

Howard University

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WEATHER  
Today: Partly Cloudy  
High 91, Low 75  
Saturday: Scattered T-Storms  
High 85, Low 67

# The Hilltop

The Student Voice of Howard University Since 1924

VOLUME 88, NO. 1

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 2004

www.thehilltoponline.com

## Freshmen Move In, Storm Moves Out

BY LAUREN STEPHENS  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Darkened skies and sporadic showers as a result of Hurricane Charley welcomed the Class of 2008 as they arrived at the Mecca on Saturday.

The freshmen and their parents were met by a number of student organizations, staff and upperclassmen who volunteered to ensure that this year's move-in went as smoothly as possible.

"Everyone has been really great," said Maureen Suggs of North Carolina, whose son, Javod, is a resident of Drew Hall. "A lot of kids have been here to help us out. I really don't have any complaints."

Those who were involved with the freshmen arrival during previous years agree that the process was more organized and efficient than in years past.

Many upperclassmen like senior Lenny Lavergne, a Campus Pal, were pleased with this year's organization of freshman move-in.

"It's been way smoother than last year. They have a good setup with the cars and it's much



Jordan Colbert - Asst. Photo Editor

Freshman move-in was not marred by scattered showers that were remnants of Hurricane Charley.

more organized in general."

In addition to the scheduled move-in, Residence Life sponsored cookouts outside each of the freshmen dorms to welcome the parents and students into the Howard family.

Because Washington, D.C.

is a prominent target for terrorist attacks, some parents found leaving their child in the city a source of stress, while others were taking it in stride.

"I'm not worried at all because wherever you are, there are going to be terrorist threats,"

said Victor McLemore of Atlanta, whose daughter Alana will be living in the Quad.

"Howard just happens to be in the nation's capital, and that will always be a concern. Any

See **MOVE IN**, Campus 4

### A Snapshot of the Class of 2008

Applicants: 9,000
Acceptance rate: 45%-46%
Students who accepted admission: 1,604
Female: 68.2%
Male: 31.8%
18-years-old and under: 94.3%
19- to 21-years-old: 4.5%
Average SAT score: 1090-1100
Average ACT score: 22-23
Average high school G.P.A.: 3.3 on 4.0 scale
Top Majors: Biology; Journalism; Management;
Marketing; Nursing; Political Science; Psychology; and
Radio-Television-Film
Domestic students: 93%
International students: 5.8%
Nations represented: more than 20

Note: Statistics are preliminary figures. Final numbers will not be completed until mid-semester. Information provided by the Office of the Provost and compiled by Hilltop staff writer Ayesha Rascoe.



(Left to Right): Howard legend J-Roc; HUSA President Conrad Woody Howard University President H. Patrick Swygert.

(Left to Right): Shara D. Taylor - Campus/Online Editor, File Photos

## People and Places to Know at HU

AS TOLD TO LAUREN STEPHENS  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Greetings Class of 2008,

Did you know the average college student has only four years to create and solidify relationships with those people who will potentially influence them for the rest of their lives? This group of people cover every facet and level of the Howard University family.

After a week of partying and socializing in a new environment, it's time to get down to business. The following is a list of people and places to get familiar with at Howard University.

**H. Patrick Swygert, Esq.:** The President of the University—enough said.

**Administration "A" Building:** Become acquainted with the various offices within the administration building, especially student accounts and financial aid. It is always good to know the people who handle your finances.

**Community Directors:** Dorm directors are in charge of each dorm and its daily operations. They control visitation, dorm policies, and oversee your general well-being while under their watch.

**Academic Advisors:** The academic advisors in each school are in place to help with all academic concerns, including adding and dropping classes, changing majors, and eventu-

See **PEOPLE**, Campus 4

## Freshmen Pinned with Promise to Succeed

BY CHARREAH JACKSON  
Asst. Campus Editor

Freshmen have not started classes, but they were schooled on the cat call of the Campus Pals, the excitement of the band and the white wave of the Howard alma mater, at the Welcoming and Pinning Ceremony held Saturday evening.

As the official beginning of the Class of 2008's tenure at Howard, the program not only welcomed the freshmen to the Bison family, but also charged them to continue the rich legacy of the University.

Rain did not stop the ceremony from starting early at approximately 6:40 p.m.

Cramton Auditorium filled to capacity, creating the need for overflow rooms in Ira Aldridge Theater and the Blackburn Ballroom.

Howard University President H. Patrick Swygert greeted students with the fact that Howard stood up to the reputation that precedes it and informed freshmen about the student body they have joined.

"There is no such thing as an uninvolved, quiet Howard

student," Swygert said. "We don't reward quietness. Every person on this campus has an attitude. An attitude of leadership, truth and advocacy."

For many students, the event marked the beginning of their acclimation into Howard.

"This evening was incredible," said Mark Cox, a freshman sociology major. "I feel like I am a true part of the family. As brother Malcolm [X] would say, 'I have never felt such sincere

hospitality."

Although freshmen were the focal point of the pinning ceremony, their parents proudly stood by and watched.

"This program just adds to the kind of support everybody has provided, which has made me really comfortable leaving my son," parent Roderick Pinheiro said. "The [University] president is awesome and

See **CEREMONY**, Campus 4



Kristal Knight - Photographer

As a new tradition, freshmen place the responsibility of success upon each other with their official Class of 2008 pin.



Jordan Colbert - Asst. Photo Editor

Campus Pals mingled with the entire freshman class, not limiting themselves to their assigned students. With signature shirts, Pals were easy to identify in large crowds.

## Campus Pals Bring Fun to First Week

BY CHARREAH JACKSON  
Asst. Campus Editor

Sporting navy blue t-shirts and smiles, Campus Pals greeted the Class of 2008 as they unpacked their bags and prepared for their Howard journey.

While some student leaders and even President H. Patrick Swygert belonged to the Pal legacy, one question remains: Do campus pals live up to their hype?

"My campus pal introduced me to people from my hometown," said Chris Newsome, a freshman mechanical engineer

major. "It made me feel a little more at ease being so far away from home and I appreciated it."

The Pals wrote introductory letters to their assigned students over the summer, but freshmen officially met their mentor Sunday evening at a meet and greet. Even with designated Pals, freshmen were encouraged to reach out to the entire crew.

"I feel like I can talk to any of them," said Kim Miller, a freshman pre-pharmacy major. "I think all the campus pals are relaxed, laid back and easy to talk to."

However, some students are unenthusiastic about sharing their Pal with many other students.

"I didn't like the fact that 20 people were assigned to my Pal," said Erika Dawkins, a freshman psychology major. "It seemed impersonal and she didn't really take the time to get to know me."

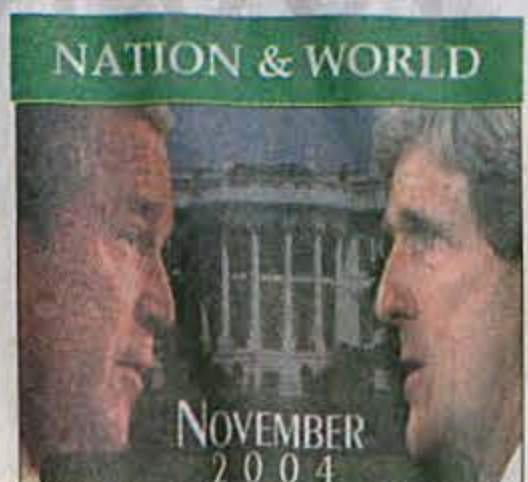
With over 50 members, the student organization is known around campus for its selective process in choosing new members that can demonstrate a strong dedication to ensuring

See **PAL**, Campus 4

### INSIDE

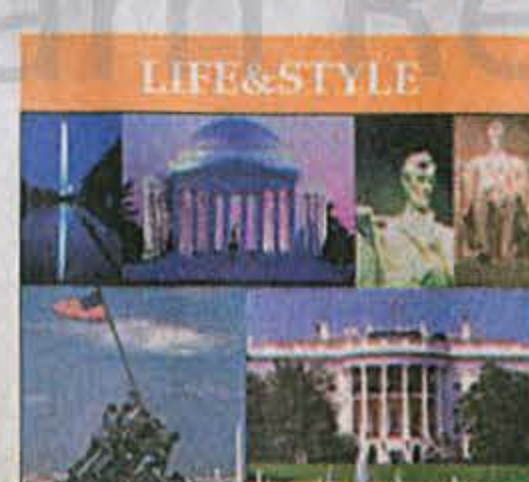
Find out what  
Bush and Kerry's  
issues are..

A8



Do you want to  
know about the  
"Urea?" See  
inside...

B2



The road to Dream  
Team gold began  
Sunday. Find out  
more ...

B4





# A Guide to Maximizing The Freshman Experience

BY SHARA D. TAYLOR  
Campus/Online Editor

When new students embark upon their first year of college, it may seem as though four years will last an eternity.

Some students may want to gain a strong hold on campus life and become involved, productive scholars. Others may wish to experience all Washington, D.C. has to offer for young, independent souls. Despite the accomplishments during successful high school careers, college is a different game and presents different opportunities and responsibilities.

Below is a list of helpful hints that can lead to a memorable college experience.

## Get to Know Advisers

Advisers can be lifesavers when it comes to graduation clearances. Introduce yourself to them before the end of your first semester. Getting to know them could prove beneficial in the long run during your time in college, as well as after graduation.

## Mingle on the Yard Friday at Noon

For at least one spring semester, students should avoid scheduling classes at noon on Fridays. It is during this time that the Yard is at its peak and provides entertainment and "networking" opportunities for those scholars who find themselves overwhelmed by class work.

## Meet with Professors

Professors have office hours for a reason. They are here to help students with questions and concerns they may have pertaining to schoolwork, or life in general. Many professors at Howard have years of experience in their respective fields, and are more than happy to impart their knowledge upon their students.



Students relax on the Yard between classes.

## Find a Husband or Wife

With a 2-to-1 female-to-male ratio on campus, it may be difficult for both sexes to navigate the waters of eligible candidates for marriage. However, with a little effort and patience, this can be accomplished before your four, five or six years are completed at the Mecca.

## Have Fun/Enjoy the City

Washington, D.C. is the main artery of the United States. The public transportation system, known as the Metro, is among the best in the world. Take time to explore the different features that the city has to offer its visitors, including the Smithsonian museums, the memorials,

and Frederick Douglass' home.

## Go to the Library

While college is the time to build life-long relationships, it is also the time to build a life-long thirst for knowledge. The Undergraduate Library, better known as "Club UGL" during finals time especially, does not promote Howard's ideal of excellence. Besides, Founders Library is the place where Thurgood Marshall penned his brief for the landmark Supreme Court case, Brown v. Board.

## Join State Clubs

Providing common ground for those students who have traveled from all over the world to attend Howard, state clubs give students the opportunity to connect with others from their respective home states. However, students may explore other state clubs if they seek to develop relationships with people from other geographical locations.

## Call Home

Although many students are busy enjoying their new independence, mom, dad, or a guardian would still appreciate being filled in on the student's new life adventures. Drop a line home once or twice a week, to let them know you are still spending their money.

## Get Involved with the Surrounding Community

With education comes responsibility. Howard prides itself on its motto of "Leadership for America and the Global Community." This is a responsibility that should not be taken lightly. The university and the surrounding area provide numerous volunteer opportunities for students to get involved. Who knows, volunteering may even lead to a chance meeting with that future husband or wife.

# New Students Face Adjustment, Stress

BY AYESHA RASCOE  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Homesickness, classroom anxieties, financial woes and other issues often associated with freshman year can combine to make a student's first year at college seem overwhelming.

As the Class of 2008 begins their journey at Howard University, one thing almost every student is likely to encounter is stress.

Salida Wilson, a freshman political science major, found the process of moving into her dormitory nerve-wracking.

"I had to travel all the way from South Carolina," Wilson said. "Just getting packed and unpacked was very stressful."

In addition to dealing with the logistics of relocating, Wilson is also uneasy about beginning her college career.

"You just do not know what to expect," she said.

Nickole Scott, director of training at the University Counseling Center, has dealt with many students like Wilson who are strained by their college arrival.

"Stress is when pressure from the outside makes a person feel tense on the inside," Scott said. "It is a response to any change—good or bad."

Although stress is unavoidable, it is not impossible to beat.

The fight against stress, however, should not involve drugs or alcohol, which Scott says intensifies the stress.

She recommends using physical activities such as swimming, walking or breathing exercises to help alleviate tension.

"It is just about impossible to be stressed if the body is

relaxed," she said.

Students should also find their own ways to relax by doing things they enjoy.

For instance, when, freshman biology major Jesusemen Edoro feels overwhelmed, she just takes a nap.

"[When I get stressed], I sleep," Edoro said. "I do not watch TV or anything. Then, I wake up refreshed."

Freshman biology major Tali Gabriel found relief during the move-in process by organizing her dorm room.

"Setting up my room made me feel more comfortable," she said. Making a reasonable schedule of tasks that need to be accomplished and sticking to it can allow individuals to feel in control and less weighed down by responsibilities.

Roland Byrd, Assistant Director of the Center for Academic Reinforcement (CAR), urges students to make detailed, realistic schedules that account for every hour of the day. He also says the schedules should be flexible.

"The key to time management is not to stretch [yourself] too thin," Byrd said.

For students who have an especially hard time adjusting to the college experience with strong feelings of sadness or nervousness that do not go away and interfere with a person's daily activities, Scott diagnoses them with New Student Blues (NSB).

"If you feel overwhelmed feel free to talk to people at the counseling center," she said.

# I Pals Create Haven for Incoming International Students

BY MELANIE R. HOLMES  
Campus Editor

This student organization gives advice to newcomers about classes, health services and how to prevent deportation. They party and process immigration paperwork, socialize with students, and assign social security numbers.

They are the International Pals (I Pals), and they welcome students from overseas to America and to Howard University.

"We're kind of like Campus Pals, but we get a little more in depth with international students," said Kyle Lequay, a junior business management major and I Pals coordinator.

"We create files for them in International Student Services (ISS) with a copy of their passport, visa and I-20 form. We give them information on what needs to be done for their stay at Howard and where they need to go to take care of certain issues."

For about 20 years, I Pals have teamed with ISS to make international students feel at home, away from home. This year, during the two weeks of orientation, the 28 I Pals assist about 250 students with their inquiries, many

of whom who have never been to the United States.

"This is the first time I left home," said freshman Ronnel Pinheiro from Trinidad and Tobago.

"This is a new experience for me. The paperwork is very complex and confusing, but the I Pals make the process a little less tedious."

Soyini McCatty, a student worker within the ISS office, also appreciates the I Pals' assistance.

"They're very helpful because we have a lot of students coming into the office with a lot of questions and we only have four people working [in ISS]," McCatty said. "They help with processing the actual immigration, talk to students and give advice."

To keep the international students feeling welcomed, the I Pals host events throughout the year in addition to the orientation events such as speak-outs, Sports Day and Global Community Week.

"We also work with other student organizations such as the African Student Association and the Caribbean Student Association, but the bulk of our work is done during orientation because we have [numerous] requirements to fulfill before we can register

and start school," Lequay said.

For some students, the process of entering Howard as an international student is more difficult than it is for others.

"It's strenuous," said Jevon Carrington, a freshman architecture major from Trinidad and Tobago. "Some things are not necessary because all the forms have the same information. It's not the easiest thing in the world."

However, Carrington said the I Pals were very helpful.

"They gave hints about classes, health information and where to go and where not to go [to socialize]," he said.

Allua Kaliyeva, a freshman from Kazakhstan, finds entering the University as an international student bearable and is looking forward to life at the Mecca.

"It's not so frustrating as it looks or as it should be," she said. "[I'm excited about] finding friends and getting the education that I'm looking for."

While the I Pals work with domestic students as well, Lequay, a native of Trinidad and Tobago, stresses the importance of paying special attention to international students.

"We have a whole bunch of regulations and rules that prevent us from



After providing valuable information on life at Howard, International Pals enjoy fun and games with international students in the Blackburn recreation room.

achieving things," he said. "We have to watch our back because any little slip up and we could get deported, so it's important to have someone to look out for [international students] being in a new country."

## VOICES & VIEWS

## What will you do to contribute to the Howard legacy?



Christopher Obame  
Freshman  
Finance

"Help the black community and the less fortunate."



Lakaia Palmer  
Freshman  
Undecided

"Once I get my major decided, I'll spread the word about how great Howard is, socially and culturally."



Neville Lewin  
Freshman  
Computer Engineering

"Try to make everyone as comfortable as possible."



Nicole Todd  
Freshman  
Undecided

"Always be involved academically and socially."



