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THE HILLTOP



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February 2, 1996

Schools of Engineering, Communications launch new multimedia centers

By Gena Gatewood
Hilltop Staff Writer

Howard University's School of Engineering and School of Communications have both opened new multimedia computer labs this week.

Ceremonies introduced the School of Engineering's \$2.5 million lab institute in early December. Actor/comedian Sinbad, who has been named as the first member of the advisory council for the institute, participated in the ceremonies. Sinbad was chosen to participate because of his long-standing interest in technology for the entertainment industry.

The technology is already in use in the industry, but there are few examples of color applying it," Sinbad said. "With this beginning, Howard University will take a major step into the 21st century."

Other personalities, including Bob Allen and Steve Harvey, emphasize the importance of this institute and are in support of this project.

In addition to the installation of new Unisys terminals, the new institute in the School of Engineering will include the latest technological equipment for computer visualization, animation, and multimedia integration. Most of the equipment and software for the institute has been provided by Vision Graphics, Inc., a company that has received global recognition for its contributions to the

entertainment industry, and, most recently, for its work on Disney's feature animation film, "Toy Story."

Michael Tucker, a lecturer in the School of Communications, was instrumental in getting this program off the ground. "I think there's a lot of fun things going on with computers," Tucker said.

Tucker added that he wants African Americans to be able to compete in the job market. Offering encouragement to Howard students, he said, "Become text savvy so that you are not afraid of it. Your competition is not afraid and they will jump ahead!"

The multimedia center in the School of Communications has recently installed new Macintosh Power PCs. Although, at present, the center is only accessible to communications students, faculty members are working to open it up to the entire University. Professors in the School of Communications want to integrate the institute into the school's curriculum. Clint Wilson, assistant professor of journalism, hopes to start team reporting projects as a way of encouraging students to become active in the center. "The thing with this is motivation," Wilson said. "Once you start using it, you start thinking bigger and broader!"

The School of Engineering is also very excited about its new computer center. Dr. Gary Harris, director of the engineering center, said the new lab will give Howard the ability to train students and will provide tools to enable students to

compete in the real world.

"We want to get the technology out to the mass of students, not only in engineering, but communications, fine arts, and so on," Harris said.

The Engineering Department is currently organizing new courses and training programs for its students. Summer programs for college and high school students may also become available later.

"This semester, we're basically in set-up phase," Harris explained. However, he expects the center to be open to students within a couple of weeks.

Chris Jones, a junior majoring in mechanical engineering, said the center will give students the extra edge they need to excel in the competitive engineering field.

"I hope to increase my activities and familiarize myself with the new center," Jones said.

Todd Shurn, assistant professor in the computer science department, urges African-American students to use computer



One of the new multimedia computers.

technology as "our vehicle to meet the needs of the 21st century."

Shurn added that Howard University has not offered any money in support of this program. Instead, the institute relies heavily on corporate support.

University appoints special assistant to President Swygert

Michele Bertrand brings media, management expertise to the job

By Jennifer Jenkins
Hilltop Staff Writer



Michele Bertrand new assistant to the President

While the East Coast was battling the "Blizzard of '96," Howard University received a gift from the sunny Caribbean. Michele D. Bertrand, of St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, was appointed Special Assistant to Howard University President H. Patrick Swygert over the Christmas holidays.

Bertrand will be involved in external and campus-wide communications, as well as in faculty and staff liaison activities. In response to her appointment, Swygert said, "Michele Bertrand brings great depth and range of experience in higher education and the media that will be of immense value to Howard University in the months ahead. Our effort to reinvigorate public support for Howard can only be enhanced by someone with Ms. Bertrand's experience."

Bertrand joins Howard University from the senior management group of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Her six-year tenure with the Endowment

there, she worked with the Tri-Island broadcasting system.

In the D.C. area, she worked as a fund-raiser for the national programs at WETA-TV/FM, and was the production manager of a video series for the Smithsonian Institution.

Bertrand has also taught at the Graduate Library School of the University of Rhode

Jazz ensemble to embark on eight-day tour of Japan

By Donya Matheny
Hilltop Staff Writer

The Howard University Jazz Ensemble's performance sparked the interest of a Japanese diplomat and the band is now preparing to tour soon later this month.

Dr. Irby III, the ensemble's director, said that the ambassador who heard the band perform expressed an interest in forming a relationship between Japan and Howard University.

"One of the diplomats from the Japanese Embassy was at a concert we did in 1994. He wanted to have lunch with me afterwards," Irby said. "He wanted to develop some sort of cultural program with Japan and Howard University. Because jazz is so popular in Japan, he thought Howard University would be the perfect vehicle for those ties."

According to Irby, jazz is "more popular in Japan than anywhere in the world."

Irby said the band received grants from the International Culture Association of Japan and the Japanese International Foundation of New York. These funds will cover the costs of airfare, food, and the concerts.

While in Japan, the ensemble will perform in the cities of Tokyo and Shizuoka, for students in both junior and senior high school. The ensemble will also perform for college students while in Shizuoka, will be staying on a college campus.

Playing jazz is not the only activity on the tour. When they are not performing, the ensemble will spend time meeting Japanese students and visiting tourist sites.

"We plan to do a lot of sightseeing while in Japan. We are going to Japan Disney and the Yamaha music factory," Irby said. "There will also be a reception held for the jazz ensemble by the U.S. Ambassador to Japan."

The members of the ensemble are looking forward to the activities they will participate in during their free time in Japan. Trumpeter Clifton Brockington, a senior jazz studies major from Washington, D.C., said that he is anticipating the 14-hour plane ride and the chance to shop for jazz music that he can not find in the United States.



Howard University Jazz Ensemble

"This will be my first time traveling on a plane. I'm looking forward to hitting the music stores," Brockington said, adding that many reissues of jazz recordings are released in Japan but not in the States. "They [the Japanese] have

a greater appreciation of music, so I'm taking my credit card and looking for Clifford Brown," he said.

Irby said the trip is a good experience for the students and the busy schedule will help the musicians perfect their craft.

"Whenever the band travels out of the country, we give eight concerts in 10 days," Irby said. "Whenever we can do that many concerts together, the better the band sounds."

Because the tour will cause the ensemble to miss eight days of classes, Irby said that all of the students have made arrangements with their professors to make up for the time that they will be away.

"At the beginning of the semester, all of the students informed their teachers that they would be gone for that period of time," Irby said. "Several students will be communicating with their teachers by E-mail."

On Feb. 15, the jazz ensemble will perform a pre-Japan concert at the Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel. This concert will be the ensemble's way of announcing its tour to the University community and offering a sample of the music that will be performed while abroad.

Irby, an associate professor of music in the College of Fine Arts, founded the jazz ensemble in 1975. Since then, the ensemble has performed in the United States, Europe, South America, Central America, Asia and the Caribbean. Irby also said that he has been communicating with people in Africa about a possible tour to Durbin, South Africa.

Our effort to reinvigorate public support for Howard can only be enhanced by someone with Ms. Bertrand's experience.

- Patrick Swygert, President, Howard University

was distinguished by her coordination of the agency's national outreach program and her administration of public programs in the humanities. Several of the programs were centered around the electronic media.

Bertrand worked in various areas of management before joining the Endowment. She joins Howard University with experience in fund-raising, marketing, and media production. Bertrand also founded a media production company in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands and, while

INSIDE

Campus	A2
Campus Plus	A3
Local	A5
National	A6
International	A7
Editorial	A8
Perspectives	A9
Gallery	A14



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Tempo	B1
People	B2
Pulse	B3
Business	B6
Health & Fitness	B7
Sports	B10
Hilltopics	B14

CAMPUS

New registration process discussed in meeting

By Alain Joseph
Hilltop Staff Writer

Danielle Anderson, a transfer student from the University of Tennessee, came from an institution where registration took 30 minutes. Coming to Howard University, Anderson knew improvements had been made, but she still saw chaos and confusion in the registration system.

As a result, Anderson and other students met with officials in a Town Hall meeting to develop a more efficient registration process. The meeting, which was held Tuesday night, was sponsored by the Howard University Student

Association.

"We [the students and administration] need to work together. I don't mind putting my time and effort into a system that I can trust. But when you have seven student account analysts waiting on 8,000-plus students, there is a problem," said Anderson, a junior advertising major.

Dr. Janice Nicholson, the new associate vice president for enrollment management, told students that the process would take time, and that analysts could not be trained overnight. Nicholson stressed that if students paid their bills and made financial arrangements on time, there would

be no need for more analysts.

Several students asked Nicholson why so many students had to wait in one line to fulfill different financial obligations.

"For those students who have a \$0 balance and come to the University with checks in their hands, or cash in their pockets to pay, I don't understand why they have to wait in the same line as the students who are not ready to pay," said Melinda Spaulding, a junior print journalism major. "Has it ever been suggested that you could have two separate lines? Possibly, one for students who need the pink sheet of paper to get to the cashiers' line, and another line for students who

have questions or problems?"

With a slight nodding of her head, Nicholson said, "We want to have a line where all you're doing is coming to pay your fees. We have absolutely no problem with that idea, and we are in the process of implementing it for next fall's registration."

Other administrators on hand to answer student questions were

Avon Dennis, director of admissions and student financial aid service; Jack Cole, senior vice president of academic affairs;

William Keene, dean of residence life; and Alisia Billups, of ISAS Information Systems and Services.

Nicholson made it clear that registration is a two-part process.

The first part is mandatory programmatic registration, when students pre-register for classes. The second step is the mandatory financial registration, when students deal with monetary obligations.

Many students failed to realize that financial obligations could not be resolved unless they pre-register and receive a bill.

Many students were pleased with how the Town Hall meeting went, but many saw even more room for improvement.

"I think the meeting was very

healthy, and it was a starting point to clear up some inefficiencies. More students should have been present to make their voices heard," said Chris Harty, a junior majoring in political science.

Not everyone present at the meeting was convinced that registration would improve by next semester.

Nichole Adams, a senior political science major, remained skeptical. "There were a lot of good issues addressed. I'll be more impressed when I see things happening," Adams said.

Crime increase prompts students to start campus patrol

By Alexis Joi Henry
Hilltop Staff Writer

Last week a young woman was raped in one of the practice rooms.

At 3:00 p.m. on another afternoon, a professor was robbed in one of the college's practice rooms.

A few months ago, at about 7:30 p.m., another professor was robbed in a stairwell as he was leaving the building.

In the middle of a summer day, a student was assaulted in the lobby of the building.

These four incidents have one thing in common: they all occurred in the College of Fine Arts.

With these incidents in mind, Allen Jackson, president of the College of Fine Arts Student Council decided something needed to be done. Jackson and other student representatives formed a task force with the sole purpose of improving safety on campus.

The task force, called Campus Watch, has received full financial and promotional support from

President H. Patrick Swygert. Designed to work like a neighborhood watch, student volunteers will be trained by Howard's campus police to

[volunteers] we have, the safer we'll be," said Jeff Donaldson, a dean in the College of Fine Arts.

Several buildings on campus, including Communications,

saying, 'It takes a village...' We want to retain that village mentality. Who benefits from our destruction? Not us."

Reported theft and theft attempts totaled as many as 162 last year. Reported assaults and muggings added up to 79. Reported burglaries equalled 147 and there were five incidents of sexual assault, according to a Howard University Campus Police report. Such alarming crime rates have students worried.

"I spend a lot of time in the [Fine Arts] building after hours, and I'm concerned about my safety and the safety of others. I know several of the people who were robbed," said Anthony Santagati, a sophomore majoring in experimental studio.

Organizers of Campus Watch met Tuesday to discuss the plans and procedures for the program. Although only eight students attended, their concern was evident in their comments.

"Everyone has a vested interest. If you are a Fine Arts student, you're going to be here all the time. So if you're going to be here,



Allen Jackson discusses campus security with student.

you want to be safe," said Kemba Wright, a junior acting major. "You would want to protect what's yours. Or everyone should, anyway."

Campus Watch will meet again on Feb. 5 in the College of Fine Arts to begin scheduling patrol shifts. Anyone interested in joining the program is invited to attend.

"I spend a lot of time in the [Fine Arts] building after hours, and I'm concerned about my safety and the safety of others. I know several of the people who were robbed." -Anthony Santagati, sophomore majoring in experimental studio

monitor the buildings and escort students to their cars, shuttle bus stops, and dorms. The goal of Campus Watch is to provide a visible companion for anyone on campus.

"The idea is that the [volunteer's] presence will be a deterrent. No one is expected to attack anybody. The more

Engineering, Architecture, and Fine Arts remain open late or for 24 hours for students use. The patrol will need more volunteers for daytime shifts, when many incidents in or near the College of Fine Arts occurred.

"We want to get everybody back to looking out for each other," Jackson said. "You've heard that

Leadership retreat enables students to focus on ethics

By Jonathan L. Wharton
Hilltop Staff Writer

The Patricia Roberts Harris Program held its second leadership retreat last week in Leesburg, Va. The retreat, which focused on ethics in public life, was paid for by a private grant from The Kellogg Foundation.

The Harris program allows Howard students to participate in the public affairs arena by placing selected interns in positions relating to their major.

"The Patricia Roberts Harris Program is excellent. It gives students exposure to public affairs before they graduate from college," said senior history major and Harris intern Carey Grady.

The program is named after one of Howard's distinguished alumni, who served as U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg and Secretary of

Health, Education and Welfare as well as Secretary of Housing and Urban Affairs. Harris bequeathed a portion of her will in October 1987 to serve as a living memorial and to encourage outstanding students to consider public affairs.

Participants on the retreat included new Harris interns as well as student organization leaders.

"We were able to meet people from all across the board about public affairs," senior legal communications major Tiana Hill said.

At the retreat, students listened to various speakers, including former intern President Swygert. The retreat also allowed them the opportunity to socialize with other students interested in public affairs.

"I can't remember another Howard function where the participants were so open with each other," said senior Muthoni Wambu, who is majoring in

journalism and a member of Teach for America. "There was a lot of intermixing among all the students."

Both graduate and undergraduate students were invited to attend the retreat.

"I thought it was very beneficial. It also gave me a chance to appreciate the efforts the Harris program is offering to students such as myself," African studies graduate student T. Miniabiyi Ford said. "It was truly a privilege."

Every semester, the Harris office, which includes Dr. Horace Dawson, director of the program, and assistant Ms. Shannon Powell, awards qualified students stipend positions.

"The real purpose of the retreat was to engage interns and student leaders to reflect questions of value and life in public life," Dawson said. "I am pleased that the students

thought and raised questions about the issue in a very serious way. I was also very pleased with the speakers, President Swygert and Ambassador Horan as well as Dr. Sanders."

Past interns have been able to gain knowledge with the public and private sector. Dawson places interested students in the field of their choice so that they may apply their academic talents in the professional work force.

"Through my internship, I was able to implement a lot of theories and apply them towards my internship," junior legal communications major Eric Holt said. "The Harris program truly allowed me to implement what I learned in class."



"Failure to share our concerns and to spark others to equal concern... is to break faith with the democratic process."
- Patricia Roberts Harris

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CAMPUS PLUS

Eruptions of Funk opens Kaffa House, provides 'meeting place for minds' Student-owned coffee house on U Street, offers open mic

By Ta-Nehisi Coates
Hilltop Staff Writer

college gathering—the men checking out the women and the women checking out the men. But in the other sense there's more. Some force has brought Howard's diverse groups together, if only for one night. From bald heads, to dreads, to three-piece suits, to hoodies, to tight jeans, they are all here tonight.

The "force" that has brought them together is a group that is known as Eruptions of Funk, and the Kaffa House is their latest venture. In March of 1995, Eruptions of Funk was conceived to help alleviate "Howard's economic situation," said EOF representative Michael Kheop. But "after interacting with the administration, we realized Howard was only a microcosm of Black America."

The original name of the group was the Universal Student



Kaffa House, a new Howard students owned business. Improvement Association. Garvey's U.N.I.A. [Universal Negro Improvement Association], EOF

representative Patrick Castro said. "We needed to change the name to reflect the times we were living in."

Eruptions of Funk was adopted from Toni Morrison's novel "The Bluest Eye."

"She [Morrison] described the young revolutionaries as 'eruptions of funk,'" Castro said. EOF's first project was to start a shuttle that transports students across the city. The ultimate objective, however, was a cafe. "With the contributions, we didn't have enough to start a cafe, so we went to a Black-owned bus company and they put us up with a good deal," he said.

After a semester of success with the shuttle, EOF had enough money to join in with some other investors and start a cafe, the Kaffa House. "The Kaffa House," said Kheop, "is a meeting place for young minds." But it's in no way limited to just

students. "The cafe serves not only students but also the D.C. community, by providing a place where people can just talk."

"We're not just here to talk but to do something," Castro said.

Kheop said that the group is a group of entrepreneurs coming together for their own economic gain. It "is not just an economic organization, it is a matter of getting in touch with community; every movement has an economic basis," Castro said.

Now that EOF has established an economic base, the next step is "political programs," Kheop said.

The group has put together a 10-point platform to illustrate their goals. But everything starts with the type of dialogue that goes on at the Kaffa House.

"There must be a revolution of the mind, first," he said.

Student ambassadors showcase the University's best



Student Ambassadors, Howard University recruitment at its best.

By Jonathan L. Wharton
Hilltop Staff Writer

Chances are, when you first came to Howard University, you had to go through this group. They give daily campus tours and recruit for the University. There are many organizations here at the "Mecca," but few organizations stand out like the Student Ambassadors.

Many high school students interested in Howard take tours of the campus with these model students daily. Groups range from elementary students to senior citizens. Whether it's families of two to groups of 200, different people from virtually everywhere find themselves perusing the "Mecca" grounds with the Ambassadors as their official guides.

"You meet good people and you get to showcase the University," said Ambassador Terry Bruner, a senior political science major. Students are selected during a rigorous week-long seminar every October. The seminars include an interview, an impromptu presentation and a written examination on Howard's history.

"We require many expectations from student ambassadors," adviser V. Victoria Little said. "But the experience is rewarding and the opportunities are unlimited for

students who put in the effort."

Once selected, student ambassadors must come into the Office of Student Recruitment every week to check in and conduct two tours a month.

"You use public speaking skills and interpersonal skills which will help you in professional life. It is very beneficial," Bruner said.

Besides completing tours, ambassadors also attend college fairs, recruit at their high schools back home as well as assist the office with clerical and recruiting tasks.

"Ambassadors must fulfill their requirements with tours and organizing activities, otherwise they may be reprimanded," said ambassador Kenya Carter, a junior advertising major. Carter is also a member of the executive board for the organization. Their job is to make sure that all student ambassadors are completing their duties.

The ambassadors enjoy their volunteer work and are proud of their service to the University.

"You have to love Howard and this is a way to give back to the school I love. It is also about selling the University and its attributes for what the school has to offer," said Cynthia Dodson, a junior majoring in physician assistance.

Many ambassadors also mentioned that they are proud of seeing Howard students they recruited.

"The most influential thing is that I have an impact on future Howard students. Being a student ambassador is a year-long responsibility unlike other student organizations. It makes me feel good to constantly recruit," said executive board member Danielle Worth, a junior majoring in television production.

"When I help a young student make up his mind about attending Howard and he ends up coming here, I'm happy," said Mike Black, a junior advertising major.

Even new ambassadors inducted last year said that they look forward to their new membership.

"I want to try to recruit young folks to attend Howard and see not just the campus but the opportunities as well," said sophomore Al Barber. "If I can open their eyes up to the college scene and to Howard, then I know I have helped them."

"I've watched student ambassadors give tours and I've always wanted to do that," said marketing major Dell Williams. I even asked myself 'Why can't I do that since I know so much about Howard too?' I'm glad I am an ambassador because now I can show off my school."

Mr. Howard starts male mentorship program

LaMont Geddis reaches out to D.C.'s Black boys

By Kenyatta Matthews
Hilltop Staff Writer

takes development to become a man. The best way to get that experience is by being around older Black men," he said.

Geddis has already implemented the association's program, Safe In My Brother's Arms (SIMBA), at the Sojourner Neighborhood Center.

The program is for aspiring Black males ranging from ages 11 to 15. In addition to tutoring, participants receive Black male development.

"There are a lot of real positive young brothers who have questions about the definition of manhood. They are confused about their emotions and how to express them. I tell them that it's okay to feel insecure and uncertain sometimes and that it's okay to open up and tell other men when they are scared or sad. I tell them that doing these things

We can show the younger brothers that they don't have to settle for jail, or working at Burger King, or [joining] the army. We can show them that they can use their brains to get what they want out of life," Geddis said.

Despite the lack of male participation in other campus mentoring programs, Geddis said he has faith that his program will generate many volunteers.

"I believe that men will come out for my program. I'm working at the Sojourner School now with 25 male volunteers and I only needed 10," Geddis said.

Eric Kellum, a volunteer for the Mr. Howard Association, believes that Howard men have a duty to join the organization.

"The children, young men in particular, need positive Black men as role models. I think it's

we can show the younger brothers that they don't have to settle for jail, or working at Burger King, or [joining] the army. We can show them that they can use their brains to get what they want out of life." -LaMont Geddis, Mr. Howard

makes them a man," Geddis said.

Geddis plans to expand the existing SIMBA program to other schools via Howard. The theme, "Decrease Incarceration, Increase Education," will show young Black men that there are other options for the future than what they are exposed to. Geddis stresses how important it's that Howard men accomplish this goal.

"It's tough being a Black man. Instead of building schools, the government is building more jails. A disproportionate amount of males are in these jails, and the numbers keep rising. We are defying the purpose of those jails.

their obligation. If they care for our people, then they should care enough to help our youth," said Kellum, a sophomore majoring in marketing.

Geddis has big plans for the program. Tours to all local elementary and secondary schools, a rites-of-passage ceremony, and a yearly commitment to the continuation of the program for future Mr. Howards are a few goals on his itinerary.

"I want the program to grow. SIMBA is now in its cub stage. But by the time I end my reign as Mr. Howard it will be a strong courageous lion," he said.

High school students visit the 'Mecca' for HUSA retreat

Students experience classes, campus events, social activities

By Alia R. Hashim
Hilltop Staff Writer

Twenty high school students from Pittsburgh, Pa., got a taste of Howard University last weekend through an impromptu Howard University Student Association (HUSA)-sponsored retreat.

