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THE HILLTOP



Volume 77, No.23

Serving the Howard University community since 1924

March 18, 1994

Students refute anti-Semitic allegations at rally this week

Eric M. Dennis
Hilltop Staff Writer

Student leaders continue to fight in response to Washington Post columnist Richard Cohen's "suckers," "chumps" and "yearlings" labels of the Howard University student body.

Second-year Howard University student and Unity Nation representative Malik Zulu Shabazz led what he called an "emergency meeting" of student body members to denounce Cohen and defend student rights to free speech. Almost 50 students were in attendance.

"The college campus has always been a ground for freedom of speech and the expression of new ideas," Shabazz said Wednesday night at the J. Blackburn Center Black Ballroom. "But this freedom is threatened by members of the media like Cohen, and Zionists who labeled our expression of the hate speech."

because it wasn't just me saying it, but the students as well," Shabazz said. "I think it really scared them to think we finally might be ready to stand up and claim our positions in the forefront of this society."

Howard University Student Association President Terri Wade also participated in the rally which drew several members of the media including the Post, the CBS news-magazine "Eye to Eye with Connie Chung" and WRC-TV, Channel 4. But Wade stressed the fact that the media was unimportant and almost counter-productive to the liberation of African Americans.

"I'm not here to address all of the nonsense that has been put in the news about us," Wade said. "We have the right to say, think and do anything that will liberate our people. And I think we are intelligent enough to not to have to depend on outsiders to tell us what we should say or who our leaders should be."

Wade shared excerpts of letters, some anonymous and some not, from student leaders at area universities that referred to her as a "demagogue," "a piece of sh—" and "hateful." In one letter to Wade, American University Student Body President Matthew Pittinsky wrote,

"I was very disappointed to hear you speak in support of Khalid Abdul Muhammad during his recent visit to Howard University. I was amazed at the spectacle of pseudo-intellectual, anti-semitic, and downright hateful rhetoric that was publicly broadcast



Unity Nation representative Malik Zulu Shabazz was one of the speakers at the meeting.

from Howard University via C-SPAN. You should be ashamed, not proud."

But according to Wade, Pittinsky and anyone else who seeks to curtail her freedom of speech and freedom to support a leader or speaker of her choice should feel ashamed.

"This is hate. This is hateful rhetoric. This is ignorance and bigotry," Wade declared in response to the letters she received. "But we don't need to concern ourselves with what people say, because they are going to say it anyway. However, we do need to defend ourselves, unite as a people and call out those, both black and white, who have so boldly repudiated our leaders and make them apologize."

Pittinsky has not responded to The Hilltop's requests for an interview. Obi Egbuna of the Pan-African Student Youth Movement attempted to redirect the anti-semitic label placed on Muhammad and Shabazz by questioning those who call themselves

semites.

"The only thing semitic about Cohen, Israel and the Anti-Defamation League is the Palestinian blood they have left on their hands," Egbuna said. "These people are nothing but Zionists in disguise. But we can't just talk about what the enemy is doing to us; we have to take responsibility and strike back."

Wade, who drew criticism at Muhammad's speech for pledging \$500 of students' activities fees to the controversial speaker, echoed Egbuna's comments and took full responsibility for her actions.

"That money didn't come from any government funding. It came directly from your (the student's) activity fees," Wade admitted. "And I do have the authority, as student government president, to use those fees as I deem appropriate. I made the decision and would do it all over again."

NC A & T defeats Lady Bison in MEAC final

By Monica M. Lewis
Hilltop Staff Writer

One game. That is how far the Howard University women's basketball team was from making their first appearance in the National Collegiate Athletic Association women's tournament in more than a decade.

However, the Lady Aggies of North Carolina A&T made it so that the Lady Bison would have to wait at least one more year for an invitation to the "Big Dance." Sunday, the Lady Aggies dropped the Lady Bison 76-67 in the championship game of the 1994 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference women's tournament at Baltimore Arena.

With the loss, Lady Bison ended their season with an overall record of 15-14, 13-6.

"As far as the season is concerned, I'm satisfied with the way we finished," said Head Coach Sanya Tyler. "Now, the returning players will have to take what they learned from this experience and go into next season ready to play."

Among those returning next season is freshman Denique Graves. The center, who was named to the All-Tournament team along with senior forward Annette Lee, scored 16 points and collected 12 rebounds in Sunday's game.

"There's no question about Denique's talent," Tyler said. "Not only is this young lady extremely talented, but she has a good head for the game."

Seniors Lee and point guard Dorothy Williams, along with Tara Gray and Lowana Ruth, played their final game in a Lady Bison uniform. Lee lead the team in scor-

ing with 20 points and 14 rebounds. Williams had seven points and seven rebounds on the day.

After taking a five point 32-27 lead into the locker room at half time, the Lady Bison let their slim lead slip away in the second half, giving the Lady Aggies the opportunity to take the lead. According to Tyler, the Lady Bison did not take advantage of several things that would have kept them ahead of North Carolina A&T.

"I was not comfortable with what was going on," said Tyler. "We let them [the Lady Aggies] hang around, and before long they were knocking on the door."

Tyler said that simply by making it to the championship game, her younger players now have a taste for what it is like to be in that type of game.

"Even though we did well, I know that we'll have to do a better job next season."

Graves, Lee and Williams all ended the season with scoring averages in double figures. Graves averaged 15 points and nine rebounds a game, while Lee, whose average of 19.9 points a game lead the team, also collected nine rebounds a game. Williams finished her collegiate career averaging 14.2 points and 3.2 assists per night.

According to Tyler, the 1994-95 Lady Bison squad will be a totally different ball club.

"Just getting to the championship will not be good enough. We have a lot of work to do, and hopefully this experience will be the springboard that we needed to head in the right direction."

THIS HILLTOP THIS WEEK

JUMPING THE BROOM

MOVING TOWARD TRADITIONAL AFRICAN WEDDINGS: Increasing numbers of African-Americans are exchanging traditional African vows of matrimony. **LOCAL, A6**

THE LEGACIES CONTINUE

NEW HEADS OF CAMPUS PUBLICATIONS SELECTED: Meet the 1994-1995 BISON and HILLTOP Editors in Chief and learn their plans for next year. **CAMPUS PLUS, A3**

NO SMOKING

NEW POLICIES BAN SMOKING IN RESTAURANTS AND GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS: Smokers are fuming over public sentiment and private businesses that leave without a place to light up. **NATIONAL, A8**

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Young single black men can either represent a positive progressive force, or one that just continues to react to crisis after crisis."

—Haki R. Madhubuti

Chemical spill on campus disrupts daily flow

By Shiloh Stevens
Hilltop Staff Writer

Traffic routes, walking paths and classes were interrupted earlier this week after a chemical leak occurred near the Thirkield Hall Chemistry Building on the Howard University main campus. A 160-pound cylinder of hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) was cracked while being handled, causing its contents to leak.

Officials say the leak occurred outside the chemistry building around 9:00 a.m. D.C. fire and police departments arrived at noon and blocked off most of College Street between Fourth and Sixth Streets, as well as some parts of The "Valley," in order to handle the leak. The Ernest Everett Just Hall (Biology-Zoology) and the Chemistry building were also quickly evacuated.

According to Jesse Nicholson, chairman of the department of chemistry, a University stock room employee was handling the cylinder when the leak occurred.

"Someone tried to take the gauge off and, being overzealous, put too much pressure and cracked the cylinder," Nicholson said.

The stock person then called a safety officer who, in turn, called the D.C. fire department, Nicholson said.

The three-foot-tall cylinder was old, Nicholson said. "It contained a couple of liters of the chemical," he said. "I don't know how much pressure was in there."

Nicholson added that the biggest threat from hydrogen sulfide comes from its odor, which smells like rotten eggs. However it could become hazardous if the compound is not contained or dispersed by water. In addition, hydrogen sulfide is potentially toxic, corrosive and flammable.

Fire department and emergency workers donned protective suits, gloves and goggles to handle the chemical leak. The cylinder was taken to the College Street just in front of the chemistry building parking lot. At different intervals throughout the day water was then poured onto the leaking chemical to disperse the vapors.

While there were no official reports of illness in the area at HILLTOP press time, there were some sketchy reports of students in the area feeling nauseous after being in the vicinity of the leak.

The Fire department workers were able to safely contain the leak by working through most of the day on Tuesday and Wednesday.



Fire and rescue teams had to block off areas of the campus to handle the leak from the hydrogen sulfide. Workers had to don protective clothing to pour water on the spill.



CAMPUS

UGSA luncheon honorees exemplify black excellence



Local psychiatrist and author Frances Cress Welsing was one of the honorees at the UGSA luncheon. By Derrick M. Dennis, Hilltop Staff Writer

When actress Nia Long starred in the dramatic film "Boyz in the Hood," she never dreamed she would one day be considered a black achiever.

"I was born in the hood. There were crack addicts, shootings, babies having babies and murders happening right around the corner from my house," Long said. "This

to go back because it's important to soak up as much information and knowledge and experiences as possible before going out into this world."

Long was honored along with six others by the Howard University Undergraduate Student Assembly at its annual black achievers awards luncheon last Sunday.

According to program organizers, the honorees were saluted for their contributions to the African-American community.

"We like to think of this event as our hallmark program for UGSA, whose tradition of inspiration and enlightenment we hope to continue," UGSA Financial Advisor Omar Karim said.

Award-winning actress/dancer Victoria Rowell was another honoree who continued the program's tradition of excellence. She attributed her success to her faith in God and her positive outlook on life.

"It is important to me to be independently successful as a performer," Rowell said. "But it's more important to me to be successful as a person."

Rowell currently plays Drucilla Barber Winters on the day-time

soap opera "The Young and the Restless," for which she earned an Image Award from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. She also stars in the CBS series "Diagnosis Murder" as Amanda Bentley.

"After all is said and done, I would say striving for excellence has gotten me to where I am today," Rowell said. "I can deal with the disappointments and rigors of an acting career because my flesh will eventually heal, but a broken spirit is irreparable."

Local boxing manager Rock Newman thanked the audience and members of UGSA for honoring him because he said it was their approval that makes the difference in his life.

"It's your support, approval and validation that I seek, need and care about," said Newman, as he addressed the audience. "Who needs The Washington Post when I have you?"

Newman, who manages former heavyweight champion Riddick Bowe, deviated from his acceptance remarks to comment on a commentary that appeared last week in The Washington Post titled "A Nasty Night at Howard."

"This is a war we have going on people," Newman warned. "We are pawns in this whole system

that is fueling a war to control our feelings and our thoughts. But when you, my Howard brothers and sisters, honor me, I know I'm doing right by myself and by you."

Broadcast House Live Production Executive Sandra Butler Jones, Washington Post columnist Courtland Milloy, Howard Divinity School Professor Cain Hope Felder and local psychiatrist and author Frances Cress Welsing were also honored at the luncheon.

UGSA Coordinator Kanika



Local boxing manager Rock Newman addressed the controversial Washington Post commentary "A Nasty Night at Howard."

Association looks to enhance minority scientific opportunities

By Elaine L. Myada, Hilltop Staff Writer

After being nearly a decade out of commission, Howard University's chapter of the National Technical Association is now offering students ample opportunities in the fields of science and technology.

The NTA gives students a forum to network with professionals in a variety of technical fields. The organization also offers scholarships and helps students prepare for futures in technology.

The association was created in 1926 especially to address minority concerns in the sciences. According to National Student Director Quelina Jordon, NTA is the minority voice for those in technical areas, and a special emphasis is placed on black students.

Jordan said that when society's interests shifted from science to engineering, the University chapter's interests followed suit, but the organization became inactive as a result.

"In the eighties, there was a big push to get minorities to go into engineering as opposed to biology, chemistry and geology and other sciences," Jordon said.

She added that the aim has now been refocused and NTA is trying to attract students from the areas of math, science, engineering and technology.

The NTA is based in the District of Columbia and has a special link to the University because several presidents of the national organization have been teachers or deans at Howard.

Jordon said the NTA is distinguishable from other organizations because it is comprised of corporate, professional and student members.

"When a person joins the NTA, they are given a directory of professionals in the area and they have social and professional activities which give them a chance to network and receive some guidance," Jordon said.

The annual national conference gives

students the opportunity to mix with industry professionals such as Lisa Shoats, a systems engineer at General Electric Aerospace; Linda Williams, an advanced chemist at the 3M Company; and Henry Ledbetter, an electrical engineer at Westinghouse Electrical Corporation.

Aside from networking, students are given the opportunity to learn important skills that will prepare them for the science industry.

Through NTA publications distributed to all members, important scientific news, information and job openings are publicized. The journal also publishes critiques of graduate students' abstracts.

At the National Technical Symposium, students can attend career seminars to obtain advice and counseling from technical professionals. Through the symposium, they also get the opportunity to build a student technical network among science scholars.

The NTA holds a national Technical Career Opportunity Fair, in which representatives from government agencies, colleges/universities and technological corporations come to interview students for positions. Students who participate receive an employer handbook, and the interviews help students to determine whether their education matches their employment needs.

The NTA scholarship program annually awards science students and research scholars. The scholarship awards range from \$500 to \$5,000 for students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities who have outstanding technical papers.

The NTA will hold its 66th annual national conference in Washington, D.C., at the Omni Shoreham Hotel from July 20-23. The conference includes empowerment seminars and workshops; public forums; educational videos; and special programs for technical students, professionals and executives.

NTA membership is \$10 for students. For more information, contact Quelina Jordon at (202) 232-8199.

Students take extracurricular course in 'proper education'

By Traci N. James, Hilltop Staff Writer

Sophomore Joseph Spence's is taking a class for the third time. Unlike other students who repeat courses, Spence, an electrical engineering and physics major, did not fail this class. In fact, he said he learned a lot and encourages other students to take and repeat the class as many times as possible.

The Proper Education of the Black Student is a nine week course designed to produce students who not only want to achieve academically, but also want to serve the African-American community, according to course facilitator Michael 3X.

Although the class is not officially recognized by Howard University, more than 30 Howard students crowded into a classroom in the School of Business Tuesday night to get "a proper education." Michael 3X, who designed the course curriculum, said he hopes the University will eventually incorporate the class into its official curriculum.

"We want to make students aware of the course and involve as many faculty members and administrators as possible. As awareness expands, more people will begin to recognize the need for a course like this," he said.

Michael 3X said he developed the course to complement—not contradict—the normal academic environment. One of the main goals outlined in the course syllabus is to nurture and cultivate the best of student interests, talents, and ideas into tangible achievements.

In the next seven weeks, the course will offer a define "true education," as well as the nature and the purpose of man. The topics of self-improvement through healthy living, interpersonal relationships, and community service will also be discussed in an attempt to

produce well-rounded, fully developed students, the facilitator explained.

There are no examinations given during the course. According to Michael 3X, real tests are always in life. A person's ability to demonstrate knowledge successfully is tested in the world's classroom.

Students will not receive grades for the

"A lot of times you go to programs about self-development and they are very inspirational, but what happens when you leave is that you don't follow through..."
-- Joseph Spence

course either, but feedback and recommendations will be given to increase the students' development.

"I believe if students take their own development seriously by participating in this learning process, they will develop tremendously spiritually, academically and personally," he said.

School of Education professors honored for their dedication

By Melissa E. James, Hilltop Staff Writer

Last Friday, the School of Education spent most of the day honoring four of its professors who have collectively served in their positions at Howard University for nearly 84 years.

"We started planning Dec. 1. Two of the professors were already retired from Howard, and two were going to retire this year," said Faustine Jones-Wilson, chairperson of the Retirement Planning Committee.

The four honorees were Nancy Arnez, Mauderie Saunders, Adele McQueen and Ouida Wesley. According to Jones-Wilson, the School of Education has a history of honoring its retirees.

The day started with a lecture and ended with a luncheon.

"It was a beautiful day. It was well attended by the students, staff and faculty. There were 260 at the luncheon," Jones-Wilson said.

Saunders has been at Howard for 21 years. She came to the University after teaching at predominantly white schools. She wanted to teach at a well-known African-American university with a history of facilitating accomplished people.

"I've enjoyed my tenure here. It put the icing on the top of the cake of my career. I like the students [at Howard] the most.

Magee said the honorees were very worthy of their titles as black achievers.

"We wanted to highlight the outstanding African-American men and women who have significantly contributed to the community and dedicated themselves to excellence," Magee said. "These individuals are manifestations of the fact that people are filled with various forms of expression that cannot be contained."

Michael 3X does not profess to be a monopoly on knowledge, and therefore, chooses not to lecture in a class. Instead he facilitates discussion between the students. Michael 3X discourages criticism of other students' opinions.

"In this class, there is no preferred or path. I welcome the sharing of ideas," he said.

Tamara X, a sophomore majoring in chemical engineering, said taking the class has helped her develop a framework for the type of person she hopes to become.

"I've really bonded with people in class. I want to make a connection with more people in order to get students to focus on serving the community and not just getting a job. I think as a people need to get over that," she said.

Spence said the course taught him the process of making things actually happen.

"A lot of times you go to programs about self-development and they are very inspirational, but what happens when you leave is that you don't follow through. This class established something in me that continues to inspire me and the class is over with," he said.

I've taught graduate students. They've grown very close to students, and students have grown fond of me. I would have to say that students are eager to succeed at Howard," said Saunders.

Saunders said she has taught an array of subjects, including special education, education psychology and the diagnosis and evolution of special children. Her degrees are in special education and psychology.

For 23 years, McQueen has been serving the University community through her work with the School of Education's pre-school program.

"I have enjoyed working with parents and the little children. I also enjoyed working with students to be good teachers. After I retire, I plan to do part-time teaching at Howard, and I also plan to do some consultant work," McQueen said. "I don't plan to stop. I'm writing a book, and I also be taking violin lessons," Saunders said.

For the planning committee the day went very well.

"We'd [the planning committee] like to thank everyone for the cooperation and thank the guests for their presence. These [retirees] are very accomplished, productive educators. They're role models for our youth," Jones-Wilson said.

Unity conference addresses community problems

By Tasnine E. Hunter, Hilltop Staff Writer

Peace, solidarity, cooperation, good fortune and past reflection were the elements Howard University student Kortne Long had in mind when organizing the "Unity or Bust" conference held last Saturday in the Armour J. Blackburn University Center.

And it seems as though her intentions came to pass.

Long, a 22-year-old junior majoring in psychology and minoring in Afro-American Studies, was inspired to put the conference in motion after she and three other students visited Department of Education Professor Jean White to talk about issues of concern.

The conversation with White helped Long realize the wealth of knowledge and insight to be gained from an elder. Because of her experience, she thought other students would like a chance to speak with some instructors in a casual environment about the issues that affect them.

"The point of involving faculty was to benefit from the knowledge of what they went through and relate it to what we're going through now," Long said. "I have had positive experiences with teachers both in and out of class, and I wanted to give other students a

chance to experience the same thing."

White, Robert Cummings, chairperson of the Department of African Studies; and Melbourne Cummings, chairperson of the Department of Human Communications, were on hand to provide guidance for approximately 50 serious-minded students.

"I asked students which teachers they felt comfortable talking to and those whom they thought wanted to participate in their lives outside of the classroom," Long said. "I also wanted faculty who wouldn't make students feel like they were being preached to."

White said Howard University students are the "cream of the crop" and important resources for influencing young people.

Robert Cummings said it is important for students to reach back into the community and act as mentors for youth who would otherwise fall prey to youth violence. "It is our duty to go back to the community," he said. "The question of violence can be responded to if we act before it happens. We must participate in the reduction of that violence."

During the conference, students were divided into groups of four, in which they discussed topics ranging from violence to male-female relationships. Instructors moved from group to group to monitor and assist the students in their discussions.

At the end of the 45-minute discussion period, each group announced their suggestions for ending violence among youth. They agreed with two of the professors' arguments that there is a need for more student involvement in University outreach programs and for more volunteering at community centers. One group suggested that volunteer service in University community outreach programs be made a prerequisite to graduation.

Howard University Student Association President Terri Wade, who attended the conference, said about 83 percent of the student body voted for a community service requirement, but they must continue to push to get the mandate implemented.

Despite having to wrestle with the grim topic of violence, students left the conference feeling upbeat.

Although the conference echoed what some had heard before, students were glad they came. Many suggested that an annual conference be held because of the growing epidemic of youth violence. However, despite high statistics of community violence, students hoped that people would be serious about implementing change this time.

CAMPUS PLUS

HILLTOP legacy continues with selection of editor in chief and business manager

By Traci N. James
Hilltop Staff Writers

Unlike her predecessors, The Hilltop's next editor in chief, Portia Bruner, never dreamed of assuming the position when she first joined the paper as a freelance writer.

"When I started writing for The Hilltop, I was just happy to be writing for the nation's largest black paper. I never even conceived becoming the editor in chief," she said.

Since the age of seven, Bruner always wanted to be the first black woman astronaut. But her galactic plans were shattered with the explosion of the Space Shuttle Columbia in 1986.

Bruner turned to her first true love — writing. At 12, she embarked on a new career as a reporter for her school paper and considered herself a journalist ever since.

Before coming to Howard University, Bruner served as editor in chief of her high school newspaper. When she was 16, she landed a job as an account executive for a community paper in her hometown of Denver, where she coaxed the editor into giving her a chance to write. While working for the Urban Spectrum, she acquired reporting techniques by interviewing people such as Tony Brown, host of "Tony Brown's Journal," Olympic skater Debbi Thomas and Public Enemy's Chuck D.