# **WELCOME**

**New Students and all Returning Students  
from the Division of Student Affairs**

***Best Wishes for a Successful Year!***

Office of the Vice Provost for Student Affairs  
Johnson Administration Bldg. Suite 201

Counseling and Career Services  
C.B. Powell Building

Intercollegiate Athletics  
Burr Gymnasium

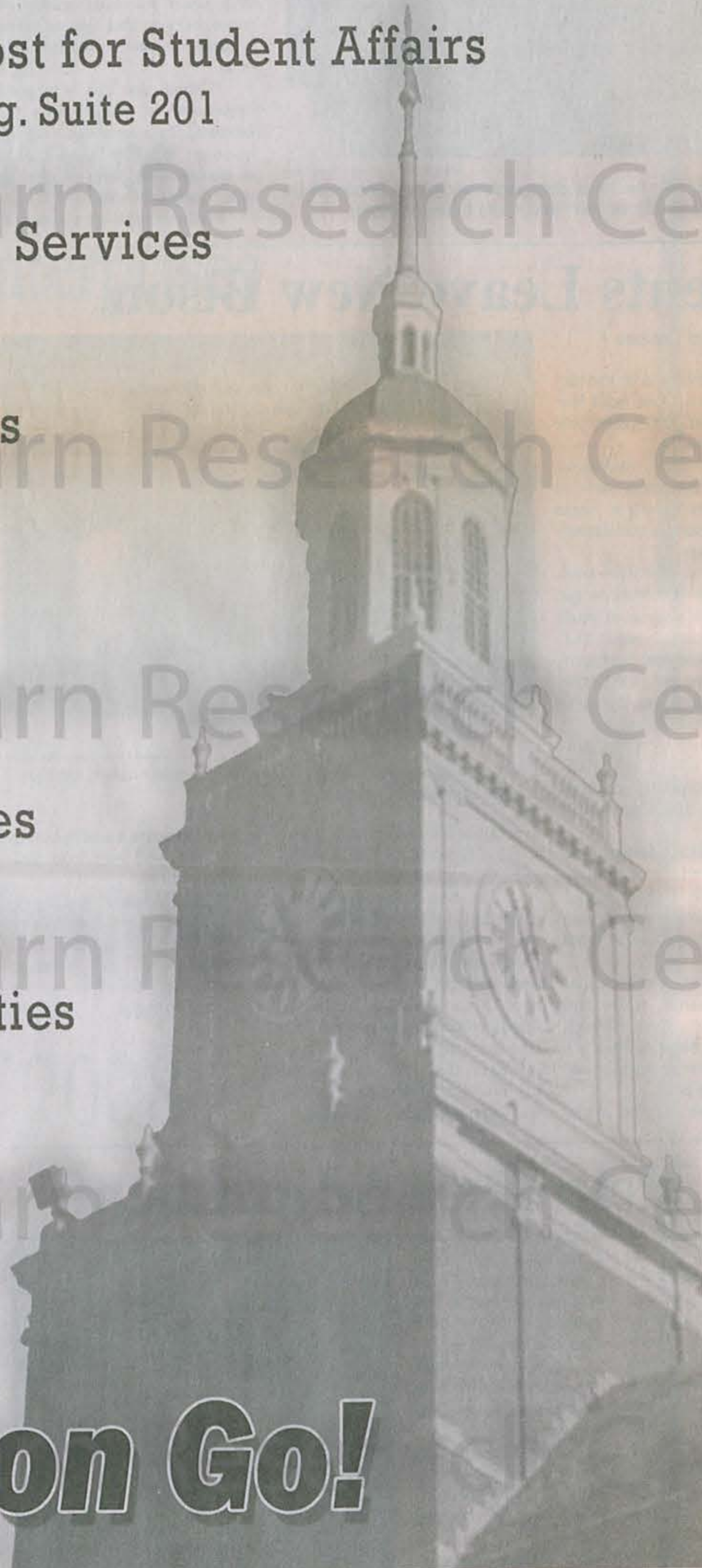
Residence Life  
Tubman Quadrangle

Special Student Services  
Howard Center Suite 725

Student Life and Activities  
Blackburn Center

Franklin D. Chambers, II PhD  
Vice Provost for Student Affairs

**Go Bison Go!**





# New Students Find Guidance in Upperclassmen

BY SHARA D. TAYLOR  
Campus/Online Editor

For many students, college signifies the beginning of adulthood, the period during which they attempt to define themselves as individuals who no longer solely depend on their parents for support.

Because this newfound freedom often crosses paths with confusion and uncertainty, peer mentors play a significant role in the shaping of a new student's collegiate experience.

The School of Business' 21st Century Advantage Program (21 CAP) and the School of Communications' newly created mentor program aim to bridge the gap between high school and college.

Each program offers new students the opportunity to become involved in campus life

while lending them the guidance they need to ensure a successful matriculation through Howard University.

Within the School of Business, the new class is divided into teams that give them an understanding of the importance of teamwork in the business world. The teams are headed by team leaders, who have undergone 15 weeks of leadership training and are usually second-year business students.

Sophomore international business major, Dwight Ramsey, who serves as a management co-team leader, views his position as a link for new students to make a smooth transition into college life.

"Being a team leader takes a [great deal] of work, dedication, patience and time," Ramsey said. "It's important that your ultimate goal as a team leader is not to build your resume, but to assist

the new students coming in. Rather than helping them on just a technical level, we help them on a more emotional and mental level."

Trevor Prince, who co-leads a team with Ramsey, agrees.

"Not only are we here to help freshmen make a successful transition into the University, but we help them to adapt to [Howard], not just to the administration but to each other," said Prince, a sophomore majoring in finance.

Throughout the school year, the teams are required to participate in skill building activities such as networking events, resume workshops and corporate site visits. The teams also prepare presentations that are given in front of the business orientation class.

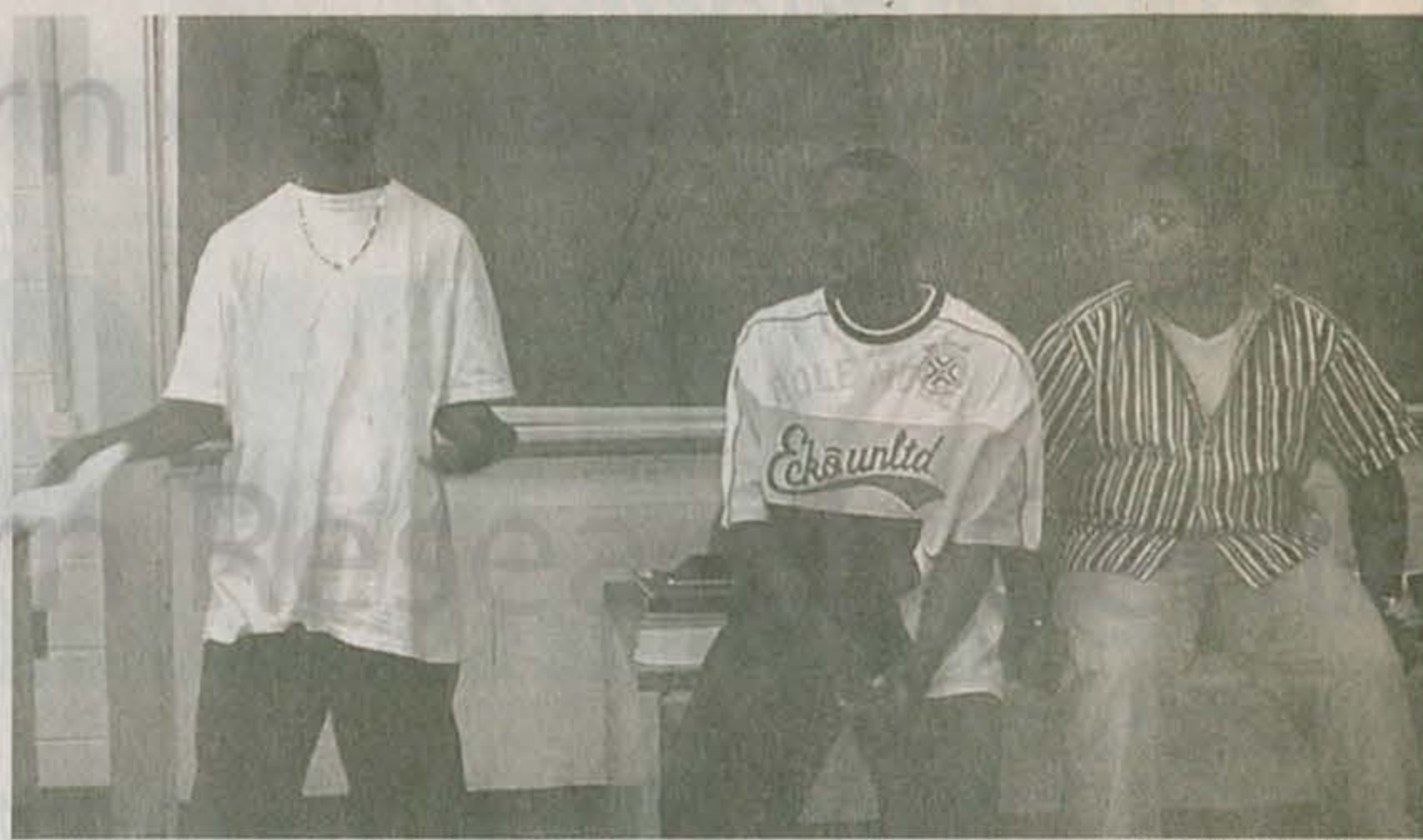
Across campus, the School of Communications held its first mentor orientation session to inform its new students of the activities within the school and tips for beating the registration blues.

Coaching students on how to select classes and become involved within their school and the campus at large, the mentors provided assistance to approximately 200 students.

Mentor Asia Sutherland, who is a junior television production major, believes that she can make a positive impact on the freshmen class.

"I think that this is a good opportunity to connect with the incoming freshmen and answer any questions they have about classes or teachers they want or need to take," Sutherland said.

Freshman radio-television-film



School of Business team leaders Dwight Ramsey (right) and Trevor Prince (center) listen as team member David McKinnon (left) gives a speech on networking.

major Joy Young appreciates the presence of experienced mentors.

"I think the orientation program was very helpful," she said. "I have already selected my classes, but I still had some questions. I am glad the mentors [were] here."

School of Communications Vice-President Kadia Edwards, who formed the mentor program, would like to see more students participate as mentors. Edwards said that a mentor can be any upperclassman who is willing to take on the responsibility of mentoring new students.

"I am very happy with the way the mentors showed up and represented the School of

Communications, but a lot of people still do not know about the program," she said.

There are currently 60-70 mentors in the program, each assigned to no more than three mentees. The mentors are required to spend one to five hours with their mentees each week.

"If a person is a part of the School of Communications, there is no reason why [he or she] would not want to be a mentor, and as a freshman, there is no reason why [a person] would not want to be mentored," Edwards said. "But we are not forcing it on anybody."

As a leg of the School of Communications' student council,

a number of activities have been planned as part of the mentor program, including a student rally and a freshmen barbeque.

Bernadette Williams, director of 21 CAP, wants all Howard freshmen to feel as though they have been brought into a family.

Citing Colin Powell's motto of "one team, one family, one mission," Williams believes each member of the Howard community has a responsibility to one another.

"No matter if we are talking about communications or the School of Business, our mission is whatever President H. Patrick Swygert wants us to do," she said. "We are all in this together."



Freshmen learn the basics of class registration from School of C mentors Benjamin Brown (left) and Kadia Edwards (right).

## Parents Leave New Bison

MOVE IN, from Campus 1

major city is likely to be the target of terrorism. You can't live your life in fear. Otherwise, you won't go anywhere."

Despite the inclement weather, the freshmen were in good spirits and ready to begin their college careers and experience new things.

"Being in a city with such a rich history just makes me proud to be a citizen of such a great country," said D.J. Johnson, a freshman accounting major. "I'm not really worrying about that. I'm trying to have fun beyond everything."

Unlike their parents, students seemed to pay less attention to the possible dangers of living in such a high profile area.

"I'm looking forward to being in a different environment [than] the one I came from," said Erica Pinkett, a freshman majoring in psychology from Boston.

"I came from a school that was predominantly white and very secluded. Even though [Howard] is a black college, it's much more diverse socially and ethnically," she said.

In addition to the social



Freshmen get acquainted with the move-in process which requires a large amount of patience.

benefits of Howard, students are looking forward to the benefits of being considered an adult.

"The best thing about the move-in is just being away from my parents, having my own space and being on my own," said Richard Palmer, a freshman in the School of Business. "Just growing up in general will be a learning experience."

For other freshmen, moving into the dorms has been a less-than-pleasant experience

that will require an adjustment period that will vary from student to student.

"I like [Howard] and everything so far, but my dorm [Drew Hall] is hot. It's just too hot. I can't handle it," said freshman Devon Miller, who has not yet declared his major.

## Ceremony Inspires Students

CEREMONY, from Campus 1

visionary. He came off as a really warm guy, and I got the feeling students could just drop by his office and see him."

For those students with whom Swygert did not connect, as he did with their parents, student leaders may have made a greater impact.

"Mr. Howard, [Chequan Lewis], did his thing," said Elisabeth Prosper, a freshman majoring in nursing.

Lewis received a standing ovation as he remixed a cliché phrase and challenged students to look to their left and right and instead of one of them not being there at the end, to tell that person, "We're going to come out of here together."

"President Swygert came off a little competitive, but those students who spoke seemed very educated and involved," Prosper said.

Along with Lewis and Miss Howard, Crystal Sumpter, Howard University Student Association (HUSA) president Conrad Woody and vice-president Freda Henry spoke to the Class of 2008.

Woody shared with students the realities of school and the tough decisions of whether or not to stay on the Yard on a hot day or go to class.

As the band performed "I'm



Student leaders join President Swygert in welcoming the new class into the Howard family. Pictured (left to right) are HUSA president and vice-president Conrad Woody and Freda Henry and current Miss Howard Crystal Sumpter.

So Glad I Go To Howard U" and "Old Howard Spirit," the organizers of the ceremony tried something new. Instead of faculty and staff pinning the freshmen, the Class of 2008 pinned each other, signifying their commitment to one another to succeed.

Freshmen and their parents were not the only attendees impressed by the pinning ceremony.

"I feel like I joined the Howard family all over again," said Amilcar Murray, a junior

majoring in mechanical engineering.

"Our [pinning ceremony] was outside, and being indoors this year definitely made it more intimate. The program was inspirational, motivational, and reconnected me. Thumbs up," he said.

The Welcoming and Pinning Ceremony for the Class of 2008 reminded many freshmen why they chose Howard, as they prepare to carry on the school's mantle and heritage.

## Pals Help Ease Adjustment

PAL, from Campus 1

a good orientation for freshmen. Many of this year's Pals still remember their own experience with Campus Pals when they were freshmen. "They blew my mind when they carried my stuff," said Taniesha "Lost in Translation" Henry, a Campus Pal and sophomore majoring in administration of justice. "I wanted to do for other freshman what the Campus Pals did for me, so people fall in love with Howard."

For some freshmen, the idea of sophomores like Henry assisting them in orientation was a bit disappointing as they only had one year of experience at the University.

"The Campus Pals that were sophomores acted like they knew so

much," said Nia Barge, a freshman majoring in communications. "Wait until you get maybe two years under your belt, than you can tell me."

Freshmen are not the only students who look forward to orientation week.

Along with moving in early, many Campus Pals look forward to seven days of ongoing festivities.

"I joined Campus Pals because I wanted to relive freshman orientation again and again," said Aaron "Wanksta" Bonner, a junior majoring in architecture. "I really have a passion for reaching back and helping someone else along the way, the same way I was helped."



Campus Pals offered freshman orientation packages, which included this nylon bag.

## Who's Who at Howard U

PEOPLE, from Campus 1

ally graduation approval. Check with them to make sure you are on the right track towards graduation.

**HUSA Officers:** Conrad Woody and Freda Henry are the president and vice-president, respectively, of the Howard University Student Association (HUSA). They are the figureheads of student government, which serves as the voice of the undergraduate and graduate student bodies. HUSA also oversees and funds many of the university-recognized student organizations.

**Career Services Office and Center for Professional Development:** Both offices, located in the School of Communications and the School of Business, respectively, are great resources for internships, job placement, resume cri-

tiquing, and proper etiquette for interviews. Also, look for information about the annual job fairs that bring the top recruiters in various fields to the University looking for students to fill internship and job openings.

**J-Roc:** A legend in his own right, some people are just good to know. Known for his signature dance moves, J-Roc, short for J-Rocket, is an icon around campus.

**Other helpful tips:**

-Memorize your student ID number. It will be required on everything from financial papers to your English homework.

-Keep copies of all important documents. With a school as big as Howard, it is easy for things to get lost in the shuffle.

-Meet upperclassmen in your respective school and get to know them. They can give you hints about how things work,

teachers, and classes.

-When buying books, try to find people who have already taken your class and buy or borrow their books. If you must go to the bookstore, get there early and look for used books because they are always cheaper. Also use the Internet to find good deals on textbooks.

-Look for signs that advertise various events sponsored by student organizations. Get involved in all aspects of the Howard community.

These are some of the important things to know early in your freshman year. Everything else you can pick up as you go along and never be afraid to ask any and all questions. Good luck and have a great freshman year!

Sincerely,

The Hilltop



The Department of Residence Life  
would like to extend a sincere THANKS to

The entire Residence Life Staff

Student Volunteers  
Student Organizations  
PFM

Campus Police  
Auxiliary Enterprises

Sodexo  
Administrative Services

and  
Event Task Force

Fro assisting us with welcoming the

Class of 2008

And making Howard University  
their home away from home!



1867

HOWARD  
UNIVERSITY



## University Easing Graduate School Students' Transition

BY KENNETH E. MAXEY II  
Hilltop Staff Writer

As the 2004-2005 school year begins at Howard University, it is always inspirational and exciting to know that there are so many things to do at the Mecca as graduate students.

The incoming graduate and professional students have many things to look forward to this year. Howard University President H. Patrick Swygert and Vice Provost of Student Affairs Franklin Chambers have worked diligently and made a conscious effort to assure that students are given opportunity and assistance coupled with the family experience that Howard has been giving its students since.

Patricia Cole, Graduate School director of mentoring and professional development, said that peer mentoring program is committed to providing the incoming graduate students with a valuable experience through helping incoming graduate students become more acclimated to Howard.

"The objective of the peer mentoring is to encourage returning graduate students to assist the new students so they can reach their potential in the first year," Cole said.

Cole also added that any graduate and professional students are able to participate in the program.

