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### The Hilltop 4-18-2003 Yearbook Edition

Hilltop Staff

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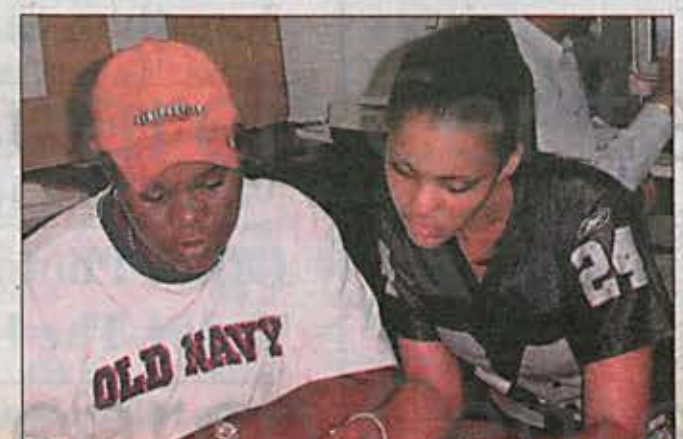
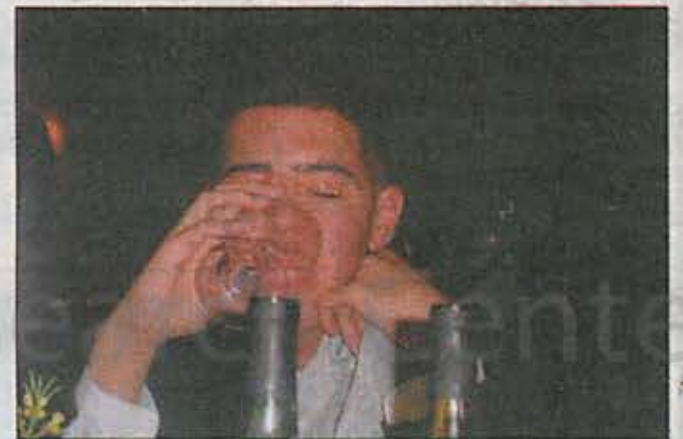
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# THE HILLTOP

## *Yearbook*

2002-2003





## The Hilltop

Lauren Bayne Anderson  
Editor-in-Chief

Josef Sawyer  
Aisha Chaney  
Managing Editors

Cassandra Cumbess  
Editorial/Perspectives  
Editor

Kerry-Ann Hamilton  
Stephanie Crouch  
Campus Editors

David Johns  
Assistant Campus Editor

Miriam Ahmed  
Amber Mobley  
Nation & World Editors

Maryann James  
Business Editor

Leesa Davis  
Health & Fitness Editor

Jozen Cummings  
Life & Style Editor

Bernard Murray  
Sports Editor

Chandra Anderson  
Maya Gilliam  
Photo Editors

Shani O. Hilton  
Copy Chief

### BUSINESS STAFF

Olanike Bello  
Business Manager

Miyanda Jackson  
Asst. Business Manager

Chauncie Burton  
Advertising Manager

Jamye Spiller  
Advertising Solicitor

Jonathan Sims  
Office Manager

Arren Dodson  
Administrative Assistant

# THE HILLTOP



## Yearbook

### 2002-2003

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Friday Managing Editor

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Editor-in-Chief

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# Aisha Chaney, Managing Editor

## Mom, This One's for You

"...I love you precious. I'll see you tomorrow..." I compared my life to a race. Everything was moving rapidly. Yet, when I laid my head to rest on the night of August 20, 2001, I eagerly anticipated the hours speeding by as the words spoken by my mother echoed in my head. In the morning I would be flying to Georgia to visit her and my younger siblings before returning to the Mecca to resume my courses.

I was awakened by my father's voice. When I opened my eyes, blinded by the bright light, I saw him sitting on the side of my bed as he held my brother's hand, who had one knee on the bed and one foot on the ground. Sitting on the bed on the opposite side of me was my stepmother. All eyes were on me. My father then spoke. "I just received a call from Grandma Pam. Your mom died this morning..."

She had been diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor and for nine years her seizures were mild and controlled by medication. On this morning a granmal seizure ended her pain and her life and changed my life forever.

Three days later I viewed my mother lying motionless inside of a casket. It is a vision that I will always remember. I never thought that at age 19, I would be attending the funeral of the woman who gave birth to me.

I attempted to be strong for my entire family, especially my eight-year-old sister and ten-year-old brother who witnessed my mother's last moments. Yet, my faith was being tested. I know that I was not suppose to doubt God, but I could not understand why He would allow someone so good, gentle, and loving to suffer and die. Very little mattered at this particular time

and I felt like dropping out of the race.

Starting school just two days after the funeral was extremely difficult. My mere presence was questioned and I was told to return home and grieve by many of my acquaintances. I was unsure how I would emotionally deal with my mother's death, but the memories of how proud she was of my academic accomplishments kept me



focused as I reversed my sadness with determination.

During that year, my life took an unexpected turn for the better when my first story for *The Hilltop* was published. Fifty-five stories and eight months later, I was honored to receive the Staff Writer of the Year Award at our annual Hilltop banquet. A few days later, I was named Friday Sports Editor for the 2002-2003 year. My faith had been restored and I was back in the race.

My life became more arduous when I returned home to Arizona. It was the first summer since I was six years old that I didn't visit my

better and bitter, but I knew it was really up to me and the outlook I chose to take. God promises that he will never give me more than I can han-

purpose for all that happens. For more reasons than one, this has been my best year of college. It's been extremely challenging academically, but more importantly, it's been very rewarding. I've learned many valuable lessons and surrounded myself with friends who genuinely care about me. I've experienced being *The Hilltop's* Sports Editor & Managing Editor, and a Sports intern at WUSA-TV9, but my ultimate dream came true when I was blessed with the privilege of being interviewed by ESPN, last Friday. This was one of my ultimate career aspirations.

I wish I could call my mom and tell her how much her "Precious" has accomplished, but I know that not only is she watching over me, but she lives on inside me and helps me to persevere each and every day. My life still reminds me of a race, but I have learned that

it is a marathon rather than a sprint or dash. The life I have chosen is a long-distance run. I must pace myself, persevere, and most of all, finish the race.

*Thanks for such a memorable year Hilltop Staff. L-good luck this summer at WSJ, Josef-best of luck as the new EIC, Steph-my best friend forever, thanks for all the great advice... luv ya, P-Thanks for coming through for me second semester with Sports! Jozen&Kerry- Thanks for all the laughs, you guys are great! Soraya-I've seen you grow so much as a writer! Keep it up, I'm proud of you. Roomate(Chauncie)-I'll miss ya, good luck at the NBA! ACD- I truly believe God put you in my life for a reason and I'm so thankful he did-I love you!*



Above left, my mother and I three years prior to her death.



Above right, my siblings and I in front of my mother's house for the last time, the day after her funeral.



