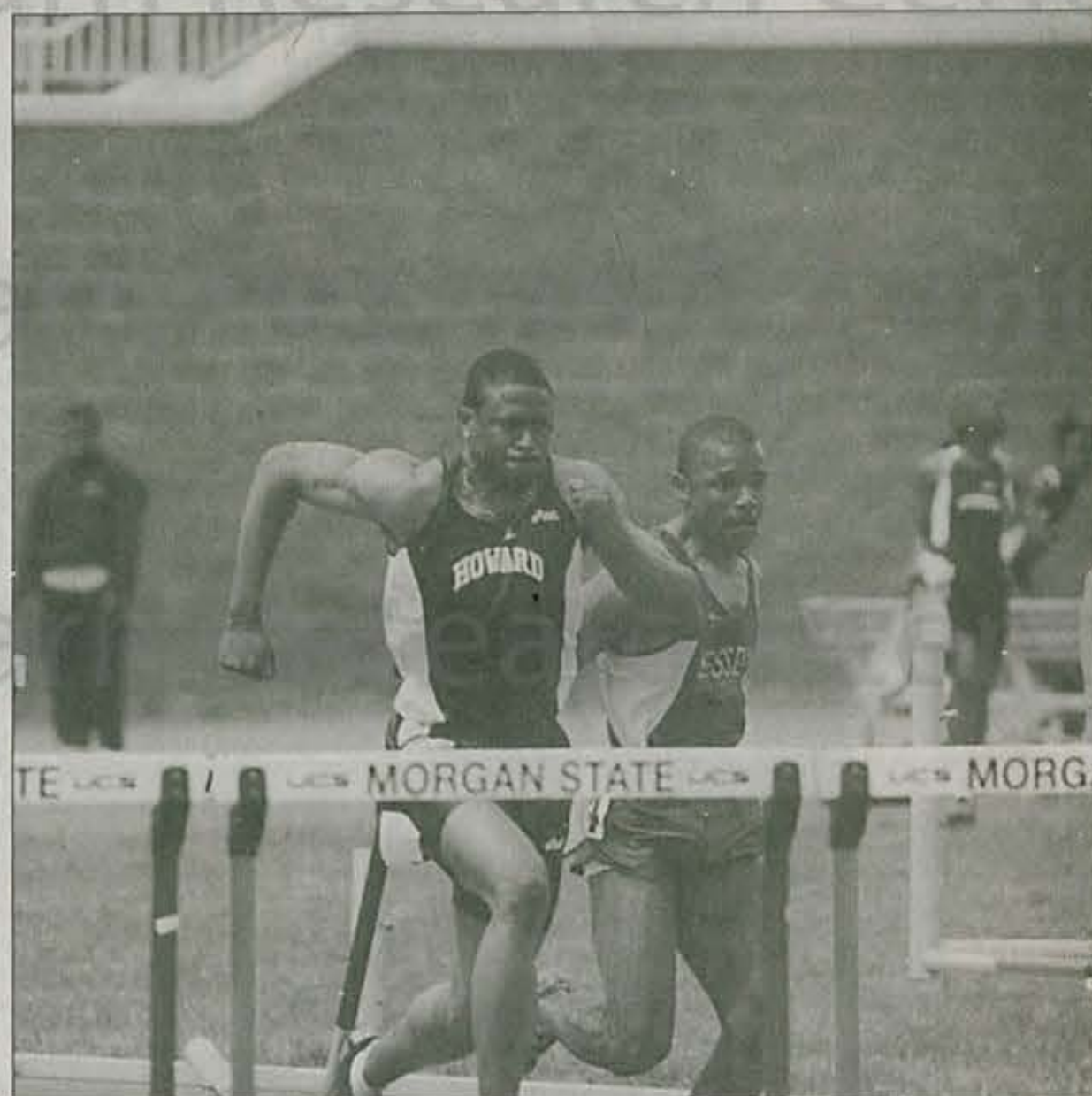
Freshman distance runner Tasha Harris comes off an impressive championship win in the Cross-Country Championship and should put the team in a competitive position. Freshman Joslyn Kerney from New Jersey, the state champion in the shot put, brings quality to a position that has lacked in years past.

Returning and expected to make significant impacts will be junior sprinter Phakiso Collins, senior Amanda Franklin, sophomore Erica Day and distance runner Crystal Perkins.

But Merritt is not sure-fire about all events and said he fears the 800-meter.

"I hope junior Mya Caldwell will step up in the 800," Merritt said.

Caldwell transferred back to Howard from the University of Michigan and Merritt hopes she will fill the void in the 800.



File Photo

Junior David Oliver, leaps over hurdles in a single bound.

Bison Stage Rally but Fall Short 80-70, to UC Berkeley



By **Aisha Chaney**
Sports Editor

Ron Williamson scored a team high 25 points and Kyle Williams finished with 18 but it wasn't enough as the Howard basketball team suffered an 80-70 loss to the University of California at Berkeley Tuesday night, in a non-conference game at Haas Pavilion.

The Bison drop to 1-3 while the Bears improve their record to 3-0.

Trailing by as many as 24 at one point, the relentless Bison put together a second half

Senior guard, Kyle Williams, attempts a jumper over UC Berkley defenders.

comeback, led by Williamson (17 points) and Williams (16 points), that cut the deficit to seven with just under two minutes remaining.

Senior forward Mario Grove had a chance to bring Howard within five when he stepped up to the free throw line, but he missed both attempts and the Bears sank three of their last four, to hold off the Bison and escape with the victory.

