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THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 88, NO. 41

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2005

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

MONDAY NOTEBOOK

BREAKING NEWS

THE HILLTOP HISTORY



Zora Neale Hurston's legacy lives on. **PAGES 4-5**

CAMPUS

CANDIDATES ON THE SCENE



See what happens when candidates invade Blackburn Café. **PAGE 2**

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DANGER FOR BOOTLEGGERS

Find out why DVD bootleggers may be going out of business. **PAGE 6**



LIFE & STYLE

Trendy ID Tags

Got your eyes on a designer purse that would look absolutely gorgeous with your weekend outfit? We'll find out how you can get the same accessories as the Red Carpet regulars. **PAGE 10**

HU CALENDAR

MARCH 2
Midterm Grades Submitted
MARCH 4
Charter Day Convocation
MARCH 12
Second Deferred Tuition Payment Due
MARCH 12
FAFSA Application Due

WEATHER

TODAY:
HEAVY SNOW/WIND
Low-30 Hig- 37
TUESDAY:
AM SNOW SHOWERS/WIND
Low-28 Hig- 42

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The Hilltop Goes Daily

BY AYESHA RASCOE
Campus Editor

Today, The Hilltop, Howard University's student newspaper, is distributing its first daily edition. The 81-year-old paper, which recently had been published twice weekly, is the first daily at a historically Black college.

While some observers believe the move to a daily newspaper will be beneficial to The Hilltop staff and the Howard community, others have concerns regarding whether the paper will be able to maintain high standards when The Hilltop staff publishes five installments a week.

"I think [going daily] is a good thing, just as long as they keep up the quality," said Uche Alimole, a junior biology major.

Shenneth Dove-Morse, a junior public relations major, does not doubt that The Hilltop staff possesses the talent necessary to make going daily a success.

"I think they have proven they have the potential to produce a paper that is quality on a daily basis; they just have to step it up," Dove-Morse said.

She also pointed out that university students will be able to receive the news on a timelier basis.

Students like Dove-Morse are not the only people looking forward to seeing the campus newspaper with greater frequency.

Yanick Rice Lamb, journalism professor and adviser to The Hilltop editorial staff, said she was excited when the editor-in-chief, Ruth Tisdale, pitched the idea of going daily to her.

"It was something that had always crossed my mind, because recruiters would ask about it," she said.

A graduate of Ohio State University, Lamb said she worked on her university's daily paper and that experience helped her throughout her journalism career. She hopes that The Hilltop staff will also benefit from working on a daily.

"It gives them more opportunity to do what they do in the real world," Lamb said. "They have to be more comprehensive in their news coverage; do more long-range planning and more deadline reporting."

Lamb is optimistic about

the success of the paper's student journalists, because she said she witnessed the preparations that went into transitioning into a daily news source, such as the planning sessions and workshops.

"Howard has been a leader in producing top journalists and this will strengthen that," Lamb said. "We live in a world of 24-7 news; it does not make sense for us not to go daily."

In addition to providing students with news with greater immediacy, Lamb also thinks The Hilltop will inspire other HBCU newspapers to publish more frequently.

Garrison Vereen, former copy desk chief for Florida A&M University's (FAMU) newspaper, The Famuan, agrees with Lamb.

"I think it will serve as a catalyst for other schools to go daily," said Vereen, a senior at FAMU.

As a former member of The Famuan, which, until today, was the most frequently published Black college newspaper at three times a week, Vereen said he is slightly divided in his feelings about The Hilltop going daily.

"By me being at another

historically Black school of journalism, I have two feelings: I am excited that going daily adds more credibility to [Black student journalism] programs," Vereen said. "While I am pleased, I am a little envious that it's not The Famuan, but overall I think it's a good step."

Vereen said the response to the news of Howard's paper going daily has been positive at his university, but a few concerns have been voiced.

"We are concerned because we know it's going to be a huge shock to the system," Vereen said.

Regardless of the outcome of The Hilltop's new venture, Phillip Dixon, chairman of Howard's Journalism department is proud that the staff was bold enough to undertake the task.

"When you have great ambition, you have to act on it; if, for whatever reason, it does not blast off this time, we will learn from it and try again later," Dixon said. "The way I see it there's no lose in it. You can't lose, you've won already."

Foxx Makes History with Oscar

BY CHARLAE WASHINGTON
Hilltop Staff Writer

Last night the red carpet glittered with some of Hollywood's brightest stars.

Both newcomers and seasoned veterans alike gathered at The Academy Awards at Kodak Theatre in Hollywood, hosted by comedian Chris Rock, to witness who would be bestowed with the film industry's highest honor.

Every year Oscar buzz revolves around nominees for categories such as Best Actor, Best Picture, Best Actress and Best Director. This time around was no different.

Much of the Oscar suspense revolved around whether actor Jamie Foxx would receive an award for his performance in biographical film "Ray."

Since his acting debut in the 1990s series "In Living Color," Foxx has made significant strides in the entertainment industry, moving from comedy to star in films such as "Ali," "Collateral" and most recently, "Ray."

"The love for Ray Charles was deep down in the earth somewhere...and it's cracked open and spilling and everyone is feeling the love...I want to thank my grandmother, my

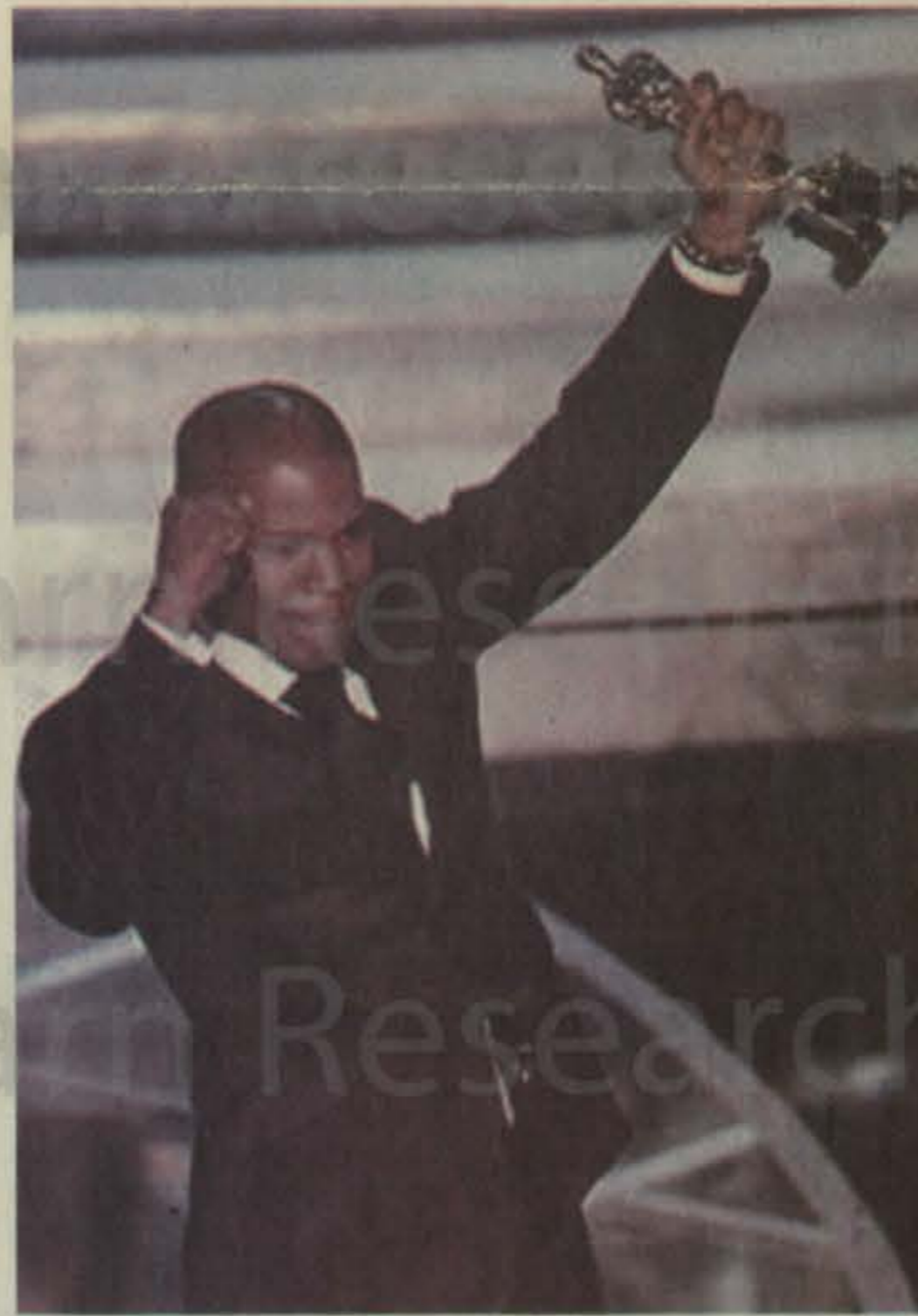
first acting teacher. Though she's not here anymore, she talks to me in my dreams. I can't wait to go to sleep tonight because we have a lot to talk about," Foxx said after accepting the Oscar for Best Actor.

The Oscar nominations contained a few surprises. A lot of people were surprised to find Don Cheadle, lead in the moving drama "Hotel Rwanda," nominated for Best Actor. His nomination pitted two African-American actors against each other for the same award.

Also shocking was the fact that "The Passion of the Christ" had not been nominated for Best Picture, and that the controversial political documentary "Fahrenheit 9/11" hadn't been nominated in any category at all.

Michael Moore, director of the film, had been pushing Academy members to nominate "Fahrenheit 9/11" for Best Picture instead of Best Documentary, which they would not do.

Other big winners were Hilary Swank, Morgan Freeman and Clint Eastwood of "Million Dollar Baby," the film that stole the show, taking home four awards, the most for any film that night.



Jamie Foxx took home his first Oscar for his starring role as legend Ray Charles in the movie "Ray."

Bison Still Hopeful For MEAC Tournament

BY ASHLEY ROSS
Sports Editor

For many college basketball teams the month of March is their favorite time of year.

However for the Howard University men's basketball team the madness of March could not end any sooner.

After dropping their 14th game in row to the Hampton Pirates this past weekend, there is no denying that the Bison have reached their lowest point.

Yet despite their tumultuous season, Head Coach Frankie Allen still has faith that his team will persevere in the MEAC Tournament. "I'm very optimistic about the tournament. These kids play very hard. The first round will be played [next] Monday and Tuesday at the Arthur Ashe

Center. Hopefully we can at least make it to the quarter finals at the coliseum."

In reminiscing about their long hard road to Richmond, the Bison actually started the season off on a good note with junior point guard Louis Ford handling the ball.

Their success was short lived however when Ford became ineligible to play half-way through the season due to academic difficulties.

"The coaching staff tried to help me out by assisting me and getting me tutors, but it just didn't work out," Ford said. Coach Allen added, "Lou has to be held accountable for his own actions. We (the coaches) did what we could but it was ultimately in Lou's hands."

Coach Allen also noted that although Ford was an incred-

ible catalyst for the team at the beginning of the season, several players have stepped up in his absence to contribute immensely to the team.

Sophomore guards Will Gant and Darryl Hudson, along with forward Stanley Greene, have all stepped up as leaders for team. Junior center Daniel Wright was also mentioned as having significantly improved in several areas of his game this season.

Ford commented, "I still keep in contact with the team and they're working hard...it's just not falling. They've been through a lot this season both personally and as a team. They're just like a chain with a few missing links."

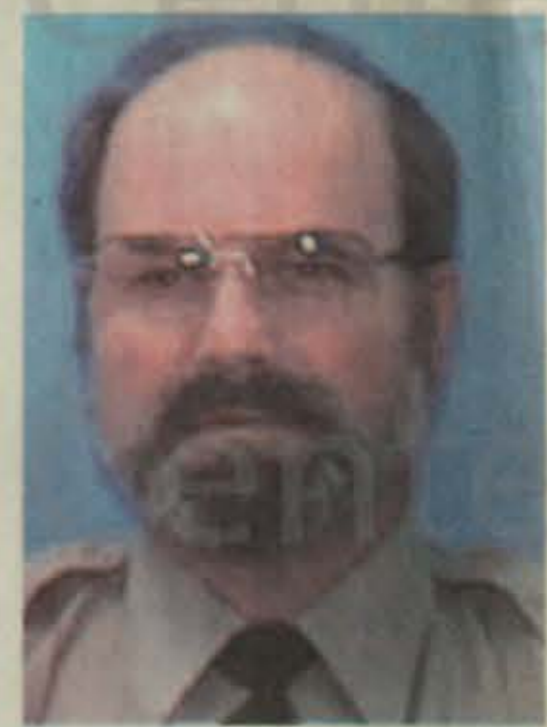
However Ford has no doubt things will be different next season. "I think every-

one knows that we have to do whatever we gotta do from this point on to prepare for next season. Next season is going to be a complete 180."

