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Life & Style

Biker Boys: See the Review...

B1

THE HILLTOP



The Student Voice of Howard University Since 1924

VOLUME 86, NO. 37

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General Assembly Suspends Elections

By Soraya McDonald Hilltop Staff Writer

Less than a week after starting, general elections were suspended on Wednesday. The measure was a result of the General Assembly's failure to pass the elections guidelines.

The guidelines outline the rules for candidates, including where posters can hang and fines for missing meetings.

The Assembly stopped the elections stating there would be "anarchy and chaos" in the week that no guidelines existed.

General Assembly members say they expect the guidelines to be passed no later than Wednesday at an emergency meeting.

If the guidelines are not passed before Monday, the Speak Out scheduled for that day in Meridian Hill Hall will be canceled.

Howard University Student Association President, Cornell

Members Not in Attendance

School of Divinity

Bianca Robinson

Carole James

School of Education

Kristen Tanner

School of Social Work

Jamayla Scott

Toya Vickers

Grad. School of Arts & Sciences

Sandra Jowers

Graduate School of Business

Frederick B. Ross

College of Medicine

Angela Parson

Williamson, said the Assembly is doing everything it can to avoid a repeat of the messy elections in spring of 2002, when it took four elections to select a HUSA president.

"Considering all we went through last year, the General

Assembly wants to take all precautions to make sure we have everything right," Williamson said.

The Assembly voted to curb the proposed fines submitted for approval by Elections Chair, Corey Cunningham.

For "disrespectful behavior" candidates will be fined no less than \$25 and no more than \$100.

A \$50 fine will be given to any candidate who fails to attend a General Assembly sponsored event without notifying the Assembly in writing 48 hours before it takes place.

The exception are in cases of emergencies, which must be reported and deemed as emergencies by the Grievance Committee. The Elections Committee determines what is deemed "disrespectful behavior."

See GA page A3



File Photo

The General Assembly voted to suspend elections until the group can agree upon elections guidelines.

Bunche Center Creating Leaders

By Sharelyn Devonish Contributing Writer

With the an increase in globalization, one cannot approach the real world without knowing about international affairs. Howard University's Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center prepares future Howard graduates for the multi-cultural world.

The Bunche center was established in 1993 "to serve as a focal point for the University's many and varied international activities and interests. It contains study abroad programs, scholarships, internships and fellowships at various embassy's and international organizations.

The study abroad program allows Howard students to spend a semester or an entire

academic year abroad. Sweden, Austria, Vietnam, Ghana, and Egypt are just to name a few of the countries that are included in the program. Studying Abroad allows students to learn and speak other languages, take courses not available in the United States, and to experience the world through the eyes of other cultures and traditions.

A Student's financial aid, scholarships, and loans can be applied to the study abroad/international exchange programs. The office of study abroad and the office of financial aid have lists of organizations that offers scholarships specifically for students willing to study abroad.

Every year many Howard University students take advantage of this opportunity and it is

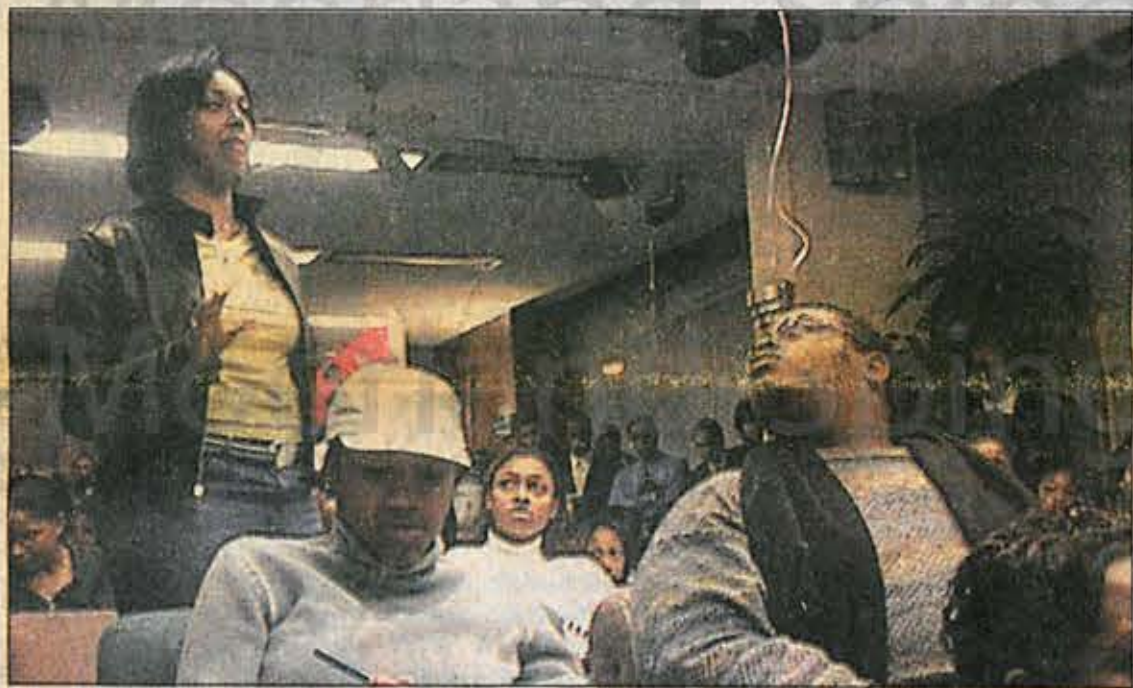
highly recommended by Bunche Center staff. Studying abroad can be a rewarding experience, that would also close the one-perspective world that many Americans are accustomed to and open them up to a world through the eyes of other cultures.

The Bunche Center also provide students with many scholarships and internships that expose them to the global community.

For students interested in foreign affairs and those headed to graduate school, the Thomas R. Pickering Graduate Foreign Affairs Fellowship is a good opportunity.

Funded by the Department of State, the Pickering Scholarship offers a worthwhile

See BUNCH page A6



File Photo

The first Speak Out was held Monday in Drew Hall. Although the event took place in the freshman boys' dorm, the crowd was made up of students of all classifications.

First Speak Out a Success

By Monica Almond Contributing Writer

With a turnout resembling the refund check waiting room during lunch hour, the Drew Hall lounge was packed Monday night with students for the first General Elections speak out.

The four slates running for Howard University Student Association executive office and five students running for Undergraduate Trustee presented their platforms and briefly answered questions posed by audience members.

"This is the largest amount of people that I've

ever seen at a speak out," HUSA President Cornell Williamson announced to the engaging onlookers as they applauded in affirmation.

With themes resembling last year's 'The Awakening', 'Envision', 'Legacy', and 'F.O.C.U.S.' slates, this year's campaigns have incorporated new themes and made some changes from last year's platforms.

"Getting down to business" is the theme engaged by Christian Dorsey and Grace Watson, who are running for HUSA President and Vice President consecutively. Their platform incorporates two main concepts,

Accessibility and Input. Under their platform they want to implement online voting during General Elections, increase funding for student organizations, institute a 24-hour shuttle service, and maintain the operation of facilities during Christmas break for international students.

Under "The Plan", HUSA Presidential candidate Ja'Ron Smith and Vice-Presidential candidate Tarshima Williams hope to bring together the undergraduate students and the graduate students.

See SPEAK page A3

Bush Delivers 2nd State of Union

ANALYSIS

By Kristen M. Howard Contributing Writer



George W. Bush prepares his State of the Union speech in the Oval Office Thursday January 23.

Obligatory applause honoring the office of the presidency kicked off President George W. Bush's second State of the Union Address. From there on out it was partisan applause and politics that set the tempo for the evening's speech.

President Bush first presented the progress his office has made in Congress, including a historic education reform bill, the creation of the Department of Homeland

Security, and, his latest initiative, the economic stimulus package.

According to President Bush, "Ninety-two million Americans will keep - this year - an average of almost 1,100 dollars more of their own money." This statement was met by thunderous applause from the republicans but received absolutely no support from the other side of the chamber.

Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), House Minority Leader, could be seen laughing and shaking

See BUSH page A6

It's Studio Time for the Showtime Marching Band

By Edith Sodolo Contributing Writer

Howard's own marching band has released an album called "Traditional Songs of the HU Showtime Marching Band 2002." It is on sale at Howard University's Bookstore and at the Howard University Bison Express Office located on the corner of Bryant Street and Georgia Avenue. The album contains traditional songs played at football games, original songs composed by band directors, and renditions of popular music. There are also

some gospel tunes included in the album. Traditional songs like "Fight Song" and "Woo Song" are on the album and renditions of Cameo tunes like "Knights" and "Skin I'm in" are also on the album.

The album was recorded in November of 2002 at Omega Studios in Rockville, Maryland. Band Director John E. Newson is very proud of the project that he first envisioned three years ago. "The other directors and I went back into the studio a few days after they recorded to do the mixing. After we edited small mistakes on the tracks,

the overall product was impressive. It's a good album."

The marching band received money for this project through Bison Express Funds. Mr. Newson is hoping to bring in enough revenue from the CD to put money used to make it back in to the Bison Express Funds and to supply the band with new uniforms and instruments. "So far," Mr. Newson says, "sales are not going as fast as we want them to, but we are trying to find new avenues of marketing to sell the CD. We are trying to get a table set out at the next basketball game."

Mr. Newson has already sent out copies of the CD to Alumni Chapters in cities all over the US. Attached to this complementary CD is an order form for a \$15 copy of the CD. Mr. Newson says that the album is for the alumnus of Howard University since they give funding to the band. "The album was much needed because it allows the alumni's to give back to the school band and to remanice on their time at Howard University by hear-

See BAND page A6



File Photo

The Howard University Showtime Marching Band released a CD of their traditional songs.

## Taking a Closer Look at Sexual Addiction

By Erica Williams  
Hilltop Staff Writer

According to studies shown in the third edition of The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, three to six percent of Americans suffer from sexual addiction.

Like all addictions, its negative impact on the addict and on their social life increases as the disorder progresses.

Hailey Parker, a doctor at the Howard University Hospital Psychiatry Department gives knows the subject of being a sexual addict from professional perspectives. She believes there are a number of signs or symptoms that enable a person to know if they are addicted to sex.

"Some of these signs may include phone or cyber sex, self-hatred, hopelessness, despair, helplessness, intense anxiety, loneliness, moral conflict, contradictions between ethical values and behaviors, fear of abandonment, spiritual bankruptcy, distorted thinking, remorse, and

self-deceit," said Parker

Sexual addiction is best described as a progressive intimacy disorder characterized by compulsive sexual thoughts and acts. According to the findings of one study, 72 percent of sex addicts had been physically abused in childhood, 81 percent had been sexually abused, and 97 percent emotionally abused.

Addiction to sex can become just as destructive as addiction to chemical substances. For some people, the addictive behavior does not progress beyond compulsive masturbation or an extensive use of pornography, phone or computer sex services.

In some cases, the addiction can involve illegal activities such as obscene phone calls, child molestation or rape. Sex addicts can become very dangerous and ruin their own meaningful relationships.

Like alcoholics and drug addicts, sex addicts' behavior engage in distorted thinking, rationalizing, defending, and justifying their behavior while blaming

others for resulting problems. They deny having a problem and make excuses for their behavior.

Herold Minor, a doctor and counselor at the Georgetown University Counseling Center believes the first step to recovery for sexual addiction is honesty.

"In order to treat the condition, one must begin to stray away from compulsive masturbation, prostitution, unsafe sex, or multiple affairs," Minor said.

Compulsive sexual thoughts and/or behavior can lead to increasingly serious consequences in both the individual's internal and external worlds. The consequences may include severe depression, low self-esteem and shame.

Those who suffer need to be honest with themselves by admitting there is a problem. After this step comes therapy. The therapeutic goal in sexual addiction is abstinence from compulsive sexual behavior with adaptation of healthy sexuality.

Sexual addiction treatment programs suggest that patients

abstain from all sexual activities, including masturbation for 30 to 90 days to demonstrate that they can live without sex. With a temporary stop to all sexual activity, some sex addicts report withdrawal symptoms similar to those experienced by cocaine addicts.

Involvement of the partner in the treatment program is highly desirable. In fact, the most important predictor of relapse after treatment of sexual addiction is failure of the spouse to be involved in the treatment program.

Recovering sex addicts have to learn to avoid particular people and situations that can trigger sexual urges and behaviors. Some recovering addicts find that they need to avoid masturbation as well.

These are only a few of the ways to properly recover from sexual addiction. To find out if one suffers from this addiction, self-observation should be conducted. This will enable one to see if sex is simply a part of life or if it controls his/her life.



Photo by Maya Gilliam

People who suffer from sexual addiction tend to express their emotions in a very extreme manner.



Photo by Maya Gilliam

Blistering cold weather has triggered allergies amongst many people.

## Case Of The Winter Allergies

By Lauren Childress  
Contributing Writer

Each morning Valerie Colter, a sophomore RTVF major wakes up to a glowing bluish-green lava lamp. But before she can even reach over to turn it off, she's seized by a fit of sneezing brought on by winter allergies.

"As soon as I wake up I have to constantly blow my nose," said Colter. "It has turned into a morning ritual for me."

Colter also struggles with an occasional migraine from sinus discomfort and congestion. But, for Colter some days are worst than others, especially during seasonal changes.

According to The University of Maryland Medicine Website, allergies affect an estimated 40 to 50 million people in the United States alone.

"An allergy is having an immune system that is very sensitive to substances that would not

normally harm a person, such as mold and mildew, saliva and dust mites," Wyniece Speed Harris, a Howard University Clinic pharmacist, said. "Exposure to these substances or allergens causes an allergic reaction, such as sneezing, clear runny nose, itchy watery eyes."

It is impossible for students to avoid the blistering cold weather because many have to travel back and forth across campus to their living space.

Giara Gilmore, sophomore psychology major has a solution that she believes will cause students to have less exposure to flare ups.

"I double up on almost everything, two hats, two hoods, two shirts, a casual jacket, two coats, and two pairs of socks," Gilmore said. "I have even incorporated long johns into my wardrobe. Dressing properly will definitely help to avoid allergies."

Renee Alsop, a second year

legal communication major developed allergy-induced asthma from breathing in thin air while exercising in the cold.

"I could not stop coughing after competing in a race with AJRA [Atlanta Junior Rowing Association]. I wasn't dressed properly for the change in weather conditions and since then, I occasionally use an inhaler whenever I feel short of breath," Alsop said.

