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THE HILLTOP

News You Can Use Since 1924



VOLUME 81, No. 26

THE NATION'S LARGEST BLACK COLLEGIATE NEWSPAPER

APRIL 10, 1998

THIS
WEEK'S
ISSUE

CAMPUS
LOCAL STUDENTS
DISPLAY PROJECTS
AT HOWARD
SCIENCE
FAIR

NEW UNIVERSITY
FAMILY CENTER
CELEBRATES
FIRST STEPS
12

WORLD
SUMMIT
DISCUSSES BLACK
AMERICAN
RELATIONS
16

EL NINO, POOR
FARMING BLAMED
IN DEFORESTATION
OF THE AMAZON

PULSE
WHUT PROGRAM
CAPTURES
BLACKS'
CONTRIBUTIONS
TO SPACE
PROGRAM

STUDENT USES
POETRY TALENT
TO MOVE UP IN
RECORDING
INDUSTRY
12

'Showtime At HU' Gets Shutdown

By SUFIYA ABDUR-RAHMAN

Hilltop Staff Writer

The curtains had been raised for less than an hour on "Showtime At HU" amateur night, featuring comedian Joe Recca, when they went down for good.

After a brief intermission, an announcement was made that the Spring Black Arts Festival's fifth event had been canceled due to technical difficulties.

But the problem had little to do

with electronic malfunctions.

Although Recca's microphone malfunctioned at the start of the show, technical problems ceased.

Event coordinators and participants said the show stopped after an audience member's complaint about the use of profanity.

"I guess it was my fault," said Sarah Hambrick, a hostess who presented an original poem using profanity. Hambrick, a junior fine arts major, performed despite interruptions from a woman in the front of the center aisle who booed and

motioned for her to get off stage.

"If this woman had a problem with my profanity she should've come to me one on one," Hambrick said.

But Hambrick said she saw the disgruntled audience member call someone on her cellular phone and hold it in the air during her performance, which was the last performance of the evening.

Assistant Vice-President of University Administration, Jane Rand,

Please See SHOWTIME, A3



Photo by Belinda Vickerson

HU administrators pulled the plug on the UGSA talent show.



Photo by Belinda Vickerson

Frank Wu, among other panelists, speak at the race initiative conference.

Race Initiative Discussion Addresses America's Changing Demographics

By KEENAN SUARES

Hilltop Staff Writer

Panelists at a recent race initiative townhall meeting conceded that America needs to address its changing demographics in a more serious manner if it hopes to continue its status as a super power.

Held at the Howard University Law School, speakers told audience members that America will look vastly different at the turn of the century.

"Race relations has improved over the last thirty years, but we still have a long way to go. With the growing numbers of minorities in the future, it has implicated how America must veer in order to move into the 21st century," said Judith Winston, a representative of President Clinton's Initiative on Race.

According to Winston, Black citizens make up 12 percent of the population, while Hispanics are 7 percent. Winston predicted that the racial demographics of America will be quite different in the next 40 years as Hispanics grow to 25 percent of the population and African Americans

increase to 14 percent.

In a released statement, Clinton said he launched the commission on race to close opportunity gaps that denied many Americans their legal rights.

"America has always stood for showing ideas that we are all created equal," Clinton said. "We don't always live up to that ideal. As we entered the 21st century, we know one of the greatest challenges we still face is wondering how we can come together with one another."

Clinton's solution for racial problems in the United States is for all Americans to come together as one.

"We must comply differences in honest dialogue," he said. "We must also talk about the common needs and the values we share. We must fight against discrimination in our communities and in our hearts."

Other members of Clinton's Advisory Board offered their viewpoints for identifying the problems on race relations.

Linda Chavez-Thompson, another member of the Advisory Board on Race, said Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s theory on race relation problems are about economics.

"Dr. King asked what good is it to be allowed to eat in a restaurant when you can not afford it," Chavez-Thompson said. "His theory still holds today. What good is it to have the right to eat in the best-dressed restaurant in D.C. when you can hardly pay for your gas bills?"

Audience members said the meeting addressed important issues.

"I thought a lot of good points were brought out like class and race," said Minh Pham, a second-year law student. "Various aspects of life, which include healthcare and employment, are needed for all people -- not just one particular group."

Richard Kahlenberg, a representative for the Center for National Policy, said the friction between races was due to class.

"We would divide the coalition that was put together by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for Whites and Blacks," he said. "I think during the last 30 years, the swing broke in American politics -- the so-called Reagan democrats, the White working class. Unlikely, when they vote for race, they'll vote for Republican. When they vote for class, they will vote Democrat."

Ph.D. Program Celebrates Black Doctorates

By KENYATTA MATTHEWS

Hilltop Staff Writer

To celebrate the 40th anniversary of Howard's Ph.D. program and its accomplishments, the graduate school has planned a year-long celebration commemorating its legacy of excellence while addressing the obstacles for Black Ph.D. recipients.

"The anniversary is a time to celebrate the accomplishments of the past and envision and plan our future in graduate work in particular and national trends in Ph.D. work," said Orlando L. Taylor, dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

The graduate program, officially authorized in 1934, matriculated its first Ph.D. students in chemistry in 1958.

Since then, the program has continually evolved, reorganizing into its current structure, which includes four divisions in the arts and humanities; biological and life sciences; engineering and physical sciences; and social sciences.

The program boasts 1,600 Ph.D. recipients and 8,000 master's degree recipients since 1919.

It is currently the nation's leader in conferring African Americans with doctorate degrees.

The anniversary will feature two major events, one for the Spring and Fall of 1998. A major conference on the dismantling of affirmative action and the impact on doctoral education for minorities is scheduled for April 29 and a fund-raising gala is planned for September.

The conference will feature educational leaders from Howard, Har-

Please See DEGREES, A3

Rwandans Accuse France Of Inciting Genocide Wars

By VON-ANISE MCCOY

Hilltop Staff Writer

Four years after the Rwandan genocide wars that killed more than 800,000 people, controversy continues to surround the role of the French government in a plane crash in which the presidents of Rwanda and Burundi died, the day before the war started.

The French have denied shooting down the plane and accusations that the pilots were employees of France.

But wives of the dead pilots have reportedly received letters from the French government that claimed their husbands were "killed in action."

"The government of Rwanda, has always felt that the French had

something to do with the plane going down," said Eugene Kayihura, first secretary at the Rwandan Embassy in Washington, D.C. "The French were never in support of Rwanda beginning a free democratic government."

Presidents Juvenal Habyarimana, of Rwanda and Cyprien Ntaryamiira of Burundi, were members of the Hutu ethnic group which led a 100-day massacre of their Tutsi enemies after the April 6, 1994 crash. Speculation is that they were killed to pave the way for the genocide by the French-backed Hutu extremists.

"How could the militia groups start the killing the day the plane went down unless it was a planned attack?" Kayihura asked.

Ezekiel Pijabo of the African Faith Justice Network agrees.

"The downing of the plane was the catalyst that sparked the genocide," said Pijabo.

But he remains puzzled by the French position.

"Why would the French shoot down the plane of a person they supported? It doesn't make any sense," he said.

Steve Shalon, a professor of political science at William Patterson University in New Jersey, said the French should tell the truth about its role.

"The role the French played is unclear, but what we do know that it was not a very favorable role," Shalon said. "I would agree that it does not make any sense for the French to shoot down that plane, but the arms that they were selling to the killers is an even greater wrong."

The French parliament has launched an investigation into the accusations, but has acknowledged that it continued supplying arms to the Hutus five to 10 days after the killings started.

But officials at the French Embassy here said they will not comment until the government's investigations are complete.

These new developments come exactly four years after the wars ended and a week after President Clinton apologized to Rwandans for not acting quicker to stop the murders.

To commemorate the sad event, this week was declared a week of mourning.

While the French are accused of aiding the Hutus, Bernard Debre, the French minister for cooperation during the genocide, is point-

ing at the United States.

He said if the French armed the Hutus, the Americans were responsible for arming the Tutsis.

"I don't want to portray a showdown between the French and Anglo-Saxons, but the truth must be told," he said in an interview with a French radio station.

Debre said the identification number on the missiles that downed Habyarimana's jet is from Ugandan weapons, supplied by the U.S.

Fighting among the groups ceased until the return of more than one million refugees from neighboring Congo in 1996. Sporadic fighting continues and the United Nations reported that an estimated 300,000 children are heading households after losing their parents in the wars.

CAMPUS

Howard Family Center Highlights Achievements Of Area Youngsters

By ERICA MOODY-HANKERSON

Hilltop Staff Writer

The Howard University Family Life Center recently celebrated its role as a comprehensive program where University faculty, local public school principals and residents will come together in support of building family values.

Families living in the Shaw/Columbia Heights areas will be the focus of a program that will seek to improve self-confidence in youth by honoring them for outstanding academic and behavioral achievement.

The program will attempt to do so by promoting career- and educational goals

among Black males and by highlighting the importance of family relationships.

The Family Life Center opened last fall, but was formally introduced as a University program Thursday. It has more than 60 volunteers and is expecting to aid between 5,000-6,000 families.

Most of the younger participants are from Bruce Monroe Elementary School, Garnet-Patterson Middle School and Cardozo High School.

The center is part of President H. Patrick Swygert's "Strategic Framework for Action."

HU Provost and Chief Academic Officer Antoine Garibaldi said this project is the first step toward a university well-

entrenched in its community -- socially, economically and educationally.

"It is in this spirit, that the University and its community partners have begun an ambitious initiative to enhance and support the social structure of neighboring communities," he said. "The Family Life Center is a crucial part of this process."

To foster that bond between the University and the community, participating schools have also taken steps of their own by instituting an Academic Incentive Program, which honors good behavior and scholastic accomplishment and encourages students to adopt healthy lifestyles.

In addition, Family Life Center also sponsors an after-school program with mentor-

ing, tutoring and a summer academy seeking to improve academic skills and enhance career goals among Black males.

In November of last year, the Family Life Center awarded eight Cardozo High School students the Pillars of the Community Academic Award for obtaining a 4.0 grade point average during the previous grading period.

"We have to publicly recognize our students for their good work so they will not feel as though they are being chastised by their peers for doing good work," said Garibaldi, who was a speaker at the celebration.

Students from Bruce Monroe's Multimedia Club videotaped the ceremony.

"In the Cardozo community, we have stressed academics to the point that we are stressing academics now and because of this program, we are able to give incentives and stress academic excellence to an even a higher degree," said Reginald D. Ballard, Cardozo High principal. The center received \$200,000 in funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and is sponsored by the Office of Minority Health and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. There are Family Life Centers at 19 Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Minority Institutions.

Study Finds Significant Decrease In Minority Enrollment In Medical Schools

By KENYATTA MATTHEWS

Hilltop Staff Writer

As part of President Clinton's Race Initiative, the Association of American Medical Colleges released a study predicting a dismal outlook for minority medical students if the backlash against affirmative action continues.

