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THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 88, NO. 64

MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2005

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

MONDAY NOTEBOOK

CAMPUS

DO YOU KNOW KO'NOKO?

KO'NOKO IS NOT A CLOTHING BRAND, OR A TYPE OF FURNITURE. IT IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION FOUNDED BY A HOWARD STUDENT THAT HELPS YOUNG PEOPLE GO TO COLLEGE. FIND OUT MORE INSIDE.

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NATION & WORLD

CHEAPER FLIGHTS ON THE WAY



US AIRWAYS IS OFFERING CHEAPER FLIGHTS TO MAJOR CITIES IN AN EFFORT TO FIGHT OFF BANKRUPTCY. IN THE PAST, THE COMPANY HAS LOST CUSTOMERS TO CHEAPER AIRLINES.

PAGE 4

LIFE & STYLE

SHADES OF SPRING

SPRING IS HERE, AND THE WEATHER IS NOT THE ONLY THING CHANGING. FIND OUT WHICH COLORS ARE BLOOMING AND WHICH ONES HAVE BEEN RETIRED UNTIL THE CLOCKS GO BACK.

PAGE 10



HU CALENDAR

April 28

FORMAL CLASSES END

MAY 14

GRADUATION

WEATHER

TODAY
PARTLY CLOUDY
High: 64
Low: 42

TUESDAY
PARTLY CLOUDY
High: 58
Low: 40

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Howard Greeks Present Their New Members

BY CHRISTINA M. WRIGHT
Asst. Campus Editor

Classes seemed the furthest on students' priority list Friday, as a crowded Yard was the scene for the probates of four Greek organizations' newest members.

"It was a mad scene out there," said Deirdre Waters, a freshman biology major. "There were people covering every inch of the Yard, people in trees and in windows; it was just live."

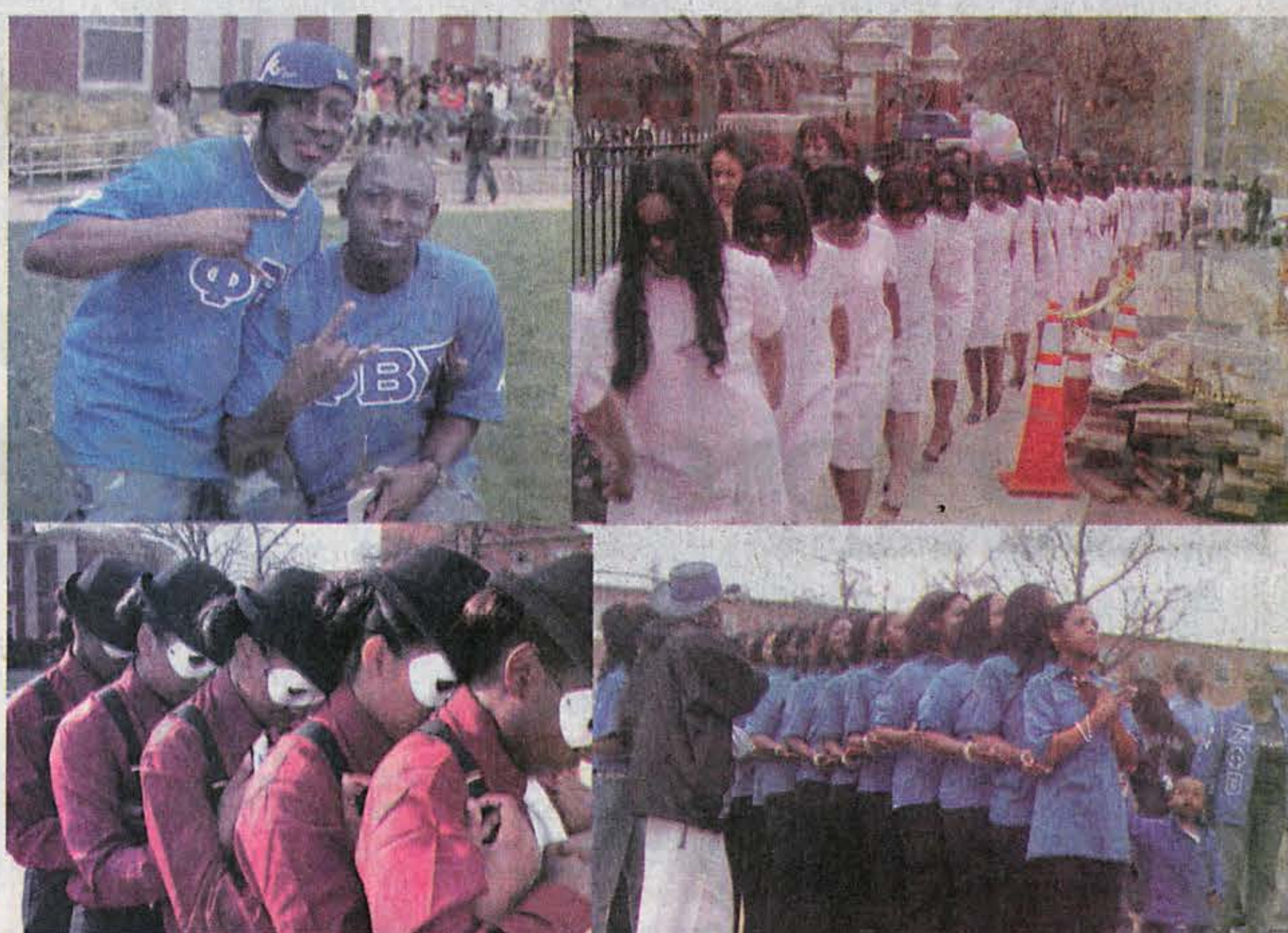
One of the biggest spectacles was when the "137 P.R.I.V.Y." strutted onto the Yard dressed in salmon colored dresses, accented with white pearl necklaces and earrings, and sunglasses, forming "AKA" on the main circle.

The Alpha chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. had not had any new inductees since Spring 2001, a direct result of the deaths in California that were reportedly connected with the sorority's intake process. Prior to the probate, Alissa Braz was the only recognized AKA member on Howard's campus.

"It was hard, but I pledged my life to the organization," Braz, president of the AKA Alpha Chapter, said. "I am proud, and I am happy to have been the member to make sure the chapter remained."

One segment of the two-hour ceremony included the introduction of new and old members, and the year they pledged. One older woman approached the inside of the circle, and the crowd was told Lorraine Drew had pledged in 1957. Her granddaughter was part of the Spring 2005 line, and said AKA ran in her

See GREEKS, News A5



Throng of students crowded The Yard Friday to view probates of several Greek organizations, including Phi Beta Sigma, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Gamma Sigma Sigma, and Zeta Phi Beta.

Maya Gilliam- Senior Photo Editor and Tunica Walker

112 Visits Howard



Nicole Reed- Staff Photographer

The Endustry Power Players (E.P.P) brought many Howard University students' dreams to life when they sponsored a meet and greet with R&B group 112 on Friday afternoon at Cramton Auditorium.

