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The Hilltop 1-21-2003 Special Edition

Hilltop Staff

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Life After The Hilltop
Where are they now?

Zora Neale Hurston
The Life & Times of The Hilltop Founder

After All These Years
The Hilltop Today

79th Anniversary Special Edition

January 21, 2003
Former Hilltop Staff Members: Where Are They Today?
Features: Natalie Hopkinson, Tamara Holmes and Omar Tyree

Student Government Doesn't Change
How they’ve gotten in trouble over the years

Perspectives
Wishing The Hilltop a happy birthday and hoping for respect

The Hilltop Today
How The Hilltop is produced

Zora Neale Hurston
Her life and times and “A Life in Letters” book review

On the Cover

Zora Neale Hurston
Hilltop’s founder honored with Stamp

We Were There
The Headlines from this day in history

Activism
Protests covered over the years

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Two Hilltop Women, Making Their Way

By Shaunice Alston
Hilltop Staff Writer

By Nellie C. Bradley
Contributing Writer

All Hilltop writers are not Journalism or English majors. However, they are people who have an interest, no matter how big or small, in writing. The Hilltop is a publication that allows the Howard community the opportunity to read the work of aspiring journalists.

Some of these writers continue to make a mark on journalism. Hilltop writers, especially women, have taken many of the opportunities afforded to them and readily give advice and encouragement to other writers who have only begun to break through into the journalism world.

Natalie Hopkinson is a staff writer for the Washington Post Style section. Hopkinson majored in Political Science with a minor in Journalism. During her time at Howard University, Hopkinson was an editor for the Nation and World section.

"The reason I started writing for the Hilltop was because I wanted to fellowship with other people who were doing the same thing as myself," Hopkinson said. "I wanted to be part of Howard history and help the campus community."

Another Hilltop woman is Tamara Holmes, Technology Editor and Copy Desk Chief for USA Today.com. Holmes also freelances for various magazines. She is now trying to focus on making freelance writing her career. Holmes majored in Journalism with a minor in English. For two years, Holmes was on staff as a Hilltop writer.

Holmes always knew she wanted to be a writer. Not only did she write for the Hilltop while at Howard, she also wrote for the Community News, replaced today by the District Chronicles. There, Holmes was a writer and copy editor.

"If becoming a writer is what you want, try to write for any public newspaper, website, magazine, alternative weekly, neighborhood newsletter...anything helps," Holmes said.

One of the most important things for any writer to do is be aware of the opportunities available to them. Opportunities such as internships help in gaining the experience needed.

Hopkinson was afforded the opportunity to have internships in places such as Cox Newspaper system - National Press based in Atlanta, but worked for the DC Bureau, Palm Beach Post, Atlanta Journal Constitution [1996 during Olympics], Wall Street Journal, and Washington City Paper.

For Holmes, her intern-

Omar Tyree, From Hilltopper to Novelist

By Nellie C. Bradley
Contributing Writer

With determination in his mind and a packaged dream in his hand, Omar Tyree the ambitious door-to-door future entrepreneur confidently walked into room 107 in the communications building soliciting his first novel Colored, On White Campus to students and faculty.

During this time, Carol Dudley, the Career Development Coordinator for the School of Communications, purchased a copy of Tyree's book for only five dollars.

"All the faculty in the office bought his book. And, we put it on our shelves not knowing that Omar Tyree would become so successful," Dudley said.

Today the original copy of Colored, on a White Campus and the memory of that day still sit on the bookshelf in her office. She takes it out occasionally.

Omar Tyree signs books in the Howard Bookstore.

"It's amazing, you really just don't understand," said Dudley as she recounts Tyree's accomplishments and his success.

In 1987, the Philadelphia native started his collegiate career as one of the few African-Americans at the University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania with hopes of becoming a pharmacist. But, when scoring exceptionally well on a reading comprehension exam his love for prescribing prescriptions turned into a passion for print.

His newfound love brought him to Howard University where he brought the issues of being a minority, the characteristics of a talented writer, and the willpower to succeed at the Mecca.

On Campus he was a scholar. Typically, he was always seen writing, walking, or opening up a booth to sell his book. But, even the faculty noticed something special about him.

"He was very determined. You could see it in his presence," said Barbara Hines, Ph.D. journalism professor at Howard University.