Junior forward Seye Aluko had a solid game for the Bison, recording a career-high seven steals and grabbing 12 rebounds, in his first start of the season.

"I am very proud of the way the team fought back tonight," said Bison Head Coach Frankie Allen. "This is the first time that we have played with that kind of intensity this season. It is certainly some-

thing to build on."

UC Berkeley, a team from the PAC-10, started the game off on fire, shooting 65 percent, including 6 of 8 from three-point range. Senior forward Joe Shipp led the way for the Bears, scoring 20 of his game-high 30 points in the first half, to give his team a 43-26 half-time lead.

"Joe Shipp made a believer out of me tonight," Allen said. "We knew he was a good player, but he was unbelievable in the first half. He made it difficult because he was hitting threes from NBA range."

Howard came out of the locker rooms and applied a ferocious defense that caused the Bears to turn the ball over on their first five possessions.

The Bison capitalized by going on an 11-4 run

that brought the score to 46-37 with 15:05 remaining.

Even though the Bears went on another run that extended the lead back to 62-41 with 10:02 to play, the Bison would not go down without a fight.

Their full court pressure on the defensive end forced season-high 26 turnovers.

Freshman point guard Louis Ford had a solid game for the Bison, contributing four points, five rebounds, three assists and three steals. Senior guard Jonathan Stokes also added eight points and three steals, in his second game of the season.

The Bison will play St. Francis of New York for their home opener tomorrow at 4 p.m. in Burr Gymnasium.

The 'Weight' is Over, Cook Hall Receives New Equipment

By **Akeya Dickson**
Contributing Writer

Halfway out of their coats and bags and with renewed motivation, a steady stream of athletes bound into Cook Hall's basement weight room, anxious to jump on the new equipment and into the newly charged atmosphere.

As Lil' Jon & The Eastside Boyz' down south song "Throw it up!" reverberates off the walls of the recently renovated weight room, Coach Keith Comeforo, the strength and conditioning coach for Bison athletes, makes sure that they are all working out and using the equipment properly.

"The atmosphere is great. There is a day and night difference between the way the weight room looks now and the

way it did before. Eighty percent of the old equipment was broken down and dangerous, or just couldn't be used at all," said Coach 'K', as he is more commonly referred to. "For example, we now have new floors, new multi-power stations, a new rack of dumbbells, a new power press and about three tons of new plates."

In his first semester at Howard as the first ever strength & conditioning coach, Coach 'K' said that it didn't take long at all to get the ball rolling on this project.

"I arrived in August, which is when we started making some phone calls. Dynabody, [a fitness equipment company] was very instrumental in making this happen. They took all the old equipment on trade and donated some other equip-

ment. We also received donations and discounts from other sources," said Coach 'K'. "The project was finished last month, November 16. Now we're working on getting a new stereo system."

Karen Y. House, special assistant to the Vice President for University Advancement and an intermediary between Howard and the Bison Express (an alumni organization that supports athletics at Howard), participated in the renovation of the weight room but was not available for comment at the time of press.

Efforts to improve the weight room aren't lost on the athletes either.

"They took big strides to make a commitment to sports," said freshman biology major Lamar Crawford, a member of

the Bison football team. "When you see other people put all this money and energy into the facilities, it makes you want to work harder."

As football and women's soccer players alike get hype, joke around and encourage each other to lift just one more set or do one more repetition, Coach 'K' explained how the renovations have advanced the time-efficiency and productivity of the athletes' workout.

"Now we can train two teams at a time with up to four people on each rack of the multi-power station, as opposed to working out a maximum of twelve athletes at a time previously."

"Having one nice weight room for the athletes makes it more like a family. It motivates you. You get to interact with

each other instead of it just being every team for themselves", said senior print journalism major Stephanie Hill, a member of the women's soccer team.

To prevent weights from being stolen and the equipment from being damaged, Coach 'K' is in the weight room at all times, wiping down the equipment for germs and making sure the athletes put everything away everyday.