But according to Bruner, she

gained most of her writing and editing skills as a reporter and campus editor for The Hilltop.

"Serving as campus editor has been my training ground for dealing with crisis. The position of campus editor is one of the closest to being editor in chief in the terms of the experience, time and effort put in," she said.

Since being selected for the position of Hilltop editor in chief, Bruner has been brainstorming improvements she would like to implement next year. Students can expect increased advertisement, expanded news coverage, a business page, color photos and the return of a creative writing and poetry section, she said.

"I see a lot of potential at The Hilltop, and I want to see it continue to go in the right direction. I don't want to settle for being the best black collegiate paper, I want to be the best collegiate paper period," she said.

Bruner, a broadcast journalism major, wants to cover foreign affairs and politics. She hopes her presence in the media will

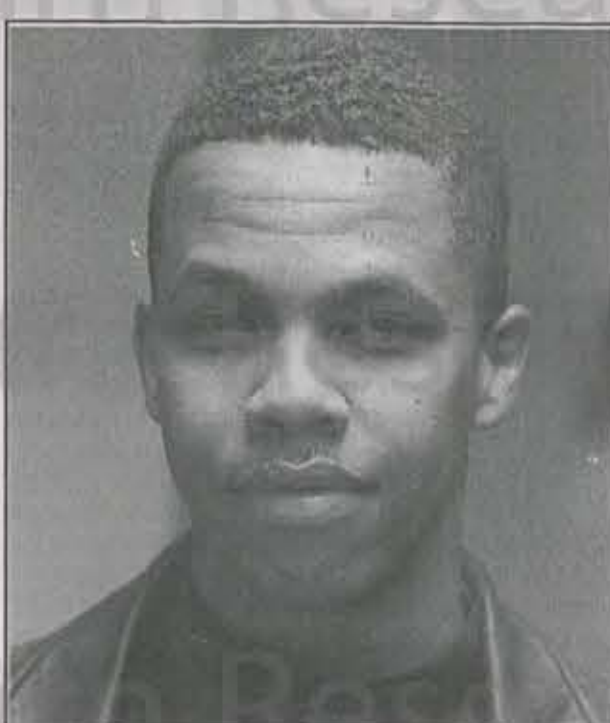


Portia Bruner

create more diversity in the coverage of minorities.

"Black people gripe about how we are portrayed in the media. I want to change the images and make a difference in how people of color are perceived globally. If I bring a different and informative angle to a story about people of color in foreign and third world countries, then I will feel like I've accomplished something," she said.

Bruner, the first recipient of the Scripps Howard Foundation



Stephen Watkins

Lighthouse Scholarship for the most outstanding junior journalism student, will have to juggle her duties as editor in chief with school work and broadcasting activities, but she feels confident that she can handle the responsibility with the support of a strong staff.

Director of Student Activities Belinda Lightfoot Watkins is also confident in Bruner's qualifications.

"I've been impressed with her ever since she was a reporter for

The Hilltop. I expect her as the editor in chief to continue to turn out fair and balanced stories," she said.

Leslie Harriell-Lewis, assistant director for student publications, has worked closely with Bruner and expects her to have a successful year. "Portia has been extremely dedicated to The Hilltop since her sophomore year. I've seen her grow from a reporter to a seasoned page editor," she said.

Stephen A. Watkins, a junior majoring in math, will remain

business manager for a second year. In addition to his duties at The Hilltop, Watkins, a budding entrepreneur, found time to co-produce the Ecstasy calendar found in the University bookstore. His experiences this year, he said, have honed not only his business skills, but also his interpersonal skills.

"I found out that playing around with numbers is only about 5 to 10 percent of the job. Being business manager is more of a people job than I thought.

This year, I really learned how to manage a staff," he said.

The current editor in chief, Otesa Middleton, said Watkins' past experience will be an asset to The Hilltop.

"Steve will make Portia's transition a smooth one, because he now knows the ins and outs of handling the financial operations of a paper," she said.

Middleton said she and Watkins worked well together. She expects that Bruner and Watkins will also enjoy a good working rapport.

"He understands that the business and editorial aspects of a paper must intermingle well in order for us to produce a quality product," Middleton, a senior, said.

The practical experience Watkins gained at the Wall Street investment bank, Goldman Sachs and Company, last summer will also help him manage The Hilltop's budget of more than \$120,000.

Watkins plans to build on the improvements he has instituted this year.

"I want to place more emphasis on security, expanding the business staff, soliciting ads and getting the alumni affairs to help with increasing subscriptions," said Watkins, who first joined The Hilltop as a cartoonist.

"Steve has shown a lot of growth and development between August and now. I see a lot of promise in him," Watkins said.

New BISON editor wants to build on past experience

Aliya Davis
Hilltop Staff Writer

"If an intense love for the university is the main ingredient for an effective Bison yearbook editor in chief, then I have no problems for the 1995 school year.

Anderson is in the fourth year of a five-year architecture program and loving every minute of his Howard experience.

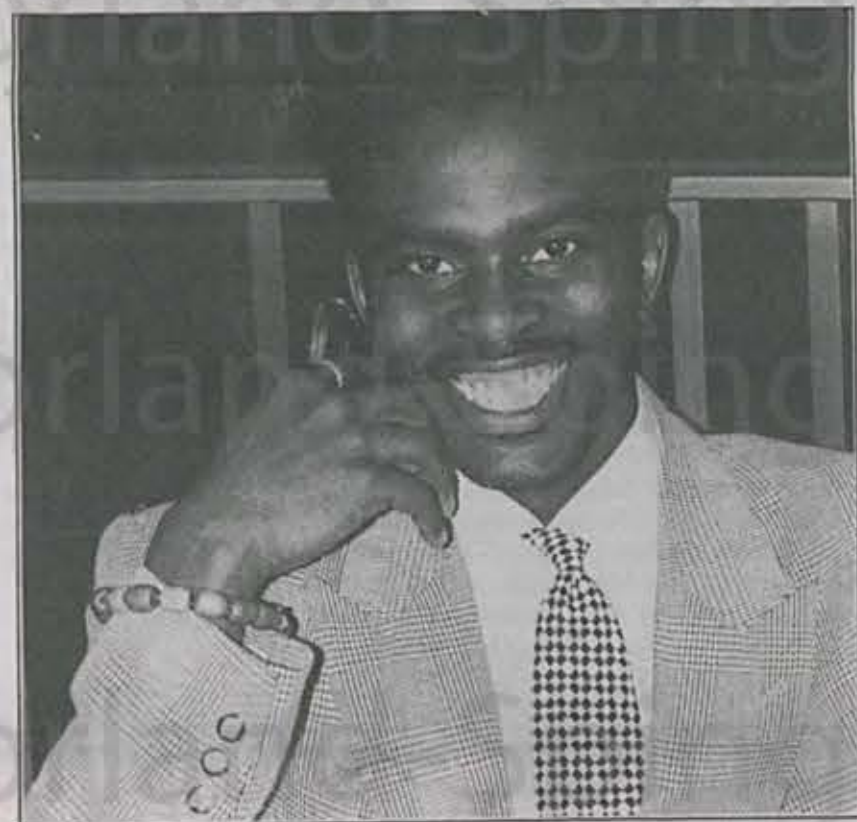
He admits that as an architecture major, much of his time is spent in the Howard Architecture building.

"You are not careful, you can spend your whole year in just that building and never see the rest of the campus. After pretty much doing that for a while, I asked that after my sophomore year that I was not going to do any more," the new BISON editor in chief said.

True to his word, Anderson and various architecture organizations, volunteered his time to local students, and Varsity soccer and served as Big Brother in the community Outreach program. Anderson admits he had never intended to become the chief editor. He said he only wanted to work on the BISON staff because he enjoyed working on the yearbook staff at his high school in California, Ga.

"Some friends of mine suggested that I try out for the position. I just wanted to be part of it. I want to experience much of Howard University as

possible. I love this place. I figure as editor in chief of the yearbook, I can show my love for the school graphically so everyone can experience it," Anderson said.



Anderson is currently the BISON's layout editor and is confident that his experience in this area will help him further enhance the publication next year.

"I plan, with the rest of my staff, to make the 1995 yearbook funky with a blue and white taste," Anderson said.

His main objective for the yearbook is to "bring back the old and update it." Anderson is impressed with the qualities and techniques of past yearbooks, and

he would like to reuse them.

Features he would like brought back include the showcase of major and minor group-sponsored events, an interview with the University president and the inclusion of various plays and athletic teams that do not currently receive much attention.

Anderson would also like to see more pages added to the BISON yearbook.

Anderson said the yearbook now has many strengths, which he would like to build on. Among those are the photo competition, a profile of elite professors, highlights of the Hip-Hop conference and various performances, spotlights on the various colleges within the University, recognition of students involved in community service, intramural sports, Charter Day, new additions to the Wonder Plaza and features on The Hilltop.

While Anderson is pleased with his ideas, he said will take the rest of the year and the summer to brainstorm with the rest of the BISON yearbook staff.

"I also plan to put emphasis on the stories that are written for the yearbook, but people are people. They will look at the pictures first, which is okay, because the photography is excellent," Anderson said.

Anderson said he is proud of the 1993-94 yearbook, but he hopes to introduce new elements that will make it better.

"A lot of time and effort goes into the yearbook. We would like to think that we are graphically representing Howard. After all, this is going to be something that will be seen this year, next year and the years after that," Anderson said.

Education student council hosts Easter egg hunt for youths

By Melissa E. James
Hilltop Staff Writer

The School of Education Student Council is bringing the spirit of Easter to Howard University a month early, when they host area elementary school children this Saturday at an Easter Egg Hunt on the University's campus.

Sharon Carnette, a senior early childhood education major, is the chairperson of the event.

"[The student council] wanted to do something special for the kids, so we invited two classes from the Cleveland Elementary School to an Easter Egg Hunt," Carnette said.

According to Oronde Miller, president of the student council, the event will bring University students together with the community children.

"It was suggested by the chair of our department to do something for Easter. For us, we needed to be active with the students in the community, since we're going to

be teaching them," Miller said. Carnette and the student council have been planning for this event since January. According to Carnette, the council, which had not yet performed any community outreach activities this school year, felt that an Easter Egg Hunt would be a great way to reach out to the community.

"It was suggested by the chair of our department to do something for Easter. For us, we needed to be active with the students in the community, since we're going to be teaching them,"

have fun and expose black children to a college setting all at the same time.

"For the kids, it's good for them to see what college is about. Their teachers are always telling them about going to college. Now they can see that black people do go to college," Carnette said.

The last major event that the council sponsored was a conference on afrocentricity, which was held last month. Miller said the council will be holding a leadership development program later this year.

The hunt will take place tomorrow from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the main campus.

CAMPUS

CRIME

REPORT

March 4 A computer and a printer were stolen out of an office in the College of Nursing. There were no signs of forced entry.

March 4 A resident of Howard Plaza Towers East was threatened with a knife by another resident when he knocked on the suspect's door to complain about his loud alarm clock. The case is still under investigation.

March 5 Patrons of the Howard University Hotel exited the elevator to find two males leaving their room. A camera was missing upon investigation, but the two suspects fled the scene. It is not believed that the suspects were students, or employees of the hotel.

March 8 A student was struck in the face by three unknown black males while standing on the 2300 block of Georgia Avenue. The complainant suffered injuries to his nose and cheekbone. The men have not yet been found, and the motive is uncertain.

March 9 A computer disk was stolen out of an office in the Dental School. It was replaced by a fake disk. There were no signs of forced entry.

March 9 A locker was broken into in the Burr Gymnasium, and property of an unknown value was stolen.

Report given by Campus Police Report given by Aliya Davis/Davos

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A remedy for the D.C. public schools?

Franklin L. Smith, superintendent of Washington, D.C., schools, wanted to experiment with privatization of some of his schools. Businesses that specialize in privatizing schools would provide resources for schools' needs, such as books and computers, to improve their curriculum. Smith was looking for a way to raise grades and increase the number of graduates.

However, most members on the D.C. school board were against it, along with the teachers union. This was because they were afraid of either losing their jobs or that the "white establishment" would take over and bring in more white children to D.C. public schools.

The idea that Smith had was dropped (for now), because he didn't have the support that he needed. The money for school privatization could have possibly been money well spent by the companies that were going to be involved in assisting the

improvement on children's education in Washington, D.C., (most of whom are black).

But for now, it seems the only way Superintendent Smith can improve his schools is with more metal detectors and police officers, and neither the police nor metal detectors will improve children's grades or increase the number of them graduating. But it just might make them a little more safe.

Last week, student Jerome Cook was shot four times at D.C.'s Eastern High School, because he bumped into Cornell Andrew Cheeks Jr., another student who in turn shot Cook. Fortunately, Cook survived and Cheeks turned himself in instead of joining the large number of assailants who remain unidentified. The shooting incident at Eastern High School was the 10th violent incident that occurred in D.C. public schools in the 1993-94 school year.

It seems that in order for D.C. public schools to be a success, they

must be safe. The school that goes through the whole year without even hearing a gun shot could be a very noteworthy school in terms of success that parents, teachers and the school board can be very proud to have in the District. Meanwhile, the number of high school graduates has not increased, and a discouraged superintendent can't seem to make any radical changes in improving the curriculum.

Should a child really be concerned with living through another day at school rather than the number of homework assignments that are due the next day? Is it really so much to ask that a child take for granted the ritual of going to school, getting through the school day and returning home safely? Maybe Smith will have a more successful chance at getting a security firm hired for the schools than he did with getting them privatized.

Addressing the roots of hatred

By Kevin T. Bryan

Several recent events and articles, including the March 1, 1994 Washington Post column titled "A Nasty Night at Howard," by Mr. Richard Cohen, have raised some particularly critical issues in light of the recent charges of anti-semitism against Dr. Khalid Muhammad and others speaking recently at Howard University. Of central importance is the increasingly worsening racial climate in this country, especially amongst our younger generations, and our methods of attempting to deal with the differences we have among us in this pluralistic society to create a more effective and harmonious collective working group.

Hate, in any context, is morally wrong and is the ultimate detriment in any society, particularly a heterogeneous community such as ours. Hate distorts our historical and social viewpoints and corrodes the humanity of the soul. Efforts to understand one's past or present situations become tainted when hate is injected. Thus, the humanity of the soul is corroded, and the energies used to work together to solve the problems that affect our collective society are drained by the efforts to hate. For these reasons, it is imperative that we fight hate on all levels.

To deal with the question of hate, however, one must attempt to understand its origins and the environments which foster the development of hateful ideologies. In his article, Mr. Cohen makes a comparison of Louis Farrakhan to Adolf Hitler. Taken a step further from the superficial presentation given in the Cohen article, this comparison is particularly interesting and can shed some light on the reasons for recent anti-Semitic opinions from segments of the African-American community.

Both Hitler and Farrakhan established power in socially demoralized, economically ravaged communities. Hitler's nationalist movement grew out of this devastation, as the German people yearned for a leader to reassure them of their worthiness in the global community and revive their decimated economy. Farrakhan has taken his Nation of Islam into the ghettos and prisons of our nation's cities and instilled the same sort of

pride in these individuals, inspiring a new generation of African-American doctors, lawyers, entrepreneurs and laypersons. His message of economic and political empowerment rivals that of Hitler in terms of its appeal to the oppressed masses of people which represent his constituency. The hatred toward Jews by these individuals may stem from the image of a strong Jewish presence in their communities, controlling a large portion of the economic activity in inner-city African-American neighborhoods and exerting a political influence that sometimes conflicts with the goals of these neighborhoods, which directly conflicts with the message of Farrakhan.

By attempting to understand the reasons for these ideologies of hate, we may begin to offer solutions to alleviate circumstances which allow hate to proliferate. In a number of articles that I have read since Dr. Muhammad's speech at Howard, many people have drawn conclusions from highlights of the most negative comments and have moved to condemn the speakers and the members of the audience without attempting to understand why the comments were made, what the other parts of the speech contained or why people assembled to listen. The student government at American University has gone as far as to disassociate itself with the Howard student government as a result of this issue. This type of action not only prevents discussion and understanding about the problem, but also widens the gap between the parties involved.

Mr. Cohen makes an equally disturbing blunder by demeaning the students of Howard University in his article. He refers to the students in the audience as "the chumps of yesteryear," and throughout his article questions their true leadership potential. Unfortunately, Mr. Cohen was obviously not in attendance (his quotes from the speech are taken from a reporter's notes) at the speech and failed to understand the purposes of Howard students there. Many, such as myself, wanted to understand what was being said by the speakers and to determine the merit of their opinions. To dismiss the students of Howard in such a general manner as the article does is a discredit to the many brilliant

minds and future leaders of America at what has long been and continues to be one of the finest learning institutions in the world.

Our society has a habit of dismissing those ideas which do not agree with mainstream thought as unimportant or troublesome, and often criticize them under the cloak of some vice of our society, such as racism. What we should realize is that these statements are often directed at the existing power structure and are desperate cries for action in devastated communities, which must be understood. For this reason, it is imperative that institutions such as Howard allow expression of differing opinions and promote dialogue to deal with our nation's most pressing problems. Instead of hastily repudiating these speakers and degrading the students of Howard (a majority of which do not agree with the positions of the speakers at that event), I would challenge Mr. Cohen, leaders of the Anti-Defamation League and other interested parties to sit with the speakers and Howard students and understand those circumstances which gave rise to the recent events and realize why these events are taking place in America in 1994. By establishing this dialogue, we may begin to discover who is truly benefiting from the disagreements among minority groups in this country.

As a student leader at Howard, I have worked with members of the Nation of Islam on several occasions, and my more moderate, mainstream ideals have conflicted with theirs on several occasions. Through my experiences with them, it is apparent we must always be open to listen to ideas that conflict with ours, to understand these notions and the environments that shape the ideologies of these persons and to create environments that foster cooperation and goodwill, rather than ignore the cries of oppressed peoples that seek attention to their problems in whatever form may solicit response. More of this method of problem resolution is needed in this heterogeneous society to create a harmonious society.

Kevin T. Bryan is a graduating senior and a student leader at Howard.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR: Former Black Panther falsely imprisoned

Geronimo ji Jaga (Pratt), America's foremost class-war prisoner, has endured 23 years of California prison hell. He was framed in the early 1970s for a murder the state government knows he didn't commit. A former leader of the Black Panther Party, Geronimo was a prime target of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's vicious COINTELPRO (Counter Intelligence Program) campaign against black activists. Despite overwhelming proof of his innocence, the racist rulers of American capitalism have kept him locked away because, as the District Attorney's representative to his 1987 parole hearing stated, "He's still a revolutionary."

In January, Fox Television News ran a three-part series exposing the blatant frame-up of Geronimo. FBI wiretap logs and the recent testimony of former Panthers proved Geronimo was in Oakland attending a Panther meeting at the time of the Santa Monica murder for which he was convicted. Furthermore, unknown to the jury, the key prosecution witness, Julius Butler, was an FBI and Los Angeles Police Department informant, and new, compelling evidence points to two Butler associates as the likely killers.

Two days after the broadcast, prison officials retaliated by moving Geronimo from a San Diego prison facility to another in Mule Creek, denying him a private cell, a necessity due to medical problems stemming from Vietnam war wounds. This retaliatory harassment is an outrage!

Responding to an emergency motion filed by Partisan Defense Committee counsel Valerie West and Geronimo's long-time legal counsel Stuart Hanlon, a Federal District Court Judge ordered that prison officials temporarily grant Geronimo single cell status. On March 24, a San Francisco hearing will be held to determine whether Geronimo will maintain that status.

The Howard branch of the Spartacus

Youth Club supports the fight for Geronimo's freedom. Last semester, we had an on-campus video showing in defense of class-war prisoners by highlighting the case of fellow former Panther and Pennsylvania death row political prisoner, Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Militants like Geronimo and Jamal were the best of a generation who fought against the vicious conditions suffered by blacks in this racist capitalist society. Under "liberal" death-penalty Democrat Bill Clinton, these conditions are only getting worse. The "war on crime," from the brutal beating of Rodney King to the call for the National Guard to protect D.C., is part of a massive police mobilization.

A multi-racial workers party is needed to lead the fight against the ruling class onslaught. Racial oppression is the bedrock upon which American capitalism is built and the struggle for black liberation is an integral part of the fight for a social revolution.

According to Fox-TV, Los Angeles District Attorney Gill Garcetti has indicated that his office will review Geronimo's case. But it will be an intensified campaign complete with publicity and protest, centered in the integrated working class, to smash the frame-up. The SYC urges all who are interested in Geronimo's case and the fight for black liberation to join with the SYC and other affiliated organizations in his defense. Come view the Fox-TV News video on Wednesday, March 23, at 8 p.m. in the Undergraduate Library Lecture Room. Join Geronimo ji Jaga (Pratt) now!

William Gruen and Jeff Keemer are members of the Spartacus Youth Club at Howard University.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR: Advertisement is sexist, degrading

By Dr. Loretta I. Easton

This letter is written in reference to the Ford Motor Company advertisement in the Tempo Section of THE HILLTOP dated Feb. 25.