His deep intellect, Afro-centric style, and positive aura led him to having a large influence on the university. His biggest impact on the university was becoming one of the first students to have a featured column, entitled "Food for Thought," published in the Hilltop.

In "Food for Thought" Tyree discussed topics such as conspiracy, love, and black conciseness. His writing style was very optimistic and entertaining. He obtained an audience on the campus that really enjoyed his work.

But, Tyree still had boundaries to break. After completing his bachelor degree, with honors, in print journalism December of 1991 he entered into the newspaper industry and publishing. He gained enough experience to organize MARS Productions and publish his first book "Colored, On White Campus." And once he had the appropriate fund he was able to publish "Flyy Girl."

"In Colored, On White
So You Want to Be HUSA President, Eh?

Problems that Almost Ruined Their Terms

...Better Have My Money

1975-- HUSA President Earl Ferguson requested his entire salary in one lump sum.

In a memo exchange between Ferguson and Director of Student Life, Vincent Johns, he requested the $4,854 stipend be given to him up front instead of on a monthly basis.

Ferguson and administrators were at odds as to how much he should make- Ferguson wanted $4,854 but administration only proposed $3,654 a $1,200 difference.

Policy board members denied his requests and suspicion remained throughout his term that he was planning to take the money and run.

Money Gone With the Wind...

1981-- HUSA President Andre Gatson received a $33,000 summer advance for his term and ran out of money before two thirds of the school year had been completed.

Can’t Make the Grade?

1985-- HUSA President Emory Calhoun faced impeachment from office for becoming ineligible to serve.

Calhoun failed to take two final exams for personal reasons.

After failing two courses Calhoun was in violation of Section IV HUSA Constitution, which states that a president must remain in good academic standing in his school or college at the time of election and during his term of office.

When he feared he would be impeached, Calhoun called members of the General Assembly, asking them not to attend meetings so a quorum couldn’t be met.

Calhoun got his grades straightened out and finished up his term but not without immense pressure to resign.

Dean of Good Deeds?

1990-- HUSA President Daniel “Dean” Goodwin struggled to finance the 1991 General Elections.

Goodwin made cuts to his staff and also requested an additional $12,000 for funding of the election.

1999-- HUSA President Marilyn Hoosen failed to be visible, The Hilltop wondered if anyone had seen the HUSA President?

When HUSA President Marilyn Hoosen failed to be visible, The Hilltop wondered if anyone had seen the HUSA President?

Goodwin blamed his financial woes on a debt left by his predecessors Garfield Swaby and Robert Turner who passed down a $18,742 deficit in which he had to make up for.

The Never Ending Story...

2002-- HUSA President Cornell Williamson’s term got off to a bumpy start after it took four elections to put him in office.

Matters only got worse when he was caught trespassing in the female dorm, Bethune Annex.

Williamson, who was also accused of stealing a cell phone and was later evicted from Slowe Hall because of the incident.

—Compiled by Josef Sawyer
Perspectives

Today's Hilltopers, Tomorrow's Leaders

"The present was an egg laid by the past that had the future inside its shell."
—Zora Neale Hurston

By Aprill O. Turner

On January 22, 1924 on the campus of Howard University, a campus paper for students and by students was born. At this pivotal time in African- American history, Howard University was in the middle of a Renaissance of its own. Then Hilltop advisor, Zora Neale Hurston gave the paper its fitting name, and here we are 79 years later.

As I sat in Moorland- Spingarn Research Center, as I have many times before, I always find myself in awe looking over old editions of The Hilltop. Through its pages lie the happenings of over three-quarters of a century told uniquely through the eyes of Howard University students. Even further a uniquely Black perspective. Through World War II, the Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam, the Impeachment of a President, and the verge of War with Iraq, The Hilltop is still delivering the news.

The Hilltop, as though we don't see, is understandable. Throughout the years, The Hilltop has covered both the things that have changed and the things that haven't. It is not uncommon for many Universities to restrict their student press from saying what needs to be said. Howard University students are fortunate that their rights to freedom of speech are protected, and with every issue of The Hilltop that is printed, that right is ensured.

In addition, The Hilltop is the training ground for the next generation of journalists. As they are being trained, they will stumble along the way, which is part of the learning process. The names that grace the pages of this amazing publication will one day be the leaders of their field. Howard University is fortunate to have the opportunity to read their work while they are in the early stages of their development.