The students were scheduled to come during the early spring but their counselor insisted they would only be able to visit Howard this weekend.

"The focus was to bring young people to our campus so they could get a glimpse of college life from the student perspective," said Omar Rushdan, HUSA chief of staff.

Despite the fact that she was not prepared for the students, Jennifer Womack, HUSA student recruitment director, planned a last-minute agenda for the students. Although she planned many detailed activities for the larger group that will be visiting in the spring, Womack was able to accommodate the students.

They had the opportunity to visit classes, academic advisers and financial aid. They also were able to experience some of the social scene that Howard has to offer. They attended a basketball game, a mixer and visited the community surrounding Howard's campus.

The 11th and 12th grade students arrived on Thursday, Jan. 25, and returned to Pittsburgh on Saturday, Jan. 27.

Housed in the Tubman Quadrangle and Drew Hall, the prospective students attempted to capture the essence of college life.

Maori Carmel Holmes, a freshman majoring in journalism, served as a student host for the retreat. But Holmes was disappointed with the level of maturity exhibited by her two student guests.

"I was hoping that they could see college life for the things they aren't usually exposed to," said Holmes. "My two students just wanted to get their nails done, go to happy hour and party. They weren't interested in attending any classes."

Julian Petty, a freshman majoring in marketing, said his student guests were not interested in the educational side of Howard University, either. He blamed their lack of enthusiasm on the fact that they were not expected this weekend.

"We wanted them to see more of Howard University than what is shown in the brochure," Petty said.

Not all the student guests were only interested in checking out the social scene. High school senior Amy Andrieux said she had a great visit with the Howard community.

"It was a family type atmosphere and everyone was willing to help me make decisions about my major." While they had to provide an unexpected service for the Pittsburgh students, Rushdan is confident that the HUSA retreat was beneficial. The HUSA is planning a larger retreat in the spring for students from all over the country. Womack has been working on this retreat since the summer and is confident that it will be a success.

If you are interested in photography, consider taking pictures for The Hilltop.

Call Nikia Puyol at 806-6866.

ΑΦΑ ΑΚΑ ΩΨΦ ΔΣΘ ΚΑΨ ΦΒΣ ΖΦΒ ΣΓΡ

In honor of Black History Month, The Hilltop is honoring all eight of the Black Pan-Hellenic organizations. With more than a million men and women involved in these organizations worldwide, it is no surprise that the history of African Americans has greatly been affected by members of these illustrious fraternities and sororities. Today, we honor Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, the "Granddaddy of Them All," was founded on December 4, 1906 by seven men at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. The Beta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha was founded on the campus of Howard University on December 20, 1907. The purpose of the oldest Black Greek-letter organization is Manly deeds, scholarships and love for all mankind.

Notable members of the fraternity include former Atlanta mayor Andrew Young and current Detroit mayor Dennis Archer. Other members have included Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., W.E.B. DuBois, Jesse Owens and singer Donny Hathaway. On campus, the School of Dentistry is named after a member of Alpha Phi Alpha, Numa P.G. Adams.

Locally, Beta Chapter members have made a journey back to the Motherland as part of their "Step Africa" project, a monumental program that is the first of its kind. The "Bros" raise money to travel to South Africa as exchange of ideas, values, beliefs, customs and dance forms. This year, 11 brothers made the trip, sharing a valuable experience and engaging in a series of dance workshops with children of Soweto. They also worked with the Soweto Dance Theater in Johannesburg.

Another part of their trip to South Africa was spent initiating a clean-up campaign where the brothers disposed of trash and debris along roads in Soweto. Finally, the men of Alpha Phi Alpha donated computers to Soweto's dance theater and provided computer workshops.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated is a sisterhood of more than 100,000 college women, alumnae, and undergraduates. The main objective of Alpha Kappa Alpha is Service to All Mankind. The sorority was founded on January 15, 1908 at Howard University and incorporated on January 29, 1913.

The purpose of Alpha Kappa Alpha is to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards, to promote unity and friendship among college women, to study and alleviate problems concerning girls and women, to maintain a progressive interest in college life and to be of service to all mankind.

Alpha Chapter is proud to be guardians of our most illustrious sorority. There are many sites on the campus of Howard that the women of AKA hold near and dear to their hearts. In honor of our 70th Founders Day, the sorority dedicated the Founders' Memorial window in Andrew Rankin Chapel. The beautiful stained-glass window was designed by AKA member Lois M. Jones Pierre-Noel and executed by Douglas Phillips. The window pays tribute to our dynamic far-seeing Founders. Also located in the chapel is another stained-glass window paying homage to Founder Lucy Diggs Slowe. Slowe was Howard's first Dean of Women. In addition, embedded in the ground of "the Yard" across from the Human Ecology Building lies a commemorative plaque. The plaque, made of solid pink marble was also dedicated to the Founders. It makes note of the fact that this is Alpha Chapter, the start of it all.

Alpha Chapter touches upon these goals by tutoring at Banneker High School in the areas of math and science, as well as volunteering to feed the homeless at Martha's Table and at So Others May Eat. One of Alpha Chapter's largest programs is the Stop Hunger Fast. A total of \$12,000 was donated to Africare to support a fishery in Liberia.



ΑΦΑ ΑΚΑ ΩΨΦ ΔΣΘ ΚΑΨ ΦΒΣ ΖΦΒ ΣΓΡ

LOCAL

Three D.C. women murdered en route to club

By Steven Gray
Hilltop Staff Writer

in Southeast Washington.

According to Park Police, two unidentified men arrived at Black's house shortly after 11:00 p.m. on Jan. 26. The two men did not enter Black's house, but honked their horn. Black left her house with Jackson and Chinn, both her long-time friends.

Nearly five hours after the three women left Black's house for the club, their blood-soaked bodies were found on a secluded stretch of the Laurel Bowie Road in northern Prince George's County.

Neither the victims' families, nor Park Police had leads or suspects. But Park Police spokesman Maj. Robert Hines said that he could not confirm that information.

"We're just not releasing any information right now because we want to protect our sources," Hines said in an interview with The Washington Post.

"Someone out there somewhere has seen these young women," Capt. Gary L. Van Horn said. "We don't have any suspects now, but we

are looking at all possible angles. We have no concrete leads at this point."

Howard University freshman Wylyna Tabb said the recent murders will not only make her more conscious of her surroundings, but of the company that she keeps as well.

"Of course I'm scared, any young woman should be," Tabb said. "Things like this make you think about the dangers of living in the city. Whenever I go out, I make sure that I am with a large group of

friends that I know well. It's like a band of protection."

A passerby noticed the bodies around 4:00 Saturday morning. The site is north of the National Agricultural Research Center in Beltsville, Md.

According to officials, all of the women were shot once. Two were struck by a car, although Park Police have yet to determine if they were struck by the murderers or by someone else who then fled the scene.

An article in The Washington

Post cited that The Mirage was the scene of several shootings, an abduction, and a rape occurred at the site in recent years.

Joyce Gaston, Tamika Black's mother, remembered telling her daughter to stay home just before she walked out of their home. "I told my daughter, 'Don't go,' because I had bad feelings," Gaston said. "She was seemingly happy. She was a nice girl," she said.

Independent authority to clean up District's water

By Reginald Royston
Hilltop Staff Writer

Virginia complained of excessive sewage and salt from rainswept streets.

Water volume has also presented a problem for the Corps of Engineers who facilitate the water treatment systems and reservoirs for D.C. and much of the North Virginia suburbs.

The Corps of Engineers has been calling for an independent water authority to take over management of water supply since 1993, citing their inability to fund the extensive repairs in delivery and administrative costs of restructuring the entire system.

Under the pending legislation, the new water authority will be set up as an independent agency with a community oversight board consisting of six District and four suburban representatives.

The water authority will also be able to bond its finances with revenue received from water usage, as the money will be placed directly into a financial fund separate from the general D.C. government fund. This has been a key issue in the planning of the water authority since the EPA cited the District for diverting funds for government expenses last year amidst the brooding fiscal situation.

"We have one of the biggest water treatment facilities in the nation. Our delivery system is in desperate need. Pipes are breaking up all over the city. There are some major structural things we need to correct," said Anne Hargrove, a spokeswoman for Ward 1 Councilmember Frank Smith.

While city officials are heralding the benefits of an independent agency, a major concern still exists over payment for the plan.

"The city is so strapped financially, with revenues going down and costs rising. This is a necessity. We need to be a good regional neighbor to all our customers in the District and the suburbs," Hargrove said.

Georgetown students unite

Students protest to secure tenure for Black professor of English

By Steven Gray
Hilltop Staff Writer

Georgetown University is facing the most pressing issue in its 207-year history: cultural diversity among its faculty.

At the heart of the debate is Marsha Darling, Ph.D., an African-American professor of history and women studies. Darling is fighting to renew her contract, which was set to expire in May.

Over 250 Georgetown students staged the second of two student-led demonstrations—a sit-in during Darling's Tuesday evening class, protesting the University's unwillingness to offer Darling tenure.

After a student-led protest last semester, her contract was extended until the end of the 1996-97 school year.

"At the moment, I have offers from other schools with a three-year tenure track," said Darling. "Georgetown's offer doesn't match up to the offers that I've received from other schools."

But for students like Caleb Pitters, vice president of Georgetown's chapter of the NAACP, Darling's one-year extension isn't enough.

"The one-year contract is just a band-aid to a wound that needs deep medical attention," Pitters said. "This protest is not only about the absence of African-American women professors at Georgetown, but also about the absence of Black men professors at the University."

While the University's percentage of tenured minority professors is 13.1 percent, African-American professors make up less than 1.7 percent, or seven positions out of 398.

"I am very, very impressed with how the students mobilized on improving diversity at both the faculty and student level," said Darling. "I'm personally touched that they would hold me in such high regard."

Kim Hall, a professor of English and women

studies, said that none of Georgetown's seven full-time African-American professors are men.

Of the four African-American professors in her history department, two are tenured, including herself. Of the others, one is on a tenured track and one is an adjunct faculty member.

"The most dominating issue is race and racial politics in American higher education. Georgetown claims to support diversification, but the administration isn't willing to aggressively put forth money to support diversification," Hall said.

Forty of the University's professors are either Asian or Asian-American, making up the largest single block of minority professors. Twenty of the University's professors are Hispanic.

University officials attribute the problem to age, not race.

"The problem is that departments usually do not want to hire young candidates," said Rosemary Kilkenny, special assistant to Georgetown's president for affirmative action programs. "Departments need to be more aggressive. We have to be more creative and committed to our status as an affirmative-action employer," Kilkenny said in an interview with Georgetown's campus newspaper, The Hoya.

During a time when the civil rights accomplishments of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. are being remembered, over 300 Georgetown students and faculty members from all backgrounds held a forum discussing the fate of Darling and the University's efforts to diversify its faculty.

Chad Griffin, chief of staff of the Georgetown Student Association, moderated the forum.

"The forum is the second step in a movement to raise awareness of the problems of diversity at Georgetown that began with the Tuesday night sit-in at Dr. Marsha Darling's class," Griffin said.

All seven of Georgetown's African-American

professors attended the forum, including Darling. However, she could not speak at the forum because she is still negotiating her contract with interim-executive Vice President Richard Schwartz.

Sue Vinton, a Georgetown University representative, said that negotiations between Darling and Schwartz were underway as recently as Jan. 29. In an unofficial statement, Vinton said, "It was a very constructive discussion about the desirability of her [Darling] staying at Georgetown. We remain hopeful and optimistic about her staying at Georgetown."

Pitters perceives a long struggle ahead of Darling.

"Essentially, Professor Darling faces the fact that the University is not committed to her," Pitters said. "We've heard everything from, 'It's hard to find qualified minority professors,' to 'It's hard to compete with the salary demands of qualified minority professors because they are in such high demand.'"

Pitters attributes the administration's willingness to respond to student demands and negotiate with Professor Darling to the diversity of last week's forum.

"Our protest crossed the spectrum—that's the only reason the administration responded," Pitters said. "The fact of the matter is that things get done when we have multi-racial coalitions. The administration came because these weren't a bunch of loud students. These were articulate students who supported diversity among Georgetown's faculty."

Pitters said "The administration will take issue... they have to. They will probably work something out. But the fact of the matter is that this is one issue that will never die."

Darling is currently working on a voting rights documentation project at Howard University's Moorland-Springharn Research Center.

Black History Calendar

Local Events:

Feb. 1 - Feb. 3

National Museum of American History: "Mind on Freedom: Celebrating the History and Culture of America's Black Colleges and Universities" Scholars, policy makers, alumni and students examine the evolution of black schools and their impact and recommendations for the 21 century. For program and registration information, call (202) 786-2122.

Feb. 2 - 3

The Improv: Mark Curry from ABC's "Hanging with Mr. Cooper" For more information call (202) 296-7008.

Feb. 4

National Museum of African Art: Anthropologist Michael Blakey of Howard University presents "Sankofa: Unearthing an Ancestral History," a talk on archaeological discoveries from the African Burial Ground Project in New York City. 2-4 p.m. in the second-level lecture hall.

Feb. 8

National Air & Space Museum: An Evening with Chauncey Spencer: Tuskegee Airman Chauncey Spencer recalls such achievements as his historic flight from Chicago to Washington, D.C. to show the nation that Blacks deserve to be involved in aviation. 7:30 p.m. at the Langley Theater.

Feb. 10

The Washington, D.C. Panhellenic Council First Annual African-American Greek Forum "Strength Through Unity in Critical Times" 8 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Armour J. Blackburn Center. For more information, contact Anthony Hill at (202)797-5212.

Review: Union Station's America

Ratings (based on a 1 to 10 scale, 10 being the highest)

Accessibility	10
Welcome/Greeting	8
Table Preparation	8
Overall Environment	9
Menu Selection	10
Meal Portions	10
Taste of Food	9
Service	7
Cost	8
Restaurant Size	10
Overall	= 89

By Jonathan L. Wharton
The Hilltop Connoisseur

Next time you go to the movies, instead of the usual fast food places in Union Station, you should discover "America" for dinner. America is a restaurant located on the first floor of Union Station

in the main corridor, across from Uno's Pizzeria.

The menu features a wide variety of traditional American cuisine. Every state in the United States is represented by a selection on the menu. "We pride ourselves for having not so commonly regional dishes," America's restaurant manager Robert Hall Jr. said.

This casual establishment serves generous portions with the price range starting from \$3.75 for soup to \$16.95 for lamb chops. The average cost for an entree is anywhere from \$9.00 to \$12.00. The environment depends on the time you eat. America's location causes it to be a bustling area during lunchtime, but in the evening the action slows down.

America has lots of dining space with an outside and indoor cafe as well as two dining levels.

"We have a wide variety of places to eat. The facility allows us to host large gatherings of all types," Hall said.

The service is satisfactory, but the meals are very appetizing. Two pick items on the menu are the Oklahoma country fried steak and the California beef and chicken fajitas. Other specialities include

the Mississippi fried catfish and the Maine scallops and chicken fettucine.

Hall said that the wide variety and quality service America offers is the reason for the popularity of the restaurant.

"Patrons like the consistency. I would say about 80 percent of our patrons return for another meal. They know we'll be here and give them a warm welcome," Hall said.

The restaurant is subway accessible by the Metro on the Red line Union Station stop.

At first glance, the prices on the menu appear to be steep, but the large portions of the meals make up for it. The restaurant is open Monday through Sunday from 11:30 am to 12 pm.

Rating: B+



Do you have any story ideas for the Hilltop? Do you want to make money writing for an award winning newspaper? If so, call the Hilltop at (202) 806-6866.

NATIONAL

Committee delays O'Leary's travel hearings



U.S. Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary.

By Jonathan L. Wharton
Hilltop Staff Writer

U.S. Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary, the first Black woman appointed to a head level position in the agency, may not face Congress in committee hearings over her alleged high cost travel expenses until late next month.

O'Leary was accused of spending too much government money on official business trips to China, Russia and South Africa. In fact, the Energy Department, for the first time, has the second-largest travel expenses for a federal agency, according to the U.S. General Accounting Office.

Congressional Republicans are

trying to hold hearings and prosecute O'Leary for unauthorized over expenditures.

"I think she should resign. I think she's embarrassing the [Clinton] administration," House Majority Whip Tom Delay (R-Texas) said.

The Washington Post reported that Rep. Joseph Barton (R-Texas), chairman of the House Commerce Committee, which is planning to hold hearings, wanted to delay the proceedings because the department's expense records were delayed.

Energy officials deny they are hindering the investigation.

"It's a total fiction for Barton to be alleging we have not been responsive to the requests," said

Peter Didisheim, assistant to the secretary.

Republicans want some time to examine the records before any formal investigation is conducted.

"It's better to delay the hearing so we can talk about specific issues, contracts and decisions that were made," Barton said.

Barton also warned that they are planning to pressure O'Leary.

"I think she's going to have a very difficult time defending the style, length, cost and number of people on some of these trips," Barton said.

In the last spending bill passed last week, Republicans also limited the Department of Energy's travel budget by almost 40 percent.

Congressional leaders want

O'Leary to testify about how her staffers she brought with her on government trips. It was reported she invited as many as 30 employees and assistants.

Last week during President Clinton's State of the Union Address, one lawmaker on the Republican side of the aisle shouted when O'Leary came on stage, "Make way for Hazel O'Leary. She's got 90 people with her."

No member of the House took responsibility for the remarks.

The Energy Department is responding to the incident.

Congress enforces law on Hill staffers and families

By Jonathan L. Wharton
Hilltop Staff Writer

The U.S. Congress is enforcing the newly passed Congressional Accountability Act, allowing 25,000 staffers to finally work overtime.

Employees will also be able to join labor unions and sue the institution for liability.

"I think you're going to see a lot more sensibility [from] lawmakers in making sure this law works," Rep. Christopher Shays (R-Conn.) said.

The Congressional Budget Office is estimating it will cost

Congress \$5 million for overtime compensation.

The Office of Compliance will enforce the measures with 15 assistants and a small office budget of \$2.5 million. The office issued a guideline report to staffers and their supervisors on overtime requirements.

"Each office will decide which staffers will receive the funding. Some offices may have everybody getting overtime, other offices may not have any," one Hill chief of staff said.

The idea behind the compliance law is to make Congress operate as a business entity.

Another provision, which started

Jan. 1, enforces a ban on lobbyists' gifts and entertainment event tickets over \$5 dollars. If lawmakers or staffers decide to accept the gift, it must be registered with the Clerk of the House and the Secretary of the Senate's office.

Many of the lawmakers' spouses are upset with the new law and question its purpose.

"Congress has no jurisdiction over spouses and most of us want to behave ethically," said Marianne Gingrich, wife of House Speaker Newt Gingrich. "As a spouse, you learn the rules."

Debbie Dingell (D-Mich.) said, "Clearly this legislation has a lot of implications that were not thought

out. This was not the way to make a law."

Also, many staffers are confused about the regulations, and lawmakers' families say they do not know what is considered a gift.

"We have been deluged with questions ever since the thing passed," Rep. Nancy Johnson (R-Conn.) said.

Some staffers are even hesitating to attend receptions or functions that are paid for by lobbyists.

"What's a reception?" Johnson said. "Does a reception become a dinner when they serve roast beef?"



"I think you're going to see a lot more sensibility [from] lawmakers in making sure this law works," Rep. Christopher Shays (R-Conn.) said.

Budget negotiations on hold until March; cuts in programs

By Jonathan L. Wharton
Hilltop Staff Writer

Congressional Republicans and President Bill Clinton have finally agreed on several forms of the 1996 budget since last week, but Congress wanted to make some changes in the short-term spending.

"We're satisfied with a lot of give and take, which has produced an agreement the president can live with," White House spokesman Michael McCurry said.

Clinton agreed to a \$265 billion defense bill, but allowed the Republicans to have military members with AIDS to be discharged. He is also permitting

military hospitals not to perform certain abortions.

AIDS advocacy groups are upset about Clinton agreeing with the compromise.

"There is little enthusiasm for Clinton right now in the AIDS or gay communities," Steve Michael of ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) said.

In the 1992 presidential election, many of the nation's AIDS and gay organizations helped finance Clinton's campaign and supported him in the polls.

"Now we feel lied to and betrayed," Lin Hagood of ACT UP said.

There are also provisions within the bill to cut 10 small scale social programs including the Dropout Prevention Project.



President Bill Clinton and Congress agree to temporary budget.

Also, many educational grants will be awarded less federal money to state government school systems. The Department of Education will have up to \$3.1 billion in spending cuts for this year.

In addition, spending for AmeriCorps and Cops on the Beat law enforcement programs would operate with a 25 percent budget cut from last year's appropriations.

"This makes a true dent on the taxpayers' behalf. The people who need services will get service," said Rep. Robert Livingston (R-La.), chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.

House Democrats reacted strongly to the proposed measure.

"This is one of the biggest

education votes in the Congress," House Minority Whip Dan Rostenkowski (D-Ill.) said.

Republicans were pleased with the cuts in education, but wanted to see some trimming in federal programs.

"The Democrats never saw education program they didn't want to cut," Livingston said.

The U.S. Pell grant scholarship award, however, will increase \$100.

The White House urged Congress that they negotiate to finish soon.

"We don't want to get bogged down in these negotiations," White House Chief of Staff Andrew

Panetta said.

Howard remembers significance of 'separate but equal' decision

By LaWanda Amaker and Zerline A. Hughes
Hilltop Staff Writers

This year commemorates the 100th Anniversary of the Plessy v. Ferguson decision. However, this is no celebration.

The Supreme Court, in 1896, rendered its decision that laws which separate the races are not only good, but necessary to maintain the peace and security of the White community.

This decision established the "separate but equal" doctrine that impacted every aspect of life for African Americans.

Homer Plessy decided to test the 1890 Louisiana law providing for separate railway carriages for Whites and Blacks. Plessy, who was 1/8 Black, was assigned to the Black coach. But he insisted upon

going into the White coach. Judge John H. Ferguson upheld the "separate but equal" law, but

anchor for all discrimination laws and it established two worlds: one Black and one White. Living

more than Blacks' physical institutions.

The separation dehumanized

stores because of signs saying "No niggers and dogs allowed."