In watching his team struggle from the sidelines Ford also noted, "I want to publicly apologize to my teammates. I see them working and getting better day-by-day."

With three top players in the MEAC recruiting class already signed to Howard, Coach Allen is anticipating a lot for next season.

Through implementing an inside out recruiting plan, Coach Allen concentrated on keeping local talent close to home. With their new additions and the experience of their returning players, the Bison will hopefully find some serenity come next March.



Dennis Rader was linked to unsolved murder cases after his daughter provided her DNA for a sample.

Alleged BTK Serial Killer Arrested

BY KEVIN HARRIS
Nation & World Editor

Police in Wichita, Kansas said over the weekend they plan to file eight counts of first degree murder and two counts of homicide against Dennis Rader, the 59-year-old man believed to be responsible for a string of murders between 1974 and 1991.

Rader was arrested during a traffic stop after his daughter tipped off investigators by voluntarily turning over a blood sample to police. DNA from the daughter's blood was a 90 percent match for the serial killer "BTK," leading authorities to conclude that Dennis Rader had committed the murders.

"Today is a very historic day," said Wichita Police Chief Norman Williams Saturday at a press conference announcing Rader's arrest. "The bottom line: BTK is arrested." The remark drew loud applause from a crowd gathered at Wichita's City Hall. Many of those in attendance were family members of victims from BTK's killing spree.

For more than 31 years, Kansas police said Rader struck fear into their community when he began killing under the name "BTK," which stood for "bind them, torture them, kill them."

Despite the years it took for Rader's capture, Kansas police received mountains of gratitude from other city officials, including Wichita's mayor Carlos Mayans.

Kansas Attorney General Phil Kline echoed Mayans remarks, telling CNN, "Due to the dedication of a community and the commitment to duty of literally hundreds of law enforcement officers across the nation, victims whose voices were brutally silenced by the evil of one man now have their voices heard again."

BTK often taunted police over the years. Between 1977 and 1979, BTK sent letters to police and media outlets. At one instance, BTK was so bold he personally reported the murder of one of his victims.

In 1979, the letters to police stopped for 25 years, leading some investigators to speculate that BTK had died. However in March 2004, the letters resumed and BTK linked himself to more murders.

According to a Kansas newspaper, Rader worked as a supervisor for animal control since 1990. He was also, at one time, the president of a Lutheran Church. Rader is the father of two children.

Student Candidates Sell Their Individuality at Campaign Event

BY COURTNEY MAYE
Contributing Writer

Howard University Student Association (HUSA) and undergraduate trustee candidates continued campaigning at a meet and greet in the Blackburn Center last Friday.

The meet and greet served as an opportunity for candidates to share their concerns and plans with students in an atmosphere that was designed to be stress-free for the candidates and the students. Candidates also promoted their platforms as well as showed off their individual personalities.

The seven hopefuls, their campaign managers and other campaign team members flooded the lower level of Blackburn during the lunch hours to hand out fliers, offer sweet treats and answer questions from the student body.

Byron Stewart and April Harley, who are running for HUSA president and vice president respectively, used the day to relax and meet students in a

setting where both the students and candidates can interact more effectively.

Café-goers also met HUSA presidential and vice-presidential candidates Erin Ferguson and Tahman Bradley who walked around to introduce themselves and their platforms.

Students who were busy eating lunch in the cafeteria approved of the candidates presence and felt that the meet and greet session was strategically successful.

Students such as freshman marketing major Alicia Rodrigo found it amusing to watch candidates interact with students in the café.

"It's fun to see how they present themselves and to see the marketing strategies they use," Rodrigo said.

One marketing strategy that all candidates used was that of giving out candy. The most important item that one campaign worker said they were trying to sell, however, was the candidates' true selves.

Diondra Humphries, the co-

campaign manager for Precious Kofie's Legacy Movement campaign, said that a meet and greet allowed the candidates' personalities to do just that.

"I want people to see that Precious will represent the student body to the best of her ability but to also see her as a person," Humphries said.

Brooke Hyman, who is running for undergraduate trustee under the platform "Excellence," also sees the importance of appealing to the student body.

"Visibility is something you have to keep up before and even once you get into office," Hyman said.

Hyman feels, though, that people need to focus on platforms more. She said that she wants people to read her platform because if they do not, they will not know what they are voting for.

Some student government contenders acknowledged that they think platforms are not the only campaign components that determine who will be elected for office.

"Personality and popularity play an integral role in candidacy," Ferguson said. However, Ferguson and his running mate hope that people look beyond that.

"People are not looking at platforms as much as we want them to," Ferguson continued.

Undergraduate trustee candidate Asso Aidoo hoped that students would use the casual gathering to get to know her as a student and as a potential office holder.

"I want them to see the well-rounded Asso," Aidoo said. "I want them to see all facets."

Sunny Jackson, who has had the opportunity to attend prior speakouts, said that this meet-and-greet was beneficial.

During the course of lunch, Jackson said that two or three candidates approached his table. However, he does not believe that all the candidates were genuine as they promoted their platform.

"You can tell who's putting on a face and who's real," Jackson said.



Patrick Jackson-Staff Photographer

Student government contenders such as Asso Aidoo campaigned in Blackburn on Friday during the Meet and Greet.

Low Student Turnout Mars Black History Month Events

BY AMBER ENGLISH
Contributing Writer

Tucked away in Douglass Hall on a recent sunny Friday afternoon, graduate students and faculty from the history department gathered in honor of Black History Month.

The Graduate Student Roundtable, hosted by Alan L. McPherson Ph.D., associate professor, allowed graduate students to discuss their dissertations.

The event also gave attendees a lesson in little known Black history.

J. Shango, a graduate student in history, shared the progress of his dissertation regarding famed historian John Henrik Clarke. Clarke, best known for originating the idea of "Afrocentricity," sought to change distorted history books by searching for a truer history of African people.

Neo Lekgotla Ramoupi, also a graduate student in history, presented portions of his dissertation on Robben Island.

Located off the coast of South Africa, the island served as a prison for political troublemakers and other social outcasts for 400 years. The most famous inmates of Robben Island included Nelson Mandela and Robert Sobukwe, founder of the first Pan-African Congress.

Aside from the graduate students and professors within the history department, no other students were in attendance.

During the past month, there were many other programs held around campus that celebrated Black History Month that had the same low attendance. Some students felt that events on campus were not advertised well enough.

"I think they could have reached out to us more," said Brandon Thrasher, a freshman marketing major. Thrasher was just one of the many students who did not attend events on campus because they didn't know about them.

"The only reason I knew Al Sharpton came was because my friend bumped into him on campus," Thrasher said.

Al Sharpton was just one of the speakers at "Beyond 2004: The Future of the Black Vote" held at Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel on Feb. 16. Although other students complained they didn't know about the event, there was a moderate turnout.

The chapel assistants also sponsored activities for Black History Month. To help advertise their programs, they had a "Black History Spotlight" during the calls to chapel each Sunday.

In addition to the spotlight, they presented a Black history trivia question, and drew a name out of all the correct answers each week. The winner received a gift certificate during the following chapel service.

"We presented the gifts to increase participation," said Kenya Morris, chapel assistant and sophomore television pro-

duction major.

Some students believe that one reason for lack of participation in Black History Month events is the limited time span in which they take place.

Shango felt students should have more opportunities to observe Black history. "The university should sponsor events throughout the year, not just in February," he said.

Sophomore radio, television and film major Antoinette Lawson admitted time was part of the reason she didn't attend events on campus.

"I didn't know about anything until the last minute," she said.

Bilal Curtis, a freshman management major, was disappointed by the minimal observance of Black History Month. She wished there was more recognition of the month.

"I think we need to honor our history year round, but especially in February," Curtis said. "Howard should have done much more, especially being a Black school."

Whether or not they celebrated Black History Month by attending events on campus, many students still agree that the observance is important.

"We need to continue honoring our rich legacy, on this campus and in general," Morris said.

"We also need to share it with the surrounding community that isn't as fortunate to have the Black history resources that we have at Howard."



Marlene Hawthorne-Staff Photographer

Students blame a lack of time and publicity for low student attendance at Black History Month programs, such as the Graduate Student Roundtable.

David Norman Dinkins

BY KEIRSTEN ALSTON-MURRAIN
Contributing Writer

History was made in 1989 when David Norman Dinkins became the first African-American mayor of New York City where he served a four-year term.

With a longstanding history in politics, Dinkins has held many public offices during his life.

In 1966, Dinkins got his start in public service when he served in the New York State Assembly. He was president of the New York City Board of Elections for two years and created guidelines that increased voter registration.

From 1975 to 1985, he was the city clerk. He was also elected president of the borough of Manhattan in 1985.

Born in Trenton, N.J., in 1927, Dinkins grew up during the Great Depression.



www.caribbeanimagery.com

He and his family relocated to Harlem. In World War II, Dinkins served as a marine. He then pursued an education at Howard University and received a B.S. in mathematics in 1950. Six years later, he graduated from Brooklyn Law School and started his own law practice.

While in office, Dinkins focused on education, crime and racial equality. He helped institute SEEK, which is an acronym

for Search for Education Elevation and Knowledge. SEEK provides educational assistance and grants to low income students.

Dinkins also started Safe Streets, Safe City: Cops and Kids, a program that sought to reduce crime and provide more opportunities for the children of New York.

When Amadou Diallo was shot 41 times by police in 1999, Dinkins was arrested for protesting the shooting along with 1,200 others. He actively advocates against abusive police and racial inequalities within America's justice system.

Dinkins is also a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. When he is not at work, he enjoys playing tennis.

Currently, David Dinkins serves as a professor of public affairs at Columbia University.

Jackie "Moms" Mabley

BY KEIRSTEN ALSTON-MURRAIN
Contributing Writer

In an industry dominated by men, many female comedians don't receive as much recognition for their comedic abilities as their male counterparts.

One woman who set herself apart from others and influenced generations of comedians, both male and female, was Jackie "Moms" Mabley. Not only was she the first African-American woman to have her own comedy stand-up act, but she was also a pioneer in edgy comedic content.

Jackie "Moms" Mabley was born Loretta Mary Aiken in 1897. She was dubbed "Moms" because she was said to be compassionate. A native of Brevard, N.C., Mabley left home to pursue her career



www.uplift4race.homestead.com

with the support of her grandmother.

Mabley used her own life experiences and social issues as material for her routines. Instead of dwelling on many unfortunate events that occurred in her life, she channeled them into a winning stage show.

On stage, Mabley portrayed an elderly woman and wore tacky dresses, oversized shoes and floppy hats. Though her appear-

ance was not easy on the eyes, the laughter that erupted from the crowds filled the hearts of many. Her onstage presence contradicted what she said in her jokes.

She would talk about going out on dates and romance, only adding to the comedy because it was highly unlikely that those things would actually happen to her character.

In the 60s, she recorded more than 20 comedy albums and appeared on a variety of television shows.

Mabley influenced comedians like the late Redd Foxx, Richard Pryor and Martin Lawrence, who are known for their raw and edgy humor.

Mom's Mabley's last performance was a starring role in the feature film "Amazing Grace" in 1974. She died in 1975 of natural causes.



Mark King-Staff Photographer

Uninspired by the current state of hip-hop, Redhead decided to make his own mark in music becoming an emcee and producer.

Redhead Strives to Make Positive Rap Music

BY MEGAN SCHLEY
Contributing Writer

Watch out P. Diddy and Kanye West, there is a new producer/artist in town. Junior political science major Stephen Redhead is trying to make a difference in the hip-hop community.

Redhead, which is also Stephen's stage name, is a hip-hop entertainer who has always been fascinated by the impact that music can have on a society.

"I was tired of watching music videos on MTV and BET that degraded the Black community, used gimmicks as a tool for success, and were lyrically redundant," Redhead said about his decision to become an entertainer.

"I thought that I could make a positive change by making music that would uplift African Americans."

Determined to share his positive message to the world, Redhead made his first EP, "It Is What It Is", when he was only 18. He wrote and recorded the song for fun, and co-produced the tracks with friends from his Maryland Capitol Heights neighborhood. The bulk of the project was produced by Archetype, a producer from California.

After a couple a months, people started to hear his EP by word of mouth, and spread the word to others about the young entertainer.

As a teenager, he said he was offered many record deals from about four major labels, beginning with MCA, and five independent labels. He turned down all offers because, to him, school had more value.

"School is the most important thing in life because it is the foundation to every thing that you will accomplish,"

said Redhead.

He later appeared on BET on a "Campus Invasion Tour" segment, as well as local television shows, including "The Cypher," to promote his work and other artists.

He also made many appearances on mix tapes that included acts such as Joe Budden, Freeway and Royce Da 5'9.

It was not until July 2003, when during a meeting with Interscope recording artist Mya, she told him she wished he would become famous, and that he should take his talents to another level.