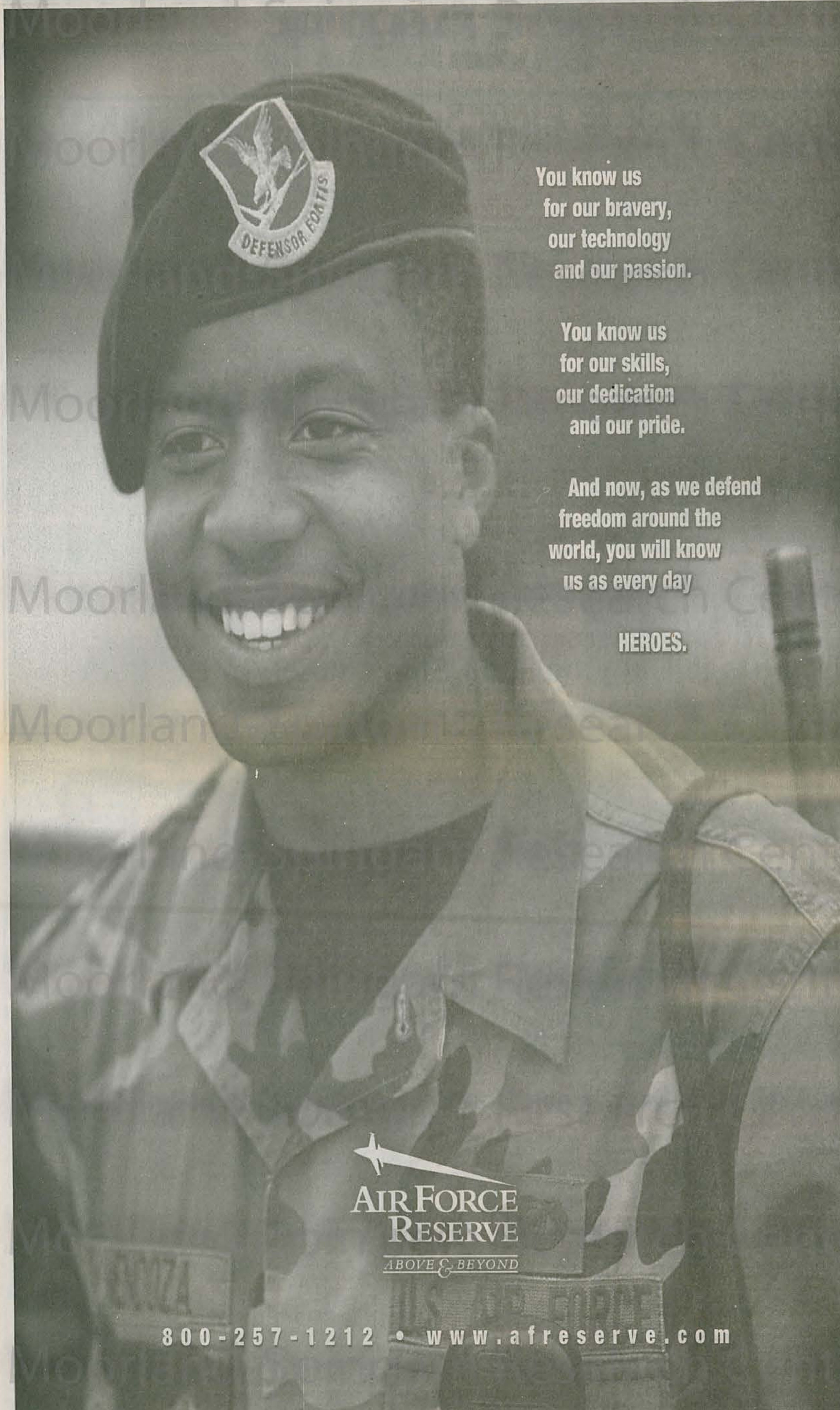
"If someone leaves something out, everyone has to do push-ups," Coach 'K' said.

For now, there are set hours for each team to come and workout in the student-athlete weight room. Coach 'K' hopes to have more open hours next semester.

Women's Soccer Players Honored

-Sophomore Raneika Bean was named the 2002 Independent Women's Soccer Player of the Year.

-Michelle Williston and Karisma Horne were also named to the All-Independent first team.



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NEWS

ALUM from B1

they think other people want to see, and they suck at it."

These are strong words for someone whose experience in making films can be counted on one hand. But Broussard is being honest, a trait that spills into his work.

"My style of writing is very real. I hold no punches," he says. "I've had people who

seen the film tell me they thought they were watching a documentary because the acting was so authentic."

Michael Moss, who plays the introverted Chase in "The Epicureans" concurs with Broussard. "The script was real enough that it didn't feel like we were acting," says Moss, a junior business major and aspiring actor. "(Broussard) wrote a script that was easy to relate to, so

everything was a natural flow."

Moss was equally impressed with Broussard's directing abilities. "He was more than just the director," says Moss. "I mean he was the friend, the driver, you name it he did it."

After making the film, Broussard noticed how much the film developed over the 10 day shoot.

"The film actually

came out better than I hoped for in some ways," Broussard says. "There are so many things you can dissect, like the colors or the shot design. All these subtle things make the movie exactly what it's supposed to be; a cake with several different layers."

Plenty of people came to get a taste of Broussard's cake back in October. The first screening at Vision sold out before the movie began.

Even with all the success Broussard has received locally, he's still hungry. With plans to move to L.A. or N.Y. in January and a five-city film festival tour scheduled from February to March in 2003, he is not letting a single opportunity pass him by. He's even trying to put "The Epicureans" in theaters.

"Ideally I'd like to see the movie in anywhere between 10-100 theaters," says Broussard, who is still on

the prowl for investors. "Spike Lee grossed over \$8 million at the box office with 'She's Gotta Have It' and I think 'The Epicureans' can do the same."

"The Epicureans" will be showing one night only Tuesday Dec. 10 at 7:00 p.m. at Visions Cinema and Bistro located at 1927 Florida Ave. Tickets are on sale for \$6.00 at the Visions box office. For more information call 202-486-9056



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FISHER from B1

that have never been encountered and acknowledged on the silver screen for African-Americans. It reaches into community issues, and thus prongs at the heart of Luke.

"I didn't know that it was history in the making until people told me about it," he says. "This relationship has never been explored in the African-American community on film. I feel this was an important issue in America."

After skimming the credits of "Antwone Fisher," two actresses stick out: Veteran Salli Richardson and newcomer Joy Bryant. Each of these women share overwhelming beauty and talent that pulls at the emotion of the viewer. Working alongside these women was a complete pleasure for Luke.

"It was incredible working with them on my first picture," Luke says. "Salli Richardson is a beautiful lady, very encouraging and cornered with beauty. Both of them have heart and a luster about them that is beyond

their outside exterior."

Luke also shared a couple of dating scenes with Bryant. While each scene was precious and innocent in its own light, they were somewhat of a challenge to complete for Luke.

"The dating scenes were awkward. I didn't know Joy on purpose to help me act out the scenes," explains Luke. "And it wasn't my story, those were some of the hardest days."