These are all pictures of me with the most important people in my life.



mother and family in Georgia. However, during my times of testing and hardship, my spiritual roots grew deeper, thus strengthening my faith, and I formed a new perspective on life. I realized that some of the people in my life and some of my actions were unnecessary and were therefore eliminated. These times had made me

He also blessed me with my wonderful family whom I was now home with and we shared much love, laughter, and support.

I've always lived by the scripture, "...I can do all things through Christ Jesus who strengthens me..." (Philippians 4:13) but I also believe there is a reason and



# The Editor-in-Chief

## I'll Never Forget...

I'll never forget the headline: "Controversy Surrounds Selection of New Hilltop Editor-in-Chief." They were talking about me.

I wasn't next in line for the position. I had taken a year off from The Hilltop to co-found the District Chronicles. I was not wanted.

But I came anyway (I wouldn't be Lauren without controversy!!). And it was the best thing I could have done.

For the first time in history, The Hilltop published two full sections twice weekly. We returned the paper to the internet, we published two magazine issues, we cleaned up the look of the paper and became more creative.

We broke news and increased the number of celebrity interviews. We held our student leaders and administrators accountable—and effected change.

And although we are still nowhere near perfect—we reduced grammatical errors.

We had a great year. Being Editor-in-

Chief, is the hardest thing I've ever done. Probably the hardest thing any of the EICs have done up to that point.

But I can say with confidence that while it's been the hardest year of my life, it's also been the most rewarding and I wouldn't trade it for anything.

**TO MY STAFF**—you are the greatest. I know I have been hard on you, but it was only to make the paper and your sections better. On deadline I could be very short. But it was never personal.

Making deadlines, and keeping the paper under budget sometimes stressed me to the point of near insanity. But I've always respected you and appreciated you all.

And I hope that's what you remember.

To my managing editors—thanks for supporting me — because there were times I just knew the paper was not coming out the next day and I was almost ready to give up.

**AISHA**— You did the damn thing with sports. Thank you for stepping up to the plate. I loved Friday's issue because you always made your deadlines! You were a great M.E.

**AMBER**—Good luck at the Boston Globe and (my creation), the District Chronicles.

**JOZEN**—You are a trip. I don't know how many of us have

you do, you make your sources relaxed. Yet you take your professionalism seriously at all times. One of the things I've always respected you for is that you always side with the common man—something this country (and the media industry) needs more of. Do that damn thing at Vibe!

**CHANDRA**—affectionately known as CHA! You are only other person on staff who has been here as long as me ('99 baby!) What ever happened to Eric Hall anyway? I've always admired your creativity and your spunk. Thanks for doing the cartoons that no one else wanted to do! And coming through often last minute.

**DAVID**— my protege! I'm glad we got you into this journalism thing. We will miss you.

**JONATHAN**— my office manager extraordinaire. You screened my calls like no other!

You protected me from all the people I did not want to talk to and the people I did want to talk to—just later. It may not seem like a big thing, but because of your interference, the paper was able to make deadlines. You held it down in the office. Thanks for everything.

**OLANIKE**-- Thanks for everything. Without you we'd be in serious debt. Through it all, I appreciate everything you've done. Now can we be friends again—please?

**KERRY - ANN**— Your farewell is one of the hardest to write because I'll probably miss you the most. When you co-authored the infamous "Controversy Surrounds New EIC..." story, I didn't know you very well—and I didn't

care to. I don't know what possessed me to hire you anyway—some things are just fate, they are meant to be. But I couldn't have made a better choice.

This year you made me respect you with your keen news judgement. You have been known to interview a source 13 times (not naming any names...) if that's what it takes to get the story right. You have news integrity we should all aim to achieve.

When things looked really bad, I promised you that no matter who left the paper, I wouldn't. But I didn't realize you made that same promise

to me.

So many times when I was confused, and wondered how on Earth the paper was going to come out that week, you served as my rock. My constant. You kept me going. You often kept me sane.

Thank you so much for being so reliable, for taking on so much, for sticking by me and my decisions and for being one of my best friends. I love you and I'll miss working with you.

**STEPHANIE**-- thank you for turning campus Friday around. You remind me so much of myself, how can I not love you?

Campus is the heartbeat of The Hilltop. Without you (Kerry and Steph), The Hilltop would have dropped dead! Aside from me — you guys work probably harder than any one else. I can't say thank you enough.

**LAWRENCE**-- without you, I'd have no staff left. Thanks for your constant coaching.

Cassundra, Shani, Jodi, Poet, Miriam, Leesa, Maryann, Maya, The Hilltop cartoonists, photographers and staff writers, we couldn't have done it without you.

Last but not least, **JOSEF**—the EIC elect (I'm not letting go yet... May 10....).

You started the year out as a staff writer. But you saw what you wanted and kept it in sight.



*Lauren Bayne Anderson  
Editor-in-Chief, 2002-2003*



As a freshman in '99-'00, I never thought I would be Editor-in-Chief, one day. Above, The Hilltop and (now-defunct) Community News staff members at the HBCU Newspaper Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. I was named Hilltop staff writer of the year.



# — Lauren Bayne Anderson —

## A Wonderful Year, in Review

No one has worked so many jobs at The Hilltop as you. And each job given to you, you did well—really well. I know that you will carry that over to your new position as EIC.

I'll always remember our late night talks—while you were putting up the site and I hadn't learned how to leave the office.

I can only hope that I've prepared you for your new journey. So if I haven't said these things before, I'll say them now.

Being the EIC is a lonely job. You work with a staff of over 60—but not one of them understands where you are coming from.

No one will see your side of the situation. Ever.

You will take the blame for everything that goes wrong while your staff takes credit for everything that goes right.

You are constantly in demand. You have absolutely no free time.

You are an enemy to some administrators and student leaders alike. You are even an enemy to some staff – if they are unlucky enough to have their pay cut.

Thirty things are going through your mind at one time, from "Is this potentially libelous?" to "Why are we spending so much on payroll?"

Class? That's a joke. You'll never go.

You don't understand now. But one day SOON, you will.

A wise journalist once told me that as a reporter, if everyone likes you, you are not doing your job.

The Hilltop is the only real form of checks and balances this campus has. **Hold them accountable.** And don't think twice about it.

I promise you that this year you will develop the toughest skin you've ever had.

Remember that with any problem you can call on me or any of the past EICs. There's a long line of people who have been there before—and felt what you are feeling. So, even when it's lonely, you are not alone.

Almost every EIC back to 1989 has made themselves available. I appreciate all of your help and advice. I even appreciate Steven Gray (EIC '98-'99) who sends me correc-



PHOTO BY JEREMY HARMON, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, DAILY UTAH CHRONICLE (STUDENT NEWSPAPER)

As Editor-in-Chief, I was afforded the opportunity to travel Israel with editors from other student newspapers, including Harvard, Duke and American Univ. As a reporter, the trip helped me understand the conflict in the middle-east along with the unique culture. As a woman who is "half" black and "half" Jewish, the trip served as a pilgrimage to my ancestor's land and forced me to recognize my strong connection to my Jewish heritage. Above, Israeli soldiers at the Wailing Wall— the holiest site for Jews.

tions all the way from France.