Soon after, Redhead worked his way to make various appearances on WPGC 95.5, and later joined Howard's "Verbal Armageddon" competition featuring artists Jaye Black and Shak-C.

During the Christmas break, Redhead recorded a version of Columbia Records artist Amerie's single "One Thing."

The song has been heard as far as Australia, where Redhead knows a promoter who has distributed it to a DJ there.

Devoted to helping anyone that is trying to place their foot in the music-industry door, Redhead uses his connections to help others who are trying to depict Blacks in a positive way, or those who he feels has the potential to become a worldwide success. He does favors for promoters so, when he needs help, he has friends.

Those who know Redhead describe him as very positive and well rounded. "Stephen is truly about his business," said friend Crystal Belcher, a senior radio, television, and film major. "He is persistent at being an instrumental part

of the legacy of music and entertainment. He is bound for greatness as long as he keeps up the good work."

Others herald Redhead's musical talent. "Redhead is one of the illest MCs out because he speaks the truth," said Howard Bullard, senior television production major.

On March 3, he will be involved in a mix tape release party held at Club Sonar located in Baltimore.

In addition, Redhead said his next single "Grown Man B.I. (See You When I See You)" will be hitting radio outlets this summer. It is produced by 9th Wonder, who has worked with artists such as Jay-Z, Memphis Bleek, and Destiny's Child.

He will also be profiled in an upcoming issue of California-based *Murder Dog Magazine* with Def Jam recording artist Comp. Furthermore, he has accomplished all of his success without any help of a manager or a street team.

While Redhead has worked to advance his music career, his intended profession after graduation may not be entertainer.

"My future may not include platinum albums and big budget music videos, but since I'm a political science major, I would like to work in entertainment law, sharing politics [through the music]," Redhead said. "I'm not trying to get a major record deal or change the game, but I'm putting in my two cents."

His whole goal is to encourage young Black males that they can do any thing if they put their mind to it.

"One doesn't have to rap or sing in order to succeed. A good education and a level-headed attitude can get you far, so just apply yourself," he said.

Speaker Advises Congregation To Focus on Blessings

BY SHANAE HARRIS
Contributing Writer

Rev. Dr. John W. Kinney asked the chapel congregation to think about what they possess Sunday as he stood before them to speak on the folly of minimizing one's possibilities.

Kinney, the current dean of the school of theology at Virginia Union in Richmond, Va., set out Sunday to urge his listeners to stop looking at the negatives in life and hold on to the positives.

"There is more to your past than your failures," Kinney said. "Why is it that you take a fragment of where you have been and what you have done and set it as your limit?"

"What are you holding?" Kinney asked throughout his sermon, as he described how many people let their past hurt their future.

"We have got to stop allowing a moment in our yesterday to hinder the fulfillment of the promise of our tomorrow," he said. Laughs and agreement filled the audience as Kinney added, "God is showing you a future, you're showing God your 'buts.'"

To deeply express his viewpoint, Kinney referred to Exodus

4:1-5, that spoke of the biblical character Moses and his lack of faith that he could carry out God's will because he was only a sheep herder.

Kinney used this story to show the congregation that while often people think they have no power, they really do.

"Moses stood on the high mountain and talked to God. Now that's a powerful position!" Kinney said.

Kinney explained that in order to receive power, one must follow the steps of recognize, release and receive.

"You've got to recognize what you got, release it into the glory of God and he will release the power unto you," he said.

The congregation clapped and cheered at Kinney's positive words when he said, "look at what you've done instead of the negativity." He said to the congregation: "you have built the pyramids; you have built the first university; you have paved the streets; you have been the first people to worship one God."

Kinney discussed what he felt; however, was negativity in the world.

"Snakes aren't just in the fields, they are in the pulpit, the administration and even

the White House," he said. As the crowd jumped up in understanding, Kinney continued, "I been playing with snakes and didn't even recognize it!"

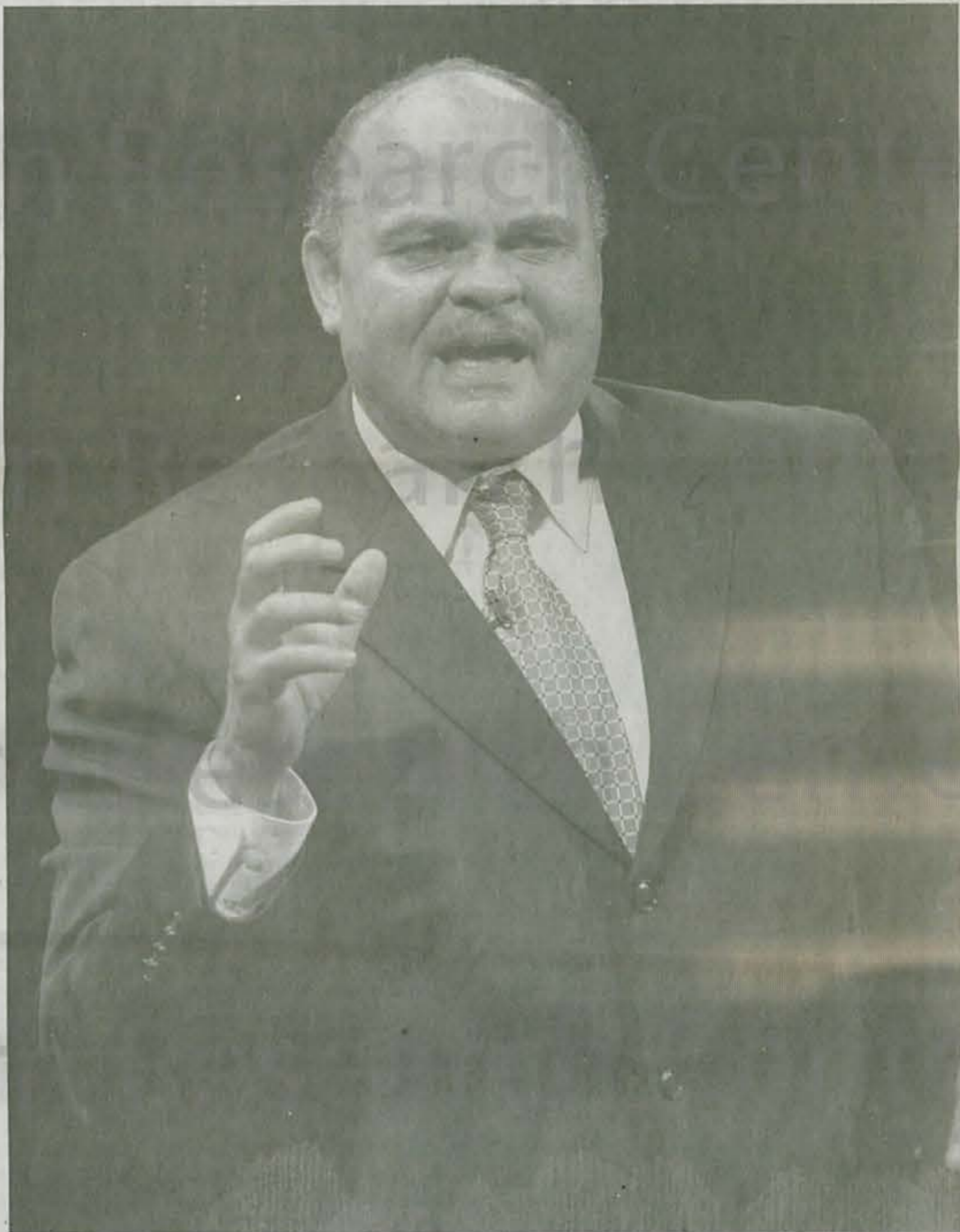
Kinney then explained that many people worry more about what someone else is holding, or doing, than what they are holding themselves.

"I worry about what's in my hand because I got something in my hand and I'm ready to throw down," Kinney said.

He changed up the pace and quieted the excited audience down, however, as he said, "At some point in your life you'll realize that it's not always what you're holding in your hand, it's whose hand you're holding on to." The cheers began again, and Kinney added loudly, "hold to God's unchanging hand!"

Kinney wrapped his sermon up with the well-known nursery rhyme "Bah Bah Black Sheep" and related that shepherders are proud to own a black sheep, although people reference to the term in a negative light.

"Black sheep have you any wool? And that sheep will say 'yes!' I've got some for everyone! Because that is what he holds in his hand!"



www.thefellowship.info

John Kinney, pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Beaverdam, Va, delivered the sermon at Chapel about having faith in one's abilities.

FRESHMEN SPEAK

How do you feel about living in a same-sex dorm?

"I went to an all-girls high school, so it does not really bother me as much. Also, my floor gets along well so it's not a big problem."

Melissa Harper, biology

"It's cool but sometimes there is a lot of unnecessary drama that gets started."

Aviana Brown, undecided

"When females live together, things can get crazy because people start their cycle around the same time and become cranky around the same time."

Simone Stephenson, undecided

"It is alright. I mean, we don't have as much drama as the females."

Rory Balthazar, psychology

"It's okay to chill with the boys when you just chilling, but sometimes I want to chill with a young lady and my living arrangements make that hard on occasion."

Raasikh Muhammad, business marketing

"It's cool because it is easier for me to build my clientele up, because I cut hair in my room."

Mark Parson II, film

The Hilltop Looks Forward

The Mark of Zora

BY KEITH LAING

On this historic day, it might be appropriate to say that as a staff, our eyes are watching Zora.

That's because as The Hilltop embarks on the next phase of its legacy by becoming the first daily Black college newspaper, the name of its founder, Zora Neale Hurston, continues to pop up.

Hurston, a former Howard student and renowned author famous for penning novels like "Their Eyes Were Watching God," has always been linked to Howard. In 1924, her pursuit of writing excellence led her to founding The Hilltop.

"The thrill Hannibal got when he finally crossed the Alps, the feeling Napoleon had when he finally placed upon his head the iron crown of Constantine, were nothing to the ecstasy I felt when I realized I was actually a Howardite," she wrote in a 1925 article in The Messenger.

Like many before her, and even more after, Hurston left Howard after a year because of financial issues, but her legacy

has lasted on this campus for 81 years.

In addition to the aforementioned novel, Hurston authored 13 other works after leaving the university, including the books "Tell My Horse" and "Dust Tracks on the Road."

She was born in 1891 in Eatonville, Fla., to a preacher and a housewife. Ironically, though her works went on to be lauded, she very rarely reaped the benefits.

After the success of "Their Eyes Were Watching God," Hurston encountered legal troubles that left her barely able to publish. She lived to the age of 69, but at the time of her death, she was struggling so much financially that she had to be buried in an unmarked grave.

Though she died 40 years ago, Hurston has continued to receive acclamation for her contributions with each passing year - even until today. Students of all ages read her writing in American literature classes and she is almost universally admired as one of her generation's greatest literary talents.

"Anyway, the force from somewhere in space which commands you to write in the



first place, gives you no choice," Hurston wrote in her autobiography, "Dust Tracks on the Road." "You take up the pen when you are told and write what is commanded. There is no agony like bearing an untold story inside you."

Zora Neale Hurston

"There is no agony like bearing an untold story inside you."

Back in the Day...



BY ALISON BETHEL

We laugh about it today, but that late afternoon, as we traipsed across campus during a snowstorm to the little, two-story brick (or was it brick?) building on Fourth Street, we were intent on getting there and on getting the newspaper out.

We were real journalists and we relished in the longstanding reputation of The Hilltop as one of the best newspapers a college produced.

So missing deadline and having the paper not come out on time was not an option. Our reporters, copy editors, photographers, graphic designers and layout people were on top of it.

There was Chris Cathcart, Manotti Jenkins, Robert Vickers, Robert Frelow, Naomi Travers, Alonza Robertson, Andrew Skerritt and many more.

Those were the days when fewer Howard students had cars and when there wasn't a Howard/Shaw metro stop. Only one bus

went down Seventh Street and it wasn't one you wanted to take past Chinatown---even that was if you were brave.

We often would put the paper to bed and walk from The Hilltop office just below the Valley to Meridian Hill going over and over in our heads what we'd see the next day in print, making sure nothing had been left out and that all T's were crossed and the I's dotted.

We were the paper of record for those on campus and we were eager to take the university's administration to task for its policies and practices as well to keeping students up to date on the boycott of South Africa and on the latest fashion and events around campus.

It was the early 1980s. It was the days of students taking over the Administration building to protest the naming of political conservatives to the Board of Trustees or Howard's poor registration process, of rallies and alliances with Gallaudet University as they fought for a hearing-impaired president.

It was the time of students with names like True Mathematics and of beer on the Yard and in the Punch Out. And it was the age of every student knowing the words to the National Black Anthem - every stanza - and most of the words to the "African National Anthem" (officially the "National Anthem of South Africa"), both of which students would sing at rallies held at dusk and in front of the South African Embassy weekly.

We were right there to cover it all every week. But our job as newspapermen and women was daily. We were always on the watch for news, especially the kind that involved investigations. People rushed to find The Hilltop on Fridays.