Harris says that physicians may occasionally recommend medications with anti-inflammatory activity. "When exercising or exerting yourself in the winter the inhalation of cold, dry winter air and also environmental pollutants may cause tightening of the bronchial tubes in your lungs. Sometimes all that's needed is to cover your mouth with a scarf before going outside. Often times, people confuse having an allergy with the common cold."

An allergy will last as long as

exposed to the allergen, while a cold should last from two days to two weeks in severe cases. Both can be treated with antihistamines and decongestants. Claritin, a commonly used antihistamine, is now available over the counter at drug stores. However, allergy specialists require that people who suffer from allergies meet with a physician before acting on self-treatment.

If allergies tend to affect the ability to concentrate or function, several treatment options may be beneficial. "Allergy shots or immunotherapy may be used to help your immune system build tolerance by gradually increasing levels of allergen," said Harris.

For more information on allergy prevention and treatment visit the American Academy of Allergy Asthma and Immunology Website at [www.aaaai.org](http://www.aaaai.org).

## Bipolar: More Than A State Of Mind

By Nia Hamilton  
Contributing Writer

Although Jean-Claude Van Damme, Sting and Bobby Brown are in different genres of entertainment they all share something in common. Besides making a lot of money they all have been diagnosed with the bipolar disease.

Bipolar disorder is also known as manic-depressive illness. It is a brain disorder that causes unusual shifts in a person's mood, energy, and ability to function.

It is different from the normal ups and downs that everyone goes through, the symptoms of bipolar disorder are severe. They can result in damaged relationships, poor job or school performance and even suicide.

Over 2 million American adults have bipolar disorder. Bipolar disorder typically develops in late adolescence or early adulthood. However, some people have their first symptoms during childhood and some develop them late in life.

It is often not recognized as an illness and people may suffer for years before it is properly diagnosed and treated. Like diabetes or heart disease, bipolar disorder is a long-term illness that must be carefully managed throughout a person's life.

Scientists are learning about the possible causes of bipolar disorder through several kinds of studies. Most scientists now agree that there is no single cause for bipolar disorder—rather, many factors act together to produce the illness. Because bipolar disorder tends to run in families,

researchers have been searching for specific genes—the microscopic "building blocks" of DNA inside all cells that influence how the body and mind work and grow—passed down through generations that may increase a person's chance of developing the illness.

However, genes are not the whole story. Studies of identical twins, who share all the same genes, indicate that both genes and other factors play a role in bipolar disorder.

Bipolar disorder causes dramatic mood swings—from overly "high" and/or irritable to sad and hopeless with periods of normal moods in between. Severe changes in energy and behavior go along with these changes in mood. The periods of highs and lows are called episodes of mania and depression.

Barbara Musgrove, a research associate with STEPP (Systematic Treatment Enhance Program for bipolar disorders) said, "extreme changes in mood can range from feeling fine today to wanting to kill yourself tomorrow, to the next day wanting to go shopping and spend all of your money."

Both children and adolescents can develop bipolar disorder. It is more likely to affect the children of parents who have the illness. Unlike many adults with bipolar disorder, whose episodes tend to be more clearly defined, children and young adolescents with the illness often experience very fast mood swings between depression and mania many times within a day.

Children with mania are more likely to be irritable and

prone to destructive tantrums than to be overly happy and elated. Mixed symptoms also are common in youths with bipolar disorder. Older adolescents who develop the illness may have more classic, adult-type episodes and symptoms.

"Mary Childs, a student at Howard has a sister who suffers from the bipolar disease. Childs said, "I am fortunate that my sister has not died from the illness. Her mood swings can get real bad. Fortunately, in having received the best medical care available and having the family and friends that we have, we live on day to day."

Most people with bipolar disorder, even those with the most severe forms, can achieve substantial stabilization of their mood swings and related symptoms with proper treatment.

Because bipolar disorder is a recurrent illness, long-term preventive treatment is strongly recommended. A strategy that combines medication and psychosocial treatment is optimal for managing the disorder over time.

"The extreme mood changes that one may experience may never be ignored, one can come see one of our counselors on campus," Musgrove said. "These are trained professionals that can administered screenings that will separate normal mood changes from those signs of a more serious condition."

For more information on bipolar disease consult the school counselor. To learn more about the research and major study going on at Howard University or to participate in the study, call Thomas Ford at (202) 806-7642. \*Name changed.

## Dealing with Sleeping Disorders

By Porscha Summerville  
Contributing Writer

Does it take you more than a half hour to fall asleep? Do you feel overly drowsy during the day? Are you lethargic in the morning? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions you may have a sleeping disorder, according to the National Sleep Foundation.

Yahoo!'s Health page defines a sleeping disorder as a disruptive sleeping pattern that could include trouble falling asleep, sleeping at appropriate times, excessive sleeping or any abnormal behaviors associated with sleep.

Over 100 different disorders of sleeping and waking have been identified. Many of these disorders are often caused from a long list including depression, anxiety, stress, heavy smoking, physical discomfort, daytime napping, certain conditions, and other counterproductive sleep habits.

Some sleeping disorders include narcolepsy — sudden uncontrollable acts of sleep, insomnia — trouble sleeping, and excessive snoring.

Sleeping disorders are nothing new to college campuses and in the U.S., 20 to 30 million Americans suffer from a sleeping disorder. The daily tasks of a student never seem to end with the many term papers, job(s), sports activities, friends and family.

Some disorders include delayed sleep phase syndrome, hypnotic dependent sleep disorder, and stimulant dependent sleep disorder.

Danelle Mason, a sophomore psychology major said, "Often times when I can not sleep I depend on some type of cough syrup or medicine that will make me drowsy."

Local psychiatrist, Theodor Postolache, does not recommend taking over the counter medicines such as cough syrup or allergy pills for the purpose of falling



Photo by Maya Gilliam

Studies show that over 100 different sleeping disorders have been identified.

asleep. He states, "Though this tactic may give a short term benefit the long term risk could be greater."

Lack of sleep can be a major problem for many students and often alters their every day performance. Many students deal with managing the amount of sleep they receive in many different ways.

Georgetown University student, Nyounti Tuan said, "I cannot remember the last time I

received a full eight-hour night of sleep. Most of the time I take a catnap, then its back to studying and going to class. Most of my sleeping is done on the weekend. But I can't even think about sleeping during the week."

Many studies state that the average amount of sleep received a night should be eight hours.

"Sleeping is up to an individual and no average can dictate what is correct for an individual," Postolache said. "Some people can live off of 6 hours and some need 10 hours. When dealing with individuals you have to weigh the biological factors along with their activities. Because of biological reasons it is often times hard to change someone's sleeping patterns."

Though some sleeping disorders can be long-term most of the sleeping disorders that the 56 percent of Americans deal with can be prevented according to the National Sleep Foundation. These preventions include establishing a regular bedtime routine, exercising regularly, and avoiding caffeine, nicotine, and alcohol in the late afternoon and evenings.

According to Postolache literature is not very clear or sure what long-term consequences are directly linked to sleep deprivation.

Researches have found sleep deprivation to be associated but not the main cause of weight problems and diabetes. Short-term consequences reduce concentration, sleep deprivation, athletic performance can fall, and attention to studies can be lacking as well.



## VOICES & VIEWS

What should new elections candidates address?



Name: Chris Hughes  
Classification: Freshman  
Major: Engineering

"The candidates should address the new housing situation for male freshmen. Next year their housing could be located across the street from the metro stop, a target spot for robbery."



Name: Teemorris Taylor  
Classification: Freshman  
Major: Undecided

"They should address the fact that the visitation rules are too strict and there should be 24 hour visitation for all upper-classmen."



Name: China Pickerson  
Classification: Freshman  
Major: English

"The future leaders of HUSA should address issues dealing with the lack of helpful administration, unfair housing policies and the fact that students don't have adequate representation."

Compiled by Maya Gilliam

## General Assembly Votes to Suspend Elections

GA from A1

Undergraduate Student Association Coordinator, Larry Brown Jr., said the fines had to be curbed.

"People could have been charged outrageous amounts," Brown said.

A possible conflict of interest was brought to the attention of the Assembly by School of Education Vice President Spencer Chenier.

According to Chenier, HUSA Financial Advisor Ja'Ron Smith should not be allowed to act as financial advisor and run for HUSA president simultaneously.

Chenier suggested that the General Assembly find a temporary replacement for Smith until general elections are over. Others felt it was not necessary to remove Smith from his position. Instead they moved that he not be authorized to sign elections related financial documents while he runs for office.

The signature of the HUSA financial advisor, as well as the signatures of two other financial administrators is required in



Photo by Jazelle Bellavance

Spencer Chenier, vice president of the School of Education, raised a possible conflict of interest, presented by Ja'Ron Smith acting as HUSA financial advisor while running for HUSA president.

order for any financial document approved by HUSA to take effect.

After an hour and a half of debate on the issue, the Assembly finally passed a motion

proposed by Brown, declaring that Williamson would speak with Smith by today and report Smith's official decision to the Assembly members via email by

Tuesday, January 4.

Smith was not present at the meeting.

If Smith does in fact decide to step down, an emergency meeting would be called to appoint a new financial advisor.

"The decision to step down or not is on Ja'Ron," Williamson said. "I don't think it's a conflict of interest for him to still act as our financial advisor but I will ask him to waive his signing powers dealing with any elections matters."

Both the organizational funding for clubs and the budget for the HUSA sponsored HBCU Think Tank were on the agenda but neither was approved. Those issues will be addressed at the emergency meeting.

While the elections guidelines and concerns of conflicts of interest dominated the four-hour meeting, Williamson still found time to talk about HUSA's chicken finger taste testing day in the Punch Out today.

Williamson said students have complained about the price of the chicken fingers at \$7 an order.

"We took the student's concerns to the dining service and

they said the \$7 is a reflection of how much they pay," Williamson said. "So we want to let the students decide."

Students will have the opportunity to taste the current chicken and cheaper chicken and decide if they will make a change. Taste testing is today in the Punch Out from 2-4 p.m.

The Assembly meeting was marked by a lack of efficiency. Williamson repeatedly called the meeting to order and a quorum was not met until nearly 45 minutes after the meeting was scheduled to start at 7 pm. The meeting did not end until nearly midnight.

Brown said the inefficiency of the meetings is the fault of the Assembly members.

"We should take [the failure to pass the guidelines] as well as other issues we have had in the past and handle them in a timely and efficient fashion," Brown said. "Each member of the General Assembly needs to reevaluate why they became a representative so that we effectively represent the individuals in our schools."

## First Speak Out in Drew Draws Sizable Crowd

SPEAK from A1

"This is not a platform. It's a plan of action to unite the branches of student government by resurrecting the student voice," they emphasized. They currently have a proposal outlined in their platform called Bison Benefits, which will encompass a HUSA Card that allows students to receive discounts at local shopping stores and restaurants.

The "Renaissance" slate led by HUSA Presidential candidate Sean Parker and Vice-Presidential candidate Maya Morton mirrors last year's Awakening platform. They have identified four points under their platform that are in need of an increase; student involvement, community service, political activism, and the improvement of faculty and student relationships.

"The underlying theme of our campaign is going to be vision, action, results. We're not going to be talking rhetoric, we're going to be talking truth to power," said Parker in closing his platform presentation.

The fourth slate has centered on a theme titled "Restoration." Leading the campaign as President and Vice-President candidates are Dan Blakemore and Faith L. Walls respectively. Under their platform they will achieve to restore order and integrity to HUSA.

"We want to ensure that student government not only becomes more accountable but more accessible." With no current platform in place they have offered to share "their vision" for HUSA at a later date.

The Undergraduate Trustee candidates are high in number this year with five in total vying for the high profile and often highly criticized position. Candidates are Junior Political Science major Silas Cardwell, Junior Biology major Kareem Merrick, Sophomore Radio/TV/Film major Paris Pickett, Sophomore Political Science major Jacques Purvis, and International Business major Justin K. George.

As the focus of the speak out shifted from platforms to questions current HUSA President Cornell Williamson

posed the following question to the HUSA candidates. "As hosts of next year's HBCU Think Tank what would you plan as the theme and why?"

Sean Parker of the "Renaissance" slate who attended last year's Think Tank responded with a proposed theme called "Hold On. Change is Coming."

He emphasized that this theme should highlight current resources that Blacks on college campuses now have as opposed to prior the Civil Rights Movement and that they should take advantage of these resources.

"If you look at the 60's, the hotbed of Civil Rights occurred at HBCU's and it's important that we hold on to that legacy."

Stefani Brown, 2001-2002 HUSA President, posed a question about the new housing policy and what position the candidates held towards the policy. Faith Walls of the "Restoration" campaign responded by saying that students should receive advanced notice of affecting changes regarding specific policies.

"It is very important for the administration to communicate with the students. They need to send things (notices) home just like the bills you get when you have to pay tuition."

The speak out concluded,

with hands still raised for questions after candidates had been answering questions for more than an hour. The candidates then remained in the lounge to speak to individual students and hear their concerns.

Freshman Biology major Krissy Freeman was impressed by her first campus speak-out. "The speak out was very professional and the candidates did a pretty good job in presenting their platforms although they were pressed for time," said Freeman. When asked which slate she would vote for if elections were tomorrow she responded saying, "I would vote for Ja'Ron (The Plan) because they seem more heartfelt about what's happening at Howard and in the community."

Cory Cunningham, the Chair of the General Elections Committee, was pleased with the success of the first speak out and credits it to the number of candidates running this year. "This year there are more people running for all positions. More candidates equals more students participating in elections," said Cunningham.

Cunningham, who revived the General Elections Committee last year after the frustration of the previous committee undergoing three elections and hearing an array



File Photo

Kareem Merrick, a candidate for undergraduate trustee speaks at the Speak Out.

of grievances, has implemented a plan for this year's elections, which includes education, involvement, and change. The committee will be conducting forums on student apathy and engaging students

in political actions beyond campus.

Election Day is scheduled for Tuesday, March 4. The next speak out is scheduled for February 3 at Meridian Hill Hall.

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## Your Next President?

### Sen. John Kerry Offers Direct Challenge to Bush Policies

By Terez A. Paylor  
Hilltop Staff Writer

On December 1, 2002, Massachusetts Senator John Kerry announced his intentions to run for the Presidency of the United States on "Meet the Press."

"I think of myself more as an insurgent against George Bush and the Establishment," Kerry said.