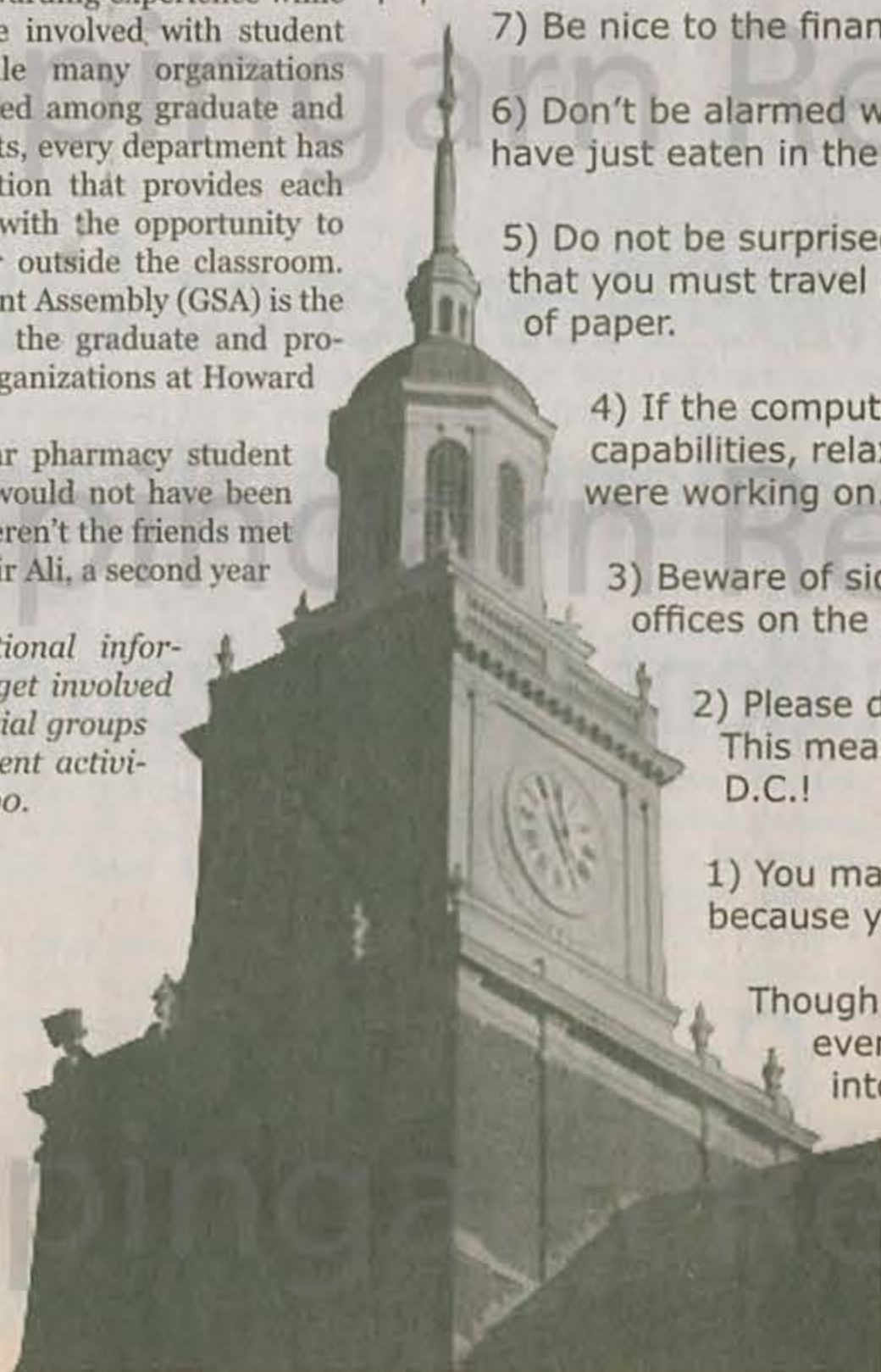
One of the most important services provided to international graduate students is International Student Services (ISS). Led by Grace Ansah, ISS provides immigration counseling, cultural adjustment programming, personal counseling and intercultural programs. Anita Nahal, coordinator for the international affairs and women's studies certificate programs and Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund, is another person who provides support for international programs.

"Keeping the university mission in mind, the Graduate school is an active advocate of building leaders for the global community," Nahal said. Through our students, faculty and administrators, Howard strives to achieve diversity and multiculturalism."

One of the most important elements to a successful and rewarding experience while at Howard is to be involved with student organizations. While many organizations seem to go unnoticed among graduate and professional students, every department has a student organization that provides each and every student with the opportunity to congregate together outside the classroom. The Graduate Student Assembly (GSA) is the umbrella group for the graduate and professional student organizations at Howard University.

"As a first year pharmacy student last year, my year would not have been as rewarding if it weren't the friends met at socials," said Nasir Ali, a second year pharmacy student.

*For any additional information on how to get involved with support or social groups please contact student activities at 202-806-7000.*



## Surviving the First Year @HU

BY TORI L. SCARBOROUGH AND KEN MAXEY  
Graduate Editor and Hilltop Staff Writer

10) Get to know the people you are in orientation with even if they are not in your major. You never know when you may need them.

9) Don't be discouraged from the runaround that you may encounter during this weeklong process. Chin-up. It's only to build your endurance, right?

8) Go to as many free events as you can, especially if they're serving food.

7) Be nice to the financial aid officers because you will need them.

6) Don't be alarmed when you see people running across the yard. They may have just eaten in the cafeteria.

5) Do not be surprised if you find out that you are in the wrong building and that you must travel down the hill and then return back up the hill for a piece of paper.

4) If the computer that you are using suddenly loses all Internet capabilities, relax. Of course, I hope you saved any information that you were working on.

3) Beware of sidewalk advisors. Only take advice from people with offices on the campus of Howard, and even then be careful!

2) Please don't try to drive with the big orange boot on your tire. This means you haven't paid your overdue tickets. Welcome to D.C.!

1) You may want to make plans to get a second or third job because you may not receive your refund check until May!

Though some of these may seem a bit redundant and maybe even elementary, this has helped several students' transition into the Howard University community.

Whether your program is a year or five years, it is up to you to make your experience in graduate/professional school the best. Good luck and remember what your number one priority is while in school. Keep that in the forefront of all of your other activities and you will graduate.

## Waiting List for Graduate and Professional Student Housing Increase

BY TORI L. SCARBOROUGH  
Graduate Editor

While each year undergraduate students are turned away for on-campus housing, many graduate and professional students do not have that problem, because of the low-demand for residence facilities.

According to Franklin Chambers, Vice Provost of Student Affairs and former Dean of Residence Life, "There is adequate on-campus graduate housing because of the low-demand for residence facilities from graduate and professional students." However, for some graduate and professional students being informed about the options for on-campus housing has been a problem.

Charles Gibbs, Dean of Residence Life agreed with Chambers and said that there is adequate housing for the graduate and professional students who apply. Yet, there are waiting lists for each of these properties.

According to Larry Frelow, building manager for the Howard Plaza Towers, "There are approximately 50-60 students on the waiting list for the East Towers."

Howard University currently has 15 housing facilities, five of which are for the graduate student population. Benjamin E. Mays Hall, located on the Divinity School campus, houses 35 residents. Mays Hall is a traditional style, co-ed residence facility used primarily by Divinity students.

The East Towers houses graduate students from floors seven to ten. The remainder of the facility houses undergraduate seniors, honor students, faculty, staff, single parents with children, and families. There are currently 265 units available, with 565 graduate students residing there.

Though the options of on-campus housing are readily available through the Office of Residence Life, several students have found that they have continuously been given the run-around, concerning these issues.

"Howard was not very effective with helping me find housing as a



While there are a graduate and professional students on waiting lists for housing, University Officials assure graduate and professional students that there is not a housing shortage.

Divinity student," third-year student VaNatta S. Ford said.

Ford continued, "I was told that my option was Mays Hall, but when I spoke with housing I was told that there was no room. It was not until the School of Divinity orientation that I spoke with someone, outside of housing, who directed me to the graduate assistant."

However, not all students shared this sentiment for the process of finding housing.

"I've enjoyed living in the Towers,"

said Henry Thompson, II, second year Law student. Thompson went on to say that Howard did a fair job with informing him about the options for housing, but he also searched these options on his own.

Another graduate housing facility, which some graduate students are unaware of, is the Ellington Apartments. The apartments are newly renovated units that the University acquired two years ago and it is located on the corner of Florida Avenue and Fifth Street, Northwest. The Ellington Apartments

offer 16 units of space ranging from one bedroom to three bedroom apartments. Similar to the East Towers, the Ellington Apartments are open to all graduate and professional students who are in good standing with the University, and faculty and staff who are affiliated with the University. According to Margo Smith, the spokeswoman for the Ellington Apartments on Howard University's campus, "There are currently no more openings for these apartment units because the spaces are filled for the school year."

Fort Lincoln Realty leases these units through the University.

Even without knowledge of the Ellington Apartments, some students feel that Howard did an adequate job with providing housing information.

"I knew about the East Towers because I attended Howard as an undergraduate student, however the incoming graduate students may not be privy to that information if they did not attend Howard as an undergrad," said Brian Woodward, a first year graduate student obtaining a Masters of Arts in Educational Administration and Policy.

"I believe that there is sufficient housing for graduate students, and the living conditions at the Towers are sufficient."

For graduate students who have relocated from other areas of the country who are not interested in living on-campus, there is still hope. On the Howard University website, under the Office Residence Life page, there is a referral link that provides information for off campus rental properties.

Additionally, when spaces become available for the Ellington Apartments, there is a referral link for off-campus housing that provides students the information for this unit.

The other two graduate facilities-The Manor and The Effingham-are no longer accepting applications due to upcoming building renovations.

Gibbs stated that there are plans to build more graduate housing in the future. After a survey from students about housing, many expressed delight with the availability of more graduate housing on-campus.

Many new, and some returning students are unaware of the housing options that are available to them.

Heru Heq-M-Ta, a transfer, non-traditional student said, "Howard University was not really informative. I always had to go the extra mile with getting what I needed to know. I did the research for the two facilities, and Mays Hall was the better option."



# Welcome Class of 2008

## Sodexo

— CAMPUS SERVICES —

On behalf of Sodexo and the Dining Services Staff at Howard University, we would like to welcome the class of 2008 and all returning students to campus. Whether dining in Blackburn Center or grabbing a meal at our "meal on the run" in the Punch Out, it is our commitment to all of our customers to provide the highest level of quality, service and value.

### Dining Location Hours of Operation

<b>Blackburn Café</b>	
Monday—Friday	
Breakfast	7:00 a.m.—9:30 p.m.
Continental Breakfast	9:30 a.m.—10:30 a.m.
Lunch	11:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
Lite Lunch	2:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m.
Dinner	4:30 p.m.—7:00 p.m.
Saturday & Holiday	
Brunch	10:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.
Dinner	4:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m.
Sunday	
Brunch	11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
Dinner	4:30 p.m.—6:00 p.m.
<b>Bethune Annex</b>	
Monday—Friday	
Breakfast	7:00 a.m.—9:30 a.m.
Lunch	11:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.
Dinner	4:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday & Holidays	
Brunch	10:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.
Dinner	4:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m.
<b>The Punch Out</b>	
Monday—Thursday	11:00 a.m.—10 p.m.
Friday	11:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday	Closed
<b>Jazzman's Café</b>	
Monday—Friday	8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday	Closed
<b>College of Medicine Coffee Cart</b>	
Monday—Friday	8:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
<b>Meridian Hill Marketplace (Convenience Store)</b>	
Monday—Sunday	12:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m.

### Dining Location Hours of Operation

<b>Bethune Annex Mini Mart (Convenience Store)</b>	
Monday—Friday	2:00 p.m.—12:00 a.m.
Saturday & Sunday	12:00 p.m.—2:00 a.m.
<b>Café a La Cart</b>	
Monday—Friday	7:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
<b>How To Reach Us.....</b>	
John Parker (General Manager)	(202)806-4142
Muhammad Abdelillah (Director of Operations)	(202)806-4148
Donna Anderson (Catering Manager)	(202) 806-5758
Marcus Worley (Executive Chef)	(202)806-4151
Kieal Morris (Marketing Manager)	(202)439-3333
Vanessa McBride (Administrative Manager)	(202)806-7400
Blackburn Café Kitchen	(202)588-5787
Bethune Dining Hall	(202)806-9228
Bethune Annex Mini Mart	(202)588-0823
Café a La Cart	(202)806-6516
Meridian Hill Marketplace	(202)806-9597
Law School Café	(202)364-8469
Restaurant Menu Line	(202)806-5849

# GRAND OPENING

Join us On Monday, August 23, 2004  
From 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. for the Punch Out Grand Opening



Chick-fil-A



Pandini's  
Old World Style. New World Flavor



Sponsored by Sodexo  
Dining Services  
and Pepsi

Bring a non-perishable canned food item and receive any "food item" for \$2.00

"Food item" refers to any one item from a specific station, for example the normal price of a steak & cheese labretti is \$5.21, with a canned food item you get your food item for \$2.00



## A New Chick-fil-A Is Now Open.

The cows of the world have a reason to celebrate. A new Chick-fil-A is now open. And that means more reasons for people to eat more chicken—lots more chicken. That's because you'll find the original chicken sandwich plus other tasty creations from the folks at Chick-fil-A. One thing's for sure, you'll have no beef with us.

Chick-fil-A  
We Didn't Invent The Chicken,  
Just The Chicken Sandwich!

**Free medium Waffle Fries**  
with purchase of any Chick-fil-A®  
Chicken Sandwich or Nuggets.

Coupon not good with any other offer. One coupon per person per visit. Closed Sundays. Good at participating Chick-fil-A® restaurants. Expires August 31, 2004

**Buy Two, Get One Free.**  
Purchase any two Chick-fil-A®  
Chicken Sandwiches at regular price  
and get a third sandwich free.

Coupon not good with any other offer. One coupon per person per visit. Closed Sundays. Good at participating Chick-fil-A® restaurants. Expires August 31, 2004

## Punch Out 2004 Menu Items



Chick-Fil-A Chicken Sandwich	\$2.55
Grilled Chicken Sandwich	\$3.19
8 piece Nuggets	\$2.55
12 piece Nuggets	\$3.75
Grilled Chicken Salad	\$4.39
Coleslaw	\$ .90
Waffle Fry	\$1.29
Brownie	\$ .99
Cheesecake	\$1.49
20 oz. Lemonade	\$1.29



<b>Combos</b>	
#1. Hamburger Combo	\$4.19
#2. Cheeseburger Combo	\$4.39
#3. Pepperjack Onion Burger	\$4.69
#4. BBQ Cheeseburger Combo	\$4.69
#5. Fish Sandwich Combo	\$4.49
#6. Portabella Burger Combo	\$4.75
#7. Pepperjack Bacon Cheeseburger	\$4.69
#8. Bacon, Mushroom Swiss Burger	\$4.69
<b>Sandwiches</b>	
Fish Sandwich	\$2.99
Turkey Burger	\$3.75
Grilled Portabella Sandwich	\$3.75
Grilled Cheese W/ Ham	\$3.19
Grilled Cheese W/ Tomato & Bacon	\$3.29
Vegan Grilled Cheese	\$4.99
Vegan Sesame Nuggets	\$4.89
8" Turkey Philly Steak	\$4.99
8" Philly Cheesesteak	\$4.75
Burger	\$2.99
Cheeseburger	\$3.29
Bacon Burger	\$3.59
Vegetable Burger	\$3.95
Small French Fries	\$1.39
Large French Fries	\$1.69
Onion Rings	\$1.99
Large Buffalo Ranch Fries	\$1.99
Jalapeno Poppers	\$3.99
Ranch Wings	\$4.89

Pandini's  
Old World Style. New World Flavor

<b>Labretti</b>	
BLT Labretti	\$4.00
Italian Labretti	\$4.30
Steak & Cheese Labretti	\$5.21
Veggie Labretti	\$4.00
<b>Stromboli</b>	
Three Cheese Stromboli	\$3.70
Cheese Pesto Stromboli	\$3.74
Steak & Cheese Stromboli	\$4.21
Classic Stromboli	\$3.03
<b>Calzone</b>	
Three Cheese Calzone	\$4.79
Sausage & Pepper Calzone	\$4.48
<b>Pasta</b>	
Three Cheese Pasta	\$6.58
Baked Penne	\$4.76
Fettuccini Alfredo with Chicken	\$5.17
Fettuccini Alfredo	\$3.76
Linguine	\$3.06
Linguine with Meatballs	\$5.18
Sausage, Pepper & Pasta	\$4.73
<b>Pizza</b>	
Three Cheese	\$5.03
BBQ Chicken Pizza	\$4.30
BLT Pizza	\$4.00
Buffalo Chicken Pizza	\$4.73
Cheese Pizza	\$3.28
Garlic Scampi Pizza	\$3.53
Pepperoni Pizza	\$3.55
Sausage & Pepperoni Pizza	\$3.42
Sausage Pizza	\$4.65
<b>Sandwiches</b>	
Meatball Sandwich	\$3.75
Sausage & Pepper Sandwich	\$3.75
Tuna Facaccia Sandwich	\$3.75
<b>Salad</b>	
Chef Salad	\$3.97
Steak Caesar Salad	\$5.11
<b>Sides</b>	
Garlic Knot	\$1.00
Breadstick	\$1.00



# Bush and Kerry Speak on the Issues

**Senator John Kerry**

## •Education

"Every young person should graduate high school, and every young person who works hard should be able to go to college."

Wants a "College Opportunity Tax Credit" for up to \$4,000 of tuition for four years.

Promotes giving students the opportunity to pay for college through community service.

## •Environment

"Americans have the right to breathe unpolluted air, drink safe water, eat healthy food, and live in clean communities."

Promotes land conservation and improving the nation's air quality.

Noted as an environmental champion by the League of Conservation Voters

## •Homeland Security

"I defended this country as a young man, and I will defend it as President. We need to make America once again a beacon in the world. We need to be looked up to, not just feared."

Wants to reduce America's dependency on Middle Eastern oil.

Wants to use diplomatic negotiations, and the appeal of our values and ideas to solve international issues

Plans to globalize the "War on Terror" by expanding the "Coalition of the Willing" in order to reduce cost of American lives and dollars.

Supports quick enactments of all the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission

## •Health Care

"When I am President, we will stop being the only advanced nation in the world which fails to understand that health care is not a privilege for the wealthy, and the connected and the elected; it is a right for all Americans."