The study, "Questions and Answers on Affirmative Action in Medical Education," reported that without affirmative action, minority acceptance into medical schools would have dropped almost 80 percent in 1996, despite minority applicants' abilities to meet the "rigorous" requirements.

Propositions passed to limit affirmative action in the last two years, such as 209 in California; 200 in Washington State; and the movement of proposed legislation in Michigan and Georgia, could "re-segregate" medical schools, the AAMC study said.

"Only about 2 percent of all medical students would be minorities, approximately the same that entered medical school in 1966 prior to the start of affirmative action," the study said. "Do opponents really want to re-segregate medical schools? That is a real possibility, whether or not that is their intention."

The study excluded historically Black colleges and universities, choosing to focus on majority White medical schools.

John Parler, a spokesman for the AAMC, said the organization's "main concern is not the [HBCUs] as much as with the majority of medical schools" because it has been, and continues to make up, the larger number of Black medical students.

Until the late 1960s, three-quarters of all

Black medical students were enrolled at Howard and Meharry in Nashville, Tenn., while all other schools averaged only one Black student every other year.

Now, with the reversal of affirmative action in many medical schools, students like Stanley Mims are returning to Black medical schools for education. Mims, a second year Howard University medical student, said the removal of affirmative action affected his decision about where he apply to medical school.

"Now that they've taken affirmative action away. We have to compete with the majority population and we have been discouraged from applying," Mims said. "[Affirmative action] gave me a chance to compete with the majority population and helped balance the scale."

Under affirmative action, MCAT score levels for minorities were lower than those of Whites. But despite the lowered scores, there was little difference between the two groups in completing residency training or in performance evaluations by residency directors, the AAMC noted in the study.

Although the study did not give a comprehensive reason for lower MCAT performance by minorities, many Howard medical students cited preparation and curriculum as factors.

"At some HBCUs, the emphasis isn't on test taking. They overwhelm you with information and believe that's enough to get you to the next level," said Mims, who attended a historically Black college or university for undergraduate study.

Yolanda Lewis, a third year medical student, also noted preparation as a determinant for success on standardized tests.

"Some schools teach you how to approach an exam," Lewis said. "Exams are set up in a cer-

tain way, and if you don't have those test taking skills, it can really affect how you do on the MCAT or the LSAT."

Lewis added that other factors, such as essay, experience, strong grades and productive interviews should outweigh a bad MCAT score.

"If a student demonstrated through other measures that they were qualified for the program, it should show that maybe that person just didn't test well," Lewis said.

But some students said they would not choose to attend a medical school without affirmative action even if they were accepted. Lewis, who was accepted to Georgetown and UCLA medical schools, still chose Howard.

And Katrina Baker, president of the Howard Student National Medical Association, said affirmative action programs would affect her medical school choice as well.

"Whether or not the school is rated well, how I chose which school to apply to was based on its minority policy," Baker said. "A school policy tells a lot about their attitude toward certain groups of people. It tells me they have us in mind."

Although affirmative action lowered MCAT scores, the AAMC emphasized in the study that the test does not predict how well a student will perform as a physician. The AAMC found that 94 percent of "special consideration" students graduate from medical school, compared to 97 percent of all other students, proving that the academic rigor prepares students to become competent practitioners.

Lewis agrees with the study's data.

"One test shouldn't determine whether someone would be a good doctor," Lewis said. "[The test] has nothing to do with how good of a doctor you'll be."

Area Students Showcase Projects At Science Fair

By DARRIANN PROCTOR

Hilltop Staff Writer

When Michael Greene, a 12th-grader at Coolidge Senior High School visited Israel on an internship he was advised not to drink the water.

"I was told not to drink the water due to its contamination," said Greene about the high salt content in the Dead Sea.

He figured he would do something about it.

"I decided to find out if it was true that if you drank the water you could, in fact, get sick or even die," he said.

Greene put together a science project which consisted of purifying water from the Dead Sea. He titled it "Desalination of the Dead Sea" and presented his findings at a recent science fair.

Participants from 70 junior high and high schools in the District and Prince George's County were selected to be a part of a science and technology fair held Saturday in the Howard Hotel Lounge. Two students were selected from each of the schools to present their projects. Greene was one of them.

One of the requirements was to write a 300 to 500 word project summary. The categories were divided into two age groups, grades 7-9 and 10-12.

Officials said they hoped to promote interaction between the Howard University community and students from the greater met-

ropolitan area.

Grid Gemi, a ninth-grader at the Junior High, built three houses to find out if fiberglass or foam was the better insulator.

"In cold days house number one was the house with both insulators which kept the temperature warmer than the other two houses," Gemi said.

Cyrus Afshar's experiment took him three months to conclude. A finalist in the fair, his project submitted to prove or disprove a law of conservation of momentum in an elastic collision.

The 11th-grader at Gonzaga College High School was confident about his project.

"I think it's an ideal opportunity for students of diverse backgrounds to interact in an educational environment," Afshar said.

Faculty and graduate students judged the projects in the following categories: biology, physics, chemistry, mechanics/engineering and computers.

IMSystems provided computers to the first place participants in each age group.

"Our company is happy to work with Howard University in hopes of encouraging school children to further their education at high school as well as become equipped with the new technologies that are being used today," said Ike Amucha, president of IMSystems and co-coordinator of the Science and Technology Fair.

Mr. Howard Blames Performance On Lack Of Student Activities Funding

By VALYNIA SAUNDERS

Campus Editor

Glitz and glamour have hardly characterized the reign of this year's Mr. and Miss Howard University.

In fact, as representatives of the Mecca of historically Black colleges and universities, Rob Hall and Akua Aidoo have not been able to organize and sponsor community-service activities that past campus royalty have.

The reason: no money has been allotted to them by the Homecoming Policy Board.

Each year, a final budget report is submitted to the board by the Homecoming Steering Committee. Funds are then allo-

cated to pay any remaining bills and finance budgets previously approved for Mr. and Miss Howard University.

Although Aidoo and Hall proposed budgets as early as November, the year's end is near and so is their reign.

Hall sites excessive spending by members of the Homecoming Committee as a possible reason the committee didn't have funds available. The final budget report has not been submitted to the policy board.

"People had rental cars and cellular phones and we didn't even get sashes," Hall said.

Having to borrow sashes and other materials from their successors, Hall said he and Aidoo were mistreated. The working environment, he said, was not supportive

of his and Aidoo's efforts — making his experience as Mr. Howard less than royal.

"At other universities, they'll name you, but you have work to do," Hall said. "There's no support [at Howard] People have found budgets for what they want a budget for. I lay a lot of responsibility on students who controlled the budget."

Aidoo refused to comment.

Daanen Strachen, the committee's advisor, said if funds are provided, Aidoo and Hall may be able to sponsor and coordinate activities during the summer and into next fall.

But director of Student Activities Belinda Lightfoot-Watkins said financing for Hall and Aidoo is doubtful.

"We're hopeful to pay [Homecoming Chair Haki Halisi] his stipend in full and

any outstanding debts," she said.

Halisi declined to comment.

However, Lightfoot-Watkins said expenses noted by Hall, such as a cellular phone, are common for student activities sponsored by the Undergraduate Student Assembly and the Howard University Student Association.

Securing space in Cramton Auditorium caused the Homecoming Policy Board's expenses to double unexpectedly. The fireworks exhibition held during Homecoming was also more expensive than projected and some sponsors have failed to pay their debts.

Despite these mishaps, both Hall and Aidoo said Lightfoot-Watkins and Vice-President of Student Affairs, Steve Favors, have helped them represent the school

given the circumstances.

From public speaking and musical performances at Convocation and the Black Achievers' Banquet, to traveling to New Orleans and California, Aidoo said she and Hall are continuing to cope with a reign unbefitting a Howard University king and queen.

"If I am at home or in D.C. and I tell someone in some way shape or form I'm representing the school or am called upon to represent the school," she said.

Both said the positions are more than wearing a crown and a sash.

"I competed because I love my school," Hall said. "I just wish that my school would show me the same love."

Grambling Alumnus Opposes Favor's Nomination, Files Lawsuit

By SUFIYA ABDUR-RAHMAN

Hilltop Staff Writer

With a month left before Steve Favors, Howard's vice president of Student Affairs, is to assume his post as president of Grambling State University, a Grambling alumnus has come forward to object.

James Bradford, president of the Grambling National Alumni Association, has filed a lawsuit claiming the presidential selection committee did not follow proper procedure when it chose Favors as next year's president.

Bradford said he is not trying to stop Favors from assuming the office but is instead seeking justice.

"The suit was not filed against, nor was it filed for, any candidate," Bradford said. "We didn't think the

process was correct."

Bradford said the presidential search committee outlines certain guidelines that were not adhered to. "They didn't allow alumni input," Bradford said.

The other candidates were current Grambling President, Leonard Haynes; Alfred Guillaume, provost for Academic Affairs at Humboldt State University in California; and George W. Reid, senior vice president at Benedict College in South Carolina.

Acting president of the University of Louisiana System, Carroll Falcon, said members of the governing board agreed that Favors was well qualified for the position.

"He has a lot of experience in higher education," Falcon said. "He has been at a lot of different institutions."

Favors has 22 years of administrative experience in universities throughout the southwest including the

University of New Orleans and Dillard University.

Despite Favors' qualifications, the alumni association did not support him. Instead, it backed Merlin Augustine, a Grambling graduate who Bradford said would best represent their interests.

"We felt he was the best candidate to lead Grambling," Bradford said. Falcon disagreed.

"He knows how to handle a budget and staff. He was in charge of a lot of personnel," Falcon said. "It appears that he has a lot of people skills. He seems to work well with the public."

Favors was chosen from among 42 applicants.

But this was not the first time Favors applied for the position of president at Grambling.

Falcon said he remembered Favors from the last interviews after Hicks resigned. The governing board was in the process of evaluating Hicks when he left Gram-

bling. Favors had also applied when Hicks was selected.

"He was a finalist at the previous search for a president at Grambling," Falcon said. "He'd been thought highly of by a lot of people."

But Falcon said Favors will have no easy task leading Grambling. "He's not walking into a bed of roses," Falcon said. He noted that Grambling has had four different presidents within the last ten years. Falcon said Favors will be expected to rectify budget problems, get accreditation for the School of Business, deal with student finances and increase enrollment.

"He says he's up to it and the board's confident he can do it," Falcon said.

The hearing date, set for May 18, will decide if Bradford's case will go to court. Favors is scheduled to assume his post as acting president May 25.

CAMPUS

Ph.D Program Celebrates 40 Years Of Progress

from DEGREES, A1

University and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst as well as national leaders from the United Negro College Fund, Educational Testing Service and the Council of Graduate Schools.