It was a sight to see students and teachers walking across the Yard, papers spread open before their faces.

Our fortitude and news judgment paid off. We were blessed with a student newspaper that often changed university policy, or at least opened up discussion. Newspaper clips from The Hilltop led to jobs at papers like The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Houston Chronicle, The Boston Globe, and Newsweek, Black Enterprise and Essence magazines.

The industry recognized former Hilltoppers with prestigious awards, including the Pulitzer Prize, the highest journalism honor.

The phone tree started as soon as we heard a few years ago that The Hilltop was going to twice a week with expanded sections and more color. So you can imagine my joy and surprise at the news that The Hilltop will be one of the few collegiate newspapers producing daily news for its readers.

It is a feat the entire Howard University community should be proud of, not just the students and advisers who work on the newspaper.

I look forward to reading it online daily and in person when I can. I hope that when the reporters and editors are in their cars heading away from the university after the paper's put to bed that they're confident they've given current Howard readers, as one famous paper puts it, "All the news that's fit to print" - and more.

Alison Bethel is Washington Bureau Chief for The Detroit News and only one of three minority bureau chiefs in Washington. She attended Howard's School of Communications from 1984 to 1988.

A Timeless Creed

The Hilltop Creed was written three decades ago, and still rings true today.

Our objective is to motivate our readers to be dedicated to serving our people and rebuilding our communities.

We do this by providing relevant news, information, pictures, art and ideas.

Like a sword The Hilltop is a weapon for freedom, and truth is the foundation of our efforts.



The Hilltop

BY CHIZOBA UDEORJI

The Hilltop was co-founded by acclaimed author and Howard alumna Zora Neale Hurston. Hurston never actually wrote for the newspaper, but provided guidance for student journalists.

The first issue of The Hilltop was published January 22, 1924. The front page of the first issue covered a timeless and sensitive Howard issue: registration follies. The paper was brief, chronicling events that took place the semester before, and touching on a few upcoming campus events.

By 1929, the newspaper was published bi-monthly. A year

later, in 1930, The Hilltop became a weekly newspaper and remained so for 71 years.

Within that time, the paper progressed steadily as a forum for African-American writers to hone their journalistic skills.

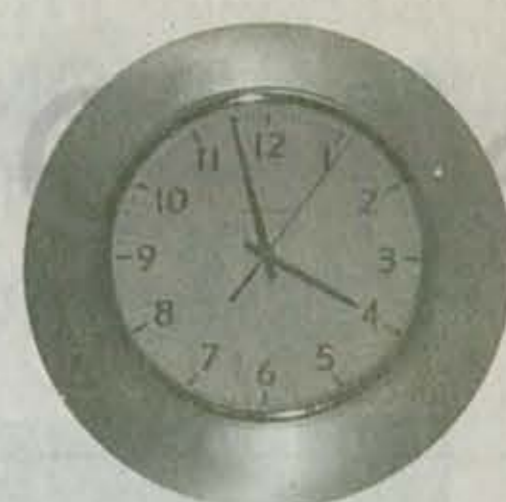
Much of early 20th century media relentlessly portrayed Black Americans in a negative light. Although The Hilltop was not a professional paper, stories were often published to combat those stereotypes and to instill pride in Howard students.

The Hilltop remained on the forefront of social issues ranging from the need for a campus bookstore to the Vietnam War.

By 2001, The Hilltop moved



ard by Looking Back



Snapshots

'The Hilltop Has No Sick Days'

BY MAYA GILLIAM

As I walked into the Hilltop office for the first time, I saw a sign that reads "The Hilltop Has No Sick Days." I remember thinking to myself, "It can't be that serious."

It was the second semester of my freshman year. I had just been promoted from a photographer to the photo editor. My first night in The Hilltop office was a rude awakening to what I would experience from then on.

Back then, the computers were outdated and slow. It would take an hour to do something that should only take 15 minutes. The computers would freeze, the Internet would be down and it could be 3 a.m. while you have a midterm at 8:10 that same morning. You are not going anywhere because the bottom line is that the paper must come out.

As a part of a dedicated staff, we have set aside our lives to make that happen. Quitting was not an option.

The good friends, long talks and hysterical laughing that spouts at all hours in the morning kept me going. The Hilltop is like a way of life for me now. My body is trained to be up until 4 a.m. every Wednesday and Sunday during production nights.

In spite of my extreme



For all the time and energy I spend in the office, it pays off 10 times over. All of my internships, networking, experience, friendships, money and job opportunities have come from this very place.

The Hilltop has opened so many doors for my future. I would not be where I am today without the grace of God and this paper. Currently, I am the assistant to an NBA photographer for the Washington Wizards.

I have assisted professional photographers at the 2005 NBA All-Star Weekend, 2004 NBA Draft and shot photos of President Bush at the commencement of Louisiana State University.

The Hilltop has taught me how to survive when it is crunch time. As the senior photo editor and third year veteran of the nation's No. 1 collegiate publication (and that is not just HBCUs, that's the white schools too), I am proud to say that we will honor the pioneers who paved the way for us.

We will take The Hilltop to another level by going daily. (That's right, daily.)

So rest assured, if it happens on Monday, you will see it in the paper on Tuesday. It's like we say in the office, "The revolution will not be televised, but it will be in The Hilltop."

Through History

into the millennium with a big change. The Hilltop became one of only a few Black papers to run more than once a week. A year later, the paper added a second section and introduced The Hilltop online.

Under the direction of Ruth Tisdale, this year's editor-in-chief, The Hilltop will make another leap, this time as a daily paper.

1924 - Zora Neale Hurston begins The Hilltop on January 22, with the name deriving from the University Alma Mater.

1983 - Janice McKnight, The Hilltop editor in chief, is expelled from Howard after running a controversial series of articles claiming the university of sexual discrimination. Student stage a protest in McKnight's honor, seizing the Administration building.

1986 - Editor in Chief Carol Winn fires 14 staff members, leaving her with a staff of only nine.

1991 - The Hilltop office moves to the West Towers after The Hilltop rowhouse is demolished to make way for the new Bethune Annex dormitory.

1991 - Kevin Chappell, The Hilltop editor in chief, pitches the idea of The Hilltop running twice a week.

1993 - The Hilltop publishes twice-weekly for a brief stint.

1994 - Isabel Wilkerson, The Hilltop editor in chief for the 1981-82 school year, wins the Pulitzer Prize while working at the New York Times.

1995 - The Hilltop is named the Best Collegiate Newspaper in the nation by the Princeton Review.



1996 - The Hilltop runs a controversial editorial and cartoon after a campus visit from the Nation of Islam's Khalid Muhammad. Editor in Chief Monica Lewis appears on ABC's Nightline and the Montel Williams Show over the course of the year.

1997 - The New York Times selects The Hilltop as one of its featured college papers, and re-runs an excerpt of a Hilltop editorial of the Million Woman March.

2001 - Under the direction of

Editor in Chief Jason Smith, The Hilltop, which had become synonymous with Friday's, becomes a twice-weekly publication.

2004 - The Hilltop is once again named the Best Collegiate Newspaper in the nation by the Princeton Review.

2005 - THE HILLTOP BECOMES THE FIRST HBCU NEWSPAPER TO GO DAILY!

-Compiled by Christina M. Wright and Christopher A. Wall

Candid

(Clockwise from top) Our very own Carl Bernstein, also known as Life & Style Editor, Keith Laing. The men of The Hilltop, Laing, Bernard "Poet" Murray and Zachary Kenworthy. We may not get sick, but we do pass out from time to time, Murray on The Hilltop tabletop at 4 a.m. Copy editor extraordinaire Courtney Wade takes a break.

Photos by Hilltop Staff



Professors Speculate on Political Future of the Clintons



Professors say that Bill Clinton will likely be his wife's political adviser should she run for President in 2008.



Polls show Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton stands a good chance of returning her family to the White House.

BY MERCEDES WHITE
Contributing Writer

Since leaving the White House four years ago, the Clintons have maintained a high profile.

Hillary became the first president's wife ever elected to political office, wrote the memoir "Living History," which sold millions of copies across the globe, and through hard work in the Senate, has positioned herself to be a serious contender for the White House in 2008.

Never one to be upstaged, former president Bill Clinton has been keeping busy as well. He, like his wife, has written a successful memoir "My Life," started a foundation that helps AIDS victims in poor countries find cheaper treatment drugs, opened his presidential library in Arkansas, and undergone quadruple heart by pass surgery.

With their busy schedules over the past years, it's no wonder that political pundits are in a frenzy to guess what the Clinton's next political move will be.

Many wonder if former President Bill Clinton will use his new position as a special United Nations envoy for the tsunami reconstruction efforts, as a springboard to becoming the next Secretary General for the United Nations when Kofi Annan's second term ends in 2006.

Pundits are also abuzz in regards to Senator Clinton, who is using her seat in Congress to step out of her husband's shadow and, in recent months, has emerged as a possible savior for the Democratic Party, which is thought by many to be in "ruins."

There is also strong speculation that the former first lady may be considering her own run for the presidency. Though they

admit the Clinton's popularity remains high, Howard political science professors say they doubt the couple is trying to hold the two most powerful positions in the world at the same time.

What is likely, professors said, is that Bill will continue to do work with the international community but will never be selected to head the United Nations because he is American and his selection would create a dangerous imbalance of power within the organization. As for his wife, professors seem all but certain she will run in 2008, possibly returning her family to the White House.

Bill Clinton

"If he becomes United Nations Secretary General, God help us," said Donn Davis, the director of the Political Science Graduate Program at Howard University, when he was asked to answer speculation about Bill Clinton heading the United Nations.

"To make it an American would be totally wrong," Davis said. "You wouldn't want an American Secretary General when America is the dominant country... What type of neutrality is the organization going to have? It would be a terrible idea to have him or any American in that position."

Black politics professor Daryl Harris also does not support the idea that Clinton is leading tsunami efforts to be recognized as a prospect for U.N. Secretary General.

"I think a lot of what he is doing is just trying to find his niche," Harris said. "Much like President Carter, who is doing a lot of humanitarian/human rights things around the world, my thought is that Bill Clinton is trying to do the same thing. World diplomat is what this

whole tsunami thing is about."

The former president has also tried to discourage talk of his leading the U.N. "Becoming U.N. secretary general would be highly unlikely when you consider the reasons why the US has never given the position to an American," said Clinton last week in an interview with a South Korean news organization. "I think such talk is nothing more than an attempt to make me feel good."

Clinton said in the interview that he wanted to continue working on international issues through his foundation. Howard professors say that such work may aid his wife if she were to run for president, and that Clinton will probably serve as an unofficial advisor to his wife's campaign.

"I think Hillary most definitely has political aspirations... I think she will be a candidate in the next presidential election and she will be supported and advised by her husband," Davis said.

Professor John Davis, who teaches international relations at Howard University also says Bill Clinton could be an asset should Hillary run for president in 2008. "There's an old saying in politics, 'if you have an asset, use it' and her husband is an asset," Davis said. "It can't hurt her to use that to further her own career."

Hillary Clinton

Though all the attention must be flattering and at times annoying, Senator Clinton has remained consistent in her answers to press inquiries about a possible run for the White House. When asked, she continues to assert that her only focus is winning re-election to the Senate in 2006.

Analysts say she should be

able to do this easily. New York republicans have yet to put up a viable candidate who could threaten her chances for winning re-election. Senator Clinton's approval ratings are through the roof; many polls place her above 65 percent, and she has won over many republicans living in upstate New York.

Furthermore, a recent Newsday poll shows that Clinton is reaching Republicans nationally, particularly married women who were long thought to be a group she could never win over because of her decision to stay married to her husband following his affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky. She also continues to win respect from colleagues on Capitol Hill, who praise her work ethic and knowledge of the issues.

Despite the strong polling results, Howard professors urge caution about another Clinton presidency.

"Right now I think it is probably too early to say because it is still the beginning of 2005 and three years is a long time in terms of political careers," Harris said.

Others said Senator Clinton must build her status on international issues to better position herself for the White House.

"The problem that critics say about her is that she has yet to come up with a vision for American foreign policy," Davis said. "That is what she's lacking but she's gaining knowledge on the issues."

Sen. Clinton currently serves on the Senate Armed Services Committee and recently completed her second trip to Iraq. She also won praise this month for her performance at the Annual Munich Conference on Security Policy, which is one of the most high profile gatherings of national security experts in the world.

Bush Ends First Overseas Trip

BY SHARI LOGAN
Contributing Writer

President Bush and First Lady Laura Bush returned to Washington Friday, ending the President's first overseas trip since winning re-election.

During the five-day trip, President Bush sought to heal wounds with European Allies who disagreed with the invasion of Iraq, as well as convince Russia to not aid Iran in becoming a nuclear power.