Another issue tackled in this film is the slave mentality that many African-Americans share.

"I never thought of the slave community until it was mentioned," he says. "It pushes people to explore things that they are bound by; shackles of mentality, and fear in America." He continues, "It explores the power of words and how it can destroy, and how the past can keep you."

Luke also learned how to capture these feelings from Washington; a man he has admired since 1990's "Mo' Better Blues" and 1992's "Malcolm X."

"When I was outside with Denzel the reality of whom he is hit me," says Luke as he

tries to find the words to describe the experience. "It is amazing the effect he has on people. There were teenagers, five year olds, and 12 year olds who swarmed the car on the set. I was with the man."

As any moviegoer would notice, the roles of many young African-American actors are not very complex. Every year in the fall season black films are usually focused on predictable love stories, and comedies that tackle the same jokes and topics. Although there has been some change in the industry, Luke sees the role of African-American actors different in Hollywood.

"For the next five, 10 and 16 years it's all about the universal message of faith. Times are changing," states Luke who can also be seen in new Gap ads and in next year's "Biker Boyz," opposite Laurence Fishburn. "My aim was never to be a black actor. The solution or problem is not black roles in Hollywood. Faith and perseverance is the key for knocking down doors."

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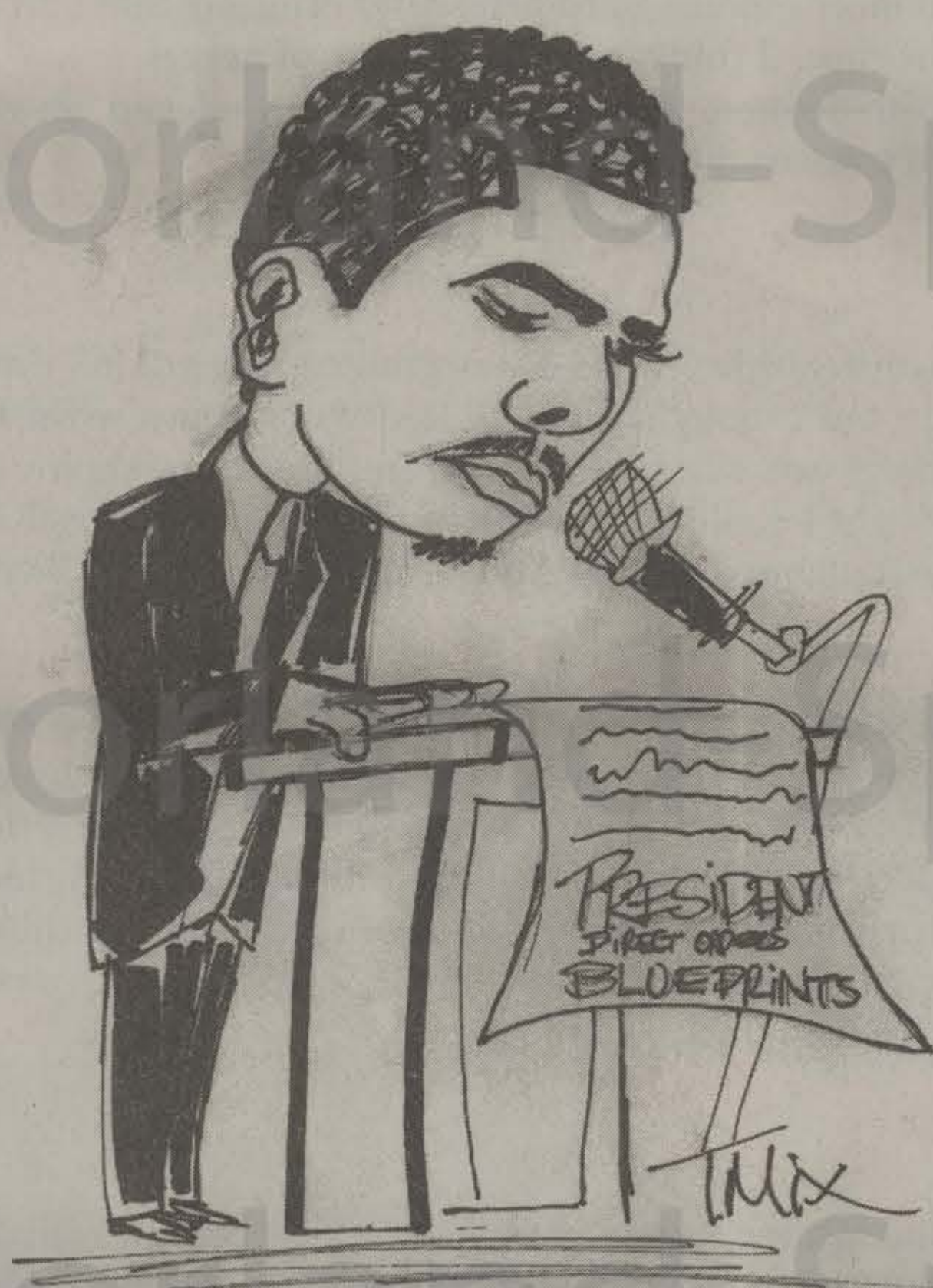
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B9

EDITORIALS



Student Leaders Midterm Review

As we prepare for final exams and final projects, the Howard University campus says goodbye to 2002 and prepares for what is to come.

Believe it or not, yet another semester is coming to an end. Freshman are excited that they have made it through their first semester of college, sophomores and juniors are thankful that they're one step closer to graduation, and seniors are eager to do it just once more before walking across that stage.

Everyone looks back on the good, the bad, and the unforgettable.