Taylor said national downsizing of affirmative action programs in graduate schools affects African Americans preparing for degrees

at mainstream and historically Black schools.

"If trends continue, there will be a big shortage of Black faculty members in the future," Taylor said. "Before, HBCUs were the only game in town for Black Ph.D. recipients. Now, with a limited number of Ph.Ds going to Blacks, all universities are clamoring for Blacks with Ph.Ds and they may not be willing to come to HBCUs."

Taylor warned students that current litigation involving more universities with affirmative action programs might make getting into graduate school more difficult.

"Schools like the University of Michigan that aggressively recruited minorities for their program are now being sued for reverse discrimination," Taylor said. "In a few years, it may not be as easy to get into these programs."

The gala dinner and fund-raiser in September will go toward financing the annual external research support which exceeds \$50 million. The event will honor Ph.D. alumni and Ph.D. faculty members as well as showcase Howard's major contributions to doctoral education and research.

Other activities scheduled for the celebration include organizing a Graduate School Alumni Association and a fund-raising drive,

including a graduate student-conducted phon-a-thon reaching alumni worldwide.

Anniversary activities are just a part of the "evolution" within the graduate school. Task Forces are exploring the feasibility of offering courses and possibly degrees in information technologies. The school has launched two new graduate programs, Atmospheric Science and Materials Science

and Engineering.

Taylor said he wants Howard to develop a "crystallized vision" of African-American Ph.Ds and their role at Howard in the future.

"The Ph.D. program will produce more recipients who can become Howard faculty members and leaders in research," Taylor said. "These initiatives are designed to keep Howard in the vanguard of American graduate education."

HU Talent Show Shut Down Abruptly

from SHOWTIME, A1

and the woman then complained to Tracy Rand, acting director of Cramton Auditorium. Rand said Neal gave orders to restrict use of profanity.

Undergraduate Student Assembly Coordinator Zhaundra Jones said she was not advised to tone down the show's explicit language, but was told just before intermission of its cancellation.

"I really didn't mean to offend anyone, that wasn't my intention," said Hambrick who affirmed her belief in free speech. "If a woman can shut down the talent show, she can shut down every Howard production."

But as the only administrator in attendance, Rand disagreed.

"It's more than just a one person issue," he said. "There was a lack of profanity understanding that was not adhered to on stage."

Rand said it is University procedure to structure the content of its productions.

"To me it was kind of an issue of free speech. Now that I've learned that Howard University doesn't believe in free speech except in the academic arena, it gets confusing," Jones said.

A contract with Recca prohibited him from using potentially offensive language. But Jones said she was unclear of what words the contract included in its interpretation.

"If everything has to be rated G, as we were told, then we'll definitely see a change in Howard events," Jones said.

Assistant Director of Student Activities and UGSA advisor, Daanen Strachen, said the administration overreacted.

After seven years as an administrator, Strachen said he plans to quit.

"This is about power and control, who can flex the most muscle. And that's not the issue," Strachen said. He said Neal's actions

were inappropriate and caused bigger problems than they solved.

Angel Gore, freshman president of the College of Arts & Sciences, said the show's cancellation was a big loss for her committee.

"We really lost a lot of money," Gore said. The freshman and junior classes of the College of Arts & Sciences in conjunction with UGSA made 5,000 fliers and 250 programs.

Jones said UGSA spent a total of \$6,321 for the evening's expenses, including \$3,000 for the comedian and \$1,677 to rent Cramton Auditorium.

"The people who bought the tickets get their money back, but Arts & Sciences doesn't," Gore said.

UGSA will not be repaid either, Jones said. An announcement stated that audience members could bring their ticket stubs to Cramton for a refund.

However, Jones said she did not authorize

the announcement and did not agree to repay ticket holders.

Talent who did not perform will not be refunded for lost time. Comedian Chris Reese (known on stage as Sin and Bones) was upset.

"Nothing has changed," Reese said. "Black people can't come together. It's one of our own pulling us down."

Reese, a senior film production major, was one of nine acts that did not get to perform. "It was the perfect opportunity to get seen and nothing came of it," Reese said.

DJ Sixthsense, who provided music for the show, agreed.

"That's criminal. The fact that they're getting robbed before they got the chance to shine," he said.

Sixthsense said explicit lyrics in music he played were not suitable for children and may have contributed to the outcome.

Hambrick contends she and others were not wrong.

"If there were children in the audience I would've been more apologetic. We are all grown people here," she said.

Hambrick said she was surprised other events that included profanity, such as the poetry show, were not shut down.

Gore said if "Showtime" was stopped, then the homecoming comedy show featuring T. to the motherf***ing K., the P***yologist should have been called off as well.

Gore is scheduled to coordinate a program for Arts & Sciences week featuring Robert Townsend, but he is not sure she will have the money to do so.

"We are negative now. We have no money to put on that show," Gore said.

Despite this, UGSA will continue with the "Odyssey" spring fashion show and the spring picnic on Saturday.

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8:30 - 9:00	Registration - Coffee & Tea	President's Suite, Notre Dame Hall, First Floor	
9:00 - 12:00	Class Visits		
<u>Time</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Professor</u>	<u>Classroom</u> (Basement Level)
9:00 - 9:50	Property	Prof. Robinson	Houston Hall, Rm. 4
10:00 - 10:50	Constitutional Law	Prof. Smith	Houston Hall, Rm. 3
12:00 - 1:30	Annual Awards Ceremony: Moot Court Room		
1:30 - 2:30	Information Session & Lunch	President's Suite	
1:30 - 2:00	Buffet Luncheon for Open House Guests & Hosts		
2:00	Introduction - Acting Assist. Dean of Admissions, Ruby Sherrod (806-8009)		
2:05	Welcome - Dean Alice Gresham Bullock		
2:10	Greetings - Denise Purdie, Assist. Dean for Student Affairs & Records (806-8006)		
2:15	Opportunities in the Clinical Law Center, Homer Larue, Director		
2:20	Career Services Overview, Mrs. LuEllen Conti, Director (806-8136)		
2:25	Financial Aid Highlights - James Marks, Financial Aid Director (806-8005)		
2:30	Greetings - Charles Moore, Student Bar Association Representative (806-8150)		
2:35	Law Library Highlights - Adrian White, Electronic Services Librarian (806-8045)		
2:40	Tour of Law School		



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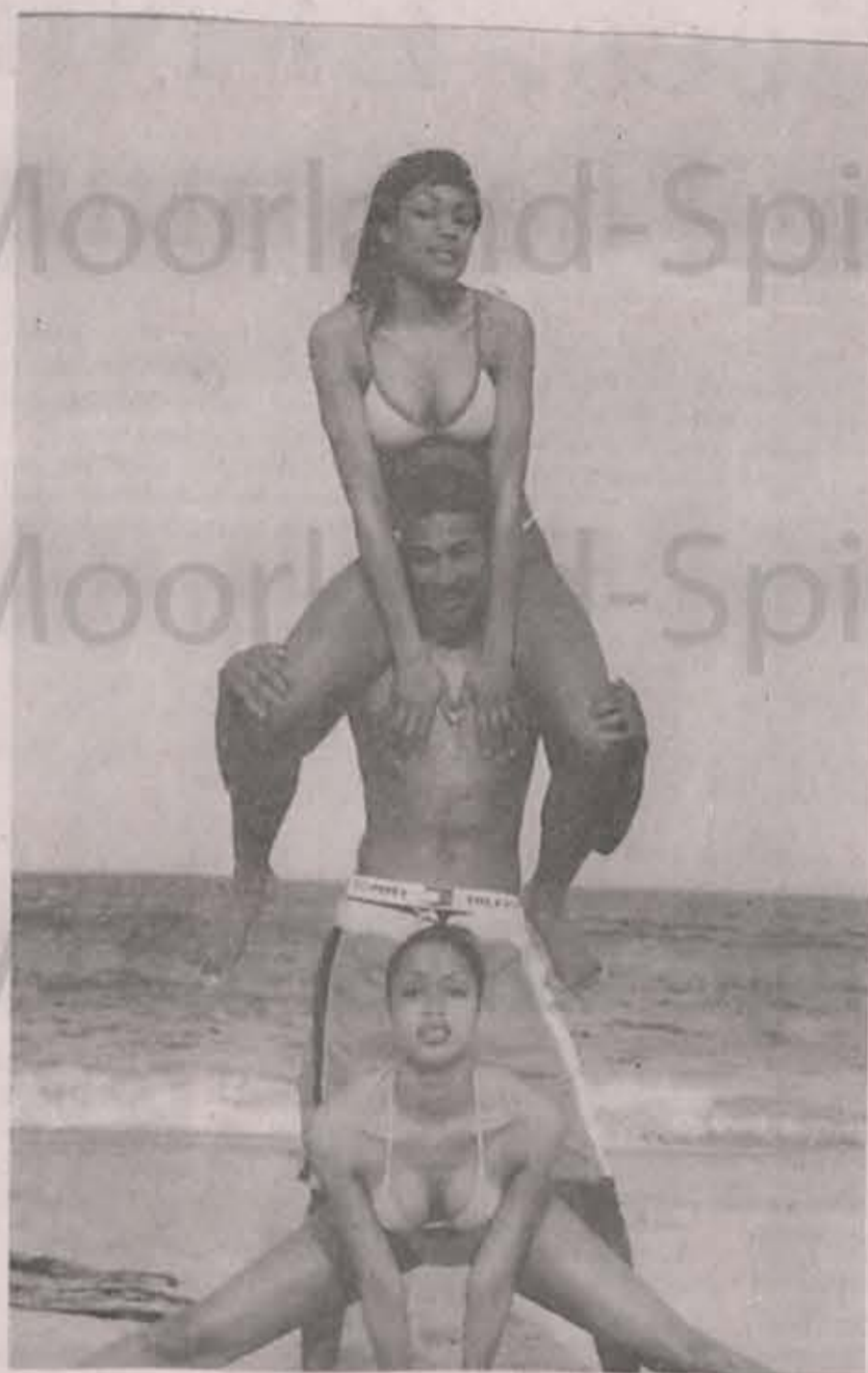


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WORLD

Poor Farming Practices, El Nino Blamed For Destroying The Amazon

By NEYSTAL HOWARD

Hilltop Staff Writer

The Roraima region of the Amazon Rain Forest has been burning uncontrollably for the past three months, destroying the homes of the Yanomami Indians, rare plant and animal life, and prompting the United Nations to send a team of disaster experts to Brazil to assess the damage and aid residents.

Deforestation by peasant farmers and dry weather conditions attributed to El Nino are being blamed for the devastating blaze.

Scientists said the area has not seen rain for the past six months, a ramification of the El Nino weather phenomenon that is causing the region to dry out.