Warm Temperatures Empty Out Classrooms at Howard

BY BRADLEY WETE
Contributing Writer

As spring weather returns to Howard University, some students have decided that looking good on the Yard is way more entertaining than listening to their professors in the classroom.

Last week, the Yard played host to what seemed to be Howard University's spring coming out party. There were the jump ropers, skipping and spinning in front of Douglass Hall. Frisbees flew threw the air. The picnic blankets were laid out by those who desired the tan they missed out on during spring break. And of course, every bench on the yard was decorated with guys and girls showing off their brand new shoes and clothes.

Wearing a turquoise polo shirt, a jean skirt and flip flops, sophomore nursing major Irmise Fennell, was one of the girls hanging out on a 75 degree Wednesday. Fennell, sipping on a vanilla smoothie, said that she has missed class before just to hang out on the Yard.

"I missed medical terminology class last week to hang out," she said.

She also said that she thinks that good weather

makes it harder for students to focus on class work. "It's harder to do work when it's nice outside because there are so many other things to do aside from studying or doing homework," she said. "Everybody thinks that they are going to miss out on something and that they have to be there out on the Yard, but at the end of the day, it's pointless. You are just out there looking at people."

Christopher Hines, a sophomore advertising major, chose to ride pretty young girls around the yard on his bicycle over going to work at his job last Wednesday. Wearing chocolate brown tweed Nike Dunk sneakers and camouflage shorts, Hines called out sick to enjoy the warm weather and confessed that he skipped class plenty of times during his freshman year to chill out on the Yard.

Hines feels that his days of skipping were worth missing the classes, because he got to meet and greet all the girls that were sitting on the benches and lying out on the grass, but that there really is no valid reason to skip class for that purpose.

"Of course it was worth it," he said. "I met a lot of girls out there, but unless the

classroom is on fire, there is no reason to miss it."

Jon Minor admitted that he has skipped a couple of classes this spring due to the outdoor excitement.

"I don't skip class often, but there is definitely going to be another time that I do it," the sophomore business management major said.

Minor, who wore an olive Lacoste polo shirt and khaki shorts on his Yard outing, also identified what makes the perfect day on the Yard.

"A good day on the Yard is when it is nice and warm outside and everyone is happy to be out of their heavy winter clothes," he said. "Just all the sights and sounds make the perfect day on the Yard memorable."

Minor also feels that it is hard to focus on work in the classroom when it is nice outside.

"In the afternoon when everyone is outside and you are still in class, hearing everybody else having a good time, it gets a lot harder to focus."

Hines said he disagreed. "It's not really hard to focus," said Hines. "You still have to do what you have to do, but you have to know how to balance fun and work at the same time."

Harry Belafonte Speaks of Past with Advice for Future

BY TOYNETT N. HALL
Contributing Writer

On Friday, April 8, at 7:00 pm Harry Belafonte discussed his life as a social and political activist to the young and old at Cramton Auditorium. Belafonte's raspy voice commanded the audience's attention as he reminisced about his struggle and passion for liberation.

Belafonte credits his mother, a Jamaican immigrant, as the driving force for his commitment to justice.

According to Belafonte, "Most of what fueled my passion for activism was really rooted in my mother. She was quite committed to justice and liberation. Although she was severely uneducated, she had a brilliant instinct for survival."

In addition to his mother's influence, the social and political unrest of the times such as the "lynchings, the murders, the escalation of white supremacy and the active role of genocide against Black people," fueled his fire to combat such injustice.

Belafonte's luck and fascination with theater gained him a public platform, which placed

him in an environment and position to fight for justice at a greater level.

Belafonte speaks about his musical achievements and said that his album was "the first to ever sell a million copies in the recording industry." Belafonte calls that coincidence "divine intervention," and quoted his very influential friend, artist, and activist Paul Robeson, who said, "Get them to sing your song and they will want to know who you are."

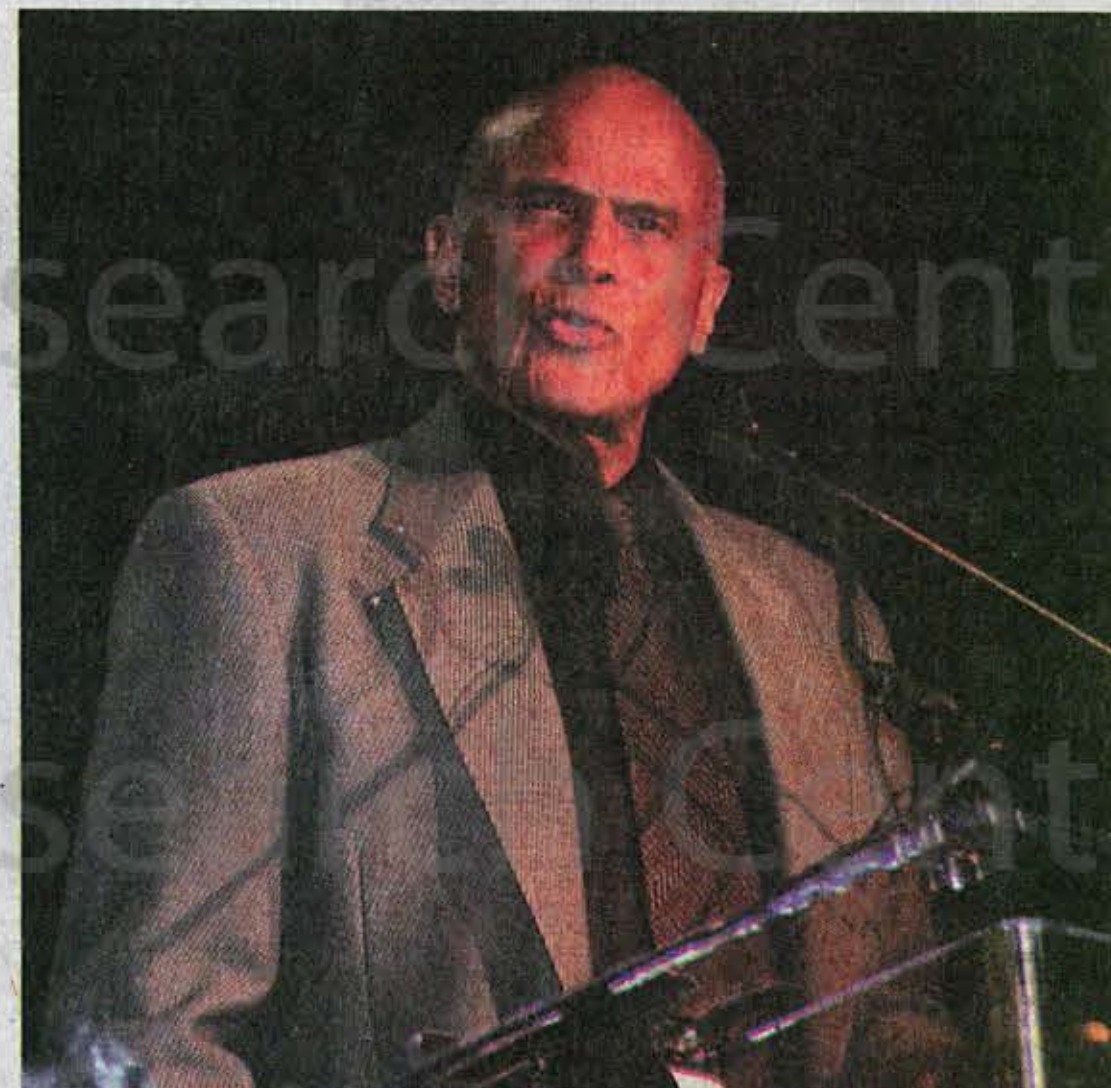
"All art has social and political responsibility, and the only reason why entertainers exist is to take a stance on political issues," Belafonte said.