To our advisor—**DANA WILLIAMS AND DEAN**, thanks for allowing me to vent! (and Dana for my palm pilot! Everytime I use it I'll think of you!)

Thank you to the Journalism Department Chair, Phil Dixon, Professor Rice-Lamb and Dr. Kaggwa, who were always available to me, even on their off time. Kaggwa— Thanks for always being the student's advocate.

**DEAN DATES**-- You supported us with the District Chronicles, you supported me running for EIC. It's because of you that I was able to come back to school. Thank you.

Howard-- you haven't gotten rid of me yet! One more year!

To all the people I didn't have time to see, please don't take it personal, I was just really busy.

To The Hilltop, thanks for giving me the best year of my life.

-- Lauren Bayne Anderson,  
Editor-in-Chief Emeritus.



I was privileged to be a guest on ABC's Nightline, on the anniversary of the historic Roe v. Wade decision. On the show, I spoke about how women's reproductive rights are being threatened and why supporting abortion rights remains important especially with our increasingly conservative government. Below, me and my trusty Campus Editor, Kerry-Ann Hamilton, at the Charter Day dinner.



Throughout the year, former Hilltopers have come out of the wood-work to offer assistance. Above, left, Ramonica Rice, of CNN (former Hilltop City Editor), me, CBS affiliate reporter, Portia Bruner (Editor-in-Chief '94-'95) and everyone's favorite professor, Dr. Kaggwa, at the National Assoc. of Black Journalists national convention, 2002.



# The Staff

## Year in Pictures

*Miriam M. Ahmed*  
Nation and World Editor



PHOTO COURTESY WWW.UNANSWEREDQUESTIONS.NET

**US Captures Chief AlQaeda Mastermind- Khalid Shaikh Mohammed.**



PHOTO COURTESY WWW.GLASSTEE-  
LANDSTONE.COM

**The decidedly best structure for the World Trade Center memorial, was designed so that no shadows will fall at the site between 8:46am and 10:28 am- the times that the planes struck the towers on 11 Sept.**



PHOTO COURTESY: WWW.FARENET.ORG

**Soccer fans demonstrate against racism.**

Grannum and Sean Jackman- this section would be non-existent and I would've had numerous heart attacks.

It was my aim to effectively inform readers about the ongoings around the world. I hope that I communicated some knowledge, however little, and that you guys enjoyed reading as much as I enjoyed my endless searching for stories that would interest you.

Please forgive the typos and errors made! I was checking if you were paying attention!

It was truly a pleasure working with The Hilltop newspaper despite there being more downs than ups.

If not for the hard work of my staff writers- Ria Davis, Jonathan

### The Leading Edge, a Major Question

The Columbia investigation has focused on the left wing. Pliers from the external tank, a small metal file or a small piece of space debris may have damaged the structure. Designed to protect the shuttle from heat and maintain its aerodynamics.

**Reinforced carbon-carbon (RCC-C) panels**  
It didn't get as small as a needle in a haystack struck these panels. It could lead to loss of the craft.

These leading-edge surfaces can withstand temperatures up to 5,000 degrees. But they're vulnerable to damage.

High-temperature surface tiles



External tank  
Carbon-carbon  
RCC-C panels  
High-temperature surface tiles



PHOTO COURTESY WWW.ALLIANZ-  
ZARENA.COM

**The new state-of-the-art Allianz Arena in Munich is to be the new homeground for the German soccer team.**



PHOTO COURTESY WWW.NYTIMES.COM

**Columbia Shuttle: What Really Happened?**

# Expect the Unexpected

## Amber Mobley, Nation & World Editor

I don't live to live up to the expectations of others. I want to surpass all



expectations instead. Throughout the year I seriously hope that y'all, my readers, have learned something, had a laugh or thought of a current event in a new light.

That was my goal as Nation & World Editor for Friday's edition of Howard University's own, The Hilltop.

When I took this position I didn't know how much slack I signed up for in the process, but regardless of the complaints or even the compliments, at least I know that y'all read the paper (smile.)

I don't want this 'farewell' to turn into a Blackplanet page, but I'm going to take the next few lines to do shout-outs.

Hilltop family: I love all of y'all. 'Club Hilltop' wouldn't have been as fun if it weren't for all of the crazy debates,

crazy dance moves, and who can forget all of the cursing (sniff). Those memories will always bring a tear to my eye (sniff sniff).

Josef: Be the stiffest competition out there.

Returning staff: Don't start any of that 'revolving door' stuff, k?

To 'Chipmunk' and 'Keya': It wasn't the same without y'all and I tipped my forty to your memory all year long.

Mr. Johns: You don't know how much of a Godsend you truly were. Oh and one more thing — you're not leaving Howard. I simply cannot allow it darling.

New staff: The Hilltop has NO sick days and it's always GAMETIME.

Well, back to me (smile).

I'm really not too sure as to how many readers out there

really know my face (this page is your keepsake), but that's besides the point.

I hope you got to know my work.

And trust that you haven't seen the last of Amber Nicole Mobley.

Next year I'll be the managing editor of the District Chronicles.

During the summer feel free to chart my journalistic progress by going to [boston.com/globe](http://boston.com/globe) and searching for my name.

I'll be working with The Boston Globe's Washington Bureau and am aiming to get a few A-1 stories.

Hey, remember what Donnie Simpson used to say on Video Soul, "Shoot for the moon and even if you miss,



you'll still be among the stars." I don't plan on missing — but then again how many of us do.

Underestimation has been a monkey on my back, but like I said in the opening of this little piece right 'here, I don't meet expectations, I shatter them.

Expect the unexpected.



# The Staff

## Health and Fitness- More Than a Section, It's a Lifestyle, Leesa Davis, H&F Editor

Oftentimes, students neglect to eat right due to their hectic schedules. This sometimes causes stress. After all, college students are almost always on the go.

This is why I, Leesa Davis chose to be Health and Fitness Editor for The Hilltop at Howard University. I wanted to help inform students about certain diseases/illnesses that exist. Even if it doesn't affect you now, it might currently affect a family member of yours and may even affect you later on in life.

The purpose of the Health and Fitness section of The Hilltop is to bring awareness to Howard University students about pertinent health issues. Whether covering certain health forums held on campus or reporting studies and updates of diseases and illnesses, this section aims to answer any concerns

regarding health that students may be curious about.

Overall, I have received so much positive feedback about this section. As an Editor of The Hilltop, I must say- it's not easy. The amount of research, meeting with various people in regards to an event, assigning stories and keeping in touch with writers is equivalent to another class. Some editors might agree it's like having six extra credit hours.

With all the hard work however, I wouldn't trade it for the world. Although The Hilltop can be frustrating at times-that comes with any and every job. There are good times and bad times. In my case, the pros definitely outweigh the cons.

I have gained valuable experience through The Hilltop. Although my writing has always been on point (I know, I'm so modest), I

have gained more experience writing under tight deadline through The Hilltop than anywhere else. I have also gained leadership skills, worked with some wonderful people and obtained memorable internships from my experience as an upcoming journalist.