"El Nino or not, the agricultural practices used by the farmers must change because not only is this adding

to the growing problem of global warming, but if the abuse continues over the years the area will be nothing but desert," said Andrew Davies, press officer for Green Peace, a non-profit international organization that advocates environmental issues.

Brazil has begged the United Nations for help because the country lacks the resources to fight the forest fire.

The northwestern state of Roraima has only 80 forest firefighters and six fire trucks, but the government is using helicopters to fight the blaze.

More than 12,000 herds of cattle have died in the fires and damage to crops is estimated at \$36 million. The blaze has spread to the neighboring countries of Guyana and Venezuela and has already burned an area of about 22,000 square miles.

"We have reports that it is raining in the region, helping to bring the fire under control," said Carlos Delgado, press officer of the Brazilian Embassy.

The United Nations has asked member countries to provide equipment. It also plans to teach fire-fighting methods to Brazil to prevent future fires in the rest of the region. Future prevention plans also include a "risk-management plan," that will detect areas most at risk.

"The U.N. got involved because of the rare plants and animals and human lives in danger," said Karen Webb, press officer for the United Nations Environment Program.

Brazil faced a similar problem 30 years ago, when a fire destroyed 10 percent of the Amazon, the world's largest rain forest.

But this is the worst fire the region has ever seen. Experts predict it could take a century for the damage to be repaired.

Economic recession coupled with dramatic population growth has forced Brazilians to make their liveli-

hood from the forest. While some farmers clear parts of the land, others destroy large areas in the search for precious trees such as the mahogany.

In an attempt to control deforestation, Brazilian environmental inspectors are fining farmers who burn illegally. But for the hundreds of residents, there are only about 300 inspectors monitoring the vast Amazon region.

"When the farmers use this selective process it leaves dead wood and grass and nothing is left for the animals to live in or eat," Davies said.

"Our motto is 'Ban the burn' because burning of this magnitude in the forest causes the ozone layer to release carbon dioxide. This is double trouble for people's health," he said.

Summit Stresses Bonds Between Black Americans, Africans

By STEPHANIE BURTON

Hilltop Staff Writer

Africans and African Americans need to make an effort to create stronger bonds said MacArthur DeShazer, director of the National Summit on Africa.

"We are displaced geographically, we must connect the dots," DeShazer said.

DeShazer spoke Saturday at the International African Students Association Conference in the School of Business Auditorium.

The conference was organized in an effort to foster discussion among Africans about the development of Africa and relations between Africans and African Americans. It was held over three days under the theme "Toward 2000: The Role the African Student."

DeShazer said the traditional views of Africa need to be changed and an effort made to elevate Africa's profile in this country.

"Whites aren't the only folks ignorant of Africa," he said.

Debbie Allen, the scheduled keynote speaker, was absent because bad weather conditions prevented her from leaving Atlanta.

DeShazer said the National Summit on Africa, an organization dedicated to the development of Africa, will play its part in uplifting the African image. He said the Summit will develop and strengthen different schemes to educate the American public on Africa and broaden the existing view of Africa.

The Summit's Plan of Action Committee has hired 25 academics to organize activities that are geared toward finding common ground for Africans and African Ameri-

cans through the fundamentals of education and awareness socially, culturally, emotionally and mentally, DeShazer said.

African students are skeptical about DeShazer's plans and question whether they can be achieved.

"He (DeShazer) never made it clear how his plans were going to work," said Ayinde Bourne, a junior at Boston College.

A m i m b o l a Bishi, sophomore neuroscience

major at Emory University said she didn't see the benefits of the Summit and said DeShazer and his orga-

nization is hypocritical until she sees action.

Jennifer Duttigbe, a Howard University senior, agrees.

"This is all rhetoric and propaganda," said Duttigbe, who is from Nigeria. "There are more important things that can be done for Africa."

The conference was held over three days under the theme "Toward 2000: The Role the African Student."

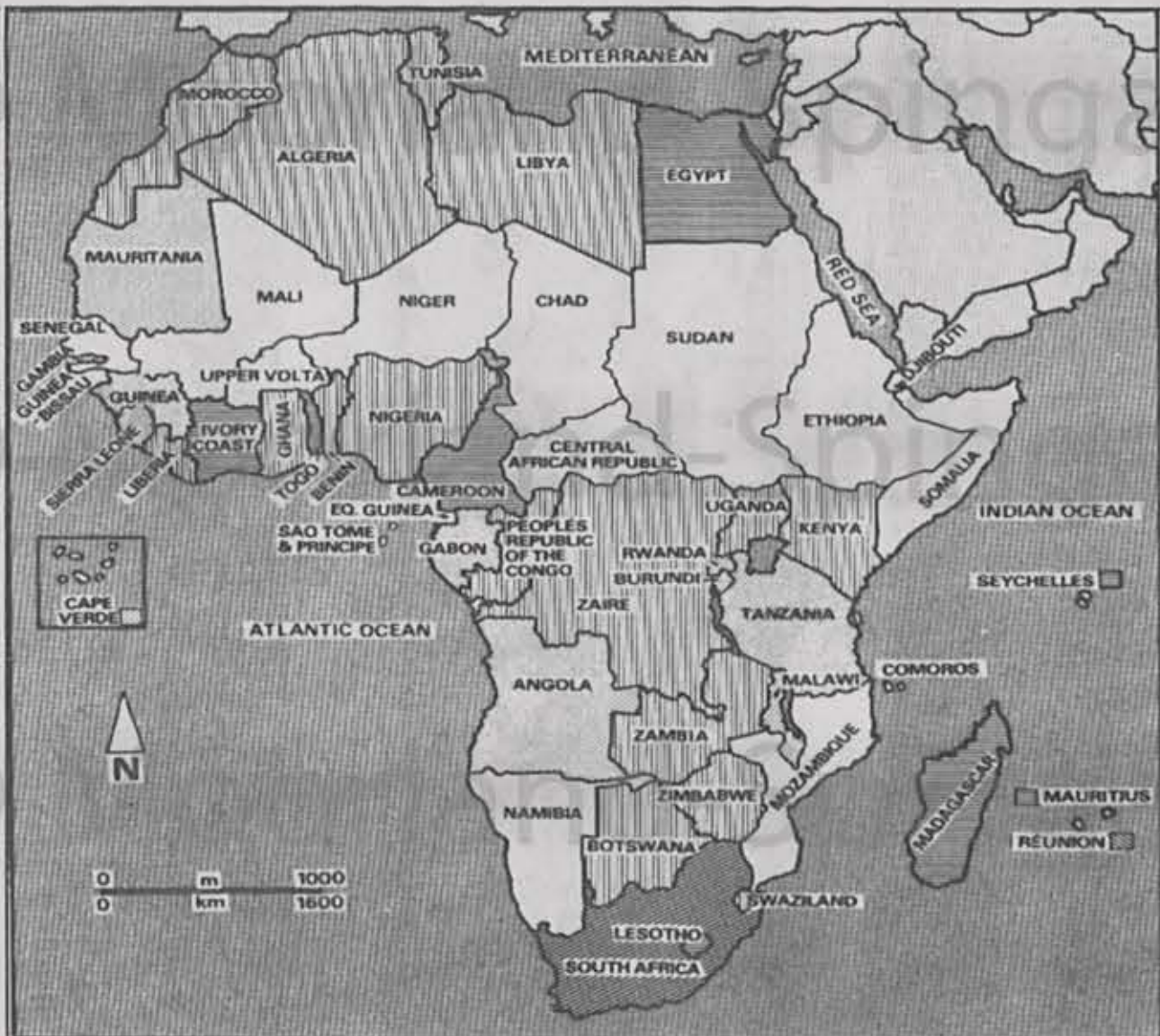
"The cultural difference between Africans and African Americans is large, but it is very possible that we can come together as one Black voice," said Michael Adumua, a freshman architecture major at Howard.

President of the Howard University African Students Association, Esigie Aguele, said the conference, now in its fourth year, was an ongoing effort by African students to play a role in Africa's freedom as its future leaders.

"We believe like (W.E.B.) Dubois that Blacks will not be free until all Africa is free," Aguele said.

"The cultural difference between Africans and African Americans is large, but it is very possible that we can come together as one Black voice,"

--Michael Adumua, freshman architecture major



President Clinton's historic 12-day journey across Africa was the first by a sitting U.S. president in 70 years. On his tour, he visited Botswana, Senegal, Ghana, Uganda, South Africa and Rwanda. While in Rwanda, the president apologized for the country's genocide wars four years ago that resulted in more than 800,000 deaths.

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EDITORIAL

THE HILLTOP

"Make of me always a man [woman] who questions."

--Frantz Fanon

Involuntary Conception

At 40 years old, Maureen Kass sees her chances for becoming pregnant limited. Whether or not she will have a child is not being determined by her, her husband or even her biological clock.

Instead the New York court system is making the decision.

In 1988, Maureen Kass and then husband, Steven Kass, began what would become a lengthy process to conceive. After Maureen discovered that she had reproductive problems, the couple sought help from a fertility clinic, where a number of embryos were fertilized. Twice she was impregnated at the clinic and tried to carry to term, and although the embryos took to Maureen's womb, neither was delivered alive.

The couple even attempted to use Maureen's older sister as a surrogate mother, but that, too, proved fruitless.

Ten years after the Kass's efforts began, the marriage is dead and they are still without children. Maureen's last hope for a child survives in the liquid nitrogen of a Long Island hospital where the remaining embryos of the Kass's attempt at parenthood reside.

The battle now rages over these potential lives, and the courts have a chance to establish rules for an area of reproduction as yet uncharted.

Although Maureen's belief that the remaining embryos are her last chance at becoming a mother may be true, she has no right to force her personal decision on a man who is no longer tied to her.

She contends that she would rather have the child of a man she knows is healthy and whom she once loved, rather than using the sperm of a stranger or adopting a child that is not biologically hers.

If she wants a child badly enough she may have to settle for one of these alternative solutions. The healthy man whom she once loved wants no part of her plans. Her ex-husband refuses to allow a woman he is no longer married to raise his child.

To him, it is set up for a dysfunctional family.

Her desire to have a child would deeply affect Steven Kass' life. Under New York state law, he would be required to provide financial support for a child, or children, he never wanted.

Beyond the burden on Steven Kass is Maureen Kass' renege on a contract. When the couple went to the fer-

tility clinic, they signed a number of forms, some of which described the fate of the embryos if the couple were ever to divorce.

However, by the time the Kass's divorce was final in 1993, no decision had been made. The forms also provide that the embryos cannot be released without the consent of both partners and any ownership would have to be determined in court.

The New York Superior Court dismissed the forms and maintained Maureen's contention that the wording was ambiguous, making the form useless. Despite this latest ruling, though, Maureen Kass still gave her written word that she would abide by the rules provided. Now when it is no longer advantageous, she recants.