The Central Core of Howard University's mission speaks to the provision of an educational experience of exceptional quality with particular emphasis upon promising Black students, Howard's greatest resource.

We stand tall because we are standing on the shoulders of Alain Locke, Thurgood Marshall, E. Franklin Frazier, Zora Neale Hurston, Frederick Douglas and many others. With every student that enters this great institution, a permanent mark is left on the world.

The Hilltop is the student voice of Howard University, and is the source of record in which this exceptional experience is captured on its pages forever.

My experience with The Hilltop is one that I will always remember and treasure forever. The knowledge I attained, and the relationships that I forged will never be forgotten. Happy Birthday Hilltop, I wish you 79 more!

Turner is a staffer on Capitol Hill and the 1999-2000 Editor-in-Chief of The Hilltop. Contact her at aprilloturner@hotmail.com.

All We Want is Respect

By Josef Sawyer and Jozen Cummings

Countless turnovers, missed deadlines, computers crashing, but each Tuesday and Friday there is The Hilltop. Unreturned phone calls, no copy editors, hail, sleet or snow, but each Tuesday and Friday there is The Hilltop.

No matter what the conditions, students can count on seeing a copy of The Hilltop in the lobby of every dorm on campus or at the entrances of every building on campus.

Working for The Hilltop as an editor (and sometimes as a writer) means no days off, no friends and no life.

And for what? We’ve heard administrators call our paper blasphemous as if we tried to preach religious rhetoric, and we’ve heard students constantly complain about misspellings, but rarely are words of encouragement uttered.

See, what people don’t understand is all those whispers, all the critiques, all the negative talk we hear, we take personally, some more so than others. People talking about The Hilltop, as though we don’t make the effort to minimize our mistakes, is straight offensive.

We realize the pride Howard students take in anything representing the campus, so all the whining about how bad The Hilltop was or is, is understandable.

But, we also realize the apathy amongst students on campus. If half the number of students complaining were helping, The Hilltop would improve drastically.

The hours we put down here are uncountable. If we even tried to calculate the time spent down here it would be the equivalent of adding 18 credit hours to your fulltime schedule. We often have to limit our class time in order to sacrifice more hours down here.

Oftentimes friends ask us why we spend so much time on The Hilltop. And we ask in return, what else should we be doing with our time? Playing more video games? Partying and drinking more? Getting more sleep? Don’t get things wrong; we love what we do. Working here is like an addiction and we would do our jobs for free if need be. But all we want is respect for our product.

We appreciate the criticism as long as it’s constructive. Every student, faculty and administrator should be proud of The Hilltop, we should be bragged about to all your friends, because contrary to what some may think, you can put our paper next to most other campus papers in this country and we will still shine from our layouts to our writing.

We’re not the best, but we strive to be and our efforts are the contributors to a legacy, a legacy that sits in every building and every dorm on campus every Tuesday and Friday.

The Hilltop, A Rough Draft of Howard History

By Lauren Bayne Anderson

"I don’t understand why girls get so dressed up to go to class," one girl wrote.

"Why are the lines so long in the 'A' Building?"

Although they sound familiar, these questions are not from present day Howard students, but letters to the editors and Perspectives from the likes of 1965 and before.

Some things never change.

Throughout the years, The Hilltop has covered both the things that have changed and the things that haven’t. We’ve covered protests that made international news.

Our articles have been quoted time and time again in major newspapers such as the Washington Post.

We’ve won countless awards.

We’ve covered things that made us sad and things that made us proud when we look back.

We’ve had controversy and been sued.

We’ve covered everything from student government to national government.

Reporters from The Hilltop have gone on to be reporters at every major daily newspaper in the nation.

We’ve done it all.

Founded in 1924 by Zora Neale Hurston, our first advisor, The Hilltop has come a long way. As we celebrate our 79th Anniversary, we look back to some of the stories that have been covered in The Hilltop pages.

But through it all, we’ve served the Howard students, acting as their voice.

Our only hope is that we pass along our legacy for the next 79 years and beyond; that we get bigger and better with each issue and with every year.

We hope that one day we can excel from being the largest black collegiate newspaper in the nation to the first black daily collegiate newspaper in the nation.

When looking back on Howard’s history, one must look to the pages of The Hilltop. Because, The Hilltop truly is the first rough draft of Howard history.
THE HILLTOP TODAY

A Day in the Life...