It's so funny because sometimes people think that because I'm the Health and Fitness Editor I shouldn't eat any junk food. People make comments like, "Leesa, you know you shouldn't be eating that Ms. Health and Fitness. How do you eat fries and stay so thin?" My response is you do everything in moderation. People are surprised to find out that I don't live my life as a health conscious person. I don't go around reading labels at the grocery store nor do I have an exercise regime. I actually have a sweet tooth, especially for

cake. But one thing I must say is- our health is something we should all be concerned about no matter what age we are. This is why Health and Fitness is more than just a section to me- it's something we should all consider as a lifestyle.



Leesa chillin' in Miami over Spring Break 2001.

### 10 Things About Leesa "The Diva"

Classification: Junior

Hometown: Queens, NY

Years With The Hilltop: 2.5

Hobbies: Reading, writing and dancing

Honors/ Awards Received: Greater Washington Urban League's Budweiser and Anheuser Busch \$20,000 Academic Scholarship

Current Internship: NBC News, Washington, D.C

Unique Fact: Lived in England for 1 year with family

Health Tip: Always stay on top of your health by getting medical check-ups annually.

Memorable Experience: Meeting my favorite singer Aaliyah in New York City in July of 2001. I am so happy to have met her before she died and yes- she was very down to earth.

Future Aspirations: I hope to be a news anchor and eventually own my own media network. I also plan to work closely with Cancer and Alzheimer organizations.

## maryann james, biz editor

This has been an interesting year. Being the Hilltop's first Business Editor has been a challenging, sometimes frustrating and always learning experience.

This is certainly a year that I will never forget (for many reasons). I have made some good friends along the way, learned some new things, and found out how hard it is to get people to write about business. But before I go, I wanna give a few shout outs:

**Ashley**, my trusty staff writer through thick and thin.

Without you, my page would have been nonexistent! It's been great working with you this year, and I must say that I'm proud of how much your writing's grown. Thanks for stepping in and writing for the step-child of the paper. Your efforts for the section nobody wanted will be rewarded.

**Kerry**, my partner in crime. One of the best things about working here this year has been how our friendship has blossomed. You are a hardcore journalist, and I know you'll kick booty in grad school. I wanna be you when I

grow up!! Don't forget the little people (\*ahem\* ME) when you blow up and become all famous and stuff.

**Akeya**, my inspiration and main motivator first semester.

**Josef**, the interesting one (haha). I don't know what to write about you that hasn't been said. Stop trying to get stupid songs stuck in my head. Please give me back my headphones. And don't screw up next year!

**Lauren**, the visionary. Though things have certainly changed soooo much since

May of last year, I want to thank you for having faith in me to bring me aboard then. Without you, I wouldn't be writing this right now. Thanks for bringing me over to The Hilltop.

**Shani and David** - Y'all get a mention just b/c y'all listen to quality music. Oh yeah, **Jozen** too. :D

To everyone else in The Hilltop - It's over! We made it! Good luck next year!

**Maryann**  
p.s. -- Oh yeah... Love to my boo and the Supremes shall live forever! :D



yes, the paper has thrown Maryann off the deep end.



# - Kerry-Ann Hamilton, Campus -

## Final Farewell to My Howard Family

Kerry-Ann Hamilton  
Hilltop Campus Editor

A byline that has been etched in history, it almost feels like an athlete retiring a jersey.

After close to 100 Hilltop stories and countless interviews it is hard to say good-bye. My name often preceded me on campus. I would introduce myself and I would get that look somewhat like, I know you. "You write for The Hilltop?"

I always felt like a little star on campus feeling appreciated and respected. Always carrying pad and pens to make sure I could tell the story to my Howard family in a fair, balance, and accurate way.

I think next year on a



Kerry poses with her Section Editor of the Year Award.

Tuesday around 7 p.m. I may ask myself, Kerry, why are you not at the budget meeting or shouldn't I be interviewing Dean Chambers now?

This experience has been a great one. Very often things would get tough maintaining the balance of school, The Hilltop, my internship at NBC's Meet the Press as well as other non-academic activities, but the minimal social life would be the first to go because The Hilltop would easily take precedence.

Not many people would understand. My roommate often rarely sees me. When she does it is often in my quick stride to the office. My close friend Denise could attest that my Hilltop 30 minutes is usually about four or five hours.

My experience would not have been the same with the kind support of my family. Although they are somewhat far away on the tropical island of Jamaica they are always just a phone call away. Mommy and Daddy, I love you thanks for the pearls of wisdom and the call to make a pick from Western Union.

My other family, The Hilltop I will never forget you all.

Brakkton, you are an awesome friend. I would not have been here without you.

Lauren, those 3 a.m. calls are now a part of history, the long talks and tears behind closed doors will always be moments shared. EIC, you will win that Pulitzer. When you do, call so I send a reporter to cover it.

To Josef, we won't have to figure out what is going on front page for a very long time. We had a great year and I wish you all the



Kerry interviews a student outside the East Towers.

best next year. Please don't let me file another missing person report.

Aisha, What is for breakfast? The jokes and comedy hours courtesy of me will be long remembered at our future reunions. By the way, don't "think" about it.

Maryann, our bond is matchless. I will save the rest for the Annenberg send off.

To all my other fellow editors you all helped to make this experience real. My love for Cher was not shared, but I never failed to share Cher.

This year freshmen rocked the house. My ace staff writer Ruth, you came through all the time. Your dedication is commendable.

Danielle, thank you so very much as well. You may still call and make fun of my answering machine greeting. Shani and Maya you did a great job stepping up the plate.

My most memorable experience at The Hilltop was my coverage of the election debacle in Spring 2002. There were some long General Assembly and Policy Board meetings.

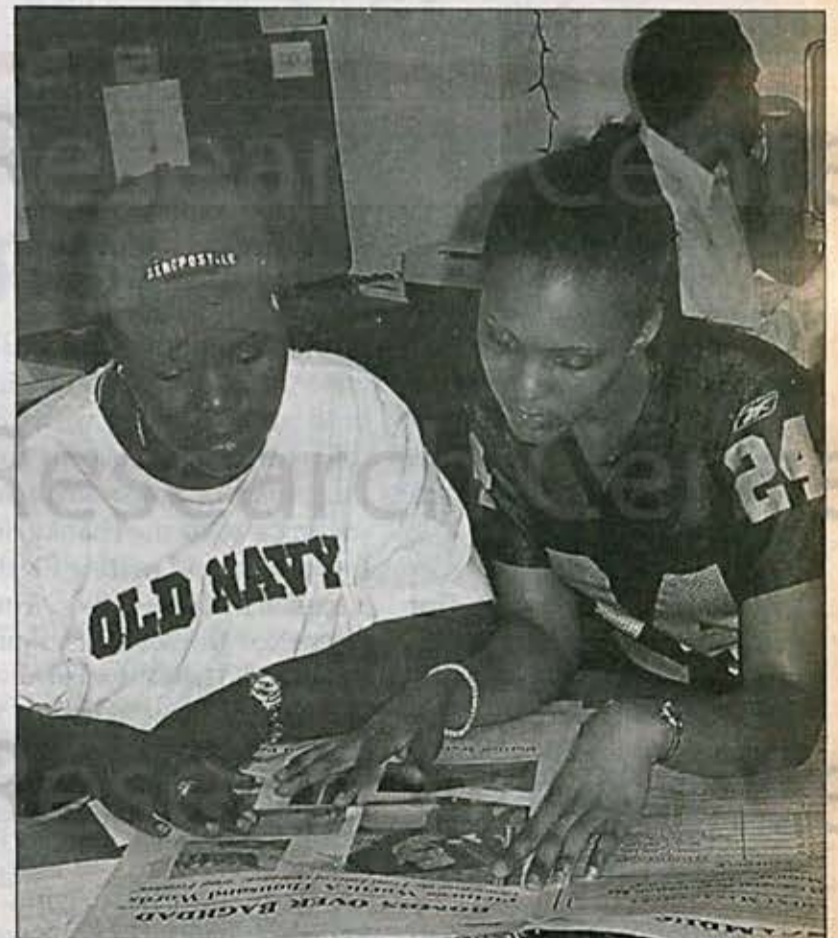
There was election one, two, three, four and I prayed there was never a fifth.