This case is a perfect opportunity for the courts to create laws regarding situations such as these. Twenty thousand such embryos are in custody limbo in New York state. The legal system can no longer allow the prevalent fertility clinics to police themselves, laws must be made and maintained.

If Maureen Kass wins, the case will not only set a precedent regarding reproduction itself, but also the father's role in reproduction. Her victory would be a defeat for Steven Kass and every man who has fathered a child.

Certainly it is a woman's body, but the life growing in the woman's body is partly the father's. He had a say when the child was created, he should have a say in the life of the child.

If the courts and society decide that the man has no say, then he should also have no responsibility. Maureen Kass wants to have a child, but if Steven Kass does not, he should be under no obligation to provide financial or emotional support to the child.

Perhaps Maureen Kass should have her child in a state with less restrictive laws regarding child support. Her desire is for the child, not the money that could come along with the child.

The court decision expected in a few weeks may solve the Kass's problem, although it is likely to be appealed all the way to the Supreme Court.

The Pandora's Box opened by this case has ramifications for the millions who go to fertility clinics and the hundreds of millions who have children every year.

OUR VIEW:

Maureen Kass has no right to force her reproductive decision on her ex-husband.

Howard, why is the University now unable to fulfill its obligations?

Lack of foresight on behalf of the members of the Homecoming committee and the University officials that supervised their spending is inexcusable. New events at Homecoming, such as the fireworks, could not have required so much money that no money remains for the work of Mr. and Miss Howard. Proposals for the reigning king and queen to do projects during the summer and the two months of the fall, during which they will still hold their positions, is a weak alternative and a cop out on behalf of the University.

Errors were committed in the management of Homecoming, and having recognized those errors, something should be done to rectify the damage they created. Students should be able to see the work that the king and queen were chosen

for, which gives little purpose to work during the summer. The two months of the fall can perhaps give Hall and Aidoo some chance to make up for lost time, but if the University cannot find funding for them now, why do they believe that funding will appear in a couple of months?

The lack of funding is certainly one problem, but the University is also guilty of not informing Mr. and Miss Howard and the Howard community of the problem. If Howard knew after Homecoming that they would be unable to provide the king and queen with money, the University should have allowed them time to compensate. With prior knowledge of the mismanagement of the Homecoming revenue, Hall and Aidoo could have arranged fundraisers to find funds for their community service or they could have worked on projects that did not require funding.

Little can be done for this year's Mr. and Miss Howard, but Howard should take note to ensure that this kind of disgrace does not happen again.

OUR VIEW:

Howard has been negligent in its treatment of Mr. and Miss Howard.

A Crown, A Smile

When Rob Hall and Aqua Aidoo were crowned Mr. and Miss Howard at this year's Homecoming, they had little more than a crown and a smile and almost six months later, that is still about all they have. Mismanagement and overspending of funds has led to a lack of appropriations for the traditional aims of Mr. and Miss Howard. Without a budget to fund community service projects, Howard's royalty has had a reign that was barely productive.

Howard proudly proclaims that it is producing the nation's and the world's leaders, but the University cannot even support those who are trying to be leaders here. Without an active Mr. and Miss Howard, they become little more than figureheads. If they do not perform a service for the University and the students of the University, why do we have them. Although people may dismiss the positions of Mr. and Miss Howard, they are representatives of this University and should carry with them a pride in their school. Mustering some pride, though, is difficult when someone is abused and neglected by the very school they endeavor to represent.

The University has disrespected two people who chose to give of their time and energy in order to serve. Mr. and Miss Howard cannot even receive enough money to get sashes, instead they were forced to borrow their sashes from past royalty.

The situation of Howard's royalty is even more dismal in the face of the revenue generated by Homecoming. Traditionally, Homecoming is a large money maker, and since this Homecoming brought the activities back to campus, with the exception of the step show, even more money should have been brought in. In spite of these facts, though, there is doubt if even the Homecoming chair will even receive his financial due, much less Mr. and Miss Howard. Money was not going into paying for RFK stadium or any other off campus locations, except one. With money coming into



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As one of the oldest student institutions at Howard University, *The Hilltop* seeks to embody the University's motto of Truth and Service. Since 1924, *The Hilltop* has served as the watchdog of the University, facilitating free access to information and stimulating critical thought and intellectual debate. Through our news coverage and lead opinion-making, we hope to set a standard in collegiate newspapers and journalism. We champion the student voice within Universities across this nation and around the world. As a member of the Black press, it is our duty to seek out news that affects the daily lives and political being of African Americans so that we may determine our course. Without knowledge of ourselves, we are like a tree without roots.

WE WELCOME YOUR LETTERS AND COMMENTS

THE HILLTOP encourages you to share your views, opinions and ideas. We publish only material addressed to us, and routinely edit letters for space and style. Letters as well as commentaries must be typed signed with full addresses and telephone numbers.

The opinions expressed on the Editorial Page are solely the views of the Editorial Board, and do not reflect the opinions of Howard University, its administration, *THE HILLTOP* Board or the students.

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SLANT

REAL HARRIS

Beyond Blackness, There Is Humanity

The March 13, 1998 issue of *The Hilltop* featured an article titled "Homosexuality = Race?" The article is shamefully composed by Howard's newly elected graduate trustee, Randy Short.

This utterly disorganized article attacks gays while firing off into any directions until preposterously implying that only straight Black men suffer oppression. Therefore, in Mr. Short's myopic world view, Serbs, Hutus, Native Americans, the handicapped, aged, women and particularly gays, are entitled to justice.

Mr. Short's attack on gays begins prominently with the claim that, homosexuals have never faced systematic discrimination based on "biology" (i.e. skin color). In his statement, Mr. Short argues that oppression without a genetic basis does not constitute oppression. However, systematic discrimination is not always based upon genetics -- ask any overweight person in our society.

Furthermore, doesn't the denial of the rights of gays to marry, the denial of equal employment protections and opportunities for gay persons (i.e. the American military), the Nazi extermination of gays, and death by stoning or hanging of gays in many countries constitute systematic discrimination? In addition, why does Mr. Short assume that all gays are White? A gay person of color living under racist and Heterosexist law and society is often a closer target for violent attacks from her homophobic Black community than she is to the racist and equally homophobic White establishment.

Therefore, a Black gay person is reminded daily that it is not enough to fight racism in order to be liberated. Langston Hughes, Bessie Smith, James Baldwin, Countee Cullen, Bayard Rustin, and Lorraine Hansberry did not publicly fight gay intolerance, but we must understand that fear of rejection and national stigmatization were factors in that.

If it is not enough for Mr. Short to attack gays on the premise that gays

lack a gay gene, he continues his attack by belittling gayness. He does not realize that gayness is an essential aspect of personhood and not just a lifestyle.

Since this belief is representative of many ignorant assumptions that I cannot address within a 600 word limitation, I will say this: the extent to which homosexuality is branded "a lifestyle" is the extent to which homosexuals are denied access to their hearts and souls.

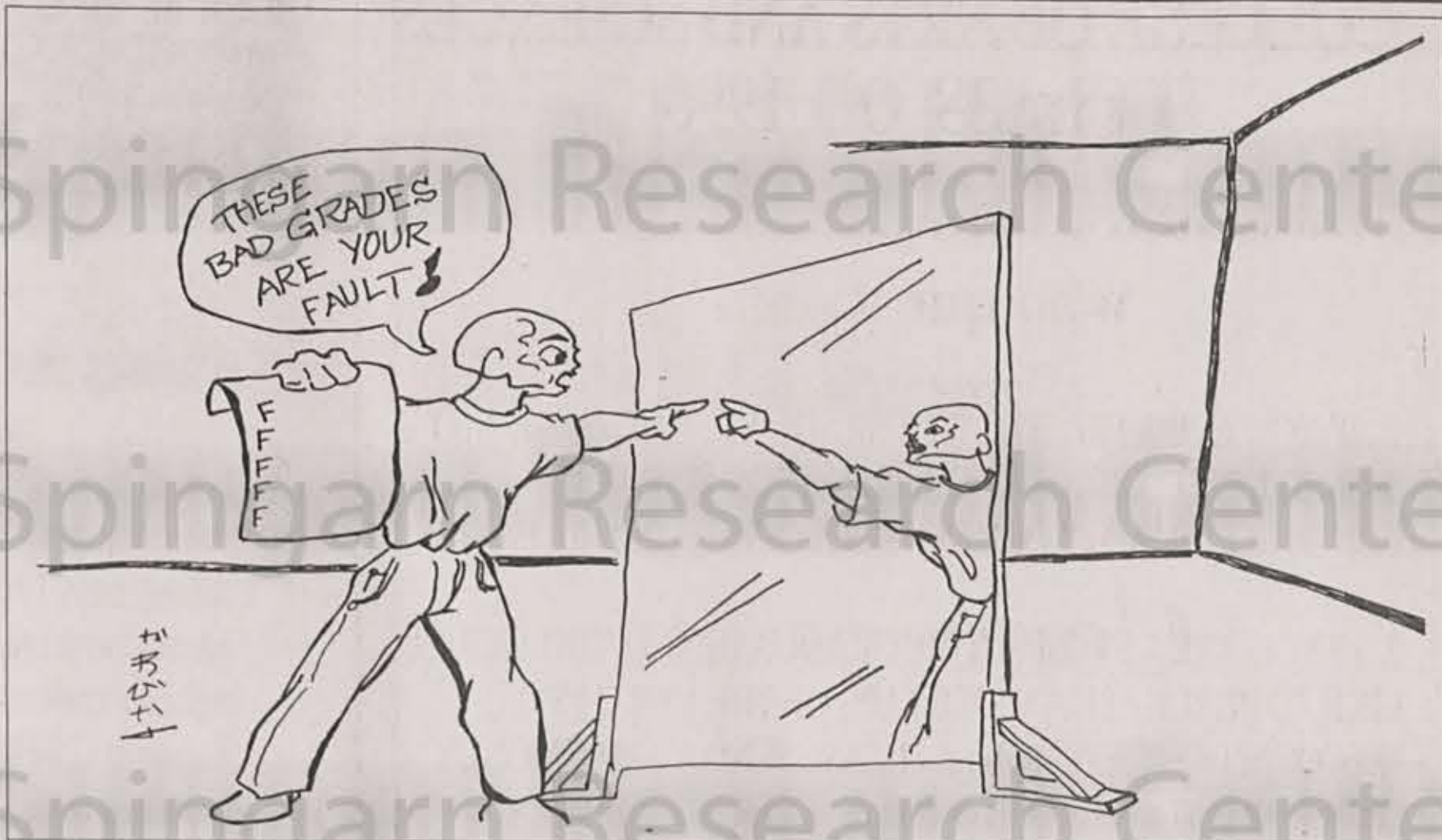
Furthermore, the question of whether the homosexual can choose gayness arises when homosexuality is condescendingly referred to as "a lifestyle." This question inevitably surfaces when straight Blacks accuse gays of choosing to be hated, I must ask why don't you remember the day you chose to be straight?