John Kerry was born on December 11, 1943 in Denver, Colorado. After he was born, his family soon returned to their home in Massachusetts. Kerry received his degree from Yale University in 1966, and shortly thereafter he joined the U.S. Navy. He received numerous medals in Vietnam.

Kerry returned home and began his involvement in politics. He questioned many of the decisions that the government made concerning Vietnam and co-founded the Vietnam Veterans of America.

He worked as an attorney in Massachusetts after he graduated from Boston College Law School in 1976. He was elected as the Lieutenant Governor in

1982. Two years later, the people of Massachusetts elected Kerry to the U.S. Senate. He has served Massachusetts in that position ever since.

Kerry has served on the Commerce, Finance, and Foreign Relations Committees, the Senate Democratic Leadership Steering and Coordination Committee, and was chair of the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

#### What He Stands For

Senator Kerry has not held back his criticism of President George W. Bush, and he bases many of his arguments against Bush's policies.

#### Kerry supports abortion.

"If I get to share a stage with this president and debate him, one of the first things I'll tell him is: 'There's a defining issue between us. I trust women to make their own decisions. You don't. And that's the difference,'" he said.

Another major distinction between Bush and Kerry is their stances on Iraq and the Middle East.

Kerry wants the U.S. to stop fighting and return to peace-

making in that area.

"This administration made a grave mistake when it disre-



Photo courtesy of Associated Press

Senator John Kerry says that he is ready to offer the American people an alternative to another four years of a Bush administration.

garded almost 70 years of American friendship and leadership in the Middle East," Kerry said. He supports efforts to "bring about Iraq's peaceful disarmament or the decisive military victory of a multilateral coalition."

Kerry has publicly claimed that President Bush made mistakes that likely allowed Osama bin Laden to escape.

"They relied too much on local warlords to carry the fight against our enemies and this permitted many al-Qaeda members, likely including Osama bin Laden himself, to slip through our fingers," Kerry said.

"The United States should never go to war because it wants to," Kerry said.

"We should go to war because we have to."

"But we don't have to until we have exhausted the remedies available, built legitimacy and earned the consent of the American people, absent, of course, an imminent threat requiring urgent action."

#### Criticisms

Kerry does have his detractors. Given the fact he served as lieutenant governor under Michael Dukakis, he is portrayed as a Massachusetts liberal.

Also, he recently gave a speech where he was called out by a student in the audience who challenged him to explain

why he voted last fall in favor of a resolution authorizing force in Iraq. Vermont Governor Howard Dean, who is also running for President, accused Kerry of "trying to have it both ways."

Perhaps the biggest problem that Kerry has to deal with is his lack of spontaneity. Some in the Democratic Party are worried that this will hurt him because it seems like everything he does is previously thought out and prepared. Political analysts say that this lack of personality could turn some voters off, and Kerry has done little, if anything, to change that.

#### Chances of Winning

Kerry is well liked by Democrats. They like his intelligence and well-thought out ideas, even though they do seem calculated. They say he can clearly express the party's feelings on national security and that, coupled with the fact that he has an advantage in early-primary states such as New Hampshire, bodes well for him.

As a veteran Kerry should be able to grab the votes of other war veterans, just as John

McCain did when he was running for President in 2000.

Also, his background in the Navy leaves him as the candidate best able to counter President Bush in 2004 because it is expected that Bush and the Republican Party will try to make foreign policy and the war on terrorism their main theme in Bush's bin for re-election in 2004.

Though polls show him in the middle of the pack among the six democratic presidential candidates, many think he has a great chance to win.

"I think that John Kerry is the Democrat most likely to win back the White House, and that's what this election is about," said the former Democratic National Committee finance chairman, Alan Solomont.

Next week we take a look at Howard Dean

## For Your Information

### Relevance of Roe v. Wade Anniversary

By Riki Jones  
Contributing Writer

January 22, 2003 marked the 30th anniversary of the controversial Roe v. Wade case. Activists on both sides of the abortion debate rallied in recognition of the US Supreme Court ruling legalizing abortion.

With Republicans holding the White House, majorities in the House and Senate, and a slim 5-4 majority of Supreme Court justices favoring abortion rights, supporters of abortion worry that the right to terminate pregnancy may be at risk.

Pro-life organizations oppose the Roe v. Wade decision, while the Pro-choice side feels it is a woman's right to choose whether or not she is ready for a child.

It all began in 1973 when a pregnant single woman, by the name of Roe brought a class action suit challenging the constitutionality of the Texas criminal abortion laws, which made it unlawfully to secure or attempt an abortion except on medical advice for the purpose of saving the mother's life. Along with Roe, was Hallford, a licensed physician who had two state abortion prosecutions pending against him who separately attacked the laws, based on the grounds of the possibilities of contraceptive failure, pregnancy, and the unpreparedness for parenthood. A three-judge District Court, which consolidated the actions, held that Roe and Hallford had standing to sue.

The Court held that a woman's right to an abortion fell within the right to privacy, protected by the Constitution. The decision gave a woman a right to abortion during the entirety of

the pregnancy and defined different levels of state interest for regulating abortion in the second and third trimesters. As a result, the laws of 46 states were affected by the Court's ruling.

Since its 1973 ruling that legalized abortion, the Supreme Court has opened the door to greater state restrictions on when women may obtain abortions. States have responded with requirements for parental consent or notification in cases involving minors, state-directed counseling, mandatory waiting periods and, most recently, bans on a procedure referred to by its critics as "partial-birth" abortion. In some states, the restrictions are not in effect while they are being challenged in court.

Government regulations restrict abortion to no government regulation during the first three months, limited regulation in the second trimester to protect women's health and safety, and giving government the power to ban abortions during the third trimester, where it has been medically concluded the fetus is capable of living on its own.



Photo courtesy of dr.com

This human fetus is past term to be aborted under certain state laws.

### Sharpton Makes Bid for Presidency

By Madra McAdoo  
Contributing Writer

"I think that the campaign that we are beginning to officially embark upon will change American politics. ... The Democratic party cannot win unless it expands its base," said Rev. Al Sharpton who formally put in his papers Jan. 21, 2004 seeking the Democratic Party's nomination for candidacy in the 2004 presidential election.

Sharpton, 48, announced he is the only person seeking the candidacy to say he is "anti-war, anti-death penalty, anti-tax cut across the board."

Also, he says that he would reach out to disaffected voters such as blacks, Latinos, gays and lesbians, and young people. Sharpton said he would not be a one-issue or one-group candidate.

Sharpton joins Democratic contenders Sens. John Kerry of Massachusetts, John Edwards of North Carolina and Joe Lieberman of Connecticut, Representative

Dick Gephardt of Missouri and former Vermont Governor Howard Dean.

Sharpton's past political attempts include running for the U.S. Senate in New York in 1992. He received 27 percent of the overall vote in the



Photo courtesy of the Rainbow Coalition

The flamboyant Rev. Al Sharpton is running for president in 2004.

Democratic primary and won 90 percent of the black vote.

In 1997, he ran for mayor of New York where he received 32 percent of the vote in the Democratic primary. Now, he is running for President of United States.

Sharpton's credibility has been questioned.

However, in his recent book entitled 'Al on America' he attempted to prove himself as a credible candidate.

Sharpton is not the first African-American to run for president.

Rev. Jesse Jackson ran in two presidential elections - once in 1984 and again in 1988. Although he did not win, more African-Americans registered to vote.

Sharpton first gained national attention for being the spokesperson for Tawana Brawley who accused a gang of white men of raping her. The court ruled the accusations to be a hoax.

Tiffany Clark, sophomore Political Science and English major, doesn't think Sharpton's lack of political experience or public persona will hurt his chances of winning the democratic candidacy.

"He has not had a chance to do anything," she said.

"If he is down for getting the work done, I say he can do it," Clark said.

## Double Speak:

### Bush Opposes Affirmative Action, Proposes Funds Increase for HBCU's

By Lionel Isaacs  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Within days of President George W. Bush's controversial challenge of the University of Michigan's admission policy, Bush played his own race card - Condoleezza Rice. Although she supports race as a factor in achieving diversity, the former Stanford University provost was quick to agree with the president's position that the University of Michigan's admission procedures are unconstitutional.

Although Colin Powell, in a rare example of open disagreement with the White House, firmly supported affirmative action, the presidential stance was still unpopular with Blacks.

Then, a little more than

one week ago, the White House formally announced that President Bush was proposing a funding increase for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Hispanic-Serving Institutions.

The 5 percent increase was to "ensure educational freedom, opportunity and access for every American," said the Bush administration.

Many questioned the timing of this announcement on the heels of his affirmative action challenge, and filing of a friend of the court brief against the University of Michigan in the Supreme Court.

Russell Adams, chair of the African-American Studies Department at Howard University graciously weighed in on the subject.

When asked why he

thought the President announced the increase, Adams said, "To soften the disappointment we felt about his equivocal statement on affirmative action."

"This is an old game. In a sentence, buy off the opposition to affirmative action," he said.

"There are cynics who would say that by funding black colleges more, Bush is attempting a sort of re-segregation. 'Let the blacks go to their own schools if they want a good, higher education', though I'm not that cynical..." Adams said.

"One of the ways the Republicans have distinguished themselves, [is that] they have discovered the power of ideas. They have spent millions of dollars on right-wing

think tanks and journals."

"For 20 years they have taken advantage of white anger over the Civil Rights Movement to turn the Republican Party into a Southern Party," he said.

"Reagan was on the front end of this movement, and President Bush is on the back end."

Ashley Mack, a freshman Print Journalism major sees Bush's policies as the same old, same old.

"It's not surprising," she said.

"Bush's Education policy hasn't changed since he was governor [in Texas]. As far as HBCU's, I don't think he even understands the need for the funding."

Michael Arceneaux, freshman Broadcast Journalism major is from Bush's home

state of Texas.

"He's basically saying, 'go to your own college and we'll give you more money. The 10 percent policy in Texas decreases the amount of eligible blacks, and many who do go drop out after their first year."

Instead of allowing affirmative action policies such as the one at the University of Michigan, Bush has stated that he would prefer that states adopted the educational plan that he implemented in Texas where all high school students in the top 10 percent of their class get automatic acceptance to state universities.

While many conservatives policies like this, which has also been adopted in California, this doesn't seem to solve the problem of Black students receiving poorer second-

ary education than many white students.

Studies have shown that this is often why Black students who placed in the top 10 percent at an all-Black high school are lost in the shuffle at majority populated universities - because they weren't adequately prepared.

However, Bush's announcement did receive some measure of positive feedback from junior International Business major, Shakiri Murrain.

"I think it's good to focus on giving schools like Howard money to spend on improving themselves. It is a better way of leveling the playing field, compared to just letting Black students into majority institutions based on race."



## Breaking Through the Turmoil

### Who's Who and What's What in the Conflict with Iraq

You know their faces, but who are they, what do they do and how will their decisions affect your future and the pending war with Iraq? In the following weeks Friday's World Page will clue you in on the who's who of the Iraqi conflict.

- Amber Mobley, Nation & World editor



Colin Powell

Powell (left) is the secretary of state, the United States' top diplomat and President Bush's point person overseeing all U.S. relations abroad. He helped put together the coalition of nations which approved in November a tough new U.N. Security Council resolution calling on Iraq to disclose its weapon-making capabilities.



Hans Blix

Blix (left) is the head of the U.N. Security Council which is in charge of making sure that Iraq is in compliance with the various agreements written in U.N. policy - such as disarming itself. Blix has said that he wants more time to do inspections in Iraq before the US declares war.



Condoleezza Rice

Rice (left) is national security adviser to President Bush. The first woman and first African-American to hold the job, she coordinates the National Security Council (NSC), which serves as the White House's in-house advisory board on foreign policy. She was the president's top adviser on overseas issues during the 2000 Staff.



Donald Rumsfeld

Rumsfeld (left) is the Secretary of Defense, the man who oversees all branches of the United States military and its \$330 billion per year budget. In that capacity, he is also the chief spokesperson for the military. Rumsfeld and his deputy, Paul Wolfowitz, are considered to be among the most hawkish members of the Bush administration, reportedly pushing for the U.S. to take a hard line against Saddam Hussein since last year.

#### Iraq and the US : Written Past, Uncertain Future

**July 17, 1990** -Saddam Hussein accuses Kuwait and United Arab Emirates of overproducing oil to push prices down.

**Aug. 2, 1990** - The Iraqi army invades Kuwait. The U.N. Security Council imposes a trade embargo on Iraq.

**Aug. 7, 1990** - President Bush orders the deployment of U.S. troops to the Persian Gulf.

**Jan. 17, 1991** - A U.S.-led coalition launches a devastating air war on Iraq.

**Feb. 26, 1991** - Kuwait is liberated. Baghdad accepts a cease-fire two days later.

**March 2, 1991** - Shiite Muslims revolt against Saddam in southern Iraq. Later, they are joined by Kurds in the north. Both rebellions are savagely crushed after a month of fighting.

**April, 1991** - Iraq starts reporting on weapons of mass destruction, while the U.N. accuses Saddam of hiding missiles and nuclear facilities. The U.S., France and Britain declare a 19,000 sq. mile area of northern Iraq a safe haven for Kurds and impose a no-fly zone above the 36th parallel.

**Aug. 27, 1992** - The United States, backed by Britain and France, declares a "no-fly" zone over southern Iraq to protect Shiite Muslim rebels.

**1994** - As part of efforts to get the sanctions lifted, Iraq recognizes Kuwait as an independent state within the borders demarcated by a U.N. commission.

**Dec. 9, 1996** - The United Nations allows Iraq limited oil sales under a closely monitored deal, in the first loosening of the 1990 sanctions.

**Oct. 29, 1997** - Iraq demands that Americans on the U.N. Special Commission inspection team leave; the Americans leave temporarily but return Nov. 20.

**Jan. 13, 1998** - Iraq temporarily withdraws cooperation, claiming the inspection team had too many U.S. and British inspectors.

**Jan. 22, 1998** - Iraq refuses inspection of presidential sites.

**Feb. 20-23, 1998** - U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan secures Iraq's cooperation and unrestricted access to inspectors.

**Oct. 31, 1998** -Iraq ends all forms of cooperation with UNSCOM. UNSCOM withdraws.

**Nov. 14, 1998** - Iraq allows inspections to resume.

**Dec. 16, 1998** - Weapons inspectors are withdrawn from Iraq. Hours later, four days of U.S.-British strikes begin pounding Baghdad.