It has not quite sunk in. I am leaving the historic Howard University with a legacy I was so privileged to add to. This was all in the parent's plan.

I was en route to a school in London, but that was not my intended destiny. Howard has shaped me for the world. My growth intellectually is beyond measures. As I leave to pursue my Masters degree in International Communications at American University they will not just see a Kerry-Ann Hamilton a new entrant, but a first year a product of the prestigious Howard University.

To all the Bison I leave behind, please continue to keep the Legacy alive and remember while you are here please make it your duty to make Howard University better than it was when you came.

I leave with you my favorite quote of all time by Ralpho Waldo Emerson, "Do not go where the path may lead, but go where there is no path and leave a trail."



Kerry and Friday managing editor Aisha Chaney, critiquing the paper.



# The Staff

“A Different World”, David Johns, Assistant Campus Editor

## Experiences Abroad, At Home

### A Son of Howard!

I must admit, I held a few reservations when leaving my comfort zone for HU, but each one quickly dissipated and in its place were memories that I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

Howard University has affected me in so many ways. Intellectually, socially, mentally and personally I have matured and grown for the better and I owe a lot of that to the freedoms and intellectual growth fostered during my visit home.

Dr. Carr, you are a repository of knowledge and you never cease to amaze me. Dr. Ramsey, your wisdom and sincerity are abundant and appreciated. Dr. Hill, there is passion and clarity in encouraging one to fight for that which they believe. Each of you a multifaceted mentor, counselor, educator, family member and so much more. Thank you.

This University is filled with a richness that can't adequately be depicted with words — black people from every walk of life sharing in one another's experiences all working toward meeting one another on common ground. It doesn't get any better than that.

The Hilltop. I can't begin to imagine how this experience would have been shaped had I not been led to record my memories where ink meets newsprint.

I have thrust myself into life at Howard and transcended the visitor boundary attempting to share in what in what truly makes a Bison. I have become a better writer, more analytical, participated in recording history and found a way to communicate to anyone willing to listen.

Hilltop business — work hard and play even harder — thanks for the conversations, the hilarious stories and genuine friendships.



David Johns, poised to take over the world.

John: my brother, true friendships lasts a lifetime and this is just the beginning.

Ashley: my intellectual cohort, see you in a year.

Beautiful: You never know what will happen when you open your eyes, let alone your heart. I trust that everything happens for a reason, thanks for the reassurance — with whatever may come.

The 3rd Floor: Minah, Shakara, Krys, Ice, Marcy, Courtney, X, Aiyana, Kam, thanks for holding me down — when no one worried you did and I appreciate it all.

Lauren: I hoped you learned as much as I did, Ill save the rest for the Pulitzer speech.

Kerry & Steph: my mentors, my friends and my confidants' thanks for being yourselves.

Josef: My brother, the world is yours do as you will, don't forget me in the process.

Candyce: the strength of a black woman, keep on keeping on its only the beginning.

Stacey: where would I be without you, and all cuz of some reporter stuff.

Shani: one of the most gifted young women I have met. Thanks for sharing with me.

Amber: Just, Amber! (LOL) I'll miss u.

Justin, Jerry, Shawntel, Latadra, Ronnie, Rachel, Kim,

Rabecca, Oni, Rasheeda, Ash, Dan, Faith, Aisha and everyone who greeted me with a smile, welcomed me into your lives and assisted me in creating memories, I struggle to find words adequate enough to express how truly grateful I will always be.

The CU fam: Kelly, Steph, France, Marcus, Nina & Demetrius true friendship negates distance, Miss U.

My family: there for me when no one else cares about what I have to say or what I write, a thousand thank you's would be insufficient. I exist to make you proud, to one day instill in my family all that you have blessed me with and though we may be separated by distance and time my heart will always remain right at home.

If you know your name should be here, blame my mind and not my heart.

Columbia! I'm coming HOME. Howard, Ill never leave!

## Friday Campus Editor Stephanie Crouch

Wow, campus editor for a semester and I feel like I've been here for decades. Don't get me wrong, the experiences I'm taking from The Hilltop are unlike any other, but to be quiet honest I had absolutely no idea what I was committing to.

The stress and sleepless nights come more often than most students can imagine. Actually only those closest to

the staff members fully understand the amount of dedication and hard work each issue takes. To those who have helped me through this semester I say....

David — only one word can describe you and that's amazing. Thank you for not only saving the campus section, but for listening whenever I needed.

Aisha — Best friends forever moving to the top. Thanks for listening to all my complaining and helping me adjust to The Hilltop. I

will always be here for you and you can call on me whenever, even if it's 3 in the morning.

Amber — Thanks for all those office laughs J I really needed them

Kalena and Nickels — You guys have held me down for real. Thanks for being such great friends and reminding me that everything will be okay. Love you much, muah

Dereje — Baby you were there to cheer me on during the goods times and a careful listener during the bad, thanks for being there and putting up with me even when I tripped. I appreciate and love you more than I can ever express. Thanks you for everything.

Mom and Dad and

Family — Even though you guys don't know it, you're my rocks and the reason I keep going on. Thanks for always supporting me.

As for the rest of the University, my philosophy is simple, Keep It Real (a concept that was strongly enforced through two roommates at Howard). And I figured pursuing a career in journalism where the truth is constantly told (at least on my behalf) would be ideal. That was my goal as campus editor: to tell the truth even when it didn't want to come out.

I'm not trying to say my section was flawless, since I am still a student and have a lot to learn. But what I am trying to do is encourage people to get involved. The Hilltop



and most community newspapers serve as a check and balance to their surrounding community. If you see something wrong or false, go to that newspaper. The Hilltop needs more than just the editor and staff writer, it needs the everyday Howard student.





# The Staff

## Cassandra Cumbess, Editorial And Perspectives Editor

### Cassandra "CC" Cumbess

The 2002-2003 school year was my first year as a "Hilltopper." I had never before written for The Hilltop, let alone been an editor.