In addition, Belafonte decried present day entertainers for not being more political.

Today's entertainers are "so involved in their image, self righteousness and their own self interest, that they never really understood the power of culture and art," said Belafonte.

As Belafonte lectured, he spoke about a variety of issues such as religion, the Bush administration and his relationships with Paul Robeson and Dr.

See BELAFONTE, News A5



Nicole Reed- Staff Photographer

Harry Belafonte told his audience Friday night that somewhere in the struggle for equality generations faltered in passing the baton of Civil Rights Movement.

Cotton Club Brings 1920 Flavor to Howard



Mark King-Staff Photographer

The first ever Howard University "Cotton Club" was a red carpet success Friday evening. A packed crowd, dressed in 1920s attire, grooved to the sounds of a live jazz band and a hip-hop DJ. Promoters plan to make this event an annual affair.

Student Organization Stresses Higher Education to Youth

BY RAYNA LUCIER
Contributing Writer

Although the Howard University campus is full of many future entrepreneurs and budding talent, there is a small amount of students on campus who are responsible for beginning their own organization. Krystal Braden, a Texas native and senior marketing major, is a proud member of this growing category of young businessmen and women.

Ko'noko is a Los Angeles based non-profit organization that serves as an outreach to all youth. It began after an incident that took place prior to Braden's freshman year at Crenshaw High School. Earlier that summer, Braden purchased a t-shirt from a hosting university on a college tour. Due to her high school's



Jordan Colbert-Ass. Photo Editor

Krystal Braden started a non-profit organization after being prohibited to wear a college t-shirt in her high school, because it was a gang color.

See STUDENT, News A5

FRESHMEN SPEAK:

With warm weather finally approaching, what do you look forward to most?

"I look forward to finally wearing warm weather clothes and not having to worry too much about catching the flu."

Niana Carter, administration of justice, biology

"The cute clothes and finally being able to go outside and meeting new people."

Camille Webster, fashion merchandising

"I look forward to meeting new people, chilling on the Yard and hopefully meeting some upperclassmen even though the year is almost over."

Janelle Samuels, administration of justice

"The lively spirit and atmosphere of the Yard. It's a good opportunity to meet people who stay on and off campus. It seems more friendly and peaceful now than in the winter."

Joshlyn Holland, chemistry

"As Spring approaches I can't wait to see new faces on the Yard and the new fashions that Howard's trendsetters bring out."

LaCrecia Reeves, biology

"I look forward to seeing my favorite designers spring collections, and, oh yeah, the cute guys too!"

Kiedra Gordon, fashion merchandising

"Being able to hangout on the Yard, and exploring new places in D.C."

Chris Bonner, history

"I look forward to having good weather to run track."

Quintin Reed, psychology

Compiled by Farren Hinton



Jordan Colbert-Ass. Photo Editor

Rev. Dr. Benjamin K. Watts told the Chapel congregation Sunday that sometimes it's hard to see Jesus, because people are blinded by life, but that doesn't mean he isn't there.

Chapel Speaker Tells Audience to Persist Despite Trials

BY SHANAE HARRIS
Contributing Writer

Often times things go wrong in people's lives and they don't understand why. This is the idea that Rev. Dr. Benjamin K. Watts, Senior Pastor at Shiloh Baptist Church in New London, Conn. addressed in his sermon this past Sunday at Cramton Auditorium.

"Understanding is not a prerequisite for participation," Watts said to answer the baffling question of why things do not often go the way one may expect. Watts explained his personal experience on the subject.

"There have been times where I couldn't see clearly and didn't know where God was leading me, but I still had to believe in him," he said.

Watts went on to explain that people do not understand the plan of God when something is going hard for them, or a different way than they had planned.

"When something is rocking my world, or upsetting my flow, that's when I don't

understand," Watts said.

People nodded their heads in agreement as Watts discussed life and its many obstacles.

"Life sometimes has a way of knocking you off of your foundation," Watts said. Urging the audience to not give up by hard times, he continued. "You can't get frustrated by the facts in your life and give up."

Smiles and claps filled the audience as Watts explained his statements.

"You may have the fact, but you still don't know the future," Watts said. He gave an account of cancer patients pronounced terminally ill by doctors, but still living now. "You have to recognize your personal perspective, because it clouds what God wants you to do," he said.

Quoting the hymn "We'll Understand it Better By and By," Watts laughed as he continued with his idea of not understanding the plan of God.

"God sometimes may have a different agenda for your life

than what you want, and you may not always understand that," he said.

Watts also discussed what he called, "blurred vision" and how many times people are so upset by the trials of life that their vision, or thinking is blurred.

"Sometimes you can't see Jesus because you're blinded by life," he said. The crowd waved their hands as Watts told each person to turn to their neighbor and tell them, "Just because you can't see God, doesn't mean that he's not right there."

At the closing of his sermon, Watts referenced to the television show "Joan of Arcadia" and how God shows up as different types of people, such as a little girl or old woman. Addressing his own personal experience, Watts discussed a time when he needed to change a tire and a man he didn't know pulled over to help him.

"God is still showing up and you don't know when it will be...you've got to be ready!" he said.

CAMPUS BRIEFS



FAMU President Orders Payroll Audit

Interim President Castell V. Bryant of Florida A&M University ordered a school-wide payroll audit that affected all of the university's staff, and threatened to put non-complying employees out of work. Employees were told to pickup their paychecks and direct-deposit slips within two days, creating lines of up to 1,000 university staff members in the rain.

There were miscommunications about the procedures of the pickup that forced employees to run around the university's campus. If employees did not have the proper materials, they were turned around, but if they did not pick up their checks, they could be terminated or written up.



Grambling Crowns New Miss Cover Girl

Grambling State University crowned Portia Taylor as its 37th Miss Cover Girl. The pageant was sponsored by the Favrot Student Union Board and featured six young women competing for the Miss Cover Girl crown, position on the 2005-2006 student union calendars and 22 competing for the 12-month spots. Contestants did not have to attend Grambling State University to compete. Taylor, a sophomore from Opelousas, La., had already won talent, interview and swimsuit awards before being crowned. Other awards offered were Miss Academics, Miss Congeniality and Miss Sense of Style.