**1999** - Iraq begins training hundreds of thousands of civilian men from their teens to their 70s to defend against an American attack, the official Iraqi News Agency said.

**Dec. 17, 1999** - U.N. replaces UNSCOM with UNMOVIC, the U.N. Monitoring Verification and Inspection Commission. Iraq rejects the resolution.

**March 1, 2000** - Hans Blix assumes post of executive chairman of UNMOVIC.

**Aug. 10, 2000** - Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez becomes the first head of state to visit Iraq since the Gulf War and meets with Saddam.

**Sept. 22, 2000** - A French charter flight becomes the first international flight into Baghdad to ignore the request from the U.N. sanctions committee to wait for clearance and starts a flood of flights - with and without approval - from nations eager to chip away at sanctions.

**November, 2000** - Iraq rejects new weapons inspections proposals.

**Nov. 5, 2000** - Iraq sends two domestic passenger flights from Baghdad to the cities of Basra and Mosul, in defiance of the no-fly zones. The U.S. says it has no objection to these domestic flights, but the move is seen as another attempt by the Arab nation to challenge the patrols.

**Feb. 16, 2001** - Ordering his first military strike, President Bush sends U.S. and British jets to bomb Iraqi air defense sites near Baghdad. The "routine" mission is the first strike since December 1998 north of the 33rd Parallel.

**Feb. 27, 2001** -Iraq's foreign minister rejects a U.S. proposal to amend U.N. sanctions, calling it a ploy to justify maintaining the embargo. The changes would have allowed more consumer goods into Iraq while maintaining curbs on assistance to Saddam's weapons program.

**June 4, 2001** - Iraq temporarily halts most oil exports, stopping the flow to all but neighboring Turkey and Jordan. The move protests a U.N. Security Council decision to extend by one month instead of the usual six months the program under which Iraq can sell oil.

**Aug. 3, 2001** - Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld says Iraq has rebuilt its air defenses since U.S. and British warplanes attacked radar and communications targets around Baghdad earlier in the year.

**Sept. 23, 2001** -Despite denying any link to the Sept. 11 terror attacks, Iraq's vice president said America will likely target his country in a campaign to impose its will upon others. However, Taha Yassin Ramadan said, "We are confident that America is heading to its end."

Source: CBS.com

#### For Your Information

## Weapons of Mass Destruction

### Content and Likelihood of Application

By Lionel Isaacs  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Most government agencies generally refer to weapons of mass destruction as those capable of inflicting mass casualties and destruction. This includes chemical, biological, or nuclear weapons, and the means to deliver them.

#### Nuclear Weapons

Nuclear weapons are the most difficult type of WMD to produce. Substantial resources are required to manufacture the nuclear warhead. For example, a country or entity would have to possess sophisticated, not to mention expensive, facilities including a nuclear reactor to produce the enriched uranium or plutonium that makes up the core of a nuclear weapon. Because of the expense and complexity of manufacturing a nuclear weapon, the likely danger is that a terrorist group would steal or buy fissile nuclear material from a country with a massive stockpile like Russia, or one that is cash-strapped, like North Korea or most of the former Soviet-bloc nations.

#### Biological Weapons

Biological weapons are next down the chain in terms of difficulty and expense in production. Obtaining dangerous biological agents and producing them in large quantities is not extremely complicated, especially for a dedicated and moderately well financed entity. Preparing these agents use in a weapon is considerably more difficult. Producing the correct-size particles is a substantially

complex process, as is ensuring that the microorganism will survive storage and delivery.

Smallpox and anthrax are a few of the biological weapons that U.S. troops are being inoculated against for possible warfare. The effects of smallpox and anthrax both include sores. Smallpox sores are highly infectious. Both smallpox and anthrax can cause death in a relatively short period of time.

#### Chemical Agents

Chemical agents are the least difficult weapons of mass destruction to produce. However, the chemical would have to be spread in large volumes. The quantities and delivery mechanism required are the major obstacles.

#### Ballistic Missiles

Ballistic missiles are the most viable means of delivering a nuclear, chemical, or biological payload: long-range bombers are too expensive for a terrorist group (and most countries for that matter), and would require a large, well-defended airstrip, and support aircraft. Nuclear submarines are near impossible for a terrorist group or rogue state to acquire. The difficulty of manufacturing an intercontinental ballistic missile rivals that of building a nuclear weapon. Analysts predict North Korea, the only rogue state in sight of this technology, is 10 to 15 years away from a ballistic missile that can reach the US mainland. Once launched, a ballistic missile is easy to spot on radar, but is difficult to impossible to intercept.



photo courtesy of warfare.com

Above, the beginning of the aftermath of an atomic bomb - the mushroom cloud.

# NEWS

## BUNCHE from A1

study and internship for students interested in becoming Foreign Service Officers in the U.S. Department of State, by paying for graduate school fees and offering even more perks. This fellowship includes full tuition and mandatory fees, living stipend, books, one round-trip travel for the first and second year of graduate school, and paid State Department summer internships in the DC area and overseas. The deadline for this scholarship is February 28 and The Bunche Center has plenty of applications available.

The Patricia Roberts Public Affairs Program offers students an opportunity to learn about public service careers by working in congress, in federal, state agencies, in international organizations and in private US organizations concerned with public policy issues. Winners of this internship program have been placed in the US House of Representatives, the US Department of Health, the Library of Congress, and the Office of the Mayor of the District of Columbia, just to name a few. The deadline for application submission was last November, but you can start turning in your applications for the next year. Contact Carolyn King, the coordinator for the Patricia Roberts Harris Public Affairs Internship, in the Bunche Center for more information.

The Bunche Center also offers var-

ious employment opportunities for Howard students. The most recent is from the United Parcel Service Corporate Public Affairs. UPS is currently seeking applicants for the position of legislative assistant for their corporate public affairs office in Washington, DC. This position requires handling the governmental affairs issues of UPS, including federal, international, and state issues. The deadline for this is February 10, 2003. For more information about this or any other job opportunity just pay a visit to the Bunche Center.

The list of Internships and Employment goes on and on. The Bunche Center provides many opportunities for Howard University students to expand their mind and widen their cultural barriers. The Bunche Center helps Howard University and its students become true "leaders for America and the Global Community."

For more information on the Bunche Center and its opportunities contact the Bunche Center at (202) 806-4363.

Or you can visit the website at <http://www.howard.edu/rjb/Default.htm>

## BUSH from A1

her head at this proposal as ABC cameras panned to the democrats for a reaction. Pelosi went on record with Senator Tom Daschle (D-SD), Senate Minority Leader on Monday January 27, in a statement previewing the State of the Union address, bringing to light how President Bush has created a "credibility gap" by his actions that Democrats have found contrary to his promises. Although there are federal tax cuts proposed by Bush, according to Gov. Gary Locke (D-WA), state and local taxes are being inversely raised to compensate for the crisis our states are facing due to a lack of reasonable growth in the economy.

Bush also decried corporate criminals and medical malpractice suits saying, "No one has ever been healed by a frivolous lawsuit - and I urge the Congress to pass medical liability reform."

This liability reform is in reference to Bush's desire to put a cap on medical malpractice suits. In addressing Medicare he seemed in support of the best possible care available for seniors. "...many have no coverage at all. These problems will not be solved with a nationalized health care system that dictates coverage and rations care," Bush said. "Instead of bureaucrats, and trial lawyers, and HMOs, we must put doctors, and nurses, and patients back in charge of American medicine."

In the Democratic response to the State of the Union by Gov. Gary Locke, he accused the President of using alternate language to hide the gist of his statement, which was the privatization of Medicare. He briefly addressed the need to ban partial birth abortion and human cloning.

President Bush also talked about the possibility of hydrogen powered cars and the necessity of America having her own independent energy sources. He returned to issues tackled in his first State of the Union Address including the Freedom Corps and the

need to continue and broaden his faith-based initiative.

On Sunday January 19, in Cramton Auditorium the Rev. Jeremiah Wright cleverly, albeit indirectly, labeled this initiative as the President's attempt to create his own altar and religion for the American people to worship at in comfort, in order to hide his true agenda of war and destruction.

It appeared that domestic issues were simply a preamble to the crux of his speech: justification for war with Iraq. To his credit President Bush did unveil a \$15 billion plan to help with the AIDS crisis in Africa. He described how 30 million Africans were suffering from the AIDS virus, in some countries an entire third of the population, and informed congress that of those 30 million only 50,000 were receiving any type of medical care. The rest of the address was directed towards the war.

"If this threat is permitted to fully and suddenly emerge, all actions, all words, and all recriminations would come too late," Bush alleged. "Trusting in the sanity and restraint of Saddam Hussein is not a strategy, and it is not an option." He announced that on February 5, Secretary of State Powell will go before the United Nations and represent the new findings about the Hussein regime.

In an eerie prediction for the future, if America enters a war, Bush held that, "For the brave Americans who bear the risk, no victory is free from sorrow. This Nation fights reluctantly, because we know the cost, and we dread the days of mourning that always come." But, this address made it clear that no threat to the American people would go unanswered.

The speech ended in the President asking God to bless America. With the economy flailing like a fish out of water, Osama Bin Laden still at large, with 2 out of the 3 in Bush's "axis of evil" proving him right, and Social Security and budget surpluses quickly becoming a thing of the past let us hope he does.

## BAND from A1

ing some of their favorite songs."

Junior Psychology Major Melanie Beaver, who has played the Piccolo in the band for two years, agrees that the album was much needed. "This album gives us more of an advantage because now we have wider exposure and it's something we always wanted to do. It was a big step for us."

Freshman Political Science Major Byron Stewart, who plays the sousaphone (tuba) and is chaplain of the band, had a slightly different opinion about the CD. "The recording of the CD was rushed because of marching band season. I hear mistakes on the CD now that my family can't hear because I'm in the band. Other than that the CD is alright." Marching band season corresponds with football season, and during this time the band is

getting new music, learning new formations, and performing them every week. Stewart believes that the band had to put in more time to practice for their performances than on the recording of the CD.

Stewart still believes that the CD is beneficial to the band. Two weekends ago, the band had the opportunity to perform at the NFC Playoff Game accompanying R&B stars Ashanti and Ja-Rule. Stewart says, "Through the CD, we hope that it will open more opportunities like this for us in the future."

Mr. Newson and other directors are now working on plans for the next album. "This one was for the traditional tunes that Alumni hear at all of the events, but we plan on doing another one."

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## What's News-

In Business and Finance

### State of the Union: Economy in Flux

Mixed economic news offered little cheer as President Bush delivered a State of the Union Address focused primarily on Iraq and the weak economy.

Housing remained the bright spot, with new-home sales unexpectedly surging in December to end the year at a record level. But consumer confidence fell in January, and durable-goods orders rose only slightly in December.

Sales of new, single-family homes jumped 3.5% in December, the Commerce Department said, for an annual rate of 976,000, the highest level since the government began tracking sales in 1963. The report was much stronger than expected by economists, who predicted December sales would fall 4.1%, according to a survey by Dow Jones Newswires and CNBC.

Consumer confidence fell in January for the second straight month, largely on worries about jobs and income, a new survey showed. The Conference Board said its consumer confidence index fell to 79 from 80.7 in December. "With the threat of war looming, consumers have grown increasingly cautious about the short-term outlook," the group's research director said.

Separately, durable-goods orders rose slightly, though the gains were limited by weakness in demand for autos. Orders for durable goods, items meant to last three years or longer, climbed 0.2% in December.

For all of 2002, orders fell 0.2%, a big improvement over the 11.6% drop recorded for 2001. But for the economy to return to full throttle, economists say, there must be a sustained turnaround in business investment. Businesses, worried about a possible war with Iraq and other uncertainties, have been in no mood to go on a hiring spree or to invest in new plants and equipment.

### Record Labels Go After Individuals

A ruling by a federal court raises the stakes for anyone who goes online to get free digital music.

The ruling, by a U.S. district court in Washington, gives entertainment companies the right to get your name, address and phone number if they have evidence you are using the Net to get, or pass on, their copyrighted works. Verizon Communications Inc., the company on the losing end of the recent ruling, is appealing, which will affect the timing of the entertainment industry's next moves.

The industry initially is expected to focus on so-called superusers—the estimated 10% of users who offer 90% of the files. But Verizon was ordered to turn over the name and address of a subscriber who was sharing 600 music files—the equivalent of only about 60 CDs. Even users who only download music for themselves could potentially be outed. BellSouth Corp., which like Verizon offers Internet service, says it has already turned over one name. The company says it opposes the Verizon ruling, but will comply with the final court decision.

The recording industry is increasingly deploying electronic "robots" that monitor traffic on file-swapping networks. Since these networks are open to the public, the robots can within seconds see what files you are sharing with others. The robots note your Internet Protocol, or IP address—the unique string of numbers that you are assigned each time you log on to the Internet.

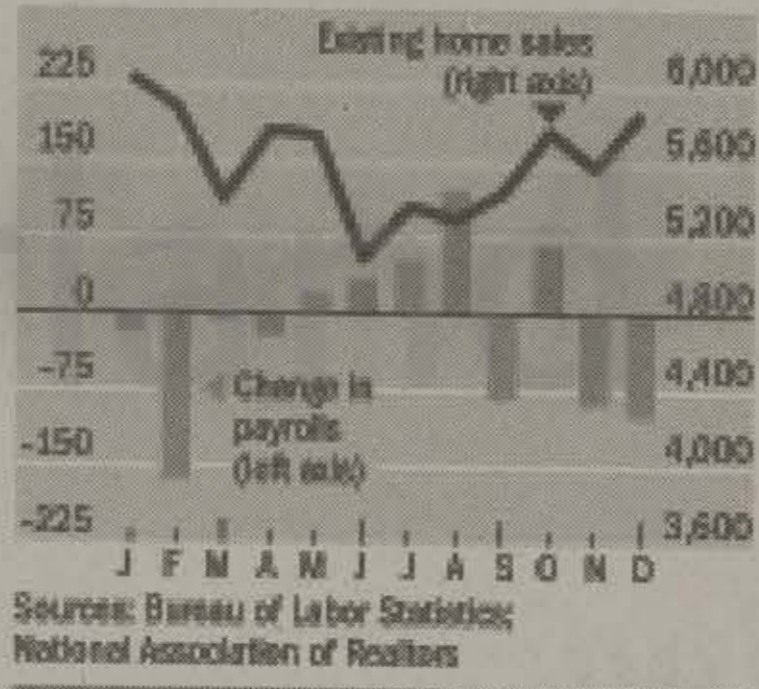
### Blue Chips Support Affirmative Action

Some four dozen blue-chip U.S. companies, citing the benefits a diverse work force provides in global markets, are supporting the University of Michigan in defending its affirmative-action programs before the Supreme Court.