I was initially shocked and then outraged by your inclusion in THE HILLTOP of a Ford Motor Corporation ad. This ad depicts college students in a denigrating and demeaning manner. This advertisement does not reflect

what Howard University is all about. This ad is both sexist and sexually suggestive. I'm referring to "You came here to have fun, to let your id off its leash for four years and sniff the bushes." This phrasology has a negative connotation, especially to women. The whole tone of this advertisement is counterproductive.

If I were Ford Motors, I wouldn't want my car's image associated with indolent, unambitious, no-accounts,

which is what their ad implied. Fortunately, I know most of our students have aspirations above and beyond this ad and Ford cars.

It is my hope that in the future, THE HILLTOP would use more discretion in advertising.

Dr. Loretta I. Easton is a senior physician at the Howard University Student Health Center.

PERSPECTIVES

Information access may not be 'universal'

Shalon Story

The information superhighway, now, even if you never crack open a newspaper or watch the news, you have undoubtedly heard something about it. The Clinton-Gore administration has endorsed the construction of the National Information Infrastructure, an electronic telecommunications network aimed at connecting industry, government, education, research and each of our individual homes. In the future, we will all have the ability to do our shopping, banking and communicating over interactive computer right from our desks. To get even more imaginative, you could order a pizza and share it and a glass of wine with a loved one 3,000 miles away.

The backbone of the NII is the Internet, which has made headway as the leader of online communications today. It originally began as a military telecommunications system designed to survive a nuclear attack, funded through a grant from the National Science Foundation. With over 15 million users today, the Internet provides its users with electronic databases, archived

periodicals and "real-time" discussions on virtually every subject imaginable. Its users come from every section of the globe, young and old alike.

The Clinton-Gore administration has made a commitment to provide "universal access" to the NII, regardless of income or geographical location. The administration has further launched the National Information Infrastructure Advisory Council, chaired by U.S. Secretary of Commerce Ronald Brown, to ensure that this commitment is followed through.

Exactly how far-reaching is this commitment? Does it mean that computers and modems will be issued to residents of Anacostia? Or will the Information Superhighway be another road of Social Darwinism, singling out the haves and the have nots?

The Clinton-Gore administration, in its NII Agenda for Action, has introduced as one of its objectives, to extend the concept of "universal service." It contends that it is the duty of the government to "ensure that all Americans have access to the resources and job creation potential of the Information Age." It further addresses the need to support

communities and disadvantaged groups of society who have enjoyed the benefits of technology-based economic growth.

The administration's Telecommunications Policy Reform Initiative advances goals of "preserving and advancing universal service to avoid creating a society of information 'haves' and 'have nots.'"

With a \$2 billion price tag, the administration expects to provide approximately half of that for grants that are intended to help schools, libraries and other public institutions. Vice President Gore says to expect that "we will have every classroom in the country — and every library — online the NII by the start of the year 2000." Furthermore, the administration extends this commitment of "universal access" to all the students, "without regard to geography, distance, resources or disability."

The value of this commitment is questionable. One major scapegoat of the NII is public vs. private access. The Clinton administration maintains that the building of the information superhighway will lay within the responsibility of private money. Instead, as Vice President Al Gore explained in an online

CompuServe discussion, he and Clinton are "challenging all of the companies that do business in these industries to make a commitment to link up and provide free access to every classroom in their service areas." This type of commitment reminds me much of the "donation, or in-kind" techniques used in organizational fund-raising campaigns. In short, the government's role in the NII is to assist in providing universal access.

The issue of private investment in the NII is questionable, especially with the recent backfire of a merger between Tele-Communication Inc. and Bell Atlantic. The Prewitt Administration maintains its position on private investment.

A direct example of what will inevitably happen are Bell Atlantic's plans to establish a video communications network in the tri-state area. Bell Chairman Raymond W. Smith recently explained that his plans to provide access "will go to the areas that have the highest chance of being economically successful." It goes without much speculation that the District of Columbia is not included as one of the areas to receive the first round of enhanced access to the information superhighway. Private

ownership of the highway will ensure this to be the beginning of a trend.

Minority representation on the NII may lay within the hands of our educational institutions. It is there, where universities such as Howard University and Tuskegee Institute have invested millions of dollars in laying down fiber optic networks with the Internet, the NII's backbone. With students, faculty and alumni already taking advantage of the communications and research advantages of the Internet, it will lay within the hands of these same institutions to seek equitable grants from NII allocations to educational institutions.

The Congressional Black Caucus will play a pivotal role. Its legislative agenda for the upcoming year includes its commitment to ensuring minority interest in the NII. The strength our growing number of Black Congressional leaders can play, along with the lobby of other minority caucuses, will provide a guarantee in the selection of legislative guidelines to the establishment of the NII as defined by the criteria of "equal universal access."

The future will, undoubtedly, include a global age of information,

merged with telecommunications, technology and video. Just when we were making headway with environmental reform and social justice, something new crept up. No, the Jetsons aren't coming to dinner, but a new age is on the horizon.

The government has made a commitment to ensure universal access in the coming information age. Yet, as long as the information superhighway is not a "public" network, the bill does not have to be footed by them. Instead, this commitment may not extend any further than a measly grant fund for minorities and a plea to the industry to donate equipment and services to inner-city schools and libraries. Meanwhile, suburban America will reap all the benefits of this technology. It will take a lot of cash register receipts from the Giant supermarket to bring the "global classroom" to Washington, D.C.

Shalon Story is a graduating political science major and former president of the Howard University chapter of the NAACP.

America's war on black youth is real

Dr. Manning Marable

The most tragic victims of institutional racism are African-American children and young adults. Although we measure the impact of poverty, unemployment and economic exploitation upon a family and community, we seldom focus our attention more effectively to the social devastation among our young people. Because of lack of education, health care, criminal justice system and other criteria, what is happening in inner cities is nothing short of a war against black youth.

For example, let us examine the statistical evidence provided by New York City and New York state. In the area of health care, six out of ten school children in New York City are not immunized. There are only 96 nurses for 600 elementary schools in the city; they no longer regularly visit life schools and high schools. Every day in New York City, an estimated 70,500 children use the emergency room. Each day, 35 babies are born with birth defects, and four babies die before their first birthday. Over 100,000 children, mostly black and Hispanic, have no health insurance. In 1987, TB cases in NYC have tripled. And today, AIDS is the leading cause of death in NYC for children under the age of five.

In recent years, there has been a dramatic change in the number of African-American children and young adults in New York who live in single-parent homes. In 1979, 82 percent of the children under the age of six lived in households headed by one or both of their parents. By 1989, that percentage had dropped to 69 percent. The number and proportion of children

under the age of six who live in married couple families has also declined sharply, from 38 percent in 1979 down to 31 percent in 1989. This means that thousands of our children are being raised increasingly by their grandparents, or by individuals who are not related to them at all.

The war against black youth is strikingly apparent within the criminal justice system. In central Harlem alone, 2,500 young people were arrested in 1992. Ninety-five percent of those in jail in New York City are Latinos and blacks. Who is this prison population? Ninety percent do not have a high school diploma; more than one-half have under a sixth-grade level of educational ability. About two-thirds of all young black people who are in jail are awaiting trial, at an average cost of \$150 per day. The average pre-trial detention in New York City is 50 days — costing \$7,900 per prisoner. Instead of spending tens of millions of dollars warehousing black youth, we should spend that money educating and training them to be productive human beings.

In the area of housing and homelessness: there are about 90,000 homeless people in New York City today. On a typical evening, 24,000 people, including 9,700 children will sleep in a city-run shelter. About 90 percent of the homeless are black and Latino. In a five-year period, about one out of 12 black children in New York will live in a homeless shelter.

The war against black children is most clearly demonstrated in education. New York City has 37 percent of the state's children in its public schools, but the city receives only 34 percent of the state aid. The shortfall amounts to an

underfunding to the public schools each year by \$400 million. In the suburbs of New York, the average suburban school spends \$9,236 per pupil; New York City spends \$6,326 per pupil, nearly \$3,000 less per child. Statewide, the average student per teacher ratio is 14.5 per one; in New York City's public schools, the ratio is 16.7 per one.

The basic factor which underscores the dynamics of oppression for black children and youth is economics. Between 1980 and 1992, New York City lost 87,000 private sector jobs. During the same years, the number of African Americans living below the poverty level in the city grew from 520,000 to 664,000 people. The average black family in the city earns \$24,000 annually, compared to more than \$40,000 per year for whites. Black men have unemployment rates of 13 percent, compared to under 6 percent for white males. As the economic situation for black households declines, the status of our children and young people also deteriorates.

At Columbia University's Institute for research in African-American Studies, we are planning a major national conference, to be held in 1995, on the theme, "The Crisis of Black Youth." The greatest challenge for African-American leadership and organizations throughout the country is finding solutions to reverse the war against our young people. Our children are the future of the black community.

Dr. Manning Marable is director of the Institute for Research in African-American Studies at Columbia University.



Self-worship is way off base

Rev. Derek Grier

When students of our modern age look back at ancient civilizations, they often view with amazement the systems of periods gone by. They usually attribute the mysticism of the past to a lack of scientific advancement. The supposition is that the sciences are the tracks on which humanity evolves toward its true awareness and realization. However, we find that with every technological breakthrough comes a new spiritual disease. With every new scientific discovery, comes a new set of unanswered questions. Every thesis has an anti-thesis. Even the Christ figure has an anti-christ. Perhaps the past would look at our modern systems, which have declined

even with our scientific advances, with greater dismay.

Of all the modes of religion I have ever studied, the most perplexing is idol worship. I would question why grown men and women would bow down to statues that are fashioned after the form of some human, animal or thing. Statues that could not think, hear, taste, smell, feel or speak. Even if the statue was considered only a symbolic embodiment of a god, would not a living god be expected to somehow communicate with its servants through the idol, without the help of human agency? As simple-minded as idolatry seems to the modern mind, its contemporary counterpart is a thousand times more outrageous. Many feel that every person is a god within himself. At least in the ancient

times, the men who were declared gods could hide their faults, to a large degree, from the masses by selecting their moments of public display and only showing their guarded best. However, brother and sister, we live with ourselves all day long and no matter how much we try to see ourselves in a certain light, the realities of knowing ourselves proves every moment that we are far from being God.

The advance of the telecommunications industry puts us in touch with our global failings everyday. Some would say that we are gods but are in our current predicament only because we lack knowledge of self. However, deity by its own definition presumes omniscience. Complete knowledge cannot expand. All of humanity individually and collectively lacks

this completeness of mind, because if we had it, we would not be killing one another and ourselves. As upright as we attempt to be, God cannot be discovered or attained by mortal efforts. He, only by an act of His mercy, chooses to reveal Himself. The gulf between the Creator and creation is too infinite for the finite to cross. A baby cannot pick up the parent but the parent can certainly lift the child.

Many through the exaltation of knowledge, so called, which is always growing and being amended, attempt to usurp authority over the Creator. Some say, I will believe in God when I can fit Him under my microscope, into my philosophy and into my closet but not until he becomes small enough for me to decipher and control Him. The folly of our

preoccupations should be just as apparent to us as the idolatry of old. God never fits into our lives. He seeks to fit us into His life, His plans and His purposes. Some say we are gods but did God evolve from an amoeba into an apelike being, into the human we have today? If God was at one time a senseless amoeba, how did He create a universe so organized and of such design that after 20 years of formal education, we humans are still left in awe?

For centuries, people believed that the sun revolved around the earth. Ptolemaism was so dogmatically asserted that it was considered a sacred revelation. Finally, Copernicus convinced the Western world otherwise. He maintained that the earth was not the center of the universe, but that

it in fact orbits around the sun. We make the same mistake today. We sometimes think that the world revolves around us. Just as time proved the geocentric theory wrong, time will prove our "me-centric" concepts to be laughable. We must bend our knees, break the idols of self, seek truth and when we find Him, keep Him as the apple of our eyes. Truth is ageless and evergreen. Our prayer should be Lord, do not let the sun go down on me, until in Thee I find a place of safety.

Rev. Derek Grier is the bishop of Song of Faith Churches of North America.

LOCAL

Blacks move increasingly toward traditional African weddings

By Ramonica Rice
Hilltop Staff Writer

QUESTION: What is the significance of jumping the broom?

Flowing down the aisle in a traditional white wedding gown and black and white tuxedo is gradually becoming a thing of the past for many African-American couples, as they nurture the excitement of exchanging marriage vows the African way.

In the metropolitan area, Rev. Willie Wilson, pastor of Union Temple Baptist Church in Southeast, is the only ordained priest in the United States who performs traditional African weddings.

Today, many couples prefer African ceremonies over the traditional European-style weddings, citing that they are more personal and sentimental. In African weddings, the marriage is not just between the couple, but it's the joining of a union between both families.

"In the African wedding, there is a great deal of interaction between the two families themselves as opposed to just two individuals getting married, regardless of how they're viewed by each other's families, and without involvement or commission from the two families," Wilson said.

According to Wilson, the differences between traditional European weddings and African weddings is that there appears to be more symbolism in African weddings making them quite meaningful.

Dance and drum



Sidrowe and Phronie Jackson during their African traditional wedding at Union Temple Baptist Church in Southeast, D.C.

performances are an integral part of African wedding ceremonies and are emphasized during the most sacred moments of the wedding. During one portion of the African ceremony, the groom expresses his desire to marry the bride

and become a member of her family, and in turn, the bride does the same.

There are also material elements present at the ceremony that symbolize the "Twelve Symbols of Life" in African culture, and all

wedding party members must partake in tasting them. They include honey, salt, wheat, seeds and wine from the African shores. Each has its own individual meaning. However, most importantly, they must successfully "jump the broom," which is ???

Wilson has been performing African weddings since 1980 and prefers them over European-style weddings.

"As far as I'm concerned, there is only one way and that's the African way," Wilson said. "They [African weddings] graphically describe what each other's responsibilities are going to be in the marriage. . . it's very personal in its tone, very direct, very spontaneous."

Wilson said he performs each ceremony differently.

"I've never done two weddings exactly alike since I've been doing this, because the spirit moves me a certain way to do something a certain way," Wilson said.

Jumping the Broom, a book about African weddings, lists Wilson as the only clergy in America to perform this type of ceremony. He said that people from all over the world call him requesting his services.

"I've received calls from all over the country as well as from people that see the ceremony," Wilson said, speaking of the many people that desire African weddings.

Sidrowe and Phronie Jackson recently had an African wedding ceremony. The couple said they wanted a wedding indicative of their ancestry.

"We wanted to do something that reflected more where we were from," Phronie Jackson

said.

Because the couple didn't belong to a particular religion, they had trouble deciding what type of wedding would satisfy them. The Jacksons were searching for a personal ceremony that reflected their beliefs about marriage.

"He [Wilson] wrote our vows, talking about what you need to do for your husband and what your husband needs to do for you," Phronie Jackson said. Many people gave the Jacksons advice on what type of wedding they should have had, but they stuck to their guns.

"We decided to do what we wanted to do," Phronie Jackson said. "We didn't want to conform to what everybody wanted our day to be."

Wilson plans to share his knowledge of African weddings with other ministers with the

release of his book on how to perform African wedding ceremonies. He will give specific steps and procedures on handling the entire ceremony.

African weddings aren't just limited to people of certain religious or ethnic backgrounds. Just a few months ago, Wilson performed an African wedding ceremony for former D.C. mayor Marion Barry, when he and his wife renewed their vows.

"When people see it [African weddings] they don't think they've ever been married in terms of the power of the African marriage," Wilson said. "It's a celebration. Weddings have been known to last for three straight days, three straight days of celebration."

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN AFRICAN AND EUROPEAN TRADITIONAL WEDDINGS

AFRICAN

- *Bride and groom ask each other's families if they could become a member of the family.
- *Twelve Symbols of Life
- *Bridesmaids and bridesmaids are seated during the exchanging of vows.
- *Cost is usually more expensive because of the African garb and performers.
- *More congregational response during ceremony.
- *Bride and groom say their own personal vows.

EUROPEAN TRADITIONAL

- *Bride wears long white gown and groom wears tuxedo
- *Singing of a few songs.
- *Bridesmaids and bridesmaids stand during the entire ceremony.
- *Usually lasts 15 to 30 minutes.
- *Traditional vows said from the Holy Bible.

Commuters question MetroRail safety

By Elaine Myada
Hilltop Staff Writer

Washington MetroRail was once considered one of the safest transit systems in the nation, but because of recent violence, its reputation for being relatively safe is now under fire.

Takiyah Ihsan Smith, a sophomore majoring in computer science rides the metro often and she does not feel safe on the Metro.

"I don't think Metro is a safe environment at all because there are no visible police, so the average street criminal will naturally feel compelled to commit a crime especially at night," said Smith.

Since November, Metro has had to deal with its first fatal shooting of a passenger at a rail station and it's first fatal shooting of a transit police officer near a subway station. Most recently, a teen-ager was mugged at gunpoint at the Dupont Circle Station.

Despite the recent spurts of violence Metro officials say they have no plans to add additional officers, because they feel it is a safe system due to its well-trained officers. Cheryl Johnson, deputy director of public affairs at Metro, said Metro officers are some of the best-trained in the city.

"Our officers are the best-trained in the region because they cover so many jurisdictions. They must know all the laws in seven different jurisdictions. Plus, they get a large amount of hourly training," Johnson said.

Metro officials feel they have a safe system because instances of crime on Metro are very "rare." According to Metro statistics serious crime on the

MetroRail which include aggravated assault, burglary, rape, robbery, larceny, homicide and motor vehicle theft rose only 4 percent.

The most prevalent crimes on Metro are robbery, theft and auto theft. Metro reports about 1,000 serious crimes a year and has a system that serves half-million passengers a week which means the odds of a person encountering serious crime on the Metro is minute.

But Johnson still insists that one incident of crime on MetroRail is one too many, and efforts are underway to prevent crime from spreading.

Some Howard students feel that compared to other big cities, D.C.'s MetroRail system is safe. However, students expressed some disappointment with its security force.

David Bryant, a freshman majoring in economics, rides the Metro everyday, and he says he feels somewhat safe on it as long as there are plenty of people around.

"Security is not sufficient at night, and I feel it should be enhanced because there are less people [around], which makes them [Metro stations] more susceptible to crime," Bryant said.

But Capt. Hanson insists that intercoms around stations provide contact with the Metro police so passengers should take advantage of them. She said that metro will continue to take measures to provide a safe environment for its passengers.

"We are involved with a product and if people don't like it they won't use it so we are held highly accountable to provide a safe environment for our passengers," said Hanson.

Metro Safety Tips from the Metro Transit Police Crime Prevention Unit

1. Don't stand alone on a Metrorail platform. If possible, always stand near other passengers.
2. Don't invite trouble by need less display of jewelry or other valuables.
3. If carrying a handbag, keep a firm grip.
4. To prevent others from knowing where and how much money you are carrying, purchase a multiple fare card.

University health clinic seeks to increase STD treatment, prevention

By Angela Renee Birch
Hilltop Staff Writer

"I just had one case where a young lady could barely sit down. It has been nearly 10 months; she thought they would just go away. But genital warts don't just go away," said Dr. Debra Wilder of the Howard University Health Center Women's Annex.

Wilder sees more than a dozen cases like this each week: Young women who know that something is wrong and prolong the inevitable visit with their gynecologist.

"They are more worried about their partner's reaction," Wilder said.

A general consensus among the professionals in the District of Columbia as well as on campus is that most of the young women who contract sexually transmitted diseases lack self-esteem.

Candace Nelson, a registered nurse for the Clinic, agrees.

"Women don't put themselves first. They say, 'I only have one boyfriend.' But, you are not with that boy 24-hours a day," Nelson said.

Health professionals say the same rules apply for young men. No matter how much couples think they are in love, it is important that they start protecting themselves.

According to the American

Social Health Association, there is an epidemic of Sexually Transmitted Diseases, which continues to spread at a rate of 12 million new infections each year. HIV/AIDS leads the way because infection is fatal and there is no known cure. Herpes and human papillomavirus, also known as genital warts, infects about 70 million people a year. There is also no cure for Herpes and HPV, but it is treatable. Chlamydia (pronounced kla-mid-ee-ah) is the fastest-spreading STD with 4 million new cases each year. It is responsible for blinding millions of people all over the world. Chlamydia also can lead to cervical cancer; cause Acute Epididymitis, which is inflammation of the sperm ducts behind the testicle; or cause Reiter's Syndrome, which involves painful joints, inflammation of the eyes and sores on the skin.

Student Health Center Pharmacist Wyniece Speed-Harris said men and women have forgotten that STDs are preventable.

"[They] are not using contraception as they should because we still see repeat cases with something that is totally preventable," Speed-Harris said.

Condoms are distributed at a rate of three condoms per person

per day at the pharmacy and at the Whitman-Walker Clinic, 1406 S St., N.W. Condoms are still the most effective form of contraception aside from abstinence.

The pill only prevents pregnancy; it has nothing to do with stopping the transmission of STDs. Using a latex condom with Nonoxynol-9 spermicide is an 88 percent effective prevention method in reducing the spread of STDs.

The number of STD cases has increased by 33 percent in the last few years. One professional suggests that men and women start inspecting their partner's genitalia. The bottom line is that these can be very dangerous diseases when left untreated.

If diseases are untreated they could spread to other areas of the body. Conjunctivitis is an infection of the eyes. Proctitis inflames the rectum and can cause constipation, cramping, possible bleeding or discharge and an intense urge to defecate.