By Ruth L. Tisdale
Hilltop Staff Writer

As the night goes on some students finish up a late evening of studying, while others turn in for bed. But at The Hilltop, the night is just beginning.

For nearly 80 years The Hilltop has been published by Howard students, for Howard students. Founded in 1924 by Zora Neale Hurston, The Hilltop started out the size of a single sheet of paper.

Throughout the years, the paper has evolved. Year after year, The Hilltop has grown from a newsletter, to a tabloid, to the size it is today, a broadsheet that folds in half. And the frequency of publication has increased as well.

But throughout the years, one thing has remained the same: the difficulties and hardships the staff faces.

It is Wednesday and The Hilltop is supposed to be ready to go to print in less than twenty-four hours. The bustling Hilltop office is complete with members from all levels of staff: section editors, copy editors, writers, managing editors, and of course, the Sergeant.

Editor-in-Chief, Lauren Anderson nervously paces the floor asking for the fourth time that night if all the section editors have turned in their sections.

"Every time I ask I get a different answer," Anderson says.

Life and Style editor Jozen Cummings answers Anderson briefly then goes back to a phone conversation.

As an effect, the section editors must get creative to fill the spaces left in their own sections. With the first crisis solved everyone in the office relaxes, while continuing work on the paper.

"Cummings remains on the phone. "We are like a big family," says Leesa Davis, a junior broadcast journalism major and Health and Fitness Editor. "A lot of people think that we don't have a life, but we do."

Amber Mobley, junior print journalism major and Nation and World editor, agrees.

"We play music and just hang out while we work," Mobley said. "We talk about everything from music to Sadaam Hussein."

There are only seven working computers for the writers and editors in The Hilltop to share. While copy editors are reading, they are often asked to step aside by section editors who have to make changes to a story. With 15 section editors and six copy editors, someone is bound to have to wait.

As an editor works on the main "production" com-

Copy Editors read stories for errors before they reach the next step of being designed onto a page.
The Hilltop from page 6

Like dominoes in a row, the computers are kicked off the server one by one. Editors who are not at their computers run back in hopes of hitting the "save" button in time.

Those who did not make it have to start completely over. This happens at least twice a day.

During all of the commotion Cummings remains diligently on the phone.

"Freezing computers and lack of equipment are not the only problems The Hilltop faces."

"During the course of the year we have had over sixty percent of Hilltop employees quit for one reason or another," Josef Sawyer, Tuesday managing editor, comments. "In fact, we received a resignation letter from the third Metro editor today."

Most of the "Hilltoppers" who have quit did so because of dropping grades caused by the long hours the newspaper requires. Anderson believes that if The Hilltop had the same people from the start of year, the paper would have improved at a much quicker pace. She thinks too much time is spent trying to re-train employees.

"Other universities that take their newspapers seriously excuse the editors from class for a semester or allow them to take fewer classes," informs Anderson. "Unfortunately Howard doesn't, so we work 40-60 hours a week to publish the paper and go to class full time as well."

The third crisis takes place when Aisha Chaney, managing editor for Friday's edition, cannot find the ads for Friday's issue.

Since ads bring in revenue, the ads are placed on the page first. When ads are not in, it holds everything up, Anderson said.

After a few tense minutes, Chauncie Burton, the advertising manager, brings a replacement for the last ad layout sheet. The crisis is solved.

As the night lags on, the smiles are replaced by expressions of exhaustion. "Name 22 animals in 60 seconds," the sleep-deprived Kerry-Ann Hamilton, a senior broadcast journalism major and Tuesday Campus editor, challenges. "Can you do it? Can you do it?"

"People always say that school comes first, but no one wants to hear that the paper didn't come out because Lauren had class," Anderson said.

"Half of The Hilltop's finances come from advertising revenue and the other half comes from student activities fees. "The Hilltop is a business and with every hour we are late we are losing money," laments Anderson.

But in spite of all the hardships and headaches, each editor agrees that working for the Hilltop is one of the best experiences they have had.

"The Hilltop has brought me down academically but I genuinely love it," Cummings said. "Nothing makes me happier than when I see someone open up the paper and read it."

Sawyer explains that The Hilltop has become like an addiction to him.

"People ask me why I spend all of my time working in The Hilltop office," Sawyer said. "So I miss out on a few football games and dates, but, what the hell."