The companies, including Coca-

### Shock Absorber

As the economy slowed in late 2002, the housing sector gathered strength. Monthly change in payroll employment, and existing home sales seasonally adjusted at an annual rate, both in thousands.



Cola Co., Abbott Laboratories and United Airlines, say they will file a friend-of-the-court brief in favor of the controversial admissions program. The move allies the companies with many educational and liberal groups that advocate affirmative action, and against the Bush administration, which argues that the Michigan plans are unconstitutional. The filing also highlights Mr. Bush's difficulties in navigating among various constituencies in the politically charged issue of race.

Some of the president's conservative supporters were angered that the administration didn't offer a stronger denunciation of affirmative action in coming out against the Michigan plans. But Mr. Bush also doesn't want to alienate moderate voters whose support is vital to broadening his political base. So the president applauded the value of diversity, while opposing the use of racial quotas in education, which, in fact, were outlawed by the Supreme Court in 1978.

Citing the changing global marketplace, the business brief is expected to argue that "individuals who run and staff...businesses must be able to understand, learn from, collaborate with...clientele and associates from diverse racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds." Most businesses also prefer uniform and clear rules on issues such as race as the best way to avoid legal problems.

### R.J. Reynolds Hurt by Discounts

R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Holdings Inc. swung to a loss in the fourth quarter, as the weak economy and higher cigarette taxes dented demand for the company's products. The company also forecast a sharp drop in earnings for the current quarter and the full year. Revenue for the final period of 2002 was \$1.41 billion, down 4.7% from a year earlier.

Reynolds, like other major cigarette makers, has been forced to offer discounts, coupons and special offers to compete with less-expensive brands. New makers of discount cigarettes are profiting as the economy has weakened and states have pushed up cigarette excise taxes, making smokers more inclined to switch to lower-priced brands.

### Odds & Ends

An Internet stock promoter who made \$1 million by flooding investors with so-called spam, or unsolicited commercial e-mail, that looked like stock picks from America Online was sentenced to 27 months in prison. ... United Parcel Service Inc. is looking to Asia and Europe to fuel its growth this year, calling the timing of the U.S. economic recovery "the biggest unknown."

By Jay Hershhey

How to contact us:  
Campus Edition@wsj.com

### AT COLLEGEJOURNAL.COM

- The most common resume mistakes seniors make and how to avoid them.
- How "best companies to work for" lists should fit into your job search.
- Colleges drop early admissions programs, but use "love letters" to woo their top choices.

## Who Won the Ad Super Bowl?

### Viewers, Experts Give Points to Pepsi Twist, Bud Light's 'Rasta'

By SUZANNE VRANICA

The Super Bowl's biggest winners Sunday night included a commercial for Pepsi Twist starring rock singer Ozzy Osbourne; a Bud Light spot featuring a man wearing a dog on his head; and a vicious office worker who wreaks havoc in an ad for Reebok.

In the Pepsi Twist ad, Omnicom's BBDO Worldwide, Mr. Osbourne's offspring turn into Marie and Donny Osmond. Luckily for him, Mr. Osbourne is having a nightmare. But his bad dream continues when he awakes to find his wife has turned into Florence Henderson from "The Brady Bunch."

"Pepsi Twist's ad rocked," said Tanya Quinones, a 26-year-old receptionist attending a Super Bowl party in Brooklyn, N.Y. "I have seen it three times and I am still laughing," said Alan Siegel, chief executive of SiegelGale Inc., a brand consulting firm.

Brewer Anheuser-Busch Cos., a perennial favorite with Super Bowl viewers, scored with a spot, crafted by Omnicom's DDB Worldwide, featuring a man who tries to sneak his dog into a bar. He sticks Rover on his head, creating the appearance of Rastafarian-like dreadlocks. "Cornball fun that will score big with viewers," said Carla Hall, managing partner at DiMassimo Brand Advertising Inc. in New York. "That ad was hilarious," agreed Margaret Reilly, a 56-year-old homemaker watching the game at a party in Bal Harbour, Fla.

### Office Linebacker

Reebok International Ltd. also hit the target with a bruising but funny commercial that mimics the over-the-top violence often associated with football. "Reebok's spot was harder hitting than the game," said Bill Ward, professor of advertising at Michigan State University in East Lansing. In the commercial, created



Bud Light



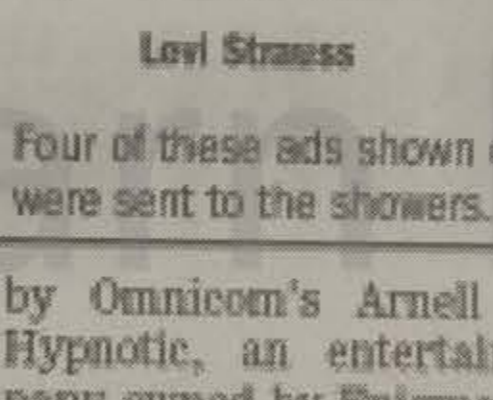
Pepsi



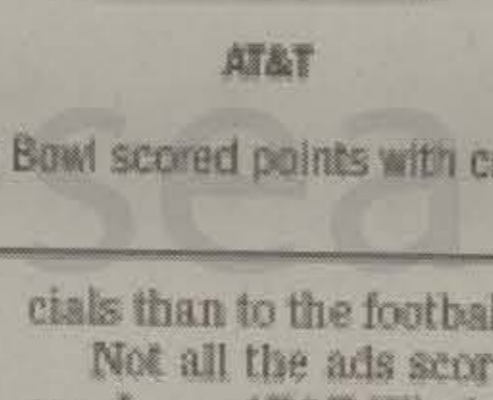
Trident



Reebok



Levi Strauss



AT&T

Four of these ads shown during the Super Bowl scored points with critics, but two were sent to the showers.

by Omnicom's Arnell Group and Hypnotic, an entertainment company owned by Enigma Media Inc., an oversize linebacker wearing a red football jersey mauls fellow office workers who are slacking on the job.

The Cinderella story of the game was Pfizer Inc.'s Trident gum ad featuring a startled dentist. "It's short, sweet, hilarious and it sells the product, all in 15 seconds," said Mark D'Arcy, creative director at WPP Group PLC's Young & Rubicam. The low-budget ad, from WPP's J. Walter Thompson, stands tall among some of Madison Avenue's most expensive work.

The lackluster economy added pressure on marketers looking for a hit with their ads. Advertisers paid on average \$2.2 million for each 30-second spot, compared with \$1.9 million a year ago. In 2000, as dot-com companies fought over ad space, many advertisers shelled out as much as \$2.5 million for 30 seconds of ad time. Nearly 90 million people watched in the U.S., with many paying closer attention to the commer-

cials than to the football game.

Not all the ads scored with viewers. In an AT&T Wireless spot, Gilligan from "Gilligan's Island" saves the day with his wireless phone. Clever? Not really, said some observers. "The ads are derivative," said Randy Saitta, executive creative director at Merkle Newman, who noted that IKEA AB used "Gilligan's Island" in a 1999 ad. AT&T Wireless's second Super Bowl spot parodied the TV series "Antiques Roadshow." Rival Sprint PCS Group used a similar spoof several years ago.

"You are in real trouble when you spend \$2.2 million on 30 seconds of TV air time and you spend most of it running old TV footage—which has nothing to do with your brand," said Michael Markowitz, who operates Markowitz & Associates, an ad-consulting firm in Santa Fe, N.M. WPP's Ogilvy & Mather created AT&T Wireless's ads.

Some spots may have overreached. Ad experts, for example, said they were confused by the Levi Strauss & Co. spot featuring a couple

who mystically part a thundering herd of bison. "There will be no stampede to those jeans," said Dave Regan, professor of advertising at Michigan State.

In the fast-food world, a spot for Quizno's Corp. didn't cut the mustard. The ad, by agency Cliff Freeman & Partners, featured a chef so engrossed in making the perfect sandwich that he forgot to put on his pants. "No pants, no punch," said Mr. Ward at Michigan State. "Quizno's wasted its money."

Other big marketers also stumbled. In an ad for PepsiCo Inc.'s Sierra Mist, two monkeys in a zoo seek refuge from the hot sun by catapulting themselves into the polar bear den to enjoy a cold swim. "B\*Trade's monkey ads were Super Bowl material but this monkey ad should be shown during 'Baywatch,'" said Mr. D'Arcy.

### Seashell Sinks

One Bud Light ad, also by DDB, was off pitch. In it a smarmy guy attempts to pick up women on the beach using a seashell. A crab then pops out and grabs him. "It was a miss," said Doug Ray, executive producer at DiMassimo.

Unlike in prior years, the dot-com ads left much to be desired. Yahoo Inc.'s Hotjobs commercial, with singing factory workers, is gloomy. Super Bowl rookie myfco.com, a Web site owned by Fair, Isaac & Co. that enables consumers to check their credit ratings, focused on business.

Brand and ad experts say most Internet concerns are trying too hard not to be associated with the Web, sacrificing qualities that made their commercials amusing. "The best thing about the dot-com boom was the advertising," Mr. D'Arcy said. "Bring back Pets.com."

Several car ads stood out. A beautifully shot commercial for General Motors Corp.'s Cadillac, set in a 1960s subway station, won praise, as did DaimlerChrysler AG's Dodge ad. In that BBDO spot, a man helps his choking buddy dislodge a piece of beef jerky by hitting the accelerator, then slamming on the brakes. "It's disgusting but hilarious," Mr. D'Arcy said.

## Retailers Join Venture In Net Music

By NICK WINGFIELD

A half-dozen major music retailers, reeling from a slowdown in CD sales, formed a company that plans to offer songs for downloading from the Internet.

Best Buy Co., Hastings Entertainment Inc., Tower Records, Trans World Entertainment Corp., Virgin Entertainment Group Inc. and Wherehouse Music Inc. said they have founded Echo Inc., a consortium developing a service that will let each of the retailers distribute music on the Internet under their respective brand names. Echo will immediately seek to negotiate music licenses from record labels, said the company's chief executive, Dan Hart.

The consortium represents an effort to answer the explosion of music piracy through Internet file-sharing services and compact-disc copying that retailers and music companies blame for an estimated 9% drop in CD sales last year. Retailers also are seeing competition from the major record companies that release most popular music, which have formed separate ventures, MusicNet and pressplay, for downloading music.

In forming their own consortium, the retailers are effectively betting that they can get better terms by collectively licensing music from recording companies, rather than cutting deals individually with the labels.

"It's clear that retail stores are threatened by digital distribution," says P.J. McNealy, a digital-media analyst at research firm Gartner Inc. The idea behind the consortium "may be there's strength in numbers."

Echo will need to license music from the recording companies, a process likely to take months. Once they begin offering music to consumers for a fee, Echo must still compete against free Internet services like KaZaA and Morpheus.

Echo's predecessor, Echo Networks Inc., folded last year, when it decided it couldn't obtain music licenses on favorable enough terms to support a business. Mr. Hart says he believes the new Echo can be more successful by piggybacking on the existing marketing muscle of retailers.

Pushing their own Internet services may not help retailers build more foot-traffic in stores. But Tower Records, for one, hopes to have its cake and eat it, too, by making the Echo service available at kiosks in its retail locations.

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\*At the MD Invitational

\*\* At the Terrapin Invitational

## Jozen's Jargon



### Rappers Wanted Dead and Alive

By Jozen Cummings  
Life and Style Editor

"The music is dying," I told myself after hearing the news of the brutal slaying of rappers Jay-Z and 50 Cent in a hotel lobby in Los Angeles on Monday at 1:30 a.m.

As he made the announcement, I heard the pain in DJ Big Daddy's voice on 93.9 WKYS FM, and I began to mourn the loss of two hip-hop icons.

Between the sounds of a grown man crying and Jay-Z's "Song Cry," I didn't suspect the news could be a rumor. This was a serious situation — serious enough to suspend the smooth R&B format of 93.9's "Chocolate City Soul," so it had to be true. Big Daddy had even confirmed the report on CNN.com, one of the most respected and credible media sources.

As I began to call my family in California to find out what they knew, and receive phone calls from my friends, the rumor that it was all a rumor began to circulate. I also began to do some fact checking of my own. But every channel I turned to came up negative.

BET, nothing.  
MTV, nothing.  
VH1, nothing.  
CNN, nothing

At this point, I even began to believe this was another hoax. My last resort was VH1.com/news, one of the very first sites that reported the Jam Master Jay murder back on October 30.

Once again, nothing.

"No way," I said to myself. For an hour I had been distraught with the thought of losing a hip-hop legend, and a legend in the making. The music of my generation had been through so much in less than a decade that the thought of another sad episode was just too much to bear.

But then, after over an hour of imagining what the state of hip-hop would be without these two artists, the truth emerged.

Jay-Z and 50 Cent were alive.

Apparently, someone had hacked into the CNN.com website and played a practical joke on the music industry and its fans.

I, like so many others, had been had by someone who just wanted to have some fun. Not only that, but my favorite radio station had done absolutely no independent research to verify the information they were reporting to its listeners.

The tears I cried had been wasted, and I had sacrificed valuable sleep in vain.

Relief was the last thing I felt. I was upset.

Just a minute ago I

See RAPPERS B3

## The Real Black Bikers

By Corey Cunningham  
Contributing Writer

The Jaguars, the Black Falcons, the Pythons, the Transit Wheelers, the Imperials, the Scorpions, the Harlem Riders, the United Roadrunners, and the Uptown Riders; names of fantasy football leagues right?

Wrong!

These are really high-octane social clubs, whose members are black and ride flashy Ninja sport bikes in cities like New York and DC.

Prepare to enter the world of black bikers.

The world of black bikers is a strong mixture of the customs and trappings of traditional biker culture. They borrow the white biker style of the heavily embroidered leather jackets, the thick male camaraderie, and the bike as manifestation of the ego. However these bikers also bring in their rituals and pastimes of the "urban biker"

Such events including springtime bike blessings, the trophy parties, and the clubhouse socials tend to set black bikers apart from the norm.

breed of bike."

That breed of bike is the famous Ninja.

Unlike the bulky metallic hogs of Harley Davidson, the Ninjas are sleek sport-like machines that can easily zoom down crowded urban streets.