As we reflect upon the events of the fall 2002 semester, one of the most attention-worthy aspects of campus life has been the performance of our student government leaders.

These are: Marwan Porter, Graduate Trustee; Jaha Howard, Undergraduate Trustee; Cornell Williamson; President of the Howard University Student Association; and the Undergraduate Student Assembly.

Student Trustees

In past years, the Graduate Trustees have been scarcely known and heard of. Many students wonder, "Who is that?" and "What do they do?"

To his credit, Marwan Porter has made a name for himself across the campus. He has been featured in *The Hilltop* and has been an overall public-friendly Graduate Trustee.

However, in his work under this position, we wonder if he is reaching out to other grad students outside of the law school.

Next semester, we would like to hear even more from Marwan Porter, including information about what he, specifically, is doing and any progress that has been made.

Throughout the semester, Undergraduate Trustee Jaha Howard has made a few attempts to communicate with the student body regarding issues of The Board of Trustees.

However, there has been no continual communication with the student body.

Students have a right to be made aware of certain things.

For example, what were the results or outcome of the Trustee's Committee Meeting that took place in November. We would like to consistently now what the Board of Trustees is doing.

Hopefully, if he doesn't already know it, Jaha Howard will understand the importance of the news media as a means of

contact with the public.

The trustees have done a good job of organizing meetings. Unfortunately, some of the meetings have had low turnout by the students.

Many students simply still do not know what the purpose of the trustees is. Possibly the meetings could be better promoted.

We've heard a lot about the student trustee's involvement in the Capital Campaign.

But since President Swygert put it into action, we feel the credit for that should go to the President himself. It would be nice to hear some innovative ideas from both trustees next semester.

We seem to see the Trustees most when board meeting are getting ready to take place. But we'd like to hear from them in *The Hilltop* on a regular consistent basis.

While they have definitely been more visible than some past trustees, it's still hard to say, exactly what the trustees have accomplished.

HUSA President

Unfortunately, the latter part of the semester left the student body with an altered view of the Howard University Student Association's President.

While we realize that the semester is only halfway over, we are still anxiously anticipating the fruition of his campaigning platform - The Awakening.

His platform called for the awakening of Campus Access, Community Unity, Student Welfare, Political Action, and Student Involvement.

According to Williamson, his platform is 93 percent complete.

This statistic is as strange as it sounds.

While Williamson has "awakened" each of his platform items, he has done little to make sure they don't hit the snooze button.

As far as awakening campus access, Williamson gets points for the effort he has made to communicate more with the students through *The Hilltop* and the Punch-Out has later hours. But his attempt to add a Metro stop to the shuttle bus routine has been unsuccessful as of yet.

In terms of student welfare, there has been the addition of seven new police cars as well as a late night escort service to take students back to their dorms, adding to campus security.

But the Health Center, a

line item on his platform, is still located in a make-shift building. And while today's planned housing fair is a good start, we are still awaiting news on a solution to the housing shortage and new information on the "no 24-hour visitation" policy.

William's protest rally at the beginning of the semester was much appreciated, but where are the results? What was the outcome? These are some issues for which we would like to see solutions.

In terms of political action, under his leadership more than five hundred students and over one hundred people in the community were registered to vote. We are still eagerly awaiting to hear who in the government HUSA has built a relationship with, as promised on his platform.

As far as Community Unity goes, we are still playing the guessing game regarding whether or not students will be able to use Dining Dollars at local eateries as has been called for, and and whether discounts will be given.

Also, Williamson said HUSA is involved in the HBCU think tank taking place in February, but we have not heard much about the upcoming event.

While Williamson is good at putting things into action, it often seems as if he slacks off in following through.

So, while he has made considerable progress in "awakening" certain movements, we would like to see these things wake up, get out of bed, and start moving once and for all.

Hopefully, next semester Cornell Williamson can restore his credibility with the student body by fulfilling his campaign promises.

UGSA

The Undergraduate student Assembly, has done a good job of getting students involved this semester.

As defined by the H-book, UGSA's purpose is to provide a "variety of entertaining and educational programs."

Students were pleased with all the events planned during UGSA week, including the "So Contagious" safe sex awareness program and the movie night.

Grievance Week was a success as well. UGSA also participated in a number of community service projects this year.

We hope that UGSA will continue to illustrate leadership next semester by leading by example.

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The Hilltop reserves the right to edit letters for space and grammatical errors. All letters must be submitted a week prior to publication.

PERSPECTIVES

Ignorance

Chauna Bryant

True to my history of being a chronic over packer I dragged my second to largest suitcase, laptop and now very heavy shoulder bag full of crap that I had gotten to pack up the Howard Plaza Towers West courtyard to the shuttle stop where I waited patiently for the shuttle.

My patience began to wear off at the five-minute mark and I began to float through my surroundings for a good conversation to eavesdrop on when I over heard a female comment "I don't want to be in a relationship because then things get old and the guy stops treating you well."

The boy she was conversing with replied "That's because girls are always going to come at you with high expectations, wanting you to wine and dine them... you just have to break their spirit and once they are broken they will settle for anything you give them."

Now I was shocked at his words, I however refrained from commenting because the shuttle arrived. The boy of course pushed past me with all of my luggage in order to secure his ideal seat.

It wasn't until I was sitting on the airplane in the middle seat with my arms crossed because the two people on both sides of me insisted on hogging the inside arm rests even though they already had one all to themselves and the little brat behind me insisted on screaming at the top of her lungs and kicking my seat for the entire three hour flight that I became outraged at the ignorant boy's comment.