However, as I sat flipping through the pages one day, I saw that the paper was looking for an Editorials and Perspectives Editor. I knew this was perfect for me; I would get the opportunity to write the way I love to. That is, using the art of persuasion.

If you read the Editorials and Perspectives sections, then you know that this branch of journalism is a little different. I can speak far more candidly and don't have to stick to the strict rules of journalistic reporting. In a nut shell, I get to "do my thing." You could say that reporting is not my "thing," but arguing

most definitely is. As Editorials and Perspectives Editor, this is essentially what I do every week.

I am a Political Science major and am aiming for a future in politics - specifically public policy and diplomacy. I love to write because it is a form of expression. Consequentially, I love my job at the Hilltop because it forces me to look at an issue skeptically and construct the best support of the Editorial Board's stance that I can muster.

The best rewards are when my peers or professors approach me and compliment me on a well-written editorial. It is good to know that all the writing and researching I do every week is not in vain.

People have told me that they had no clue about certain things until the Editorials Section brought them to the forefront.

But of course with the good, there comes the bad. This job can be VERY demanding (6 editorials a week) Sometimes I have a shortage of student-submitted perspectives to fill the Perspectives page, and it is a never-ending feat to get cartoons for each issue. But it's all part of the job, and somehow it always gets done.

The worst part of it actually has nothing to do with the job itself. I sometimes receive negativity from people who think the page is too controversial. Well, that's exactly what it is! If the subject is not controversial or susceptible to a variety of different opinions, it is not editorial worthy! We want to take an issue, break it apart and form an educated opinion in hopes that we can affect change. And even if you don't agree with the view of the Editorial Board, it is my hope that reading our argu-

ment will open your mind to an alternative opinion that may even further substantiate yours.

I am a long way from my home in Long Beach, California. But the things I do everyday keep me grounded and sure that I made the right decision in coming to Howard.

To my friends, I love you. To the Campus Pals and the members of the Howard Gospel Choir, I love the familial bond I've established with all of you. Last but not least, to The Hilltop editors, thank you for welcoming me in... the only sophomore on the Editorial Board but still holding it down! I love working with all of you and I admire you all for your talent and hard work

To all of my peers, I say this: never be afraid to think outside the box. Better yet, tear that box up and throw it



away! It is inhibiting you from reaching your full potential as the intelligent, strong, and independent thinker that God intended you to be. Use your gifts wisely because life is too short.

I thank my parents for their unwavering support of all my endeavors. (Daddy, thanks for always reading my editorials and giving me feedback!) And I thank my Savior for blessing me first with the talent, and then with the endless opportunities to share that talent.

It's been a great year and I'm ready to do it again!

## "Nothing Great Was Ever Achieved Without Enthusiasm" Chauncie Burton, Advertising Manager

### Senior Year 2003

This has been a year like no other! I have grown and learned so much over the course of these four years and have gained a great deal of tolerance and patience as Advertising Manager for the great, late Hilltop. Editorial Staff...it's been real cool getting to know all of you and thanks for being patient and understanding about the ads.

Business Staff: Love ya'll and appreciate all of

you more than any of you will ever know. If any of you ever need NBA tickets, just let me know! (smile)

Nike: You pushed us, just enough, but never too much. I wish you all the success and happiness in the world and I know you'll do big things managing and bossing around the rest of the world.

Jamye: Loved you since the day I moved in as your "illegal roommate" I have you to thank for bringing me here. I'm so happy I bumped into

you that day in the School of C. Thank you for having enough faith in my ability to refer me to this position. I'll be waiting for the wedding invitation! (Always a bridesmaid...never a bride! (tear)

Miyanda: You are the tightest and on top of everything. I truly appreciate all of your help and wish you the best in your position next year! CONGRATS!

Cyncere: Best of luck to you in all that you do. Thanks for being the cool,

evil, quiet, sneaky, sinister, ignorant, psycho lil office assistant ever. Stay up! HOLLA!

Jonathan: My brother, my sister, my friend, my confidant...thank you, thank you, thank you! You came through for me, time and time again. Thanks for listening to me, for supporting me and for shopping with me! Hope we can share many more good times and shopping excursions in NYC! I'll love you always!

Aisha: The best dag-gone roommate a girl

could have! Could we have gotten along any better? Thanks for listening to all my problems, giving great advice and for washing the dishes when I couldn't! (smile) I'll miss you so much, but I'll have a position and a desk right next to me for you at the NBA!

Asante Sana,

**Chauncie E. Burton**  
The Hilltop  
Advertising Manager  
2002-2003



# — Olanike Bello, Business Manager —

## Olanike B. Bello, Business Manager



“I can’t believe this year is finally over.....”

I have been saying this since January and I still don’t believe that its real. I can still remember the first day I came to work at *The Hilltop* and discovered that it was more than just a job. *The Hilltop* was the place that I felt the most comfortable, the place were all my personal business was discussed, and the place where I discovered family extends beyond blood relatives. I’ve been hat *The Hilltop* for three years and it has truly been the best three years of my tenure here at Howard.

It’s only business?? Yeah right...For two years I have watched business managers come and go and I never fully understood them when they said they were leaving a piece of themselves behind. Now I do. This year has definitely been the best experience I have had with *The Hilltop-business*. I was blessed with an excellent staff that understood how to differentiate my good days from my bad and never second questions my decisions. We were six people operating as one unit and we were pretty good at it. I can only remember the good times we had even though it made it easier that there were hardly any bad. I don’t think that I have ever thanked you guys for everything you have taught me about myself and the consistency of getting our goals accomplished (except for the quota thing, but I understand). It was never only business with us, but a whole lot of pleasure.

**Jamye** - you taught me a great deal about myself. I can no longer call you my friend only, my sister. It’s amazing that from our first conversation, three years ago we clicked. I would have never been in the position I am in now if it was not for you believing in me. When I am at a lost for words you can always paraphrase my thoughts and put them on paper. I wish you were here now to help me with this reflection. Anyway, I’ll see you later today and you can tell me how you think I did.

**Jonathan** – I have so many things to say to you but can’t because this is a school newspaper. You are the most efficient person I know and *The Hilltop-business* could not have functioned without you. I am going to try to make this as personal as possible but you know for me being personal is the hardest part. You know when to give me attention and when to ignore me almost as well as Kim does. Right now I am missing class to type this and still don’t know exactly what to say. I know you understand how much you mean to me...and I know that you love me too.

**Miyanda** -You got next!!!! You need to remind me to make that binder for you. I can never forget the long talks we had or the late nights in the office. I would not have taken another look at many of my views if it had not been for you(you know what I mean). From the first day I met you I knew that you would take the torch and you did just that. I am so proud of you!!!!

**Chauncie** – I hired you the first day I met you because I knew you had your stuff together. I love being right. Keep doing what you’re doing because success is right around the corner. Keep on ballin’.

**Cyncere** – Thanks for all the male perspective conversations, even though I had to call you out some-times. You were always there when I needed office conversation and when I needed something done. Good luck next year.

**Dana** – I can’t believe you got me a palm pilot. I am still in shock. Thanks for letting me vent and explaining to me EVERYTHING that I didn’t know. You are the coolest advisor I know. See you soon!!!