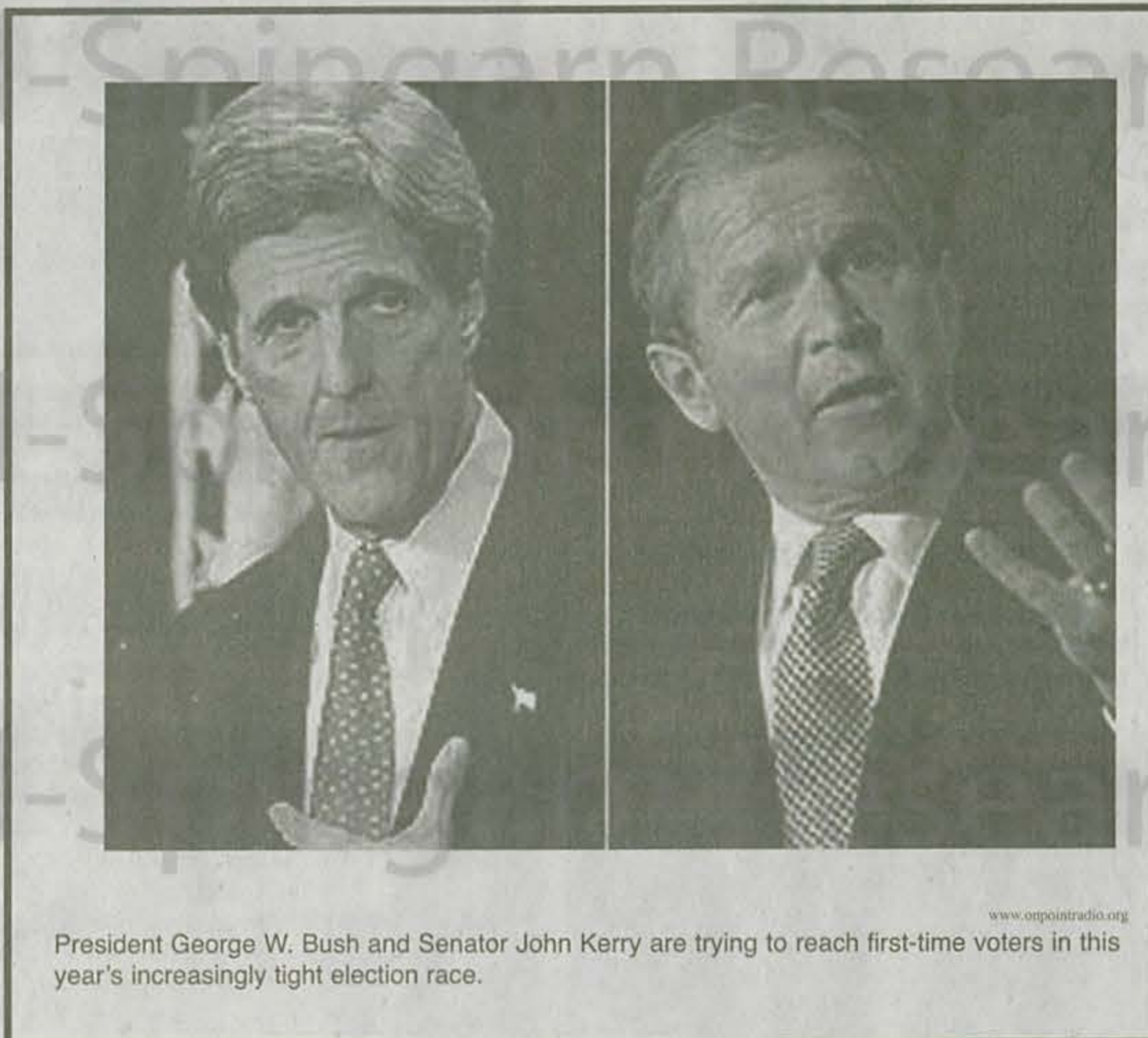
Plans to lower family premiums by up to \$1,000 and provide affordable prescriptions for seniors.

## •War In Iraq

Stands by vote to authorize the President to invade Iraq. Says he would authorize any Commander-in-Chief to have the same authority, but does not believe President Bush used that authority wisely. "I think the President made a mistake in the way he took us war."

"I will bring back this nation's time-honored tradition: The United States of America never goes to war because we want to; we only go to war because we have to. That is the standard of our nation."

Voted against Bush's budget request of \$87 billion for the war in Iraq. "If you realize the plan is not working, you do not give the President a blank check to stay the course." Says he was in favor of reducing the proposed tax cut to create additional funding for troops.



President George W. Bush and Senator John Kerry are trying to reach first-time voters in this year's increasingly tight election race.

**President George W. Bush** with his top security advisors.

## •Education

"No child should be left behind"

Wants to increase standards and accountability within the school system by requiring testing for grade level progression

Increased budget spending for elementary and secondary schools by 49%

## •Environment

"Good stewardship of the environment is not just a personal responsibility, it is a public value. Americans are united in the belief that it is important to preserve our natural heritage and safeguard the land around us."

Wants to improve the nation's air quality and water systems.

Supports cleaning and redeveloping hazardous waste sites.

Promotes land conservation and stewardship.

## •Homeland Security

"America [has] to use our position of unparalleled strength and influence to create a balance of power that favors freedom. The United States has a special responsibility to help make the world more secure."

Says that he will strongly consider the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission

## •Health Care

"All Americans should have access to affordable, high-quality health care. Our health care system can provide the best care in the world, but rising costs and loss of control to government and health plan bureaucrats threaten to keep patients from getting state-of-the-art care."

Supports private hospitals and wants to make medications more affordable for Senior Citizens.

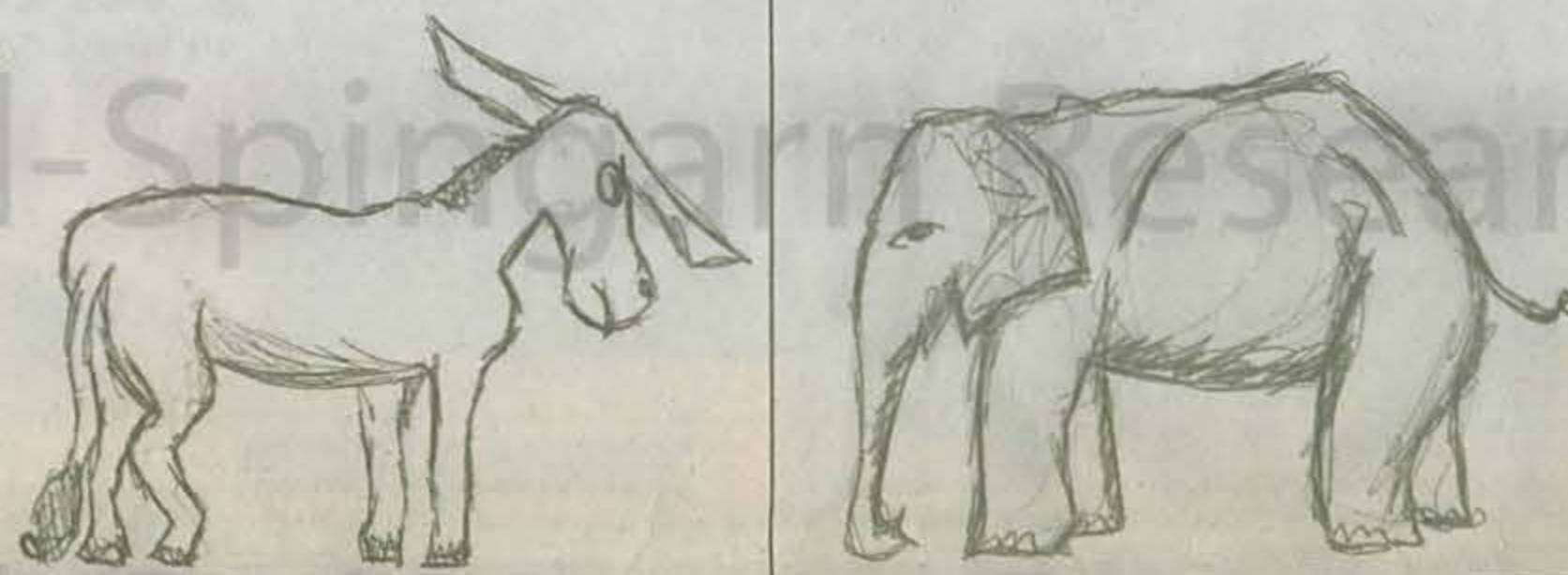
Plans to implement a 100% tax deduction for health insurance and opposes a national health care plan

## •War on Iraq

"Iraq and Saddam Hussein presented an immediate danger to America. America is safer today than we were with Saddam in power."

Plans to continue search for weapons of mass destruction and wants to increase defense spending by \$15.3 billion.

Wants to "stay the course in Iraq" and supports maintaining troops in Iraq until the country is completely self-governing.



BY MAXINE MOFFET  
Asst. Nation and World Editor

## Educational Policies Become Battleground for Election



BY KEVIN HARRIS  
Nation and World Editor

With the November elections less than three months away, President George W. Bush and his challenger, Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) are in a heated battle over whose policies will make college more affordable for incoming college students.

As polls show an increasingly tight election race, both Bush and Kerry have spent ample time on the campaign trail outlining their education policies. In an attempt to reach college students who may be voting for the first time in this year's election—an increasingly important voting bloc—both candidates have sought to show their commitment to making the dream of higher education a reality for all Americans who seek it.

For weeks, various polls have shown that most Americans believe Kerry would handle education better than Bush if elected president. These polling results come despite the bi-partisan support Bush received from Congress when he signed his landmark education reform bill "No Child Left Behind."

The bill does not directly affect college freshmen, but aims to reform school systems at lower levels so that more students have the tools nec-

essary to attend college. Kerry, although he voted for the bill in the Senate, has been critical of the "No Child Left Behind Act" and in campaign speeches refers to it as a "broken promise" from the President.

The act, which the Bush campaign says represents the most significant overhaul of federal education policy since the 1960s, was designed to create higher standards of accountability for students and schools, provide historic levels of funding for education, and offer parents more choices when it comes to the number of schools available to send their children. Since

its enactment, critics have charged that the act has not lived up to its expectations due to the failure of states to implement the act properly and underfunding from the Bush Administration.

"The 'No Child Left Behind Act' has not entirely lived up to the hype," said John Hood, President of the John William Pope Center for Higher Education Policy. "There is a big difference between the anticipation and the reality of what the bill has actually accomplished."

Hood said that the law's failure to live up to expectations centers around how individual states have chosen to implement the provisions in the bill.

"Not all states are using the same yard sticks to measure student performances," he said. "This has taken away from the desired effect of the law."

Despite the mixed reviews, the act has received from lawmakers and citizens alike, the Bush Administration can point to significant progress in making college more affordable for high school graduates. According to the Bush-Cheney campaign website, the President's budget for 2005 increases funding for Pell Grants by \$4.1 billion. That's a 47 percent increase in funding from 2001

when Bush took office. The increase in funding for Pell Grants means that the average Howard freshmen can now receive a maximum grant of \$4,050 as opposed to the \$3,750 that was being awarded in 2001.

The Kerry campaign has a different view of the progress the Bush campaign says it has made in education over the past four years. On the campaign trail, Kerry has stated to prospective voters that college tuition has risen 35 percent under Bush, and that the administration has priced over 200,000 students out of a college education. Hood agrees that college tuition has been rising—Howard University implemented a tuition hike last year of 7 percent—but said that this has not prevented students from going to college.

"College tuition has been rising, but so have aid programs and family incomes," he said. "The ability of the average family to afford college has been leveled over the years."

Hood said Kerry is "not really representing reality" with his statements on the campaign trail and that "wealthy students are paying more to go to college and poor students are paying less."

The Kerry Campaign still contends that President Bush has not done enough to make college more affordable for average Americans. On the campaign's website, they have outlined their plans to make college more accessible to more people. Kerry's plan calls for a "College Opportunity Tax Credit" on up to \$4,000 of tuition for four years of college. The credit would be made available to families struggling to send their children to college, as well as students who are working to pay their own way through school. Kerry also proposes to offer students the opportunity to pay for college through community service. Under his community service program, Kerry would allow students to work in a school, health-center,

or on strengthening America's security for up to two years. In return, the student would be allowed to attend college for free.

Kerry has also made the fact that only half of college students enrolled in universities across the nation actually graduate, a staple of his stump speech. Hood said this fact is "essentially true" and believes the problem should be fixed at the elementary level.

"We are not graduating enough students," he said. "We need to improve the offerings in high school curriculums because it doesn't make much sense to give students all this aid if they can't pass the courses."

To fix the problem, Kerry proposes a "Gear Up" initiative. The initiative is designed to expand tutoring and mentoring programs to more students. Kerry also proposes strengthening high school curriculums, providing more information to parents about high school's graduation rates, and offering rewards to colleges that do a good job of ensuring that their students graduate.



Photo Courtesy of www.zpavy.idnes.cz



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# Book Rush

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## WHAT'S UP with Textbook pricing?

After shelling out big bucks for tuition, room and board, and other college expenses, students may be taken aback by the prices on textbooks for class. National statistics show students spend hundreds of dollars each year on textbooks—and they're not happy about it.

According to old campus newspapers, students were complaining about textbook prices back in the 1930s, when the average textbook cost about \$3. Things haven't changed. Today's students are still raising questions about why textbooks cost as much as they do. Here are some of the most frequently asked questions and answers.

### Why is the store gouging me? Textbook prices are so high, I know the store is making a ton of money.

In reality, the bookstore doesn't make much on textbooks. On average, 64.8% of the sticker price on new books goes back to the publisher, mostly to cover development of the book and normal business expenses. The author gets about 11.6% in royalties. The freight company that shipped the book gets 1.2%.

The rest goes to the bookstore, but out of that amount the store has to pay for staff wages and benefits; insurance and taxes; electricity, heat, water, and AC; checkout systems; shelving; office and storage equipment; security; rent or mortgage payments; cleaning and repairs; supplies; and other expenses. In the end, on average, just 4.5 cents (before taxes) on every dollar you pay for new textbooks represents profit to the store.

### Why doesn't the store pick cheaper books?

The store is not involved in textbook selection. Your professors spend many hours reviewing dozens, maybe hundreds, of books to find just the right ones for your courses. The profs then tell the store which books to order.

## Where the New Textbook Dollar Goes\* ...



\*The statistics in this illustration reflect the most current 2001-2002 financial data gathered by the National Association of College Stores and financial data provided by the Association of American Publishers. These numbers are averages and do not represent a particular publisher or store.

© 2003 by the National Association of College Stores

Your bookstore does put a lot of effort into keeping textbook prices as affordable as possible, like encouraging faculty to make their book decisions early so that the store has time to search out more used copies.

But novels and other books don't cost as much as textbooks. Textbooks are not like novels or general-interest nonfiction books, which can be sold to a broad audience. Most textbooks are specialized and will be purchased by only a relatively small number of people. Also, textbooks require considerably more time and effort to develop. To ensure accuracy, they must undergo rigorous academic review and fact-checking, and must be updated every few years to stay current.

Photos, color, graphs, charts, exercises, and quizzes also add to the production cost of textbooks. Students say these graphics aren't important, especially if they make books more expensive.

But sales histories tell a different story. Professors are more likely to choose textbooks with contemporary, inviting graphics, and students are more likely to buy them.

### Some textbooks are shrinkwrapped with extras I don't need or use. Why does the store make me pay for these?

These ancillary materials have been developed by the publisher, and are normally included with the book at no extra cost to students. These supplementary materials are intended to help you succeed with the class. In most cases, the publisher does not offer the textbook alone, and the bookstore must buy the entire package. Because the package is a set, most publishers require stores to return unsold packages with all materials and shrinkwrap intact.

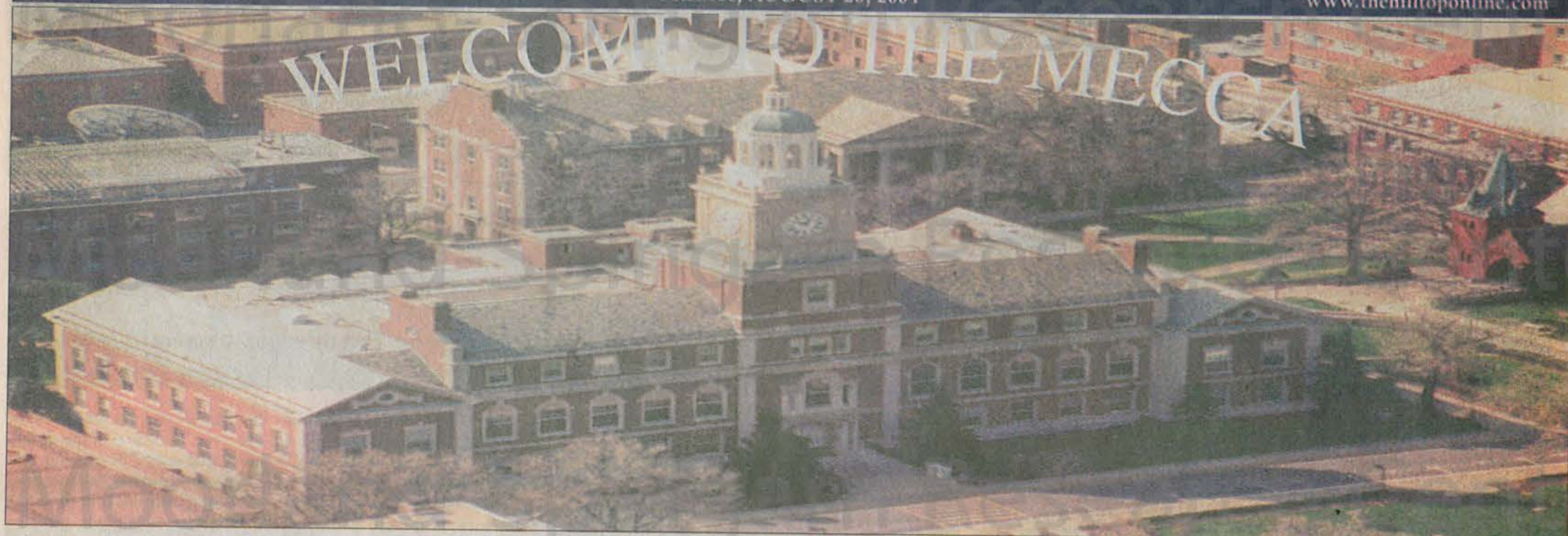


# LIFE & STYLE

VOLUME 88, NO. 1

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 2004

www.thehilltoponline.com


**FAST FRIENDS**


Marlene Hawthorne-Staff Photographer

## First Week Bond Lasts a Lifetime

**BY KEITH LAING**  
*Life and Style Editor*

Year after year, orientation week finds freshmen getting acclimated with new things. New surroundings, new freedoms, new responsibilities and, of course, new friends.

Students meet new people in the café, on the Yard, in line in the administration building and at Campus Pal events, among other places. Often, these chance meetings develop into bonds that will last the length of their time at Howard University, and perhaps beyond.

An example of such fast friendships is the relationship between seniors Cora Atkinson, Erika McDaniel and Anika Seals. According to Atkinson, a television production major from Clinton, Md., the three have been inseparable since McDaniel, her roommate in the Quad, introduced her to Seals, one of McDaniel's classmates in the School of Business.

"They're like my sisters," Atkinson said. "They are my best friends at school. We do everything together. I just realized that they were good girls and I was going to know them for a while."

McDaniel, a marketing major, shared similar sentiments. She said simply, "I love them."

She said she was especially surprised about her quickly formed bond with Atkinson.

"I heard so many bad stories about roommates [before coming to Howard], that I didn't think I'd get along with my roommate once I got here," she said. "I was very surprised that we clicked so well."

Atkinson and Seals both said that their personalities compliment each other, which has allowed their friendship to thrive.

"We all balance each other out," Seals said. "We're all from different places and different backgrounds. It's very interesting to me that we ended up being as close as we did. It's never boring. We all have [adventurous] spirits, so we're always doing different things."

Atkinson described herself as the joker of the group, Seals as the maternal one and Erika as the enforcer.

See **FRIENDS**, News 6

## Campus Pal Events Continue as Classes Begin

**BY KEITH LAING**  
*Life and Style Editor*

Although orientation week may be coming to a close, and class will soon interfere with all the great parties, fear not Class of 2008- the Campus Pal events are not done yet.