Anderson agrees. "It's the hardest thing I've ever done, but also the most rewarding. I'm 21 and I'm running a business with a large budget and 60 employees," Anderson said. "How many 21 year-olds can say that?"

Four crises and two days later, the Friday edition of The Hilltop is published.

While the Friday staff relaxes for a few days, the Tuesday staff is just gearing up.

There is no break for Anderson, the Editorial and Perspectives Editor and the Senior Editor. The deadline for the Tuesday issue is tonight.

Through the headaches, frustration, late stories, quitting editors, and missed classes, there is one thing the Howard community can count on: there is always a Tuesday and Friday edition of The Hilltop.
By Maryann James
Business Editor

Renowned writer and anthropologist, Zora Neale Hurston was one of the most prominent black female artists the first half of the century.

By the time she died in 1960, Hurston had lived a colorful life seemingly full of contradictions - widely praised and admonished for her work, she rarely lived out of poverty.

Nonetheless, it seems fitting that Hurston, an influential woman of letters in the black community, spent some of her formative years at Howard University before leaving for New York, where she flourished in the midst of the Harlem Renaissance.

Born in 1891 and raised by her homemaker mother and preacher father, Hurston took great pride in her small hometown of Eatonville, Fla. One of seven children, she would often be seen listening to the tales and stories told by the older citizens on the porch of the general store.

This was perhaps a prelude to Hurston's future of collecting these aspects of African American culture.

Hurston's comfortable life ended when her mother died in 1904. Her father sent her to Florida Baptist Academy, but after remarrying when Hurston was 16, he promptly stopped paying for her tuition.

As a result, she was forced to make ends meet for the next 10 years by working from town to town as a domestic.

She finally ended up living in Baltimore with her sister Sarah, where she worked as a waitress and finished her high school education at Morgan Academy.

After a friend suggested that she consider going to Howard, Hurston transferred to the school in 1918.

The thrill Hannibal got when he finally crossed the Alps, the feeling of Napoleon when he finally placed upon his head the iron crown of Constantine, were nothing to the ecstasy I felt when I realized I was actually a Howardite," Hurston later wrote about the university.

While at Howard, her writing caught the attention of many of her teachers, especially that of Alain Locke, then chair of the philosophy department.

Hurston thoroughly enjoyed her experiences at Howard, as she became a member of the literary society and wrote for Howard's literary magazine, Stylus (which was headed by Locke).

Hurston stayed at Howard for only a little over a year, due to financial problems.

A Life in Letters: A Glimpse into a Writer's Soul

By Maryann James
Business Editor

In an expansive collection of over 500 letters that covers four decades and more than 800 pages, "Zora Neale Hurston: A Life in Letters" helps to fill in some of the gaps that the letters leave behind.

Hurston's letters cover many different thoughts and observations on her life, but there are none from her short stint at Howard from 1918 to 1919. However, there are glints of her thoughts on her Howard experiences scattered throughout the collection of letters.

One such example is of the numerous letters she sent to Alain Locke, a former professor of Hurston's and mentor for the woman early in her life.

"A new (I suppose it should be written in capitals) New Negro which helps to fill in some of the gaps and questions that the letters leave behind.

Hurston's views on Howard

Though Zora Neale Hurston's time at Howard University was only a small slice of her life, she remained a supporter for Howard for the rest of her life. Bits and pieces of her experiences can be gleaned from letters recently published in Zora Neale Hurston: A Life in Letters, a compilation collected by USC professor Carla Kaplan.

However, one of her most substantial writings on Howard was in the September 1925 issue of The Messenger, in an article entitled "The Hue and Cry About Howard University." In the article, Hurston told of her first-hand experiences at Howard and stated her case for then president Stanley Durkee (Durkee, who was white, was being criticized by students and members of the black community for allegedly forcing students to sing black spirituals during chapel). Among other things, Hurston wrote on her impressions of the campus as well as her view of Howard's
ZORA NEALE HURSTON

Hilltop Founder Hurston, Honored with Stamp

By Nellie Bradley
Hilltop Staff Writer

In black and white photos, author Zora Neale Hurston's face typically sits inside the picture mesmerizing viewers with her famous titled hats and calm smirk.

But, on January 10 in the Park Hyatt hotel in Washington, DC Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated revealed a new image of Hurston, their beloved sorority sister, at a stamp unveiling ceremony.