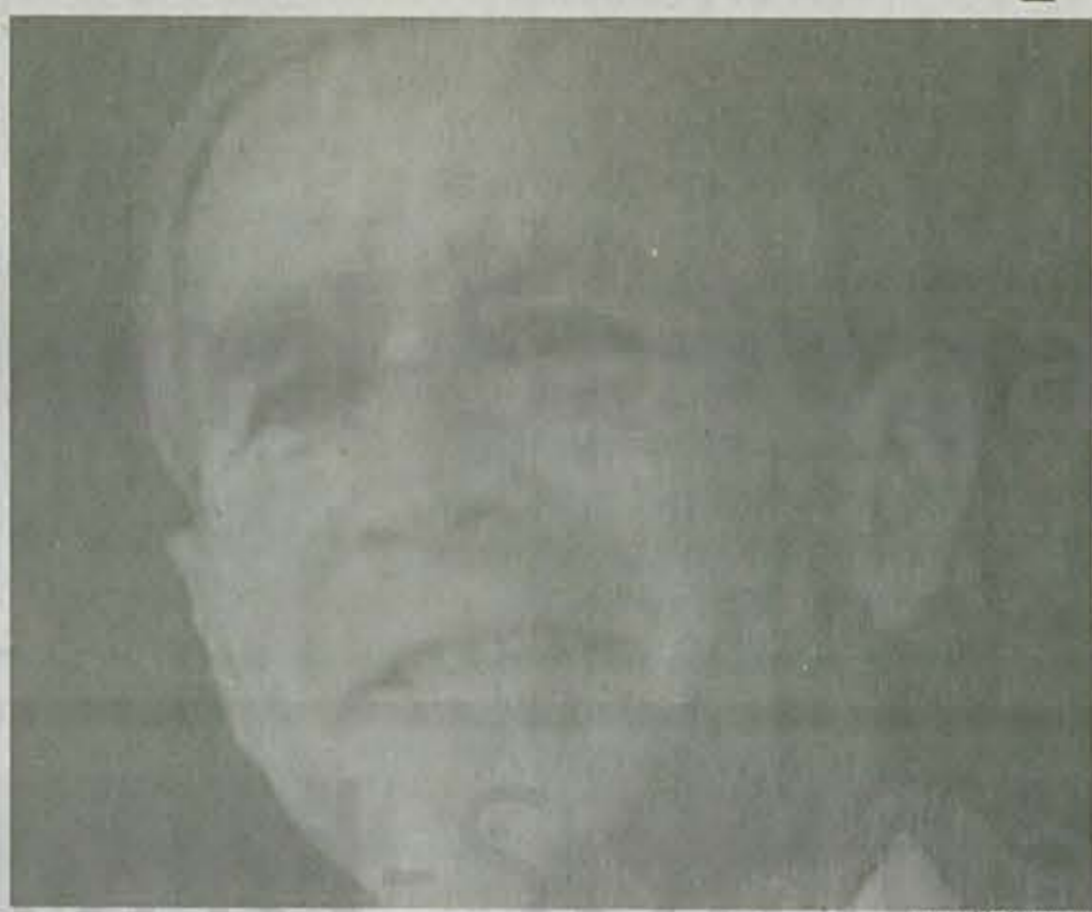
"We agreed to accelerate our work to protect nuclear weapons and material, both in our two nations and around the world," said Bush to reporters Thursday following his meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin. "We agreed that Iran should not have a nuclear weapon. I appreciate Vladimir's understanding on that."

Despite Putin's assurances, the Bush Administration was not pleased to learn yesterday that the Russian government signed a nuclear fuel supply deal with Iran. Under the agreement, Iran will send back to Russia spent nuclear fuel.

Spent nuclear fuel can be reprocessed into uranium, which can be used to make a nuclear weapon. Russia hopes this part of the agreement will ease the concerns of the Bush Administration, which fears Iran will look for ways to secretly develop a bomb.

The president also raised concerns his administration has about the health of democracy in Russia, which has been slowly returning power back to its executive branch of government. "I reaffirmed my belief that it is democracy and freedom that bring true security and prosperity in every land," said Bush when asked what he said to Putin about Russia's problem. "We may not always agree with each other...but we've found a lot of common ground."

For his part, Putin sought to assure the world that Russia is committed to democracy.



President Bush used his European trip to get extra help in Iraq and galvanize support for spreading democracy.

"Russia has made its choice in favor of democracy 14 years ago, independently without pressure from the outside," said Putin to reporters. "This is our final choice and we have no way back."

Other highlights of Bush's trip included a meeting with leaders of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Bush met with the NATO leaders at their German headquarters. The president was successful in getting the organizations support in training Iraqi soldiers and providing financial support to Iraqi reconstruction efforts. "Now is the time for the established democracies to give tangible political, economic, and security assistance to the world's newest democracy," said Bush in prepared remarks released by the White House prior to his arrival in Europe.

Howard students were skeptical of Bush's request for help. Jomari Peterson, a freshman Civil Engineering major, said, "I think the Bush Administration is trying to bring other people on board because they know the expenditures for Iraqi Reconstruction is too excessive and they need financial backing to defray America's contribu-

tion."

However, some students are indifferent to NATO's act of good will.

"I wouldn't be upset if they didn't agree to help," said Patrice Johnson, a junior majoring in Broadcast Journalism. "This was America's fight on terrorism, not the world's. So the world shouldn't be financially responsible."

Bush ended his visit in the Slovakia Republic, the newly independent nation that as recently as 1998 was living under a communist government. The country also stood by America's side when they first entered Iraq and Afghanistan, by sending some of their own troops to aid with the fighting.

Bush told citizens gathered in the town square of the country's capital of Bratislava that they should be proud of their fight to create democracy for their country. "The road to liberty and prosperity has not always been easy, but Americans respect your courage and determination to build a better future for your children," said Bush to the crowd.

Macro Vision Creates New Anti-Piracy Technology

BY CARYN GRANT
Hilltop Staff Writer

The familiar sight of people selling bootlegged DVDs on Georgia Avenue and Metro trains may become less common for Howard University students, as new technology has been created that will restrain the duplication of DVD movies.

Macro vision Corporation claims that Rip Guard DVD, its new anti-copying technology, can block 97 percent of the software used to digitally copy discs on computers.

This new technology has been five years in the making, even though it only took about a month for a 15-year old to write the software that allowed DVD movies to be easily copied quickly.

The hold up, researchers say, was discovering a way to lock the discs without harming their quality and compatibility on the more than 200 million DVD players sold around the world.

Now that the new technology has been created, Macro vision and other anti-piracy firms have opened an immense market that will save film studios billions of dollars in lost revenue.

The Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) reports that worldwide home video piracy costs American motion picture companies \$2.5 billion per year in lost revenues. If new technology, such as Rip Guard is found to be effective, blocking the copying of DVDs could increase revenue dramatically for studios.

Likewise, as DVDs have become a leading source of profit for Hollywood studios, even the smallest licensing

fee from the major Hollywood studios would produce a substantial increase in profit for companies such as Macro vision, which reported \$128 million in sales last year.

This is not the first attempt at preventing digital copying of DVDs. In 1996, a content scrambling system (CSS) was created to protect DVDs. This system required the use of a DVD player or computer DVD drive to decrypt, unscramble, and play back - but not copy - a disc. However, the decryption code was cracked and distributed worldwide by a Norwegian teenager only three years following its introduction to the market.

Such previous failed attempts at combating piracy have made some skeptical of the impact Rip Guard will have once it is fully introduced into the market.

"People will always try twice as hard to cheat, than to pay for something," said Courtney Jackson, a freshman legal communication major. "Anything that a company can make up to try and stop copying, the average computer geek can make something up to counter it."

However, Danny Kaye, senior vice president of research and technology for News Corporation's 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment, believes that technologies to stop or complicate digital copying would be valuable in Hollywood.

"If it takes a long time and the frustration level gets too high, you're not going to prevent 100 percent of it, but you can stop the casual user," he told the Los Angeles Times. "Why not try?"

Still, consumer advo-



New technology can block users from burning DVDs.

cates believe implementing the anti-copying technology on new discs would disregard those consumers who buy DVDs and make multiple copies to take on the road. "It's swimming against the tide," attorney Fred von Lohman of the Electronic Frontier Foundation, an advocate group for technology based civil liberties said. "Consumers one way or another tend to get what they want."

Regardless, the Rip Guard technology is expected to be implemented by some Hollywood studios this year. Macro vision is already the leading supplier of technology to deter analog copying of Hollywood movies by VCRs, computers and other high-tech devices. They hope the unveiling of Rip Guard will bring about a new era for the company and its efforts.

EDITORIALS & PERSPECTIVES

A7

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2005

www.thehilltoponline.com



A Message from the EIC: Why We Went Daily

My Fellow Bison:

As you pick up this first daily issue of The Hilltop, I know that many of you may have questions and concerns about this new venture that the staff of the paper has undertaken.

You may wonder, "Where did the idea come from?" "Is there enough news for a daily?" and "Will the quality of the paper decrease?"

As editor-in-chief, I will attempt to answer these questions and many misconceptions that surround African-Americans and daily newspapers.

The idea for The Hilltop to increase its production to a daily paper came from the struggles of journalism students finding work in the journalism field. Because there has not been such an endeavor undertaken by student journalists at HBCUs before, many recruiters passed over qualified and talented students from HBCUs because of lack of college daily experience.

Howard's motto has been "Leadership for America and the Global Community," and as lead-

ers, the staff of The Hilltop realized that it is our responsibility to be trailblazers and pioneers in the journalism world.

As Zora Neale Hurston and Pulitzer Prize winner Isabel Wilkerson paved the path before us, we understand that it is our duty as leaders to lead The Hilltop to a daily status, so that other HBCUs and students who follow us can enjoy a field where the great divide of journalism jobs is no longer present.

Since we have announced our intentions to increase circulation, we have been met with a mixture of support and hate.

Many have told us that African Americans don't read the paper everyday so the paper's new endeavor will fail. Others have told us that HBCU journalism departments are not equipped to give students the knowledge necessary to produce a student-run daily.

As we increase our circulation, we realize that the eyes of the journalism world are upon us, expecting us to fail. For this reason our passion for excellence and integrity has increased.

We understand that failing in this endeavor is not just a failure for us, but also for the whole African-American journalism community.

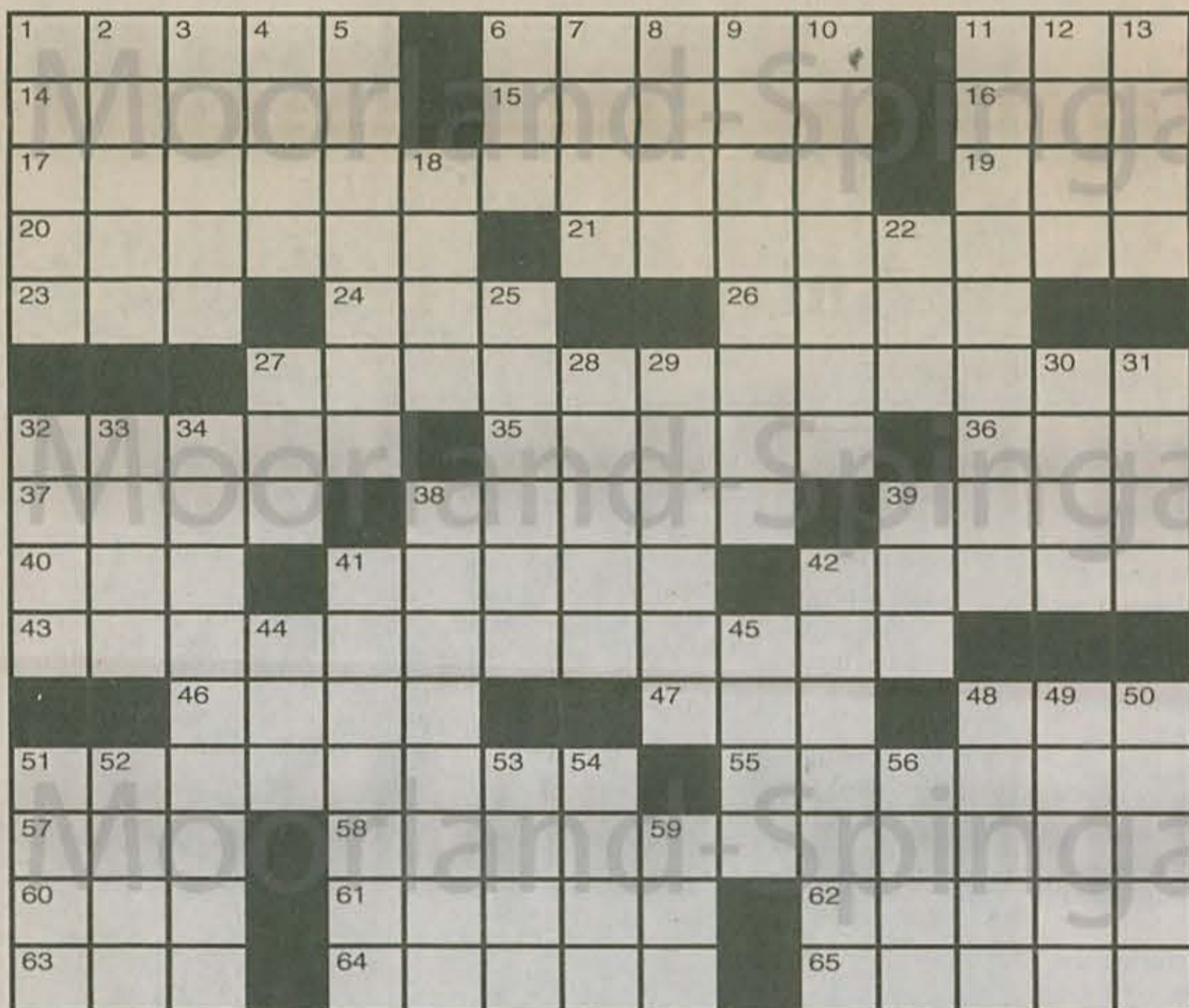
We have taken great strides through workshops to ensure that The Hilltop will continue to be the voice of the Howard community and provide pertinent news that will be both informative and enjoyable.