Howard University played an

to overturning "separate but equal" and bringing about social change.

The School of Law and the School of Education worked together collecting data and developing briefs to fight the doctrine. As a result, a series of victories by the Supreme Court leading to Brown v. Board of Education in 1954.

Dr. Taylor spoke adamantly when she said, "Howard University believed 'separate but equal' was inherently wrong. One can not look at Plessy v. Ferguson without looking at Howard University

"Howard University believed 'separate but equal' was inherently wrong. One can not look at Plessy v. Ferguson without looking at Howard University."-Dr. Taylor, History Professor

neither man ever realized their names would be immortalized in civil rights history.

This decision served as a sheet

within the "separate but equal" doctrine, Blacks were segregated in education, housing, the work place and the ballot box. But, it destroyed

Blacks and dismantled spirits. Olive A. Taylor, history professor at Howard University said, "I remember not being able to enter

integral part in the undoing of this doctrine. Dr. Mordecai Wyatt Johnson, Howard's first Black president, dedicated the institution

Interested in writing about national issues? Call Janelle Thompson at the Hilltop 806-6866.

INTERNATIONAL

South Africa's University of Witwatersrand struggles with racial, political unrest

By Patricia Hardin
Hilltop Staff Writer

Some herald it as the Harvard of South Africa. The University of Witwatersrand, a prestigious institution of higher education, sits at the forefront of South Africa's highest ranking English-speaking universities.

Yet, as the University strives to hold on to its reputation, racial disputes, political jockeying and student protests have gripped the institution, leaving educators, faculty and students at odds with one another.

As with the rest of post-apartheid South Africa, Witwatersrand, commonly referred to as "Wits" (pronounced "vits"), is undergoing a rapid amount of change in a short period of time. And these changes, some South African observers say, are having adverse effects on the atmosphere of the campus.

"Wits" hasn't been a very healthy or positive environment. It's a situation where there is a lot of tension," said Robert Edgar, a Howard University African studies professor who spent some time at Wits during his sabbatical in South Africa last year. "Wits is perceived as a liberal institution where the faculty is against

apartheid. But [the University] is having problems because of the sentiments and mentality of some of the elite [faculty]."

Once an all-White institution, Wits, according to University statistics, currently has

institution. Several Wits faculty members argue that the University's effort to create a more equitable atmosphere for students, administrators and faculty is far below that of other colleges in South Africa.

is William Makgoba, the newly appointed deputy vice chancellor who serves as the school's highest ranking Black official.

Arriving at Wits just over one year ago, Makgoba has found himself in the midst of a

to offend them [the White conservative faculty]."

Offend them, he did. As a result of Makgoba's firm stance, 13 Wits faculty members sought to oust him. After searching for incriminating evidence, they

him.

One key underlying issue Makgoba was striving to bring to the forefront at Witwatersrand was the need for more Black faculty and administrators.

But some members of the South African academic community have said because Blacks were denied equal access to education during apartheid, there is not a large number of "qualified" Black administrators.

"The problem in South Africa is the inequitable education system where the Black students received an inferior education," said Edgar. "[South Africa] needs to start at the ground level and build from there, providing solid public education for each student."

Furthermore, some educators say, if Witwatersrand hires a large number of non-White administrators, the University's high academic standards will diminish.

However, other universities are transforming into equitable institutions and are making strides to improve the educational system for all South Africans.

"The University of Cape Town is trying to accommodate a larger number of Black students and are trying to hire more Black faculty," said Edgar. "They are making a good faith deposit."

"[South Africa] needs to start at the ground level and build from there, providing solid public education for each student."-Robert Edgar, professor of African Studies

approximately 7,200 Black, Indian and Colored students (mixed-raced South Africans) enrolled. This equals 40 percent of the total enrollment of 18,000. Of the 2,500 faculty members, approximately 15 percent are non-White. In addition, on the 40-member council that once held no Black South Africans, Whites hold a three-to-one majority.

These averages are the focal point of a major grievance at the

"Wits is lagging behind in a disgraceful way," said Nthato Motlana, an alumnus and University decision-making council member, in an interview with The Washington Post.

Although enrollment for Black students is increasing, a vast majority of faculty remains White. For this reason, one outspoken administrator decided to take action.

At the center of the disruption

controversy.

Shortly after he arrived, Makgoba reportedly began calling for the end of European domination at Wits and spoke of a need for a more Afrocentric campus.

"[Makgoba] wrinkled some of the conservative White faculty," Edgar said. "He was very candid about his views on what needed to be done. And, I honestly believe it would have been very hard not

accused Makgoba of resume fraud, claiming he embellished some of the high honors listed on his credentials.

Makgoba, in return, fought back by bringing the issue to the public. In addition to supplying the media with a copy of his resume, Makgoba reportedly released confidential University files that exposed evidence of tax evasion and other wrongdoings. For his actions, Wits suspended

International students focus on community for spring semester

By Patricia Hardin
Hilltop Staff Writer

Now that Howard has said goodbye to the fall semester, several international organizations on campus are gearing up for spring, promising a semester laden with programs, discussions and activities.

The International Students Association is putting together a ski trip scheduled for late February, an international retreat where international students can mingle, and an international writer's conference. The dates for these events haven't been set.

"We really would like different groups to become involved in campus life," said Prudence Layne, president of the International Student Association. "It's a standard that we set. And we want to put a focus on other groups to come out with their programs."

Coming out with its programs is exactly what the Haitian Student Association (HSA) plans to do. Focusing on its agenda to promote unity, HSA plans to take its community involvement to a higher level.

"We're trying to get people together and reach out to the Howard University community," said Andre Wille, interim president of HSA. "We want to instill [Haitian] pride in the population and get in contact with local

Haitians living in the District by going to churches and other college campuses."

Wille added that this semester HSA is planning a Haitian festival day where Haitian artwork can be showcased. Wille hopes the festival will benefit not only Haitian students, but new students, as well.

"I would like to let new students know that we are here. I myself am a new student at Howard and it's good to know that there are people here for me," he said.

A new semester not only means new programs for the International Affairs Center, but a new location, as well. After moving into Wonder Plaza at the end of last year, the office is now working to put Howard at the forefront of international issues.

"Last semester we brought in a number of speakers with other departments that fostered student participation. Now we're moving ahead to try to get more student involvement," said Julius Coles, director of the International Affairs Center. "We're also striving to become more involved in faculty and international work."

The programs the office is planning include a telecommunications in Africa conference scheduled in March, several graduate student presentations on international affairs and a major conference on U.S.-Caribbean relations.

Minister Louis Farrakhan meets with world leaders to establish international 'Day of Atonement'

By David Gaither
Hilltop Staff Writer

A call went out to Black men in America and over a million responded at the Million Man March on Oct. 16, 1995. But the call did not stop there. It has been extended to Black people throughout the world in what is being called an international "Day of Atonement" that will be held Oct. 16, 1996.

In preparation for this year's event, Nation of Islam leader Min. Louis Farrakhan, along with a delegation of former congressmen, mayors and spiritual leaders, has embarked on a month-long tour of Africa and parts of the Middle East.

Calling it a "Friendship Tour," the trip, which began Jan. 17, will take the group to more than 20 nations in 32 days.

To date, the delegation has met with Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, Ghanaian President Jerry Rawlings, Nigerian dictator Gen. Sani Abacha and South African President Nelson Mandela.

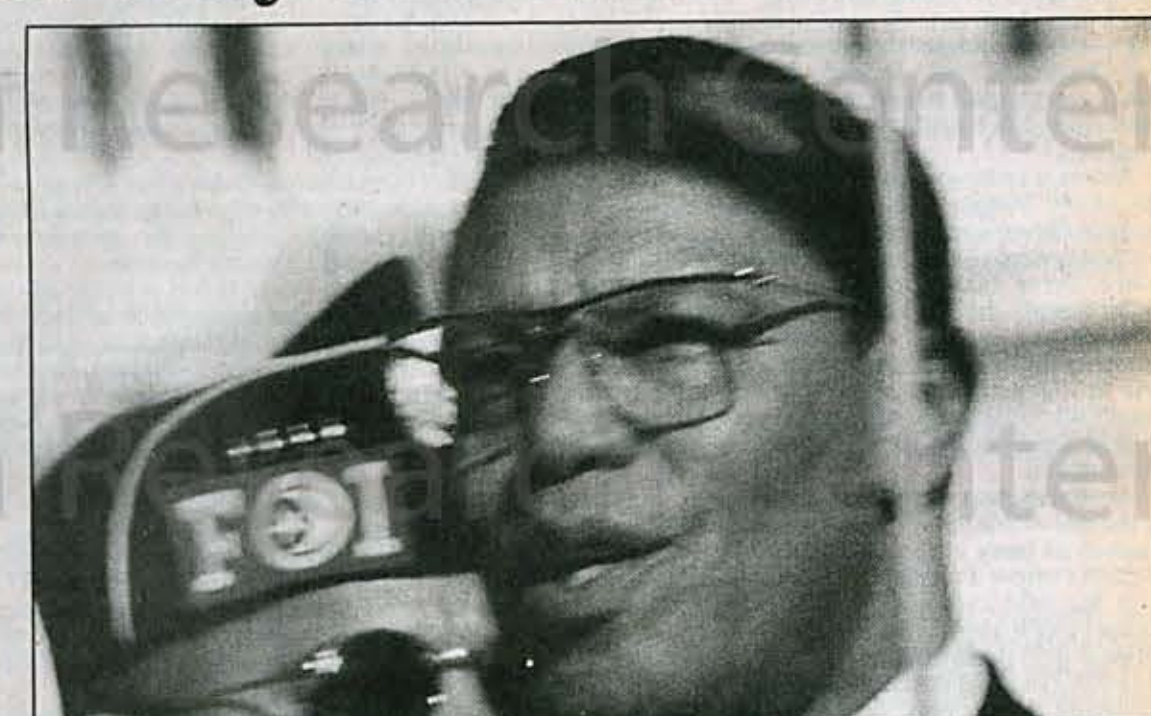
JANA, a Libyan news agency, quoted Gadhafi as saying, "we agreed with Louis Farrakhan and his delegation to mobilize in a legal and legitimate form, the oppressed minorities and at their forefront the Blacks, Arabs, Muslims and red Indians, for they play an important role in American political life and have a weight in the U.S. elections."

Gadhafi has also reportedly pledged \$1 billion to aid minorities in the United States.

In Ghana, Farrakhan met with close friend President Rawlings. The two have built a tight partnership over the past few years and have pledged to bridge relationships between Blacks in the United States and Africa.

The "Friendship Tour" also stopped in Nigeria, which has been the center of recent controversy. The delegation met with Gen. Abacha and led a fact-finding mission in the country.

Writer Ken Saro-Wijwa and other activists were hung by Nigerian authorities last year for their alleged



Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan shall tour the Middle East next week.

role in ordering the deaths of Black leaders in the oil-rich Ogoniland region, according to government officials.

Sunday, Feb. 28, the tour grabbed headlines worldwide when Farrakhan and South African President Nelson Mandela met to share their agendas.

Mandela said he discussed with Farrakhan, "the fundamental principles on which our policies are based and on which we are trying to build a new South Africa."

Farrakhan told reporters outside Mandela's home, "all the principles that President Mandela has outlined we agree with totally."

Patrice Remark, Howard graduate student and former president of the African Student Association said the meeting between Farrakhan and Mandela will have wide-reaching affects.

"This meeting marked the coming together of the world's two biggest Black leaders, the implications will be enormous," he said. "Howard students played a vital role in the organizing of the Million Man March... I'm sure Howard will benefit from the international 'Day of Atonement.'"

Farrakhan plans to detail his trip abroad in an annual "Saviour's Day" address in Chicago, Feb. 25.

Glance Around the World

Bridgetown, Barbados

-Glyne Murray, minister of state in the Prime Minister's Office challenged local record store owners to pay closer attention to the lyrics of the music they sell to Barbadian youth. Murray said it is the record store owners' "social responsibility" to reconsider selling any music that glamorizes illegal drug use.

He added that although business persons who sell music with pro-drug use messages will be able to make a great deal of money, the long-term effects of their actions will contribute to the endangerment of the social fabric of Barbadian society.

Vatican City

-Pope John Paul said in a speech to members of a commission of priests around the world that the Roman Catholic Church must increase its commitment to fighting religious sects. After touching on the Church's need to combat religious sects in Latin America, the Pope emphasized the challenge facing the Church in Western nations. In the West, people have "forgotten God" and think only of material well-being, he said.

"The challenges must come from a united commitment by all local churches," he added.

Kingston, Jamaica

-Jamaican Airline and hotel magnate Gordon Stewart recently charged American Airlines with predatory price fixing and plans to take the U.S. airline to court. Stewart told the Caribbean News Agency that American Airlines was charging high fares to several Caribbean designations and using the profits from the fares to heavily subsidize its Jamaica-U.S. fares with the intent of putting Air Jamaica out of business.

International Affairs Center Schedule for Graduate Fellows Seminars

- Feb. 14 Sam Osunde
- Feb. 28 Derrick L. Cogburn
- Mar. 13 Koren Delisser

All seminars are located on the second floor conference room of the International Affairs Center from 4:00p.m. to 6:00 p.m.



THE HILLTOP



Since 1924

Black history month's creator is an example to be emulated

One of the main tools used to condition Africans brought to this land as slaves was miseducation. The thrust of miseducation was to break the bond Africans had to their homeland, through the misrepresentation and denial of history. This tactic was continued well after slavery and is very much intact today.

With the exception of few Afrocentric programs, Black school children are taught that their history began with the slave trade and President Abraham Lincoln is their savior for signing the Emancipation Proclamation. The lesson goes on that we were then integrated into this society and owe our allegiance to this country. A lie told long enough is accepted as truth, but we must now dispel it.

Through the efforts of many great men and women, especially Carter G. Woodson, February has been designated "Black History Month," to explore the true history of the people who were the original inhabitants of the earth.

Woodson was a dean at Howard University in the 1930's when he attempted to teach a course on Black studies. The President of Howard forbade him to teach the class, so Woodson reserved a room in the student center and conducted the course on weekends for students and members of the community.

Woodson was eventually dismissed from Howard for being too "controversial." Instead of searching out another University where he would be under the same type of constraints, Woodson decided to build something himself. He founded both the Negro Digest, one of the first Black publications and a research

institution to study the true history of Black people. Woodson established Negro History week in the 1940s which has since grown to be Black History Month. Though we should do our best to teach Black history in this month and every other, the 28 days have not always done justice to our heritage.

When most of us were in grade school, February was a time of learning about Black athletes, entertainers and occasionally some Black professionals who were the first to do what White Americans had already done. It served a purpose, but fell far short of its potential.

We hear accounts of our glorious civilization in ancient Egypt, which should be explored, but our rain as rulers on this earth goes much farther than that and shouldn't be limited to it.

In celebration of our history, lets take the example of the man who made the month happen and the man who served as a trailblazer on this campus. Regardless of the backlash, Woodson was committed to teach his people the truth about themselves. When he was denied by an institution that was controlled by forces outside the Black community, he used his creative capacity to establish his own institution.

In his renowned book, "Mis-education of the Negro," Woodson wrote that "instead of preparing for the upliftment of a downtrodden people, Black students were merely memorizing certain facts to pass examinations for jobs." Woodson advocated not only for our history to be portrayed correctly, but for proper education. An education that develops a student's capacity to create and inspires them to serve their communities.

America's debt crisis can be reversed

Though considered the greatest nation on the planet, the United States is nearly \$5 trillion in debt. The recent budget fiasco that has shut the government down twice, has brought America's financial flaws to the forefront.

America enters debt when the amount allocated for the yearly budget falls short of what's needed to operate the government within that year. America's greatest revenue is the taxes it collects from its citizens. When these taxes don't amount to the budget requirement, the government is forced to borrow through the issuing of government bonds and securities. Individuals, corporations and foreign nations loan the United States money through this process. Those who purchase savings bonds and securities benefit financially through interest paid by the government.

America's next interest payment on the debt is due by the end of this month. But America is broke and has reached its peak in the amount of money it allowed itself to borrow. President Clinton asked Congress to raise the debt ceiling, allowing the government to accept more loans and escape default. Now, we may be delinquent in paying back a student loan or credit card payment, but imagine the strongest nation on the globe defaulting on its loans, thereby making U.S. savings bonds virtually worthless.

The President wants to borrow money to pay the interest of a previous loan. In fact, the billions of dollars Americans pay in taxes each year provide for interest payments only. The debt's principal hasn't been touched in decades.

The worst part is the country could easily reverse the situation. This wouldn't involve implementing any seven-year plan of the GOP or Clinton, but by simply

abiding by the U.S. Constitution.

The largest owner of U.S savings bonds and securities is, many economists would have you believe, the government itself. By this they mean the Federal Reserve. But truthfully, the Federal Reserve is a separate institution that prints America's currency and regulates its banks.

The Constitution states that Congress alone is granted the authority of printing money. But an act of Congress in 1913 stripped the government of that right, creating the Federal Reserve.

The Fed prints a \$100 bill at a cost of three cents, then loans it to the government at face value plus interest. Then the Fed determines interest rates and like last year when rates were raised five times, the government had to pay higher interest payments.

If Congress abolished the Federal Reserve and began printing money itself, borrowing at face value and interest wouldn't exist. But this would significantly decrease the revenue of big bankers, who politicians wish to please.

Five months before his assassination, President John F. Kennedy issued Executive Order 11110, which would allow the U.S government to issue its own currency without going through the Federal Reserve. No president after Kennedy ever utilized his executive order.

The debt was practically nothing to speak of prior to the '60s. But now the country has acquired an astronomical deficit. It does not serve the American people to continue to re-service the debt when no progress is being made to repay the principal. As long as the government takes loans to pay interest on prior loans and never prints its own currency, the U.S. or rather the American tax payer, will remain in perpetual debt.

Black athletes must champion their own cause

Last weekend, millions of people across the globe tuned in to NBC to watch Super Bowl XXX. Odds were that it would be another National Football Conference (NFC) onslaught. The Redskin, 49er, and Cowboy eras had dominated the American Football Conference (AFC) for the past 11 years and now the continuation of the Cowboy era has made it 12.

It would have been great to see a replay of Super Bowl II, with a match-up between the Indianapolis Colts (then from Baltimore) and the Greenbay Packers, who both reached their respective conference championship games. Instead, the Cowboys—with all their flamboyance—for the third time in four years won football's greatest game.

The Cowboy-Steeler match-up is an age old rivalry and was the third time the two teams have met in the Super Bowl. Previously, the Steelers had never lost, but with Sunday's defeat, the Cowboys became one of only two teams who have claimed the NFL crown five times. Fortunately, the game was much closer than odds predicted.

But beyond the game itself, the Super Bowl has become a multi-billion dollar day for all involved. A 40-second commercial cost over \$1 million. It was reported that BudWeiser will have to sell one billion cans of beer to make up for their advertising bill. And the bad side isn't the huge cost the network charges, but that BudWeiser will most likely more than compensate for their ads.

Sports is becoming increasingly profitable. The athletes are demanding higher salaries,

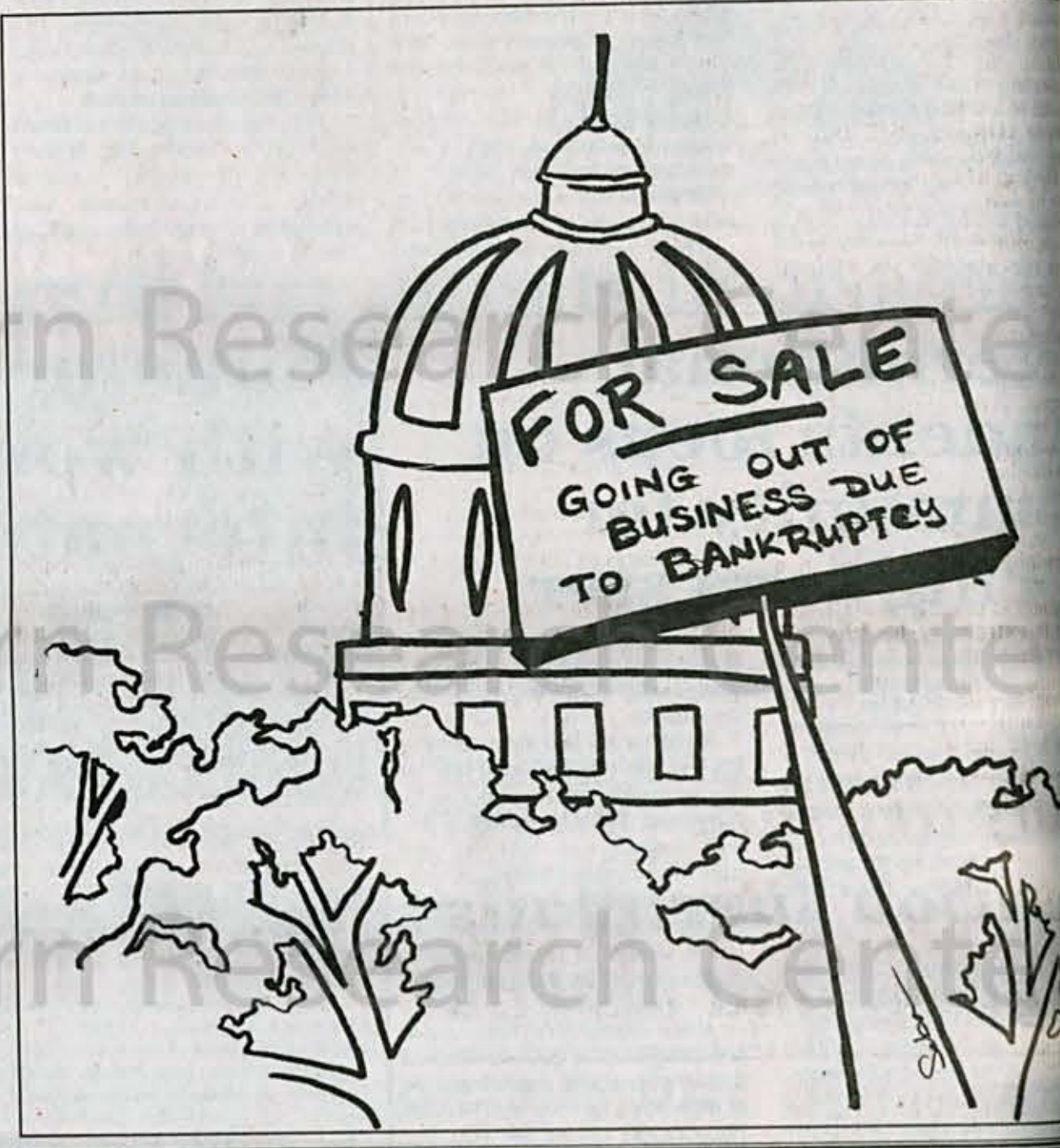
networks higher rates and owners are making sweet deals with cities, counties and states who wish to be home for the teams.