Oral herpes is usually caused by herpes simplex virus type one. Cold sores appear around the mouth. Genital herpes is caused by herpes simplex two, and blisters appear on or around the sexual organs.

Genital warts can be single or in a cluster; pink, red or flesh-

colored; and may be difficult to see. In men, warts are found on the foreskin, head and shaft of the penis and around the anal area, urethra and scrotum. In women, warts are found on the outer genital area, on the cervix and around the anal area.

Speed-Harris encourages campus organizations to consult many clinics in the District for speakers on STDs and condoms.

"If student campus organizations would actively promote STD elimination and condom usage, I think we could drastically reduce the number of STDs and pregnancies on this campus," said Speed-Harris.

The doctors and nurses at the Whitman-Walker Clinic and at the Women's Annex don't just give medical advice; they do a lot of counseling. They want the women to know how important it is for them to protect themselves. According to health professionals, women are contracting the AIDS virus faster than any other group.

Nelson said plans are being made for a University men's clinic. For now, men should consult the Whitman-Walker Clinic or other clinics in the area if there are any signs of a sexually transmitted disease.

Upcoming Events in Washington, D.C.

March 26, 1994

The Boys Choir of Harlem, Dr. Walter J. Turnbull, Director
Sponsored by the Washington Performing Arts
Time: 8:30 p.m.
Place: Kennedy Center Concert Hall

Exhibits:

Month of March
"Black Memorabilia Collectors: Keepers of the Culture"
Place: Alexandria Black History Resource Center
638 N. Alfred St., Alexandria
For more information call (703) 838-4356.

March-September

"Seeing Is Believing: The Photography of the Civil Rights Movement"
Place: Museum of American History
For more information call (202) 357-2700.

March 19, 1994

Benjamin Mays Memorial Lecture
Sponsored by The District of Columbia Public Library
Speaker: Dr. Lawrence N. Jones, Dean Emeritus, Howard University School of Divinity
Time: 11:15 a.m.
Place: Martin Luther King Memorial Library, 901 G St., N.W. Main lobby
For more information call (202) 727-1186.

March 19, 1994

The Morehouse Glee Club in a Concert Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Time: noon
Place: Martin Luther King Memorial Library Main Lobby
For more information call (202) 727-1186.

NATIONAL

Churches fight AIDS with education

Robinson Cook
Staff Writer

A week after meeting with Clinton's National AIDS Coordinator Kristine M. ... a group of African-American church leaders from the nation is building a ... of religious leaders and ... organizations that will ... the black community on ... of the AIDS virus. ... the Balm in Gilead Inc. on ... the First Black Church ... Day of Prayer for the ... of AIDS. More than 1,500 ... churches nationwide ... by delivering sermons ... to their congregations ... the spread of HIV/AIDS in ... black community. ... the Balm in Gilead Inc. is an ... dedicated to healing ... African-American community ... prayer, health and

education. The name is based on Jeremiah 8:22, in which Jeremiah asks, "Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? Why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?"

"The issue is educating the Afro-American church leadership to provide support services for mothers, fathers and children with AIDS," said Pernessa Seele, the founder and chief executive officer of the Balm in Gilead Inc.

"Our forefathers said 'yes there is a balm in Gilead,' and we want the churches to be balm and vehicle in that healing," Seele said.

Seele said she is frustrated with the struggle against the AIDS epidemic.

"The leadership in the black community have not used political power to get services and education," she said. "We're sitting back as though nothing is happening, and we will be treated as

though nothing is happening."

The Balm in Gilead Inc. was founded to inspire action. In 1989, Seele worked to get more African-American church leaders involved in the healing process of AIDS patients. She felt that the African-American Church was the best place to start encouraging people to help AIDS patients survive mentally and spiritually.

At the time, Seele was the Drug Addiction Program administrator at The Harlem Hospital's AIDS initiation program. She began to notice the rising number of African-American AIDS patients being admitted to the hospital without anyone to help them go through the pain and trauma of AIDS treatment.

In 1992, Seele approached various churches in Harlem to organize the first "Harlem Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS," with the intent of empowering and educating religious leaders and the

community about the AIDS epidemic.

Approximately 500 religious institutions, including churches, mosques, synagogues and theological seminaries, joined the "Harlem Week of Prayer." Congregations totaling over 550,000 responded throughout New York City to Seele's request.

As the campaign grew in size, the program gained national recognition. Many other U.S. cities are trying to duplicate the Harlem-based project with Seele's assistance.

In the future, Seele said she would like to see the African-American community become more involved in the struggle against AIDS, not just through the church, but through an overall community effort.

Government, restaurant restrictions leave smokers looking for place to light up

John M. White
Staff Writer

...ing a place to smoke seems ... getting harder every day. ... chains and state and ... governments are all taking ... restrict smoking in public

... McDonald's and Taco Bell ... banned smoking in their ... Beginning March 28, ... Bell's smoke-free policy will ... in their 3,300 company- ... locations. They have ... in banning smoking as

... move to this new policy is ... by our concern for Taco ... customers' and employees' ... regarding the dangers of ... hand smoke," said Taco ... dent and Chief Executive ... John E. Martin.

McDonald's instituted a similar ban in restaurants across the nation three weeks ago.

"A lot of customers complained about the smoking and we were concerned; that's one reason we wanted a smoke-free restaurant," said Dora Alvarado, the manager of McDonald's at Union Station.

The U.S. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders has commended Taco Bell and McDonald's for banning smoking in their restaurants.

"This action, along with similar moves by others in the restaurant industry, will not only protect the health of non-smoking customers and employees, but also make a meaningful contribution in the battle to keep our bright young people from starting to smoke," Elders said.

State governments are also looking into prohibiting smoking in

work places. Utah legislators have banned smoking in most work places. In two months, Maryland will become the first state to ban smoking in all work places, including bars, restaurants and hotels.

The federal government instituted a smoke-free policy on March 8. In the Department of Defense, smoking is prohibited in hallways, stairways, restrooms and private offices.

"First and foremost, we want to provide a safe and healthy workplace for all of our employees, both military and civilian," said Sherri Goodman, the deputy undersecretary of defense for environmental security.

Spokespersons for the Army, Navy and Air Force all agree that the new policy is a step forward in producing quality soldiers.

"The smoking policy will

enhance our efforts to make healthier soldiers. [Smoking] affects productivity, it affects morale. Morale is central to our military mission," said an Army spokesperson.

Some members of the tobacco industry do not agree that the federal government should regulate where people are allowed to smoke.

"I don't think that the federal government should be in the business of social engineering and telling people — 950 million smokers — what they can do with their choices," said Steve Parrish of Philip Morris, in a Nightline interview on March 8.

Nevertheless, the federal government sees smoking restrictions as the best choice for the health of employees.

"By the year 2000, the smoking lamp will go out for the Navy," said a Navy spokesperson.

Write for the National
Page. Attend the meeting
Tuesday at 6 p.m.

Compiled by Jonathan Wharton
Hilltop Staff Writer

Capitol Highlights

Senate Majority Leader Retires

Senate Majority Leader George J. Mitchell of Maine has decided to retire from his post at the end of this year — his 14th year on the Hill. He was appointed majority leader in 1989, and since then the 60-year-old Democrat has helped pass budgets, civil rights legislation, environment laws and has been active in health care reform. During his lengthy career, Mitchell said he was often frustrated by the politics on the Hill. He said the job was "difficult and demanding ... it is obviously difficult and becoming more so, especially if one's concern is for fairness and openness and consultation." In a news conference on March 4, Mitchell mentioned that he might seek a baseball commissioner post or an appointment to the Supreme Court. He was asked by both the major league and by the president of the U.S. to fill the jobs. However, Mitchell refused at the time.

The White House Stops Cooking

Four chefs were forced to resign from the White House kitchen staff as a result of the Clintons' efforts to change their family diet. White House executive chef Pierre Chambrin, renowned for his French cooking, rejected requests by Hillary Clinton to prepare American meals for special events and the family's dinner. Clinton said, "It's not my deal. I'm an indiscriminate eater — not that I don't enjoy fine food." In response to his dismissal, Chambrin said, "I can't say I'm very pleased. It's always been difficult."

House Prepares for Hearings on Whitewater

Republican senators expect to hold congressional hearings soon on President Clinton's involvement in a failed savings and loans bank. Sen. Alfonse D'Amato of New York said Whitewater "has the potential of being as great if not greater than Watergate. The presidency is in danger as a result of the continued pattern of deception." The special counsel investigating the situation wants more time before the allegations are taken up by Congress. Special counsel Robert B. Fiske Jr. said, "I would prefer that there be no hearings." On the House side, Rep. Jim Leach of Iowa says he wants hearings before March 24 without any compromise for the special counsel's investigation. Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, Dan Rostenkowski, says he will make a decision about whether to hold hearings after talking with Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen.

House rejects immigration bill

The House of Representatives rejected a bill 329 to 78 that would require public schools to report students who are illegal residents or who did not have at least one parent or guardian. The bill was sponsored by Republican Rep. Dana Rohrabacher of California, who said, "If [immigrants] get across this border, we're going to give you all kinds of benefits ... we have to care about our own people first." Those who opposed the bill said that it is prejudicial. Rep. Jose Serrano of New York called the bill "mean spirited, misguided and foolish."

Howard in Internet's fast lane



By Joanne Eustache
Hilltop Staff Writer

Imagine being able to tune into a lecture in Pennsylvania or check out a book in the Library of Congress through a computer. When riding down the "information superhighway" on the Internet System, anything is possible.

Internet is a collection of computer networks connected by fiber-optic cables and phone lines through which information can be sent and received. Since it links more than 25,000 computer networks around the world, Internet users can get information on almost any topic from African culture to economics to pop music. Thousands of companies and universities are connected to the Internet, and the number of users is growing rapidly.

Howard University is one of the first black universities to join Internet and is making big plans to become a lane on the electronic highway of information. In recent months, fiber-optic cables have been laid down throughout the University.

Tyrone Boyd, senior network analyst of the Information Systems and Services, said he is making an effort to connect every building together and complete the University's network. By the end

of the semester, he said, all the cables will be in place. By the fall semester of the 1994-95 academic year, students will have access to Internet from any computer lab, building and library in the University.

"Once it hits the academic environment, we can conduct computer workshops," Boyd said. "But since there is no demand now, there is nothing we can do yet."

The School of Engineering took the initiative to get the Internet system here, said Andrew Reece, the Database Manager in the Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs. Financial support for access to Internet at Howard is provided through federal grants and outside vendors. A special appropriation of \$2.1 million from the federal government covers the cost of the fiber optic cable needed to have the network.

Currently, University faculty members can use the network for a fee of \$150 per person for use of the modum that provides access to the network. Students have free access for research or for communicating with students at other universities such as Morgan State, Hampton and Morehouse which also have the Internet.

Internet is now available to all students in the computer lab at the School of Business and the School of Engineering.

Eric White, a senior political science major, describes Internet as being a library at home. He and Shalon Story, a senior political science major, are creating a new system of electronic bulletin boards for students to use at Howard. The system is called Student Policy Information and News Network and would make it easy for students to obtain campus-related information from any personal computer.

"We're constructing menus so students can easily find out things as far as user groups, activities, financial aid and so on. We are basically gatekeepers in the system," White said.

Unfortunately, many students are unaware of the system and its many capabilities. A member of the ISAS staff expressed his concern that not enough African Americans across the country will show interest in Internet and its functions. But measures are being taken to inform more students about the network.

ISAS staff members said they are all eager to teach students how to use the network and anticipate a lot more interest by next fall.

More information about Internet is available at the School of Business library.

Two essential
ingredients
for a perfect
date:

A date and this.



It's everywhere
you want to be.

INTERNATIONAL

Groups condemn Caribbean boycott threat

By Gloria McField
Hilltop Staff Writer

Caribbean countries that support Japan's commercial whaling industry may face a world-wide boycott of their tourist industry, according to Dan Morast, president of the Boston-based International Wildlife Coalition.

But leading Caribbean environmental and human rights groups, a student group and one leading U.S. environmental group have condemned the action as inappropriate and not well-intentioned toward Caribbean countries, which economically depend heavily on tourism.

Forum discusses roots of Chiapas uprising

By Muiyiwa Gbadegesin
Hilltop Staff Writer

The uprising of the Chiapas Indians in the southeastern Mexican state of Chiapas, which took Mexican authorities by surprise in January, is a struggle for economic and political justice, said panelists at a recent forum sponsored by the Washington Peace Center.

Such activists as Mexican Congressman Salomon Jara of Partido de la Revolution Democratica; Luis Rumbaut, a Cuban writer and activist for the Institute for Latin American Unity; Carlos Herrerla, development expert for the Development Gap in Washington; and Brian Becker, an activist with the International Action Center, were featured speakers at the forum, "Eyewitness Chiapas: A Report on the Causes of the Chiapas uprising."

Jara, speaking through an interpreter, gave an account of the New Year's Day uprising by the Zapatista National Liberation Army, named after Mexican revolutionary Emiliano Zapata. He said the reasons were largely

The Caribbean News Agency reported that Calvin Howell, executive director of the Caribbean Conservation Association, said that while his organization is against the whaling program, "the CCA cannot support the idea of boycotting any tourism industry of any Caribbean island since tourism is the lifeblood of these countries."

Caleb Morales deLeon, chairman of Caribbean Rights, contends that "critical issues of sovereignty and sustainable human development" were relevant to any externally-influenced boycott, such as that of the Wildlife Coalition.

A response was also invoked by the Howard University International Students Association,

which on Monday issued a statement describing the threat as "insensitive" and "aimed at the victims rather than the perpetrator."

The Wildlife Coalition, which has accused St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Grenada and Dominica of accepting bribes from Japan in return for supporting Japan's whaling interest in Antarctica, has threatened to mobilize its 200,000 members in North America, South America, Europe, Asia and Australia to boycott tourism in the small island nations if they continue to support Japan.

Tom Johnson, Ocean Ecology Campaign assistant at Greenpeace, fears that those Caribbean countries could be helping to exterminate the

smallest of the whales, the minke whale, which is the only remaining species of the great whales to have a healthy population.

Despite this, the environmentalist said Greenpeace would not be participating in the boycott because it realizes that the island nations are merely dancing to the tune of the true aggressor, Japan.

"We don't really want to interfere with these countries as they have really fragile economies. What we would rather happen, is to have a boycott of Japanese products, which will probably never happen, but they're the main source," Johnson said.

While the Windward Islands'

support does not provide Japan with sufficient votes to overturn the moratorium on whaling imposed by the International Whaling Commission in 1986, it does allow Japan to block the French proposal to establish a whale sanctuary in the Antarctic.

"At the present time, [Japan] has only one-fourth of the International Whaling Commission's votes, enough to block the French proposal of the whale sanctuary in the Antarctic. If they voted today, they could block it," Johnson said.

Japan is currently granted a quota to kill 330 whales per year due to a loop-hole provision allowing whaling for purposes of scientific research. The provision was

approved by the 38 nation-member commission.

Japan's whaling research is viewed by many environmental groups as a mere guise for the capture of whales for commercial purposes.

"Japan is conducting a so-called scientific research whaling. We believe that the scientific research whaling is just a disguise for commercial whaling because there hasn't been any real data that they have showed us, but the whale meat ends up in expensive Japanese restaurants," Johnson said.

Peace, relief funds could push Africa toward total independence

By Lisa Nanton
Hilltop Staff Writer

The task of creating total independence in Africa is yet to be completed, but much of what is required to achieve this goal is beset by the same political upheavals that followed the achievement of independence in many other countries, according to Dr. Femi Idowu, chairman of the African Relief Fund.



Dr. Femi Idowu

Idowu, a professor of mathematics at Howard University, was addressing the bi-monthly meeting of the African Students Association on the topic, "The Second Phase of Africans' Independence," at the Armour J. Blackburn University Center on Feb. 25.

The African Relief Fund is an international organization that aims to support development efforts in Africa and to establish peace as a prerequisite for such development initiatives.

According to Idowu, the goal of the first phase in the African colonial experience was to end white political domination, to get rid of colonization and to ensure independence and unity for Africans. These early stages of the "quest for total independence" were reported great measures of success, he said.

Embarking on the struggle's second phase, the question of political power redistribution was not resolved, and this caused an out-break of violence throughout the African nations. It was this violence that "snatched the dream" away, he said.

According to Idowu, people of African descent must stop continuously complaining while doing nothing to correct their predicaments. Instead, they must "create ways in which we can identify those who want to solve problems from those who just want to talk about it," he said.

Idowu said a major step in recapturing the essence of the

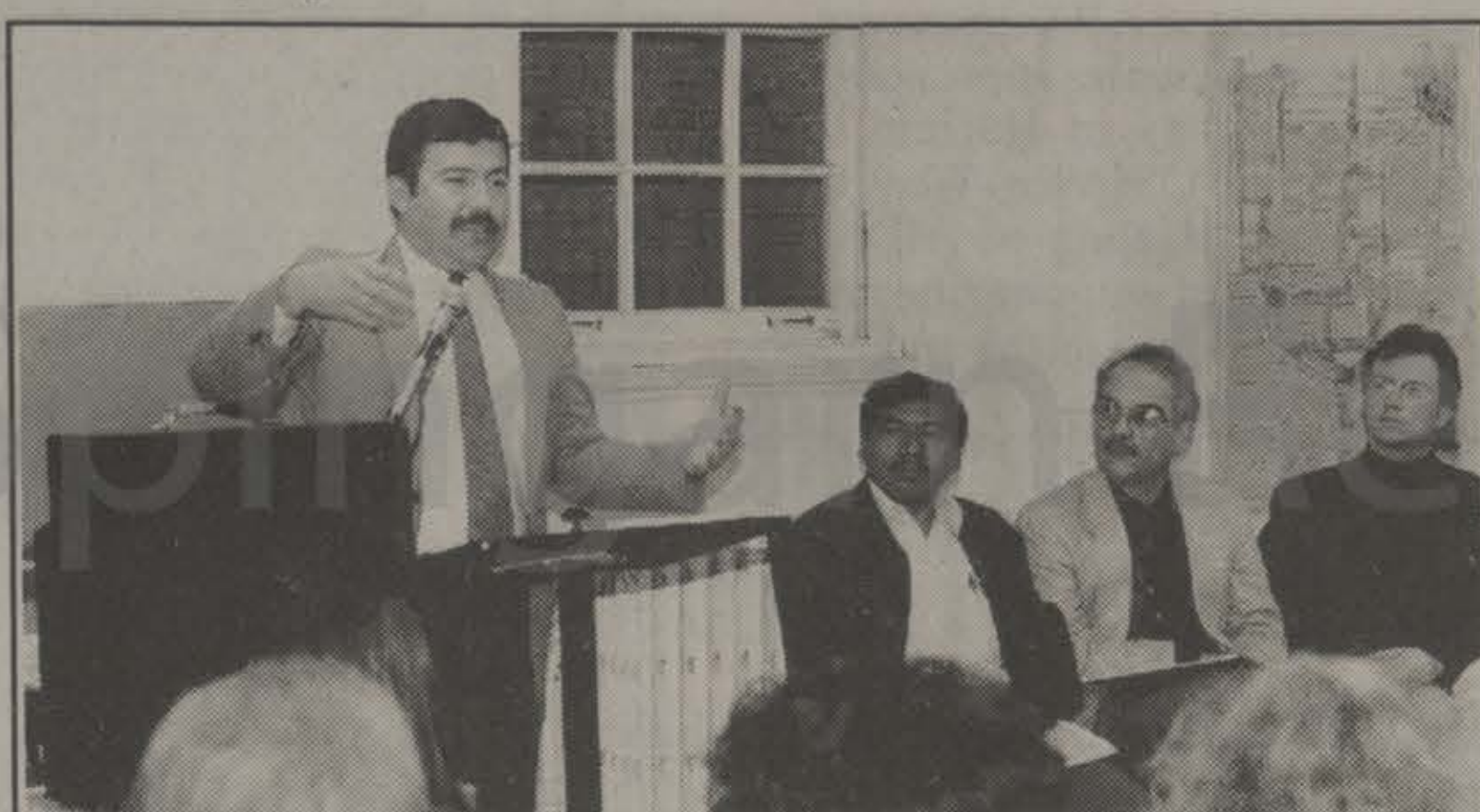
"struggle" for independence is to establish peace within the turbulent countries.

"It is only after a sense of peace has been achieved that we can hope to begin the task of rebuilding," he stressed. In accordance with this, Idowu outlined how this could be accomplished through his organization: Through the establishment of a peace fund and a relief fund.

These funds will be used wherever those of African descent are in need. According to Idowu, "We cannot just expect the rest of the world to continue to take care of our own people. We need to set up our own African Relief Fund so that we can react immediately whenever and wherever we are needed. In so doing, we no longer will have to wait for thousands to die and be televised world-wide or for the United Nations to finally decide that enough lives have been taken before intervening."

The mathematician said that with the Peace Fund working to secure a temporary state of peace, the Relief Fund would work to ensure that skilled and professional people of African descent contribute their skills and services to the rebuilding of villages or countries promptly and effectively.

It is Idowu's strong belief that these funds are the preliminary steps that "we, as a people, need to take in order to complete the second phase of Africa's independence, which we embarked upon long ago."



Ruiz.

Among the Zapatistas' several demands are constitutional and electoral reforms, which deal with the autonomy of the indigenous peoples of Mexico. They are also demanding the return of the land to the peasants, but that demand has thus far been rejected.