**Lauren** – What a year!!!! I can’t believe its over. We started rocky, but we made it even at times when we thought we might lose control. I wish you nothing but happiness and success in the future.

**Kim** – you are the only person that I am thanking because you are probably the only friend that I have who would actually read it(and to shut you up). Thanks for showing me true friendships are about. You know more about me than I know about myself. After my graduation comes yours in 2010. Good luck. Ha Ha Ha!!!

Olanike Bello, Business Manager 2002-2003  
One Staff, One Mission.





# The Staff

## Jonathan Sims, Office Manger

*Through these gates we pass again,*

*A newness of beginning, the depth of end.*

*The glory has emerged as summer rises to fall;*

*The gates are yawning, who will answer the call?*

*Thousands of black faces will tread through these grounds*

*While ancestors digging, echoes a bloodstained sound*

*Products of labor, now products of power*

*Reaching to millions, while leading the hour.*

*As many the day, pence the bell tower's toll;*

*All of these people, as pyramids played their role.*

-Jonathan C Sims-

William, our friendship has grown in so many ways and I find myself thanking God every day for bringing you into my life. You have made me a better person and I don't know what I would have done without you in my life. I Love You. You were there for the late night talks giving the

trade voice and the early morning wake up calls. You are "Beautiful", sometimes I think that word is an understatement. You know we have our disagreements and you get me together but in the end you are my Alpha and never my Omega. We have only completed less than one fourth of our destiny, so let's show them how we do this....

David, you came to me to fill out your requisition form months ago and now you are like my deuce. We have so many similarities yet differences. I respect you as a journalist and truly consider you a true friend. I know that you are going so far, and understand that I am cheering you all the way to the top. Few people can make such an impact in my life within a short period of time however it feels as if I have known you since the cradle. You are fam-

ily. Remember: The members of DC3 may all start doing their solo projects but we still have to hit the studio in the future. I'm going to truly miss you

Nike, if they could only print the words I have for you this would truly be the free press. I have known you intermittently but it is funny that this summer you lived off campus but lived in my room. We have been through personal stuff and have hit up Lauriol Plaza. You oversee peoples "shortcomings" and faults (lol). But you expect the best and I hope that's what I provided. Now I understand why my mom didn't have any girls because she knew I would meet my sister in you. You set the standard

Kim, you have a giving heart and I love the fact that you can see through anyone. I love you and will miss you.

From ice pops to salmon you have been there for me and I thank you and I want to slap you for it.

Miyanda, oh my god, I adore you. You are a trailblazer you took the path and said let's go further. I love you and I see bright days however the rainy ones will happen but with your leadership qualities you will weather the storm. Remember: I'm not gone yet. Fuddruckers is on me this summer.

Chauncie, (AKA) The First Lady. You are like a sister to me and I thank you for just being Chauncie. I wish you the best in all you do. I am amazed by your grace but then I forget who you are and what you represent. Only the best never settle for less. You definitely have always had it on lock and it seems you have thrown away the key.

Jamye, my memories of

you go back to when I first walk through the double doors of the Hilltop. You are my sister. You were there for me as a copy chief improving my writing style. You were there as a managing editor to get my ego checked at the door, and this year you have been a colleague who never fails to amaze me. I love you and Margaritas are coming your way.

Cyncere, I should leave this blank but I need to fill up space. Just kidding; You knew me and still were there. That is a true friend. I only picked on you because I know you needed a laugh. My attitude only gets better with age so be prepared if you ever call me in the future. I really do appreciate you as friend. Remember: Know your weaknesses and overcoming will be your strength.

## Let's Just Kiss and Say Goodbye to the Memories

### A Salute From Jamye Spiller

My time here would not have been possible without the faith and support of my family. To my Mama, Thanks for believing in me when no one else did. You're the best friend a girl could have. Your support has meant so much to me these years. Thank you and I promise this is only the beginning. To Dad, Thanks for hanging in there with me. I value your support tremendously. To my Sissy, Mesha, (Yeah, I took it back to the old school) Thanks for being a great, big sis. I love you for being there for me whenever I needed you.



Chris: Good luck this summer. You're

the little brother I always wanted. Nike: I can't believe we're about to get up out of here. Thanks for everything. All of the memories: I'll just say

LBJ Freeway. I leave you my formertitle of the "Pimpstress" Jon Sims: Our bonding times and all the parties. I'll forever remember the margaritas and our last hoorah at Erica's house. To the rest of my Hilltop family, Kerry Ann, Jozen, and everyone else: I love you and never forget it. Josef and Miyanda: Always remember that The Hilltop is the STUDENT voice of Howard University.

Thanks to those who have touched my life in one way or another:

Morgan, Vinnette, Makebra, and anyone else I'm forgetting charge it to my head and not my heart. Professor Lamb: Thanks for being such a great professor and helping me to become a better writer. You've helped me define what fierce really means.

And last, but definitely not least, to my best friend, love of my life, and my ace James: You've been the best support system that a girl can have. I love you and thank you for all the good times, new and old.

I can't begin to express everything in these



few words. I just wanted to say thank you and I promise that the ride is almost over.

After May 10, expect your Boyfriend of the Year plaque.

My time at Howard has been one long, roller-coaster ride that I will never forget. I've loved, hated, and enjoyed every single minute here. Now, at the end, I can look back and giggle, laugh, and explode hysterically over the things that have happened here. But most importantly, if I had the chance, I would do it all over again. I love you Howard and thanks for the memories.



# The Staff

## Miyanda Jackson, Assistant Business Manager

Working for The Hilltop has been an amazing experience. Like a roller coaster ride, there were high times and then there were down times. And at the end, you wish to go on the ride again. Coming in as the

Assistant Business Manager I didn't know what to expect. But with everyone's help I fell into place. I am going to miss each and everyone of you graduating seniors. Time sure did fly by.

First and foremost I would like to begin my thank yous by acknowledging my Creator and my parents. Without them I would not be here today.

Clive, thank you so much for being the man that you are. You have been so supportive of me in all of my endeavors. Words cannot express how much I appreciate everything you have done.

Ms. Bello, it makes smile and laugh when I think about how we met and

how close we have become. You have truly been a positive person in my life and a good friend. I will miss all of your stories. I don't know who I will call next year to talk about Sonny, Carly and the rest of GH.

Jonathan, I will never forget all the rides home you gave me. You are such a gentleman.

Between you and Nike you guys have helped me open up so much and be "REAL" with it. I will miss you next year.

Jayme, my fellow cancer, you are such a big sister to me. I wish you all the love and success as you embark upon a new chapter in your life.

Cyncere, you and I have our work cut out next year.



I know you will help me tell better jokes.

Chauncie, our tight schedules didn't permit too much interaction. However, I enjoyed the time we did have. All the best in your career.

Josef, I am really excit-

ed about next year and the growth that will transpire.

Dana, I know we are going to have a lot of laughs through out the year. And I would like to say thank you in advance for all of your help and support.