Blacks overpopulate the labor force of the sports industry. The Rev. Jesse Jackson has recently championed the cause of athletes to reverse this trend. But with all the millions so many Black athletes make each year, you would think there would be better conditions in the Black community because of the contributions of such individuals.

We see White athletes like Steve Largent become members of Congress, while many Black athletes go bankrupt after their careers. Black athletes should consider forming an organization that will help them give back to the communities they come from and establish businesses of their own. With the abundance of money Black athletes bring big companies like Nike, they could have designed their own shoe and made all the profits.

On top of poor money management, Black athletes lack responsibility as role models. Regardless of if they desire it or not, athletes are huge role models to millions of children who try to emulate them. These sports figures, especially African Americans, must be responsible in their duty of shaping young children and guiding them onto a right path.

The Super Bowl is one of the most revered and widely watched television spectacles. America must make more beneficial use of this game to uplift the conditions of life throughout the world.



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PERSPECTIVES

Critique plays vital role in progression of hip-hop



Ta-Nehisi Coates
HILLTOP Columnist

Last week this column dealt with the sexist portrayals and over-emphasis on violence in hip-hop. Some people responded positively, and others responded negatively to the article.

Most of the negative response centered around the belief that hip-hop should not be criticized. That is the type of idiotic reasoning that prevents the growth of art forms. Any art that fails to critique itself fails to grow, and will die.

Hip-hop has progressed in the area of talent, because it has critiqued itself. Not necessarily in column form, but in other ways. For example, when Vanilla Ice came out with "Ice, Ice Baby," it displayed the worst hip-hop had to offer; consequently, Vanilla Ice was promptly dissed.

The same thing happened to Hammer. After going platinum with his "cracker-jack" version of hip-hop, rappers lined up and took numbers to attack Hammer. When a rapper puts out an album that does not match up to the standard the hip-hop community has set for itself, then that artist is given no respect and his career is usually short-lived. This is extremely healthy and important to the integrity of the art.

Imagine where hip-hop would be if Vanilla Ice and Hammer were held up as real hip-hop

Any art that fails to critique itself fails to grow, and will die.

When we question the content of hip-hop, it is to maintain the integrity of the art. If nobody ever says anything about the dangers of the gangster image some rappers portray, then we condemn ourselves to profiling pseudo-gangsters, while Sen. Robert Dole, and William Bennett oil their guns and exchange battle plans for hip-hop's inevitable demise.

It is also essential that any critique of hip-hop must come from inside the hip-hop community. People inside the hip-hop community have the passion of the art at heart and they have in-depth knowledge of it.

This point was brought home after C. Delores Tucker, one of hip-hop's most outspoken critics, admitted in Vibe magazine that she had never listened to KRS-ONE's album "Criminal Minded," but nevertheless she criticized his work as "pornographic smut."

Now, anybody who knows hip-hop, knows that "Criminal Minded" is a bunch of things, but "pornographic" is not one of them. This is why criticism from within is so important.

C. Delores Tucker is neither knowledgeable of hip-hop, nor does she have any love for the art. She is not critiquing it for the benefit of hip-hop, but to further her own ends.

This is why Guru's cut, "Watch What You Say," is so powerful. Guru is well-respected in the hip-hop community and has consistently displayed a love for the music.

So when he makes comments about some of hip-hop's lyrics, he is not doing it to tear down the art. He does it because he loves hip-hop and because he loves the people who created it even more.

What, then, should be the standard used to critique hip-hop? Well, there are two things that should be considered when evaluating an artform. The first factor that should be considered is the art's relevance to its

creators. The second factor should be the technical precision of its artists.

To evaluate relevance, we must first understand that hip-hop is a creation of young Black people. Even if, at hip-hop's conception, the primary purpose was having a good time, it still had a purpose.

Now it is 1996. Crack has taken a heavy toll on Black people, and it has hit younger Blacks extremely hard.

So the first question must be, what is the role of hip-hop in a time when young Blacks find themselves at war? I think most would agree that hip-hop should never serve the interest of our enemies, but I will go even further to say that hip-hop should always serve the interests of Black people. After all, we created it.

I do not have to run off the stats on crime, drug abuse, and imprisonment for Black people. We know how bad things are. Hip-hop was given life and was developed by Black people; it is only right that it should develop and give life back to its creators. Hip-hop still exists largely because its creators feel that it has and continues to be a positive force in their lives.

In the late '80s and early '90s, several groups stepped up in a pro-Black explosion of hip-hop. The whole Native Tongues crew, especially the Jungle Brothers, Public Enemy, Boogie Down Productions and countless others, addressed the needs of Black people with their lyrics.

This is from the perspective of relevance. But the technique portion is just as important. Technique is different because it requires a love of the art, but not necessarily of Black people. In hip-hop, it requires a commitment to what rapper Jeru the Damaja calls "verbal dexterity" or mic (microphone) skills.

Hip-hop continues to develop in that aspect at a break-neck pace. Nas, Jeru, Wu-Tang, and The Roots are just a few of the latest slew of artists who have distinguished themselves by

developing new methods to approaching the art. Music from these artists is almost always a tight, high-quality product. These artists have a commitment, not to going platinum, but to putting out music that is relevant and technically sound.

The ideas of relevance and technique are not in opposition to each other. In fact they complement one another. When a hip-hop artist has relevant lyrics, he becomes more effective in communicating a positive message to Black people.

This is why Public Enemy's "It Takes A Nation Of Millions to Hold Us Back" was a complete work of art. Not only were the lyrics creative, but the message within the song showed a strong commitment to Black people.

It could be argued that KRS-ONE is hip-hop's most complete artist right now. His verbal dexterity is unquestioned, and he does have some commitment to Black people, even if his actions sometimes show otherwise.

But there are definitely others who are striving to combine artistic precision with progressive content. Jeru, The Genius, Black Thought of The Roots, and OC, are very close, and some would argue that Q-Tip (A Tribe Called Quest) is already there.

In all cultures, people preserve an art because it serves a specific function in that culture. Hip-hop has a therapeutic function for Black people, especially young Black people.

This is the purpose of a progressive art: to articulate the emotions of its creators in such a fashion that it even makes tragedy beautiful. But the art does not become progressive on its own. If we don't challenge and critique hip-hop, then we not only sell the art short, but we sell the people short.

People of African descent face challenge of global awareness

Oronde A. Miller

The time has come for Black people to stop supporting any groups or individuals who are not serious about liberation. This is to say that we need to abandon our loyalties to both the Democratic Party and the Republican Party. Neither has ever shown more than a half-hearted concern about issues involving improvements in the conditions of our community.

This is a crucial period of time for all people of African ancestry, especially in the United States. We are approaching the 1996 election campaign and it is no secret that racial issues will play an important role in the campaign.

After watching President Clinton's State of the Union address and the subsequent commentary, I feel compelled to offer my opinion.

Many of these White and Black politicians do not have the best interest of the Black community at heart. Outside of our ability to help them get elected they do not truly care about our community, even most of the so-called liberal

politicians.

Regardless of "genuine" interest, politicians usually make empty promises to the Black community to capture either a majority or significant segment of Black voter support in the elections.

In fact, they have both only shown hostile contempt for the Black community, at worst, or blatant disregard for our people, at best. Thus, they deserve no more than the middle finger from us.

and tomorrow is to determine our own agenda as a community and implement a plan toward achieving that agenda. This means that we must know the history of our people's position in this world and we have to critically analyze our past misguided attempts toward progress. Only when we know the truth of our past can we set goals for the future.

In making our agenda, we must begin to collectively view the

country or any of its partners in crime, such as Israel, to continue to maintain a stranglehold on the African continent, its people, or its resources. The same applies for all of the so-called Third World nations. We must view all of our actions and strategies for liberation in global terms.

When we take the position of liberation for people of African descent that we will move toward a true and meaningful political

The Black community must control the politicians, policies and institutions that are affecting our community.

Assuming such a posture means that African Americans must show loyalty only to those who have proven uncompromised loyalty to the African-American community. We cannot afford to keep choosing the lesser of two evils when voting. We have to either demand that our best interests be acted upon or put our own candidate in their race that we can and will hold accountable.

The challenge before us today

world, its operations, and the global implications of modern society. We must recognize our plight as people of African ancestry in the United States and begin to understand our position in the global African community. This is imperative because of the dire implications of the United States's domestic and foreign policy on the African community throughout the Diaspora. We cannot allow this

protest movement in this country.

We must support candidates who are sincere about the issues that are important for the masses of our people. There should be no compromising on principled beliefs. The Black community must control the politicians, policies and institutions that are affecting our community.

The only price for freedom is struggle. It always has been, it always will be! Sankofa!

The writer is a graduate student in the Department of Psychology.

Colorful college experience draws to a close for seniors

Venus N. Watkins

The cycle of life for a college student is comparable to the colors in a kaleidoscope. Each year a student spends on a college campus can be defined by colors that mesh together to represent the different phases in a student's life. The red and yellow detail freshman year, where everything is new and bright like the chrome of a remodeled '65 Mustang. The blue and violet correspond with the solace one finds when finally the potential of the future is realized. The brown and black represent all the unexpected disappointments that have occurred.

As a high school student, the anticipation of coming to college was viewed as the highlight of my life. I referred to the experience as if I was entering the Emerald City, where time stood still and everything happened for the better. It was a rude awakening for me when reality slapped me in the face.

The fairytale image of college ended abruptly for me. I realized that not all college roommates were supposed to be friends until the end of time and that I was no longer dealing with little boys, but experienced men. Tuition became more difficult to come up with and the letters from my closest friends were replaced by bills or collection notices in my mailbox. Despite all of these obstacles, nothing really

prepared me for losing friends that had once been a dorm room away, but now had to be telephoned by using my long-distance security code—or those friends that I could only visit on a good day when the cemetery was open.

Now my life cycle is almost over on this college campus. To a certain extent, I miss the optimistic, naive person that I was when I entered college with such high hopes. She has been replaced by a skeptical, sometimes embittered young woman. I often think to myself that this is only a spoonful of what is yet to come: the "real" world looming ahead where I will be left to fend for myself. I think of the future like it is the mirror in Alice in Wonderland. The mirror that

beckoned for Alice's entrance.

I am most thankful that the romantic side of me has taken a shadow to the realities of life. Someone once said to me that life is no place for a romantic. I still hold on to some of my romantic ideas; they are the ones that help me swallow all the bad times. If anything, I must realize that everything is not the rose-tinted frame that I once thought it was. All I can hope for is that the cycle of life at college proves to be a well taught lesson of survival.

The writer is a senior in the School of Communications.

Professor suffers hernia because of unfair elevator policy

Charles Metz

The greatest fear a man has is losing his manhood. Damage to a man's reproductive organs, or castration is the worst thing that can happen to an otherwise healthy, intelligent man. Imagine then, the loss of both the ability to procreate and the ability to work.

For me, this fear has become an unnecessary reality because of being forced to carry a 40-pound monitor up a flight of stairs for an entire semester.

For the fall 1995 semester, I was assigned to teach one of my literature courses in Just Hall at 10:10 a.m. My classroom assignment had placed me in the difficult position of having a 9:10 a.m. class in Douglass Hall and a 10:10 a.m. class in a building across campus.

I had never been to Just Hall prior to the fall 1995 semester.

Between classes, I had five minutes to get from Douglass Hall to Just Hall while carrying my materials for class and a monitor that I use for frequent video presentations in my class. Thankfully my wife drove the monitor to the loading dock of Just Hall.

However, Just Hall does not have a public elevator. When I went to one of the administrative offices in Just Hall in search of a key to the elevator, I was told that I would have to contact my chairperson and he would have to contact the dean, and the dean would have to get the

key for me.

When I was told this at the beginning of the semester, I realized that I had three choices: I could miss my class; I could carry the 40-pound monitor up three flights of stairs to my class; or I could leave the \$2,200 monitor in the hallway until after my class was over.

I chose to carry the monitor and show my students the presentation. I managed to complete the semester without missing a single class or lecture, but the increased pain made it difficult for me to continue to ignore the fact that I had damaged myself.

The strain of carrying the monitor left me exhausted and out of breath. After completing this ritual repeatedly, the pain in my testicles was so acute that it was painful to sit or stand.

My doctor, Mohammed Haziq, has since diagnosed me as being damaged by a hernia in my reproductive organs.

Even after making complaints during the semester for a key to the elevator in Just Hall, I was given a cup of water, a fan, and the chairman's secretary laid hands on me and prayed for me, but there was no key to the elevator.

I have used the monitor in my classes for the past five years with no problems. However, the fall of 1995 was the first semester that I have been without access to an elevator. And I damaged my body because I was denied that access.

The writer is literature professor at Howard University.

Please submit perspective articles to David Gaither in the HILLTOP office, located in the Plaza Towers, West. Phone: (202) 806-6866 Fax: 806-4758 E-Mail: peace@cldc.howard.edu



Dexter's not his usual self.

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Lesli Foster

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Junior
majoring in
Broadcast Journalism
*Cass Technical High School
Class of 1993
Detroit, Michigan*

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GALLERY



For the want of a friend

for the want of a friend she could talk to,
she's invented a world of her own,
In which she'll never be hurt.

She's there with all those like her,
Those looking for a place,
Someplace,
To find acceptance for who they are.

She 's one of those people who
always laugh outside,
But cries inside,
Finding it easier,
In her world to hide.

She's safe in her world,
although very confused,
Because of the reaction of others.

They say she's "crazy", even
"insane",
Because she refuses to return
To the "real" world again.

She's NOT crazy,
Only lonely.
For the want of a friend.

YOUR CROOKED GEM WILL BE FULL-FILLED

OF TODAY NOT YESTERDAY
A PARADOXICAL HISTORY
A HALF A GEM HISTORY
WITHOUTS VS WITHS
TRUTHS NOT MYTHS
RANCOR RHETORIC
RACIST SETTLES IT
I SEE YOU NOT I
CHOOZY CHOSEI
GOTTA GET A GRIP
GLORY, GLAD, GRIM
GOTTA GRASP THE HALF
ALBERT BLISSFUL AND DIM
SYNCHRONOUSLY WE STAND
LIKE THE ROCK GIBRALTAR LAND
THE PINNACLE PEEPS A PUPILS LIE
COLLECTIVE CONNECTED WE'LL
GO HIGH
MILLIONS MUTALLY FOR THIS
GLORY RIDE
FALLACIOUSLY YOU FALL FLAT FACE
BY THE WAYSIDE

JAMES E. PEARSON

RUNNING

THE RUSH OF ADRENALINE

THE ANTICIPATION OF THE GUN

READY-SET-GO!

THE THRILL OF THE CHASE-

THE SWEET TASTE OF VICTORY.

WHY DID I GIVE IT UP SO EASILY?

RUNNING -RUNING FROM LIFE.

Randall Williams

I Will Rise

You hurt me
fore my heart in two
it aches
everytime I see you
But just as the tide
will rise
so will I
be lifted
up to the clouds
where I will rest
and still think of you.

Ayanna Williams

My Black Soul gasps for air in a raging sea of hate from inside and outside.

My feet tired of centuries of travel and turmoil, and work for them. My feet, too tired to walk up six flights of stairs because the elevators are out again in Cabrini Greens.

My hands, rough and dry from centuries of sowing what I not reap. Too many years of cutting their grass and cleaning their toilets.

My eyes, my eyes are tired. Tired of the blur of a quasi-free existence. Tired but not tired to see the seed of hope and promise in her eyes.

The struggle Continues.....

Inside I found a Lady

I came with the intentions of becoming intimate, but I did it in a way unexpected.

I entered the room looking at a skirt and left seeing your mind and the person inside.

I thought all I would want from a weekend swing waas a weekend fling. My flesh took

control when I saw you, but the respect you

had for yourself changed my minds. My mother is my number one lady, who respect immensely; and any woman who

earns that level of respect I can't be with unless I know what

makes her grasp that niche that greater light in

my eye. It was when I listened to your intellect,

instilled, instilled of my body's desire, that I found the lady

inside, What was it that I had that made you comfortable enough to take time to know you?

If you don't know and I never find out, Thank You for showing me The Lady Inside.

-Dietrich J. Henderson

Section

B

Tempo

NAACP exec resigns
People/B2

Pure Soul
Pulse/B3

Bullimia
Health&Fitness/B7

People/B2
Sports/B10

Pulse/B3

Business/B6
Hilltopics/B14

A tough decision: Students share trauma and anxiety of having an abortion



Embryonic period. This stage occurs from implantation to eight weeks.

By Rashida Syed
Hilltop Staff Writer

Tara Johnson* plans to have her abortion this Saturday. She is afraid when she thinks of the physical procedure, but right now she is trying to put it out of her mind.

Tara's story begins like the stories of so many other young women. Caught up in a heated moment with her boyfriend, Tara thought, "This one little time is not going to hurt." But this time the "withdrawal method" was unsuccessful; Tara was wrong. And, unfortunately, she is not alone. Abortion, once a taboo, has now become a household word.

Natasha Williams* shares a similar story, but she has already gone through the procedure. "My boyfriend and I weren't prepared to tell our parents. We knew that we didn't have enough money to raise a child, and we both wanted to finish college."

Making the final decision on whether or not to terminate a pregnancy is a difficult one. Johnson and Williams made their decisions to abort their babies for different reasons.

Johnson admits that she is not ready to have a child, but possible complications during her pregnancy and delivery also influenced her decision. Johnson's first visit to the doctor was at the University Health Center. She said that the doctor she saw talked down to her and made it seem like her baby "would be a government problem." However, although she had an unpleasant first experience, the second visit bred the most disheartening news. Johnson's doctor informed her that she had an abnormal heart rate, low blood pressure, and hypoglycemia (a low tolerance for sugar), all of which posed risks for an unhealthy pregnancy.

"He [the doctor] told me not to worry and scheduled me for an appointment the following week, but I got a call from him the next day," Johnson said.

The doctor reiterated that Johnson's heart rate was extremely abnormal and informed her that he could not find the baby's heart beat. "The fact that he couldn't find the baby's heart beat wasn't the problem, because it's so early in the pregnancy. But he told me that the abnormal heart rate, the low blood pressure, and the hypoglycemia could pose problems for the baby and me," Johnson said.

The doctor told Johnson that during delivery she could have a stroke, a heart attack or both, and with the occurrence of either of those events, if she could be saved, she might need a Pacemaker.

"That's what really did it for me," Johnson said. "That's a lot to deal with at 20 years old."

What finally confirmed her decision was the expression of concern from her boyfriend, who initially wanted Johnson to have the baby. "When I told him what the doctor said, he told me that he would much rather have [only] me, than have the baby and not me."

Williams' decision was fueled by fear of telling her parents. "I didn't want to have an abortion, but you have to face the reality of telling your parents and dealing with their disappointment. I was raised that you don't bring children home unless you're married. It hasn't been done in my family," Williams said. "Marriage was not an option. It was about whether we were ready to raise a child."

But, there are always two sides to the story. On the other side are women who decide to carry their babies to term. Such was the case with Elaine Myada.

When Myada found out that she was pregnant, she too thought of abortion. "The idea crosses everybody's mind, because it's so out there, but I decided against it," the senior broadcast journalism major said. "It wasn't just that it wasn't a good decision for me; I knew that having an abortion was the easy thing to do—the easy way out."

Myada became pregnant during her junior year at Howard. "I never figured I was the type of person who would be able to withstand what other people thought. But, I became a stronger person and I learned what 'real friends' means."

Pregnancy taught Myada a great deal about herself, as well. "It [pregnancy] puts you in a situation where you're forced to know where you're going no matter what other people are telling you," she said.

According to Rebecca Irving, director of Woman's Choice, abortion is on a decline nationwide. She attributes the decline to the fact that a lot of women have had previous abortions.

"Women who are faced with unexpected pregnancies for the second time are also faced with the guilt of aborting the first child. They may have also had an unpleasant experience with the first abortion," Irving said.

Williams said that her abortion left her with a feeling of emptiness, but she doesn't remember crying or feeling extremely guilty. "I did my best to deal with the decision I made. After you make a decision like that, it's not like you can take it back."

Yet, Williams does have regrets. "I love my boyfriend very much and I'm sorry that I couldn't have our child. I feel that, in a way, he was disappointed. I try not to discuss it with him because it is a painful memory."

The boyfriend's opinion is often a large part of the final decision to keep or to abort the baby.

According to Johnson, her boyfriend really wanted her to keep the baby, but now understands her situation. "I took the test at home, and when we both looked at the results, I was crying and he was glowing. I questioned how we could feel the same about each other and yet have such different reactions," she said.

Williams said that she knew her boyfriend was scared when he found out she was pregnant and she had to consider his feelings too.

Women who have more than one abortion, according to Irving, are also warned that a second abortion may put their health in jeopardy, that it may reduce the possibilities of later having a child, and that abortions may lead to a greater risk of breast cancer.

Irving also attributes the decline in the nation's abortion rate to the fact that more women are carrying their babies to full term. She also points out that there are fewer doctors performing the procedure.

Irving said that an increase in clinics like Woman's Choice, a clinic that provides counseling for alternatives to abortion, influence many women's decisions to carry the baby to full term and to parent the child themselves.

"Through our counseling, I would say that at least 50 percent of the women that come here make the decision to keep their babies," she said.

Myada is very pleased with her decision to keep her baby girl and wouldn't have it any other way. Although she hardly sleeps and has almost no time to herself, she has learned how to manage her time and to prioritize.

Myada offers words of advice to other students who are thinking about having a baby. "You have plenty of time to have a baby. Enjoy your life and be patient. When it comes to having a baby, you want everything to be perfect," she said.