"You gotta love the sleekness of the Ninjas," Sanders, 33, said, "they've got curves, colors, and they can really cut through traffic."

Sanders is a member of a Washington DC biker club. He and his fellow members can be seen and heard racing into the McDonalds parking lot on Georgia Avenue.

He describes his crew as a group of individuals with very different lives but one favorite pastime.

"Some of us are family men like myself; I have two kids and a wife. Some are single and some are in between." Sanders said, "You also got men who come from white collar corporate jobs as well as garbage men, teachers, and store owners. Once we are on our bikes its like we are all from one mold of people."

Echoing Sanders, Jeremy Phillips also a biker said, "We

"Girls love the bikes. I get like thirty request a night from girls who want to ride on the back," Phillips said, "I don't know what it is but no matter where we ride there is always a girl who is dressed like she is in a Jay-Z video wanting to jump on."

Even in the 70's movies biker chicks were featured as the racy side kicks of the bikers. Their job was to look pretty, start the races, and ride on behind their man.

But then came the 90's, and women began to break free from their place on the biker totem pole. Now many women ride just as hard as their male counterparts.

"I love my bike because it gives me a sense of power," Aja Brown, a 25-year-old real estate agent says. "I roll just as hard as the fellows, and sometimes harder."

Donning the leather motorcycle jackets, heavy helmets, and gloves many women bikers have either joined clubs or started their own clubs.

"I am in a small women's club," Brown said, "We ride with another male club, but we also do our own thing. We go to bike shows and rallies."

Black biker rallies began as a spinoff of black festivals such as Black Greekfest and Black College weekend. During these rallies, bikers show off their skills and their bikes.

"Its kind of like spring break mixed with bikes," Sanders said, "Girls are lined up on the streets, bikes scream down the street, and music is blasting."

One of these rallies is the "Black Bikers Weekend" held in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

"Black Biker Weekend started as just biker weekend. Both blacks and whites used to come down to show off their bikes," Jackie McGill, Myrtle Beach resident said, "But over time blacks started to come down a week later than the whites, until it became two



"When most people think of biker clubs or gangs they tend to think of organizations like Hell's Angels," Rodney Sanders, a black biker of DC stated. "They think of the Harley Davidson, but that's just not the style of a black biker. We prefer a different

all got two things in common, we like bikes and girls."

The urban biker chick is usually thought of as some girl scantily clad in short shorts and a sports bra riding on the back of a cycle. Like the videos that they are portrayed in some of these biker chicks fit the mold.

## Biker's Catch Wreck

By Chris Lecky  
Contributing Writer

Grade: C+

Bikes, babes, brews and a whole lot of testosterone can only begin to sum up "Biker Boyz," the first major studio feature directed by Reggie Rock Bythewood.

The film which stars Laurence Fishburne ("The Matrix"), and newcomer Derek Luke, ("Antwone Fisher") gives us a glimpse into the world of underground motorcycle street racing, while simultaneously showing the coming of age of a rider named Kid (played by Luke).

The film which takes place in southern California, depicts the trials and tribulations of a teenager trying to build credibility amongst his biker peers, as well as deal with the recent loss of his father. Kid is faced with many obstacles and set backs, which he must conquer to achieve his goal of becoming the "King of Cali."

Biker Boyz is an action packed movie similar to 2001's "Fast and the Furious," but with it's own urban twist. This film doesn't cater to the avid moviegoer looking for an intricate plot, but more so for the fast paced adrenaline junky. At times the plot seems to take extreme unexpected twists, but the race scenes, and jaw dropping stunts more than make up for it. If

that's not enough, the all-star cast may be just enough to lure you in. In addition to Fishburne and Luke, Larenz Tate, Lisa Bonet, Tyson Beckford, Vanessa Bell Calloway, Salli Richardson-Whitfield, Orlando Jones, and Kadeem Hardison all play supporting roles in the movie.

Biker Boyz is tailored towards the street-racing crowd, and if you are not caught up in all of the bikes, and racing really isn't your thing then there is not much to see. With the exception of a few incredible stunts this film is the equivalent of standing outside of the Howard University McDonalds on any Saturday night. Ninety percent of the film takes place on a motorcycle and all meaningful dialogue is few and far between. The storyline was not at all impressive, and all of the urban clichés were actually kind of insulting.

One of the few high points of this film was the acting of Derek Luke who also received critical acclaim for his role in "Antwone Fisher." Luke is a rising star to look out for and will also star in "Pieces of April" directed by Peter Hedges. The lackluster script of "Biker Boyz" was not enough to hide Luke's talent, and he was still able to solidify his place in the action genre.

With the rising prices of movie tickets "Biker Boyz" is not a must see film. However if you are an action junky, and you have nothing better to do you might consider checking it out.

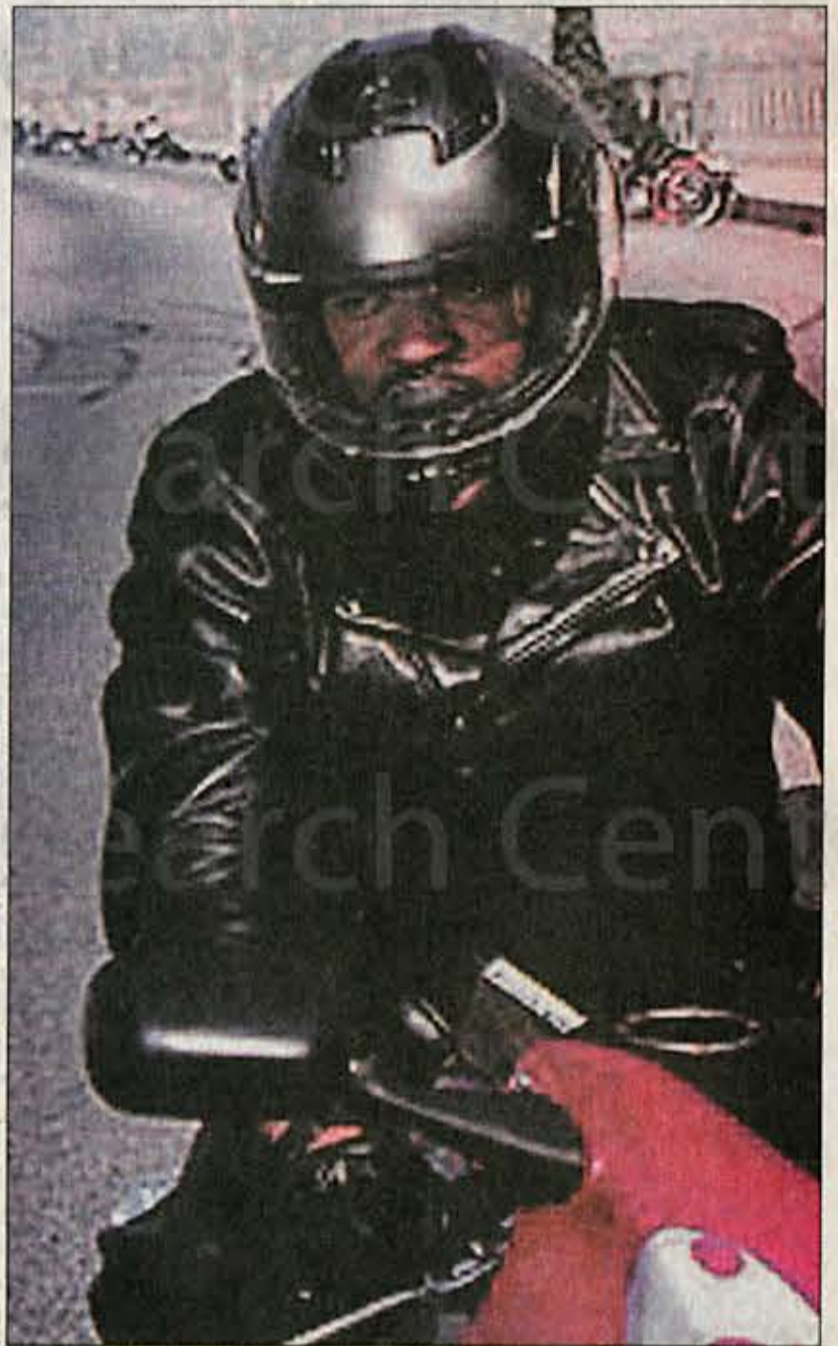


Photo Courtesy of oildog.com

Motorcycle culture has grown to be a popular lifestyle amongst African Americans. The clubs have branched out to include men and women.

weekends."

During the weekend the strip known as ocean drive serves as a Mecca for black bikers from across the world.

"We have people from all parts of the world come here during this weekend," Jon Richardson, assistant director of tourism for Myrtle Beach said. "They all come rolling in on late Thursday or early Friday looking for the party."

The "party" is usually on the streets and the beach. Bikers literally block off streets to hold races and rallies. They also hold contest such as strip teases, wet t-shirt contest, and drink till you drop.

"Its kind of like being in

Cancun during spring break, or Daytona during Black College week," Bernard Bell, a senior at UDC said. "I have been taking my bike down with my dad for as long as I can remember."

While the world of bikers has long been one of little knowledge movies like, "The Fast and The Furious," and soon to be released Biker Boys, seek to bring the world of Urban motorist to the mainstream.

"We've been on the down low for too long. It's about time that people got a look into our world," says Sanders.



Photo courtesy of www.finaldestination2.com.

(l to r) A.J. Cook, Michael Landes and Ali Larter star in Final Destination 2.

## "Final Destination 2" A Solid Sequel

By Terez A. Paylor  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Grade: B+

"Final Destination 2," the sequel to the surprise 2000 blockbuster, starts with Kimberly (A.J. Cook) and a group of her friends driving along the highway towards Daytona Beach. All of a sudden, Kim has a premonition that ended up saving her and eight others from an absolutely huge car wreck. Though they think they've escaped death,

death's not quite done with them because hey, when it's your time to go, it's your time to go, right? Sound familiar?

Well, if you saw the first "Final Destination," than it most definitely is.

Clear Rivers (Ali Larter) returns as the sole survivor from the first film, and she has voluntarily locked herself up in a mental hospital to protect herself from her impending doom. But after Kimberly starts seeing history repeat itself and death come after herself and the eight survivors, she manages to convince Clear to help save them all from

what seems to be their impending doom.

Tony Todd (aka "Candyman") returns from the first film, and Michael Landes plays a state trooper who helps in Kimberly and Clear's efforts to prevent death.

The whole premise of this movie is death cannot be denied. While the whole concept of death stalking its victims is fairly new, you've seen this all before if you've seen the first film. But if didn't see it, you will like its originality. Unlike other horror films,

See DESTINATION B3



# SPORTS

## A Word From Our Sponsors



By Bernard 'Poet' Murray  
Sports Editor

Super Bowl XXXVII could have been one of the greatest displays of football, period. The debate will continue: is a number one offense better than a number one defense? History has shown us that offense sells tickets, but defense wins games. If you don't believe it, check the stats. The number one defenses of the '72 Steelers, the '85 Bears, the '01 Ravens and newly added, the '03 Buccaneers are prime examples.

I am a marketing major. To tell the truth, the Super Bowl commercials took precedence over the game. Call me backwards, but I watched the commercials more closely than my friends watched the game.

I made quick trips to the kitchen or bathroom during the game because if I blinked I could have easily missed one of the greatest commercials of Super Bowl XXXVII.

This year didn't boast the greatest batch of commercials, however, nothing can get as bad as the dot com ads of Super Bowl XXXIV.

The quality Advertising companies were those commercials that had the feel of a seasoned Super Bowl veteran; and then there were those that were still wet behind the ears.

Media sources from ESPN in Good Morning America took commercials as serious as the game. Can you blame them?

USA Today is the official source for rating each commercial since Super Bowl XXIV. They conduct a focus group, the Ad Meter, which is comprised of 108 volunteers linked electronically. These viewers critique each commercial as they're aired and give their second-to-second reaction.

The commercials are ranked on a scale from five to nine, five being the lowest and nine being the highest.

Not surprising, the Ad Meter ranked Anheuser-Busch, distributors of Budweiser and Bud Light, the most popular ad of the Super Bowl. To add insult to injury, Anheuser-Busch ranked six of their eleven in the top ten.

At \$2.1 million a pop, the Anheuser-Busch company spent roughly \$23.1 million to ensure the top finishes. All of the Anheuser-Busch finished in the top 21.

Anheuser-Busch has been the only company to hold the number-one position for five consecutive years, since Super Bowl XXXIII. Pepsi was the first company to claim this distinct honor.

Anheuser-Busch can truly get the title of being the King of Beers and the Super Bowl.

I was pleased with the creativity the companies exhibited this year. Anheuser-Busch is still going strong marketing their Clydesdales. This year feature of the Clydesdales' football game was taken to a whole new level.

Keeping with the current situation of playoff officiating, the game was paused while a zebra reviews a questionable call from

See SPONSORS B3

## Bison Come Out Strong for Penn State Meet

By Soraya McDonald  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Cornell, Rutgers, Syracuse. These may not sound like names Howard is usually associated with, but on January 18, the Bison women's track team held their own against some of the top schools in the country.

The team exceeded expectations at the United States Coaches Association Series Indoor Track Meet at Pennsylvania State University.

"It was a good show and it opened a lot of people's eyes," head coach Michael Merritt said.

The women finished seventh out of the eleven schools that were competing.

Howard outperformed St. Joseph's University, La Salle University, St. Francis University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Maryland at Eastern Shore. Penn State dominated the meet finishing first overall with both men's and women's.

Sophomore Erica Day finished in first place out of twenty-four in the women's 400-meter dash, an event she does not consider to be her best. In a time of 55.50 seconds, she surprised herself.

"I think I ran really fast 'cause I was scared. I didn't realize I was going that fast until I crossed the finish line and everybody was cheering and acting crazy on the sidelines," Day said.

Day said she feels most comfortable running the 200-meter dash, which she did not

compete in, but her teammates still represented for her. Junior Phakiso Collins and freshman LaClaire Carter finished third and fourth, respectively, out of 33 competitors, in the 200-meter dash.

"I'm proud of myself and I'm happy. I'm excited to run in the MEAC now," Day said, referring to the upcoming Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Championship meet that will be held February 22-23 in Landover, Md.

Day, along with teammates Collins, Ramsi Bethany, Jodi Reid and Amanda Franklin are eagerly awaiting the sweet taste of victory as they train for the MEAC Championships, as well as meets prior.

If Day can shave her time from 55.50 seconds to 54.00, she will qualify to compete in the NCAA Championships.