How dare he say women must be broken as if we are house pets that need to learn to use the doggy door or wild horses that must be broken so that we ride easy?

Historically one of the best qualities of a black woman has been her unyielding ability to stay strong in mind, body and spirit regardless of the circumstances.

If Harriet Tubman had allowed herself to be broken then she would have stopped after she freed her family.

Truth be told, if it were not for the strong will of a black woman, the majority of Howard University students, including the ignorant boy, would most likely not be attending a four year institution at all.

All black women are born queens and should be treated accordingly. Black women are the backbone of the black community, so how dare he speak of breaking a black woman?

Can the body still function with a broken back? Absolutely not!

Shani O. Hilton

Ah, rims. On a daily basis, one can see all sorts of cars on campus sporting wheels of disproportionately large size, wheels that rival the cost of the car itself, wheels that spin, wheels that shine.

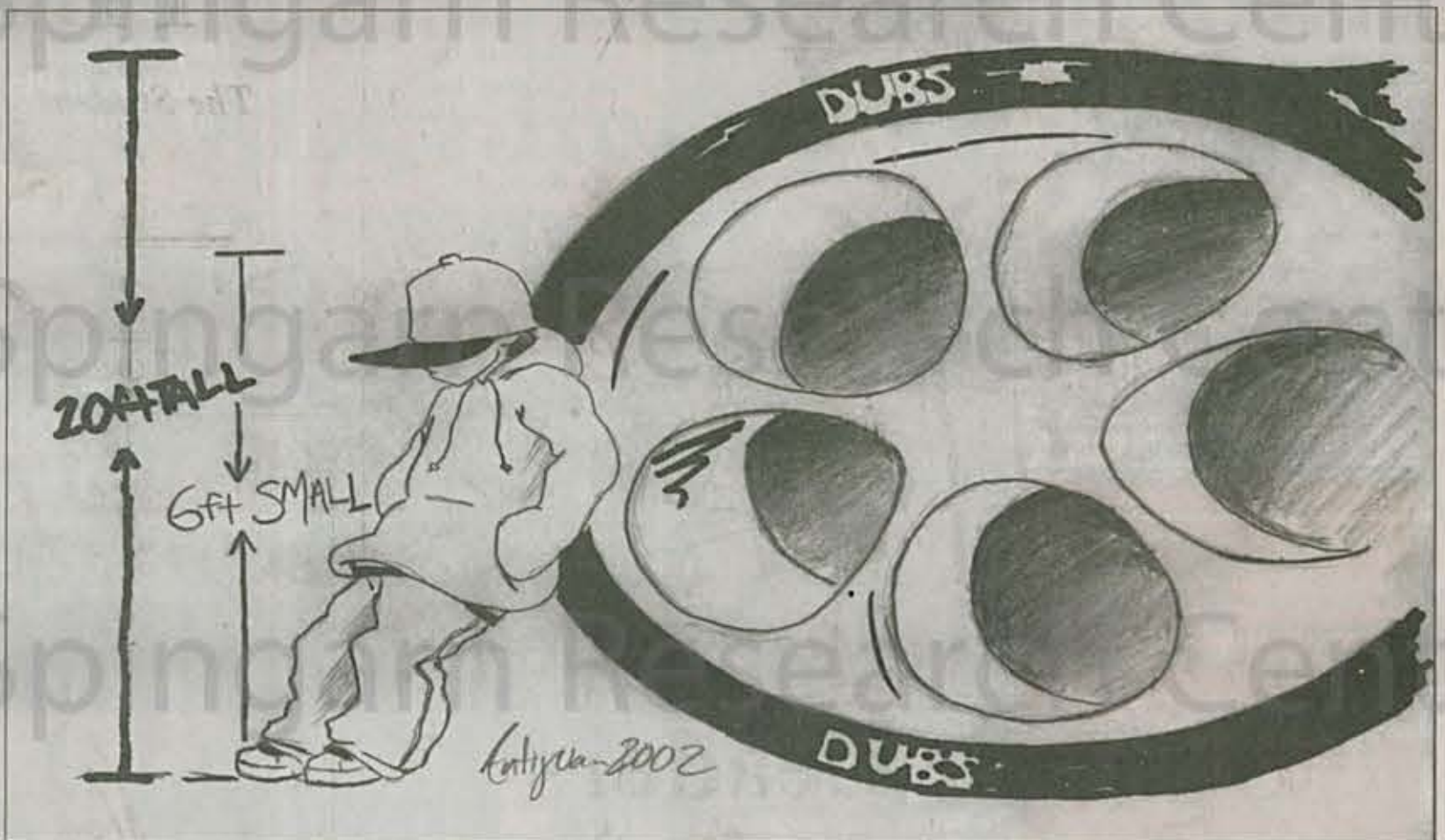
Have you heard the expression "Sittin' on Jordans?" I recently learned that meant having 23-inch rims. Wow. That's big.

Being from Northern California, Stockton, to be exact -- don't worry if you've never heard of it, it's nothing to write home about -- my experience with dubs (platinum or otherwise) has been minimal at best. Side note: I'd like to thank Ludacris for his very enlightening song, "Roll Out."

Anyway, after hearing all the to-do about dubs, I began wondering, hmm, what's the big deal? Seriously. All they do is sit there. Rims, unlike clothes, can't keep you warm, unlike music, won't keep you entertained, and really your car could "roll out" just fine without the extra fancy ones.