The Campus Pals' welcome for the newest Bison, which began on Aug. 15, has already seen a "Meet Your Pal Night," an "Ice Cream Social," a movie night on the Yard and a "Dating Game." Remaining events scheduled include a variety show, a dance and a trip to Six Flags.

Several freshmen said they were impressed with the first few events and wanted to see what else the Pals have in store.

"Everything was really good," said Brittani Riddle, a broadcast journalism major from Decatur, Ga. "It was a great opportunity for freshmen to meet each other. I am looking forward to the rest of the events because I think they will be a lot of fun and continue to bring the students closer together."

Tomorrow, the Pals will present their annual variety show at 7 p.m. in Cramton Auditorium. Former president of the Campus Pals, Cubie Coleman, promises the show will feature something for everyone - from comedy to dancing to poetry.

"It's going to be one of the most memorable experiences you'll ever have at Howard," the senior broadcast journalism major said. "You'll never forget it. I still remember my freshmen orientation events and I'm about to graduate."

Next Friday, the Pals will hold an on-campus dance



Marlene Hawthorne-Staff Photographer

Campus Pals like senior Ian Ward will have many more opportunities to interact with freshmen students because the organization's events will continue into the first week of classes.

for freshmen in the Blackburn Ballroom. The dress code for the event will be casual and tickets were included in the Pal Packs sold by the group. They can also be purchased individually at the Cramton box office for \$10. According to pal Shauntel Brown, a sophomore from Baltimore, Md., freshmen attempting to purchase tickets at the box office should be prepared to present their capstone cards.

"It is going to be fantastic," Brown said. "It will give everyone a chance to unwind after the first week of school and have a great time without leaving campus."

Finally, the Pals will break with tradition when they take a trip to Six Flags America in Largo, Md.

on Saturday, Sept. 4. Normally, they take the freshmen class to Paramount's King's Dominion theme park in Doswell, Va.

"It was a little cheaper and we wanted to do something different this year," Coleman said.

Some freshmen who had heard from upperclassmen about the traditions of orientation week expressed disappointment with the switch.

"I would have rather gone to King's Dominion instead, so that I could experience something different," Riddle said. "I can go to Six Flags at home. I'm sure it'll still be fun though."

Several upperclassmen have said they were dismayed with the switch, but April McCowen, a sophomore biology major from Woodbridge, Va., shares a different perspective.

"I think Six Flags is better than King's Dominion," she said. "I can understand wanting to experience something different, but as a native of the area, I'm always going to King's Dominion, so I'd prefer going to Six Flags. I think they'll like it."

It appears to some that the orientation events have done their job and impressed the Class of 2008. With three events left, it remains to be seen whether or not the fun will continue.

"The Campus Pals are a good organization," Riddle said. "They have been very organized and helpful. I've really enjoyed myself."

For more information on the Campus Pals and their events, visit <http://www.angelfire.com/biz5/campuspals/>

## Sophomores Share Wisdom With Class of 2008

**BY JANA HOMES**  
*Hilltop Staff Writer*

As the Fall 2004 semester begins at Howard University, the campus is swarming with the faces of new freshmen, many of whom are dawning looks ranging from elation at their newfound freedom to confusion about the university's procedures.

In typical HU style, returning students are here to welcome freshmen to the Bison family, beginning with a move in effort by a group of returning students, coordinated by the Office of Residence Life, that took place on Friday, Aug. 13 and continued through Saturday, Aug. 14. The group included delegations from the Campus Pals, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., the National Achievement Scholars, the Gentlemen of Drew Social Club, the Ladies of the Quad, and many other student organizations.

But some of the continuing students have more to offer the Class of 2008 than manual labor.

The sophomores, the most recent group to endure the first



Shara D. Taylor-Campus/Online Editor

Orientation week provides many sophomores with the opportunity to impart their wisdom on the ways of Howard to all who will listen.

year experience, had advice impart to the incoming students that they wished someone had shared with them before they began their academic careers at HU.

One of their most adamant declarations is that students should learn to work with the

HU administration, which has a record of not being accommodating.

"I still have stuff from freshman year that I thought I'd never need I again, but I'm not getting rid of it until I graduate," said Katie Chipungu, a math major, who thinks that students should

keep every document given to them by the university to avoid later complications and maintain written proof of the interactions.

Everette Callaway, a pre-pharmacy major, suggests that

See **SOPHOMORES**, News 6

## Freshmen Find HU Fashions Fascinating

**BY CHARREAH JACKSON**  
*Asst. Campus Editor*

From flip-flops to Fendi pumps, the Class of 2008 has hit the campus of Howard University, with personal style in tow. However, their ability to be one of the Mecca's most fashionable groups has yet to be determined.

The September issue of Ebony Magazine names Howard as one of the most fashionable universities in the nation, and a definite fashion leader among historically black colleges, so freshmen have a high standard to meet. Even with only a few opportunities to see the upperclassmen style in action so far, many freshmen say they have spotted or heard something about Howard's unofficial dress code.

"I have noticed people dress up a lot here. They have on sandals and heels, even when it is raining outside,"

See **FASHION**, News 6



# WELCOME TO THE "UREA"

BY JANA HOMES  
Hilltop Staff Writer

The Chocolate City. The capital. The district. However you choose to refer to Washington, D.C., for the remainder of your collegiate career, the best way to describe it is with one word – home.

The district, referred to as the Chocolate City due to its estimated sixty percent Black population, is a prime location for a historically black university. But many non-local students have their doubts about relocating.

"My grandma said don't come to D.C. because they're going to bomb the school," said Camille Swoope, a freshman marketing major. Swoope said she was not deterred by the security warnings and concerns about another terrorist attack.

In addition to the national safety concerns that plague one contemplating a move to the district, local crime issues have also been a deterrent.

"I thought D.C. was really dangerous and [was afraid] I'd be shot post haste, but I realized it was just like any other city," said Odiri Dafe, a sophomore majoring in political science. He also said that the key to staying safe in the district is to make wise

choices about where you go, when, and with whom.

"If you want to walk down Hobart Street in the middle of the night by yourself, that's a choice you make," Dafe said, "But if you want to be safe, don't."

He suggested going to locations such as Georgetown, where there are many shops, or Adams Morgan, which has an abundance of restaurants. Many returning students agree that Adams Morgan is one of the best and closest places to go off campus.

"Visiting Adams Morgan submerges you in diverse cultures and vibrancy. There are a great many great restaurant and clubs, with varying ethnic themes," said Rochee Jeffrey, a junior majoring in political science, from Montgomery County, Md., which borders the district. She pointed to Azteca, a restaurant and club, as her favorite spot for its delicious Mexican dishes and Salsa lessons.

Despite the fact that she has lived close to the district for five years, she still finds residing in the city to be exciting.

"The experience of living in D.C. has been eye-opening because it has truly exposed me to great cultural opportunities such as Chinatown,

## UREA SPEAK

To paraphrase an old adage, when in the Urea, speak as the Ureans do. Here's your guide to local verbal stylings, as told to the Hilltop by those that know best – natives of the metro area.

**Bama** – A person who engages in anything thought to be uncool, outside of the norm and/or social mores; simply stupid.

**Blown** – extremely disappointed

**Geekin'** – see Lunchin'

**Grittin'** – A usually unwarranted nonverbal form of hating; see Muggin'.

**Ji'e Like (Jive Like)** – extremely

**Jo'nt (joint)** – Any and everything, as in "That jo'nt from the jo'nt last night was the jo'nt!"

**Lunchin'** – acting in a goofy manner or not thinking clearly.

**Muggin'** – 1) looking at someone with an expression of disgust or dislike.

2) Wearing an unhappy expression.

**Seis** – A state of extreme elation

**Seisty** – Anything that causes one to be

Adams Morgan, U Street and the museums, monuments, and art that can be found in the city," Jeffrey said.

Other places that have been mentioned as favored hang outs of Howard students are the Fashion Centre at Pentagon City, which sprawls over two sides of four floors, packed to the brim with retailers, including Express, French Connection, Sam Goody, Foot Locker, and Karibu Books. The facility also has restaurants not found on Howard's campus, such as Taco Bell, Johnny Rockets, and Villa Pizza.

"I love Pentagon City. We go all the time. I buy way too much makeup out of the Sephora and spend too much in Forever 21. My friends have to stop me from buying some stuff," said Tracy Javier, a sophomore majoring in psychology from Bellflower, Calif.

One of the things Javier said she likes most about the district is the metro system, with its easy-to-navigate lines and convenient stops near many of the attractions she frequents.

"We don't have a subway where I'm from, so when I got here, it was new to me. It helps

though. We can get around without a car. But some of the people are a little scary," Javier said.

A concern many students have is dealing with those in the community that surrounds campus. Others find it to be just a matter of following a few rules.

"Five points of advice: Be very open minded, leave the hometown pride at the door, try new cultural experiences, think smart not hard, and treat others in the community as you would want them to treat you in your community," said Brandon Brice, a senior majoring in international business.

Brice said he hopes students coming to the district for the first time will leave campus and explore the entire city during their time here.

"Venture out to Adams Morgan and Dupont and Farragut North and West," Brice further advised. "I like the Waterfront and Georgetown. I go and hang out downtown at the National Mall. I also like U Street and I think HU students don't take advantage of [it]. They should go there more often."

## D.C. Offers Many Diverse Entertainment Options

BY JAMEELAH BROUGHTON  
Asst. Life and Style Editor

August 23, 2004 is the start of a new life for many incoming students. It is the beginning of life-long friendships, self-exploration, and an introduction of new places. Luckily, the District provides an array of places catered to your social needs.

Lorey Anderson, a transfer student from El Camino College in Torrance, CA said, "I look forward to experiencing the entertainment DC has to offer. From what I hear there are no strips that compare to the notorious Crenshaw and Sunset in L.A."

Elana Williams, a graduating senior, said she looks forward to enjoying the traditional hot spots in Adams Morgan, such as Common Share and Tom Toms.

"I like going to those spots because it is a cool 'Howard hang out' for upperclassmen, but when I feel like doing something different in Adams Morgan, I go to Felix on Monday which is old-school hip hop night. Tryst is a just-to-chill type café; Bukoms is full of Caribbean food and flavor. I love the Caribbean hits that Timerhi's never fails to play, and the Reef's rooftop gives you an excellent view of the Adams Morgan strip. They also serve organic food during the day."

Yet, some students, such as sophomore Jackesha Williams, are looking forward to a completely different way of enjoying their time.

"I have had my share of fun in Adams Morgan and at the club so I look forward to plan-

ning little get a ways with my friends, like going horseback riding in Va., or attending plays and live music in DC, Philly and New York. I want to take a trip to Atlantic City and chill out on the beach."

When it comes to the District, many places cater to college students and the international population.

Upon attending Howard, students generally visit the monuments and museums. However, most incoming students find it pleasing to talk with new people on the Yard or in the dorm and get acquainted with their immediate surroundings. They find that their involvement in campus activities allows them to balance social and academic responsibilities at Howard.

## Students Search for Quality Meals On and Off Campus

BY LAUREN SMITH  
Contributing Writer

Hungry? Already tired of the café? Not to worry, there are other eating options on and off campus.

For new students, the first exposure to Howard dining often comes in the Blackburn and Annex cafeterias.

Patrick Ricks reminisces on his days of eating in the café.

"The food got increasingly worse as time went on," the junior film production major said.

When asked about advice that he would offer freshmen dining on campus, Ricks said, "Wherever you eat, make sure you eat enough so you won't be hungry for the rest of the night."

Many upperclassmen, like Brian Jackson, are regular patrons of the other Blackburn eateries.

"I'm a picky eater, so when I have to eat on campus I prefer the restaurant. I can order basic chicken meals with my choice of two sides and a drink for a good price," Jackson said.

Some students living in dormitories farther from main campus said the trip back to campus might be too much for a meal. Students in Meridian tend to enjoy dining in Adams Morgan at 18<sup>th</sup> Street. "The Diner is my favorite!" junior Jonathan Woods said.

"As a transfer student, I only had a meal plan for one semester which was not too bad, but the operation hours of the café conflicted with my class schedule, so I wasn't able to eat there much," Woods said.

Whether the café is the primary option or just a backup plan for those who run out of dining dollars, having a meal plan is always beneficial. A lit-



Marlene Hawthorne-Staff Photographer

Members of the Class of 2008 enjoy a meal in the Blackburn Cafeteria. Soon, they may be looking elsewhere in their times of hunger.

tle known fact about having a meal plan is that students are not restricted to eating in the café. The Punch Out deducts a small amount from your bill with every meal.

Additional options include venturing off campus to destinations such as Dupont Circle and the aforementioned Adams Morgan. Both remain among the most popular spots to eat around the city and provide a fun social atmosphere people can enjoy on the weekend. Dupont Circle is also metro accessible and contains restaurants with good food and reasonable prices.

Other popular locations include downtown Washington, which contains restaurants such as Ruby Tuesday and Chipotle. Food, fun and games, can be found at the ESPN Zone and Dave and Buster's.

For years Howard students have frequented the Georgia Avenue restaurants, such as McDonald's, Five Guys, Subway, Howard China and Cluck U Chicken, which are the closest meal options to campus.



"You just have to go explore different options for yourself," said Ashley Peters, a sophomore majoring in marketing. "But for freshmen, the café is one of the best options for meeting people and socializing, besides the Yard."

Veterans of Howard maintain that there are plenty of options to keep students from going hungry. As for eating on campus versus off, several students said that the café is better than nothing, but implored students to get there earlier than later to avoid the long lines and the relatively early closings.

## Top Places To ...

### ...PARTY

- 1. DREAM Nightclub**-This sophisticated club has a very mature audience. Top entertainers are known for performing here whenever they are in DC.
- 2. H2O**- It's by the waterfront... enough said!!!
- 3. THE COMMON SHARE** in Adams Morgan- Thursday night seems to be Howard night. It is really small but there is no cover charge.
- 4. REPUBLIC GARDENS**-This high-class club is right around the corner from the Towers on 9th and U Street
- 5. TIMERHIS**- This hot club "down under" never fails to play the best Caribbean songs out.
- 6. Heaven Nightclub (formerly Club Up)**- Weekly shuttles from the Quad will make this tiny club a freshman favorite.
- 7. Home Nightclub**- 18 and up on Sunday nights makes this fancy spot a perfect 3-day weekend destination.

### ...CHILL

- 1. TRYST** in Adams Morgan- Try their nachos. You get enough for two people for only \$6. It's a great date place.
- 2. KRAMERS BOOK STORE AND 24-HOUR CAFE** in Dupont Circle- If you like sweets their desert selection is heavenly.
- 3. EASTERN MARKET**- It's an excellent outing to pick up fresh fruit, antiques and artwork on Saturday and Sunday from 12-4pm. Take the orange or blue line and exit Eastern Market.
- 4. GEORGETOWN**- You can do dinner a movie, shop or just hang out.
- 5. THE YELLOW LINE**- Taking the train can be an outing in itself. The yellow line runs through DC starting at Mount Vernon and ends in Huntington, Va. You can get to the Pentagon City, Reagan National Airport and the Eisenhower movie theatre. It is a really relaxing ride with a great view along the way.



Howard University Steering Committee  
Presents

*Phenomenon: An Episodic Occurrence*



*Begin the journey home...  
Become the next  
Mr. or Miss Howard University*

*Please Attend Informational Meetings*

*Thursday, August 26, 2004*

*Located in the Forum of the Blackburn Center*

*Or*

*Tuesday, August 31, 2004*

*Located in the Hilltop Lounge of the Blackburn  
Center*

*Both meetings will begin  
promptly at 6 pm*

*All Interested Persons are Urged to Attend  
Any questions may be directed to Holland Diana  
Johnson in room 116 of the Blackburn Center*



# ATHENS

## THE XXVIII OLYMPIAD 2004

Only on the networks of...



### ROWING TOWARD HISTORY

BY ASHLEY ROSS  
Sports Editor

For most African Americans, when it comes to sports names such as Jackie Robinson, Michael Jordan, and Tiger Woods easily come to mind. While their timeless contributions transformed their respective sports phenomenally, this ongoing list of extraordinary African American athletes do not begin nor end with these individuals.

Across the seas in Athens, Aquil Abdullah is trailblazing toward this noteworthy list of athletes.

Abdullah is the first African American male to row for the U.S. Olympic Team, and is currently two races away from winning an Olympic medal in the double sculls event. Abdullah and partner Henry Nuzum finished third in a five-team field to advance to the semifinals. The pressure is on Abdullah since the U.S. has not won a medal in the double sculls event in almost 20 years. Despite being so close to accomplishing this great feat, Abdullah remains a modest pioneer in the sport of rowing.

"I'm just a regular Joe who happened to try rowing and got lucky that it matched the talent I actually have," he said. "I understand I have a responsibility if I

can help bring the sport to more people, but I never think about myself as anything special."

Ironically, Abdullah did not discover exactly how special and talented he was in rowing until his senior year of high school. Born and raised in Washington, D.C., he played wide receiver for Woodrow Wilson

High School and was recruited by several colleges. When two friends persuaded him to join their crew team, the rest was history.

Abdullah went on to graduate with a degree in physics from George Washington University in 1995. Then in 2000, Abdullah became the first black to win the Diamond Sculls race at England's Henley Royal Regatta.

Now just four years later, Abdullah has a chance to make history yet again.

"I've been all over the world, made friends all over world, and had amazing experiences," he said. "The dedication and camaraderie you see throughout the sport have really helped me in my journey to become a better human being."

The strenuous physical and mental demands placed on most rowers are generally unknown. Overshadowed by more popular and mainstream sports, many times rowing does not receive

the respect and attention it deserves.