After attacking gays, Mr. Short concludes his marvelously unrestrained display of groundless chauvinism, sexism, heterosexism and ethnocentrism by attacking immigrants and drawing unfounded conclusions about the Stonewall Gay Riots, the "contamination" of the moral authority of Blacks, the Black family and what Clinton said at a Human Rights Campaign banquet.

Mr. Short nearly claims that his creator appointed him the accountant of God's love, and thus the power to withhold love from God's creations. Just like the KKK, Mr. Short believes that we are not created equal.

In conclusion, Mr. Short, who is paradoxically a doctoral student, is trapped by linear thinking because he ranks identities and oppressions. He cannot comprehend a holistic view of self. Obviously, his Black movement will never free Black people because he cannot see that human rights are indivisible and positively never a privilege.

The writer is director of Oxala, an organization for gay, lesbian and bisexual students at Howard University.



MICHAEL O. GRAFTON

Taken For Granted

Have you ever considered how many lives would be affected over the next 130 years if Howard University no longer existed? No Howard at which to learn, or from which to draw a paycheck, to complain about or most invariably to represent the Americanized-African society.

Most of us probably could not conceive of such a thought, it's unimaginable. Yes, Howard, we take thee for granted.

Listening to the many voices within the Howard University community, it appears that we need to be constantly reminded of the magnitude of Howard, what the University has meant and the vital role it continues to play in the survival, development, growth and I dare say, continued existence of the Americanized-African society.

Harsh words, inappropriate work ethic, disgruntled students and

workers, and an indifferent attitude from the surrounding community are feelings and actions that indicate that one of the greatest, most faithful institutions within the Americanized-African society is being grossly taken for granted.

In anticipation of those who will say that no individual entity is above reproach, I absolutely agree.

However, we often need to be reminded of the age-old issue of constructive versus destructive dialogue. I am reminded of a perfect personal example.

As head coach of a high school varsity basketball program, I had a terrible habit of being critical of the game officials. I led the league in technical fouls.

After a winning game, an older gentleman, who attended every home game, came to me and said, "You are an excellent coach, motivator and teacher. However, if you

counted the missed free-throw opportunities and the turnovers your team makes each game, you would find no need to be so critical of the official."

True enough, as I examined mistakes in myself, the players and the assistant coaches, I realized that the gentleman's constructive criticism was apropos. Perhaps those of us in the Howard community should take a good look at ourselves and determine if we are missing opportunities to better serve Howard and show our affection for its greatness.

When I think of Howard, I marvel at the mouths fed, bodies clothed, souls housed, minds educated and generations of individuals within the Americanized-African society and the world who have benefited from the service of Howard University's employees and alumni over the past 130 years. I would

imagine the numbers are staggering.

Yes, like any other family, group, or organization, we have issues here.

In addition, yes, your individual concerns are valid and important. However, it is more important to remember that "I" am not greater than the whole. That is a humbling, yet true thought.

"I" do not measure up to the overall magnitude of the great -- to borrow a term from author Robert F. Greenleaf, "servant-leader" Howard.

It never ceases to amaze me how we can be so destructively critical and indifferent toward such a sterling example of servitude through leadership.

The writer is an employee and alumnus of Howard.

ABIAN M. JAH

The Truth Hurts

Dear Brother Reggie White, Green Bay Packers:

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. always said, "The time is always right to do right." You picked the right time to say the right things, contrary to media opinions.

When I heard you made some scarily offensive remarks, I wanted to hear them from you. After hearing the versions chosen by the media, I wondered what the problem was. You only quoted the Good Book.

Then, as usual, the protesters told themselves. After reading some *Washington Post* articles, I saw their reasons for disdain. Your sermon painted a finger at special interest groups and made them feel guilty of their lifestyles. Leviticus 18:22 says, "Do not lie with a man as one does with a woman, that is detestable."

More was revealed when I read that you had just returned from Israel with information about urban renewal efforts, which they expected to hear about. They wanted you to speak about Israel's fabulous, stolen, slavery-acquired material riches.

My Bible says, "The appointed session of Israel was to be a witness to the unity of God in the midst of universal idolatry." Exodus 16:16, "Anyone who kidnaps another and either sells him or still has him when he is caught must be put to death."

The Post crucified you, but only to be blind. Those with a third eye, see through all evil.

We realize you are an instrument of God, doing his will. You will forever be undignified in a land man-

ufactured from greed, idolatry, theft, genocide and mayhem. The devil's workers are trying to tell Blacks what offends us, a facet of White supremacy, believing they can still guide our every feeling, emotion, thought, and decision.

You didn't offend my Black side or, as a Native American, my "red" side. This rhetoric is part of the propaganda game, which got big businesses to annihilate "Indians" and approve slavery license.

They compared you to White males, Al Campanis, Jimmy "The Greek" Snyder, and "Fuzzy" Zoeller, penalized for expressing their personal opinions over the airways. Your comments were from The Bible, not your personal opinion.

They try to damage your future employment, like at CBS.

Thank God for you, getting out of mental bondage. You've shown Black men how to say what is Godly and mean it. You stood by God's words with the ESPN announcer who asked you to retract.

Whites never apologize, it's a sign of weakness. We are always asked to recant, but they can't apologize for what their wicked ancestors did that gave them everything they have today.

The mainstream tries to keep the most sacred Black men in this nation mentally confused and verbally silent, at any cost. Whenever you speak, truth and divinity are revealed, hindering their everyday functions under falsehoods.

The writer is a District resident.

ROWENA MARTINEAU

Greetings From South Africa

Greetings from Pretoria, South Africa, where I am a post graduate fellow at the Centre for Information Society Development in Africa based at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. I have been in South Africa since September 1997.

Originally, I came here as a participant in the International Training in Women and Development Program based at Clark Atlanta University. I decided to remain after the program and received considerable exposure and experience through my assignment at CISDA where Derrick L. Cogburn, a Ph.D. graduate of Howard's political science department, is the center's director.

I could be considered a forerunner to the Howard University Republic of South Africa, the initial planning strategy for student participation in educational opportunities between Howard University and South Africa.

It has been a privilege to involve myself in various activities while

identifying the environment that Howard students would encounter in a post-apartheid South Africa. I can report that the situation here is working itself out quite well, although slowly.

The current South African national budget, that was released March 11, is expected to provide an expanded budgetary line for education at all levels. Several South African students are currently at Howard and two more are scheduled to attend Howard this fall. One U.S. Rotary South African Fellow is interested in attending Howard's School of Communications. Other developments are taking shape as well that will assist HURSAP in its effort to create a meaningful student exchange program.

Howard University has a very good image in South Africa, carefully built over several years.

In 1994, Robert Cummings, chair of the Department of African Studies, led a delegation of 15 undergraduate and graduate students, professors and administrators

to the national elections in South Africa.

The group was accredited election observers, the only U.S. university to be so honored. In 1996, President Swygert led a delegation of faculty and administrators to South Africa for one full month. The delegation made it known that Howard was serious about a meaningful educational partnership with South African institutions of higher learning.

A second delegation came in August 1997. Their arrival was highlighted by the first Howard University Scholar in Residence, Joseph Harris, was posted in Cape Town with the presidential mandate to establish a Howard University office in South Africa.

The second Scholar in Residence, Cummings, is currently here in South Africa continuing the faculty and student exchanges, research and training activities.

Originally scheduled to study here in South Africa for the Fall of 1997, my program ended in March. It is

imperative that we organize ourselves to find external support for the future exchanges of Howard students.

To Howard students seriously interested in this region of the world, please take time to meet and greet foreign students, especially South Africans, at Howard. This is an excellent way to make contacts and become exposed, however vicariously to the cultures from which these students come. These interactions will serve you well if you decide to participate in the future HURSAP exchange programs.

I hope this report will ignite a public discussion, led by HUSA, and among other students about the program, creating excitement about it. I am pleased to report that students at Howard University who are interested in future educational visits to South Africa have a great deal to which to look forward. Hamba kahle!

The writer is graduate student in the Department of African Studies.



ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION!**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
CLASS OF 1998**

1. IF YOU ARE A PROSPECTIVE GRADUATE AND HAVE NOT SIGNED UP FOR GRADUATION, PLEASE DO SO IN THE EDUCATIONAL ADVISORY CENTER, LOCKE HALL ROOM 110.

2. IF YOU ARE A PROSPECTIVE GRADUATE AND YOU WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE A VIDEOTAPE OF THE 1998 CAS "RECOGNITION CEREMONY," PLEASE SEND A \$15.00 MONEY ORDER AND YOUR ADDRESS TO:

OFFICE OF THE DEAN
2441 6TH STREET N.W.
SUITE #101
WASHINGTON, D.C.
20059

**CONGRATULATIONS!
CLASS OF 1998****HU**
Newsletter
Self-Study

HOWARD UNIVERSITY
Leadership for America
and the Global Community

Students, faculty and staff...

Howard University is currently conducting its self-study for reaccreditation by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. Every 10 years an accredited institution of higher education must complete a self-study and submit a report to its regional accrediting body for review. Therefore, your participation in a survey of the University's programs, services, resources and functions is needed to gather input for the study.

Student surveys will be distributed during class Monday, April 6 through Friday, April 17;

Faculty surveys will be mailed between Monday, April 13 and Friday, May 15; and

Staff surveys will be hand delivered between Monday, April 13 and Friday, May 15.

Your cooperation in this endeavor is greatly appreciated.

Published by the Office of the University's Self-Study • Dr. Lorraine N. Fleming, Director • 202.238.2490 • flerning@scs.howard.edu

A P R I L 1998

SPORTS1/2PAGE



S M T W T					F	S
12	13	14	15 BASEBALL/V Marist College Park, MD 5:00pm	16 BASEBALL/V Georgetown Washington, D.C. 7:00pm	17	18 BASEBALL/V UM Eastern Shore Preston, MD 12:00pm
19	20	21	22 BASEBALL St. Mary's JFK, DC 7:00pm	23 BASEBALL/V Norfolk St. Norfolk, VA 4:00pm	24	



Hi, I'm **Tanya Samuels**, your NIKE student rep. Check out **Sports1/2Page** every two weeks for the latest scoop on sports and NIKE events at **Howard University**. Are you or your team setting any records? Breaking any new ground? If so, I want to hear from you—especially if you're a Club or Intramural athlete. Drop me an email at tanya.samuels@nike.com. You just might end up featured in the next issue. To reach NIKE HQ directly, try: sports.halfpage@nike.com. A big Congrats to the **Lady Bison** for making it to the **NCAA tournament**! Well, the school year is almost over, but NIKE has plenty in store for all you BISON before finals. Ladies, hope you participated in the Women's Safe Run on the 9th. And I want everyone to participate in the **Reuse-A-Shoe** drive. Look for flyers and info around campus! I had fun visiting the **IM teams** and the **Judo club**. Everyone keep up the good work and continue to play in the spirit of a true BISON. Remember, if you want to volunteer, e-mail me at tanya.samuels@nike.com.