Johnson has now decided that sex is not worth the trauma of being pregnant and the stress of having to make such tough decisions as whether to keep the child or terminate the pregnancy.

"Having sex is like playing Russian roulette. You're not just faced with the possibility of pregnancy and its ramifications, but also with getting STDs or AIDS," she said.

*names changed to protect identity

Black History Outdated concept or necessary celebration?

By Adrienne Carthon
Hilltop Staff Writer

Forty years after Carter G. Woodson initiated Black History Week, is it still necessary to celebrate Black History Month at a historically Black university like Howard?

Dr. Arthur Burt of the history department seems to think so. "It is important because it gives Black society an opportunity for concentrated reflection—to see some of the things Blacks need to do, not only to succeed, but to bring other Blacks into more advantageous positions than they already have."

History department Chair Emory Tolbert said the department does something every year to celebrate. This year, in addition to a faculty-student mixer, the department's Black History Month committee will be co-sponsoring a banquet with the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History (ASALH), an organization founded by Carter G. Woodson.

In light of Black History Month, Tolbert also proudly pointed out that Howard University was the first to offer graduate study in African and African-American history.

Dr. Alvin Thornton of the political science department said that the initial purpose of Black History Month needs to be considered and remembered.

"If one assumes the reason Carter G. Woodson came up with the concept was because of the vacuum that existed in the presentation of knowledge of Black history in America, [and] if one assumes that vacuum still exists, one would support a concentrated reflection. I assume it still exists," he said.

Thornton also acknowledges Howard's uniqueness in regard to Black history. "In terms of Black history, Howard is many different things. There are people with a well-developed understanding of Black history and there are people with virtually no knowledge of Black history."

Kandace Harris, a junior print journalism major, agrees with Thornton. "I think it's even more important because we are at a Black university and there are still many things out there that we don't know."

Other students expressed similar sentiments. "We celebrate it to know more about our roots and famous Blacks that contributed to America and around the world," senior political science major Krystal Myers said.

"Just because we're [a Black university] doesn't mean we're to be excused from celebrating Black history," said Alexis Chandler, a junior majoring in Spanish.

Others say Black history should be celebrated year-round.

"I think it should be celebrated anyway and it shouldn't be designated to one month. We shouldn't just celebrate it in name," junior biology major Danyelle LaCroix said.

Dr. Thornton concurred with the opinions of both Chandler and LaCroix.

"There is not inherently a contradiction between recognition in February and the other 11 months. [February] could be a starting point, the beginning of the year's recognition," he said. "If it is only to be a month's recognition, then it is clearly problematic. What was recognized in previous Februaries is hopefully different from what is recognized in contemporary Februaries. It is not whether you have a February recognition or not, but what you're recognizing."

Although ASALH executive director Dixie Baker feels that African-American history should be taught every month, she said that African Americans have to use what they've got. "We've got to use the best of what we've got, and all we've got is one month," she said. Baker also said that the presidents and history department heads at historically Black colleges and universities should push for African-American history to be taught year-round.

"It is not done enough. One required African-American history course is not enough. You can't study anything in depth," she said.

For its celebration of Black History Month, the ASALH will have its 71st annual luncheon with Dorothy Winbush Riley on Saturday, Feb. 3 at 1 p.m. The luncheon will be open to the public with a donation of \$40.

Whether Black History Month should or should not be celebrated on a Black campus is an issue that doesn't seem relevant to Howard, according to UGSA Programs Director Danette Gerald.

"Howard is a unique place because it's one of the few places where you get to acknowledge and celebrate Black achievers everyday," she said.

Contributing to Howard's unique culture, UGSA and HUSA will both be having events to celebrate Black History Month.

Black History Celebrated Around Campus

UGSA
Feb. 1 Concert, co-sponsored by Sony, featuring Groove Theory and the Fugees; hosted by George Clinton

Feb. 21 Forum, co-sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Beta Chapter, focusing on awareness of Black men's health issues

Feb. 29-Mar. 2 Mentorship program with the New Jersey Institute of Technology Talent Search Program; overnight visit and recruitment program for 30 high school juniors and seniors

HUSA
Feb. 6 Art exhibit in the Gallery Lounge with featured poetry and jazz

Essay Contest on the historical significance of Plessy v. Ferguson Debate with an area university on a neutral subject
Male-Female dialogue program



A piece of Black history: the first Howard University graduates.

REFLECTIONS

Abortion: a man's point of view

By Ta-Nehisi Coates
Hilltop Staff Writer

Obviously, (for biological reasons) I have had no firsthand experience with abortion. So I guess the best place to start is with the women I know who have gone through the process.

My first contact with abortion came in high school. I don't know about now, but during the late '80s and early '90s, Baltimore, Md., (my hometown) had the dubious honor of leading the nation in teen pregnancies.

Older folks always said that most young people weren't having sex, and that they were just talking to play like they were bad. But by the tenth

grade, it became clear to me that my elders were clearly living in an alternate reality. Pregnant girls started springing up everywhere and, by the twelfth grade, all of my classes had girls who were either pregnant or already had children.

But there was also a less conspicuous group of girls who did not have to breast-feed the results of their sexual encounters. They wore their scars on the inside, perhaps both figuratively and literally.

The first girl I knew was this sister who, for her sake, we'll call Lisa. We had been good friends for a long time. She fell for this older guy, who despite a few flaws, always seemed sincere.

You could tell they were really in love, and everybody knew they

were having sex. Everybody except her parents, perhaps. But I guess, as I think on it now, they probably knew too; they were probably purposefully deluding themselves.

Anyway, when she was about sixteen, Lisa became pregnant. Her boyfriend wanted her to have the child, and she wanted the same. But eventually, she was persuaded by friends and some family to have an abortion. Her aunt took her to the clinic and her mother never knew a thing. Fortunately, everything went safely.

I think what scares me most now about the situation, when I think back on it, is the initial willingness of the two of them to have the child. Her boyfriend had a minimum wage job, and she was still in

school, and yet they truly believed they could somehow raise a child despite all this.

Their total lack of knowledge of what it takes to make a productive adult out of a baby was what was so shocking. This is not to say that teen parents have never raised productive children, but the odds are stacked pretty high against them.

But even more important than that is the question of why teenagers are getting abortions. I can't even begin to fathom the effect of having a life growing inside of me, but I know that having that child ripped away has to be a traumatic experience for even an adult; for a child, the experience has to be even worse.

Abortion perhaps best demon-

strates the moral vacuum that has become America's hallmark. Let's be clear here—I am not pro-life. I will always oppose the right of a male-dominated society to dictate to women how they can use their bodies.

Even if one was anti-abortion, outlawing it at this time is not the answer. Women are going to get abortions, even if they have to resort to the old methods of back-alley doctors.

But, it is still clear that something has gone very wrong when children are having abortions. I know too many women who have had abortions in their high school years, and it not only indicates a lack of value placed on sex, but a lack of value for human life.

RANDOM
RANDOM

thoughts

SEX OBSESSION:

Healthy
alternatives to
your appetite

Donovan Griffin
Hilltop Staff Writer

"Me" was R. Kelly's
then Salt-N-Pepa casu-
suggested. "Let's Talk
Sex." Just when it
that people are done
about it and having it,
will a hot topic. Now
Coolio is really heating
up with his latest single,
"Hot," which offers a
realistic approach to sex
in the '90s.

The entertainment world
has many facets of our
And sex has been glam-
in every shape, form
and fashion. We lust after our
celebrities, some of
it becomes an obses-
sion, that you must face real-
life false hopes of kissing
your Moore (of the
& the Restless"), and
the chance of being cast oppo-
site the Rochon (of "Waiting
Game") for a sex scene
the chance of becoming
more than a dream.

temptation to have sex
that you're free from
Dad) can and will
change your morals—if
you may feel guilty,
you know your moth-
er raise you and send
you to be "the campus
Unfortunately, for many
students, sex is not
a part of life—it is a
life. Sleeping with half

in the dorm is not
it's dangerous. Being
could lead to an
pregnancy, an ille-
child, or even
AIDS! You may not
anything wrong with a lit-
and grind, but if
doing it unsafely, there
is a problem. Just
everything is hang-
and you haven't
your period, that
mean that everything is
all right. Many STDs
dormant and go unno-
Don't take my word for
to the student health

those of you who have
that Snickers doesn't
satisfy you, here are
healthy alternatives to
your sexual appetite:

Pop your stomachs from
you can prepare an
fruit snack for you and
Cut everything into
pieces and feed each

do you ever wonder
to do with those three-
roses? Here's a solu-
pick off the dead petals
contribute the others into
bath. (Goes great with
and WHUR).

those body oils and
lotion to work. You
administer a massage
body rub to each other.
help you to feel more
comfortable with the body of
mate.

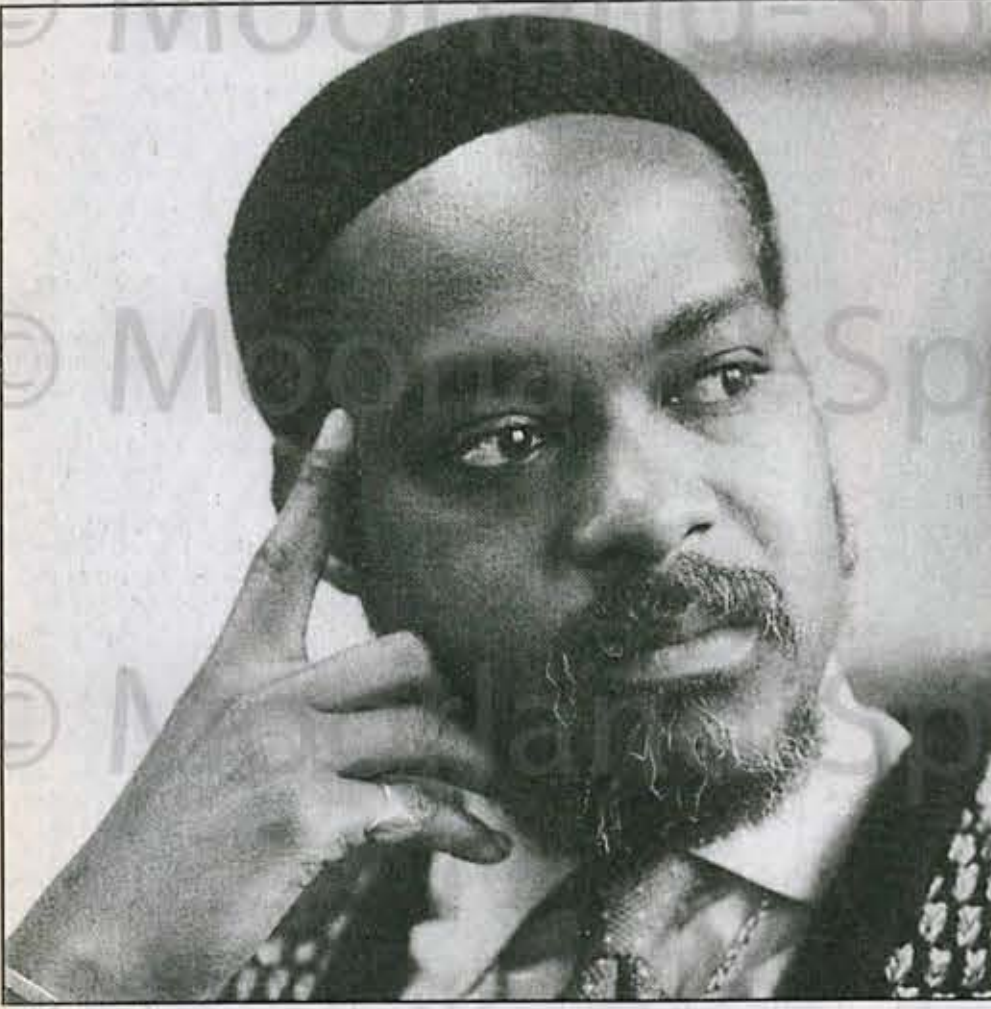
fellas, why not par-
a seductive sponge

you can't afford that
getaway, you can
it with a weekend
getaway.

these creative ideas are
to help you and your
get more familiar with
bodies. After you feel
comfortable and ready for the
thing, then you can seri-
ously discuss it with your

PEOPLE

Acting executive director of NAACP resigns Earl Shinhoster plans to redirect his energy into family life



Earl Shinhoster

By Rashida Syed
Hilltop Staff Writer

As of Monday, January 29, 1996 Earl Shinhoster officially resigned from his position as acting executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). But, after almost 33 years of service, he will remain involved and maintain his loyalty to an organization he has actively participated in since 1963.

When Ben Chavis, former executive director of the NAACP, was terminated for alleged sexual harassment and mismanagement of funds, the executive board of directors named Shinhoster the interim senior administrator, a title which later changed to acting executive director. As acting executive director, Shinhoster's job was to "hold the organization [NAACP] together during a time of

development." Kwesi Mfume, Shinhoster believes is the best man for that job.

"The executive board made a good choice. He [Mfume] will do a lot to revitalize the NAACP from a public standpoint," he said.

Shinhoster's sister, Yvonne Lamb believes that he would have been a good executive director, but was also pleased with the executive board's decision to appoint Mfume. "Kwesi Mfume will do well as executive director. They [Shinhoster and Mfume] bring different things to the table. He [Shinhoster] brings his knowledge of the NAACP and Mfume, a national representative, brings knowledge of politics, something that can't be overlooked," the journalist said.

Lamb added, "There is always something else for him [Shinhoster] to do... There comes a point where you've done what you can do."

At the age of 45, Shinhoster has devoted what seems like a lifetime to the NAACP. When he was 13, Shinhoster sat on the youth council of the NAACP in his hometown of Savannah, Ga., "a real training ground for leadership and development." And, thus began his dedication to not only the NAACP, but the entire civil rights movement.

Shinhoster recalls NAACP meetings that were held in the Carnegie library in Savannah, which was "reserved for colored folks." They often addressed the issue of segregation as churches, libraries, beaches and more were segregated at that time. "Our mission was to break down barriers," he said. "At the time it was very popular to go to jail for the cause. The NAACP captivated my interest because I couldn't go to jail. We [youth council members] were gofers; that was our role in the movement."

Recalling his long time involvement in the NAACP, Lamb said. "He [Shinhoster] is committed to what the organization stood for—equality and justice. It [membership in the NAACP] was a venue for him to express his convictions."

One of Shinhoster's greatest influences was Wesley W. Law, former president of the Savannah chapter of the NAACP for 26 years, and curator of several African-American museums in Savannah. According to Shinhoster, Law brought an historical perspective to his early involvement in the NAACP. Law, who Shinhoster calls his mentor, stressed the importance of knowing one's history as it plays an important role in the present and in planning for the future.

Shinhoster has held several positions in the NAACP on a local and national level.

From 1978 to February of 1994, he was Southeastern regional director in Atlanta when Chavis invited Shinhoster to serve as national field secretary, a position created by Chavis specifically for Shinhoster.

During his term as Southeastern regional director, Shinhoster recalls one of the most interesting cases he faced during his NAACP career. Six tear gas bombings, none of which could be traced, were sent to Atlanta and Alabama. One of the bombings resulted in the December 1989 death of Birmingham, Ala., lawyer Robert Vance.

"It [the bombings] spoke to the depth of racial animosity. The bombings point to the pervasiveness of White supremacy," Shinhoster said. "I found the bombings to be interesting, because they moved beyond those isolated incidents. Those attacks were designed to kill."

For Shinhoster, the bombings also spoke to the need for intense focus on the goals—new and old, of the NAACP.

"One of our [the NAACP] main goals is to focus on economic advancement. We must become financially independent and self sufficient. Freedom is not free," Shinhoster said. "The NAACP depends on member support... Legions of individuals have benefited from the support of the NAACP, yet they don't contribute at all."

According to Shinhoster, the goals of the NAACP also include, focusing more on

youth leadership training and development, fair and sufficient education, illiteracy, the building up of voter registration participation.

Though Shinhoster will no longer be on the active payroll at the NAACP, he remains dedicated to their endeavors to addressing the problems that initially created the need for an organization as the NAACP.

But now that he has resigned, Shinhoster will redirect his energies into another of the important aspects in his life—his family. "It's time for me to go home and be a husband and a dad, because I've been up here [Baltimore, Md.] for 18 months away from my family," he said. "It's time for me to enter an arena of service."

With three decades of service and dedication, Shinhoster is one of the sons of the civil rights movement, literally. He believes that everyone must do their part in the civil rights movement did not end when "lunch counter neighborhoods, and schools were segregated."

"It is my conviction that each of us has a role to play in the advancement of our race. Each person should choose to be a participant," Shinhoster said. "We must develop our own abilities without constraints or fear of failure, and be open to what God may have for us in our lives."

Vital Statistics

Name: Earl Shinhoster
Hometown: Savannah, Ga.
Alma Mater: Morehouse College
Profession: Acting Executive Director, NAACP
Words of Wisdom: "Each of us has a role to play in the advancement of our race."

21-year-old academic phenom on track to attain Ph.D. by '99

By Dawnica Jackson
Hilltop Staff Writer

How do you spell overachiever? At Howard University it's spelled K-E-O-T-A.

Keota Fields, a 21-year-old, philosophy major exemplifies success. At 21, he has accomplished in three years what most people only dream of. He graduated with two degrees: one in political science, and the other in economics. According to alumni affairs, Fields is the first person in the history of Howard University to accomplish such a feat.

His honors are as long as the registration lines and read like a what's what of organizations—Magna Cum Laude (both degrees), Golden Key Honor Society, Phi Sigma Alpha-Political Science Honor Fraternity, Epsilon Delta Epsilon-Economics Honor Fraternity just to name a few. And if he continues his academic achievement, he can graduate summa cum laude and become a member of Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society.

But what makes Fields special is his love of friends, community, and life. "He gives so freely of himself," said Kia Lee, who has been a friend of Fields for four years. "I've gained a brother; I couldn't imagine my world without him."

Alicia Allen, a sophomore radio, TV, and film major, seconds Lee's opinion of Fields. "He's the best male friend I have. He's not a jerk, I can talk to him and he understands."

Does this man sound to good to be true? No one could be this perfect, right? Well, it gets better.

With two degrees under his belt, it seems that Fields would make at least \$50,000 a year. He doesn't. Instead Fields has opted to work at the Community of Hope, a local center that helps children and adults down on their luck. "Yes, I could push papers for a congressional office and make a lot of money, but I'd rather do something grass roots, that affects people—something necessary," Fields said.

At the Community of Hope, Fields does everything from reading to children, to administrative duties, to lobbying on behalf of the center. Fields has his hand in every aspect of the center.

The Community of Hope isn't the only place he works in the community. Fields takes part in the Rock The Vote Campaign (MTV's campaign to encourage the youth of America to vote). He is the Washington correspondent, and he volunteered at the White House under the direction of Tipper Gore.

He also had the opportunity to meet the President Clinton. "And Bill is just a normal guy," Fields said. But, Clinton better watch out, because this up-and-coming economist plans to alter the balance of economic power.

"We don't have very many Black economists, and I believe many of the problems in the Black community stem from our lack of economic power," he said.

Fields became interested in politics and economics in an attempt to help the African-American race. "Our voice is not heard. In order to make a difference in economics I have to understand political science and vice versa," he said. Money and politics make the world go round, according to Fields, who plans to have the world spinning to his own tune.

The driving force behind this dynamic young man is his father. "He's always done what he said he was going to do," Fields said. Their relationship has more than shaped this Generation X phenom, it has inspired him to continue his quest for greatness—his desire to achieve what most think of as impossible.

Two degrees in three years sounds like it qualifies. Fields attempted this feat simply to put himself above his competition. He learned at an early age that in order to be considered equal he had to be five times as good as his White counterparts.

He calls Howard University home because in his words "Howard's the best." "Nowhere else could I get a top-grade education, and learn from Black instructors at the same time," Fields said, who has been accepted to Harvard, Princeton, and Yale Universities. "If you haven't attended Howard you couldn't possibly understand."

And if it is true that all knowledge must pass through Howard before it dies, then it is equally true that Fields represents the brightest and best Howard has ever offered.

Through it all, Fields has managed to keep his head out of the sky and his feet securely on the ground. He



Keota Fields

believes in being grateful for life's triumphs as well as its set backs. "There's no reason for me not to give 110 percent of myself," he said. He believes he is truly one of the gifted people on the planet. "God has blessed me and that's why I give back."

This shows in his achievements. But more important it shows in his efforts. "My father told me during my senior year of high school that if I wanted to stay in college, I had to get a scholarship, so I did," Fields said. And he stayed on scholarship. Fields parents only paid for two semester of the eight required for his two degrees. "My mother told me I couldn't mess up because she was paying for it, so I didn't."

And academics and social awareness do come that easy to this 21-year-old, but he does work for it. It comes easy because he has a vision and the desire to achieve it.

But Fields keeps getting better and topping his own accomplishments. By May of 1997, Fields will have a third degree. "There is a method to my madness, a Ph.D is a doctorate of philosophy, so at some point you

need to know the philosophy of a subject, I just can't be a middle man," Fields said.

According to his friends, the most interesting aspect of Fields is his diversity. He has managed to find time to work, volunteer, go to the gym, become a member and officer of a fraternity, and still slip in time to play cards in the game room.

But, friend Alicia Allen summed up Fields' character best. "Your life is improved just because you know him. And to know him is definitely not just to love him, but to respect him, adore him, and in some ways envy his incredible gift. The gift to be able to be you."

Vital Statistics

Name: Keota Fields
Age: 21
Major: Philosophy
Graduated: May 1995 with degrees in economics and political science
Words of wisdom: "Don't do anything unless you come correct!"

Coming up Next Week in
 Tempo: Howard's Most Eligible Bachelors

PULSE!

Pure Soul brings class to the music industry



'Must Be In Love' takes Pure Soul miles beyond the Mecca.

By Miguel Burke
Hilltop Staff Writer

In this day and time, the music industry does the audience a grave injustice by continually introducing artists whose gimmicky image and sexual prowess replace natural talent. However, the R&B female quartet Pure Soul bypasses the gimmicky genre of artists with ease.