"I don't know how I feel about that," she said. "If I do it, I do it. If I, I don't. It's ok. But I'm not going to hold myself back. I'm going to give what I've got."

Currently, she ranks number one in the east Division 1-AA track and field according to "Eastern Track Magazine."

Not to be upstaged, the men's track team found success as well.

Despite finishing in ninth place at Penn State, junior and Denver native David Oliver finished in first place in the men's 60-meter hurdles with a time of 8.09 seconds.

Oliver said he was expecting to do well in the meet.

"Every time I run I'm expecting to win." He also said that he had not really prepared himself for this meet or upcoming meets due to a groin injury and that does not allow him to do much running until the day of competitions.

When prompted about the level of competition he will be facing at the Penn State Invitational held today and tomorrow, Oliver simply shrugged.

"When I go to a meet I don't really care who you are or where you're from, I'm expecting to go out there and do my best. It's going to come down to who wants it more."

Oliver is also expected to perform well in the MEAC Championships.

Tariq Mix, Vashon Flood-Ray, David Oliver, Lance Gross, and Taj Alvaranga all qualified to compete in the MEAC championships.

Alvaranga finished fourth out of twenty-five in the Men's 400-meter dash while Gross finished second in the men's long jump event.

However, the Bison men's roster for the championships will be even longer since Leon Snyder, Jeremy Hardy, Dennis Washington, and Gerald Bright all qualified while running in the University of Maryland Invitational against the likes of Georgetown University and the University of Miami.

The track team will again head to Penn State on January 31st and February 1st. Competing at Pennsylvania



File Photo

Phakiso Collins and members of the Bison Track team look to runaway with conference title this season.

this time will be bigger schools.

"It's a high-power meet. Our young group will get a chance to rub elbows with the very best," Merritt said.

However, you will not see any intimidation in their eyes. Their successes at the last Penn State meet and the Terrapin Invitational have shown them the challenges and the heights they are capable of scaling.

"They're tough," said Merritt, "and they've learned now that they can compete against anybody in the country."

Merritt, who went to Mount Saint Mary's College, said he tells his athletes the same thing he told himself when he ran track in college, "to dare is to do and to fear is to fail."

## Comp Tickets Not Free for Late Students

By Bernard 'Poet' Murray  
Sports Editor

"Students need to stay informed," Blake Carlton, a mechanical engineer from Atlanta Georgia, said.

Carlton is not referring to the tuition increase or even the proposed housing agreement for next year. He's talking about the ticket dilemma for the basketball and football games.

Carlton, in conjunction with several other students, makes up the well-known "Section 8 Mob." Started in 1998, the "Section 8 Mob" has been the coined the official prep squad responsible for getting the crowd hyped during Bison football and basketball season. In the '98 and '99 seasons, the Bison only won two games in the combined years.

"We still held it down even though the team didn't win. We were still crunk," Carlton said.

The problem was raised when students have to pay \$6 for a home basketball game. Some students believe that their Student Activity Fee pays for athletic events, but William Keene, Special Assistant to the Vice Provost for Student Affairs, indicates that such is not the case.

"With a gymnasium seating fewer than 3,000 and a student body of 10,000, it is clear that every student is not 'paying' for a game ticket through their fees or tuition," Keene said. "The same is true for a free student event in Cramton. It has only about 1,500 seats. The number of free student tickets is limited and they are complimentary."

Elizabeth Grant, Ticketmaster Box Office



Photo by Maya Gilliam.

Students are forced to purchase tickets when complimentary tickets are unavailable.

Coordinator, said, "Regardless of attendance, Howard still has the same costs, same staff. The only extra may be increased security for homecoming."

Georgetown and Maryland make money off their students by having them pay for basketball and football games. During the basketball season, Georgetown and Maryland sell their men's and women's tickets separately due to the teams demanding schedules. Both their home tickets usually range from \$5 to \$20 depending on who and where they play.

Seating is another factor when computing ticket sales. Howard University lacks the resources and popularity to

build the facilities seen at Georgetown and Maryland.

The tickets are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Free tickets are set-aside for students, athletes and the visiting team. Of the 10,500 seats in Greene Stadium and 2,800 seats in Burr Gymnasium, more than 52 percent and 58 percent are reserved for students, respectively. This percentage does not include the band, cheerleaders, etc.

Keene said, "At the recent Wednesday game against Norfolk State, essentially every ticket was distributed on the normally scheduled date - the day prior to the game, in effect, were sold-out. Students are informed of the distribution

schedule personally via their Howard email and by an ad in each Friday's Hilltop."

Keene also points out that the University's current "Strategic Framework for Action II" includes a 10,000-seat arena for basketball and other events.

Mr. Keene explanation of Howard selling out the Norfolk game only refers to student tickets and not tickets sold. Students who were unable to pick up their tickets at the Cramton Box Office had to pay for tickets.

Keene said, "The sale of tickets varies from game to game. This past football season, for example, ticket sales revenue ranged from about

\$4,900 to \$65,800 [for Homecoming]. Basketball ticket sales are substantially smaller."

Even when Howard sells tickets to registered student, Howard "loses money on the games," said Ms. Grant, "We don't even break even because not all games are well attended. Homecoming bails us out. The Howard-Hampton game is also sold out because it's Hampton."

When it comes to a lack of attendance, Carlton blames Howard. "Howard's marketing scheme and advertising is not on the level it should be. It doesn't draw people out to the games," Carlton said.

Students may not be happy with the current ticket availability, but, like it or not, Howard has to follow the NCAA. The NCAA sets the number of tickets that should be allocated for student-athletes' guests. The MEAC also has its own rules. For conference games 100 tickets, or 4 percent, are for the visiting team as part of the double-header.

The question still remains whether the administration is at fault for not informing the student body, or whether it is the job of the students to know the policies and procedures in place at Howard.

"People don't read the fine print. Anybody could understand the decisions if they were explained to the students. We feel cheated," said Carlton.

Keene added, "We're ecstatic when students come out to support our teams, but it's only logical that 10,000 students can't sit in less than 3,000 seats."

# NEWS

## RAPPERS from B1

didn't want to believe it was true, and now that it wasn't, I still had a bad taste in my mouth. It was almost like I wanted to renege on my wish and turn the lie back into the truth. I didn't want to be duped. My emotions had been manipulated by a DJ who disseminated valuable information on a gut feeling.

After he admitted to being

a conduit of such a tragic rumor, Big Daddy cut to a commercial break. While pitches for used cars and dating services flooded the airwaves, I yelled all the obscenities I could think of at my radio.

I had a blunt object in my hand, ready to throw at my speakers in anger and frustration. Then the DJ came back from the commercial break...and apologized again.

My arm cocked back, ready to throw. But then, as 50 Cent began to spit "Go shorty / it's your birthday / go shorty / it's your birthday" on his latest single "In Da Club," I put away the object, and my frustration.

The power of his music, and the reality that I hadn't heard the last of him or Jay-Z, made me sleep at ease for the rest of the night.

The music was still alive.

## SPONSORS from B2

the replay booth.

Gatorade never disappoints and they showed why they had such a successful franchise with Michael Jordan. Jordan showed he still has selling power, even on the brink of retirement. He faced off against his rookie year counterpart for bragging rights.

There were commercials that were drop dead hilarious, too good for a quick laugh to just plain dull.

It was hard to categorize the White House sponsored Office of

National Drug Control Policy. The commercials didn't seem to fit the whole super bowl theme.

They were rather disturbing. Through all the laughing and excitement, the government still finds a way to remind you that if you do drugs you promote terrorism.

What these days doesn't support terrorism. I hope the super bowl isn't added to that list.

Reebok's Office Linebacker was the hardest hitting commercial of the super bowl, pun intended.

"DAMN!!!"

That was the collective response in the house as we watched Terry Tate, Reebok's newest endorsement, go around the office hitting the mess out of co-workers.

The game was pretty much out of reach for the Raiders and that commercial put life into any downed Raider Fan.

Maybe, it that commercial was aired on the field the Raiders could have pulled off a come back.

Then again, maybe not.

## DESTINATION from B1

"Final Destination 2" uses the supernatural idea of death as the killer, instead of an ax wielding madman or a psychotic chainsaw killer. That, in essence, is a refreshing change of pace from your typical horror flick.

The plot of this movie is not very deep. However, it really doesn't need to be. This film's mix of tension, horror and eventual death is a definite recipe for success. As twisted

as it seems, moviegoers will be on the edge of their seats waiting to see how each person will die.

There are moments that you think a character is about to die, only to have them live. Those moments are somewhat common, but when a character dies, they die. This film can be intensely gory at times, and that adds a certain flavor to the movie as a whole. If you have a queasy stomach, be ready to close your eyes.

The bottom line is this is

definitely a fast-paced, entertaining movie. If you didn't see the original, this could be a morbidly funny, interesting thrill ride. If you saw the first movie and you liked it, chances are you'll like this one as well. Just be ready to deal with the an hour and a half extension to the original "Final Destination." The main difference is the plot twist and heavier doses of gore and violence. People are getting brutally decapitated in ways you'd never imagine.

## Howard Plaza Towers Black History Month Program

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**Two Testing Times**

**Doors will close at  
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**Method: Oral Sure**

**NO NEEDLES**

**VERY CONFIDENTIAL PROCEDURE**

**Location:**

**Community Room - West Towers**

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**by Margaret Edson  
Directed by Mark Jolin**

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January 29 - February 1, 2003 at 7:30PM  
February 5 - 8, 2003 at 7:30PM  
January 31, 2003 at 9:30AM  
February 8, 2003 at 2:30PM

**General Admission: \$12.50  
Students & Senior Citizens: \$7.50  
(except Sat. Eve)**

**For More Information: (202) 806-5462**

# EDITORIALS



## Don't Let Black History Month Pass You By

January has almost come to an end and the year 2003 is off and running. Preparations are now being made all over the nation for observance of Black History Month. While it is likely that elementary school students will be putting on plays acting out past moments such as Rosa Park's history-making bus ride, and high school students will be traveling to museums such as Baltimore's Black Wax Museum, the question arises - What will YOU be doing?

As college students, and more importantly, as students whose college experience here at Howard University rests on the very premise of Black History, (how can one speak of the history of Black academia without referencing Howard?) we should take advantage of this time as a time to really explore the history of our race.

We so often lose sight of the importance of this month and we simply let it come and go without recognition. Starting tomorrow, change this trend and make Black History Month mean something to you.

**Our View:**  
*We should all do something significant in February to observe Black History Month.*

Many people believe that since the study of Black history is a norm here at Howard, it is unnecessary to give credence to a month - the shortest month at that - that is set aside for Black history. Though it is true that Black history is a typical part of our education here at the Mecca, as it should be, it is important that we go

beyond the walls of our classrooms and lecture halls to further our experience.

In February, motivate yourself to get up and do something. Go to a museum and learn something you never knew, volunteer to help put on a Black history program at a local school, or even do something innovative here at Howard to celebrate and commemorate. Better yet, compel yourself to learn about the great figures of Black history that some of the buildings you enter everyday are named

after. What can we say about C.B. Powell, Alain Locke, and Lewis K. Downing? If we can't say much about these people, this coming month is the perfect time to learn. Perhaps if we do this, it will be a precursor to a year long celebration of the achievement and contributions of our race.

**Our View:**  
*It is good that Al Sharpton is running because he will bring Black issues to the forefront in the presidential election.*

## Al Sharpton for President?

Now that it has become clear that black activist and minister, Rev. Al Sharpton, plans to run for president of the United States in 2004, many African-Americans are uncertain as to whether we should be supportive, or whether we should just laugh. It is true that Al Sharpton essentially lacks legitimacy within the political system.

He has been a strong voice in the African American community, but his role, thus far been solely as a politically and socially conscious clergyman, comical as he may be. Many Democrats see his candidacy as a joke, but, as African-Americans, we must admit it is nice to see

a black man running for president.

Now whether or not we think he should actually be president is another matter altogether.

Sharpton's candidacy would not be our ideal choice for the nation's first black president, and it is unlikely that he will win anyway. However, it is important to realize that as a candidate, Al Sharpton brings black issues to the forefront. It will force other candidates to look at the issues that affect us in order to obtain the votes of Sharpton's supporters.

Knowing that a black man is involved in the race will get people more interested in politics, rather than feeling as if what is

going on does not affect us. Wouldn't you be more likely to turn on the news if you knew that Sharpton was involved in a debate?

Okay, so Al Sharpton would not be our ideal choice for the nation's first black president, and it is unlikely that he will win anyway. However, it is important to realize that as a candidate, Al Sharpton brings black issues to the forefront. It will force other candidates to look at the issues that affect us in order to obtain the votes of Sharpton's supporters.

Even if his role in the presidential race is only to be a spokesperson for Black America, he will have done enough.

## THE HILLTOP

The Student Voice of Howard University Since 1924

LAUREN BAYNE ANDERSON, Editor-in-Chief

JOSEF SAWYER,  
Managing Editor

AISHA CHANEY,  
Managing Editor

CASSAUNDR A CUMBESS, Editorial & Perspectives Editor

## Bush Misses the Mark

Tuesday evening, Howard University students watched along with the rest of the nation as President Bush delivered his State of the Union Address. Though the president touched on important issues such as AIDS in Africa, Medicare, education, and even the use of hydrogen-powered cars, his overall attention was given to his primary pursuit - the pending war on Iraq.

It was almost immediately evident that President Bush was telling the people what they wanted to hear. He strategically discussed the aforementioned issues that the American public is concerned with, then devoted the large latter portion of his speech as an attempt to subtly convince us that the war on Iraq is necessary. He may have

thought it a smart move to leave America with thoughts of justification for war. However, his entire speech seemed somewhat of a contradiction. Bush went from support of Medicare and helping

**Our View:**  
*President Bush's speech was a poor attempt to raise his approval rating among the American public.*

the AIDS epidemic to a cleverly covert war cry. It is a known fact that if the United States goes to war, that is where our tax dollars will be going. How can you use money for domestic concerns when you are funding a foreign war? In other words, it seems that President Bush's advoca-

cy of issues that concern the Democratic party, of which the bulk of his opposition belongs, was a pale attempt to raise his approval rating. However, his monotonous delivery and lack of charisma did not quite reach the goal. Most likely, those that opposed the war before the State of the Union Address still oppose the war, and those that supported the war still support it.