Herrerla said the duplicity of the Mexican government of President Carlos Salinas de Gortari was clear when it announced that the accord, which had been reached on Feb. 20, was only "an exchange of documents." He said the Mexican government's position is that a follow through on the Zapatista's demand for a true democracy with free and fair elections would make a "political solution impossible."

Herrerla said the government and the rebels are at odds because for the government, peace means

restoration of the status quo, while for the Zapatistas, peace means political and economic justice.

Herrerla criticized the Clinton Administration's endorsement of NAFTA, which he said was "a death sentence for the Indians."

The Clinton Administration, however, maintains that NAFTA is not the problem, but part of the solution. The administration's current policy, as outlined by Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen in a recent trip to Mexico City, is that the winner of the upcoming elections should continue the economic policies of Salinas.

But Cuban writer Rumbaut said the Chiapas uprising had international implications because "no one expected a group of Indians from Mexico's poorest state to turn the New World Order on its head."

Forum to address role of the international student

The International Students Association and the African Students Association, in collaboration with the Department of Human Communication Studies, will sponsor a panel discussion today on the "Significance of the International Student in the Classroom."

The discussion will take place in the Forum of the Armour J. Blackburn University Center at 6 p.m. Participants include Dr. Lyndrey Niles, professor of Human Communication Studies, and John Sumner, former ISA president and a Ph.D. student in the Department of Economics.

According to an ISA press release, the discussion will raise issues of intercultural differences. Its primary aim is to urge African-American students and international students to question differences they do not understand. "If we are to cooperate on matters relating to development, if we are inviting African-American students to explore career opportunities in the developing world, including Africa, then we have to lay the ground work for harmonious relationships free of disabling stereotypes," the ISA press release stated.

A brief ASA meeting will precede the forum. African and West Indian foods will be served afterwards.

GLANCE AROUND THE WORLD

By Gloria McField
Hilltop Staff Writer

Antigua and Barbuda

St. Johns — Prime Minister Lester Bird and the Antigua Labor Party triumphed over the opposition United Progressive Party and returned to power during general elections held March 8. Consequently, the ALP lost four parliamentary seats. (Caribbean News Agency)

Haiti

Port-Au-Prince — Former Haitian dictator Prosper Avril broke a four-year silence on March 8 when he said it is highly unlikely that ousted Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide will return to power unless greater pressure is placed on him and those who overthrew him by the international community. Avril blamed Aristide's current plight on the international community, which allowed the agreement last July between Aristide and coup leader Lieutenant-General Raul Cedras to be disregarded. (Reuters)

Barbados

Bridgetown — Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford's administration is upset by yet another loss, as former Education Minister and Cabinet Minister Keith Simmons resigned. Simmons said he based his decision to step down from government on the controversial appointment of the Barbados Tourism Authority Chief Executive Officer Tony Arthur. He is the third government minister to resign between Feb. 25 and March 4. Wes Hall, former Minister of Labor and Sports, and Evelyn Greaves, former Minister of Culture and International Transport, also resigned during this eight day period. University of the West Indies political scientists Dr. George Bell and Dr. Neville Duncan believe that those who have resigned will remain loyal to the Democratic Labor Party, though they may not agree with Sandiford's style of governing. (Caribbean News Agency)

St. Lucia

Castries — The banana cutter's strike has ended, as those involved in the strike have accepted government's proposal to re-organize the Banana

Growers Association and the banana industry as a whole, according to the permanent secretary, Cosmos Richardson. The strike showed signs of coming to an end even before consultations occurred between the government and the banana industry, said Richardson.

The Banana Salvation Committee, a pressure group within the industry, called a cutter's strike on Feb. 23. The committee's main grievance was the St. Lucia government's decision to place a debt-ridden Banana Growers Association into receivership. Since the meeting between the government and the banana industry, the issue of receivership has been put on hold indefinitely.

South Africa

Mmabatho — President of Bophuthatswana, Lucas Mangope, has been removed from power according to authorities in Pretoria. South African armed forces stormed into the conflict-struck black "homeland" and restored civil order. The remaining white right-wing militants of the more than 2,000 who had stormed into the capital city to support its leader, were cleared out of the tribal territory. Mangope has been stripped of power, and an interim government established by South Africa's multi-party Transitional Executive Council will rule in his place until South Africa's first all-races election April 26-28. Following this election, Bophuthatswana and the other nine black homelands resulting from the apartheid system will no longer exist, as they will be incorporated into one nation. (The Washington Post)

China

Beijing — Premier Li Peng refused to negotiate with visiting U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher on the issue of human rights. The Clinton Administration threatened to disrupt bilateral trade unless China discussed amending its human rights policies. Though China receives a favorable U.S. trade status, which equates to a \$25 billion annual trade surplus with the United States, the Chinese government is willing to lose this position so as to avoid foreign interference. (The Washington Post)

April to be a busy month for international organizations

By Leslie Harris
Hilltop Staff Writer

The month of April will be filled with activities for the Caribbean Students Association and the Asian Students Association.

According to Nicole Jones, the secretary of the CSA, the organization is currently participating in a series of basketball games against the Bahamian Students Association at the University of the District of Columbia. In the first game held March 1, Howard beat the Bahamian students 85 to 83. The games are held every Wednesday and Friday, and the finals will be April 15.

Another item on their agenda was Caribbean Week. Designed to promote Caribbean awareness, the festivities will be held April 10-16. The week, which celebrates the CSA's 50th anniversary, will open with a service in Rankin Chapel. Other activities of Caribbean week will include an art exhibition, a political forum, a variety show and a fashion show co-sponsored by the Undergraduate Student Assembly.

The ASA, which meets the first Friday of every month, will sponsor a spring break outing for its members to Luray Caverns in the Shenandoah Valley. The organization will also participate in a summer cricket league tournament. And according to treasurer Sherif Saeed, the team is still looking for more competent cricket players.

However, the most important upcoming event for the organization is the election of new officers for the next school year. According to Saeed, many of the current members will be graduating this year, and the organization is in need of some new faces.

Correction:

In last week's article, "Conference seeks to unite blacks despite religious differences," it was inadvertently stated that "Howard University came under harsh criticism from Dean [Bernard] Richardson." It was in fact Rev. James Bevil who made the comments.

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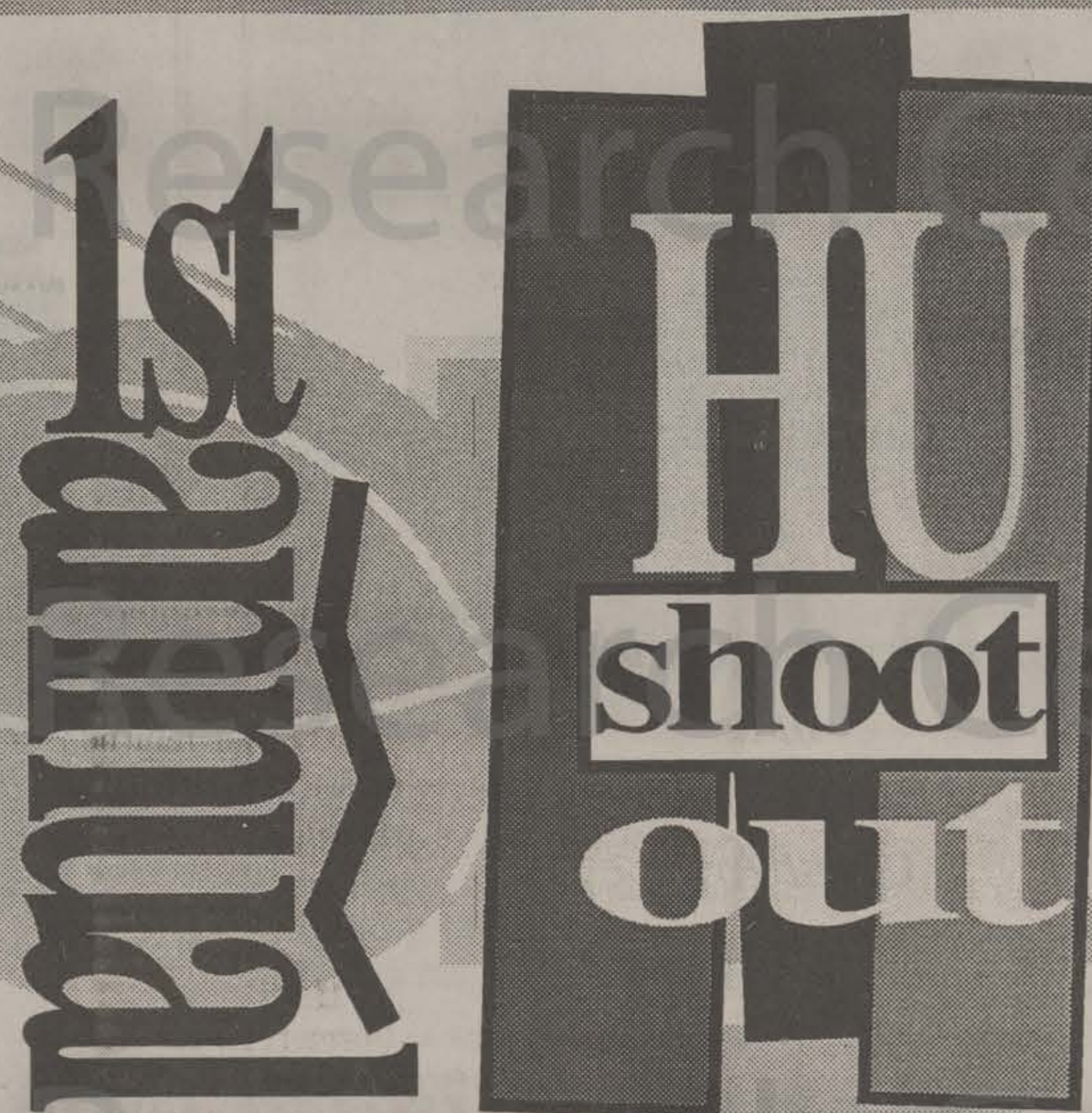
Today is the **LAST** day to pick up applications & to sign up for interviews for the **1994 HOMECOMING STEERING COMMITTEE**. Without a scheduled interview, applications will be **INVALID**.

VICE CHAIRPERSON & SECRETARY
Monday, March 21, 1994

PUBLIC RELATIONS & CORPORATE SOLICITATION DIRECTORS AND VENDING & VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS
Tuesday, March 22, 1994

PROGRAM COORDINATORS
Wednesday, March 23, 1994

Pick up applications and sign up for interviews for the above mentioned positions in the Student Activities Office in Blackburn Center, Suite 117.
DEADLINE: TODAY, MARCH 18, 1994 5PM



3 on 3 Basketball Tournament
Saturday, April 16 and
Sunday, April 17, 1994

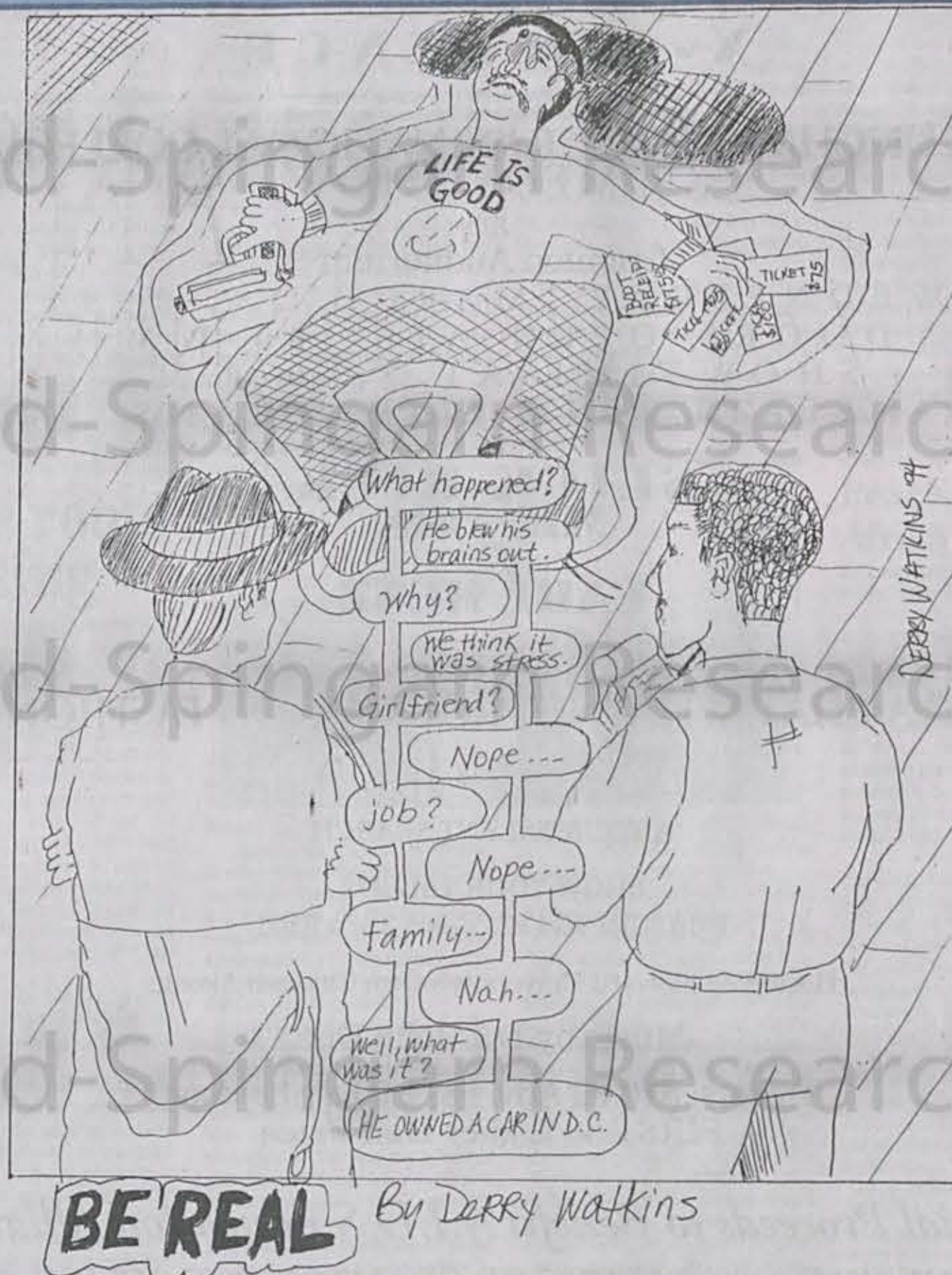
1st prize \$300
2nd prize \$150
3rd prize \$75

Proceeds to benefit the D.C.
Public High School
Scholarship Fund

Entry fee: \$30 per team. Deadline for entry: Friday, April 8, 1994
Registration forms may be picked up in Room 106 Blackburn Center. For information call 806-7009/10.

COMICS

**"Be
Real"**



BE REAL

By Derry Watkins

By
Derry
Watkins

Howard University

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John Newson, Conductor
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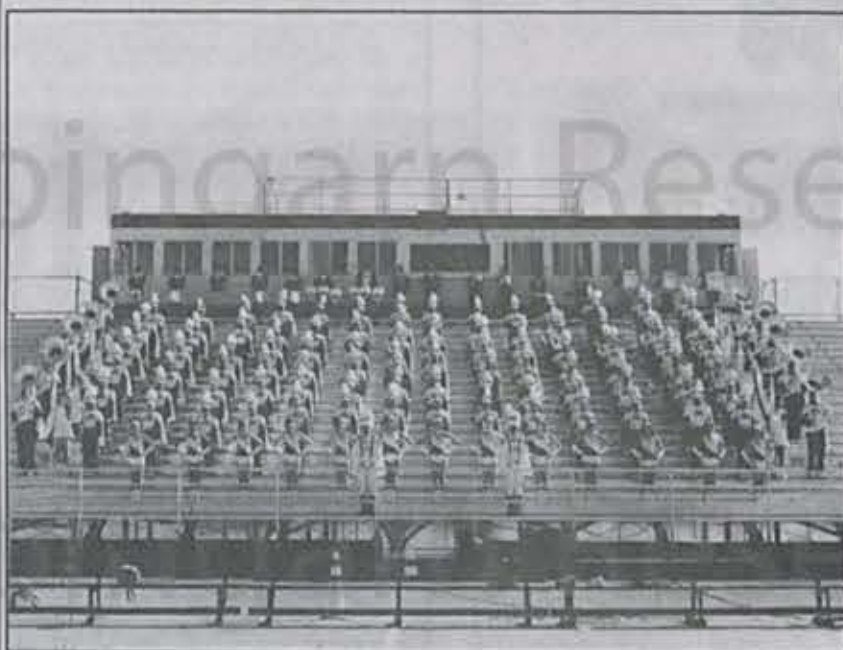
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Howard University
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WHEN: April 4-8

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TIME: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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STUDENTS ARE WELCOME

"HEY PERCUSSIONIST CHECK THIS OUT..."

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SHOWTIME MARCHING
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DRUM CLINIC

When: April 4-8th, 1994
Where: The College of Fine Arts
Band Room, B-002, Basement Level

Coordinator: Adolph E. Wright
Associate Director, University Bands

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Section

B Tempo

Lonzie Symonette shares her experiences/B2

Bison Men's Basketball team ends season/B5

How can you "Get to Tomorrow?"/B3

Hilltopics has important announcements/B8

People/B2
Sports/B5Pulse/B3
Hilltopics/B8

RANDOM THOUGHTS

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The month of March has been deemed Women's History Month. And it's a fitting time to commend the women of our society on their great and numerous contributions.

They are our mothers, grandmothers, sisters, friends, leaders, educators and so much more. Although it hasn't been easy, women have made their contributions to this country since its inception.

The past roles of women in our society had been limited. The phrase "behind every good man, there is a good woman" seemed to symbolize, in those times, the status of women — behind. Conceptualizing the fact that women could be more than just second-class citizens was not feasible.

Today, women are in the forefront of our society. No longer are they behind their men; they are beside them. Socially, politically and economically, women have made great strides and improvements in this country. Women are no longer limited to one particular role or confined to only taking care of their men. Their lives and roles are multifaceted allowing for motherhood, personal gratifications and careers.

As important as it is to celebrate the contributions and metamorphosed roles of women in our society, it is equally important to recognize and support future strides and the true equality that is yet to come.

—Melinda Spaulding

PRIDE

"I haunted the city dumps and the trash piles behind hotels, retrieving discarded linen and kitchenware. . . broken chairs. . . Everything was scoured and mended. This was part of the training to salvage, to reconstruct, to make bricks without straws."

—Mary McLeod Bethune

PLACES TO LIVE

American Demographics Magazine has ranked the following 20 counties as the most promising places for young professionals to live based on education, affluence and growth rates. They are listed alphabetically by state:

- *Shelby Co., Ala.
- *Douglas Co., Colo.
- *Jefferson Co., Colo.
- *Fayette Co., Ga.
- *Hamilton Co., Ind.
- *Howard Co., Md.
- *Dakota Co., Minn.
- *Olmstead Co., Minn.
- *Washington Co., Minn.
- *Rockingham Co., N.H.
- *Hunterdon Co., N.J.
- *Somerset Co., N.J.
- *Saratoga Co., N.Y.
- *Delaware Co., N.Y.
- *Chester Co., Pa.
- *Williamson Co., Tenn.
- *Fort Bend Co., Texas.
- *Chesterfield Co., Va.
- *Loudon Co., Va.
- *Prince William Co., Va.

—Source: American Demographics Magazine, Ithaca, N.Y.

CIGARETTES AND FIRE: WHAT'S THE CONNECTION?

Tests conducted by the National Institute of Standard and Technology show that five brands of cigarettes — More White Light 120s, More 120s, Virginia Slims Superslims 100s, Capri Light 100s and Eve Light 120s — are less likely to start fires.

NIST found that cigarettes with small circumferences, low-porous paper and low tobacco density were less likely to start fires in soft furnishings.

"The brand names are only as good as the tests that were run. In the real world, that doesn't mean much," said Walker Merryman, a Tobacco Institute spokesman. "It may be interesting as a laboratory experiment, but it doesn't bring us any closer to conditions as they exist in the real world."

—from The Washington Post,

IS GOD THE ANSWER?

FINDING SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY

By Shonda L. Huery
Hilltop Staff Writer

"I'll never make it to Howard," Phillip*, 13, said.

It is mid-day afternoon, and he is walking down Georgia Avenue swinging a bat in his hand, gazing at Howard University's campus.

"Today, I'm going to my friend's funeral. He gave me this bat," Phillip said. "My friends are getting shot all of the time, and I have been shot at a lot of times. Man. . . I'm going to miss my homeboy," he reflected.

Phillip, who has just been suspended from school for 25 days, walks the University's campus from time to time, in search of a quick

between 1990 and 1992. Since the 1980s, college enrollment of black males took a downturn. Educators are troubled by this statistic simply because higher education is essential to a good job and a growing income.

It is not just the low college attendance rate; other problems plague our community as well.

According to official figures, unemployment in the African-American community is over 10 percent.

Forty-four percent of African-American children under the age of 18 live in families with income below the poverty line. Congresswoman Maxine Waters of California expressed during a speech at

highest number of cases in teenagers and heterosexual adults.

WHAT IS THE ANSWER?