In order to provide the Howard community with pertinent news, The Hilltop will print 10 to 12 pages of content Monday through Friday. All of the sections that have regularly been viewed in the paper will still be available in our new format.

Instead of waiting two or three days as in years past to view news, all news will be available the next day. The staff of The Hilltop is committed to being on the cutting edge of news.

Being one of only a handful of Black dailies in the United States and the first HBCU daily, we are both humbled and excited for this new adventure. We hope that you will become more informed and enjoy our work.

Daily Crossword Puzzle



By Doug Peterson
Pasadena, CA

2/28/05

ACROSS

- 1 Scale
6 Vote in
11 "Fawly Towers" network
14 "Chicago" star Zellweger
15 Singer Jones
16 Opposite of 'neath
17 Ireland
19 Thai language
20 Matador
21 Stockpiles
23 Tolkien's tree
24 Skirt's edge
26 Impulsive
27 Dorothy Gale's footwear
32 Secure again, as a tent
35 Aviator Post
36 Itinerary word
37 Urgent acronym
38 Fizzy drinks
39 One from the sticks
40 Day break?
41 Muslim female quarters
42 Northern India monotheists
43 Arizona team
46 Part of AARP

DOWN

- 47 ___ Lanka
48 Exclamation of contempt
51 Greaseproof paper
55 Chevy model
57 Peri on "Frasier"
58 "Carmen Jones" co-star
60 Shaping tool
61 Gawks at
62 Steeple top
63 Roman gods
64 Browned bread
65 Superman's adoptive parents
12 Suitor
13 Field yield
18 Leopold's co-defendant
22 Psychic letters
25 Goodness me!
27 Corded fabric
28 Back of a tape
29 Andean pack
30 Wealthy
31 Fifth Avenue retailer
32 Author Ayn
33 Actor Morales
34 Those shooting stars?
38 California port
39 Towel ID
41 Lively nightclub
42 Head glove?
44 French pronoun
45 Corn bin
48 Michael of "Pole to Pole"
49 On one's toes
50 Grant's follower
51 Alum
52 Mineral vein
53 "The Lion King" lioness
54 "___ Tu" (1974 hit)
56 Bubble maker
59 D-Day transport

THE HILLTOP

The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper

Ruth L. Tisdale

Editor-In-Chief

Arion Jamerson

Managing Editor

Bernard "Poet" Murray

Managing Editor

Ashley Kelly

Deputy Managing Editor

Ayesha Rascoe
Campus Editor

Keith Laing
Life & Style Editor

Jana Homes
Asst. Life & Style Editor

Maxine Moffet
Nation & World Editor

Ashley Ross
Sports Editor

Robin Davis
Metro Editor

Maiya Norton
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Asst. Business Manager

Tiffani Turner
Advertising Manager

Sonja Sims
Office Manager

Now in its 81st year, The Hilltop, founded by Zora Neale Hurston in 1924, is published Monday through Friday by Howard University students. With a readership of more than 10,000, The Hilltop is the largest Black collegiate newspaper in the nation.

The Hilltop editorial office is located at, 2251 Sherman Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001 and can also be reached via email at www.thehilltoponline.com and by phone at (202)806-4724. The Hilltop business office can be reached via email at hilltopbusiness@yahoo.com and by phone at (202)806-4749.

The opinions expressed on the Editorial and Perspectives Page are the views of The Hilltop Editorial Board and those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Hilltop Editorial Board, Howard University, its administration or the student body.

The Hilltop encourages its readers to share their opinions with the newspaper through letters to The Editor or Perspectives. All letters should include a complete address and telephone number and should be sent electronically on our website at www.thehilltoponline.com. The Hilltop reserves the right to edit letters for space and grammatical errors and any inappropriate, libelous or defamatory content. All letters must be submitted a week prior to publication.

Bison Suffer Another Loss to Pirates

BY JONATHAN DAVIS
Contributing Writer

Unlike their first match-up, the Bison, this time around, held Hampton to under 40 percent shooting and were able to stay close.

Unfortunately, a late surge by the Pirates, along with a strong second half by senior guard Devin Green, propelled the Pirates to a 59-49 win Saturday afternoon at the HU Convocation Center in Hampton, Va.

Despite holding the Pirates to 34 percent shooting on their home court, the Bison could not take advantage, as they shot only 38 percent, including 31 percent in the first half. Green, after a slow first half where he was 3-for-7 from the floor with seven points and seven rebounds, had 12 points and five rebounds in the second half, finishing with 19 points and 12 boards on 8-for-18 shooting, his second double-double against the Bison this season.

An 8-3 run in the last 1:05 of the game gave the Pirates (14-11 overall, 12-4 in MEAC) their sixth straight victory. Howard (5-20 overall, 2-14 in MEAC) suffered their 14th consecutive loss.

Despite another strong performance by sophomore guard Darryl Hudson, 15 points and 12 rebounds on 5-11 shooting, the Bison where unable to find a consistent threat at the offensive end.

Sophomore guard Will Gant, who missed the first match-up because of a broken nose, managed only 9 points, shooting 2 for 12 from the field.

Sophomore forward Sidney Nickleson was the only Bison to score in double figures with 10 points, shooting 5-for-10 from the field along with six rebounds.

For the third game in succession, the Bison lost the game at the free throw line, going 12-20, including 6-12 in the first-half. Both Gant and Hudson were able to get to the line, but struggled shooting 5-of-8 and 5-of-9, respectively.

The Pirates, while they did not get a lot of consistent scoring from the other starters other

than Green, where able to get 19 points from their bench. Freshmen guard Rashard West and sophomore guard Junior Pehoua came off the bench to score 17 of Hampton's 19 bench points.

After trailing 31-20 at halftime, a second half jumper by Gant, and two lay-ups by junior center Daniel Wright 17-11 beginning to the second half that got them back to within striking distance at 37-42 with 9:26 remaining.

A jumper by Green started a 9-4 spurt that increased the lead back to nine at 50-41. A three-pointer by West capped Hampton's surge.

A Darryl Hudson lay-up and a three-pointer by freshmen Reggie Bates, who only scored five points, cut the lead of the Pirates to 51-46.

The Pirates also struggled at the line, making only 12-of-29 on noon, hit five tries that gave them the victory over Howard.

The Bison now look toward their game on Monday night at Echols Hall against Norfolk State Spartans, who are coming off a 72-68 home loss to Delaware State Saturday afternoon.

With two games remaining, one at Norfolk Monday and their final regular season game at home versus the Delaware State Hornets, it is clear that the Bison must play a consistent 40 minutes on the offensive end and defensive end with the MEAC tournament just two weeks away.

Pirates Stifle Howard Lady Bison Hopes

BY HEATHER FAISON
Contributing Writer

The pressure and expectations that boiled from the "Real HU" basketball hype proved to be too much for the Lady Bison (9-7 MEAC, 14-11 overall) as their long standing rival, the Hampton Lady Pirates (13-3 MEAC, 13-11 overall), walked away with the 52-61 victory this past Saturday at the HU Convention Center.

Hampton freshman guard and rookie of the year hopeful Rachel Butler led all scores finishing with 15 points, 13 of which were scored in the second half.

Guard Monica Rogers added 12 points and 17 rebounds while Sharema Dean finished with 11 points, nine of which come from the second half.

The Lady Pirates quickly took the lead going into the first half, but the Bison pressure defense forced the Pirates to turn the ball over 33 times.

The Bison were not able to capitalize on those turnovers due to poor shooting, mostly from point-blank range, totaling a devastating 8-for-28 in the first half.

Assistant Coach Andre Bolton noticed his team's anxiousness throughout the game and said that may have played a part in the poor shooting and other frivolous mistakes.

"Sometimes kids get too anxious over the hype of a game of this magnitude such as the Hampton vs. HU match-up. We were overdoing some things and when you want something so bad you don't know how to use that energy and execute well," Bolton said.

The Pirates caught the sour shooting bug as well, with both teams missing a combined 101 shoots. Following the 21-21 tie at the half the

Pirates stayed just a few points ahead but the Bison foul trouble would cost them any significant leads and ultimately the game.

The Pirates went to the line 15 times compared to only four trips to the line for the Bison. The Bison have struggle throughout the season with low free throw percentages and Bolton has stressed the importance of the shooting opportunity to his team in every contest.

"We are addressing it [the free throw issue]. We have to just mature in that area and realize who we can touch and who we can't. We have to be a little smarter with fouls and playing in a bonus situation," Bolton commented.

Two player that were hurt the most from the constant fouling were starting guard Daisha Hicks who finished with a staggering four points and starting center Andrea Jones who finished with 10 points, nine rebounds and three blocks. Both players fouled out in the second half and were forced to watch the final minutes of the loss from the bench.

Hicks, who also finished with six turnovers, could only describe the feeling of letting her team down as helplessness. "I know that was not a position that I was suppose to be in as a leader. I couldn't help my team at the end of the game and I just felt helpless," Hicks said.

Shooting stand out Brittany James led all Bison scores at 11 points and center Melloni Benson followed with nine points of the bench.

The Pirates shot an impressive 80 percent from the free throw line (20 of 25) and sealed the victory with a crucial three pointer by Butler who was 8-for-19 at the line in the half. The Pirates lead the "Real HU" series winning seven of the last eight match-ups in this rivalry.

The Lady Bison will face fifth-ranked Norfolk State today at 6:30 p.m. at Norfolk State with hopes of recovering from their 82-79 loss from the first match-up, as they round off the season going into the highly anticipated MEAC tournament March 7-11 in Richmond, Va., a competition that Bolton says is anybody's game.



NYC Makes Push for 2012 Olympic Bid

BY ALFONS PRINCE
Contributing Writer

On Feb. 20, members from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) were welcomed into New York City.

The IOC was there as a part of their five city tour to determine which city will host the 2012 Summer Olympics. The committee has already visited Madrid and London. The committee will then travel to Paris and Moscow before finally making their decision on July 6 as to where the 2012 Olympics will be held.

New York is trying to become the fourth American city to host the Summer Olympic Games. The United States has hosted the summer games five times with Los Angeles hosting the games twice, once in 1932 and the other time in 1984.

New York is also trying to gain some of the projected \$12 billion that the Olympics will bring. The last U.S. city to host the Olympics was Atlanta in 1996 and experienced a boost in population and revenue.

Jeffrey M. Humphreys, director of economic forecasting at the Selig Center for Economic Growth in the Terry College of Business at the University of Georgia, said, "Atlanta hosting the Olympics boosted Georgia Department of Revenue collections by \$176 million." The creation of Olympic venues and other world-class facilities also made Atlanta a more attractive city.

This is what New York is envisioning for itself. Already one of the most famous cities in the world, hosting the Olympics will only add to New York's reputation as the "city that never sleeps."

The state legislature has backed New York with a \$250 million guarantee for the Olympics and New York City's construction and hotel unions have signed an agreement that states no strikes for 10 years on all Olympic-related projects. There are also talks of building a new \$1.6 billion stadium over rail yards on the West Side of Manhattan. This is the piece that many people believe will ultimately decide whether or not New York City gets the bid.

New Yorkers themselves want the bid to go to them, as showed by the \$35 million the NYC corporate community has committed in support of the Olympic effort. Also, four out of five New Yorkers want the Olympics to come to their city.

The opinions on Howard's campus didn't differ much from those projected in such polls. Jessica Holmes, a junior nursing major from Clarksville, Tenn. said, "Having the Olympics in New York is a feasible idea. I just wonder about all those people being in New York after the terrorist attacks."

Omari Brooks, a junior computer science major agreed. "[The Olympics in New York] would be interesting because New York is already busy by itself," Brooks said.