The hotel ballroom was complimented by their sorority colors of blue and white with floral designs surrounding the room, candy boxes in front of the seats for the approximately 120 invited guests, and an easel covered with blue material. The mistress of ceremony, Krysta Jones, was also in charge of coordinating the event as Stamp Unveiling Committee Chairwoman. When the blue material was lifted from the easel the guests stood in amazement, waiting to take pictures next to the stamp.

"When the stamp was unveiled...seeing everyone's reaction nearly brought me to tears," Jones said.

The stamp features Hurston's face at angle with the seemingly background of her summer days in her hometown of Eatonville, Fla. The stamp is graced by trees whispering in the air. Her hat is not titled but, in this portrait her smile carries the words of tranquility, happiness, and freedom.

"The stamp really stands out because you actually see Zora Neal Hurston portraying a full smile," said Dionne Davies, a sophomore broadcast journalism major.

For years, Zora Neale Hurston has gone without proper recognition. Locals from her hometown sought to give her respects by hosting parades, events, awards, and petitions in honor of her name. But, because she was such a central figure in American literature, anthropology, and the Harlem Renaissance, a stamp seemed like the proper way to show respect to her work, talent, and life.

"I praised god for Alice Walker who was able to go back and cover her grave site because she dug her up in more ways than one. Because until then it was only propitiously that she got recognition for her work," said Alicia-Marie-Johnson, a junior Spanish major.

"She was a unique African-American female and she was an author...I'm excited," said Rochelle Tillery Larkin, Ph.D. journalism professor at Howard University.

The Hilltop's founder, Zora Neale Hurston, was recently honored with a stamp by the United States Postal Service.

Although some of her work might have gone unrecognized, the United States Postal Service has made a courageous attempt to keep her name alive and her work remembered. The Zora Neale Hurston stamp is the nineteenth stamp in the Literary Arts series. It will be available at local post offices for January 25.

"It's a great honor. It's too long coming. It's a great honor," concluded Glen Mulkey, a postal worker in Michigan.

"Just from being a 'soror', it is nice to see another 'soror' being recognized for her work and accomplishments especially since she came in through alpha chapter. Just to see any black person or any matter to get their credit for things they have done from such an independent standpoint...she focused on blacks as independent so she was coming from a different perspective and she took a lot of criticism for that," said Maritza Nelson, a junior political science major.

Members of the Zeta Phi Beta sorority are encouraging everyone to purchase the stamp and remember the written legacy that Hurston has shared with the world.

Photo courtesy of blackpress.com

LETTER from page 8

administration. Following are a few excerpts from the article:

"The thrill Hannibal got when he finally crossed the Alps, the feeling of Napoleon when he finally placed upon his head the iron crown of Constantine, were nothing to the ecstasy I felt when I realized I was actually a Howardite."

"Howard was unutterably beautiful to me that spring. I would give a great deal to call back my Howard illusion of those days."

"No attempt has been made, nor will be made to show that the Administration is perfect of infallible...Is it best to lend a helping hand toward Howard - imperfect as it is, it is our only university - to raise it to our ideal of a university, or be destructive of internal welfare, level it to the earth again? This is a world of compromises. Katabolism is easy, growth is hard."

PLAY FROM page 8

play company is about to

Three Howard fiddles include letters referring to
to benefactor Charlotte Osgood Mason in April of
and mention of her being honored as a distin-
other parts of interest are the letters to other black
from across the country as well as Jamaica, Haiti and the

Brown v. Board in a letter to

See LETTERS page 10

the editors of the Orlando

© Moorhead-Spingarn Research Center

January 21, 2003

The Hilltop Magazine
**Loose Ends**

**WOMEN from page 3**

Ships were at the Courier Journal in her junior year and New York Times—copy desk, the summer after her senior year.

"Look for as much practice as possible. Experience means more than anything else," Holmes said. "The more writing opportunities that you take, the more comfortable you will get with your craft."

These Hilltop women have proven that the literary world is blessed to have not only them, but other women who love the craft of writing and what it can do to a reader if done correctly.

Toni Morrison is Holmes' favorite author. "I think she [Toni] has a real understanding of language. Every word she writes has meaning," said Holmes. "I really appreciate her work."

Hopkinson's favorite authors are Zora Neale Hurston and Zadie Smith, a British author.

"As far as history is concerned, I love Zora," said Hopkinson. "She is my hero."