Savannah State University Host National Music Conference

The 13th annual National Collegiate Music Conference, hosted by the National Collegiate Choir, will be held at Savannah State University at the end of April. The National Collegiate Choir is a blend of high school and college choirs from around the nation. The conference has served over 2,000 students from over 150 high schools, colleges and universities. In conjunction with the conference, the Savannah State University Wesleyan Gospel Choir will also host the National Collegiate Choir's album release and concert.

Sources: blackcollegewire.edu, thegramblinite.com, tiger-sroar.com

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We apologize to all of those who did not receive a ticket but there may be a way...

Tickets on sale at Cramton Box Office

Beginning April 1, 2005

US Airways Offering Cheaper Fares from Reagan Airport

BY DERRICK REEVES
Contributing Writer

Recent moves by US Airways to climb out of debt may make planning for summer trips easier and more affordable for customers.

The airline recently announced changes in flight rates and scheduling that will give passengers cheaper fares and help the troubled airline move out of bankruptcy. US Airways is offering nonstop service from the Washington Reagan Airport to Atlanta, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit and Houston with promotional fares ranging from

\$108 to \$198 round trip. In addition to saving money, the new routes will earn passengers double frequent flyer bonus miles.

Despite the excitement by consumers over the changes, many industry analysts are wondering if the special fares will help the airline recover.

"While I am increasingly confident of the US Airways ability to survive, I would not advise anyone to book them beyond June 30th," Darryl Jenkins, director of the aviation Institute at George Washington University, said.

US Airways CEO Bruce Lakefield disagrees and said in a letter to frequent flyers that not only will the rates continue through June, but that he expects the airline to begin rising out of debt by

then. "We plan to emerge from chapter 11 by the end of June," his letter read.

Investor Jim Lee applauds the improvements by US Airways, but feels that the new plan is not working fast enough. He says that the airline needs to "step up efforts and take more cost out of the business. He added "While this is an exhausting exercise, emotionally, physically and intellectually, it is also an environment of tremendous energy and creative thinking on the part of the airline".

Another problem that is wreaking havoc with big name jetliner companies, like US Airways, is the emergence of low fare airlines who shown an remarkable ability to lure away long time customers with cheaper prices and safe flights.

Jennifer Adams, a CEO with Citibank and a former US Airways customer, says she now uses low fare jetliner services like Jet Blue and Southwest when she travels. "I used to fly US Airways frequently however, I have been able to get safe and comfortable flights on others carriers for half the price," she said. "This saves

my company money and helps my pension plan in the long run".

US Airways is aware of the business it is losing to airlines with lower fares, but is not surprised by the challenge to compete with cheaper rates from other companies. "Airlines must give the passenger what they want within reason. This includes pricing, distribution and scheduling," Karen Green, an US Airways Marketing Analyst, said.



Courtesy of mitchellairport.com

Howard Participates in Search to Cure Alzheimer's Disease

BY MIKE HOLMES
Contributing Writer

Its 6:45 a.m. Saturday morning. Thomasine Brown and her sister, Sheila Crockett are already on the road taking a trip that has become all too familiar.

For the past three years the sisters have made the same trip every Saturday, traveling an hour-and-a-half from Clinton, Md. to Tappahannock, Va. to visit a woman who may or may not know them.

They know her as "mother." As they enter her muted-color room at Tappahannock Nursing Home, they find their mother Louise folding sheets on her bed.

"Her first job was at a laundry," Brown explained. "I think that's one of the things she remembers. That's why she's so insistent on folding everything."

What Louise can remember changes from visit to visit. A little over three years ago she was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, which is a brain disorder that dramatically affects a person's ability to function in everyday life.

Alzheimer's is the most common form of dementia and attacks the parts of the brain that control language, memory and thought. Also, patients diagnosed with Alzheimer's experi-

ence a loss of nerve cells in the brain.

According to Pfizer Corporation, about 4 million people in the United States suffer from Alzheimer's disease. One out of every 10 people over the age of 65 have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's and as many as five in 10 people over the age of 85 have the disease as well.

Pfizer is the pharmaceutical corporation that manufactures Aricept, a drug that is said to decrease the affects of Alzheimer's disease. There is no known cure for Alzheimer's despite coordinated efforts from doctors and researchers across the country to find more effective treatments.

In the west wing of Howard University Hospital's fourth floor, doctors and researchers are also joining in on the search to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease. The fourth floor contains the General Clinical Research Center, where researchers are currently participating in a study entitled "Reveal," that seeks to find new treatments for Alzheimer's disease.

"The goal of the research, as a whole, is to identify good candidates when new preventative treatments become available," Grace Fasaye, the genetic counselor for the "Reveal" study, said. "We do not diagnose people

with Alzheimer's Disease."

"Reveal" (Risk Evaluation and Education for Alzheimer's disease) was started five years ago as a coordinated effort between Cornell University and Boston Medical College. The National Human Genome Research Institute at the National Institute of Health funds the project. In 2003, Howard University was added to phase two of the study in an effort to increase minority participation.

The study ultimately seeks to identify individuals who are potentially at risk for developing Alzheimer's disease. Studying family history and looking for what is known as the Apolipoprotein E or APOE gene, helps determine those at risk or contracting the disease. APOE is a protein that is connected to fat and is responsible for moving fat through the bloodstream.

Researchers look for particular variations in APOE that determine how likely a person is to contract Alzheimer's disease. It is estimated that 25 percent of the population have this variation, however not everyone with this variation develops Alzheimer's disease. "That's part of the controversy with the test, it won't tell you 100 percent," Fasaye said.

Researchers are also studying the psychological impact of informing a person early that



Howard University's General Clinical Research Center is participating in a study geared toward finding new treatments for Alzheimer's Disease, which affects about 4 million people in the United States.

they are at an increased risk for developing Alzheimer's disease.

Phase one of the research for "Reveal" focused on the children of people with Alzheimer's. Phase two, which Howard is participating in, is focused on the siblings of people with Alzheimer's. "What they [phase

one] found is people don't have adverse reaction to the results people cope well," Fasaye said.

Crockett doesn't see the point in the study or the benefit in knowing beforehand that you may be at risk for contracting Alzheimer's disease. "I think that would just be stressful,

there's still no cure," she said. "I would rather it [Alzheimer's] just come on me, instead of knowing and waiting years for it. That's depressing."

For more information on the Reveal study call (202) 865-0008.

Nation & World Briefs

South African Apartheid Party Dissolves

The federal council of the New National Party (NNP), which brought Apartheid and segregation to South Africa, voted Saturday to disband. In a 88 to two vote, party members agreed to break up after years of struggling to win elections in South Africa.

"The forerunner to the NNP, the National Party, brought development to a section of South Africa, but also brought suffering through a system grounded on injustice," former NNP leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk said in a speech over the weekend. "No party [...] could hope to successfully atone and move ahead in the same vehicle." The NNP attempted to refashion itself in recent years. In 1997, the group voted to change its name from

the national party to the current NNP. Also, the party voted last year to merge with the African National Congress.