With the IOC's visit finishing up on Thursday, New York and the rest of America will be anxiously waiting for July 6 to see if, in 2012, America will be home to the Olympics for the fifth time.



www.lifitly.com

Pistons Legend Eyes Hall of Fame

BY KAIA KARAMOKO
Contributing Writer

This past Sunday, 16 finalists were selected as inductees into the 2005 Basketball Hall of Fame. This year's list included basketball greats such as Dominique Wilkins, Maurice Cheeks, Adrian Dantley, Dennis Johnson, Bernard King and Joe Dumars, as well as coaches Jim Calhoun and Jim Boeheim.

In 1985, the world of professional basketball changed for the better when the Detroit Pistons drafted McNeese State guard, Joe Dumars, in the first round.

Early that year, in the McNeese State media guide, Joe Dumars listed his favorite athlete as Isiah Thomas. He averaged 22.5 points per game at McNeese, thus piquing the Pistons' interest.

However, little did he know, he would soon become Thomas' teammate and a much needed catalyst for Detroit.

At the start of the 1985 season, the Detroit Pistons struggled through an early season drought that produced 15 losses in 19 games. But when Dumars was inserted in the starting lineup, they won 20 out of 24 of the following games.

Dumars started 45 times during the 1985 season and led all rookies with 4.8 assists per game.

Entering the 1986-87 NBA Season, Dumars became Isiah Thomas' running mate and started 75 of his 79 regular season appearances. It is then that Dumars began to hone his abilities and became a valuable guard for the Detroit Pistons.

"He was a solid player; he contributed in all aspects of the game, Dumars possessed all the tangibles that makes a great player," said Ulric Maligi, a junior exercise physiology student.

The Pistons had an amazing record-setting season at 52-30 with Chuck Daly as a coach and an incredible lineup that included Dumars, Adrian Dantley, Vinnie "Microwave" Johnson, Bill Laimbeer and Thomas.

The Pistons came short of victory in the NBA Finals against both the Boston Celtics and Los Angeles Lakers. However, the Pistons were determined to have their moment in NBA history.

The following season, the Pistons swept the Lakers with Dumars averaging 27.3 points. In the 1989-90 season, the Motor City's Bad Boys would triumph once again as they drastically disposed of the Portland Trailblazers, coming back from a seven-point deficit to win the game 92-90.

Dumars went on to become a four-time member of the NBA's all-defensive team, MVP of the 1989 NBA finals, six-time All-Star and the Pistons' all-time leader in three-point field goals and



www.basket-plus.com

Detroit Pistons legend Joe Dumars is among sixteen finalists for this year's Basketball Hall of Fame.



www.mmedia.com

games played. He also has two NBA Championship rings and ranks second in franchise history in scoring, assists and steals.

Dumars went on to garner a successful basketball career with the Detroit Pistons for a span of 14 years.

"Over the course of his career he epitomized everything a coach looks for in a player - tough, versatile, intelligent and unselfish approach to the game of basketball," said Chad Ford, an ESPN sports insider.

"Definitely, Dumars, he was a guard, he did it all!" said William Gant, sophomore business management major, who also serves as Howard's starting point guard.

Gant added, "He had like two great years and he was like the Michael Jordan of the game, as opposed to Jordan's 10-year reign."

Dumars is currently the president of operations for the Detroit Pistons and is credited with assembling the team that won the 2004 NBA Finals.

"Who would've ever thought that a little quiet kid from Shreveport, La. would be blessed like this?" Dumars said with a grin.

"There's one reason this franchise has had some success the past couple years and that reason is Joe Dumars," said Rick Carlisle, Indiana Pacers head coach and former Pistons head coach.

Luggage Tags Gaining Popularity Rental Handbag Site on Rise

TAG, from L&S A10

These are just a few of the reasons that freshman public relations student LeBrandi Gardner said that she is grateful for her luggage tag.

"When I thought I lost my purse, I was able to retrieve it from the front desk of the Quad, only because my name and information was on it," she said.

"Some people may think it is stupid to put your information out like that, but it helped get me to get my purse with all of my identification cards and money back."

Like most new trends, this one has received mixed reviews. Some, like Lauren McCollough, a freshman physician's assistant major, said that they were not attracted to luggage tags at all.

"I don't see the purpose, because I had one on my Louis Vuitton duffle bag and I still don't know where it is," McCollough said. "Besides, a free paper tag at the airport serves the same purpose. I spent all that money on a leather luggage tag, and now I don't even have it."

Brandon Jenkins, a junior chemical engineering major, expressed a view similar to

McCollough's.

"I never thought of this as something that needed to be designer," he said. "People do not pay attention to those things anyway. I would not pay a lot of money for one."

Despite critics like McCollough and Jenkins, this unique expression of individuality has gained more popularity. Like it or not, luggage tags are appearing more and more. Whether one is into sports, dance or just vibrant colors, there is a luggage tag for them.

RENT, from L&S A10

this would be a service in which the ladies of Howard University would want to partake.

"[No]," Morris said, "I prefer to buy my handbags in person."

Caren Street, a sophomore psychology major, said she sees Morris' point but did not totally agree.

"The site would allow me to try a bag before I buy it," she said.

Freshman nutritional science major Safiya Jenkins also said she would be interested in the service provided by Bag Borrow or Steal™.

"It seems really convenient since I don't usually make the time to go handbag shopping," she said.

So for those with champagne wishes and caviar dreams, Bag Borrow or Steal™ provides trendy yet budget friendly options for frugal fashion fans.

"Instead of thinking about



Dubbed the "NetFlix for handbags" by The New York Times, the main goal of Bag Borrow or Steal, is to provide a touch of luxury for the average Jane for an unlimited amount of time.

the bag they want and can't afford at that particular moment or don't have the time to go out and buy, [students] can simply click away and have it delivered straight to them," Lapidus said.

The Howard University Student Association Brings You... ACTION SPEAKS WEEK 2005

Saturday February 26, 2005 "Community Service Project" Capital Area Food Bank from 9am to 12pm Meet at 8:15, in front of the architecture building
Sunday February 27, 2005 "Call to Chapel"
Monday February 28, 2005 "Bush is Back...Now What" Digital Auditorium from 7 to 9pm. A discussion of the new bush administration, and will also offer ideas on how we as college students can still remain politically active, now that the whole "vote or die" craze has died down.
Tuesday March 1, 2005 "State of the Black Male Address" East Ballroom from 8pm to 9:30pm. A discussion of the role of today's Black male in the family, community, and in society.
Wednesday March 2, 2005 Gallery Lounge from 7pm to 9pm "The Real Battlefield: Fighting for the Educational Future of our Youth" A discussion on education in DC, featuring a member of the DC school board, and also featuring some of the local mentoring/tutoring programs who are seeking volunteers.
Thursday March 3, 2005 "Bison Black Wealth Initiative" Digital Auditorium from 7pm to 9pm A workshop on how to invest your money, which provides tools on how the college student can keep his or her finances in order.
Friday March 4, 2005 "Don't Believe the Hype", First Friday Punch-out from 7 to 9pm. An Open Mic featuring socially conscious artists and will also be our First Friday for the month.

Want to write for the HILLTOP?

Come grab a story at the budget meeting on Tuesday @ 7:00 PM

HOWARD UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP, LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION (ELI INSTITUTE) CONGRATULATES THE WINNERS OF THE 1ST ANNUAL ENTREPRENEURIAL BOOT CAMP BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION

1ST PLACE TEAM AWARD - \$7,500.00

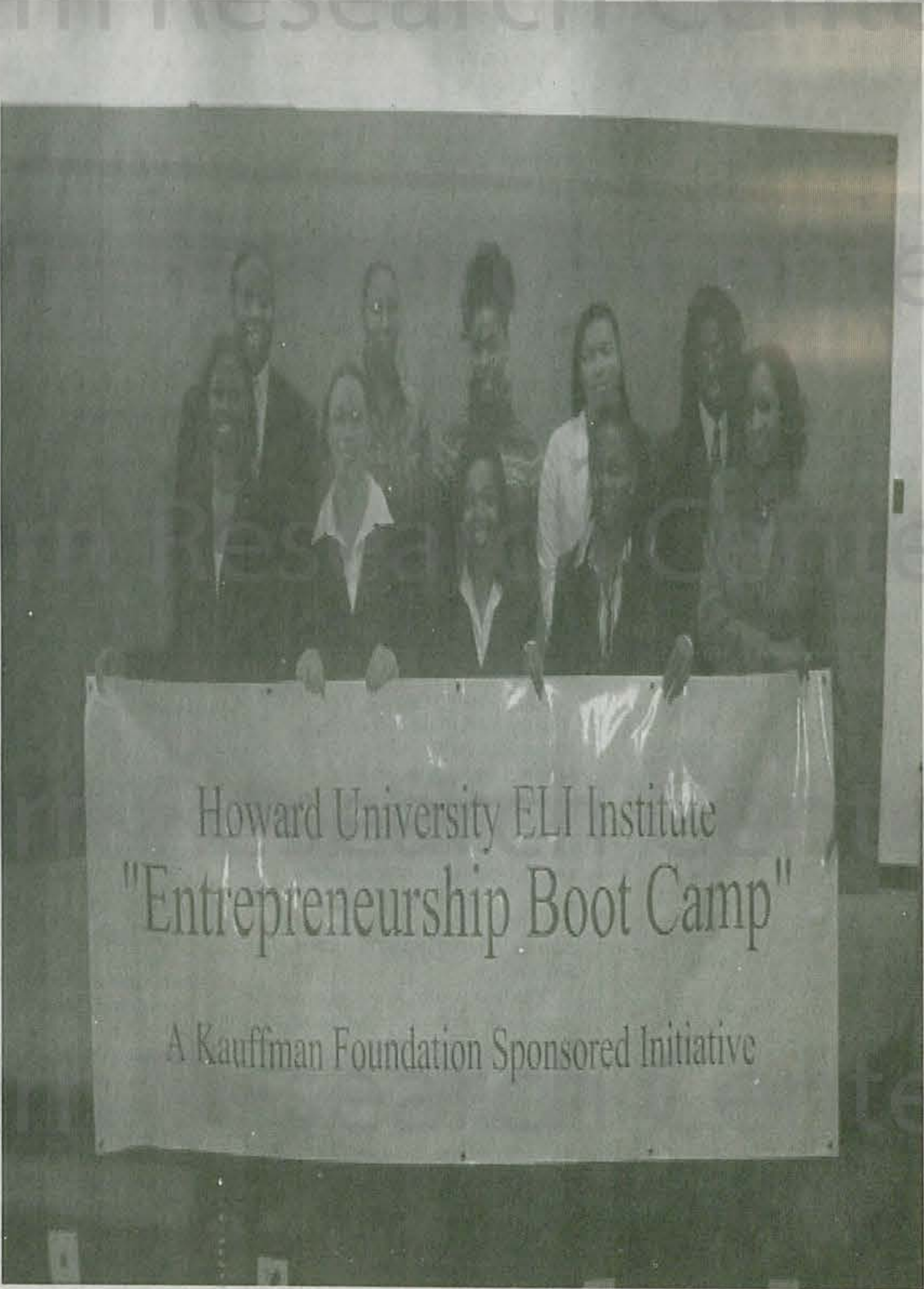
Trenile Tillman, SGA/Group Leader	School of Business
Myron Aldridge	School of Engineering
Saidat Awokoya	College of Arts & Sciences
Shirice Beevas	School of Business
Atiya Boddie	School of Business
Denari Brown	College of Arts & Sciences
Shelby Burks	College of Arts & Sciences
Caleb Nelson Amaker	College of Arts & Sciences
Dominica Pough	College of Arts & Sciences
Ashley Thomas	School of Business

2nd PLACE TEAM AWARD - \$4,500.00

Fana Gibson, SGA/Group Leader	College of Arts & Sciences
Sally-Jean Astwood	School of Business
Brandon Smith	School of Business
Lyndsey Smith	School of Business
Robert Wadlington	School of Communications
Masake Kane	College of Arts & Sciences
Jordan Smith	School of Business
Marietta Swan	School of Business
David Williams	School of Communications

3rd PLACE TEAM AWARD - \$3,300.00

Erin Kendrick, SGA/Group Leader	School of Business
Kristin Baker	College of Arts & Sciences
Tiffany Jones	School of Communications
Dara Jordan	School of Communications
Aquila Morris-Alleyne	School of Business
Raasikh Muhammad	School of Business
Amanda Murray	School of Business
James Murray	School of Business
Travonnie Neblett	School of Business
Sade Stephens	School of Communications
Larry Thompson	College of Arts & Sciences



lifelines:



Bag This

BY KEITH LAING
Life & Style Editor

Last week, I stumbled across two interesting websites: one allowing you to rent bags and one selling tags for those bags — which may or may not belong to you.

My first thought was who would really rent a bag. But then, I remembered the sorry state of affairs between me and bags right now. You see, the zipper on my book bag broke off a few weeks ago, making the bag almost useless. You're probably thinking no biggie, just get another one, right?