When asked what type of inspiration the Hilltop women could give to aspiring journalists who are writing now, or who plan to write in the future, each responded with a sincere and passionate heart.

"Keep Writing...Do it like it's breathing," said Hopkinson. "Writing, as much as possible should be the ultimate goal of anyone considering a career in journalism."

"Don't sit down and wait for an inspiration to come to you because sometimes it doesn't. It helps to write about different things and read a lot. Reading different subjects help to broaden your overall awareness," Holmes said. "Eventually you will gain an appreciation for different people and their writing style. Hopefully, through that appreciation you will improve or understand your own writing style."

**TYREE from page 3**

Campus he definitely wants you to question your knowledge on being black conscience. I think you should read his books because it forces you to expand your knowledge," said Jennifer Foster, sophomore political science major.

Besides the sales of his ten novels escalating, he has a wide range of accomplishments and awards. He has participated in many forums styled broadcast programs such as Black Entertainment Television and he has commented on Washington Post Newspaper. In 2001 Tyree received an NAACP and recently he has signed a four-year contract with Simon & Schuster. And perhaps films might be on the list of achievements because Tyree is pitching an idea from one of his flourished novels, "Flyy Girl."

He will always be remembered by those who knew him at Howard University as the young man that was once colored on a white campus, but thrived to be the black man that wrote about the people of his color.

Everyone in America seems to love condemning and denigrating young black males. The society tells us that education is the key to an African-American future. So let us combine these two important issues within a classic story for my "lost generation," and for the next generation.

**LIFE from page 8**

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**LETTERS from page 9**

Sentinel in one letter and signs her letters as "devotedly your pickaninny" to her white benefactor Charlotte Osgood Mason.

Kaplan did much more than simply collect letters, however. The book is extensively peppered with footnotes that give the reader more background and details on what Hurston is talking about in her letters. Small details such as descriptions of postcards and stationary that she wrote on — one letter comes from Lucy Diggs Slowe Hill, Washington, D.C., "The Capitol's Most Distinguished Hotel for Women" — as well as notations on crossed-out words and letters are a nice touch. She also includes an index and biographies on many of the people she wrote to in the forty years that are covered.

Carefully assembled and thoroughly researched, "A Life in Letters" is an interesting and thought-provoking read, regardless of whether you are a long-time lover or a novice of the legendary woman's works.
We Were There

On this Day in History: The Hilltop, Years in Review

By Ruth L. Tisdale
Hilltop Staff Writer

The student voice of Howard University, the Hilltop has always been the front runner in providing latest campus happenings, issues affecting the campus and the world.

Here are some of the headlines that made the pages on or close to January 21 in the years ending in 3.

The Hilltop, January 20, 1933

The Hilltop, which had been prohibited from exercising its right to freedom of the press by attending Student Council meetings, spearheaded a petition that would ultimately allow Hilltop reporters to cover Student Council meetings.

"Students Unaware Council Excludes Hilltop Reporters"

Five hundred students signed a petition to force the students' council to open its doors to Hilltop reporters. The Student Council refused the right of freedom of the press and that is how the petition was born. In the first forty-eight hours of the petition over 350 people had signed the petition...

The Hilltop, January 22, 1943

In 1943, the United States was involved in the biggest war up to that point in history, World War II. College students from around the country were being drafted for war. On this day in Howard's history seventeen students left for the battlefields.

"Enlist Reservist Await Call"

Seventeen Howard students are leaving for Fort Benning, Georgia at the end of the quarter with five more students leaving in May. The following War Department communication concerning the call of enlistment Reserve Corps students was sent to President Mordecai Johnson. College students who will be called will be all pre-medical students, Approve Engineer course students, and advance course ROTC students...

The Hilltop, January 23, 1953

After World War II, the next great battle around the world was a battle not fought with guns but words. During the 1950's, the Cold War brought the "Red Scare," which plagued campuses across the country. On this day in Howard's history, the government suspected that Howard was one of the campuses that housed Communists.

"Senator McCarran Eyes HU Reds"

Testifying before McCarran Internal Security Subcommittee a certain Miss Dodd - an ex-Communist from New York City - claimed that Communists units had been operating on campuses such as Harvard, Wellesley, Columbia, Vassar, MIT, and Howard. McCarran said that there would have been a full investigation surrounding Communists activities on these campuses. Wellesley president denied all claims...