Clinton to Work With U.N. on Tsunami Relief

Former President Bill Clinton will head tsunami reconstruction efforts for the next two years. Clinton will work as an envoy for the United Nations, where he will help to coordinate billions of dollars in funds from around the world.

The former president will meet with U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan Wednesday to discuss reconstruction efforts. Clinton is expected to emphasize construction of better homes and hospitals in areas around Indonesia hit by the tsunami. An aide for Clinton said the former president will visit

tsunami-hit countries in May. Last years tsunami killed over 150,000 people.

Olympics Bomber Pleads Guilty

Eric Robert Rudolph, the man authorities say is responsible for the 1996 Olympic Park bombing and a string of explosions outside abortion clinics, agreed to plead guilty Friday in exchange for a life sentence. Rudolph was captured after hiding for five years in a isolated mountainous area in North Carolina. As part of the guilty plea, Rudolph agreed to tell investigators where he buried more than 250 pounds of explosives. Included in the explosive cache, was a bomb more than twice as powerful as the bomb Rudolph planted at the 1996 Olympic games.



- Compiled by Kevin Harris



Earthquake Strikes Indonesia

An earthquake near Sumatra, a small island located north of Indonesia, brought back fears of another tsunami crisis Sunday. The U.S. Geological Survey reported that the quake struck at 5:30 p.m. local time and had a magnitude of 6.8.

Several smaller earthquakes followed, but no deaths or injuries were reported. There were also no reports of tsunami, like the one that ravaged the region last year. People who fled for safety were told to return home yesterday.

Belafonte Urges Civil Rights

BELAFONTE, from Campus A1

Martin Luther King. The topic that struck a chord with many in the audience was the issue of apathy among today's youth.

"The reason I am at Howard has a lot to do with recent analysis of thoughts on what happened to the succeeding generations after the civil rights and anti-war movement," Belafonte said.

Belafonte attempts to answer this question with a metaphor. In the recent Olympics that just passed in August, Belafonte recalled the event when there were four Black women chosen to run the relay. As spectators watched in anticipation they wondered, "what kind of record would they set, what new world mark."

As the runners sped of in motion one of the runners during the second leg of the passing of the baton, broke stride, which caused the runners to falter.

Consequently, because the broken stride they lost the race.

In this metaphor Belafonte illustrates that the struggle, and the mission was not passed down onto today's youth.

"We the elders have to take a really good look at how we have handed off the baton," he said. "The succeeding generation rushed in to harvest the success and the achievement of our movement, what they did not inherit is the essence of the struggle, and I think it is now coming to haunt them."

Belafonte indicated that the older generation should not stand by and be critical of the youth. He suggests that the older people should reach out to the people of the younger generation and share their stories, pass on their legacies and pass the baton.

In addition to those suggestions, he encourages young people to take a look at themselves, and find out what it is they care

about.

"There is no justifiable basis to be consumed with self that you do not know what is going on in our community," Belafonte said. "By saying you have no cause, you're doing yourself a disservice."

Belafonte continued to lecture for approximately two and a half hours. He ended his closing statements with a recollection of the last time he spoke to Dr. Martin Luther King.

According to Belafonte, the last time he spoke to Dr. King, King had doubtful feelings and suggested that we were "integrating into a burning house," which was an "imperial, lustful pursuit of power in the handful of White greedy men."

Belafonte cautions the audience: "We have a lot to do. If we can endure and overturn slavery, we can endure and overturn this oppression." It is time to "blow the dust off the blueprints and get on with the new ideas."

Ko'noko Founder Says its About 'College Not Color'

STUDENT, from Campus A2

strict dress code tailored to the curb gang activity in the area, Braden was not allowed to wear her t-shirt because of its color.

After quarreling with her mother about the t-shirt, Braden made the comment: "Students need to understand that this shirt represents the college and not the color." With that said Ko'noko, which is a distorted acronym of the phrase "College not Color," was founded. With the help of her parents, Braden was able to set up an office in Los Angeles and begin her dream of enriching students and the community.

"Ko'noko began as a message to youths that you can achieve any goal no matter what background that you're coming from," Braden said of the early aim of the program. "At its younger stages Ko'noko was more concerned with urban youth and the many issues and boundaries that they may face as members of their community."

Presently Ko'noko is still geared towards underprivileged youth as a whole, regardless of race or financial background, but has expanded in order to be opened to all ages. "Basically, Ko'noko is

for anybody that needs guidance in the particular field that they desire to get into, or to tend to any problems that they may be facing," Braden said. "For instance if Ko'noko receives a request from a certain amount of students saying that they would like to learn how to speak English, Ko'noko will find a way to devise a program specifically around their needs."

Ko'noko has made sure to live up to this promise by establishing several programs that tend to the needs of the communities that it serves.

"Two of our top programs are 'Insight,' which is an entrepreneur institute for students interested in starting their own business, and 'Project Smart,' which is a high school preparatory program that provides tutoring and also mentors for students," Braden said.

Since its launch in 1998, Braden has extended the Ko'noko program to Houston and Atlanta, and has plans to open offices in Washington, D.C. and New York.

"Hopefully if Ko'noko opens an office in D.C., my target goal would be to bring 'Project Smart' into the D.C. school system," Braden said. "I feel that a lot of the children in the D.C. schools lack

positive guidance and substantial college preparatory programs."

Though Braden's success with Ko'noko may seem unheard of for the average college student, Braden suggests that students that have an interest in starting their own business seek mentors who will positively guide them to their goal, and to take the initiative to achieve their goals.

"I met my mentor Tavis Smiley in the first stages of development for Ko'noko," Braden said. "I sent a release to him requesting help for funding and he accepted, since then he has become a member on the advisory board for Ko'noko, and has played vital role in Ko'noko's success."

Dion Simpkins, a senior audio production major and close friend of Braden's applauds Ko'noko's success.

"Ko'noko is one of the best non-profit organizations not only because it promotes education among Black youths, but because its founder was also a youth who knew what their specific needs were," Simpkins said. "Krystal has the qualities that allows her to get the job done, and also has shown her great business savvy at a young age."

Greek Probates on The Yard

GREEKS, from Campus A1

blood. "AKA has been a part of my life since I was little, since my mother, grandmother, step-mother and two aunts are all part of Alpha chapter," Amber Drew, a junior psychology major, said. "It has been instilled in me, and when I got a chance, I went for it."

There were rumors of the new members being "paper-made," meaning that the members did not go through the usual intake process. Instead they only needed to reach the organization's requirements, submit the required forms and pay dues to become a member. Members said that is not true.

"A lot of people are speculating because things went so quickly," Drew said.

The large number of the line has students wondering if it was simply to build the chapter's numbers.

"There was only one left, and they expect us to believe they weren't trying to just be more recognized," Brittany Williams, sophomore Spanish major, said. "I don't know about that."

Members dispute the "cattle-call" theory. Felicia Crabtree said there were approximately 400 members to attend Rush and, out of those 400, at least 300 met the minimum qualifications.