Obviously, there is no clear-cut solution to the myriad of problems plaguing our communities nationwide; however, several people believe the answer lies solely in the hands of God.

Dean Bernard Richardson of the Andrew Rankin Chapel believes that we must first start with the spirituality of our community.

"There must be a more spiritual base solution to get our community out of this predicament," Richardson said. "The spiritual needs of the community must be met first."

Richardson added that there is a spiritual and moral crisis in our community and in the world.

"The issues before us are so complex that we must begin somewhere. Therefore, let's begin with the spiritual aspects of the community," Richardson said.

According to Dr. Granville Seward, a recent speaker at Metropolitan Baptist Church, "It will take the power of God to really make a difference in our community. We all have the right attitude and the right words, but we don't have the right power," Seward said.

According to Seward, this power that he speaks about only comes from God.

"Why is it that we have every program for this problem, but there still are more black men in jail than ever before, more black young people dying than ever before, more black teen-agers having babies than ever before?" Seward asked.

"We can move a person out of the slums and put them into the suburbs, but if we don't have the power to change his/her heart and nature, that person will be the same person living in the slums. We must plug into the correct power source, which is God," Seward said.

Faith Luster, a sophomore majoring in Jazz Studies, believes that God is the answer. But she says many Howard students do not hear that enough.

"It's time for the people at Howard University to tell others that solutions to any problems can only be found through God," Luster said.

Luster added that the majority of the students, professors and staff members recognize that if it weren't for God, they would not be here. "We need to spread the word to those persons in the Howard community that have lost hope, and tell them that there is hope through God."



dollar and a quick dinner.

Phillip is just one of many youth within the Howard community who feels as if Howard will never be within his reach; he sees no reason for dreaming and little use in hoping.

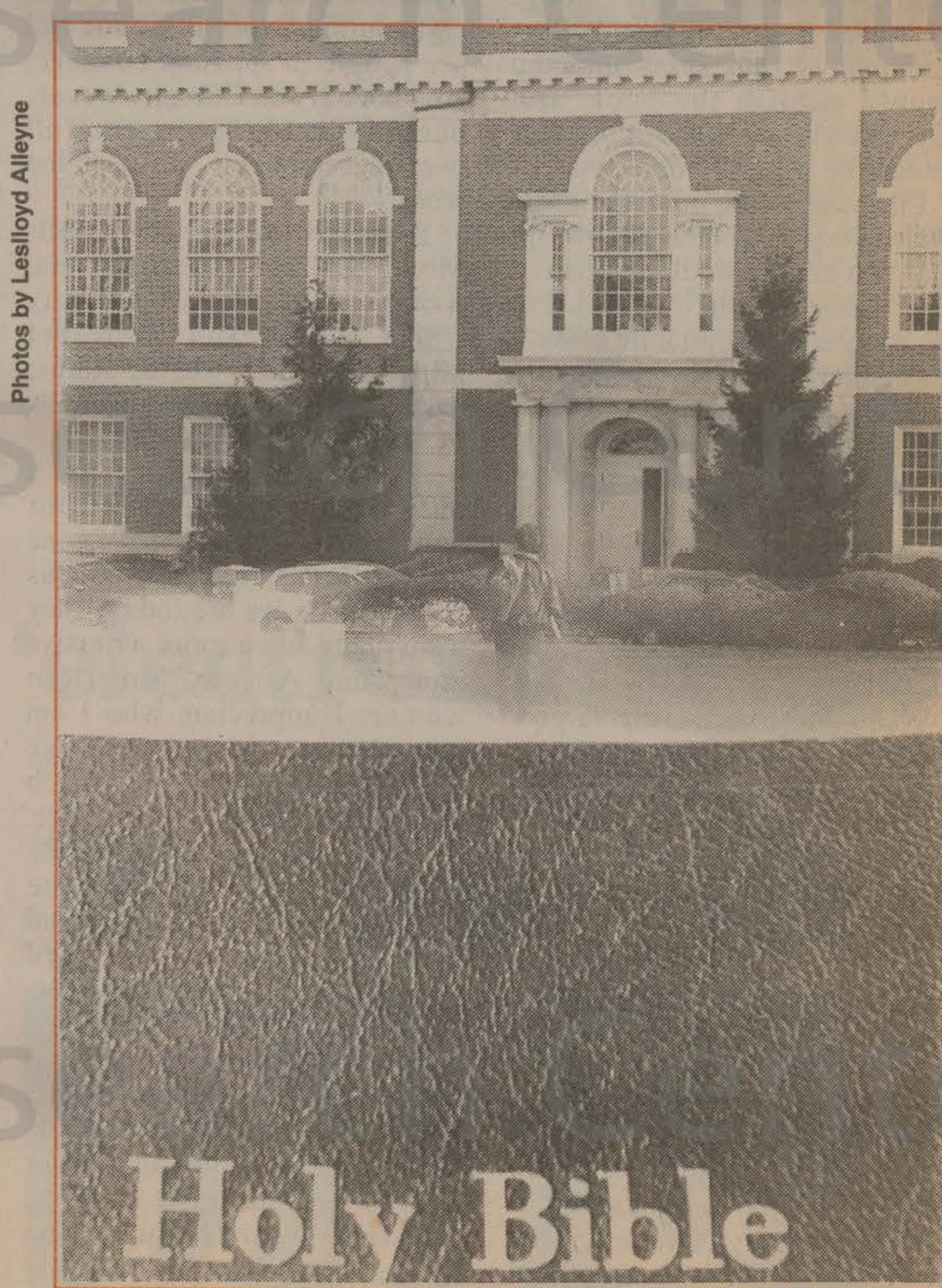
There are crack houses on many corners, within blocks of the University's campus. In many of these neighborhoods, crime is no stranger, and poverty is no ghost. Statistics to describe the problems within this community are not foreign either.

According to the American Council on Education, only 30 percent of black males who graduated from high school attended college

Howard's Convocation ceremony last September that when one's family can't earn a decent living, it makes getting an education and making something of oneself that much harder.

Statistics also show that every year more than 1 million teens get pregnant, and the birth rate for black teens is double that of whites. Eighty percent of teen mothers drop out of school and only 56 percent of them ever graduate.

According to the Center for Disease Control, as of January 1993, an additional 120,000 to 190,000 people have contracted the AIDS virus. For 1994, that is expected to increase 10 to 20 percent, with the



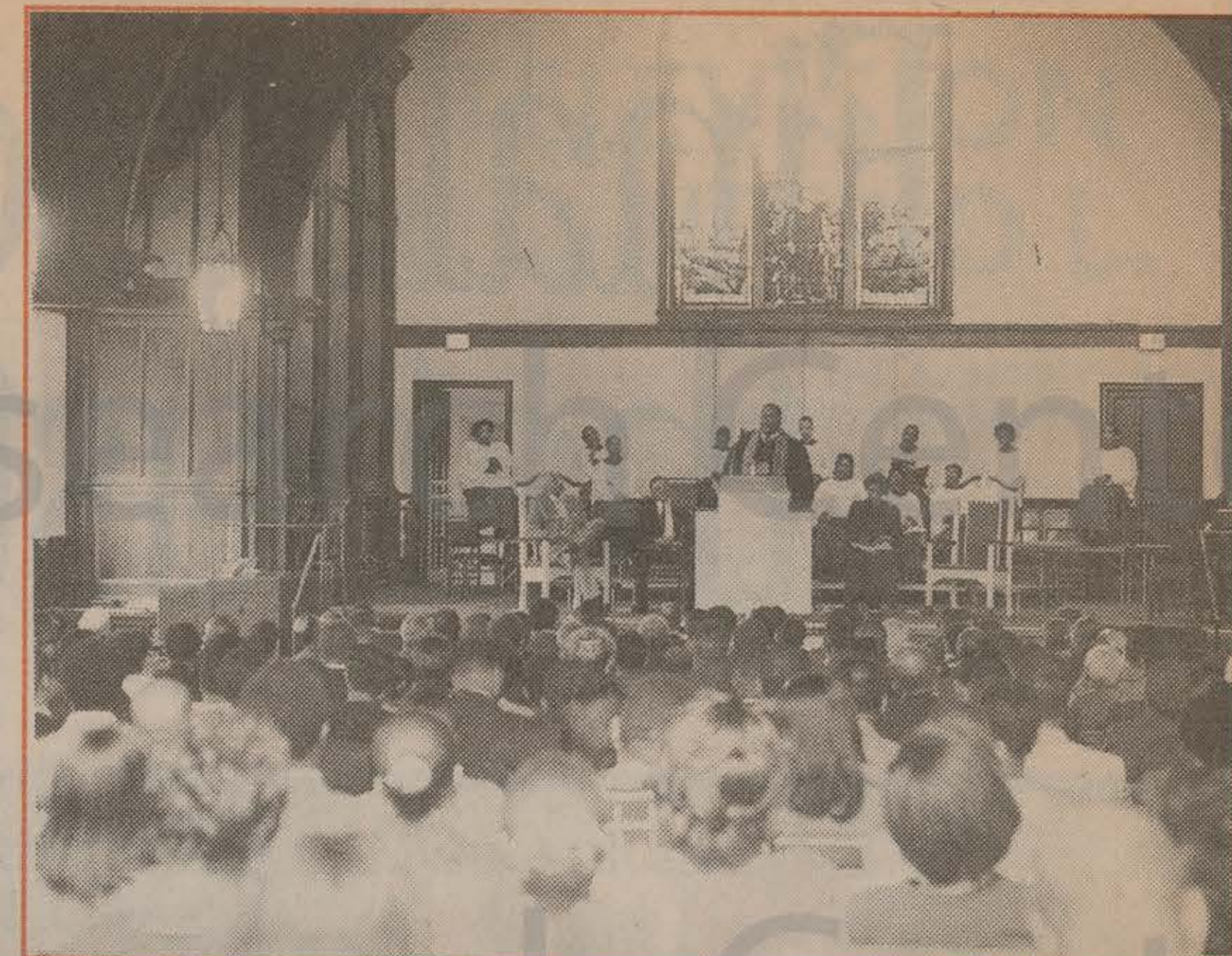
Luster said that there are organizations on campus that have the right motives, but are not actually making a difference.

"It is time out for all the talking, let's do some walking," Luster said.

Richardson, students, Howard administrators and community per-

empowerment series, which will try to tackle some of the issues facing our community. The series will take place March 17-18.

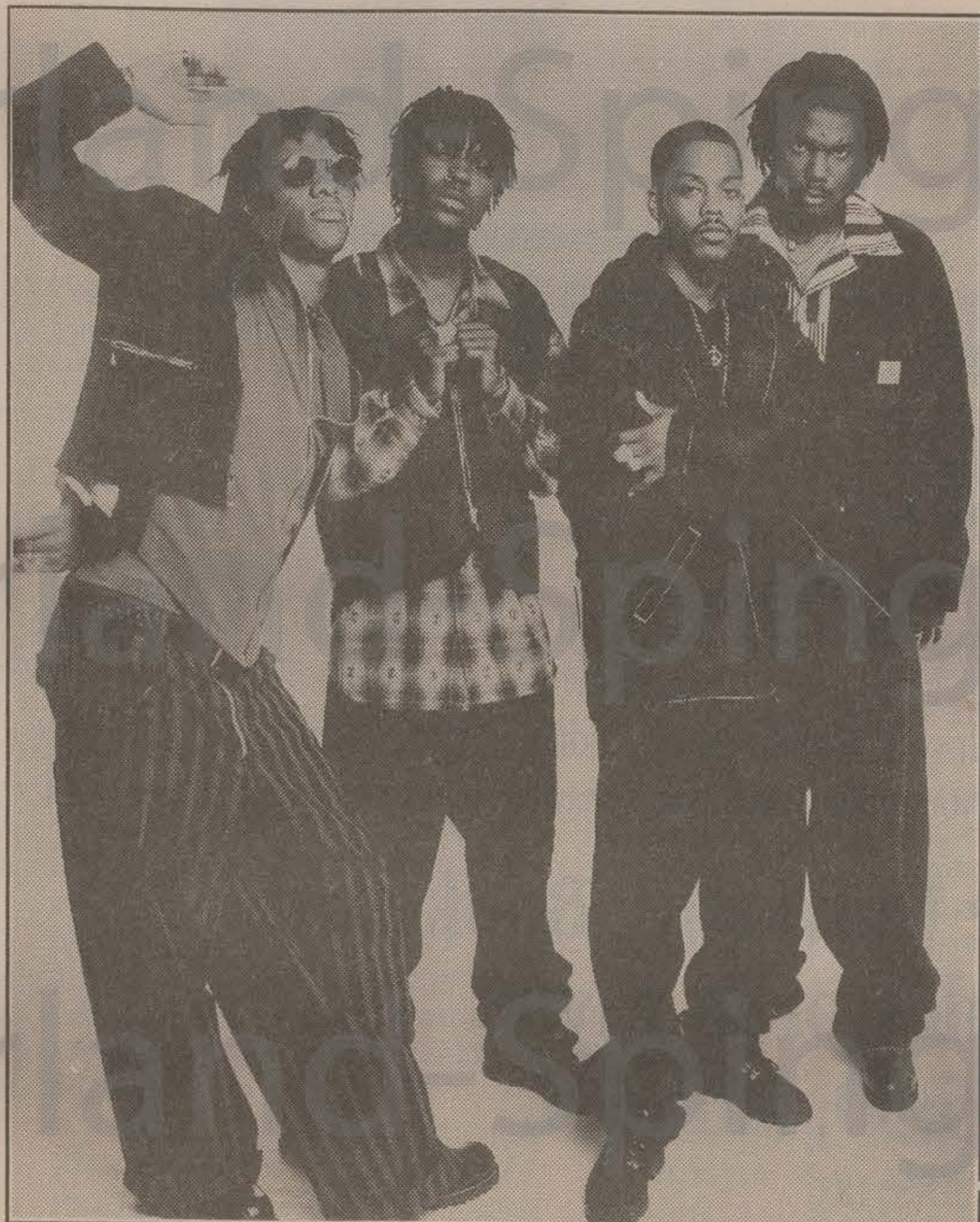
"We have decided that we must do something about the problems within our community. . . in the midst of this series we will first deal



sonalities are coming together to address the spiritual needs of the community as well as the campus. This group of organizers has formulated a campus and community

with the spiritual need of the community, by proclaiming that God is the only answer to any problem," Richardson said.

Afro-Plane takes black alternative music to another level



By Melinda Spaulding
Hilltop Staff Writer

Lately, the city of Atlanta has been producing a well-known core of original, diverse and profitable artists; the group Afro-Plane, although non-mainstream, possesses the potential to become an integral part of that core.

The Afro-Plane consists of four young men: Khalil McIntosh, known as Moon; Houston Perry, known as Blues; Christopher Turner, known as Soggi, which stands for Son of God with Great Intelligence; and Rodney Oliver as Brother Nous, which is the Egyptian word for reality.

The group members, who range in age from 18 to 20, say they embody the voice of "the kid from the hood, the voice of hope," and their music reflects this. Afro-Plane's sound is a combination of retro- '60s, '70s funk and an attempt at today's hip-hop style. Although hip-hop is very diverse and encompasses many different styles, calling Afro-Plane a hip-hop group is a bit of a stretch.

The argument against labeling groups could definitely arise in the case of Afro-Plane. Categorizing a group that integrates so many different sounds, including rock, is somewhat difficult. If there were such a category as Alternative Rhythm and Blues, then this group would certainly be placed there.

"Psychodialecticphnophunk" is how these Afrocentric optimists describe their songs. They base their songs on what they know and have experienced.

"We all grew up listening to old blues and soul, but our music is based on situations we see in our community today," Perry said.

The lyrics are inspiring and address some of the problems of our community. For example, "Daisy's Mission" is about a girl who tries to gain power by trading sex for cash, and "Tin Soldier" is a song about the pitfalls of drug dealing.

But it's the way that Afro-Plane translates their musical influences of their childhood and transfers them into concise harmonies, diversity and strong bass lines that will

grab the attention of many non-traditional and possibly mainstream listeners.

Sedrick Woods, manager of Atlanta-based Kane productions, calls the group the "voice of the generation."

This may very well be, but one of the downfalls to Afro-Plane is that what they are doing has been done before. A distinct sound can not be pinpointed and attributed to another group, but the angle taken to tackle social ills may remind some of another Atlanta-based group — Arrested Development.

The intent of Afro-Plane is obvious, but one cannot help but have visions of Butterfly from Digable Planets when listening to the cut "Caesarian Born Solution."

Fortunately, the taste in music today is expanding and many are becoming more open-minded and accepting of non-traditional groups. As a result, there is more room for groups like Afro-Plane, which allows for continued diversity and a larger sector of non-traditional black music.

Writer, publisher shares talents with community

Lonzie Symonette writes inspirational meditations; sheds light on contemporary slavery

By Nicole R. Alexander
Hilltop Staff Writer

Out of all the zillions of people in the world, there are a few who dare to dream, hope and aspire. There are even fewer who possess the will to carry out their dreams, hopes and aspirations.

Lonzie Symonette is one of the few.

Fourteen years ago, Symonette was inspired to write her first book, *A New Slave Song*. However, none of the publishing companies that she contacted would publish the book. But Symonette would not let her dream be so easily deferred.

"No one would publish *A New Slave Song*. I sent the manuscript out, but no one would publish it. Since they wouldn't, I decided to do it myself," Symonette said. "I turned my dining room table into my layout room, opened an account with the smallest number of checks and a penny, and I learned how to use a computer."

She desk-top published her book under her own publishing company, LMS Publishers, and then it was contracted by Thomas Nelson Publishers, the largest publisher of Christian books.

The logo for LMS Publishers is a lock with a key inside. Symonette says this is an appropriate logo because of its meaning.

"When all of the doors have been closed, remember God has the key. Just ask him for it. I couldn't get anyone to publish my book, but through God I found a way to do it myself. Now I have a book that is being circulated," Symonette said.

Recently Symonette revised *A New Slave Song* and published it under the title *He Calls Me By The Thunder*. The new book contains meditations

on spiritual freedom and the slavery of African Americans. Symonette said the book's meditations are short and easy to read quickly.

She decided to write the book because she said she saw that many people were in contemporary slavery.

"The Lord inspired me to write the book and show, through the tragedy of our ancestors and slavery, contemporary slavery," Symonette said. "You can look right out on Georgia Avenue and see people in spiritual bondage. And not only on Georgia Avenue, but in Colorado Springs, and all over the country.. . all over the world."

In the first chapter of *He Calls Me By The Thunder*, Symonette writes: "I have gained a dignity which my ancestors were not allowed. I have worth; status; value; and a new, refreshing view of life."

"[African Americans] are a part of a large family. Our ancestors, people who have gone on before us, have helped us become who we are today. They have made me a more assertive and proud African-American woman. I appreciate who I am better because of the knowledge that I've gained through research of my proud history and heritage."

"If our ancestors could survive and accomplish things despite all of the terrible situations and hardships that they struggled through, then we better do it. We have an obligation to achieve," Symonette wrote.

When it comes to her career, Symonette is multifaceted. Aside from being an author and owner of LMS Publishers, she is also an assistant minister at Payne Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Colorado Springs, Colo.; a speaker; and a student at the Nazarene Bible



College. Symonette also is the wife of Norman Symonette and the mother of Howard University students Erika and Stephanie Symonette.

As a speaker, Lonzie Symonette has traveled throughout the Western United States, speaking at Christian women's retreats. She also has had speaking engagements at mother/daughter functions.

"At my speaking engagements, I tell women what brought me to Christ and how I became a Christian. I tell them what my life was like before I became a Christian and how much more fulfilling my life is now," Symonette said.

Symonette also spoke at Howard University in the Human Ecology building in October 1992.

With all of her speaking engagements and work as an author and assistant minister, Symonette must make time for studying. She is currently completing her education in Biblical Studies and Christian Education.

Symonette says that her busy schedule is never too hectic.

"I can accomplish all of the projects that I am involved in because I give Christ first place in my life. I realize that I cannot accomplish anything by myself. Christ works through me to do

all these things. When you put Christ first, the energy to accomplish things comes from Christ. He's the only way that I could do this," Symonette said.

Symonette also credits her husband and their two daughters for making her tasks less difficult.

"My husband and my daughters are extremely supportive of me. I'm truly blessed to have their love and support," Symonette said.

Symonette has many plans for the future. She is working on producing another book titled *Everyday Soaring*, and she will continue to write Sunday school curriculum for African Methodist Episcopal churches' adult Sunday school classes.

Her other plans include the production of a children's book.

Symonette is currently working on a children's coloring book about African-American history. She first came up with the idea for the coloring book when her daughters were in pre-school. She said their curriculum lacked information on African-American history. She talked to the principal of the school and developed an African-American history coloring book that was used at the school. Symonette is now "fine tuning" the coloring book for mass publication.

Symonette also plans to conduct do-it-yourself desk-top publishing seminars. She says that with these new projects, she hopes to have a busy and productive future.

VITAL STATISTICS

Name: Lonzie Symonettee

Profession: Author, Publishing Company Owner, Assistant Minister and Speaker

Place of Birth: Fitzgerald, Fla.

Words of Wisdom: "Someone once said that wisdom is taking what you have and doing the best that you can with it."