"We're trying to reflect the image of somewhat the '60s and '70s, but with the hip-hop flavor of the '90s," member Shawn Allen said. "And in our style, we incorporate songs that are tearjerkers [and] songs that are heartfelt, which were explored in the '60s and '70s, as opposed to now. The music is straying away from this heart felt song."

With their self-titled debut album and their sexy "without revealing everything" look, the 20-something members—Kirsten Hall, Heather Perkins, Keitha Shepherd, and Shawn Allen, all Howard alumni with the exception of Perkins, who graduated from the

University of the District of Columbia—know the meaning of instant success and hard work. Their first single, "We Must Be In Love (The Wedding Song)," which was designed to be a test single, skyrocketed to the top of the charts causing Interscope Records to demand an album from them.

"Recording our album was an experience. It was a lot of hard work because we did our album in seven-to-nine weeks," said Hall, who sings lead vocals on several songs. "That's just because 'We Must Be In Love' was put out as a test and what happened is the song was released and it just had feet and it just started walkin' and runnin' and we got picked up by Interscope and we had to play catch up."

As a result of "We Must Be In Love" gaining momentum like a snowball rolling down the side of a mountain, the making of the album became a project that caught the attention of super producers Teddy Riley, Raphael Sadiq, Foster and McElroy (EnVogue), and Dexter Wanzel.

"It was great working with all of

our producers. Teddy, he's more like myself. I'm a technical person and he's very technical," said Shepherd. "By the way, he nicknamed me 'Tech' because I'm so technical. Raphael, he's also a perfectionist, but he's a laid back perfectionist. Foster and McElroy are cool. They're very nice. Dexter Wanzel is more of an instrumental person. He can play anything."

She also said the group returned to its alma mater to recruit Howard University's own Kim Jordan to contribute her services as a producer.

Attitude and direction are paramount to Pure Soul and is incorporated in their image. Although sex sells in the music industry, they are not influenced by their peers and colleagues to make songs laced with sex and eroticism.

"I think that the songs we do are songs that people can relate to. I think nowadays that people are getting more into money. People want to make quick bucks: 'Do me baby and do me well'—and that's the whole song, and we're trying to come with songs with real music, real emotion, things that people

feel," said Perkins, the youngest of the group.

Hall agreed that the music industry has lost its morals and said one of Pure Soul's responsibilities is to redefine the role of African-American women in the music industry.

"We also try to give a positive image of women. I'm not knockin' anybody. I feel like I can't because if that's how you make your money, then fine do your job that way," Hall said. "But we want to come on a different level which is to bring a little bit of positivity, especially for Black women in this industry, because it seems like their being exploited sexually."

Since the first time the group auditioned in Allen's basement for University Records, Pure Soul has been planning to go on a world tour and release their second single, a remake of the O'Jays' classic "Stairway To Heaven," for which they hope to team up with the O'Jays. They also want to use their talents to sing jingles for commercials and pursue acting in addition to their singing careers.

Black history month salute files ahead: Black pioneers in jazz



The Ramsey Lewis Trio

By Jonathan L. Wharton
Hilltop Staff Writer

Jazz has always been part of our heritage and there have been many achievers from the African-American community in this art form. From trumpeter Louis Armstrong to pianist Ramsey Lewis, many artists made their mark on the world during the betterment of the 1960s.

Louis Armstrong, in particular, is remembered throughout the jazz community for his originality and ability to discover group talent. He made superb combo recordings, jazz critic Ron Wynn

called his best selling album, "Kind of Blue." Davis expressed both of



Miles Davis

talents for which he was famous. The album displays his unique jazz work and his various talents in organizing new artists, as well as working with such up-and-coming musicians as saxophonist John Coltrane, pianist Herbie

Hancock and bassist Paul Chambers, all of whom later became independent players in their own right.

"Kind of Blue" offers up a program that cements the move to modal playing. Many consider this [record] one of the most essential jazz recordings," jazz critic Bob Rusch said. "The album is certainly one of the most influential, and it really put the cap on an evolutionary development."

Legendary trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie is considered one of the founders of be-bop. Although best known for his work with big bands and for his performances with orchestras, Gillespie was also very functional as a quartet leader and made extensive use of Afro-Cuban beats along with his own famous be-bop style. He recorded such famous songs as "Manteca," and "A Night in Tunisia" and performed with talents such as Charlie Parker, Stan Getz and Ella Fitzgerald.

Saxophonist John Coltrane came to be well-respected for his introduction of new and unusual forms of jazz expression.

"[Coltrane] became even more intense, and his solos were vivid, frenzied dialogues," Wynn said. "Right-wing critics were scandalized, while left-wing types were quick to believe Coltrane's late '60s music was an expression of solidarity with the oppressed."

Coltrane's unique musical style is strongly displayed on his highly critiqued album, "Om." "Perhaps Coltrane's only major release of questionable quality, this was reportedly recorded on his first

(and only) LSD trip," said David Nelson McCarthy of Downbeat magazine.

Many popular jazz pianists contributed to the be-bop movement of the 1960s, as well. From the big band playing style of Duke Ellington to the funky blues style of Les McCann and Ramsey Lewis, each of these pianists worked hard to develop their own unique styles.

Ramsey Lewis performed on Washington, D.C.'s legendary U Street quite often during that decade. Recorded at the Bohemian Caverns nightclub on 11th and U Streets, Lewis' "The In Crowd" was the second-best selling album of 1965, as it became a popular hit both within and outside of the jazz



Shirley Horn

community. Lewis' most recent jazz albums include "Ivory Pyramid" and "Sky Islands."

The be-bop era would not have been the same without the vocalists to add the words to the music, and it was during the 1960s that divas such as Sarah Vaughan and Dinah Washington made their own marks on the music world. Howard University alumna Shirley Horn, who performed with Miles Davis and pianist Quincy Jones, also began her singing career during this period.

Horn's '60s work included her album "Travelin' Light," while she recently received a Grammy award for her recording, "Here's to Life," with trumpeter Wynton Marsalis.

"Her understated and harmonically ambitious playing, coupled with her delightful vocals, have gained widespread attention," Wynn said. "She's made several acclaimed sessions as a pianist and vocalist."

R&B group After 7 condemns explicit music, irresponsibility of artists

New album features 'unabrasive' songs about 'love and honesty'

By Awanya Deneace Anglin
Hilltop Staff Writer

Virgin Records recording sensations After 7 are still dedicated to singing material of substance as they continue their legacy with their third album "Reflections."

"We sing about things which are unabrasive and non-derogatory," group member Kevon Edmonds said. "We sing about love, life and relationships."

"Reflections" consists of 12 love-themed tracks, including the bittersweet smash hit "Til' You do me Right."

With the new album, the group hopes to set an example of how the messages in music should be conveyed and delivered to the public.

According to member Keith Mitchell, entertainers should be "ordained with the responsibility to clean up their acts."

"If the record companies and producers would refuse to play such graphic and offensive songs, the public could not consume them," he said.

Furthermore, the trio is quite disturbed and very concerned with the deterioration of values among today's youth, which they feel may be due to the content of certain music lyrics and videos.

"Kids don't value life. They see their Black peers with AK47s and

MAC 10s and they think that it's cool," Mitchell said.

Edmonds (Kevon) has an eight-year-old daughter who he does not allow to listen to or watch explicit music and videos. Mitchell, who also has expertise in fatherhood, has an adult daughter who he says was "never crazed by music" and "never followed the hype."

Though the group doesn't agree

producers are not taking the time to weed out "X-rated" material, which is potentially harmful, as many of today's music listeners are "influenced by how [artists] walk and talk." It is for this reason that he believes that he has a great responsibility to the public—because people are and can be "programmed."

"If we can't sing about true relationships, then there is not much to sing about," he said.

Mitchell paralleled today's graphic performances to the performers who were just as controversial during his youth.

"Redd Foxx and Moms Mabley were considered X-rated, but we never heard them. Our parents heard them," he said. "They were never publicized on 'Entertainment Tonight.'"

Despite all the debates about music today and where it is headed, After 7 wants to be remembered as a group that "stayed true to the game and sang about love, honesty and trust."

After 7 has strived for their goal to touch people spiritually and emotionally through their music since the group's conception in 1988.

In 1989, their self-titled debut album went platinum with such hits as "Ready or Not" and "Can't Stop." Their second album, "Takin' My Time," went gold with the hit song "Baby I'm For Real." After 7 is now touring with Regina Belle and The Whispers.



Virgin recording artists After 7.

with some of the messages and beliefs conveyed by various performers, the group does not condone censoring the music.

"Censoring is a strong word," Edmonds said. "We must take responsibility for what we say."

Mitchell interrupted by saying, "Censoring could never decide what is good or bad—just like people say no to drugs, people should say no to junk."

Mitchell says that young

Sony Music tours Black colleges in celebration of Black History Month

By Ashlea Leak
Hilltop Staff Writer

After the stress, strain and frustration of getting registered, many students need a chance to relax. For those of you looking for some fun, your search can end at 8:00 tonight in Cramton Auditorium, as Sony Music Entertainment Inc. sponsors a concert as part of a tour of Historically Black Colleges and Universities in celebration of Black History Month.

Scheduled to perform are Sony Music artists George Clinton, The Fugees, Groove Theory, Maxwell and UBU.

The rap group The Fugees consists of members Lauryn Hill, Wyclef and Pras. Their first CD, "Blunted On Reality," produced the hits "Vocab" and "Nappy Heads," and now they're back with their latest CD, "The Score," (which features the hit song "Fugee-La") scheduled to be released Feb. 13.

R&B group Groove Theory, which includes vocalist Amel

Larrieux and producer Bryce Wilson (former member of the rap group Mantronix), burst onto the music scene with the catchy single "Tell Me." Other songs on their self-titled CD include "Baby Luv" and "10-Minute High."

For those of you who may not have heard of Maxwell, his new CD, titled "Maxwell's Urban Hang Suite," is a jazzy, R&B sound similar to that of up-and-coming artist D'Angelo. Songs to be on the lookout for include "Sumthin' Sumthin'" and "The Urban Theme."

UBU is a new group on film director John Singleton's new label, New Deal Music. UBU's album is in the process of being completed.

The eccentric George Clinton will keep the crowd entertained as the show's master of ceremonies. Clinton is best known for his performances with the groups Parliament and Funkadelic during the late '70s and early '80s, when he popularized such songs as "One Nation Under A Groove," "Aquaboogie" and "Atomic Dog." Students will be encouraged to

vote through Clinton's "One Nation Under A Groove Voter Education Project," and Sony Music's "Sign Up, Don't Give Up" voter registration campaign. These programs, which will be located on campus today, were created in an effort to heighten student awareness of the importance of voting.

The tour was conceptualized by LeBaron Taylor, senior vice president of corporate affairs at Sony Music Entertainment Inc., which is making efforts to support education and the arts. The company is promoting the tour and underwriting all related costs. Each concert will be co-sponsored by student organizations.

Other schools participating in the Black College Tour include Morehouse College, Hampton University and Morgan State University. Proceeds will benefit scholarship programs at each of the participating schools. The tour will run from Jan. 31 to Feb. 3, 1996. Tickets cost \$10 for students and \$12 for the general public, and are available at the Cramton box office and Ticket Master locations.

'The Glass Shield' and 'Judge Dredd' hit video store shelves

By Alona Ballard
Hilltop Staff Writer

The planet we call "Earth" is now "The Cursed Earth," a desert with cannibalistic inhabitants. The action is the "Megacity," an enclosed life arena where people eat recycled food. There are no more rules, only judges who rule supreme. This is the plot of the movie "Judge Dredd," which was recently released on video.

Based on a comic book, "Judge Dredd" stars Sylvester Stallone as the title character, the most badass judge in the land. He's good at his job and never bends the rules.

You're under arrest. Throw down your weapons and you'll be judged," says Dredd, showing no emotion as he lays down the law in the Rambo-esque way that Stallone can.

In the movie, Dredd is framed for a crime and receives the horrible punishment of being thrust into "The Cursed Earth." During his exile, Dredd fights off vicious cannibals to return to the Megacity, where (predictably) clears his name and cleans up his soiled planet.

Although this movie features elaborate costumes and special effects, it is not for everybody, as was made evident by its short run at the box office. Director Hillie, a junior systems and computer

science major, said, "Anytime a movie based on a comic book is done well, it means more to me than if it was just another movie, because I've been reading comic books since I was a child."

A movie worth renting is "The Glass Shield," which stars Michael Boatman as "J.J.," a Black cop who has just taken a job on an all-White force, Deputy Fields, the only female on the force, befriends J.J. and opens his eyes to the evils going on in their station, most of which concern racist and sexist attitudes on the parts of their fellow officers.

The movie's plot revolves around the case of Theodore Woods (Ice Cube) who is harassed by police one evening for no reason. Coincidentally, Woods has in his car the same type of gun used in the murder which Fields is covering, and he is put on trial for a murder he didn't commit.

When he discovers that the serial number has been changed on the police report in order to frame Woods, J.J. is caught between doing what is right and doing what is expected of him. Messages such as, "If criminals don't fear God, they will this badge," and "Remember J.J., you're one of us, not a brother," are constantly fed into his head to make his dilemma even more difficult.

In the wake of the O.J. trial, "The Glass Shield" serves as another commentary on the state of race relations in this country and couldn't come at a better time to make audiences stop and think.

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There will be an interest meeting for all candidates interested in learning more about the above positions, the application process, qualifications, requirements, annual stipend, etc.,

Thursday, February 8

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Blackburn Center, Room 142

all interested candidates should attend

The brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, Beta Chapter, would like to thank the following groups for their support and encouragement in helping to make Step Afrika! 1995 a success.

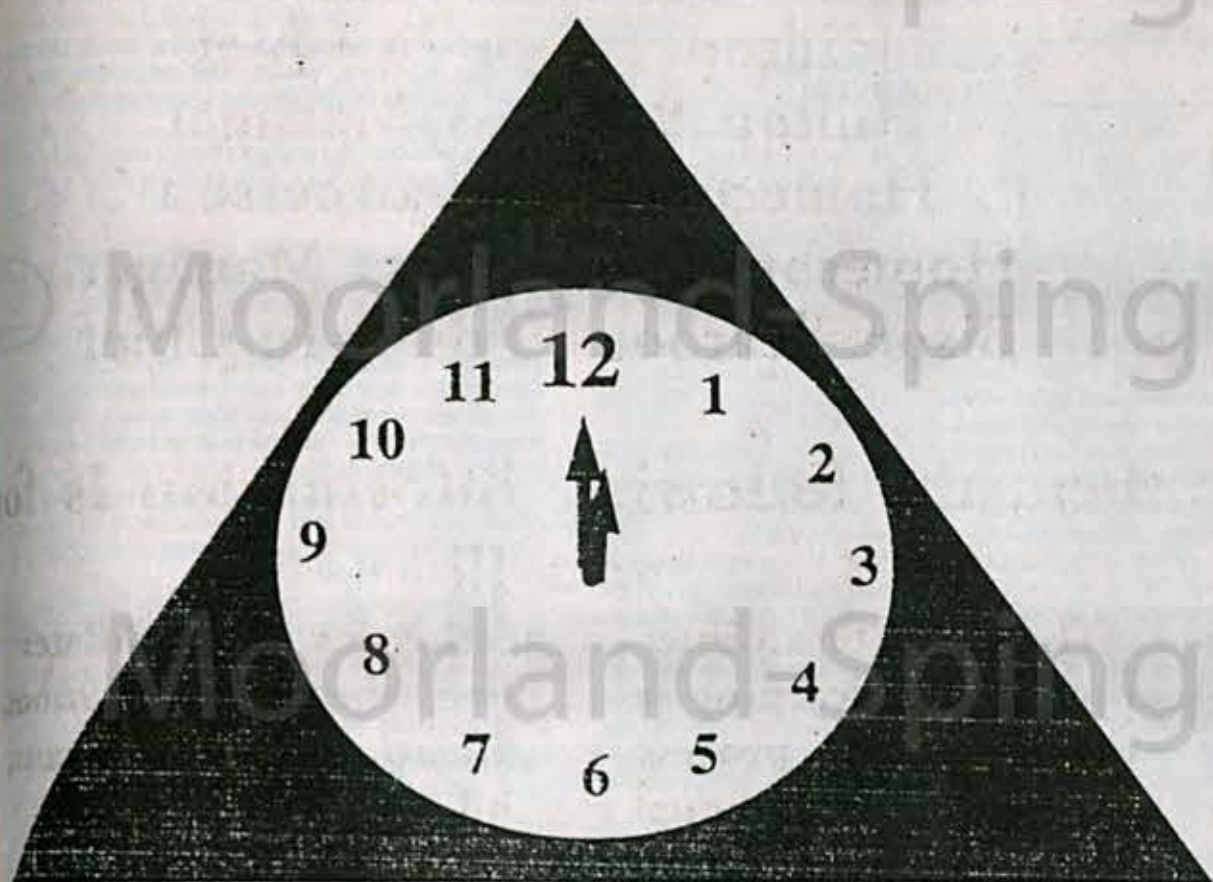
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John King of Chemical Bank
Anita T. Conner and Associates P.C.
Howard Deli
The Soweto Dance Theater

In addition, the brothers would like to express their deep gratitude to all of the outstanding students, faculty, administrators and individual members of the Howard University family whose generosity has allowed us to touch the land and people of South Africa.

Last, but not least, we would like to thank all who participated in our fundraising drives and would like to congratulate the following individuals:




1st place- Margaret Douglass
2nd place- Sanbene McFarland
3rd place- Hosea E. Taylor




Thank you and Happy New Year!

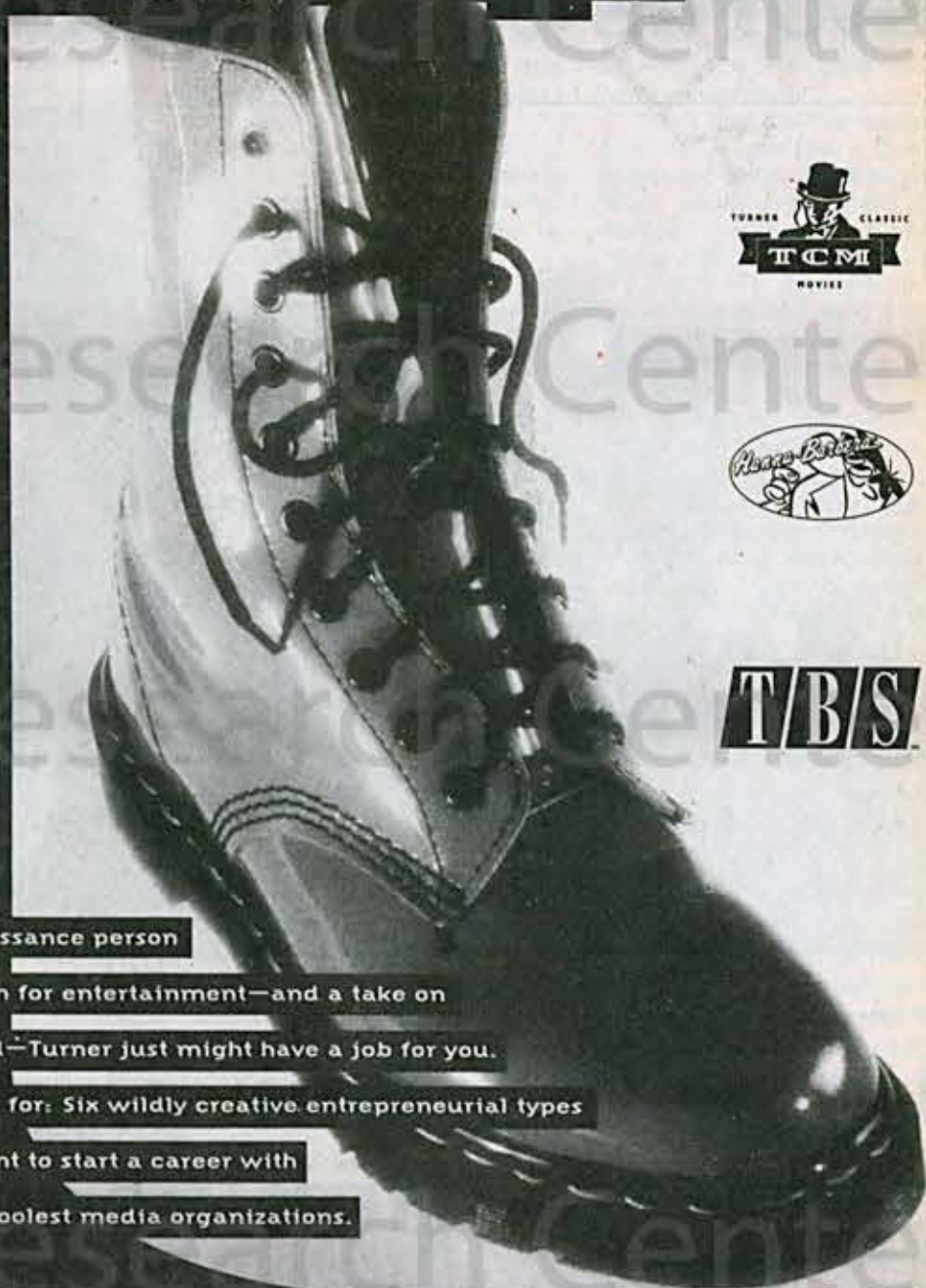


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BUSINESS

Negotiations in progress for additional stores to fill recent Wonder Plaza vacancies



Wonder Plaza has lost four stores since last spring.

By Sharon C. Grevious
Hilltop Staff Writer

The recent departures of four stores in the Wonder Plaza on Georgia Avenue have many Howard University students wondering, "What's next, Negril? Or maybe Up Against the Wall?"

The answer is simple. Neither store is planning to leave Wonder Plaza anytime soon. What students will see, however, is new stores springing up in the mini-mall.

A new sign shouting "Coming Soon—Athletic USA and Ticket Master" hangs on what used to be a window to Payless Shoe Source. Replacing The Wiz is the upscale ladies shoe store, K. Milan.

Executive director for auxiliary enterprises at Howard, Margo Vickers, said negotiations for other stores are in progress but she couldn't say what stores would follow the arrival of Athletic USA.

"The future stores of Wonder Plaza will focus on benefiting not only Howard, but the Washington D.C. community, as well," Vickers said. "That is our primary concern."