We have a message for President Bush: Sorry, but we were not moved by your words. And maybe next time you try to rally the support of the American people by prefacing your war cry with promises of helping those in need, make sure you have a budget prepared to illustrate how in the world this can be done while funding a war.

## THE HILLTOP

The Nation's Largest Black Collegiate Newspaper

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Now in its 78th year, The Hilltop is published every Tuesday and Friday by Howard University students. With a readership of more than 10,000, The Hilltop is the largest Black collegiate newspaper in the nation.

The opinions expressed on the Editorial Page are the views of The Hilltop Editorial Board and do not directly reflect the opinion of Howard University, its Administration, individual Policy Board members or the student body.

The opinions expressed on the Perspectives Page are those of the authors and do not represent the views of the Hilltop Policy Board.

The Hilltop encourages its readers to share their opinions with the newspaper through letters to The Editor. All letters should include a complete address and telephone number.

Please send letters to: The Hilltop, 2251 Sherman Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001. The Hilltop can also be reached via email at TheHilltop@hotmail.com. The office phone number is (202)806-6866.

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

# PERSPECTIVES

## Ripping, Burning, and Bootlegging: The Embezzlement of Modern Music

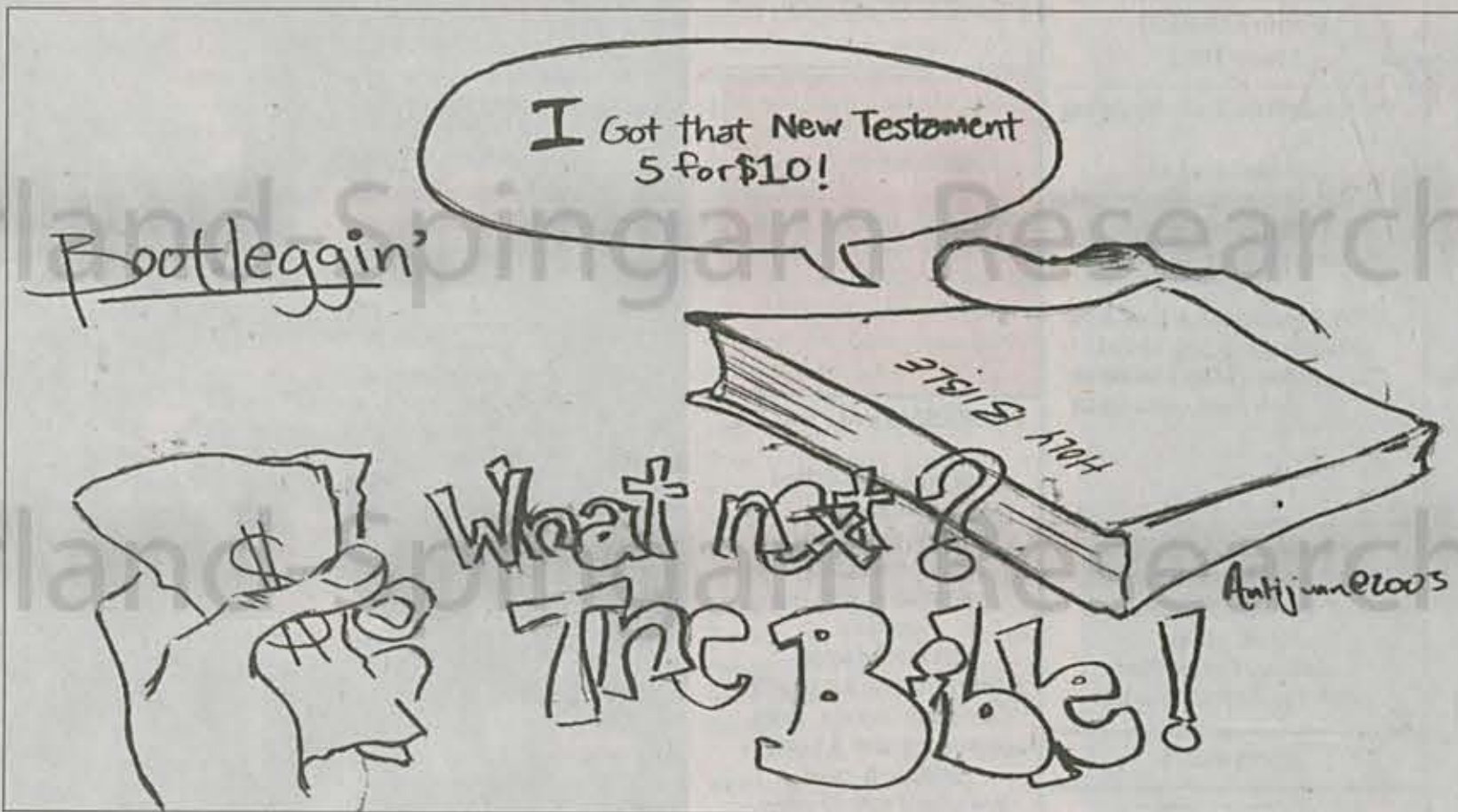
By Shaka Shaw

Imagine this: you're an artist working on your latest release. You spend up to six months in the studio; long, sleepless nights sustained only by greasy fast food products and bad coffee. You get the run-around trying to schedule your guest artists and producers, but eventually, you get it done. Then, depending on your relationship with your label, you have to run the album by the execs; then make changes according to their opinions and assumed expertise.

Once all of the tracks are laid down and the album is ready to be released, you think that you might get a little bit of R&R, but no... you still have a promotional tour, radio spots, and all kinds of interviews to go through before you can even think about a break. The aforementioned tasks constitute about a year's work — not the type of work that most people have the good fortune of complaining about, but work, nonetheless.

Now imagine going through all of this and then realizing, suddenly, that somewhere, some teenager is downloading your year's-worth-of-work, free of charge, in all of three minutes.

Given this scenario and with any sense of logic, the average music fan can sympathize with the likes of Dr. Dre and Metallica, who have taken



legal action against Napster, the Internet giant that has profited from the sharing of music between its users. Other artists like Xzibit have taken different forms of action to show their distaste for the company (Xzibit performed at an MTV event wearing a black T-shirt with "F\*\*\* NAPSTER" emblazoned across the front in bold, white letters).

Though Napster was ordered to shut down its operation in court, appeals are in progress. Napster spawned a crop of similar web services,

some of which are not centered around a company and, consequently, are nearly invulnerable to legal obligation.

The downloading of music from the Internet is somewhat comparable to the much older practice of street bootlegging. Bootleg CDs can be found in all types of places from the sidewalks of a New York borough to the campus of Howard University. At Howard, it is all too easy to obtain a \$5-\$10 full-length CD of your favorite artist, complete with a color-photocopied cover and crisp

quality.

The convenience and low cost are such that many music fans neglect to consider the moral issue...that little voice that's telling them that the artist is not receiving any compensation for the CD that they love so much. Street vendors of bootleg tapes and CDs are often hampered by police efforts, but it is still a fairly lucrative line of work.

Some might argue that artists with such bloated salaries as Dr. Dre and Metallica are driven by greed

and that their concern about the practices of Napster and similar services are unwarranted. The same critics would probably argue that "real" musicians would not care so much about the financial end of making music.

Many artists profess that they do music strictly for "the love" or the respect of their peers, but for many, music is seen as a means in which to make a profit. Recognition and respect fail to pay the rent, as many artists could tell you. An increasing number of artists

also have families, or at least offspring, to support and it is understandable that such artists are offended by those who rip off their music.

It's not just the bootleggers that are part of the problem. Over the last several years, technology has been made available that would allow someone to duplicate, or "burn," CDs. Sometimes, an original copy is not even necessary. All one must do is find the music online.

Though this is done normally for self-gain, it is still potentially harmful to the future of the music industry. Many of these people are either too lazy to go out and buy the CD, or too thrifty to shell out the measly \$15-\$20 for the music that they want to hear, professionally packaged and free of error.

If it becomes increasingly difficult for artists to reap their just profits from their work, what would be their incentive to continue with their work? Would the respect and admiration of their fans keep them in the studio? Yeah, right. And if respect and admiration constitutes stealing music from your favorite artist, then it is time that we take a look at our value system.

The practice of burning, ripping, and bootlegging is slowly killing the music industry, let alone exposing the paltry levels of consumer decency and integrity.

## Getting the Facts Right About Israel

By Michael Twitty

I am a former student returning in the College of Arts and Sciences, in the Department of Afro-American Studies. I am an African American Jew. Israel is my spiritual and cultural homeland.

I would like to respond to the article entitled, "The State of Israel," by Bilal Iddin. First, I would like to counter Mr. Iddin's notion that the Jews of today's Israel are merely white, Ashkenazim Jews from Central and Eastern Europe. The synagogue I attend is a Sephardic synagogue. We Sephardim — Jews from the Middle East, Mediterranean basin and North Africa — represent about 60 percent of the population of Israel. We are people of color.

Along with the Beta Israel (Ethiopian Jews), Mizrahim (Jews from Arab countries east of the Mediterranean and Central Asia), we are the majority of the victims of terrorism in Israel. We are also the historical victims of Arab-led expulsions and massacres dating from medieval times.

The myth that Israel is a white oasis in the brown Middle East is a racist myth in and of itself, and an insult to thousands of Jews who are "brown," "yellow, and "Black," like ME.

We Sephardim, Mizrahim and Beta Israel, were THE MAJORITY of Jews in the world until the era of the Spanish Inquisition. Only after that period did Ashkenazim gain demographic prominence in the Jewish world. And by the way, Jews never left the land of Israel completely. In fact, the classic work of Jewish law, the Talmud Yerushalmi, was codified in Israel between the Roman occupation and the aftermath of Empire.

The present "Palestinians" are not the descendants of the ancient Canaanites. If anyone is descended from these people, it was the Israelite population of ancient times who according to Biblical archaeologists absorbed much of the Canaanite population after struggles over the land.

The idea of "Palestinians," being indigenous barren and sparsely populated until the late nineteenth century when Diaspora Jews began to settle

much of the land which suffered from centuries of decertification. "Palestinian" Arabs are largely Arabs from nearby states that immigrated into what would become the state of Israel to work on farms established by these early settlers.

You may be interested to know that the "Philistines," the people for whom Palestine was named by the Romans — to divorce it of ANY connection to the Jewish people after they destroyed the Holy Temple in 70 C.E. — were ancient invaders from the Aegean coast of Europe, who adopted Levantine culture, not indigenous people at all.

Mr. Iddin, here is not the space to debate every point about Israel and its right to exist. However, as a Black man, as a Jew, as student of anthropology and cultural history, I am tempted to ask, "If according to you, 'Arab Muslims' ruled Israel, how did they get there? Could it be... OCCUPATION?" If that's the case, then Africa, my other spiritual homeland still has a lot to say about that.

## Dear Hilltop,

I am writing to express appreciation for the January 24 article in The Hilltop concerning the Right to Life rally held in Washington, DC on January 22, the 30th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision Roe v. Wade. Ms. Summerville's coverage of the march was quite fair and informative. I was one of the tens if not hundreds of thousands who stood and walked in the cold to make presence known and our voices heard by the leadership of our nation.

Having attended this march annually since 1991, I am proud to say that the participation of African-Americans and other persons of color is slowly increasing. This is encouraging, but it is not nearly enough. According to statistics compiled by the U.S. Center for Disease Control, 13 million African American babies have had their lives ended in their mothers' wombs since 1973. That's 33 percent of the 39 million abortions that have taken place in the U.S. since then. This makes abortion the number one cause of death among African-Americans, beating out AIDS, cancer and heart disease. When 12 percent of the American population suffers 33 percent of abortions in this country, somebody should take notice!

So much of our future is being destroyed before it has a chance to prove itself. Tragically, African American public and political leadership has sided with the pro-choice/pro-abortion lobby almost unanimously. Even presidential candidate Rev. Al Sharpton, generally known for his defense of the poor and unprotected, appeared with five other presidential hopefuls at a NARAL (National Abortion Rights Action League) event held in the District on the night of January 21. Rev. Jesse Jackson used to be one of the most eloquent opponents of legalized abortion until he ran for president. In January 1977, Rev. Jackson wrote an article entitled "How We Respect Life is the Overriding

Moral Issue" for Right to Life News. In it he laid out a multifold argument against the legalization of abortion, which included his own beginnings as an at-risk child conceived out of wedlock. One quote states succinctly what his position was at that time; "Human beings cannot give or create life by themselves, it is really a gift from God. Therefore, one does not have the right to take away (through abortion) that which he does not have the ability to give." Rev. Jackson's position changed beginning with his 1984 bid for the presidency of the United States.

The right to life is the fundamental human right. Upon it rests all other civil, natural and moral rights. Upon it rests the possibility for true goodness in any society. Regardless of our political affiliations or ideological stances, we all began our lives in our mother's womb. When bearing those of us who write and read these words, our mothers were pro-life. They bore us and gave us the chance to live, but our right to live did not originate in them. Our bodies were in their bodies, dependent upon them, but not caused by them. They knew that God had given them another human being to nurture and protect. We cannot rest until every mother and father, in fact, every human being realizes this profound truth.

Until all innocent human life is protected from the womb to the tomb, our nation will never know true justice, life affirming culture and the fruit these can bear.

Sincerely,  
Rev. John J. Raphael, SSJ  
Roman Catholic Chaplain, Howard University  
816 Howard Center  
202-238-2687

In mundo pressuram habebitis, sed confidite, ego vici mundum!  
In the world you shall have trouble, but take courage, I have overcome the world!  
John 16:33

### CORRECTIONS

-- In the online version of the story, BaNikongo Speaks Against Allegations, the wrong name was used for Amanda Peters [name changed].

### CLARIFICATION

-- Amanda Peters said the advance given to her by Professor BaNikongo was for work done on a documentary. Peters never accepted a trip to Trinidad.

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**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.

## Announcements

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## Personals

### Happy Birthday

Kamilah  
24-A-01

Happy Birthday  
Nsenga  
38-A-01

Happy Birthday  
LaPrincess  
50-A-01  
AKA



Happy Birthday  
Clive!

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Today

Jewels - Surewell! Good luck at the hospital.

KAH-- you were right all along. Time for a new one... -- EIC

Soraya, thanks -- Way to be a team player! --EIC

Happy Birthday  
Lauren!

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The Hilltop needs a Friday Campus Editor-NOW!

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6:00 to 8:00 pm

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Jim Phillips- Heritage Foundation  
Patrick Clawson-Washington Institute of Near East policy  
Joseph Circone-Carnegie Endowment for peace  
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