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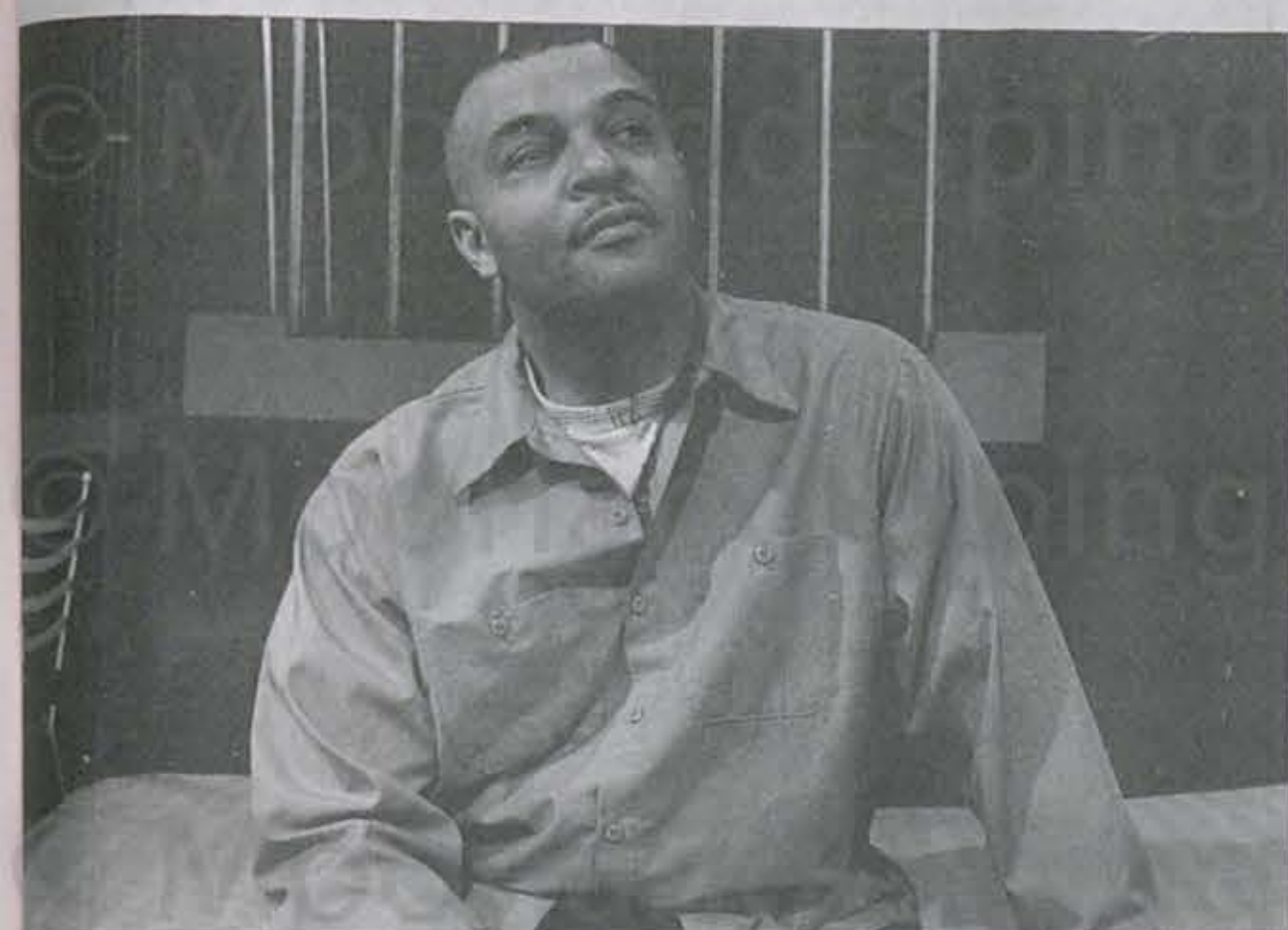
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Play brings to stage inner-city life experiences



Harry Tate portrays down and out Calvin Hawkins in "Get To Tomorrow."

By Derrick M. Dennis
Hilltop Staff Writer

For recovering drug addict-turned actor Harry Tate, struggling to "Get to Tomorrow" is something he knows from personal experience.

Tate, who stars as the lead in Roy Barber's original play "Get To Tomorrow," saw his own history of substance abuse and strained family ties through his character, Calvin Sr. "The play was very related to some of the experiences I had with my son," Tate remembered. "My character showed me that it's important to be humble and accepting of others no matter what their circumstance and that sometimes it's stronger to bend a little than to put all your energy into trying not to break."

"Get to Tomorrow" is the story of an inner-city family broken by a father whose dangerous street life landed him in jail, a mother whose loneliness drove her to the company of another man, a son who idolizes his less-than-perfect father and a daughter who says she hates him. But it's Cal Sr.'s recovery as an

addict, a father, a husband and a law-abiding citizen that becomes the overriding source of contention in the play.

"We got each other. We got enough to make a start," was Cal Sr.'s sincere and simple remedy for the pain he found his family in upon his release from jail.

Set in a small, inner-city apartment with a view of the Capitol, "Get to Tomorrow" was written by white playwright Roy Barber as a true account of the troubles and triumphs of a black family in a negative environment trying to make positive strides.

According to Barber, his race did not stand in the way of his showing how "Get to Tomorrow" is a metaphor for many dysfunctional, inner-city families trying to pick up the pieces of a broken family-life.

"In the last four years, I have just been overwhelmed by the violence in Washington D.C.," Barber said. "With this play, I researched and interviewed several families and individuals whose stories were the ones that I felt needed to be told."

And judging from the comments and words of praise from several

audience members both during and after the play, Barber was successful in his attempt to be true to the realities of the black inner-city family.

"This is the first play where I felt the problems of black people were humanized in a positive light," said Washington, D.C., resident, Darryl Stanfield. "It's plays like this that really show that it's okay for bad things to happen because good things usually follow."

And for Barber, the good that came from Cal Sr.'s disheartening struggle to reclaim his family and "make it all right" was the hope of better days to come.

"I frankly went looking for hope — anything that might be hopeful," said Barber of his research for the play. "I heard stories of random brutality both within the home and on the streets, the passing down of patterns of abuse and the horrible pain of the addict who cannot stop using."

"Get to Tomorrow" is showing at the Source Theatre, 1435 14th St., N.W., until April 3. For tickets, call the Source Theatre at (202) 462-1073.

Many music videos face network's 'electronic scapel'

By Miguel Burke
Hilltop Staff Writer

Snoop Doggy Dogg, Dr. Dre and Wu-Tang Clan are just a few of many artists who have caused the standards and ethics committee of major video networks to raise their eyebrows when they saw questionable content in videos that these artists submitted for airplay. Their videos have all entered the

The final result is not be the video that the artist originally intended for the viewer to see.

At major video networks like BET, VH-1 and The Box all videos that are submitted for airplay must be previewed by their own standards and ethics committee and must comply to each networks individual standards to be considered for airplay. If the video does not meet the committee's approval then the video can either be defocused or sent back to the record company to be edited and resubmitted for airplay depending on the amount of editing that needs to be done. Some of the main reasons that videos are edited are because artists endorse offensive paraphernalia, network affiliations with sponsor(s) and some videos violate standards set by network.

If a minimal amount of editing is needed, then the network can either edit footage or defocus an image in a video in approximately 10 minutes.

Defocusing is a process which makes an image on a video unrecognizable. If a greater amount of editing is needed, then the video is returned to record company for editing. This can take days to reshoot a scene in a video.

BET has a strict policy in which submitted videos must adhere to in order to receive airplay. In an effort to set an example for the community, BET has a strict "no guns" policy that does not allow artists to have guns in their videos.

If a video is submitted by an artist that advocates or shows the artist with a gun, it is defocused. They also refuse to show videos in which women are objectified. Profanity, racial and sexual preference discrimination and excessive violence also cause videos to fail to receive the approval of the committee.

Kevin Taylor, Music Researcher at BET said, "BET's standards for music videos are so well known throughout the music industry that we generally don't have to request a lot of edits. But when we do, the labels and the video directors are very cooperative. Our common goal is to get the best product on the air, so its to our collective advantage to work together."

Scott Williams, Assistant to Press and Public Relations at The Box, feels that the standards and ethics committee is fairly lenient with accepting the videos that

artists submit because the viewers are the ones requesting the videos.

"We allow the artists to express themselves to what our board of directors considers good taste. We have videos that are submitted to us. Then they are viewed by a standards practice board. They'll make the decision whether the content is ok. Ultimately it's the viewers themselves because they are the ones programming our network," Williams said.

Aside from FCC regulations that all video networks are required to follow, the only thing that The Box objects to is blatant profanity.

VH-1 rarely has to have videos edited because they do not show hip-hop and heavy metal videos, the main type of videos that need to be edited for offensive material.

"We don't edit any videos on our channel," said Janis Unterweiser, public relations officer. "If we accept the video for air, it then goes to standards and practices to view the video and they view the video and make the decision if its fit for air. There are certain things



that are not allowed on our channel."

Signage, product placement, is one of the major things that will cause a video to need editing because VH-1, like other video networks, profits off of sponsors who advertise with the network.

"It's simply because advertisers buy time from us," said Unterweiser.

Nudity and extreme violence, which is rarely in the videos that are submitted are other things that will cause a video to need editing.

District program reinforces artistic education for youth

By Arnesa Howell
Hilltop Staff Writer

The Washington Very Special Arts program is helping District youths find safe and constructive ways to avoid the streets.

This program, also known as WWSA, is a community-based non-profit arts in education organization serving children and young adults in the Washington metropolitan area.

The Washington Very Special Arts program was started in 1981 by Dr. Richard Riccio and some Trinity College students, as a graduate student project. Since then, the college has provided both office space and student tutors for the program.

Kathryn Johnson, WWSA associate executive director, said the program is unique because it helps students who have special needs, whether they are pre-kindergartners or 21 year olds.

"We help children who have learning disabilities, physical disabilities and those who don't understand English," Johnson said.

The program places all participants in an integrated setting, so those with special needs will be able to discover their strengths, abilities and confidences through the use of visual arts, creative writing, drama, dance and music.

Johnson, who has worked with the youths for about two and a half

years, said one of the missions of WWSA is to help young people gain employment through visual arts.

So far, the program seems to be working.

Afterschool job sites for the program have been established at J.O. Wilson Elementary School, Bankroft and Cardozo Senior High School. Before working at these designated sites, the students are required to attend a training session at one of the three training sites: Trinity College, Cardozo Senior High School or Mamie D. Lee School. During training, the youth are taught to write resumes and given lessons in the skills needed to become entrepreneurs.

Johnson added that students are paid through the D.C. Department of Employment Services.

"They [students] spend nine hours on the job doing clerical work, filing or whatever task that's geared toward their career goals, and six hours at Trinity College," she said.

However, the five part-time artists and four full-time staff members who work with the program do not only work with the youth. The artists also instruct the teachers on how to incorporate art into their regular teaching methods.

"Some artists went to Bancroft Elementary, a school in Mt. Pleasant that we've been working with for three years now, and helped the students to make a quilt

using different cut-out shapes when the class was learning about shapes," Johnson explained.

Approximately 50 students enrolled in the afterschool program are being taught drug and AIDS awareness, as well as conflict resolution.

"We want them to learn to express anger in constructive rather than destructive ways," she stressed. "So we break them up into groups of two or three and give them a scenario to play out, and they have to come up with a constructive and a destructive resolution."

Recently, the program's future was uncertain. Because of a lack of city-wide funds, the program was facing a budget cut at the end of this month. Luckily, after the students banded together and voiced their opinions through a letter to Mayor Sharon Pratt Kelly, the funding was restored.

The approximated \$110,000 budget for the Washington Very Special Arts program is provided with the help of the D.C. Department of Employment Services, the Freddie Mac Foundation, the U.S. Department of Education and the D.C. Public School-Vocational Education Branch.

For those interested in supporting the program, check out The Arts Are Magic Festival 1994 on April 14 at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts starting at 9:45 a.m.

Sweet Sweet Sweet Sweet Sweet Sweet

-n-

our Sour Sour

Dear Sweet, Sour and Spice,

I am a fourth year student who has had a crush on this guy since sophomore year. He knows who I am by face, but I am not sure if he remembers my name. We exchanged numbers a while ago, but he never called. I need a male as well as a female opinion on this one. If I just up and call him now, and he doesn't remember my name, I think I'll be crushed. What should I do?

—3rd-year crush

Dear Crush,

It seems to me that nothing will happen if you do not make a move. You'll never get to know this guy better if you just sit around waiting for him to call. Since he has not called thus far, I think it's a safe bet that he will not call anytime soon. You have nothing to lose, so I say you should call. If he doesn't remember you, it won't hurt to refresh his memory. At least, you would satisfy your own curiosity. At most, you might find yourself in a fulfilling new relationship.

—Sweet

Dear Crush,

Nothing ventured, nothing gained. Look around you, and take notice of all of the successful and happy people you see. If you look closely, you might realize that they all have something in common. They have all taken risks of some type. Whether that risk is taking on a difficult second job or asking the guy in class for his number, these people all realize the importance of

living life to the fullest. If you call him and he does not remember you, so what? It's not like you spilled your heart for him and declared your undying love; and if he seems rude or disinterested, just wrap up the conversation and go on about your business. Your pride is NOT on the line in this case, so go ahead and call him. And if he seems genuinely happy to hear from you, then you'll be glad you did.

—Sour

Dear Crush,

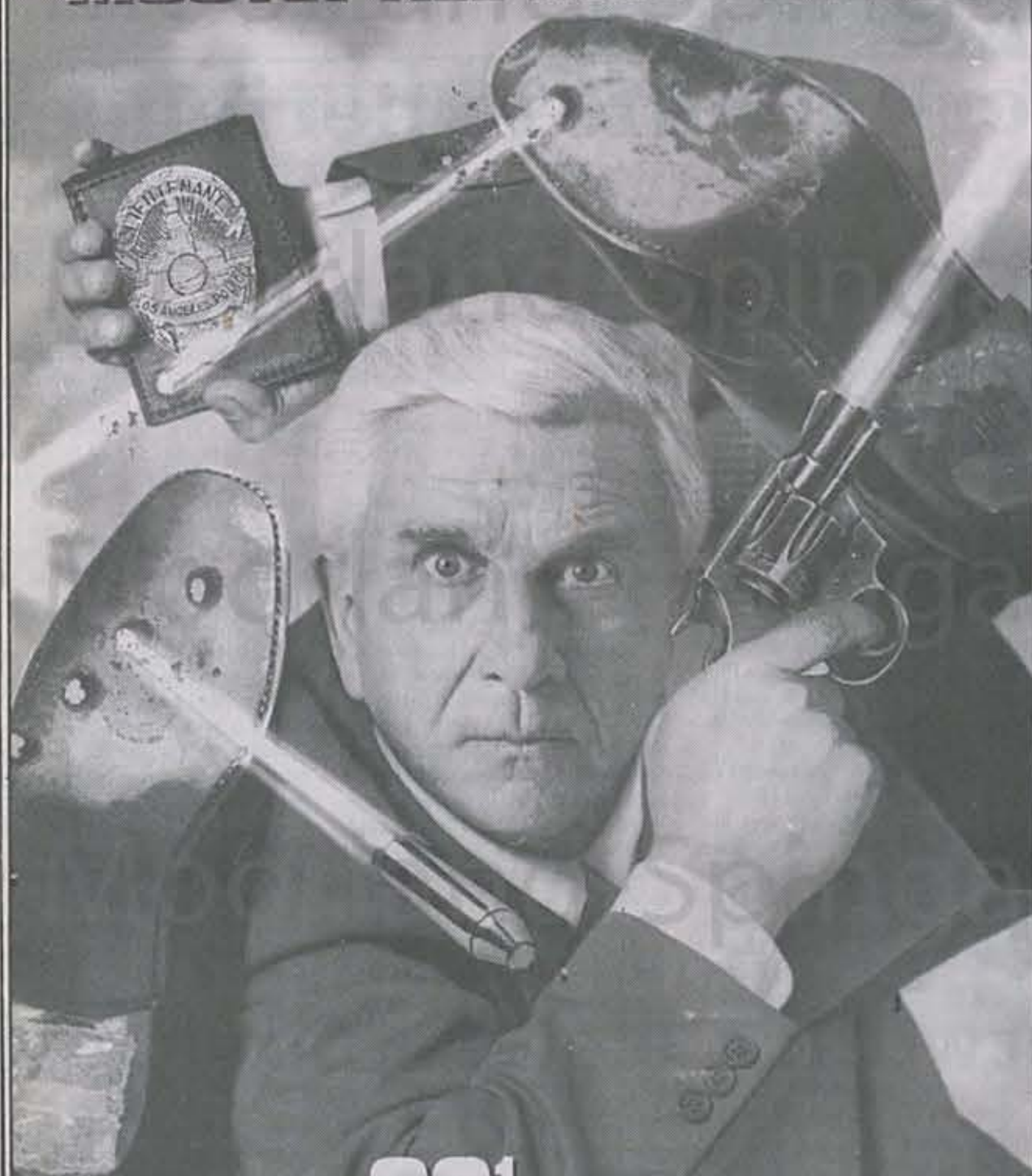
I don't know why you're wasting your time thinking about this guy when he's obviously not thinking about you. If he were thinking about you, he'd have called you a long time ago. Now if a girl gives me her number and I'm not interested, I call her. If I'm not interested then I won't. Not to sound mean, but sometimes I don't understand how Howard women can be so stupid. You talk about how you get your feelings hurt by men when all you're doing is setting yourself up to get hurt. If he wasn't interested then, he won't be now. If you call him and he hurts your feelings, all you're going to say is Howard men are no good. Do yourself a favor and leave well enough alone.

—Spice

The views expressed in this column do not necessarily reflect the views of The HILLTOP. If you have any questions for Sweet-n-Sour or for Spice, bring your letter to The HILLTOP, 2251 Sherman Ave., N.W., or leave your letter in The HILLTOP mailbox in the Office of Student Activities.

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SPORTS

Bison end disappointing season with loss to A & T, look to next year

Monica M. Lewis
Staff Writer

For most of the 1993-94 collegiate basketball season, "Butch" Beard paced the Bison, often frustrated with the way he saw in his team. Last night, Beard's pacing and the season came to an end as the Howard University Men's basketball team fell to the Aggies of North Carolina A&T 61-57 in the quarterfinal round of the 1994 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference tournament.

"It was a very frustrating year for us," Beard said. "For some reason, we just found ways not to

With the overtime loss, the team, who were seeded sixth in the tournament, finished their long season with an overall record of 17-7-10 in the MEAC. The number-three seeded Aggies, 16-10 overall, went on to capture the MEAC championship crown today in an 87-70 victory over North Carolina State. At press time, North Carolina A&T faced a nation's number one team, Kansas, in the first round of the National Collegiate Athletic Association's basketball tournament.

At the end of regulation, the game was knotted at 50 after a missed scoring opportunities

by the Bison in the closing seconds. The extra session saw the Aggies, who had not beaten Howard in either of the two regular

season meetings between the schools this year, take advantage of several Bison turnovers to outscore them 11-7 in overtime.

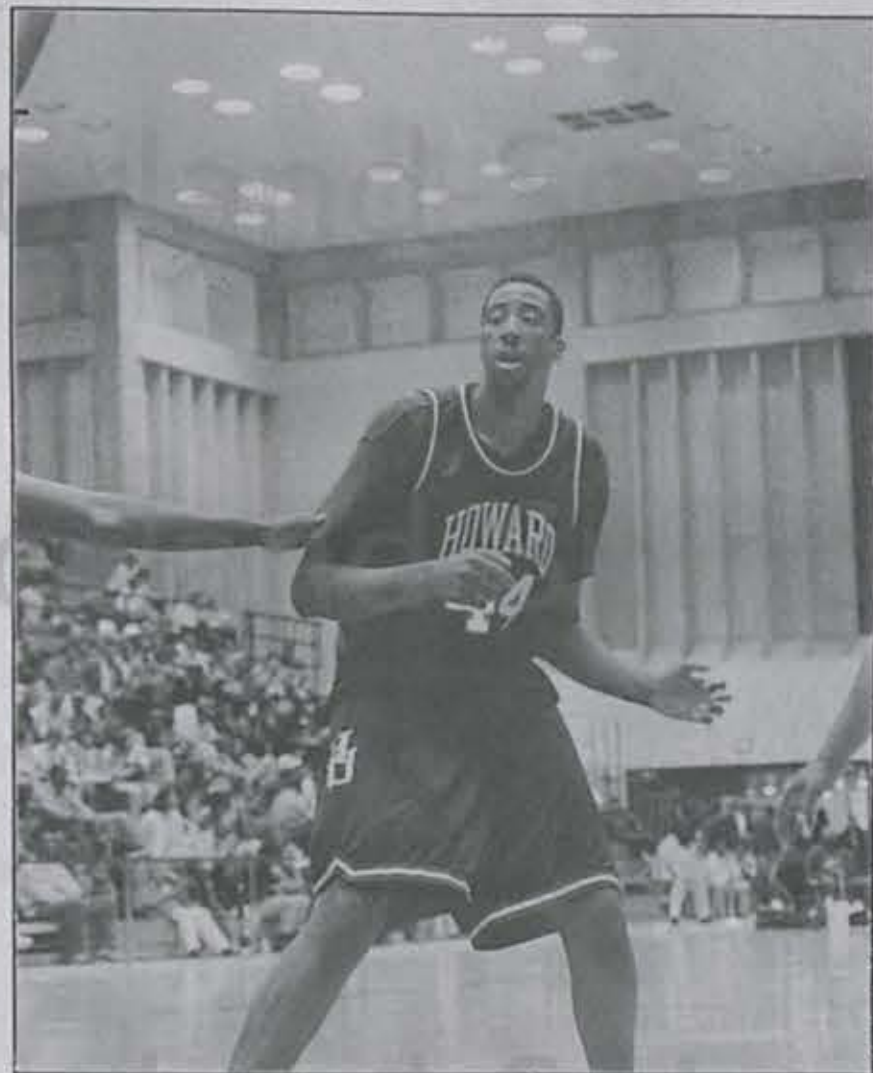


Photo by Charles Emory

Center Grady Livingston led the Bison in scoring and rebounding last week against the Aggies of North Carolina A & T.