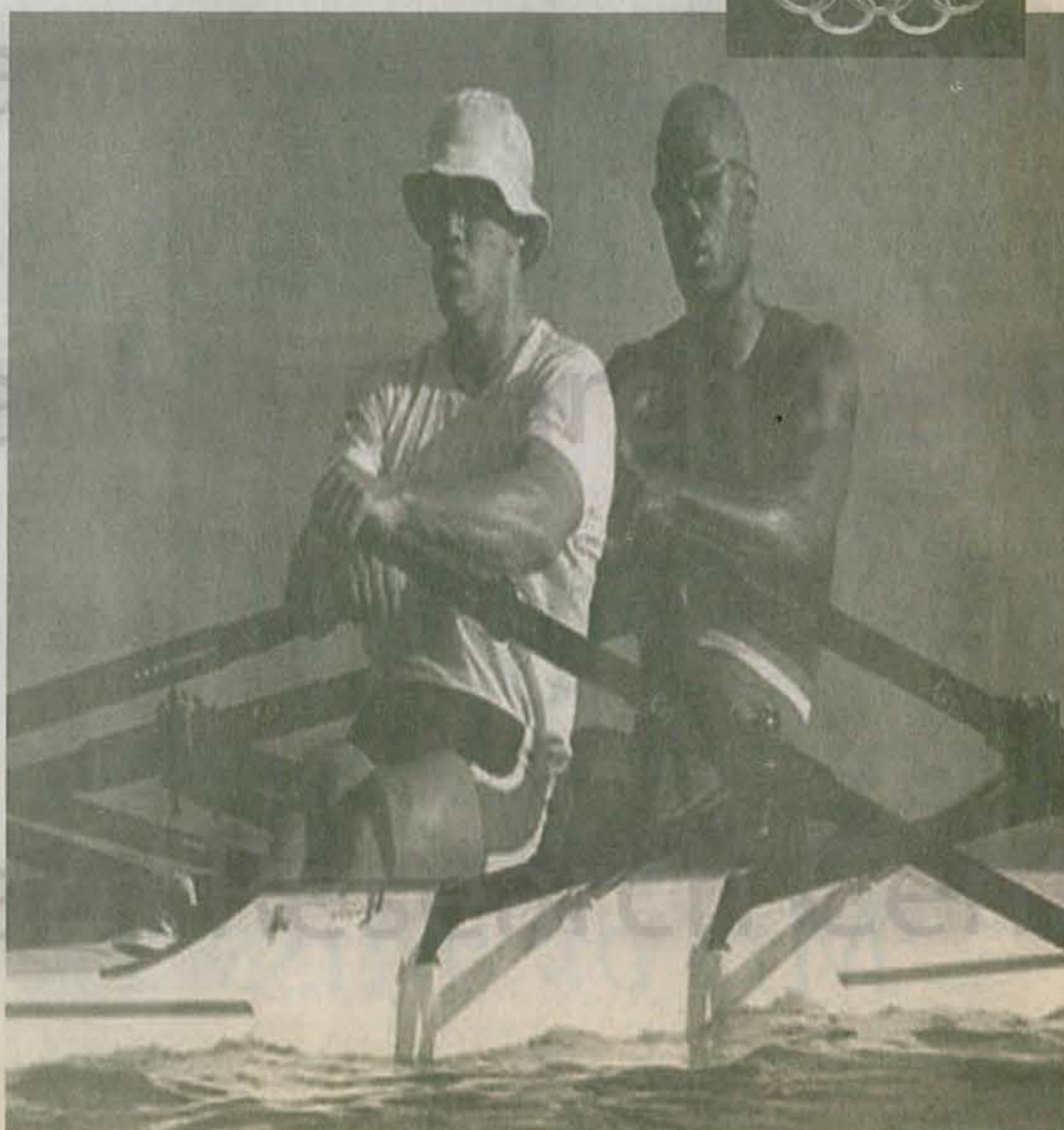
According to wordiq.com, rowing is unusual in the demands it places on competitors. The standard race distance of 2,000 meters is long enough to have a large endurance element, but short enough (typically 5.5 to 7.5 minutes) to feel like a sprint. This means that rowers have some of the highest power outputs of any athletes.

Rowing compresses the rowers' lungs and limits the amount of oxygen available. Therefore rowers must adapt their breathing to their stroke pattern, inhaling and exhaling twice per stroke.

For most Olympians breathing is the least of their worries, but for Abdullah, who suffered an asthma attack in the last race of the 2000 Games qualifiers (losing by 0.33 seconds), breathing has been another obstacle he has had to overcome.

"Being so close showed I was capable and could do it," Abdullah said.

As a silver medalist in the 1999 Pan-American Games, a five-time national team member, and a two-time U.S. national champion in the single sculls in 1996 and 2002, Abdullah is more than capable of making history yet again.



www.athensolympics.com



www.athensolympics.com

(Right) Carlos Arroyo of Puerto Rico went on a rampage dropping 24 points against Team USA. (Above) The only way to loosen a tight-gripped "D" is to add Greece: a no-look pass from the top of the key was eye candy for the fans, but wasn't enough to get by the US. (Far Right) Jason Smith took the Aussie saying "Down Under" a little too seriously as he was caught under

## No Se... Puerto Rico Left Team USA Speechless

BY ZACHARY KENWORTHY  
Sports Editor

"I'm humiliated, not for the loss—I can always deal with the wins and losses—but I'm disappointed because I had a job to do as coach, to get us to understand how we're supposed to play as a team, and I don't think we did that," confessed a dejected Larry Brown on Sunday after another lackluster performance by his Olympic squad."

By now, the loss to Puerto Rico is as yesterday, history. The fact still remains, Sunday was the US' first Olympic loss in 12 years, over three Olympic appearances and 24 games since the NBA players were allowed in competition in 1992. Another stunning fact, Team USA—a team comprised of only two players with Finals experience—was unable to hit from the perimeter: a fact that was highlighted by an appalling 3 for 24 from beyond the 3-point line the blowout to Puerto Rico.

"We didn't play at all and left the opponents to destroy us," admitted an apologetic Allen Iverson on Monday as he refused to make any excuses.

In what was the worst loss for Team USA in the Olympics history, Iverson and his teammates missed an unprecedented 16 straight from behind the arc. With little help in the middle, big man Tim Duncan was continually double teamed and could only muster 15 points, which put the pressure back on the flailing outside attack. The team's 22 turnovers didn't help matters as the route was firmly in place with a 22-point half-time lead for the Islanders.

The big question that loomed over Brown's head is whether or not his team could turn the corner with equally difficult matches coming up against Greece, Australia and Lithuania.

After the "Dream" Team USA was left in a perpetual two-day nightmare, the first step to waking up came on Tuesday as the US squeaked by host country Greece in a 77-71 victory. The score wasn't what was important; whether six points or sixty points, a win is a win and Team USA rebounded to come to an even .500.

Again, the threes weren't falling as the US shot 19% (4-of-21) from behind the arc.

And yesterday, Team USA went back to basic fundamentals—defense. Missed assignments and open looks gave the Australia team a 12-point first half lead. It took the US players three quarters, but by the end of the third they made the proper adjustments and at the start of the fourth the Aussie lead was two.

Limiting the Aussies to just on bucket in the first 5:20 of the fourth, the US went on a 14-2 run and ended the Aussie's hope of an upset with a 89-79 victory.

It was evident that teams have adjusted to the US' style of play and on last Monday Brown admitted

See USA, News 6



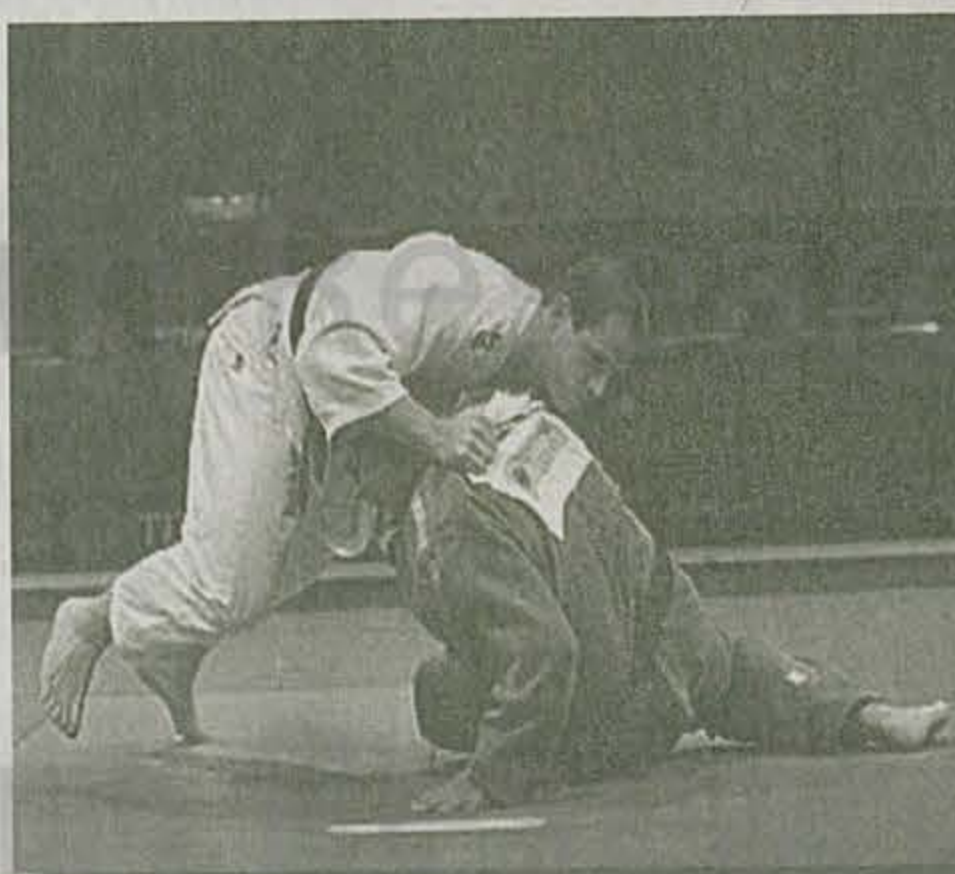


# (JUDO)n't Want to Meet Them in a Dark Alley

## USA's Judo Squad in Athens



**Alex Ottiano**  
**Event(s)** H a l f  
 Lightweight (66kg/145lbs)  
**Birthdate** February 4,  
 1976  
**Birthplace** Providence,  
 Rhode Island  
**Height** 5'7" / 170 cm  
**Weight** 145 lbs / 65.8 kgs  
**College** Brown  
**Residence** Lawrence,  
 Massachusetts



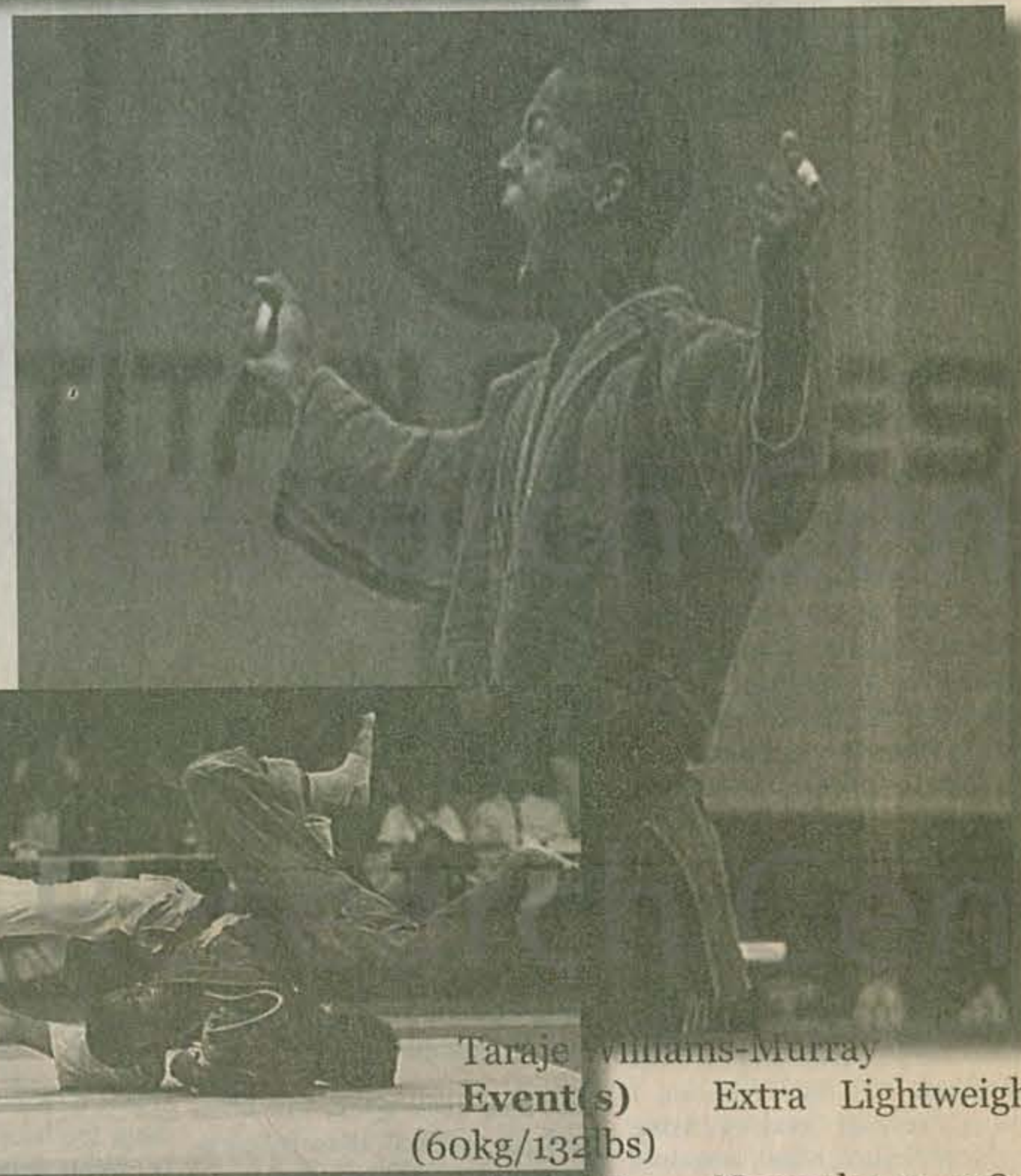
**Martin Boonzaayer**  
**Event(s)** H  
 (100+kg/220+lbs)  
**Birthdate**  
 November 1, 1972  
**Birthplace**  
 Kalamazoo, Michigan  
**Height** 6'1" / 185 cm  
**College** Arizona State  
**Residence**  
 Hoffman Estates, Illinois



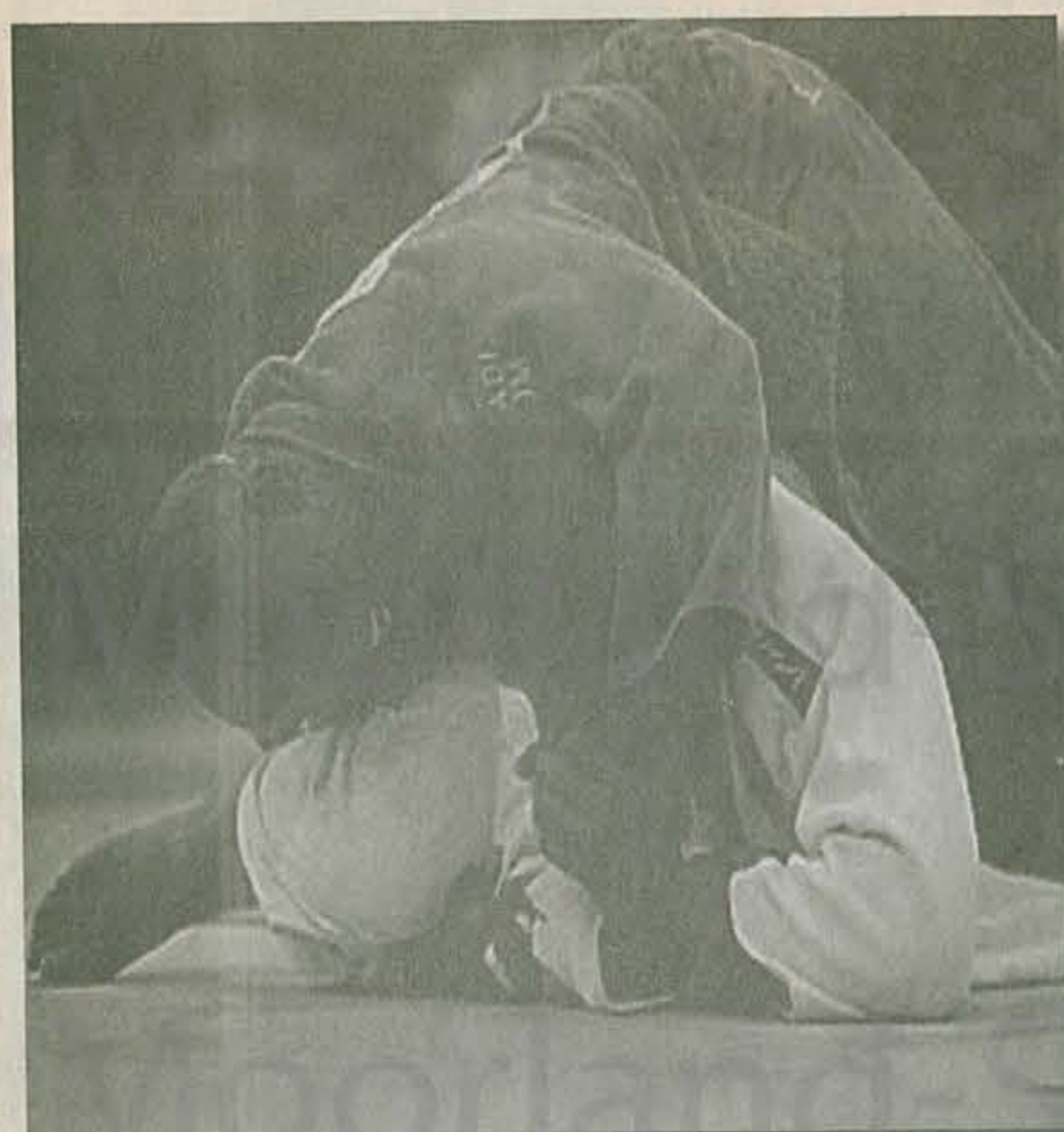
**Jimmy Pedro**  
**Event(s)** Lightweight (73kg/161lbs)  
**Birthdate** October 30, 1970  
**Birthplace** Danvers, Massachusetts  
**College** Brown  
**Residence** Methuen, Massachusetts