Well that's what I was thinking too— until I went into the bookstore and didn't see one for less than \$41. I spent \$20 on the broken one, and that one entered Howard with me, so on principle, I refused to spend that much on a book bag — especially on one I'll probably only use regularly for two more months.

So I decided to tough it out with the broken bag and try my best not to take out my frustration on everyone who kept telling my bag was open. I know they meant well, but after hearing "your bag's open" 75 times a day, I just wanted to scream from the top of Founders "I know!!!"

After about a week of that, I decided that something must be done, so I went book bag hunting again. Of course, because of the wicked nature of my relationship with bags, the store only had kids' bags in stock. We're talking Sponge Bob type stuff here.

Again, on principle, I refused to walk around with a topless sponge on my back. I'm too grown for that.

If that's not enough to convince you of my awful bag history, let me tell you about me and suitcases. Since I've been at Howard, I've had three suitcases break during trips.

If you don't think that's so bad, picture random people handing me my most personal garments at the airport after picking them up from the trail behind me. Or imagine me on the Metro chasing my one-legged suitcase down the escalator after I finally finagled my way to the top.

So on second thought, maybe renting a bag isn't so crazy.

At least that way, when it breaks, you can send it back and get another one that's not covered in cartoons.

Anyway, that's the end of my rant. Check back next Monday for another dose of Lifelines, because while The Hilltop may be going daily, I'm definitely not.

Keith Laing keeps harassing our mailman because it's been three days since he rented his new book bag and it still hasn't arrived yet. We told him it may have been delayed by the snow, but he's not convinced. Either way, we're tired of helping him pick his things up after they fall out of his bag, so if you want to join us in contributing to the "Buying Keith a Book Bag to Shut Him Up" fund, send your contributions to life_n_style0405@yahoo.com.

Bags Big In Style

Students Tag Their Bags

BY CHRISTIAN RICHARDSON
Contributing Writer

People are usually only concerned with luggage tags when an airline loses their bags, but now these identification tags are starting to be designed with flair as they become the new accessories of spring.

Whether they go on luggage, laptop cases or even purses, luggage tags are becoming popular accessories to any bag.

Now as much fashion statement as an identification device, luggage tags come in a variety of different designs to fit any personality. Built to withstand abuse, these poly-vinyl tags come in a plethora of color designs. Luggage tags are in demand not only because of their designs, but their durability. They don't rip and tear, or get misplaced like the paper ones given at the airport.

For the fashion conscious person, Coach has created a line of designer leather identification tags marked at \$328, according to the company's website.

"My Coach luggage tag is tight because it is a reflection of my personality; fun, colorful and fashionable," said freshman business management major Christina Spence. "This is another way for me to express myself. When I put it on my suitcase, the basic black is liv-

ened, quite like me."

If, unlike Spence, Coach's tag price is too hard on your pockets, the online company Jetsetgo produces an entire line of these fun baggage claimers at a more reasonable price. These tags can also be found online at www.eco-art-ware.com at three for \$12.

"People are doing it to be different and stand out, just to express themselves," said Donte Young, a junior electrical engineering major.

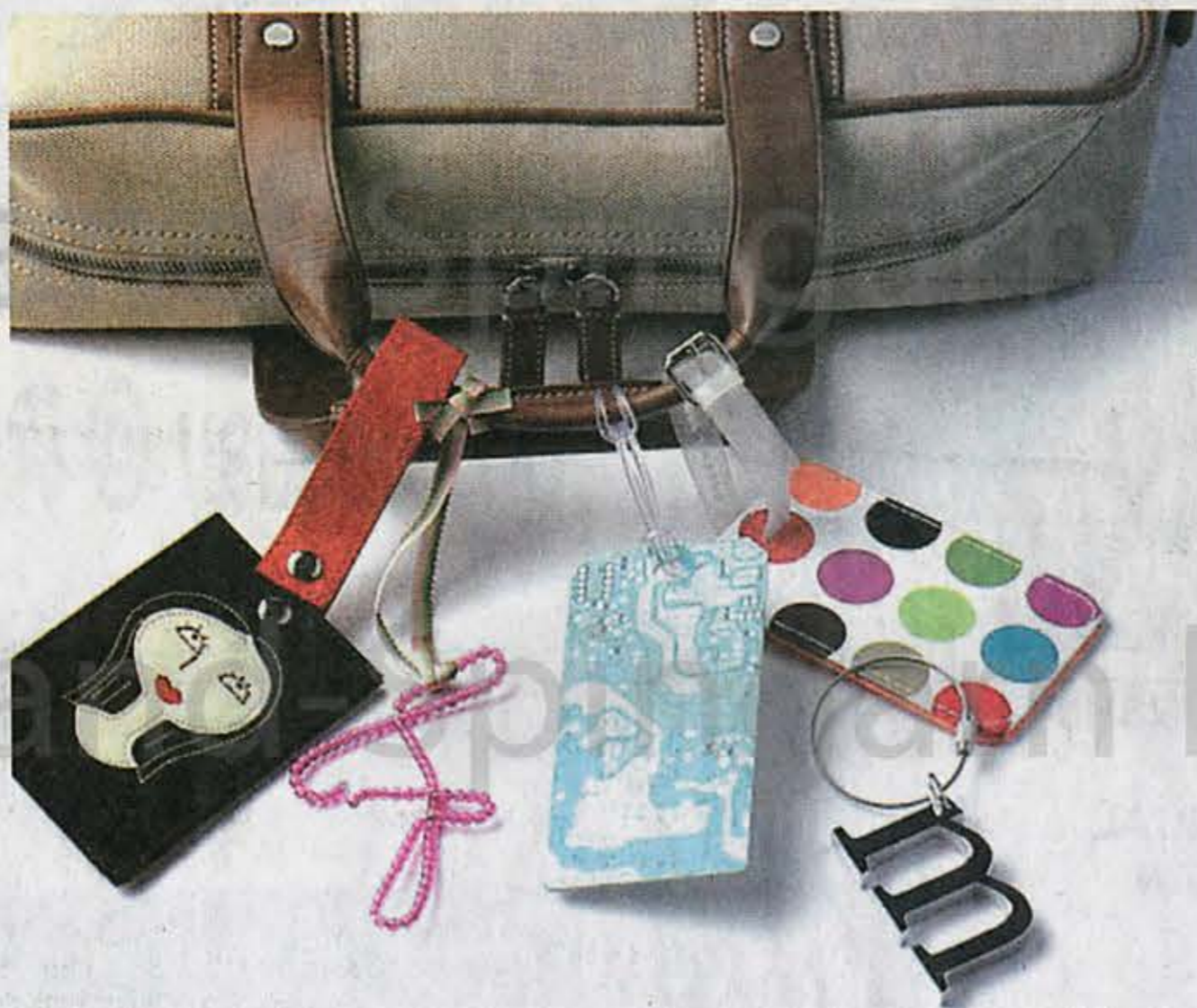
Not only are these tags found on the luggage ramps at airports, but also on purses, totes, sports bags and laptop cases. Some students like Young said people were using tags because they are fun and also because they make it easy to distinguish your belongings from someone else's.

"People are doing it to be different and stand out, just to express themselves," Young said.

Other students said that when they travel, these personalized tags make it easier for them to spot their luggage and they do not have to spend long periods of time searching through a sea of similar baggage.

Additionally, if someone were to inadvertently leaves their bag somewhere, the person who finds it will be able to identify the owner and return it.

See TAG, News A9



Luggage tags are now being used for more than identification. Several companies are marketing creative labels that are becoming fashion statements.

Rugs Decorate Students Floors, Treat Their Feet

BY YASMINE PARRISH
Contributing Writer

When shopping for dorm furniture, people think to buy bed linens, organizers and alarm clocks. However, complementary rugs always seem to end up in the shopping cart along with all the "bare essentials."

For many students like freshman biology major Tiffany Clark, rugs are being used for much more than wiping dirty feet.

"A rug can go a long way," Clark said. "It's not just making sure your feet don't get dirty when you get out the shower; it's about who you are."

These days, many interior decorators could not agree more. Rugs are being used as essential parts of interior design and providing form and function.

"It's important to have rugs because it's easy to clean them," said junior fashion merchandising major Jennifer Shelter.

"When you're in college, no one has time to do serious cleaning so rugs are always a great option."

Several students said that they buy rugs for that very reason and also the fact that many Howard dormitories have cold tile floors.

"I like the way rugs look on my floor and I hate walking on cold floors, so the rug provides a cushion between the floor and my bare feet," said freshman design major Michael Craighead.

Freshman fashion merchandising



Rugs decorate the floors of many Howard students, who cite a number of reasons, such as aesthetics and simulating carpet, for having them.

major Trú Minh Vo believes rugs make a dorm room feel more like home.

"Rugs simulate carpeting, which I'm used to having at home," Vo said.

"I don't care for those furry rugs because they trap in dirt, hair lint, and it's not something you want to walk on with your shoes," Vo said. "I want an everyday area rug that is similar to the type of rug at home. Also I don't particularly care for light color rugs because

they're hard to clean. A good rug to me is anything that isn't furry or light colored."

Olubunmi Ogunwale, a sophomore management major, said he has qualities he looks for in a rug too.

"I want a rug that's thick, warm and nice. One that doesn't get messed up too easily," he said.

Clark said that she agreed.

"You should pick a rug that represents your personality but more so a rug

Handbag Site Rents the Latest Looks for Less

BY SUSAN D. SIMMONS
Contributing Writer

Any fashion conscious woman will tell you that an outfit is never complete without the perfect handbag.

But for mere mortals, the price of the current "it" bags of the season seen on the shoulders of celebrities could easily put a dent in someone's bank account.

Besides, with the number of parties and events that occur in the D.C. area alone, buying a new purse to suit every occasion can begin to add up big time. What's a woman to do about such a dilemma?

"Ideally, I try to get two new handbags a month," said Kourtnei Morris, a sophomore political science major. "The amount I spend varies from month to month."

Now fashionistas and handbag fiends like Morris can rejoice because the Florida-based company Bag Borrow or Steal™ offers women the opportunity to borrow 100 percent authentic designer handbags in "new" or "like new" condition at a fraction of the designer bag at normal retail price via its website www.bagborroworsteal.com.

Dubbed the "Netflix for handbags" by The New York Times, the main goal of the company, which was launched in 2004, is to provide a touch of luxury for the average Jane for an unlimited amount of time, possibly making this site the best innovation since low-carb bagels.

"We felt that there was definitely a need for a company like this in the industry," said Stacey Lapidus, the company's fashion coordinator who previously worked at Vanity Fair magazine. "We all know how women love handbags. Unfortunately, they can get quite expensive."

So now, instead of paying upwards of \$200 for one designer purse, you can borrow as many different handbags as you want for a monthly fee. The membership packages offered by Bag Borrow or Steal™ were made to fit any budget. Membership runs between \$19.95 a month to \$149.95 per month



Jordan Colbert- Asst. Photo Editor

Designer purses like this Coach bag can be rented at www.bagborroworsteal.com.

and while you are only allowed to borrow certain bags as permitted within your membership bracket and can only borrow one to two at a time, members still enjoy an ever-changing selection of high-end handbags.

"New handbags from our designers are being added everyday," Lapidus said. "We are also constantly changing the assortment and adding brand new designers to the site as often as once a week."

For those who cringe at the thought of returning a bag after falling in love with it, Bag Borrow or Steal™ gives its members the option of "stealing" a handbag instead of just hoarding the bag without permission.

Members can purchase a bag they have borrowed for a priced based on factors such as the number of times the bag has previously been borrowed, the condition of the bag and the bag's availability to the Bag Borrow or Steal™ sourcing team.

This service is not only beneficial for consumers, but for the manufacturers and designers of these handbags. Companies such as Dooney & Burke, LAI, Lulu Guinness and Ted Rossi NYC are gaining media exposure through this service, and are not losing profits because buys directly from the designers.

The big question is whether or not

See RENT, News A9

that you don't mind will get a little ruffled up," she said.

While it may seem that all of Howard is hip to the rug game, there are still a few that are not so enamored with the idea of having rugs.

"I don't have a rug because they become very dirty quickly from all the lint and dust in the air," said sophomore radio, television and film major Hakeem Harmon. "It's hard keeping them clean if you do not have a vacuum. I don't think my room is missing any element from not having one. I'd rather just sweep the floor."

Senior fashion merchandising major Dawn Hay also said that she simply does not see the importance the rug in the overall interior décor.

"Rugs are items of comfort, they don't make or break a room," she said. "It's not the end of the world if you don't have a rug."

Though there are few who do not feel rugs play an important part in dorm decorating, it may be safe to say that most Howard students are up on their rug game.

While a Persian rug may be a little much for the everyday wear and tear that Howard students say rugs receive, a less expensive rug from Ikea or Target could definitely be a worthwhile investment.

One or two nice rugs can go a long way in a barren dorm room and luckily, a good rug is not hard to find.