## Arren Dodson, Administrative Assistant



To Lic, Lil Sexy, Booped Up, Lil Dix, or just simply Alex

I don't think anyone knows how we became best friends and who really cares anyway We've been through it all and there's more to come

I'm proud of you for being you and I thank you For letting me be me Dog, you're my number 1 man through and through Thank you for everything AD2

To my Nana



I will forever miss you and I love you with all my heart

I constantly think about and wish I could talk to you about everything That I go through, you were my strength when I was thinking about giving up

You were the reason that I wouldn't settle for anything but the best

You are why I continue You are why the passion burns inside with such fury

You are why I won't give up because you never did

Even though the pain is there

I know that you have your wings around me And I want to thank God for you My Nana

Shoboat

I can remember when we would ride out and chill in Cedar Groove's parking lot talking about how we couldn't wait to ball out

And do big things Brag on our Nephews and promised to always have each others back

And even though we didn't talk as much We always knew what

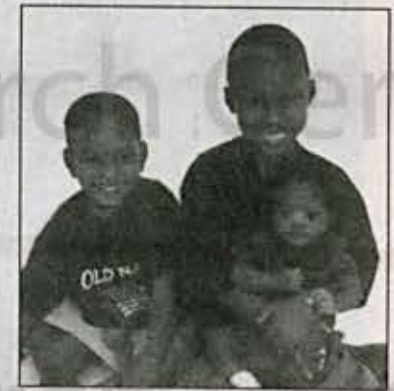
the other one was doing And we still had each others back

The night that you left a piece of me died Cause I didn't have the back of my best friend

when he needed it the most And I hate that now I can only talk to you in my prayers

But like I tell you everyday when I wake "I'm gonna ride foe us both"

"And I still got cha back"



My heart belongs to the three important people in my life

Everything I do is for you

I know you're to young to know but what I do

Is because of the way you look at me when I

Walk into the room, leave to come back to school

And when I talk to you on the phone

Uncle Loves You So Very Very Much





# The Staff



It usually happens around 4 or 5 a.m. The first one down gets the couch. Above, Editor-in-Chief, elect, Josef Sawyer crashes on The Hilltop couch.



At right, former Managing Editor, ('99-'00) Kimothy Brown, of ESPN and Lauren. The ESPN crew is ALWAYS down to party at NABJ!



At left, why is the Health & Fitness editor eating McDonald's fries?



Be careful Chandra! The Hilltop chairs have been known to toss Hilltopers on the ground!



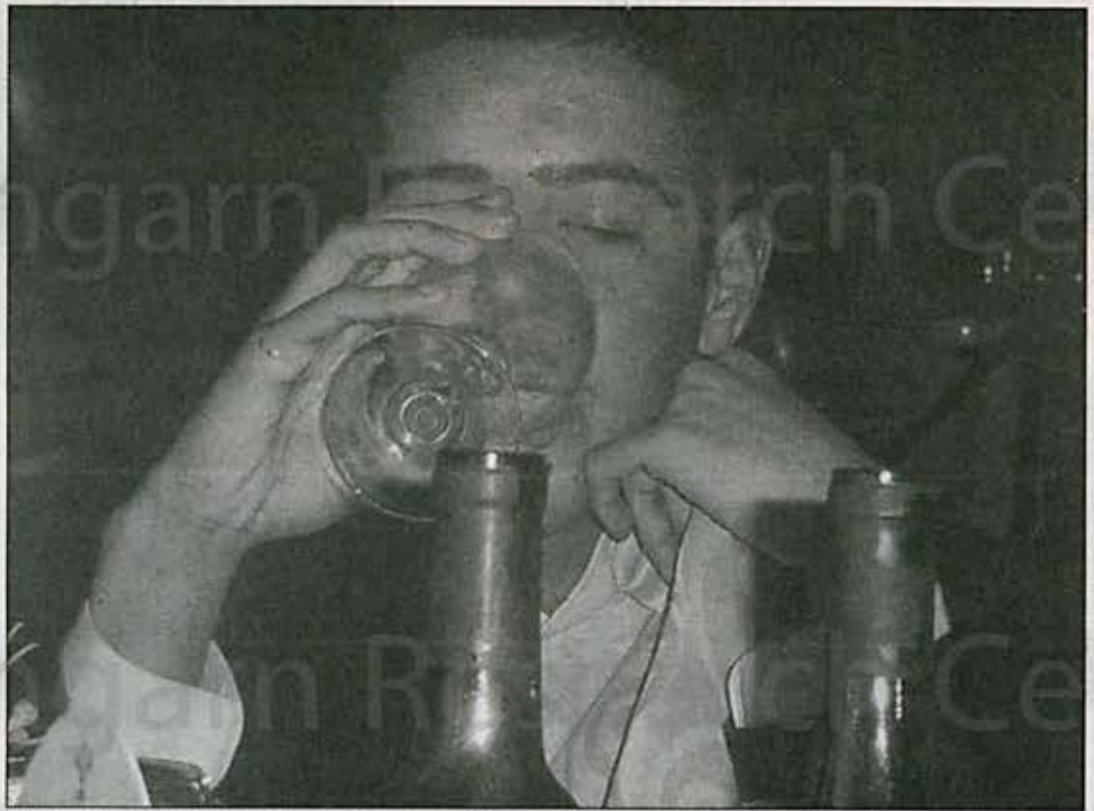
At right, Lauren checks cartoonist, Antijuan Jackson's work for subliminal messages!



# The Staff



The staff at the Charter Day dinner!



Life & Style Editor Jozen Cummings takes a drink at the Charter Day dinner.



Whew! How the staff has changed...



HARVEY TOOK CARE OF VOICES AND VIEWS— EVEN IF HE DID TAKE PICTURES OF HIS FRIENDS. ABOVE, LAUREN AND HARVEY DISCUSS THE PHOTOS.



Aisha and Tariq layout the sports section.



A. Toy will love this one!  
Chandra drew the cartoons others wouldn't draw.



# Today The Hilltop, Tomorrow...

We brought you  
The Hilltop every Tuesday  
and Friday...



**Josef Sawyer,**  
Managing Editor  
Editor-in-Chief Elect



**Lauren Bayne Anderson,**  
Editor-in-Chief  
The Wall Street Journal

## 2002-2003 Editorial Staff



**Aisha Chaney,**  
Managing Editor  
ESPN????



**Leesa Davis,**  
Health & Fitness  
NBC News



**Maryann James,**  
Business Editor  
Dow Jones  
Newspaper Fund



**Kerry-Ann Hamilton,**  
Campus Editor  
Associated Press &  
American Univ. (Fall)



**Stephanie Crouch,**  
Campus Editor



**Jozen Cummings,**  
Life & Style Editor  
Vibe Magazine



**Bernard "Poet"  
Murray,**  
Sports Editor



**Shani O. Hilton,**  
Copy Chief



**Cassandra Cumbess,**  
Editorial & Perspectives  
Ed.



**Amber Mobley,**  
Nation & World Ed.  
Boston Globe



**Miriam Ahmed,**  
Nation & World Ed.  
Interning in Trinidad



**Maya Gilliam,**  
Photo Editor



**Chandra Anderson,**  
Photo Editor