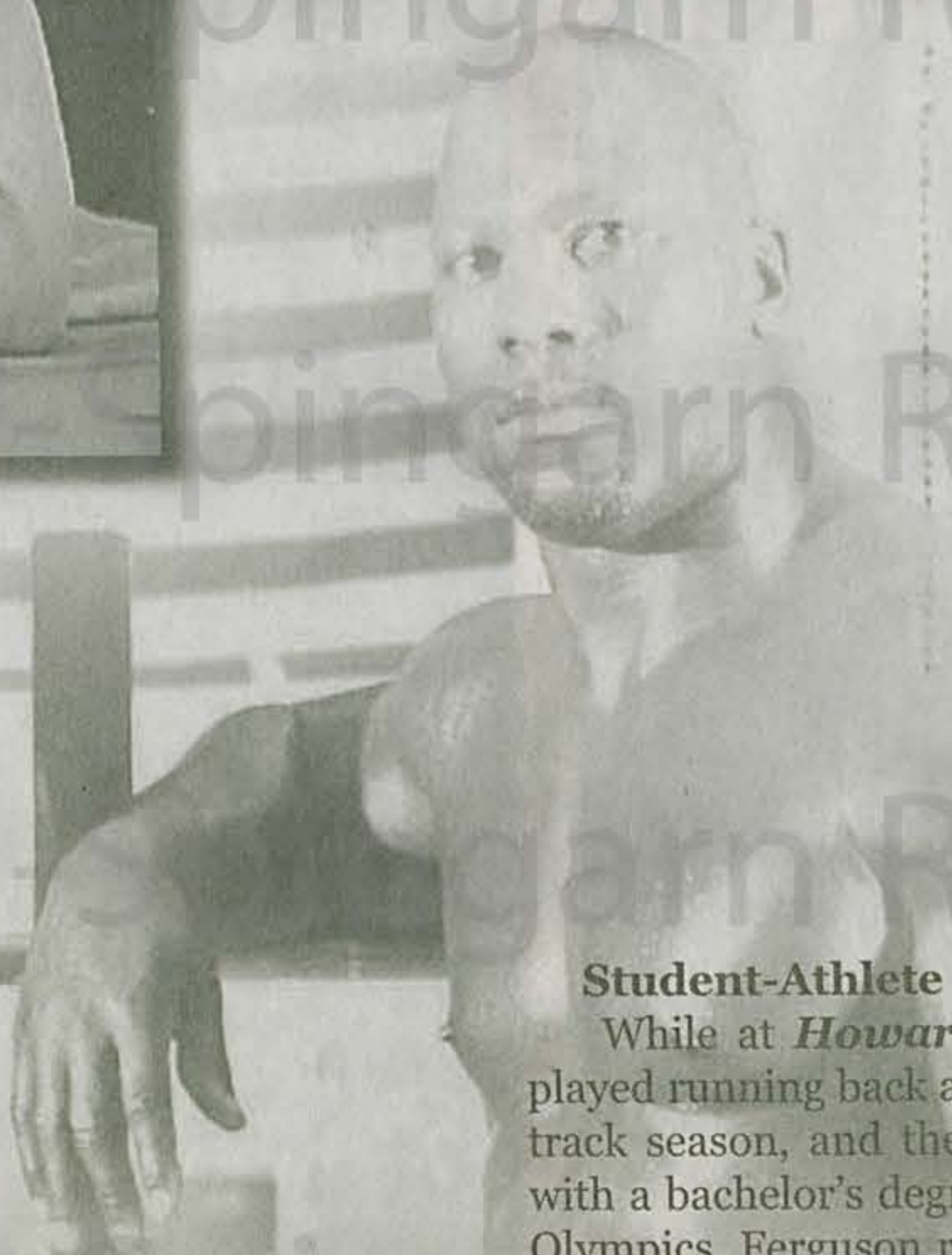
**Brian Olson**  
**Event(s)** Middleweight  
 (90kg/198lbs)  
**Birthdate** March 6, 1973  
**Birthplace** Tallahassee,  
 Florida  
**Height** 6'3" / 190 cm  
**Residence** Boulder,  
 Colorado



**Taraje Williams-Murray**  
**Event(s)** Extra Lightweight  
 (60kg/132 lbs)  
**Birthdate** November 9, 1984  
**Birthplace** Bronx, New York  
**Height** 5'7" / 170 cm  
**Weight** 132 lbs / 59.9 kgs  
**College** Long Island University  
**Residence** Bronx, New York



**Rhadi Ferguson**  
**Event(s)** Half Heavyweight  
 (100kg/220lbs)  
**Birthdate** April 3, 1975  
**Birthplace** Portland, Oregon  
**Height** 5'9" / 175 cm  
**Weight** 220 lbs / 99.8 kgs  
**College** Howard University  
**Residence** Colorado Springs,  
 Colo.



### Student-Athlete

While at **Howard University** in Washington, D.C., Ferguson played running back and ran track -- the 55-meter dash during indoor track season, and the sprint relays outdoors. He graduated in 1997 with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. After the Sydney Olympics, Ferguson returned to Howard to earn a master's degree in teaching with a concentration in secondary education; he maintained a perfect 4.0 grade-point average. He is pursuing a Ph.D. in education from Capella University, an online institution based in Minneapolis. He has four classes remaining, plus the comprehensive exams and dissertation.



# Fast Friendships Blossom During Orientation Week

FRIENDS, from L&S 1

“I’m goofy, I’m always telling jokes,” she said. “Anika is like the mom. She has the motherly instincts. She’s like the caregiver. Erika is the type to fight for you. She’s like the protector. Anytime somebody tries to bother you, she’ll try to handle it for you.”

Having a new family here at Howard has helped Atkinson in her career at Howard, she said. She counts Seals and McDaniel’s dependability as the relationship’s strongest asset.

“I like knowing that they’re always there,” she said. “Anything I need, I can call one and they’ll call the other one. I never really have to think about them not being there in my times of need.”

As they prepare to embark on their final year at Howard, Atkinson and McDaniel said they often reflect on the past three years of friendship and look forward to many more. McDaniel and Seals said they plan to share an apartment in the city after graduation and the

group hopes to vacation together every summer.

“We’ve remained friends through all these years, so I definitely think we’ll be friends after we leave here,” Atkinson said. “We all know each other, and our parents and families know each other. We would do anything for each other, no questions asked.”

“I wouldn’t trade them for the world,” Seals added. “We’ve had some trying moments, but the time we’ve had together so far has been invaluable.”

# Bison Fashion Sense Receives National Acclaim in *Ebony*

FASHION, from L&S 1

said Ashley Johnson, a freshman African American studies major from New Jersey. “Personally, my style is more of a name brand [as] you can see, and not just in the tag.”

Diverse was the repeated adjective of all incoming students interviewed to describe Howard’s fashion, and the freshmen themselves are also individually unique.

Referring to a girl walking by with an Angela Davis t-shirt, freshman Sarah Johnson, from California, admires the diverse fashions at Howard.

“I like to see people dress different, like the vintage tees,” she said. “I like preppy. My own style is a little Cali surfer. That’s just how we do over there.”

For other freshmen, Howard’s fashion has some weak spots that need work.

“Why do I keep seeing football players with t-shirts that have nothing but sweat on them, on top of another shirt?” said freshman Daniel Robertson, a math and physics major from Louisiana. “To each his own I guess. I am half Greek so I bring styles of Greece, which is mainly ancient. It’s not all about money, fashion or technology. Females with weaves are what I really can’t stand.”

Fashion is more than just clothes. As many black women have been known to give testimony, hair is a vital part of any wardrobe.

“I have seen a lot of different dreads and hairstyles,” said freshman Whitney Threadcraft, a political science major from Texas. “I am not used to seeing such hair diversity, and the locks



JORDAN COLBERT - Asst. PHOTO EDITOR

Students like Tiera Motley are the reason why “Ebony” Magazine listed Howard as one of America’s Most Fashionable Campuses in their September issue.

I’ve seen look good. My main goal [in fashion] is to be comfortable, and still be cute.”

Some freshmen said they were afraid they may have to alter their planned style, after arriving at Howard. “I brought a lot of heels,” said freshman Ashley Wilbon, a speech communications major from St. Louis. “But after seeing this campus, I don’t think I will be wearing a lot of them.”

For most freshmen, this is their first time away from home for such an extended period, so they plan to hold on to their hometown look. “I brought

basic tees, jeans, and sneakers,” said freshman Johnnie Walker, a radio television film major adorned in a white t-shirt. “As of right now, I am trying to maintain my New York status. As I start to be around more people, my style may change.”

Whether their bracelet is made by Tiffany & Co. or by their homegirl, the freshmen class has already begun making their own dress code of originality. As the newest ranks, the class of 2008 will play a major role in Howard fashion of the future and the continuance of Howard’s prime style status.

# Welcome Welcome

Joi Gilliam  
Shara D. Taylor  
Venus Taylor  
Melanie Holmes  
Kevin Harris  
Zachary Kensworthy  
Maxine Moffet  
Lauren Stephens  
Ken Maxey,II  
Tori Scarborough  
Jordan Colbert  
Tia Goodson

Jana Homes  
Keith Laing  
Jameelah Broughton  
Ashley Ross  
Charreah Jackson  
Kiristin Reid  
Chris Walls  
Fawn Robinson  
Joy Peyton  
Robin Davis  
Marlene Hawthorne  
Ayesha Rascoe

# To The Hilltop!!!

From Your Amazingly Beautiful E.I.C

# Sophomores Hope New Students Learn from their Experience

SOPHOMORE, from L&S1

students with cellular phones program all of the frequently used administrative numbers into their phones for convenience. Other helpful techniques including speaking to more than one representative and remembering the name of anyone you speak to, so that you may refer back to them, if necessary.

Another hot topic that most students seemed to have an opinion on was academic success. They strongly emphasized points such as attendance, staying on top of work and frequently reviewing the provided syllabus, and studying with people who will hold you accountable.

Class scheduling is another important issue that can highly influence one’s academic success.

“If you’re not a morning person, going to college will not magically make you want to wake up at 8 o’clock in the morning, and nobody wants to be in class at six o’clock in the afternoon. When classes are at times you’d rather not be in them, you’re less likely to learn and isn’t that why you’re here?” Chipungu further advises.

While all things academic and administrative are important, no college campus is complete without a social component. The topic of gossip is a highly discussed one on the university’s campus.

“Hold your tongue when people are gossiping. It’ll help you make friends because people will trust you more. We all have a tendency to size people up real quick, but it’s better to just wait and see how their character unfolds,” said Nicole Cuellar, an English major.

In addition to being warned about avoiding gossip and petty games, students have been discouraged from going overboard on the many opportunities to have fun outside of the classroom.

“Don’t get caught up in the party life, and stay focused. Come in with the right attitude and make sure you maintain that attitude while you’re there. Parties will always be there but you [have to] get those grades now,” said David Chandler, a finance major.

“Work hard, play hard, and remember your home training,” reminds Chase Wheeler, a finance major and team leader

for the School of Business, who has been charged with working closely with some of this year’s new students.

“Do not hang out on the booty wall every night because you do not want to be known as the guy who hangs out on the booty wall every night,” Wheeler continues.

HU’s notorious “booty wall,” which is the wall in front of the Tubman Quadrangle, is known as the hook-up spot by students and locals. It has long stood as the location of many of the “inter-gender politics.” Male and female interactions are also an area that some students need help adjusting to.

“Howard is a good looking campus,” said Cherryyn Wilder, as she agreed with Wheeler’s comments. “Don’t come up here and go crazy running all over the place [just] because you’re surrounded by all these beautiful women. The STD rate is high [here].”

Overall, it seems that the Class of 2007 wishes to stress the importance of academic accountability, social edict, and patience when dealing with administration.

# Road to the Gold Medal for USA Dream Team Begins with Nightmare Upset Loss

USA, from Sports 4

ted that his team’s lack of preparation and time played together can’t match other nations which have been training and building chemistry for months.

“The fact is these teams are very [good] teams, and they want to win it so badly that if you don’t play with unbelievable effort, what happened (Sunday) night is going to happen again and again and again,” assured a testy Brown.

The changing waters of the international basketball sphere has added to the drama, as more foreign stars are entering the NBA and giving their best efforts once every four years in the Olympics. On the other

hand, even before the beginning of the 2004 Athens preliminaries, Team USA was shrouded with controversy after a number of players refused to take part, citing personal, safety and contractual issues.

Concerning the team’s lack of superstar power because of safety worries, Iverson assured, “If he, a guy, says he is afraid for his life, I definitely wouldn’t question that. I put my life in God’s hands. I could walk off this podium and break my neck.”

Indeed, this is no ’92 Dream Team, which was arguably the greatest basketball team ever assembled. However, all is not lost for the Americans as they only need to finish within the

top 4 of their 6-team bracket to reach the next round, a feat that is likely. The worry is whether or not Iverson, Duncan, Lebron and company have the spirit and determination to do just that.

Providing a little comfort for Brown’s men are the past records of the Olympics. Team USA only loses once every 16 years at the hallowed courts of the Olympics. First in ’72 with that historic 51-50 defeat at the hands of the Soviet Union, then in the ’88 Seoul Olympics again at the hands of the Soviets. Now ’04 and lowly Puerto Rico have provided the next chapter in this on-going merry-go-round.

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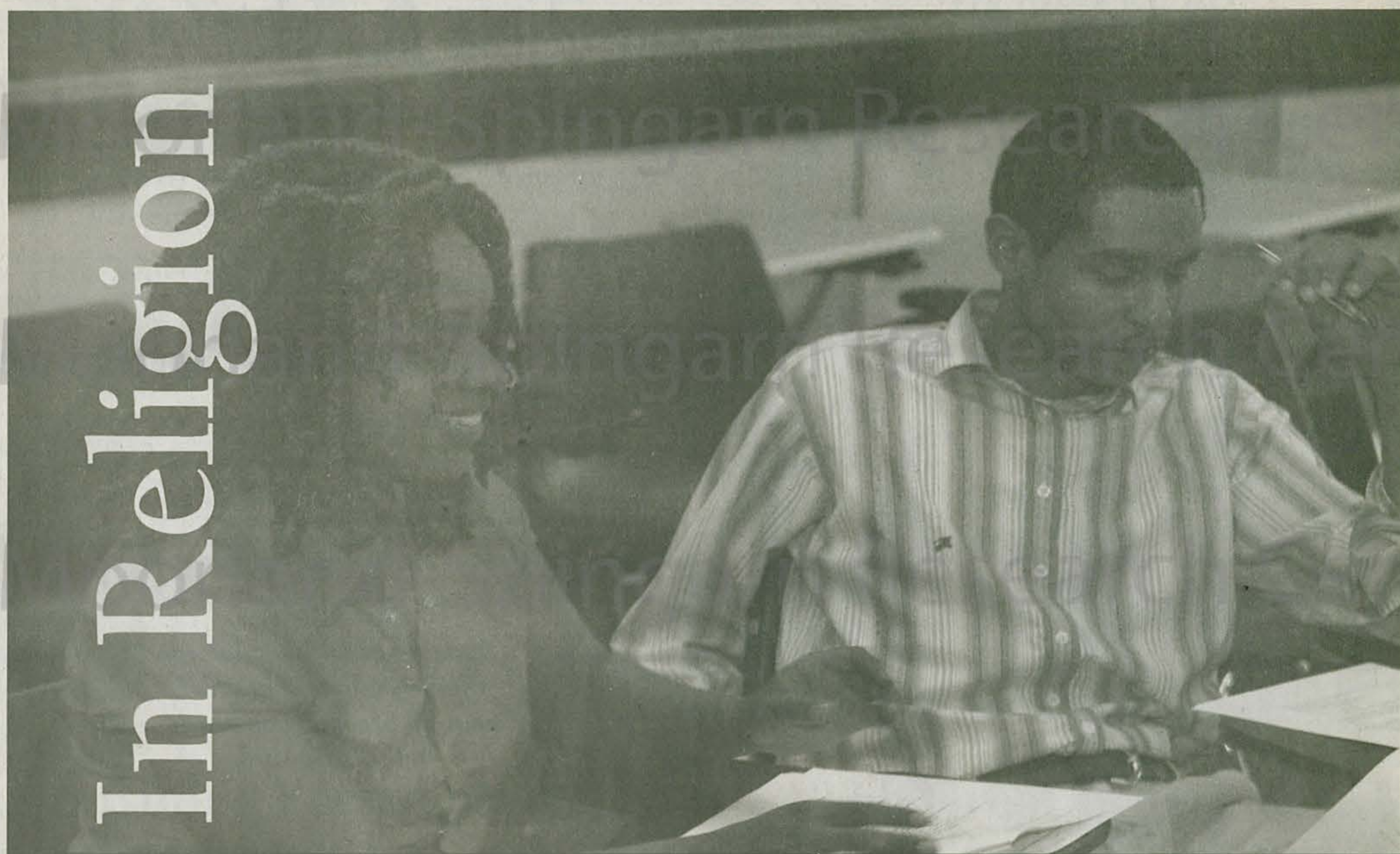
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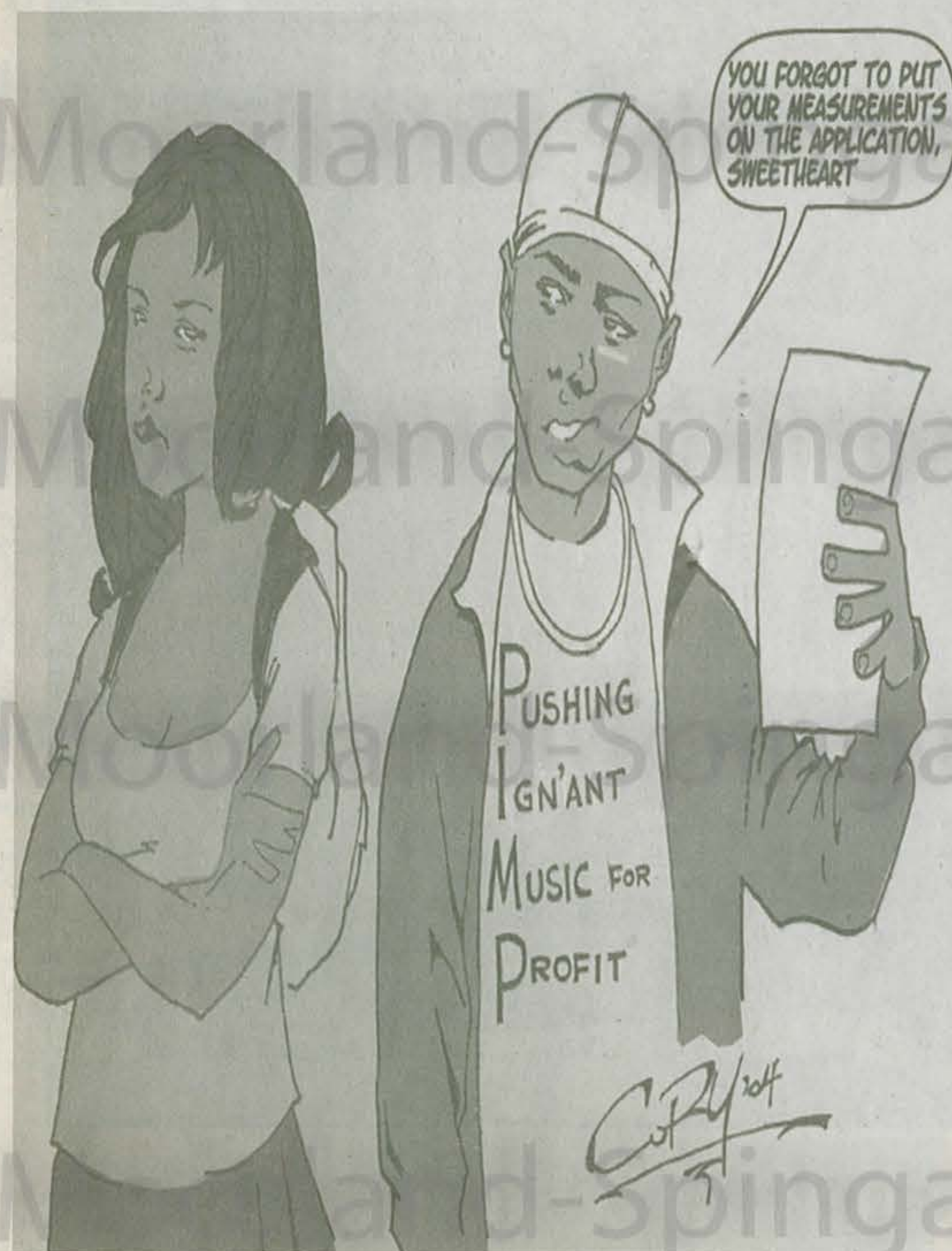
# THE HILLTOP

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## Beware of the Apathetic Upperclassmen!