The Hilltop, January 25, 1963

In the 1960's as America fought to free people around the world, African Americans fought for the basic civil rights guaranteed in the Constitution. On this day in history, Howard students had been the leaders in the war for civil rights, but lives were lost in the struggle.

"Students Kidnapped"

Two students are feared to be abducted while in route to a campus meeting. The kidnapping was thought to try to effect a vacuum of students leaders on campus. The two students have been missing for three days and are feared to be dead...

The Hilltop, January 21, 1973

One of the most controversial wars occurred in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Many protests and demonstrations were held against the Vietnam War, and the country was torn apart. On this day in history, Richard Nixon had completed a major change in policy concerning the Vietnam War.

"Nixon Administration Has Neither Peace or War"

Our security and that of the rest of the non-communist world will hinge on our willingness to support friendly government. In situations that fit neither the soldiers classic concept of war nor the diplomats traditional concept of aggression... The war in Vietnam has done more to erode America's faith in the government in the last three months than through the administrations of Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson combined...

The Hilltop, January 22, 1993

During Howard's illustrious history, presidents of the United States have spoken many times on campus. On this day in history, the man that many African Americans consider the "first black president," Bill Clinton spoke at Crampton Auditorium during the Martin Luther King celebration.

"U.S. President Honors Dream of King at Crampton"

"One of the greatest regrets of my life is that I never got to meet him..." Clinton said. "I do believe that Dr. King was on the most eloquent speakers of freedom and justice of my generation." In support of the many D.C. politicians who were speaking for D.C. statehood, Clinton said that the city of D.C. had been behind him during the election and he would support the district's struggle to gain statehood.

During its 79-year history, the Hilltop has covered many historic events that have happened at Howard and across the world. The Hilltop will continue to provide the Howard community with the latest news and happenings in DC, the nation, and the world. On this day in history, January 21, 2003, the Hilltop is still beating strong.
Activism on Campus

Activism on Campus and The Hilltop

By Paris McCoy
Hilltop Staff Writer

It stood on the frontline in the war of adversity, it is power; it stands the test of time, it consistently runs hand in hand with the human race; it is strong, it is the unified voice of many; it is a part of a political youth culture, it is comprised of many different components which merge further to convey one strong message: it is passion, it is change, it is student activism.

Howard University, the heart of African American political and social power, has had a never-ending love affair with student activism. Where did the culture of student activism at Howard begin? The face of student activism has changed and been reshaped since the days of our predecessors.

At its height, student activism was a major outlet at Howard University during the 1960s and 1970s. As the paper was titled The Truth Hilltop, columns often featured student opinions, ideas, and movements.

Some of the topics that the Hilltop spoke about included the war in Vietnam and Civil Rights. The Hilltop served as not only the pulse of the campus but also the voice of young black academia.

In recent years, students have kept the fire alive in the realm of activism. Let us not forget the rally in 2000 against unjust ruling in the Prince C. Jones homicide case that led to over 200 students marching from Howard University to the Justice Department.

The Takeover

Not to mention the recent efforts of administration and students to save Morris Brown College.

Where is student activism headed on campus today?

Today many students choose to put pen to paper in order to save Morris Brown. Currently students are conducting a letter writing campaign to assure that their counterparts graduate with a degree from an accredited institution.

With the changing political environment around and on the university’s campus, the spirit of student activism is a slowly awakening giant.

As Howard looks at today’s student activism in the context of our current political and educational climate we will better understand the multiplicity and enormous power of activism. While the matters around which students are rallying and the strategies they are using differ from earlier generations, core idealism about creating a better society unifies the past to the present.

Whether it is picket signs at the flagpole or pens writing fire through ink, student activism at Howard is a tradition as well as a means for social and political justice.

October 31, 1975
The Demands of 1,000 Students Who Took Over the “A” Building

1. No tuition increase for 1976-77.
2. Reimburse the deferred payment plan.
3. Increase Federal funding to Howard University.
5. Build more housing.
7. Provide a larger bookstore with no taxes.
8. Build a new library with 24-hour library service.
9. Dismiss/resignation of Rubin (a political science professor).
10. Institute student voting on faculty tenure committees.
11. Extend drop date to last day of class.
12. Replace the old mural in Carnegie and give more mural space.
13. Stop unfair labor practices against WHUR.
15. Equal time for Kwanza & Wrestling team practice.