WANTED!... WANTED!...WANTED!

All Graduating United Methodist Students



Our Time Under God Is Now.

The Board of Directors of The Wesley Foundation at Howard University cordially invites all graduating United Methodist students to a dinner to be held in your honor on Friday, May 8, 1998, 6 o'clock in the evening at Asbury United Methodist Church, 11th & K Streets, N.W. in the city of Washington, D.C. Please R.S.V.P. to Rev. Burton L. Mack at (202) 806-4495, by April 17, 1998. Please provide parent names and addresses or the names and addresses of two guests in lieu of parents. We praise God for your accomplishment and anticipate the pleasure of your company on this evening.

PULSE

Watch The Coming Of The Storm Independent Hip-hop Artist Tackles Record Industry

By PHILIP HENERY

Hilltop Staff Writer

Marketing and selling one's talent as a commodity has become an art in itself, so being a recording artist these days can be big business. But for whom?

Up-and-coming artists can either take their careers on an independent route or choose to sign contractual agreements with a label.

But, with the success of independent artists like Master P and the Hieroglyphics, as well as focused entrepreneurs like the Bootcamp Clique with the Priority distributed Duckdown Records, it seems that going "indie" is by far the best option an artist could take.

Local hip-hop artist, Storm, chose the indie route to establish himself in the music business and has not regretted it since.

Storm "the unpredictable" has had what he calls a "mind-opening experience" when he took it upon himself to sell his skills on the mic. The man's motivation was simple: "Broken promises and people trying not to show me daylight."

Working out of Urban Intalek Studios, Storm established a relationship with the fledgling label, Urban Intalek Records, that would allow him to professionally record, promote and locally distribute his music. These were all duties he had to do himself, with the exception of recording.

"I told them 'look, it makes no sense for us to wait around,'" he said. "I had already created a buzz over the Internet and a few conferences just from my demo

tape."

The buzz was becoming widespread because of Web sites such as Hiphopsite.com and music conferences he performed in Detroit and Philadelphia.

Storm is getting ready for his first outdoor performance at this year's Freaknik in Atlanta, on April 17-19.

Storm said being independent is exactly what it means, freedom, but it also means responsibility. The only ironic down-side to this choice, Storm said with a laugh,

"We gotta pay our own money sending records out-of-state to like Canada and South Africa...it's costly man," he said.

Storm said any independent artists should also take into account the variety of people they reach, especially younger people.

Storm is a charismatic, confident artist who possesses a humble demeanor his audience felt at a recent performance at the State Of The Union club celebrating the independent release of his first single, "MC's Be Killin' Me."

Storm's stage show is incredibly energetic and interactive. He was well-received, and as a local artist who is almost accustomed to working a stage three times as hard as artists from other regions, the response took him slightly off-guard.

But, it hasn't always been that way, and Storm is an artist that has paid his dues.

Starting off in Oxon Hill, Md. when he was younger, Storm always found being a hip-hop artist in the nation's capital challenging.

The party people were not always so kind.

"It's time for me to perform, they announce me, they say where I'm from, half the spot leaves," he said. "Maybe a fourth of the way into my show everybody's comin' back because everybody wants to know why everybody else is making so much noise."

This kind of tenacity is what makes Storm stand out from other artists. His understanding of the music industry has given him a new respect for himself as well as other local artists on the rise such as the Priest, Kokayi, and Muzi featured on his single's B-side "Middle East," a song with a more than adequate title for the District area.

Storm said his self-education of the music industry has prepared him for the inevitable: getting signed.

"If I do get picked up by a major [record label], I'm not going to know everything, but just enough so they won't be able to sell me a lot of false dreams," Storm said.

As an independent artist, Storm has seen perhaps the

Storms, right, "rocks the mic" for an appreciative audience at the State Of The Union. Priest, in the background, looks on.

biggest advantage of having this type of career path—a very personal connection with the listeners. His relationship to the people has deepened with every e-mail, and every criticism.

"I'll take any type of criticism...because all I want to do is get better," he said.

Storm was quick to emphasize the need to network and how important his fans are to him, even spiritually.

"It just makes my spirit feel good that I know people who are feeling what I'm doing," he said. "I don't want to have anything out there that someone can misuse or for a child to take the wrong way."

Author Takes Reader Through Peaks, 'Valleys'

By DARRIANNA PROCTOR

Hilltop Staff Writer

Silver Springs, Md. resident Iyanla Vanzant is a critically acclaimed motivational writer and orator and, a best-selling author of several books, including "Acts of Faith," "Faith in the Valley" and "The Value in the Valley."

Born in Brooklyn, New York in 1953, Vanzant's tough life experiences eventually led her to become a Yoruba priestess in 1982 after thorough training in the ancient African traditions of the Yoruba peoples.

The very first sentence of "The Value in the Valley: A Black Woman's Guide Through Life's Dilemmas" draws the reader into Vanzant's style of writing.

"Black women do so much work 'in' we do not want to work 'on' life," she said.

When reading Vanzant's works, whatever barriers are being held up by the unyielding reader must come down. Readers' private feelings, thoughts and experiences appear before their own eyes with each sentence read in

Vanzant's books. They are forced to empathize with the characters' dilemmas, for they are simply illustrations of actual events which have transpired in people's own personal lives.

Vanzant eloquently and metaphorically discusses life's trials and tribulations as learning experiences through valleys. These valleys are defined as "a life situation designed to teach a character trait or spiritual virtue which has been undeveloped or underdeveloped during the course of your life."

The Valleys are separated into 12 categories of advancement. The most common experience, Vanzant writes, is the Valley of Light, a lesson in stillness, to reflect on oneself and the lives of those who surround you.

Another category is the Valley of Understanding which teaches acceptance of how things are — not as people want them to be.

The Valley of Courage aids in the development of the ability to surrender. The fifth, Valley of Knowledge and Wisdom teaches you to put what you've learned to good use.

The Valley of O.P.P. stands for Other People's Problems, Perspectives and Purposes. The Valley of Love, which is ruled by all the universal principles: cause and effect, belief, awareness, courage, sacrifice, nonresistance,

faith and trust.

It is hoped that at some point in this book, one will approach a revelation, a profound understanding of why people have been placed in a "valley" and what it takes to climb out. Vanzant has organized the content of the book so that readers can easily walk through.

Perhaps the most refreshing detail of this guide through life's experiences is that, as stated on the front cover, it applies to "Black Women Only." This is not the book that your typical, White American woman can pick up off the bookshelf, read through and in the end proclaim that she can identify with the ideas expressed throughout the text.

This book is constructed in a way so that Black women, regardless of social, economic, religious, or nationality backgrounds can find something that Vanzant has expressed as relating to their own life.

"The Value in the Valley" is an emotional as well as spiritual text that presents in an affirming manner, the significance of experiencing emotional pain and mental turmoil to discover one's own inner strength.

Vanzant will be the guest on The Audrey Chapman Show on WHUR-FM 96.3 tomorrow.

Student Poet On Fast Track To Recording Industry

By SHATIKWA BROWN

Hilltop Staff Writer

Every student at Howard University has a dream. Hazim "Taboo" Majeed has a game plan for his dream.

His goal — succeed within both the poetry world and the recording industry where he is presently discussing various record deals with Kedar, Epic and Priority Records.

The senior English major came to Howard University more than three years ago. He knew two things: he loved sports and writing.

Taboo's love and dedication to

sports landed him a key position on Howard's wrestling team. His love for writing and poetry made him an English major and the poet many Howard students have come to know.

Taboo stands for "Talked About Briefly Often Overlooked." He began writing poetry in elementary school.

"From the time I read 'roses are red, violets are blue' I remember thinking it could be better," Taboo said.

He remembers his first poem did not rhyme, but expressed what he was thinking.

"I wrote about what I would and

could do to continue to make women smile," he said.

In January, however, Taboo made somewhat of a turn with his poetry, making them into song lyrics.

Teaming up with Tim Marion, a 24-year-old government employee from Los Angeles, he developed connections in the recording industry.

While living in California, Marion did some work in the record industry. Marion said his experiences helped him develop two conclusions about the industry: it was harsh and to be successful you had to be professional.

Often, Marion said he witnessed

artists that were unaware of the business aspect of the record industry and were being taken advantage of. He did not want this to happen to Taboo.

"To be able to have longevity in such an industry you have to have versatility as well as talent," he said.

Both Taboo and Marion said artists have to be business-oriented and talented to be a success. Marion said he noticed "something different" about Taboo and his music.

That difference may well be the fact that Taboo describes his music and performance as "live, no holds barred, very entertaining, welcoming and inviting."

For Taboo the fruits of his labor will soon pay off. Various recording labels have sent representatives to view his performances, expressing genuine interest in his talent. It has been a long road.

In the studios of Rain Man Productions, a recording studio owned by Howard alumni Byron Hill and Donerick Rainey, Taboo has spent hours creating his demo and mastering his performance techniques.

Not until he attended Howard University did Taboo find a forum to openly share his work. Soon, encouragement about his talent from listeners made him want to share his words and insight.

Taboo recently performed in the Spring Black Arts Festival Easter Show. He said performing at Howard was both monumental and a milestone in his career.

One of his tracks "Chocolate Wonder" was even inspired by a young woman that attends Howard. The track is comprised of metaphors and music, Taboo's trademark.

The poet said he is prepared for his time to shine.

"No one in life has ever set a whole heartedly to accomplish [something and] not [pursue it]," he said.

Program Highlights Blacks' Contributions In Space Race

By SHATIKWA BROWN

Hilltop Staff Writer

It took one year of work, time and effort for William Marshall Jr. to turn his vision into a reality. The Howard University alumnus is the director and producer of the public television broadcast, "Journey: The Black Astronaut," which debuted this week on WHUT.

Marshall said "Journey" captures the spirit and imagination of the African Americans who have been on the frontier of space and aeronautics, and will serve as an inspiration to all. Marshall said he wants viewers to feel a sense of pride and achievement for Black astronauts.

The documentary discusses the successes of Ronald McNair, Dr. Mae Jamison and many other astronauts of color. Marshall said he developed the program because there was "no cohesive information" about Black astronauts.

He said the show serves as a necessary function. In his attempts to accumulate information for this documentary, his search was impeded.

Marshall recalled NASA's hesi-

tance to share the information they had regarding Black astronauts. This setback only served to motivate Marshall's search.

Marshall has worked on a host of public television specials. His topics have ranged from the "African-American Leadership Summit" to the "National Town Hall Meeting on Homelessness."

plishments of Blacks in aeronautics from a scientific and historical standpoint. It shows how they serve as role models for all.