It's Freshmen Week and alas, your career at Howard begins. By now, you've heard a lot of things about Howard.

You may be excited about the things that you've heard, but perhaps you've come across a disgruntled upperclassman or two who may have given you a tainted view of Howard.

Ask any upperclassman what they think about how Howard life "really is" and you're bound to hear bitter accounts of trips to the administration building or loathing about dorm visitation restrictions. Upperclassmen always have a range of stories and when you've been here for a while, it's easy to become calloused to how great this place really is. Many of us take Howard for granted, so while everything is fresh and new to

you, make sure that you don't do the same.

Make sure to get involved in the things that interest you. There are a plethora of great clubs and organizations here to be affiliated with. Make plans to study abroad during

will outweigh the bad.

Just remember: take others' bad experiences with a grain of salt. Sure, it's great to seek advice from those who have come before you- and don't get us wrong, Howard does have its shortcomings- but it is important to remember that no matter where you go, you will run into obstacles. Howard can be looked at as a microcosm of life: it is full of good times, struggles, and yes, even hard work. The quicker you learn how to navigate the unfavorable situations, the better off you will be in the years to come.

So don't listen to apathetic upperclassmen if they grumble and complain about life here at the Mecca. Instead, create your own path, shape your own experience with a positive attitude, get involved, and by all means keep up your enthusiasm.

### Our View:

**Build a good foundation for yourself this year in order to avoid becoming apathetic towards Howard.**

## Nelly Plans to "P.I.M.P." Scholars

Nelly recently announced his plan to award one disadvantaged male and one female with \$5,000 in January through his Positive Intellectual Motivated Person Scholars Program.

It sounded wonderful until we realized that there was a catch (peep the P.I.M.P. acronym). The Hilltop can appreciate Nelly's effort to send students to college because many of us wouldn't be here without the help of financial aid or scholarships. However, the P.I.M.P. title takes away from his whole vision.

Can you imagine the look on an administrator's face when one of few black students at a predominately white university proudly shouts that they are the recipient of the P.I.M.P. scholarship? Not every school would accept or respect the achievement like an HBCU might. We wonder if this is set-

ting someone up to be embarrassed soon after their excitement dies down.

Secondly we wonder why Nelly is only choosing two recipients? Why can't the multi-platinum rapper send more disadvantaged kids to college? He clearly has enough money to

the P.I.M.P. Scholars Program may grab the attention of young minorities who think the title is cool. It could promote education for young aspiring Nellys who may not have even considered going to college until their role model suggested it. The person who is awarded to

scholarship could turn out to be the next Oprah or future president.

Despite any arguments, Nelly is definitely sending people to school for that. But at the end of the day, we all know Nelly could have chosen a more appropriate title for his scholarship. If anyone is interested in applying, the deadline is December 29.

You might just get PIMPED!

### Our View:

**Applaud Nelly's scholarship effort, but the "P.I.M.P." title is a hit and miss.**

co-own the Charlotte Bobcats and spend millions on his lavish lifestyle. We wonder if this could be a ploy to promote his Pimp Juice energy drink, or create a buzz surrounding his newest album. We have to question Nelly's motives a little.

We do recognize the fact that

## Long Live the Legend of the Booty Wall

The narrow strip of brick in front of the Quad will never be the same again. What used to serve as a vibrant social scene and hangout for the freshmen (and upperclassmen seeking freshmen) will now be strictly regulated by campus police shouting "Keep it moving!" according to some insiders. If you wonder why we are misty-eyed here at the Hilltop, you have to ask some upperclassmen.

No matter what was going on, the Booty Wall was full of people having a good time freshman year. It was the landmark that you were back from 2K9 or the destination for many Drew heads. Love was found. Memories were made. Quality time was spent talking endlessly on the brick wall about absolutely nothing. Why was it called the Booty Wall? We will

leave that to your imagination.

For all of you who are feeling disgruntled that you may not have the chance to sit, we will give you a few reasons not to miss it. Girls, the Booty Wall was definitely a spot for predators and you would be the prey. Random men from all over DC

can understand the need to enforce some campus security just to make sure students are safe walking alone or they do not get harassed on such an open campus.

We also agree that if there are restrictions placed on the Booty Wall, then freshmen will find somewhere else to go. Maybe it will be the valley or the yard, instead of the wall. There isn't really a way to keep people from standing around in front of a building where most of the freshmen girls live. However, we know that if the police are deep it will scare away the predators!

Though we will have Booty Wall nostalgia, none of us will be out picketing. But we will, certainly reminisce about the time spent on the wall.

### Our View:

**While the Booty Wall will be no more, it will always have a place in our hearts.**

would purposefully park their cars in front of the Quad in order to catch you on your way out. A whole bunch of "Hey girls" or "PSSSSSts" were heard from men lurking in the bushes or their cars. If you were into that then it was fine but a good 80 percent of us found it annoying. So us Hilltoppers

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Now in its 81st year, The Hilltop is published every Tuesday and Friday by Howard University students. With a readership of more than 10,000, The Hilltop is the largest Black collegiate newspaper in the nation. The opinions expressed on the Editorial Page are the views of The Hilltop Editorial Board and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Howard University, its administration, individual Board members or the student body.

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## The Best is Yet to Come...

BY MAIYA NORTON

As you embark upon your Howard University journey, there are going to be situations that will frustrate you, disappoint you and make you question your decision to come here.

Upperclassmen will tell you horror stories about the Financial Aid office, the administration building, dorms, people, validation stickers and pretty much anything under the sun. I'd be lying if I told you you'd never have a horror story to tell after four years. You will curse, cry, shout, and throw a tantrum before graduation. But before you let negativity sink in, I want you to imagine Howard before you were here.

While the class of 2008 was in middle school and early high school, Howard University students registered for their classes using phone lines (which were busy 99% of the time). Busy signals, dial tones and frustrated operators were the only options before the BisonWeb was intro-

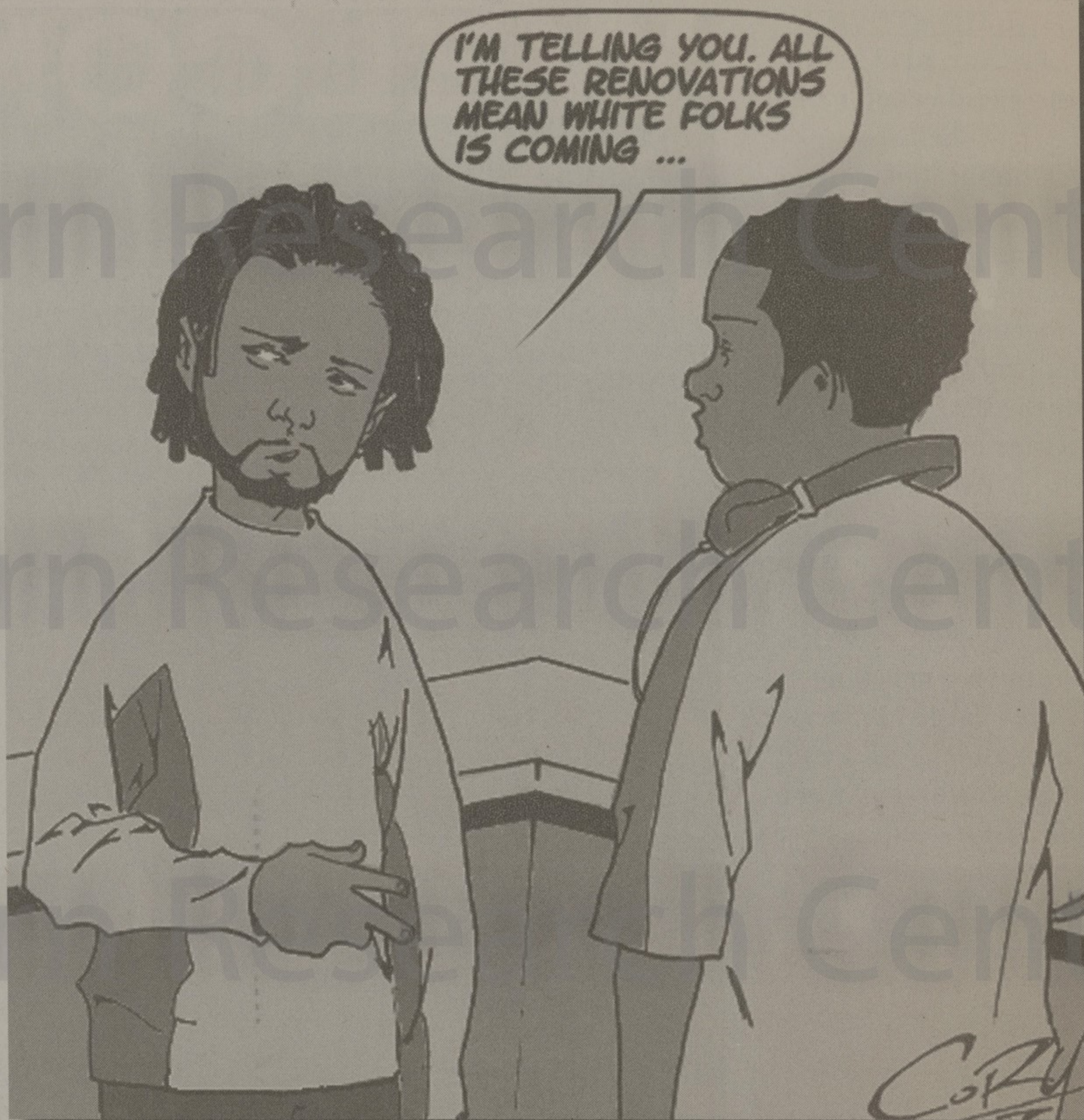
duced.

The infamous housing issues left many students with a semester-long hotel stay, off campus housing, or a dorm that desperately needed renovation as their only options. Before the iLab was introduced, around 2000 students had to use the computer labs in their dorm buildings, which were hot and crowded with malfunctioning computers! Students had to wait in the financial aid office for several hours, only to be sent somewhere else once they got their turn. You think you're having trouble adjusting? Now you can appreciate the many new buildings popping up all over campus to improve your college experience. It wasn't always this easy.

Starbucks was nonexistent and there was only a partial bookstore located in the Quad! Just last year, the Punch-Out was much smaller with a menu that largely resembled the Blackburn cafeteria food. Now we can enjoy Chick-fil-A, more space to eat, and extended hours.

Rumor has it that we might be able to use our dining dollars at many stores on Georgia Avenue including CVS. School hasn't even started and people are talking about the projects in the works to make Howard a more comfortable place.

Although there will be times that you are fed up with Howard, just remember those who came before you and the improvements only you will have at least four years to enjoy. The Howard we may have complained about is a very different one today. Our school doesn't receive enough money to make things happen as quickly as we'd like. However, Howard is rich in history, love and intelligence, and improvements are being made. It isn't the buildings, the campus or the services we have that make Howard wonderful. It is the people. Try to keep a positive attitude and remember you will carry on the legacy of Howard.



## Dr. Ruth's Prescription for Homesickness

BY RUTH L. TISDALE

OK. You finally made it. You gave the tearful goodbye to mom and dad, and you are finally on your own. You can do what you want, say what you want and make your own rules. No more high school where you go to class eight hours a day, five days a week. You can go to class when you want and sleep as long as you like. You are going to make new friends and have the experience of a lifetime.

Then reality rushes in like a mighty flood. You start to realize that you have to wash that pile of laundry that is attracting flies. The powdered mashed potatoes and the instant macaroni and cheese they serve in the café, along with the ramen noodles you cook in your room, doesn't begin to compare to the gourmet meals that your mother used to cook. "Beating your feet" to Go-Go music isn't your way to get your groove on, and you begin to say key phrases like "Back home we..." At this point you have caught the dreaded disease of homesickness.

It's common for freshmen to experience homesickness because, for most, this is their first time away from home. I grew up in a small town in Florida called Pensacola. While most made fun of my country ways, I loved my home and coming to a big city like D.C. instantly made me homesick. I longed for friendly faces, green grass, the smell of fried green tomatoes (a Southern delicacy for those who don't know) and the content of my comfort zone. Midway through my first freshmen semester I went home because I was so homesick, but I knew that I had to overcome my homesickness in order to take advantage of the many opportunities afforded to me at Howard. The following prescription will help you avoid the dreaded disease of homesickness.

### ***Don't compare home life to your present situation.***

No one is going to cook like mom and D.C. natives will not act like people from your hometown. Instead of looking at the negatives of D.C. and how much it is not like your home, begin to see the beauties of D.C. Go to a museum like the Smithsonian or go see the wonderful sites of the city.

### ***Don't call home everyday.***

Know that your parents will try to call you daily and you will want to do the same, but calling home everyday only reminds you of home and all the things that you are missing. Slowly wean yourself off of the long distance calls from every day to every couple of days.

### ***Involve yourself in activities at Howard and D.C.***

I didn't truly get over being homesick until I decided to involve myself in activities at Howard and D.C. My freshman year, I began my journey with The Hilltop and I interned at a lobbying firm. I was so busy that I did not have time to worry about the events that I was missing back home.

I know the first year in a new place can be very tough and that homesickness will come, but taking a heavy dose of this prescription will ensure that you will survive.

## The Great Escape: Getting Out of Howard

BY SHAKA SHAW

Welcome freshmen to the unique experience that is Howard University.

I call it unique because I guarantee that nowhere else will you find some of the qualities that you will find here at the Mecca: some of the rudest and unprofessional staff and faculty, one of the most inconvenient and unorganized registration systems in the country, and a self-important student body that rivals even the Ivy League.

Honestly, though, once you get through the initial disgust at the school's inefficiency, you will find a community of ambitious, positive-minded young black students and some staff and faculty who are genuinely dedicated to fostering an efficient higher learning environment. You will find that a lot of what you take from Howard University as far as academic growth and life experience will depend solely on you.

Surprisingly, the greatest learning experience over my four years here has been gained off-campus, so the most vital piece of advice I can give to incoming students is this: get out of Howard! The white people will not bite you, I promise.

Making friends at other

schools in the area like Georgetown and George Washington, can be beneficial to you in terms of networking and general social opportunities. Your world should not consist solely of Howard students and people who share the same skin color as you do.

Since Howard is located in such an undesirable area of the city, many students are hesitant to go beyond the safety of campus. However, the city has a very efficient Metrorail and bus system.

The Georgetown area (G2 Bus from LeDroit Park), Tyson's Corner (only accessible by car) and Pentagon City (along the yellow line on Metrorail) offer both employment opportunities and shopping (doing your shopping on Georgia Avenue is not advised for the fashion-conscious). Though the nightlife in DC is somewhat limited for those who are under 21, some clubs have college nights for the 18 and up.

Howard was founded at a time when it was nearly impossible for blacks to receive a proper education and opportunities were limited. Today, though Howard's predominantly Black heritage still serves some purpose, many of the effects of this can be negative. One of my friends who graduated in spring of 2004

called me recently from her corporate job distraught over the culture shock of being in the real world.

Leaving Howard, you will find that the real world is not 99.9% black and that not everyone wants to talk about the BET awards. Unfortunately, many people use Howard's all-black atmosphere as a security blanket; they become afraid to branch out and meet people of other races, stunting their personal and professional growth.

Others come to Howard and adopt a combative mindset, assuming that once they get into the real world, the white man is out to get them when, in all honesty, he could care less.

The best part about Howard is the long-term relationships you will develop with other upwardly-mobile black people.

You could meet future business partners here and even your future spouse (from a man's perspective, my advice to the fellas is this: the best way to deal with the 50 women to every man ratio is to think quality not quantity). It is also important to branch out and make connections outside of Howard. You never know what you may be missing by being closed-minded.

# click it to us.

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# WELCOME BACK...

## IT MIGHT BE TYME TO KNUCKLE UP.

## ALL SENIORS, ONLY 143 DAYS OF CLASS LEFT...

To Ruth and Poet

I would like to thank you guys  
for helping with the layout while  
I was feeling down, without you  
guys the paper wouldn't have been  
done until midnight.

Much Luv,  
Arion

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#### Words from The EIC-

Well, staff our first one is in the books. Great job! I know we have a lot more left, but we will get through it together. And remember, we are number one in the nation...

#### A Few Shot Outs-

Arion: Thank you for everything. You are my right and left hand. What would I do without you?

Campus: I left the section in good hands. Keep holding it down.

Stacey: You are awesome, you just got to get faster at editing.)

Kevin: We about to blow up the front. They ain't ready for what we are going to do.

Tori: Keep holding down the grade. I know its hard, but keep your head up.

11-1-8: I'm glad the friendship is back. I missed you. Thank you for the encouragement.

And finally...

Weldon: Thank you for understanding about all of the late nights down at The Hilltop. No words can expressed how much I appreciate how you helped with the office renovation this summer. You encouraged me to be the best I can be. You are my suitable boo and my best friend. No matter what we go through, I will always be hopelessly and endlessly in love with you.

---Ruth L. Tisdale

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