Howard has not had much success with North Carolina A&T in past conference tournaments. In fact, in the 13 MEAC tournament match-ups between the two, the Bison have won only once, a 66-63 victory in the 1981 tournament final. From 1982 to 1988, the Bison lost to the Aggies in six finals and one semi-final match-up.

The Bison were led by junior Grady Livingston in scoring and rebounding. The seven foot center earned a double-double, capturing 17 points and 14 rebounds. Livingston, who is second among the nation's players in shots blocked, had six rejections on the night. The only other Bison player to score in double figures was junior forward Sean Turley who scored 12 points.

According to Beard, his players played hard, but did not mentally approach the game or the season very well.

"I don't think that they were mentally ready to play all season long," Beard said.

The Bison finished the season with five consecutive losses, winning nine of their final 11 contests. Beard said that, for now, he will try to get this season out of his system. But his coaching staff and the team will begin preparing for next season in a couple of weeks.

1993-94 Bison Men's Basketball Scoring Results (First number is the Bison score)

Kentucky State	69-62
James Madison	71-94
St. Peter's	63-75
Jackson State	69-75
Long Island	67-41
Northeastern	62-64
Southern Cal.	65-107
Winston-Salem St.	71-63
Old Dominion	60-74
N.C. A&T	66-65
S.C. State	87-100 (4 OT)
UMES	88-66
Delaware St.	66-67
Bethune-Cookman	60-65
Florida A&M	93-83 (OT)
Morgan State	86-72
Coppin State	60-72
Coppin State	62-79
Bethune-Cookman	60-65
Florida A&M	78-70
UMES	56-64
N.C. A&T	77-68
S.C. State	75-82
Delaware State	85-91
Louisville	65-108
Morgan State	73-75
N.C. A & T	57-61*

*Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference quarterfinal game.

Grapplers end season on promising note

Kate Higgins
Staff Writer

On Saturday, March 5, when Howard students were preparing for the last home wrestling game, the Howard University Grapplers were competing in their last wrestling match of the season.

The Grapplers traveled to Harrisburg, Penn., to compete in the Eastern Regional Wrestling tournament. According to Paul Brown, head coach for the Grapplers, this tournament is the qualifying tournament for the National Collegiate Athletic Association wrestling tournament. Eleven teams competed in the tournament. The first place winner in each weight class qualifies for the national tournament. In addition, two wild card positions

of wrestlers who did not win first place in their class were voted on by the coaches in the tournament.

While none of the Grapplers placed first in their class, three members — Sean Clayton, Colin Thompson and Alphonso Taylor — placed among the top six of their weight class.

Taylor and Thompson were both in a position to claim wild card slots, but unfortunately they were not selected.

"I was disappointed that I did not get to go to the national tournament, but I am excited about next year because the guy who beat me is a graduating senior. This opens up the floor for me during the next three years," Taylor said.

"Even though nobody won first place this year, I am glad that we

went because we showed a lot of improvement. Last year, we placed last out of all the schools, and no one placed in their division. This year we placed 7th out of 11 schools, while also having three of our wrestlers placing in their division," said Andre Mitchell, a wrestler in the 167-pound weight class.

In preparation for the tournament, the Grapplers practiced hard.

"It does not matter what happens in the regular season; what matters is how one wrestles during the tournament. You have to be prepared to wrestle your best that day," Mitchell said.

"What it came down to was if you just had a good day, not if you have a good season. You can beat a guy twice in the regular season

and come to the tournament, have a horrible day, and get beat by the same guy you easily won over," Taylor agreed.

This year's Grapplers showed some improvement on last season's squad. This time last season, the team was in desperate need of wrestlers because every weight class was not represented. But this year, with the help of a solid recruiting effort, the team showed progress and potential.

"At the tournament, a lot of the different schools commented on the improvement of our team this year," Taylor said.

Cotton agreed with team members that the season was somewhat of a success and that they will continue to strive to put Howard University wrestling on the map.

Monica's Thoughts On...

College Basketball

The "madness" has returned. For the past two weeks, teams from all over the country have been staking their claim to participate in the NCAA basketball tournament. March Madness, as it is affectionately called, always seems to bring out the true competitive spirit of college basketball teams. It also brings along its fair share of upsets, from the Cinderella teams to the elite teams being just that—elite. From Morgan State's quarterfinal upset over MEAC powerhouse Coppin State last week in the conference's championship tournament, which snapped Coppin's 35-game MEAC winning streak, to the University of Virginia dropping Duke in the ACC's semi-final, anything can and usually does happen.

Many people that I talk to believe that this is probably the most exciting time in sports, both professional and collegiate. Everywhere you turn there are office pools floating around on which teams will be the Final Four. Every newspaper sports section has dedicated at least six pages to all the tournament happenings. Yes, there is a certain madness that goes around with the NCAA tournament.

At this very moment, young men and women are playing their hearts out to make it to the final round. Some will, while others have to wait until next season. For the men, those who are eligible to enter the NBA draft might go pro; while for the women, the only real option is to head overseas. But for now, they all are concentrating on one thing—winning!

So, sit back and enjoy what you are about to see. I guarantee that the unexpected will take place. I have my four teams in mind, but going on my history of predictions, I think I'll keep them to myself for now!

Any suggestions for the Sports page?

Contact the Sports Editor
at 806-6686

SYRACUSE ABROAD

Introducing our newest star... Harare, Zimbabwe

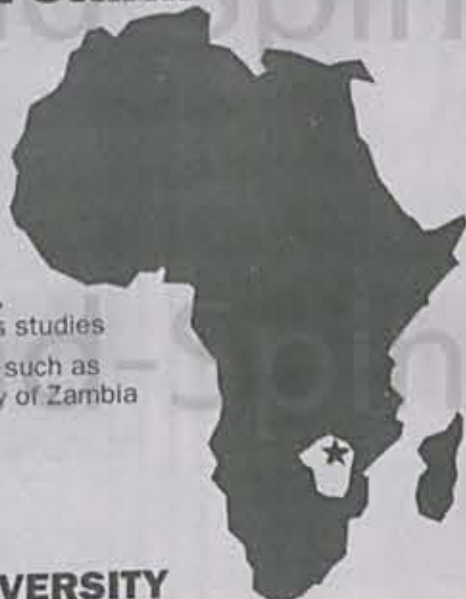
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WORKSHOP ON INTERNATIONAL REPORTING

VENUE: WEST TOWER PLAZA COMMUNITY ROOM

DATE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 1994

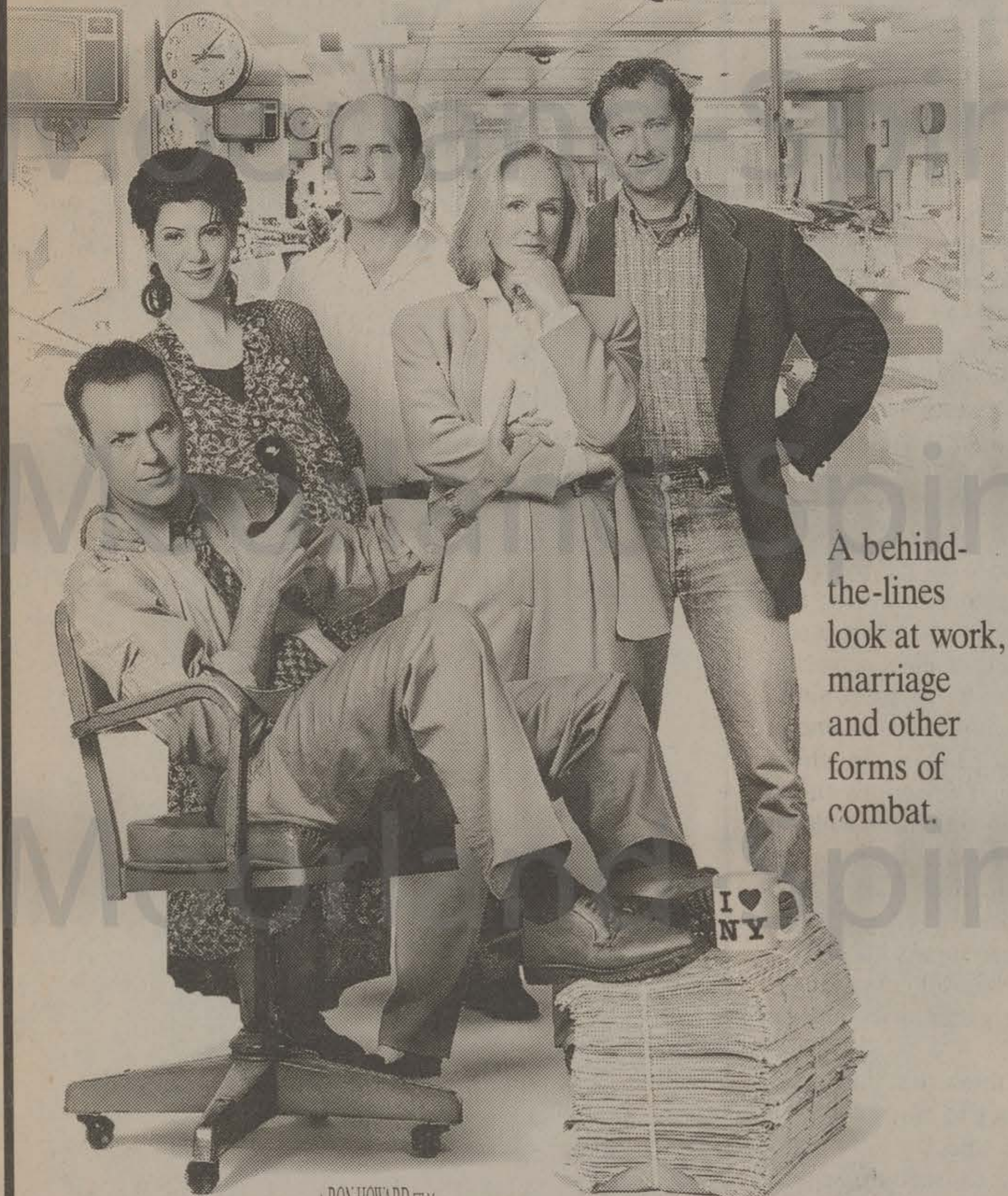
TIME: 6 P.M.

PRESENTER: EYVETTE COLLYMORE, EDITOR OF INTER-PRESS SERVICE, AN INTERNATIONAL NEWS AGENCY AND RADIO PRODUCER WITH THE CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY
SUBJECT: IMPERATIVES IN INTERNATIONAL REPORTING

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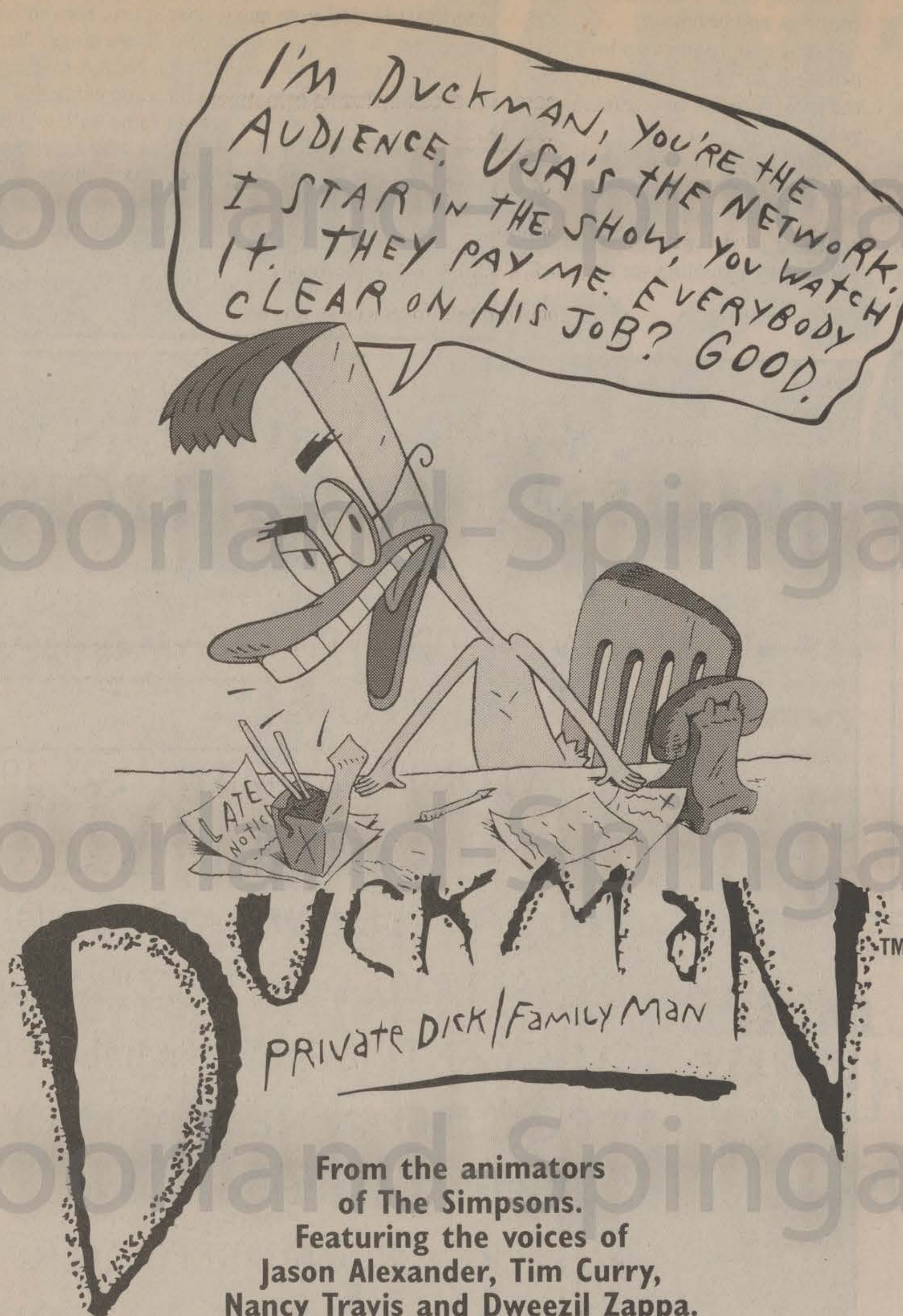
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THE HILLTOP WANTS YOU!

Pick up applications for '94-'95 positions on the editorial and business staffs in the Office of Student Activities in the Blackburn Center.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Free Geronimo ji Jaga (Pratt) Now! Howard Spartacas Youth Club Forum/ Video showing. Fox-TV News series exposes FBI Frame-up! Wednesday, March 23, 8pm. Undergraduate Library Lecture Room.

Attention: You can now pick up an application if you're interested in working with H.U.S.A. for the '94-'95 school year. Applications can be picked up in the Office of Student Activities, Blackburn Center. Application are due no later than March 25, 1994 at 5:00 pm. Return completed applications to the Office of Student Activities.

Undergraduate Student Assembly proudly presents its **Spring Black Arts Festival - Awareness: The Power of Soul.** It will start right after Spring Break. April 3 - Call to Chapel; April 4 - Mini Gospel Concert & Poetry Reading; April 5 - Jazz Performance & Showtime at Mecca (Variety Show); April 6 - WHBC 20th Anniversary Celebration Art Display, and R&B Concert; April 7 - New Artist Expo & Fashion Show (with Caribbean Student Association); April 8 - Yardfest, Call to Mosque, and Cabaret; April 9 - Spring Picnic on the Yard, Step Show, and After Party; April 10 - Gospel Concert. **IT WILL BE THE BOMB BABY!!!**

Models!!! Needed for Mr. Loverman project. Model call coming soon.

Med Tech Club Meeting, Monday, March 21, 5 pm, Rm 339. C/AHS Attention: TODAY is the last day to pick up applications and sign up for interviews for the 1994 Homecoming Steering Committee. Without a scheduled interview, all applications will be invalid. The positions and dates for interviews are as follows: Vice-Chairperson & Secretary 3.21.94; Public Relations & Corporate Solicitation Directors and Vending & Volunteer Coordinators 3/22/94; Program Coordinators 3/23/94. Pick up applications and sign up for interviews for the above mentioned positions in the Student Activities Office in Blackburn Center, Suite 117. Remember: **DEADLINE IS TODAY, March 18, 1994 at 5 PM.**

High Tea & Conversation with Dr. Portia H. Shields, Dean, School of Education for faculty, graduate students and friends hosted by Episcopal/Anglican Ministry; Tuesday, March 22, 1994, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. School of Social Work Student Lounge, Room 15

Free Tax Services Beta Alpha Psi sponsors Volunteer Income Tax Assis-

tance (VITA) Saturdays, 1-4pm. School of Business Rm. 418.

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NOONDAY PRAYER

12 noon to 1 pm. Every Wednesday and Friday Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel

Witness exquisite poetry and jazz. March 22 at 8 pm in Sutton's Lounge

NAACP General Body Meeting, Thursday, March 24, at 6:30pm Undergraduate Library Lecture Room.

Student Cluster General Meeting March 23, 1994. 7 pm - 9 pm, Blackburn Rm. 142

Teach For America Meeting, March 23rd. School of Architecture. Room 236, 6:00 pm

Phi Alpha Mu, General Body Meeting, April 6, 1994 at 7:30 pm in Douglass Hall. Dues and programs will be discussed.

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Community at H.U. invites you to Fellowship. Fridays 7pm, Little Chapel Carnegie Bldg.

Easter Egg Hunt!!! The Florida Club will sponsor a Easter Egg Hunt for the Day Care Center located in the Human Ecology Building on Friday, March 18 at 3:00 p.m. Please come out and join us!

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Models!! Needed for Mr. Lovdman project. Model call coming soon.

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Activities for Rankin Chapel

March 13. Rev. Benjamin Watts, Pastor. Shiloh Baptist Church - New London, Connecticut.

March 20. Dr. Manuel Scott, Pastor. St. John Missionary Baptist Church - Dallas, Texas.

March 27. Dr. Charyl Sanders, Associate Professor of Ethics, Howard University, School of Divinity.

April 3. Dr. James Massey, Dean of the School of Theology, Anderson University-Anderson, Indiana.

April 10. Rev. Leon Watts, Pastor, Jackson Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church - Hempstead, New York.

April 17. Dr. Calvin Butts, Pastor, Payne Memorial A.M.E. Church - Baltimore, Maryland.

April 24. Dr. Vashti McKenzie, Pastor, Payne Memorial A.M.E. Church - Baltimore, Maryland.

May 1. Dr. Bernard W. Franklin, President, Livingstone College - Salisbury, North Carolina.

May 8. Dr. Bernard Richardson, Dean of the Chapel.

May 14. Commencement.

Attention: All those interested in becoming involved in the community. The Black Dollar Days Committee needs volunteers to help plan for the 1994 Black Dollar Days extravaganza. For more info please call 865-8253.

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Toastmasters has moved to Room 142 in Blackburn on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. For more information call (202) 328-3109.

Attention Arts & Sciences Students All sophomores and juniors in the college of arts and sciences who have not completed a scheme of graduation requirements must officially declare their major by doing a scheme. Delay in completing the scheme may result in a delay in completing your registration which begins on April 4, 1994. Contact your advisor in the educational advisory center, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays from Feb. 21 through March 18, 1994.

POWER FOR LIVING Interactive Bible Study and Fellowship every Tuesday 6:00pm. Sponsored by Azusa Campus Ministries/Church of God in Christ. The Fire Yet Burns. "All international Students in need of financial assistance, apply for the HUSA Int'l Scholarship. For more info, leave a message for Marilyn or Regine.

Volunteers needed for H.U.S.A. Community Outreach Programs. For more info, call 806-5572.

H.U.S.A. needs volunteers for the Environmental Task Force. For more info, call 806-5572.

Music Student needed to write lead sheets using Midi and Music notation software. Must have a keen ear for melody and chord construction. Paid per song or per hour. Call Mr. Dawson at (202) 882-1447.

Psi Sigma Pi sponsors the First Annual Greek Hoop Fest (Kappas, Alphas, Omegas and more) Saturday, March 19th. Burr Gymnasium. Registration begins at 11:00 a.m. Admission: 50 cents or canned food. All are welcome to attend.

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Saturday, April 16, 1994

7:30 p.m.

Cramton Auditorium 6th

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For Further Information:

(202) 462-3655-William Braver

(301) 593-1704-Jeffery Waddy

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