"It's not like they just took whoever," Crabtree, a junior broadcast journalism major, said. "They definitely picked the crim of the crim. If you look at our line, you will see that they are

active and into the campus."

There was almost a clash between the AKA's and the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. probates. The Zeta's had reserved the Yard with student activities from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., but the AKA's were told to come out at approximately 3:00 p.m.

"The lady from student activities came out and asked what was going on, we told her and they held back until we finished," Rhasheema Sweeting, a journalism major and Zeta Phi Beta member, said.

The R.A.G.Z. to R.I.C.H.E.S. Zeta line was considerably smaller than the AKA line, with 11 new inductees.

"We are a smaller organization and we have different requirements," Sweeting said.

The selection process for the Zeta's is different from that of the AKA's. While the AKA and Delta Sigma Theta's have an official Rush for all who are interested, one must receive an official invitation before submitting an application. Sweeting suggested that interested students meet Zeta members.

"We have our annual March of Dimes coming up, and some other events," she said. "They should go to our events. That's a good way to meet the current members of the chapter, so that you are in good position for next year's selection."

Zeta also has the highest grade point average requirement. Howard policy is that Greek organization participants have a 2.0. The national Zeta office requires a 2.5, but the Howard chapter

requires a 2.7.

"Because scholarship is one of our principals, and we wanted to make that noticeable among the other requirements," Sweeting said.

The Zeta's and the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. are the only sorority and fraternity that are constitutionally bound. The Sigmas held their probate in the earlier part of the afternoon Friday, with a line of seven called the "Seven Deadly Sins." Sporting blue shirts, blue army pants and white faces, they recited information of the chapter and fraternity that they had learned throughout their intake process and did a mini-stepshow for spectators.

"It was basically a showcase of us, and showcase ourselves to the student body," Derrick Dennis, chapter president and senior mathematics major, said.

Dennis said the Seven Deadly Sins were reflective of the Sigma fraternity nationwide.

"A lot of the Sigmas nationwide are different," he said. "It is a lot of different people coming together to do one common goal."

Dennis said the line is "a good line."

"It has lot of people who will do the work for eternity," he said. "And that's what it's about. It's everybody coming together and doing the work of the organization."

The Divine Nine were not the only fraternities and sororities represented on the Yard Friday. Gamma Sigma Sigma also presented their new inductees.

Sneakers a Fashion Staple

SNEAKERS, from L & S A10

for exclusive shoes. My normal range is \$150 to \$350."

When talking to students on campus, some cannot understand why people choose to spend loads of money on something that can easily be ruined.

"I think if we put half as much focus into our work or our grind as we do into our fashion, we'd be twice as successful," Messiah Ramkisson, a junior public relations major, said.

Brent Robinson, a junior classical civilization major, agreed with Ramkisson.

"Trends are trends," he said. "If it doesn't fit my taste then of course I don't care about it. But am I going to pay tons of money for it? No."

To support their love of the trend, some people even experiment with sneaker customization themselves. Using paints,

markers, glitter, rhinestones or even chains, any sneaker can instantly be transformed into a hot topic.

It seems the craziest and weirdest color combinations receive the most attention. Beneath the stops and stares, the oohs and ahhs, everyone is wondering where those shoes came from.

Naturally, the most coveted and prized "kicks" cost a wad of money. The limited edition "Black Album" Nike Air Force Ones in celebration of Jay-Z's album, are now reportedly going for \$1,500.

Nike supposedly produced 1000 pairs of the Heineken Dunk skateboarding sneakers, which are green leather-and-suede low tops with the beer company's signature red star. This elite class of limited shoes makes them both highly desirable and collectible. Are these sneakers exclusive or elusive?

"Never would I knock a person for wearing them," Cecilia Besley, a freshman international business major, said. "If you can afford it then it's cool. If you look at it though, it's like you're being bamboozled because they only make so many, and it's all about what you're being told, but then again if you want to possess your own sense of self then that's cool too. Everyone wants to be themselves nowadays."

Complex Magazine is one men's magazine in particular that openly embraces the sneaker culture. In every issue you will find loads of rarities, limited edition, and reissued classics, along with clothing to compliment.

For more information on where to find limited edition sneakers and rarities, visit www.soleredemption.com or www.crookedtongues.com for an international selection.

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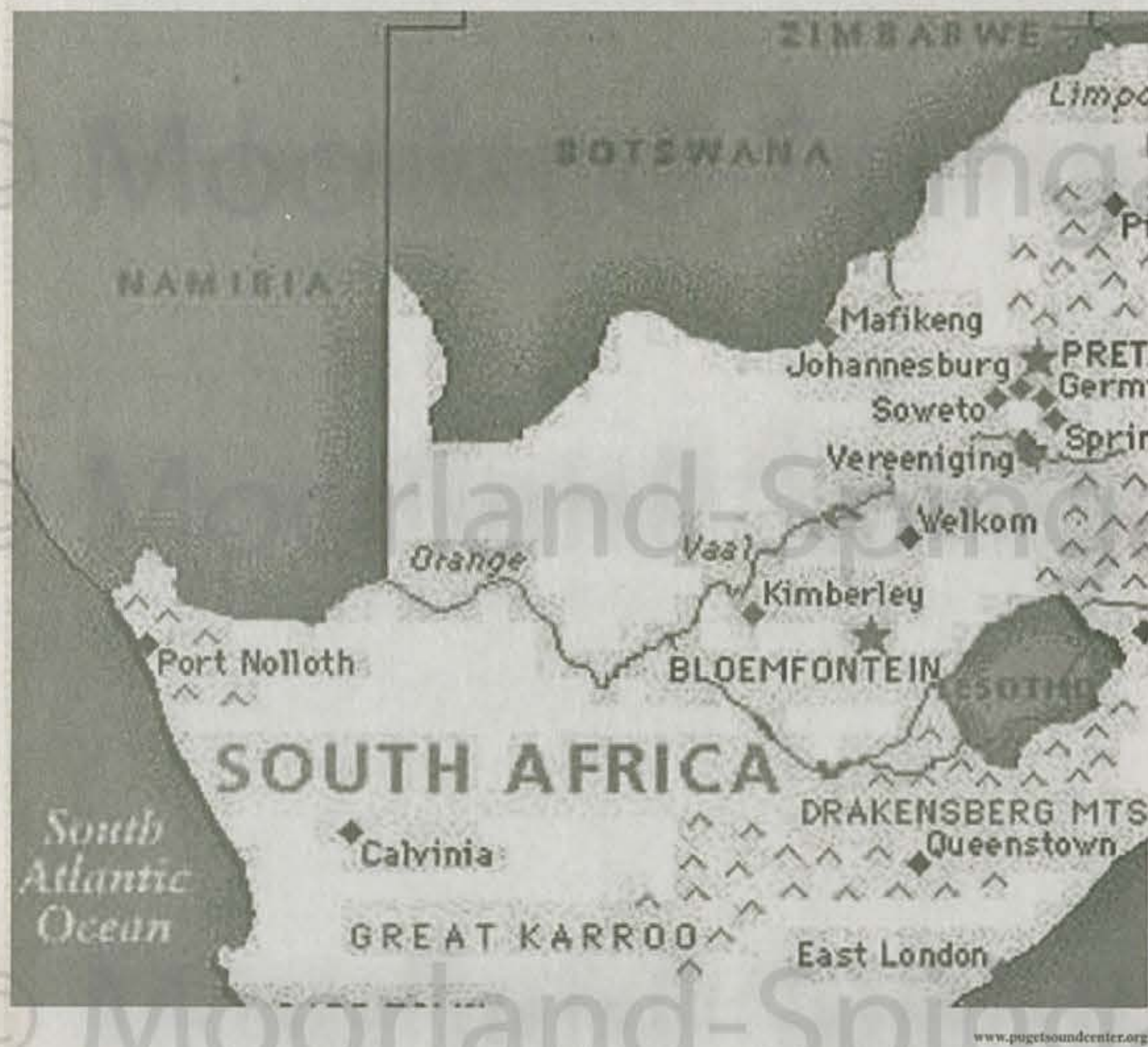
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EDITORIALS & PERSPECTIVES