Rumors about Howard's ability to successfully consume and utilize their finances have circulated the campus since the departure of Kinko's last spring.

Vickers said students must understand that progress means change. "Just like bigger malls, Wonder Plaza must go through turnovers, too," she said.

Vickers added: "Look at Union Station [mall], for example. Every time I go in there, there are new stores and most of the time they're [opening] all in the same locations," she said.

Vickers also said it is important for students to look at the entire business industry instead of just at their

immediate surroundings. In some cases, like that of Blockbuster Video, the regional and national headquarters of the former stores made the decision to close them.

Blockbuster's management team said the Wonder Plaza location was not economically viable. The Georgia Avenue location was not the one suffering.

From outside the negotiation process it is difficult to see how new stores are slowly coming to Wonder Plaza.

Recently, Vickers met with the leaders of the Howard University Student Association, Shawn Barney and vice president Kofi Reid. They will determine what students want to see in the plaza. Suggestion have ranged from a health food store to a beauty supply store.

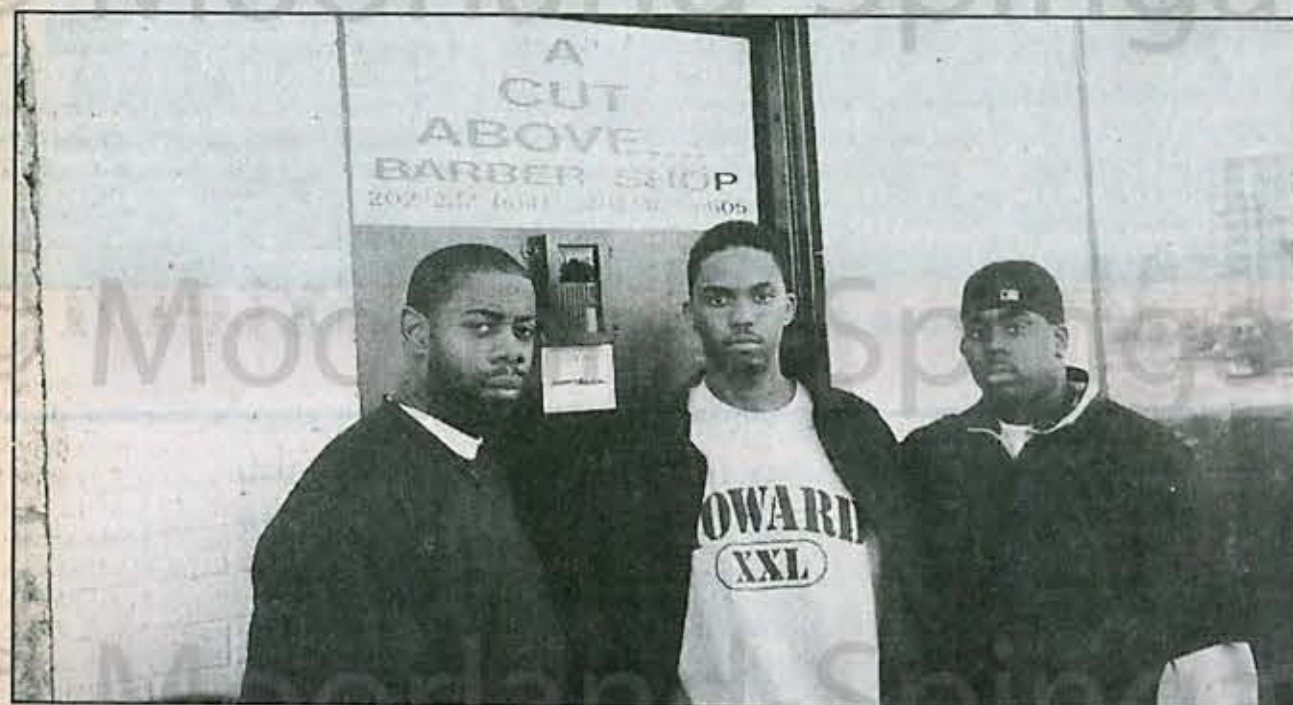
Gaytra Arnold, a junior majoring in communications and vice president of the Student Communications' student council, is optimistic about the future of Wonder Plaza.

"I never underestimated the intelligence of the students. No matter how unwise I thought the moves were, they would survive."

Arnold also said that after The Wiz left, the proprietorship Sam K Records, located further down Georgia Avenue, gained business and exposure from new advertisement spots on Howard's student radio station, WHBC.

"This is an opportunity for not only established Black and minority businesses, but some students in the School of Business are trying to open businesses [in vacant spots], as well," Arnold said.

Local barber shop owners, entrepreneurs plan to open recording studio, restaurant



(Right to left) Craig Henry, Calcie Cooper and Preston Quartey.

By Sharon C. Grevious
Hilltop Staff Writer

Talented entrepreneurs have joined together to provide students and the surrounding community with a number of services. The 900 Spot, a business venture spearheaded by Howard University students and alumni plans to open a recording studio and a restaurant in addition to the already established A Cut Above barber shop. Their purpose is to provide great service, employment opportunities and a "home away from home" atmosphere for students.

In the barber shop, Monifa's hot new single "I Miss You" plays on the waiting room and parlor televisions. African-American men and women engage in casual conversation. A miniature camera on the outside of the

shop is linked to a visual telephone upstairs to ensure the employees' and customers' safety.

A Cut Above's warm environment makes it stand out from other barber shops.

"It's definitely the atmosphere that makes this shop so special," co-owner and Howard alumnus, Duane McDonald, said. "In addition, the quality of service, cleanliness, security and timeliness also draws customers to us."

The shop also features the artwork of Howard students.

"All the paintings have and will be brought from students at Howard University's [College] of Fine Arts. Our walls will be like a gallery," he said.

The walls of the waiting room are white and a deep mauve. Two spacious, black, leather sofas and a

television, equipped with cable, a VCR and a Super Nintendo system complete the entertainment center. The hallway is lined with four leather chairs. Magazines such as Source, Modern Man and YSB lie on the waiting tables.

The shop is staffed with what many customers say are the finest barber's Washington D.C. has to offer. Among the talented men are Howard's own Preston Quartey, Sean Bennett, John Thompson and Calcie Cooper. Craig Henry, a veteran barber, also works at the shop.

Henry, who's been cutting hair since 1979, says he is comfortable in the family-oriented surroundings.

"We have a friendly atmosphere where everyone knows each other," he said.

The 900 Spot located on 900 Florida Avenue soon open the Kaveman Recording Studio. This is where rappers and singers will record their music. The recording studio is located in a building adjacent to the shop. Tony Arhabor, co-owner and director of the future recording studio, said it is running as early as March.

Plans are also underway for a New York pizzeria that will be located in the same complex.

Student patrons can receive discounts at the shop by flashing a student ID card. Hours of operation are from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.

"We work on appointment basis so students can come to the shop between classes or when they have a McDonald said. "[They] can come in and out quickly."



A day in the life of A Cut Above Barber Shop.

Will Downing gives candid lecture about music industry

By Azure Thompson
Hilltop Staff Writer

Mercury recording artist Will Downing presented a lecture titled "The Realities of the Music Business" for the Howard University College of Arts and Sciences last Tuesday.

"Through music I have been able to express my emotions," he said. "But in 1994, my emotions were telling me not to sing because my music was becoming dominated by business."

Downing left Island Records to join Mercury Records after his first three albums because of

creative differences.

"In a lot of ways the record business can be compared to sports," Downing said. "Nothing is set until a contract is signed and negotiations, not negotiations, take place."

Downing stressed the importance of having a good manager to handle negotiations. "Your manager must be someone you trust. But they don't work for free. A manager can receive as low as 10 percent or as high as 25 percent of an artist's earnings depending on what the artist/manager agreement is," he said.

Downing said artists must be

well informed about business transactions to ensure they are not get caught in bad deals.

"The more you know the less you will get taken for," he said. "And you will get taken."

Downing's third album, "A Dream Fulfilled," released in 1991, gave him notoriety in the United States. But his real break happened in 1987 in Europe.

"There is a lot of money in Europe. Their money is in pounds, but it all converts to dollars," he said.

Downing has done everything from commercial jingles to backup singing and was, at one time, on the verge of being kicked off his

record label.

"Don't fool yourself, this business is a lot of work. Don't think if they give you the money you don't have to deliver," Downing said as he compared the record company to a bank issuing a loan.

"They'll issue you a budget to produce your album based on what expectations they have of you. They expect to get all their money back and more."

He is now beginning to fulfill his dreams with the release of his latest album, "Moods." The album contains such songs as "Sorry I," which is currently ranked on Billboards Top R&B chart.

He is working on his sixth album that features artists Rachelle Farrell, Stevie Wonder, Gerald Albright and Jonathan Butler.

Whitney Hunter, a senior dance concentration major who aspires to educate through choreography and dance instruction, said Downing's lecture was informative.

"It's always beneficial to see someone successful working in the business that you are pursuing," she said. "In addition, it's rewarding to hear an artist of Downing's caliber speak candidly in reference to the assets and drawbacks of the entertainment industry, be it dance, music or theater."



The cover to Will Downing's latest album love's the place to be.

The Hilltop is looking for Business writers. Please contact Shenikwa at the Hilltop, (202) 806-6866.

HEALTH & FITNESS

Eating disorders increase among Blacks

By Stefanie Gilbert, M.A.
Special to The Hilltop

Each day, Lisa Miller*, a straight-A pre-med student, wakes up with one thing on her mind. She pushes her fragile body out of bed and approaches the mirror. Ribs bulging from beneath her nightgown, cheekbones jutting from her angular face, Lisa takes a deep breath and examines her stomach. "Too big, she thinks. I'm still too fat. No eating today. She dresses herself, goes to classes, and endures yet another day in a series of months of progressive starvation. Lisa is a relentless dieter whose chief daily preoccupation is her figure. In clinical terms, she is suffering from what is called anorexia nervosa, an eating disorder. Typically occurring in women, it is a condition in which an individual refuses to eat and continues to believe she is fat despite appearing thin and even

emaciated in the eyes of others. There has been a substantial rise in cases of eating disorders since the 1960s, primarily affecting White women from upper- and middle-class families in industrialized countries. However, eating disorders are currently on the rise among African Americans and in developing nations. In 1994, over 2,000 Black women responded to an article on bulimia nervosa and anorexia nervosa in Essence magazine professing highly personal accounts of a problem not thought to be prevalent among African Americans. "We used to feel that was something we wouldn't find in Black women and then a little over five years ago we got overwhelmed with the problem," said Dr. Wilbert Lacey, a psychiatrist at the Howard University counseling center. Lacey says that in earlier years, counselors at the center learned of most cases of eating disorders when women would come in and talk

about other emotional problems affecting their lives. They usually brought up the fact that they starved themselves or "binged and purged" as a side comment. "The system we have here now is not prepared to deal with the number of cases out there and we aren't even sure how many of them there are," Lacey said. The principle type of eating disorder affecting African Americans in the past has been obesity, but statistics of the response to an Essence article show that bulimia, especially, is increasingly becoming a problem for African-American women. Characterized by "binge eating," bulimic individuals feel out of control while consuming large quantities of food. One woman interviewed in the article described feeling as though she were in her own world, feeling power and elation. Typically, the elation is followed by intense feelings of guilt and then great physical discomfort as a result

of the bingeing, as another woman said, "I know what I am doing to my body, but I can't stop. I am bulimic. I binge frequently and abuse laxatives on a weekly basis with attempts to fast in between." Women with bulimia nervosa are also preoccupied with food and extremely fearful of gaining weight. To rid herself of the emotional and physical pain, the binger "purges" herself of excessive food by regurgitating, fasting, rigorously dieting, performing extreme exercise or using laxatives or diuretics. Perceived pressure to be thinner from the media or from family and friends is often a reason eating disorders develop. Like any other illness, it has clear symptoms. Women like Lisa may eat very little or restrict the types of foods they eat, consuming only lettuce and iced tea, for example for weeks on end. Most constantly weigh themselves, taking alarm at even the slightest forward shift of the scale. In one extreme case, an anorexic

woman refused to use a car, preferring instead to walk great distances to burn off calories. However, the social implications of exactly why African-American women have started reporting higher instances of eating disorders is still unclear. Some assign it to the adoption of White, western ideals, although others say pressure to succeed and be in control of their lives may be valid reasons. "I do not think one could say that Black men have accepted extremely thin women. Their ideals are not usually overweight, but not obese either," Lacey said. Eating disorders can produce life-threatening circumstances. Anorexia has a mortality rate of between 10 percent and 20 percent, with about 150,000 or more women dying from the illness each year. Death typically occurs due to starvation, suicide or electrolyte imbalance. The physical risks of bulimia include electrolyte imbalances and hypokalemia which eventually may

lead to cardiac arrest. Menstrual irregularities, gastric dilation or rupture, parotid gland enlargement, dental enamel erosion, esophagitis and elevated serum amylase levels as well include some of the more severe side effects. "Hair loss may be common in anorexia. Sometimes they have weakened bones which might later set on osteoporosis. All the acid can damage teeth and esophagus because of the vomiting associated with bulimia. Bulimia is much more common," said Dr. John Young, a researcher in the Department of Anatomy at Howard School of Medicine. Although this has been known to affect male wrestlers and crew rowers, anorexia and bulimia today affects between 5 and 10 percent of adolescent girls and young women in this country. Their prevalence at some colleges may be as high as 20 percent of all women on campus. In all, one million American women become anorexic or bulimic each year.

Doctors remain skeptical over fat-free oil substitute



Fat-free? Procter & Gamble thinks so.

By Angela Harper
Hilltop Staff Writer

The threat of bulging waistlines, clogged arteries and acne has scores of Americans searching for alternatives to their fat-laden favorite foods. But if Procter & Gamble's new fat substitute, olestra, holds true to its promises, dieters now can enjoy fried foods without the side effects. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved the product last week for use in packaged foods. Olestra's promoters say the product acts in the same way that fat does in cooking, but that it is not digested in the body when the food is. Olestra passes through the digestive system because it is composed of fatty acids and sugars with molecules too large

and tightly packaged for the body to break down. Critics of olestra oppose its approval by the FDA because it is relatively untested on humans. In a statement issued last week from the Center for Science in the Public Interest, physicians said tests conducted by Procter & Gamble showed that olestra depletes the body of important fat soluble nutrients including vitamins A, E, D and K. Opponents to olestra also say it causes serious gastrointestinal problems from gas and cramps to diarrhea and so-called anal leakage syndrome. As a food additive, they argue olestra cannot be an adequate substitute for vital fat molecules that the body needs and may pose adverse health risks. Dr. Enid Knight, an associate professor in the Department of Nutritional Sciences

of Allied Health at Howard University, is also wary of olestra's use as a "miracle" oil. "Although it does fulfill the role of a fat substitute, I don't think there has been adequate research on its effects," Knight said. "Vitamins A, D, E and K all dissolve in fat and are carried by fat molecules that are used for energy, especially in children." Despite the warnings issued by health groups, Procter & Gamble defends the product, arguing that years of testing on animals have proven that olestra meets FDA standards and poses minimal risks when used as intended. Healthwatchers suggest forgoing fried foods and eating low-fat or fat-free foods as a way to eat healthier. The company has agreed to compensate for the depletion of vitamins olestra causes by enriching its products with the lost nutrients.

BLACK HEROES IN MEDICINE

By Reginald Roysten
Hilltop Editor

Charles Drew
Dr. Charles Drew was a distinguished African-American medical researcher who left a legacy that transformed modern medicine. Drew is best known for



Dr. Charles Drew pioneered life saving blood transfusions.

developing a safe system to store blood that is to be used in blood transfusions. A 1926 graduate from Amherst University, Drew was chief surgeon and chief of staff at Freedman's Hospital. Freedman's Hospital is presently the location of Howard University's School of Communications. Drew also directed the medical division of the British Blood Transfusion Association. During World War II, he aided the American Red Cross and was a surgical consultant for the U.S. Army. Ironically, as Drew lay wounded following a car accident, he was denied a blood transfusion because of White taboos about blood from Blacks. Drew, who became a leading authority on the preservation of blood plasma, died

because racial intolerance precluded him from a medical treatment he worked to develop.

Dr. Daniel Hale Williams

Dr. Daniel Hale Williams sparked a new era in medical history when he performed the first open heart surgery in 1891. Williams, an 1883 graduate of Northwestern University's medical school, was a leader in both the African-American community and the medical community as a result of his many medical accomplishments. Williams set up the first training school for Black nurses in the United States. He served in an administrative position at Freedman's Hospital in Washington, D.C. He also co-



Daniel Hale Williams completed the first successful open heart surgery in 1891.

founded Provident Hospital in Chicago. Later, Williams returned to serve as an instructor in his former medical school at Northwestern University. Williams was honored for his many achievements by the American College Surgeons association.

Ask the Extern

I'm a smoker. Is it true that my skin could taste like cigarettes?
The taste buds can only detect a few flavors such as sweet, salty, sour, bitter. It's your sense of smell that enables you to make precise distinctions. Smokers usually retain the odor in their hair and clothes. While you might not be able to literally taste cigarettes on the skin, the combination of smell and taste can still be unattractive—especially to a non-smoker. Perfume cannot cover up the odor; so kicking the habit might be the only way to improve your health and skin (smoking helps cause facial wrinkles).
I have stretch marks on my hips and stomach. Why are they there and what can I do to get rid of them?
Stretch marks are often caused

by rapid weight gain or puberty. They are a form of dermal scarring that appear whenever skin has been pulled by new fat deposits or shifts in bone structure. Stretch marks are most treatable in the early stages when they look inflamed and red (late-stage stretch marks look white or lighter than skin, which is a sign that the scarring has healed). Consider consulting a doctor about Retin-A cream. It is effective in eliminating new stretch marks and can cause old stretch marks to fade significantly. New stretch marks can be avoided by moisturizing skin daily and maintaining a stable weight.

Have a question or health concern? Drop them off in the Health and Fitness editor's mailbox at The Hilltop office.

** Weekly Recipe **

GRILLED VEGETABLES WITH LEMON AND HERBS
1 medium eggplant (about 1 lb.)
1 large red onion (about 8 oz.)
1 large red pepper
1 large zucchini (about 8 oz.)
1/2 cup lemon juice
2 tbsp. margarine, melted
1 tsp. rosemary leaves, crushed
1 tsp. thyme leaves, crushed
8 large mushrooms
2 cups cooked brown rice
In large oven, over high heat, warm 2-inch depth of water to a boil; add eggplant, onion, pepper and zucchini. Reduce heat to low; cover and

simmer 5 to 10 minutes or until pepper and zucchini are tender-crisp. Remove pepper and zucchini to plate to cool. Cook onion and eggplant for 10 to 15 minutes more or until fork-tender. Place on plate and cool. Cut zucchini, pepper and onion lengthwise in half; discard seeds from pepper. Cut eggplant crosswise into 8 slices. In small bowl, combine lemon juice, margarine and herbs. Grill eggplant, onion, pepper, zucchini and mushrooms over medium coals or broil 6 inches from heat source for 10 to 12 minutes, turning occasionally and basting with lemon mixture frequently. Serve over rice. Makes 8 servings. Enjoy!

Recipe courtesy of Good Housekeeping magazine.

Health Line

A National Eating Disorders Screening Program will be held during Eating Disorder Awareness Week, Feb. 5-11, 1996. Howard University joins universities across the country on Friday, Feb. 9, to present a National Eating Disorders Screening Day at the Howard University Counseling Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 6th and Bryant Streets, N.W. The center will present literature about eating disorders, a videotape exploring the development of eating disorders, referral resource

lists for individuals who believe they might have an eating disorder, and individual screening and feedback sessions with a Counseling Center clinician. No pre-registration is necessary. An eight-week counseling group focusing on eating and body image problems begin Feb. 13, and will be held Tuesdays from 4:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. For more information about the group or the Screening Day, please call Stefanie Gilbert, M.A. at the Counseling Center: (202) 806-6870.

**GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

A study published in January's International Journal of Eating Disorders dismisses the notion that yo-yo dieting (dieting healthy for long periods and gaining the weight back over again) will increase total body fat. Researchers at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine say that losing and regaining weight will not add fat to the upper body, nor will it have a bad effect on your

resting metabolic rate. Twelve overweight women, average age 39, who reported they had seriously dieted at least five times in their lives were studied by obesity expert Thomas A. Wadden. Researchers found: -No long-term loss of muscle tissue with weight regain. -No loss in resting metabolic rate (the rate at which chemical and physical processes occur in the body). -No increase in body fat or in upper body fat.

KEEP BLACK AMERICA ALIVE AND WELL!
Write for the Health & Fitness Section
Call Reginald Roysten at 806-6866.

The Department of English
at
Howard University

Celebrates
The Language of Freedom and Dignity
on
February 14, 1996

PRESENTING
(A Public Forum)

"We Who Believe in Freedom: A Conservation"

FEATURING

- H. Patrick Swygert, President of Howard University
- The Honorable John Lewis, Congressman from Georgia
- Bernice Johnson Reagon, Founder, Sweet Honey in the Rock
- Sylvia Hill, Founder, Southern Africa Support Project
- Marcus Raskin, Past Director, The Institute for Policy Studies
- Haile Gerima, Filmmaker

at
NOON

The Ballroom of The Armour J. Blackburn Center
AND
An Evening Performance

STARRING
AVERY BROOKS

in
Philip Hayes Dean's

PAUL ROBERSON

A critically acclaimed Broadway Play
Cramton Auditorium
8:00 P.M.

General Admission Tickets \$30.00
Student Tickets \$10.00
Available at The Cramton Box Office

Proceeds from this performance to benefit the Sterling Allen Brown Professorship, a project of the Department of English

UBIQUITY
HOWARD UNIVERSITY CHAPTER
Presents

NGUZU SABA WEEK

An entire week of culturally uplifting activities to promote the Seven Principles and celebrate UBIQUITY's 22-year presence on Howard's campus.

UMOJA
Unity

UMOJA KARAMU (Unity Feast)*
Monday, February 5, 1996
Blackburn Center Rooms 148 & 150
6:30pm-8:30pm
Join the UBIQUITY family in food and festivities. Enjoy Vegan and non-Vegan delights.