One evening, on the way back to the Annex, after another non dinner at Blackburn, my suitemate Shaunda pointed out an Escalade with rather large rims. They were, in fact, the spinning ones. At that point, I began to muse out loud. "I wonder if I could get ones." Silence.

Sittin' on 1s



My roommate and two suitemates began laughing uncontrollably. I was bombarded with questions like "Why?" and "What?" and over a few days, I began to craft what I lovingly like to call the "Sittin' on 1s" theory.

The gist of it is this: rims are just going to get bigger and bigger until there's like half-an-inch of actual tire left. Eventually, small will become the new big, and dub sizes will shrink down until they're just an inch. However, I want ones now. I mean, seriously. I want to start the

trend.

Now, I know rims that small don't seem feasible. I actually had a 45-minute discussion with a friend's boyfriend (who changes tires, so he KNOWS) about my theory.

We did Internet research. We made diagrams. We laughed, we cried -- actually, HE laughed, and I cried. Eventually, he convinced me that there was no way a one-inch rim could support a tire, let alone a car. At least he thought he convinced me. Like a particularly stubborn

burro, I cling to my dream.

At the end of the conversation, I felt exhausted. Then, my roommate Siara made some snide comment about how it's stupid to be worrying about rims when there are bigger problems in the world. Out of habit, I began to make a snide reply, but suddenly, I realized she was right. Why the heck do I care about rims anyway? Hell, I don't even have a car.

I came to Howard University to improve my mind -- to learn more about my people and myself. I did

not come here to begin the study of car accoutrements. Sure, it's fun to have cool stuff, look good, be popular, etc. However, that isn't what is truly important. Contrary to the images we see on BET, having the biggest (or smallest) dubs on the block won't uplift the African American community. And that's what I want to do.

In other words, I'd like my tombstone to say something other than (or at least in addition to): "Here lies Shani. She rode on 1s."

Please, Don't Worry About Tomorrow

Carmen C. Calloway

Over the past month I have sat and listened to a lot of stories from seniors who will be at Howard next year -- those who are graduating, and those who are still unsure if they are graduating. I have heard everything from "I'm scared about the future," to "I'm not ready to grow up," to "I know that everything is going to be okay," to "If I don't play professional football I don't know where I'm going or what I'm going to do."

Please, Don't Worry About Tomorrow. No, you don't know what tomorrow brings, you may not even know if you will be here on earth tomorrow; but do know that tomorrow is taken care of. You may not be in the place where you want to be, but in this journey that we are on (life), you will always get where you need to be.

Because we live in a society, or even go to a college that says, "we must," and we are nothing if we don't, or "we won't be successful if we do

not..." when we fall short, we feel as if we are not being who we need to be or doing what we need to be doing. But that is not true. Sometimes what we want isn't what is for us. Sometimes where we want to be is not where we need to be.

Every one of our lives is special and has a purpose greater than ourselves, greater than what we could handle if we knew that purpose. You were fearfully and wonderfully made and are a light and force in this world. You have had the opportunity to go to college, something the majority of people our age don't even have the chance to do. You have had the opportunity to be a part of organizations that have nurtured and strengthened your interests in life while at the same time providing you with life long friends. You have provided service to a community that desperately needs you. You have been given truly wonderful blessings. YOU ARE BLESSED.

Some of us may not even come from affluent families, or even families with savings

accounts, but everyday we eat, we have clothes, we have shelter (even if the shelter isn't our own). Some of us even work to pay for college and send money home to take care of our families. Each day you have the great opportunity to go to class to learn and gain a greater understanding of this world. You are intelligent beings that the world is not ready for.

I say to you, don't be discouraged or feel at a loss. If you are a business major, but want to work for a non-profit agency to help the poor, do it. If you are an engineering major but really want to teach low-income kids at an elementary school, do it. If you are a communications major, but really want to be in business, go for it. Follow your heart! Don't worry about money. Don't worry about fame or success. As long as you work hard and reach YOUR full potential, you will be where you need to be.

I look at everyone at Howard University and I see some of the most wonderful individuals I have ever met.

We are surrounded by many personalities and outlooks on life. But one thing that is the same about us is that every one of us will succeed and will achieve. Every one of us works hard everyday.

No, life is not easy. Everyday of your life will not be easy. There will be many trials and tribulations you will have to go through. The older you get, the harder life is, but you will be alright. You will be okay. Don't worry and fret about something that is taken care of. Don't be discouraged because you "can't get this" or you can't "do that." Don't think "I need to be where he is" or "I need to be doing what she is doing." You are where you need to be right now. No matter what you do, you are special and just as important as the next. Don't work hard to be better than the next person, just work hard to be better than you were the day before.

We all have a place in life and though at times we may be confused about today or unsure of tomorrow, we will be okay either way. I know

this because the God I serve doesn't let His children down. You are taken care of already! Just work everyday to be a good person and to give selflessly. When it seems as if the road is not taking you where you need to go, don't give up. Don't get tired and quit and feel as if there is nothing else to do. Keep going.

There is an old gospel song that I have loved all my life and the chorus goes like this: "I don't feel no ways tired, I've come too far from where I started from. Nobody told me the road would be easy, but I don't believe he brought me this far to leave me." Always remember even when you are alone and feel as if you don't know where you are going, somebody is always there taking good care of you and because of that, you will be alright.

God Bless You All and Good Luck in the Future!

Carmen Calloway is a junior from Atlanta, GA and former President of the NAACP - Howard University Chapter.

Ill Prepared for College and Professional Career

Kimberly Carr

Most high schools have career centers and counselors, the purpose of these facilities and advisors are to prepare the student for the future. There is information about various universities, vocational schools, and employment possibilities. However, with all the information available something is still missing.