VOLUME 88, NO. 64

MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2005

www.thehilltoponline.com



South Africa's New National Party Disbands

The New National Party Federal Council agreed to disband. Their party disbanded officially last Saturday after the certification results for local elections, according to Independent Online.

Eighty-eight percent of the voters were in favor of the motion, two were against and three abstained, according to the *Associated Press*. This clearly reflected overwhelming support for the disbandment of the party.

This shocked us because many parties reshape, revamp and evolve, but they rarely completely disband.

The National Party came to power in 1948 and has a history of brutal oppression of the Black majority, particularly standing behind apartheid efforts, according to the *Associated Press*.

In the early 90s after Nelson Mandela was released from jail and the political climate was taking a more positive approach to multiracial relations, the National Party faced an identity crisis and rebranded themselves in response in 1997.

However, the New National

in an *Associated Press* article.

We can appreciate their need to bring closure to the party, but we also believe party competition is imperative for a healthy democracy.

The Federal Council will now negotiate developing guidelines for management of the surplus funds, according to *Independent Online*.

We decided to play devil's advocate and approach the situation from a political rather than emotional standpoint.

Most people would see this as a success but we think

democracy is key for any society to make progress. If there is a lack of competing political parties, then certain parties will end up doing all the agenda setting.

There is still a lot of work to be done in the country and there should be a cornucopia of ideas and priorities.

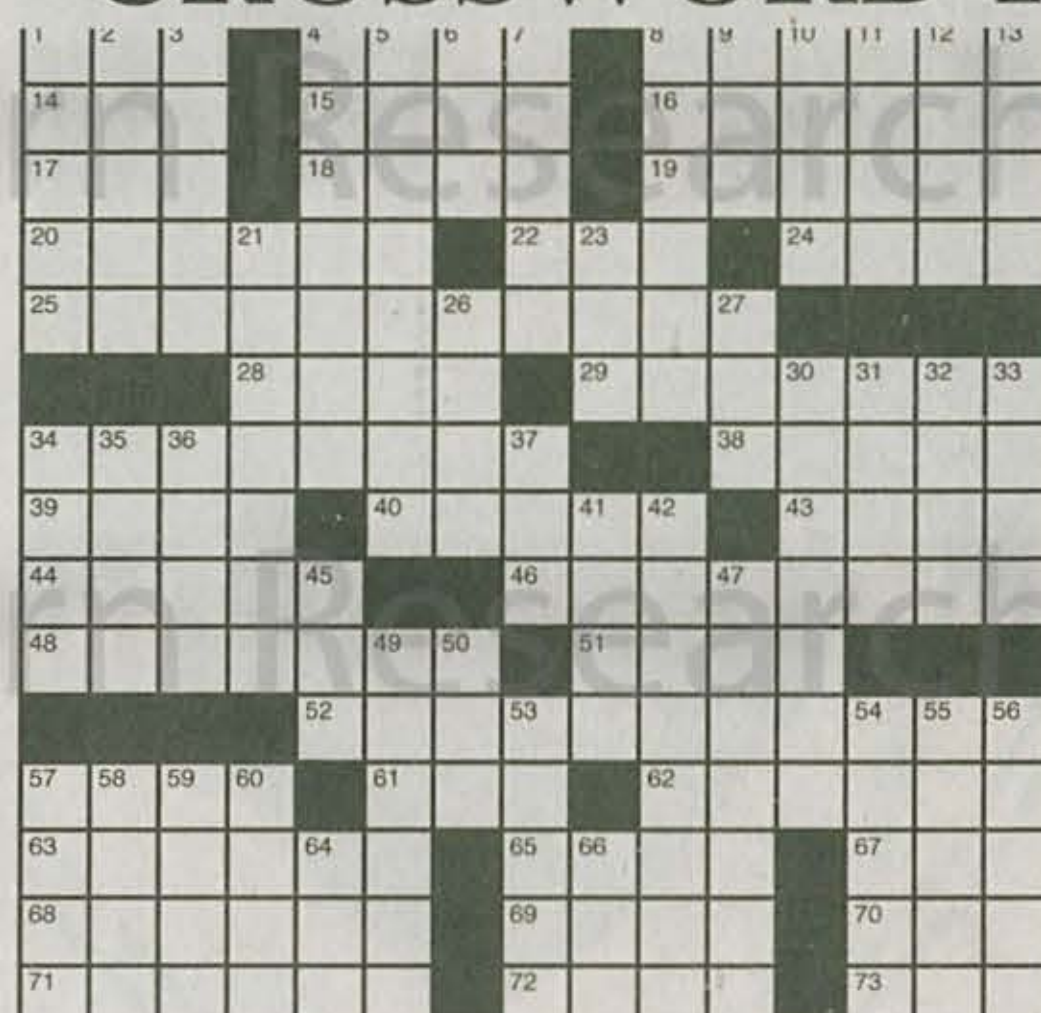
Our View:

Though we're anti-apartheid, political competition is still important for democracy.

Party failed to keep enough support and recently threw in the towel. Many members cited the grounded injustice of apartheid as their reason to disband.