SEJIBAGILWA
Self-Determination

BLACK LOVE NIGHT*
Tuesday, February 6, 1996

Blackburn Center Rooms 148 & 150
6:30pm-8:30pm
Participate in a provocative roundtable discussion between brothers and sisters.

ZIYOMA
Collective Work & Responsibility

COMMUNITY SERVICE DRIVE

Wednesday, February 7, 1996
Blackburn Center Ground Floor Plaza
11am-2pm
Help the UBIQUITY Community Action Network to help our community. Be a volunteer.

ZIAMAMA
Cooperative Economics

AFRIKAN MARKETPLACE

Thursday, February 8, 1996
Blackburn Center Ground Floor Plaza
11am-2pm
Purchase new and gently used CD's, cassettes, textbooks, accessories, etc.

NJA
Purpose

CONSCIOUS VIDEOFEST*

Friday, February 9, 1996
Blackburn Center Room 142 & Music Listening Room
6:30pm-9:30pm
View a feature length film, documentaries of the Million Man March, the plight of political prisoners in America, as well as interviews with Assata Shakur, Mumia Abu-Jamal, and others.

SEJIBAGILWA
Creativity

POETRY-JAZZ FUSION*

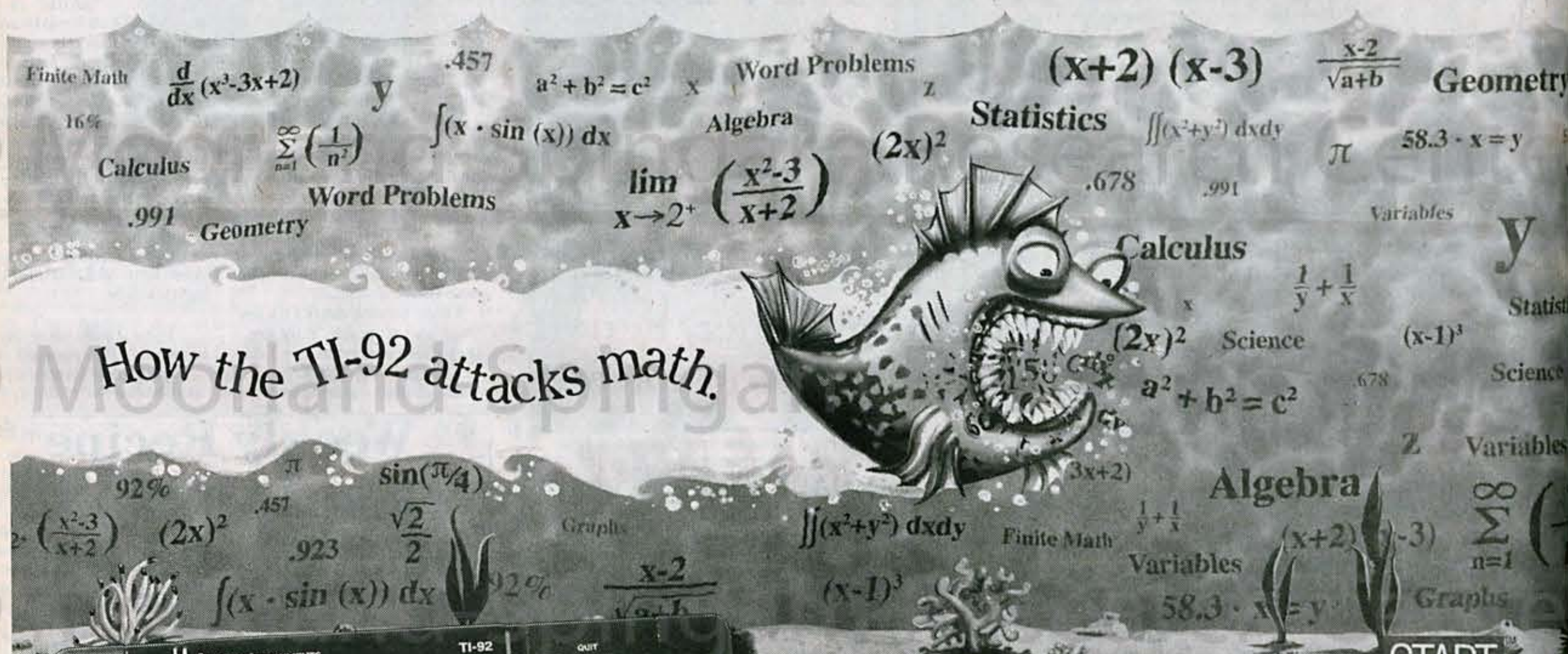
Saturday, February 10, 1996
Blackburn Center TBA
6:30pm-8:30pm
Bring your vibes, verse and musical gifts into the creative mix.

YMAW
Faith

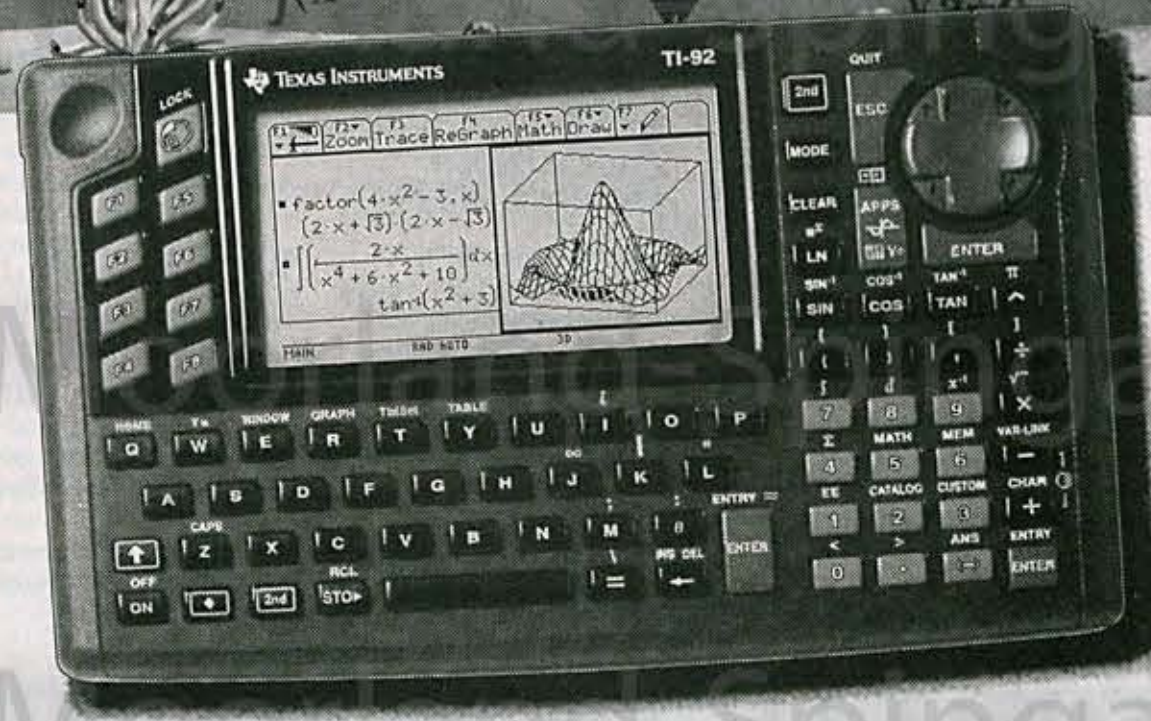
OPEN HOUSE*

Sunday, February 11, 1996
Blackburn Center Reading Lounge
3:00pm-5:00pm
Find out more about Howard's oldest progressive organization. Membership has its privileges.

All events are open to the public & free of charge. * Refreshments will be served.
A talent search for the Poetry-Jazz Fusion will take place Wednesday, January 31 in Blackburn Rooms 148 & 150 from 1-4pm.
For more information, call (202)829-6832 or (301)864-7217.



How the TI-92 attacks math.



When it comes to math, it's sink or swim. Fortunately, we've found a way to help you keep your head above water: the new TI-92. It'll tear through statistics, crunch calculus and rip algebra to shreds unlike any other calculator. Of course, the TI-92 isn't just a piranha of power. With easy-to-read

equations and handy pull-down menus, it's as friendly as Flipper. To see for yourself why the TI-92 calculator is the biggest fish in any pond, try it out on the Internet. <http://www.ti.com/TI-92>

START DOING EXTRAORDINARY THINGS

TEXAS INSTRUMENTS
Send e-mail to: ti-care@ti.com or call 1-800-TI-CARES. ©1995 TI.

See the new TI-92 at:
Howard University Bookstore

ATTENTION

Applications are now available for the following Hilltop positions:

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF and BUSINESS MANAGER

for the 1996-1997 year in the

OFFICE OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Blackburn Center, Suite 117.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Friday, February 16, 1996 at 5:00pm

ATTENTION

Applications are now available in the

OFFICE OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Blackburn Center, Suite 117

for the position of

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

of the

1997 BISON YEARBOOK

Job description and criteria available with application

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Monday, February 12, 5:00 PM

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CHEAT

You just kissed a guy. A guy who is not your boyfriend. You feel guilty. And confused. You call your sister for advice. She says four simple words: "No French, no foul." You suddenly feel better.

1-800-COLLECT

Save The People You Call On The Phone

For long distance calls. Savings based on a 3 minute AT&T long distance call.

Howard University Student Cluster

presents

The Annual

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

CONFERENCE

Facilitated by Eli Lilly

Saturday

February 10, 1996

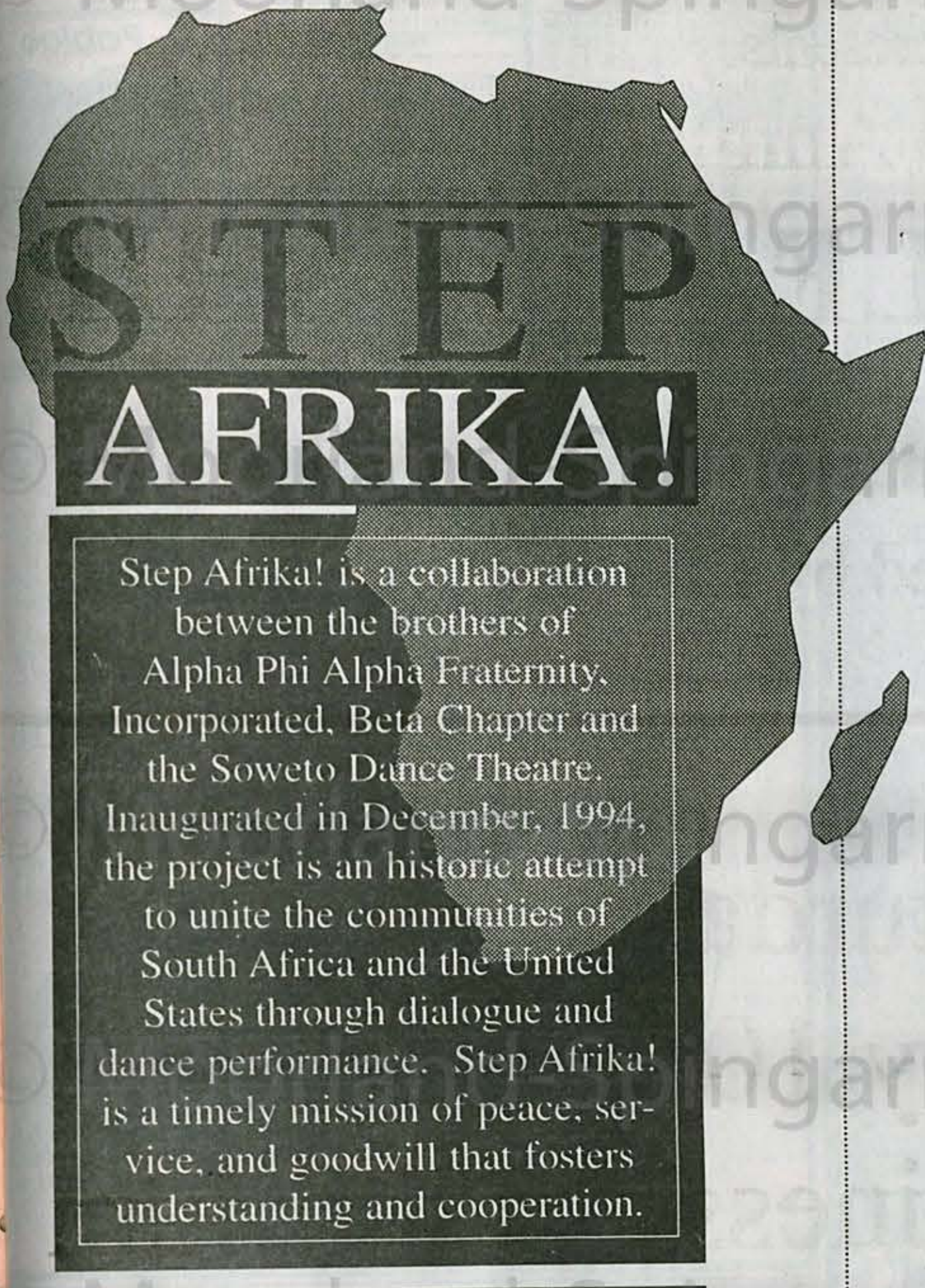
School of Business Auditorium

Business Attire

Continental Breakfast and Luncheon

RSVP: Michelle Gordon (202)588-0454

Deadline: Tuesday, February 6, 1996
(Limited Seating!)



The brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, Beta Chapter, would like to thank the following groups for their support and encouragement in helping to make Step Afrika! 1995 a success.

- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated
- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, Mu Lambda Chapter
- Alpha Phi Alpha Sweetheart Court
- Howard University Student Association
- Undergraduate Student Assembly
- C. Brian Williams and the Africare Corporation
- The Guild
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Mu Delta Chapter
- The 1995 Homecoming Steering Committee
- The School of Business Student Council
- P. WOODRUFF DESIGNS
- Henderson Travel Agency
- Jewels of Aton
- First Choice
- The Institute of Kharmic Guidance
- John King of Chemical Bank
- Anita T. Conner and Associates P.C.
- Howard Deli
- The Soweto Dance Theater

Step Afrika! is a collaboration between the brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, Beta Chapter and the Soweto Dance Theatre. Inaugurated in December, 1994, the project is an historic attempt to unite the communities of South Africa and the United States through dialogue and dance performance. Step Afrika! is a timely mission of peace, service, and goodwill that fosters understanding and cooperation.

In addition, the brothers would like to express their deepest gratitude to all of the outstanding students, faculty, administrators, and individual members of the Howard University family whose generosity has allowed us to touch the land and people of South Africa.

Last, but not least, we would like to thank all who participated in our fundraising drives and would like to congratulate the following individuals:

- 1st place - Margaret Douglass - 19" Color Television
- 2nd place - Sanbene McFarland - Authentic African Tapestry
- 3rd place - Hosea E. Taylor - \$50.00 Ice Cold Cash

Thank you and Happy New Year!

AΦA
BETA CHAPTER



HILLTOPICS

All HILLTOPICS are due, paid in full, the Monday before publication. Announcements by campus organizations for meetings, seminars or non-profit events are free for 10 words or less and \$1 for every additional five words. Campus announcements for profit are charged as individuals. Individuals advertising for the purpose of announcing a service, buying or selling are charged \$5 for the first 20 words and \$1 for every additional five words. Local companies are charged \$10 for the first 20 words and \$2 for every five words thereafter. Personal ads are \$2 for the first 10 words and \$1 for every additional five words. Color Hilltopics are an additional \$2.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
ATTN: All L.O.Q members, Sunday, February 11th is Call to Chapel. 11:00am. Please plan to attend. Chapter 10

To all prospective candidates for student council, undergraduate assembly, & general assembly representatives, please stop by your student council office to pick up petition forms. All petitions are due by Feb. 9.

ATTENTION
ALL OHIO PLAYERS
The next Ohio Club meeting will be:
Sunday, February 4
5:00 pm

Rm 200 School of Business
Texas Club! Meeting! Tuesday, Feb. 6 - 5:30 pm. Rm 48/50
The National Council of Negro Women invites its members and all campus organizations to participate in NCNW Week starting with Call to Chapel (11am) and our "Unity Brunch" (1-3 pm) February 4, 1996.
Free Admission

ATTENTION!
MODEL CALL for the Spring Black Arts Festival Fashion. Auditions will be held Wednesday, February 7, 1996 from 6-10 pm in the Blackburn Ballroom.
Thursday, February 8, 1996 is the day for call-backs.
Try-out fee : \$2.00
Please dress fashionably and come with an "ATTITUDE."

Sponsored by the Undergraduate Student Assembly and coordinated by Bernard Martinez. For more info, call 806-6918. *Good luck!*
The Junior Class Board of Arts & Sciences presents Greeks, Cheerleaders, Student Government Leaders, Models, Mr. Howard - It's "Singled Out at the Mecca" your pre-Valentine's Day present to yourself. Thursday, February 8th at 7:30pm in the Bethune Annex Seminar Room.

Attention all Woman to Woman Public Relations Volunteers: there will be a brief meeting on Monday, February 5 at 5:00pm in the Blackburn Center.
Please help HU football players impact D.C. public schools by donating Giant and Safeway cashier receipts. Bring your receipts to West Towers P-41 or call (202) 265-2929.

SERVICES
Lowest foreign travel prices available. Call Gladys at 1-800-846-7657, fax & voice mail 817-467-6247.

Mary Kay Products: the best selling brand of facial skin care and color cosmetics in America. Non-comedogenic products. Clinically tested for sensitive skin. Call today for your FREE FACIAL. Pat (703)660-3430.

HELP WANTED
\$1750 weekly possible mailing our circulars.
For info call 202-393-7723.
News Broadcasters wanted. No Experience necessary. Call WHBC 806-6673.

DYNAMITE
FILM PRODUCTIONS
Looking for comedic Actors/Actresses for short film project. Rewarding experience! Interested call (301)567-6345.

Ask for Kim.
INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE!!!
Thriving ad agency in Alexandria, VA seeking interns to learn advertising and help create websites. Exciting opportunities for internet, marketing, graphic design, acctg./bus. admin., & writing interns. No pay but valuable experience and credit.
Walk to Metro. Fax resume to 703-739-0478 or call 703-739-2266 ASAP.

MENTORS: The Women's Project needs women 18 yrs+ to spend 10 hours/month with DC teen women. Call Nikki by 2/9/96 for application 202-393-0461.

Clerks/Order Takers for Feb 5-Feb 15, \$7 per hour/daytime.
Floral Shop Assistants for Feb. 11-14, \$6 per hour/daytime. Evening 10pm -7am for 2 nights - Feb 12-13. Valentine's adventure. ROSEExpress 202-842-1000. Apply at 200 K St. NW.

Earn Big \$\$\$\$\$ Delivering on Valentine's Day. February 12-14. the best drivers will make

over \$200/day. Must have own car / insurance. ROSEExpress 202-842-1000. Apply at 200 K St. NW.
Earn up to \$100 this semester just by going to class!! ^ students needed for study: Intro to Psychology, General Chemistry. Call Mrs. Lincoln at Vision Quest Enterprises (202)986-2311

Spring semester mechanical engineering student wanted to work flexible, part-time hours (approx. 20 per week) in our research & development lab. (Ohmeda is a manufacturer literate medical equipment). Must be at least sophomore status, detail oriented, computer literate (preferably Microsoft Package) and good communicator. Interested students should fax their resume to 410-381-2558 of call Kathy Dowd on 410-381-4041. Position available immediately!

FOR RENT
Basement apartment, W/W carpet, free cable, A/C, all utilities included. Call 202-581-6814.
45 Rhode Island Avenue, NE

Efficiencies, wall to wall carpet, well maintained, secure building. Four blocks from Rhode Island Avenue Metro. \$390-425/month (includes utilities) 202-488-1449.
Neat, clean room available in 4 bedroom, 2 bath house near 11th and U Streets. \$320 plus utilities. W/D (202) 554-5381.
Rm, w/ balcony for rent in 3brd. house. \$248/month + 1/4 util. nr. HU on "S" St. W/D, D/W. 1 1/2 bath, M or F. HU Student pref. Call 462-8421.

ROOM FOR RENT
Large, spacious room with new furnishing, carpeting, heat & air. Share bath & kitchen with washer & dryer. 2nd floor over office. Bus lines to school & metro on Ga. Ave. Shopping nearby. Male preferred. \$300. Call for appointment. Ms. Prince (202) 723-1267
Furnished Rooms near HUH.

Carpet, W/D, cooking facilities, student environment, \$200 security deposit. First weeks rent free. \$300/month. Includes utilities. Telephone 202-291-2248 after 5pm.
Room For Rent - Recently remodeled, W/W carpet, free cable, washer/dryer, dishwasher, all utilities included.

PERSONALS
CHECK THE TIME
Maurice A Norris,
Hey Bo! I miss you. I am not, and will not ever give up on us. Thank you for your time, patience, and friendship. P.S. Remember this is more than a crush, the Lord is with us? From your California Love To all WB Playa's basketball season is in effect and so are we!
Tisha,
Will U Marry Me?!
T-Bear

Dichelle : Don't let the pe attitudes and ignorant actions others get you down. Keep ing and always stay real. Wes - This is just to say th you for being a true friend putting up with all of my m Thsan- Thanks for the po
CHECK THE TIME!

Pabloo.
Whether i m downstairs or down the street when you ca I'm there.
Love, M

Caribbean Student Association & SELMO
Friday, Feb. 2nd
11:00 - 4:00am
Reggae Hip Hop Calypso Old School Soca
NEMESIS SOUNDSATION
DJ GAF
\$3 Heinekens
\$3 Rum & Coke
Admission \$5 B/4 Midnight
NO ATHLETIC WEAR For Info. (202) 624 - 0033
THE UPPER DECK
12th st. NW · B/W F & G Streets
1/2 BLOCK FROM METRO CENTER
Flyr By Shadow Productions (202) 608 - 0102

ROSE Expressions
"A Rose Is Worth A Thousand Words"
Orders Taken At The **Blackburn Center**
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For ROSE Delivery Throughout the Howard Community
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Orders Are Going Fast!
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Order Singles, Doubles, Triples, Half Dozens, Or Dozens
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