In high school I often went to the career center and talked to my guidance counselor about what schools would be beneficial for me to attend. I thought I had done a sufficient amount of research regarding universities and professions. I was

wrong. After officially becoming a Bison, I was overwhelmed by all the majors in existence within the different schools and colleges at Howard. There were so many majors, many of which I had never heard of. Additionally, many majors appear to be quite similar. Here I was a freshman, already unsure of what my career would be, and now I was plagued by the same issue regarding my major.

True there are advisors present to help students when necessary, but it has been my experience that their main concerns are the seniors. The most helpful information I have received in regards to majors and careers has come from Orientation

courses. As a sophomore I have taken two, one in the School of Business and one in the School of Communications. In these courses students are aware of possible career paths and the majors that will best prepare for them.

Although I have now settled into a major, I often have doubts. There are so many possibilities and I hate restricting myself to just one. There are moments when I feel like I would like to do something else. Unfortunately, there is not enough time to receive an in depth analysis of each major and profession possibility. While "undecided" is an option, a decision must be made quickly. Each major has a specific scheme that

guides us through each semester preceding graduation. It is difficult to take the classes you need when you don't know what they are. Each individual college has different requirements when it comes to the core courses like math and science.

I'm am sure my experience has been shared by some, however, I know there are those who were very clear upon entrance to Howard as to what they college career would concentrate on. I am aware that there are those high schools and secondary schools which concentrate on specific professions; like computers and fashion. I wish I had gone to one of them. Even if I had attended a school geared

towards a certain field, only to discover that it wasn't for me, I would at least be able to narrow my interests.

I was, and remain to be confused by all the majors and the career fields they lead to. I continue to do research and talk to people in different professions to get a better idea of what would be a good for me. In addition to Orientation my current method of narrowing down majors is by looking at their schemes. If it requires lots of math or courses I leave it alone.

Kimberly Carr is a Sophomore Legal Communications major from Alexandria, Virginia.

HILLTOPICS

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

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Personals

Brakkton,

We've had some TIMES. But through everything, you were always there for me and the paper when I needed you. You backed me up (even when I may have been wrong :) -- You were the best M.E. I could have asked for. I'll miss you. DON'T BE A STRANGER! And Good luck at CBS.

--Lauren

Editors, Business staff, Photographers and Staff Writers-- join us for the Hilltop X-mas party. Sunday at 6pm-- The Hilltop. (FOOD!)

Happy Birthday Amber!

Joshua--

Good luck on your "Change of Heart" date. Don't hurt her!

Staff, Thanks for helping out and for staying the night Wednesday (even though we goofed off...thank God for snow). Have a great break. See you in '03.

--EIC

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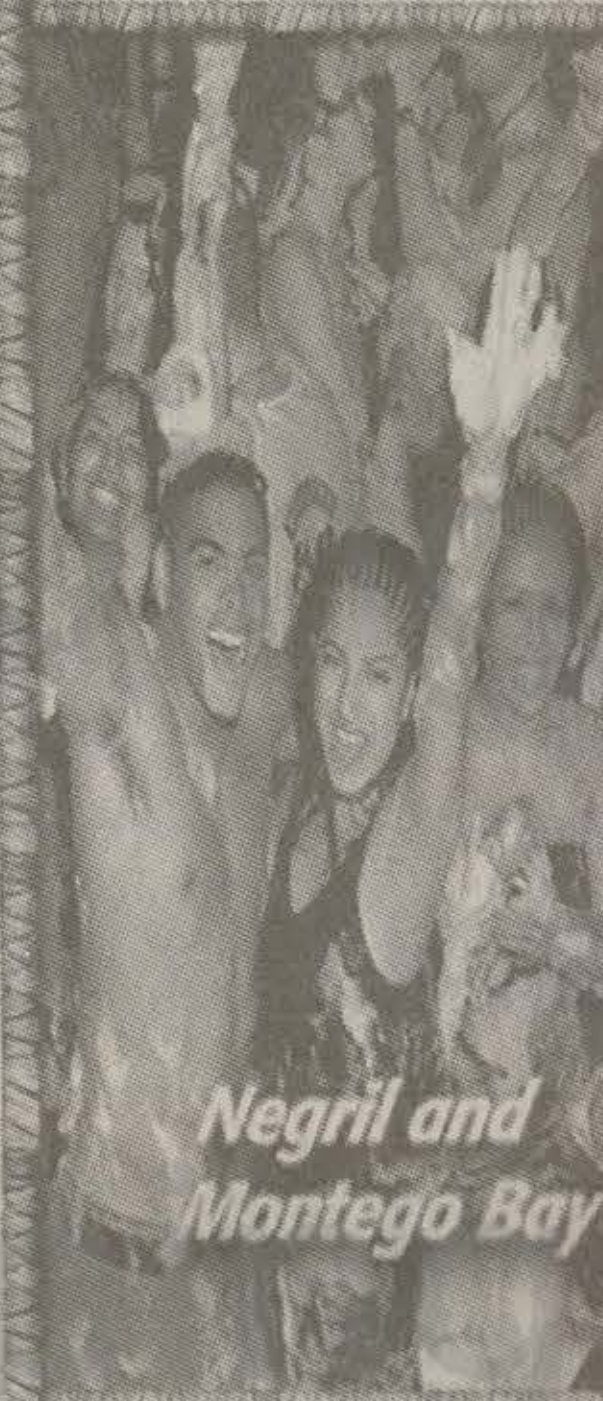
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