The special begins by citing the first Black airmen. In 1941 four Black squads known as the Tuskegee Airmen were the first official U.S. pilots serving as the foundation for Blacks as pilots and

program. Guy Bluford was the first Black man to ever orbit in space.

Marshall said the best way for Blacks to share and discuss the Black experience is to tell it themselves.

"I'm a Black producer, I go to a Black television station," he said. "[By] using these avenues, my work's content is unaltered."

"We should constantly be seeking information about what Blacks have done in the world."

--William Marshall Jr.

Director, Producer

"Journey: The Black Astronaut,"

Marshall said his goal to generate information on those that have pioneered in the field of aeronautics lead him to create this special.

"[The show is] CNN with flavor, combining technical and creative proficiency," he said.

The educational and entertaining program focuses on the accom-

plishments of Blacks in aeronautics.

The next generation of airmen took flying to a new frontier: space.

In 1967, the first Black astronaut Robert Lawrence was sent to training, but died shortly after. Eleven years later, in 1978, three more Black men were chosen to participate in NASA's space exploration

Marshall recognizes media television, specifically cable as a way for Howard University students to receive information.

"We should constantly be seeking information about what Blacks have done in the world," he said.

"Information is power. We (Blacks) have to play catch-up."

Bernard Harris Jr., an astronaut, is a Black contributor to the NASA space program featured in WHUT's "Journey."

WEEKEND BEAT

Arts, Entertainment, Nightlife In The District, Maryland, Virginia

Performances

Broadway hit musical "Ragtime," based on E.L. Doctorow's classic novel, comes to Washington's National Theatre April 29. Reserve your tickets today by calling (202) 783-3372. The National Theatre is located at 1321 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.

The American Ballet Theatre returns to the Kennedy Center through Sunday. They will perform Frederick Franklins' full-length "Coppelia," and a mixed-repertory program featuring Agnes de Mille's "Fall River Legend," George Balanchine's "Theme and Variations" and Sir Frederick Ashton's "Les Patineurs." Tickets range from \$23.50 to \$58. For more information, call (202) 467-4600.

"2 Pianos, 4 Hands," is playing at the Kennedy Center's Eisenhower Theater through May 3. The play is a humorous odyssey of two musicians-in-training who learn that practice doesn't always make perfect. For more information, call (202) 467-4600. The Kennedy Center is located at 2600 F St., N.W.

"The Merry Wives of Windsor," directed by Daniel Fish, runs through May 10 at The Shakespeare Theatre. All performances begin at 7:30 p.m. and weekend matinees at 1:30 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$17 to \$43. For more information or tickets call (202) 393-2700. The theater is located at 450 Seventh St., N.W.

The Kennedy Center offers free performances daily on its Millennium Stage at 6 p.m. The Howard University Jazz Ensemble performs April 21. Mark it on your calendar. No tickets are required. For a list of updated performances, call (202) 467-4600. The Kennedy Center is located at 2600 F St., N.W.

Monday Night at the National presents shows beginning at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call (202) 783-3372. The National Theatre is located at 1321 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.

"Shear Madness," the record-breaking comedy whodunit that lets the audience play armchair detective is currently running at the Kennedy Center's Theater Lab. Sunday-Thursday shows are \$25 and Friday and Saturday shows are \$29. For more information, call (202) 467-4600. The Kennedy Center is located at 2600 F St., N.W.



"City of Angels," a new romantic drama about the budding love between a woman and an angel, stars Nicolas Cage and Meg Ryan. Photo by Murray Close

"George Segal, a Retrospective Sculptures, Paintings, Drawings," a four-decade retrospective honoring the American artist is currently on view at the Smithsonian's Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden. Continuing through May 17, the exhibit includes more than 20 landmark works of the Pop Art era, mixed media and more. For more information call (202) 357-2700. Admission is free. The Hirshhorn is located at Independence Ave. at Seventh Street S.W.

Book Signings

Sharon Mitchell, author of "Nothing But the Rent," a story of men, money, life and love will be at Vertigo tonight at 6 p.m. Lani Guinier, author of "Lift Every Voice," which tells the real story behind her nomination for assistant attorney general for civil rights, will sign books Monday, April 13 at 6 p.m. Barbara Neely, author of "Blanche Cleans Up," will sign books Tuesday, April 14 from 12:30-2:30 p.m. and Pamela Thomas-Graham, author of "A Darker Shade of Crimson," a mystery debut will sign books later that evening at 6 p.m. For more information, call (202) 429-9272. Vertigo Books is located at 1337 Connecticut Ave., N.W.

E. Ethelbert Miller will appear at the Arts Club of Washington April 22 at 7 p.m. as part of the continuing "Conversations with the Authors" series. Miller, the director of the African American Resource Center at Howard University, will read from his body of work including "First Light: Selected and New Poems," and his newest creation, "Whispers, Secrets, and Promises." For more information, call the Arts Club at (202) 331-7282, ext. 25. The Club is located at 2017 I St., N.W.

Movie Openings

"City of Angels," a must-see for any and everyone, opens this week starring Meg Ryan and Nicholas Cage and Andre Braugher from television's "Homicide: Life on the Streets." The story about desire and love centers around angels which live on earth to watch over people. Cage, who plays Seth, falls in love with Ryan (who plays Maggie) though it is nearly impossible for the two to fall in love.



The cast in a scene from the Toronto production of Broadway's hit musical "Ragtime." The musical based on E.L. Doctorow's classic novel, comes to Washington's National Theatre April 29. Photo by Catherin Ashmore

The world premier of "Kudzu: A Southern Musical" is featured at Ford's Theatre. Scheduled to play an open-ended run into June, this zany, romantic comedy is set in the fictional town of Bypass, USA. Tuesday-Sunday evening shows play at 7:30 p.m., Thursday matinees play at 1 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$27 to \$40. Discounts are available for students. For more information, call (202) 347-4833. The Theatre is located at 511 10th St., N.W.

Exhibits

"Washington: Symbol and City," is a permanent exhibit providing a great orientation for visitors and residents of the nation's capital alike. Through maps, photographs and models, the exhibition traces more than 200 years of building in Washington, D.C. at the National Building Museum. For more information, call (202) 272-2448. The museum is located at 401 F St., N.W.

Celebrating the work of one of Africa's greatest traditional sculptors is "Olowe of Ise: A Yoruba Sculptor to Kings" which runs through September. A special gallery discussion, "First Look: Olowe of Ise: A Yoruba Sculptor to Kings" led by Roslyn Walker will occur on Sunday at 3 p.m. The National Museum of African Art exhibit features 35 of Olowe's major woodworks in high and uneven relief. For more information, call (202) 357-2000. The museum is located at 950 Independence Ave., S.W.

The world's largest Black history collection is currently located at the Library of Congress. "The African American Odyssey" exhibit spreading over three buildings, featuring five million books, films, photos and documents and covering more than two centuries of Black history is on view. For more information, call (202) 707-6400. The Library of Congress is located at First Street and Independence Avenue.

"Metalwork '98," a jewelry and metalwork exhibit will have its opening reception tomorrow at the Rockville Arts Place. A brown bag lunch and a slide show will be hosted by Don Stuart, a Canadian Goldsmith. The exhibit celebrates the 20th anniversary of the Washington Guild of Goldsmiths. Admission is free. For more information, call (202) 309-6900. The museum is located at 100 E. Middle Lane, in Rockville, Md.

The Museum of African American Art is currently exhibiting "A Spiral of History: A Carved Tusk from the Loango Coast, Congo" through April. The West Central African relic dates from the mid-to-late 1800s and is featured in the Point of View Gallery. For more information, call (202) 357-2627. Admission is free. The museum is located at 950 Independence Ave., S.W.

The Phillips Collection presents "Consuelo Kanaga: An American Photographer" Tuesday through Sunday. This photography exhibit includes black and white stills and portraits. On Thursdays, the museum presents "Artful Evenings," a mix of art appreciation, socializing and musical entertainment. Admission is free. For more information, call (202) 387-2151. The Phillips Collection is located at 1600 21st St., N.W.

The National Building Museum exhibits "Planning Washington's Monumental Core: L'Enfant to Legacy" through June and "Civic Lessons: Recent New York Public Architecture" through May. For more information, call (202) 272-3603. Admission is free. The museum is located at 401 F St., N.W.



The American Ballet Theatre performs "Coppelia" this weekend at the Kennedy Center. Photo by Martha Swope

HILLTOPICS

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOONDAY PRAYER, EVERY WED. AND FRI. 12PM-1PM. ANDREW RANKIN MEMORIAL CHAPEL.

Looking for a GAY student organization? Join "OXALA." 202.484.7815.

Who's that throwing a party with most? What? Platinum Players Ball April 25, 1998

Senior Cabaret April 23rd For more info call Jolanda Green or Carmesha Smith

ATTN: Seniors College of Arts and Sciences Class of 1998 Senior Photo May 7 3:30pm Price \$20 Directory & T-shirts TBA

FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES. COME OUT TO YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP. FRIDAY APRIL 10TH 7PM SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AUD. SPONSORED BY REJOYCE IN JESUS CAMPUS FELLOWSHIP. FOR MORE INFO CALL 202 882 WORD

SAT May 9th "The Past Meets the Present" Graduation Celebrity Celebration Another Alumni Reunion Event at the Luxurious HYATT Regency 400 NJ Ave. NW

"April 24th at the waterfront is where it is going happen; Odyssey 1998! See student Council for details!"

"Did you take part in the Odyssey Cruise last year? It is happening again! April 24th!"

"Out in Southwest on the Odyssey is always the best! April 24th"

Come to an evening of Praise, Fellowship, and Fun. Come to ReJoyce in Jesus Campus Fellowship Young Adults Fellowship Friday 3/10 Engineering Auditorium 7:00pm

Spring is almost here! Clean the corners of your heart.

Look out for the Senior Picnic!

House Party! Come and get your praise on. Stay tuned 4/18/98

God wants you to know Him personally! He loves you with an everlasting love. Come to ReJOYce in Jesus Campus Fellowship Thurs. in Blackburn Center Rm. 148/150 at 7:30pm

House Party! Come Get your Praise On. Stay Tuned 4/18/98

Episcopal/Anglican Ministry Absalom Jones Student Association meets Tuesday @ 6:30pm Carnegie Service/Eucharist Sunday 9:00 am in Carnegie Chapel

Attn: SENIORS The time has come!! Senior Cabaret May 23 Tickets available in Locke 105 Wed 5-8pm

The Ladies of Alpha Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated would like to congratulate Denalier Johnson, winner of the Beulah Burke Essay Contest. Thank you to all those who participated in the contest.

Howard University Men's Calendar Model Call Today Blackburn CTR. Ground Level 12pm-4pm Bring a Picture

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