"What we do today is part of our contribution to finally ending the division of the South African soul," NNP leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk said

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



1 Across
4 Current unit, for short
8 Beach toy
14 Shaken instrument
15 Buddy
16 Part of A.M.
17 Beneficial
18 Cool down
19 Astronauts' grp.
20 Start of Jerry Seinfeld
21 quote
22 Biblical mount
23 Whirlpool tub
24 Extinct bird
25 Part 2 of quote
26 "...the twin shall
27 meet"
28 shelves
34 e.g.
38 Villain's look
39 "The Time Machine"
40 people
41 Part 3 of quote
42 Dental exam
43 Spud
44 Ear doctor's instrument
45 Audio equipment
46 With, in Aries
47 Part 4 of quote
48 Stench
49 Natl. interest watchdog
50 Frankie and Cleo
51 End of quote
52 Discomfort
53 Make lace
54 Picture holders
55 Ostrich
56 Mich. in Chicago, e.g.
57 Thoroughfare
58 Ceremony

73 Down
1 Concerning bees
2 Spreadsheet user's

shortcut
3 Guilty and not guilty
4 Cure-all
5 Vehement denunciation
6 Part of TUIF
7 Canine tether
8 Teenage ... Ninja
9 Hardwood tree
10 Marsh grass
11 '60s hairdo
12 Signaled
13 Too
14 More fluid
15 Pizza order
16 Vichy very
17 Xenon or neon
18 Italian dumplings
19 Architect Saarinen
20 Harvest
21 Perry's creator
22 Strokes
23 Israeli port
24 Observe
25 West Coast airport code
26 Provo's place
27 Fiction writer
28 Ump's cohort
29 Tennessee city
30 Where sporozoan
31 Indian honorific
32 Slim candle
33 Standing by
34 AWOL part
35 Aromatic compound
36 Switch positions
37 Flit
38 Sharif of film
39 Coating of ice
40 Spike or Peggy
41 The Greatest

Puzzle Solved

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Minor Crackdown for MLB

BY CIARA FAMBLE
Contributing Writer

Following months of negative press coverage, Major League Baseball (MLB) shocked many when it suspended 38 minor-league players for steroid use just one day after its suspension of Tampa Bay Devil Rays outfielder Alex Sanchez.

Sanchez was the first to be suspended under MLB's Minor League Drug Prevention and Treatment Program, adopted by the organization in January. Before 2002, however, there was no comprehensive program for players.

Under the program, a World Anti-Doping Association (WADA) certified testing facility in Los Angeles, Ca. tests the players randomly for steroid use.

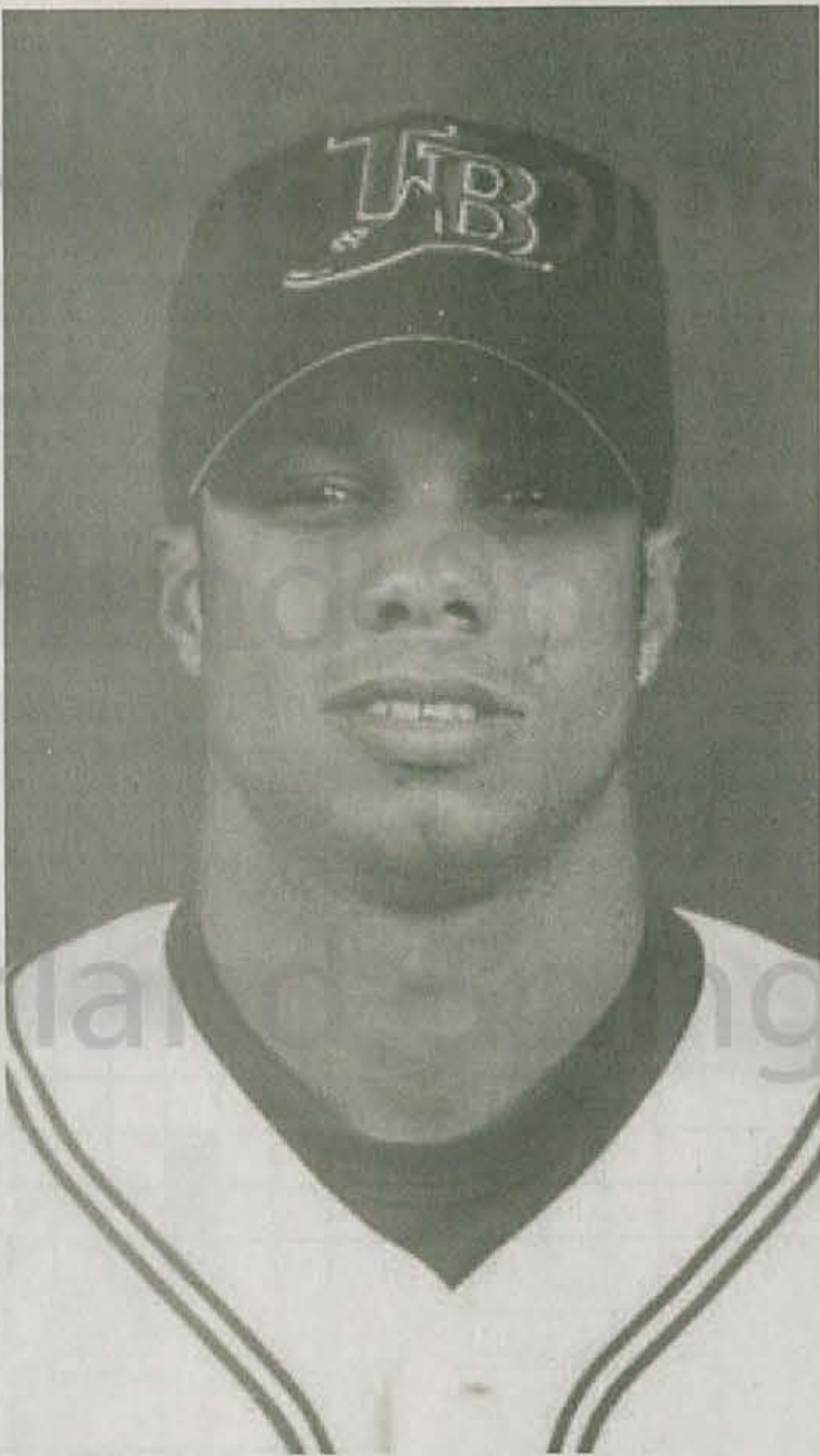
This is done four times a year, and can be done in the off-season. After one violation, a player receives a 10-day suspension, after two, a 30-day suspension and after three, a 60-day suspension. All suspensions are without pay. After a fourth violation, players receive a one-year ban without pay.

A series of 925 tests given at minor league camps in Arizona during spring training, along with one positive test from off-season testing, provided these results. Results from the 18 teams that have spring training in Florida will be announced at a later time. That time has not been announced because officials are still waiting for results.

First time violators include Damian Moss and Ryan Christianson of the Seattle Mariners, David Cash (Chicago Cubs) and Luis Perez (Oakland). Oakland's David Castillo received a 60-day suspension for being a third-time violator.

Baseball commissioner Bud Selig thinks the program is working. "We did what we said we were going to do," he told reporters at Yankee Stadium during their game against Boston. However, he did express regret that so many were taken down under this policy.

The range of reactions to this incident has ranged from outrage to nonchalance throughout the sports



Tampa Bay Devil Rays outfielder Alex Sanchez was the first player suspended for violating baseball's new policy on performance-enhancing drugs.

world, and Howard is no different. Junior public relations major Patrice Johnson doesn't necessarily agree on the crackdown on steroids.

"It's a weird situation, but I don't compare it to what happened to the NHL. It's such a big money maker, it's 'America's Pastime'. But now the game is going to be boring. There aren't going to be any home runs anymore," Johnson said.

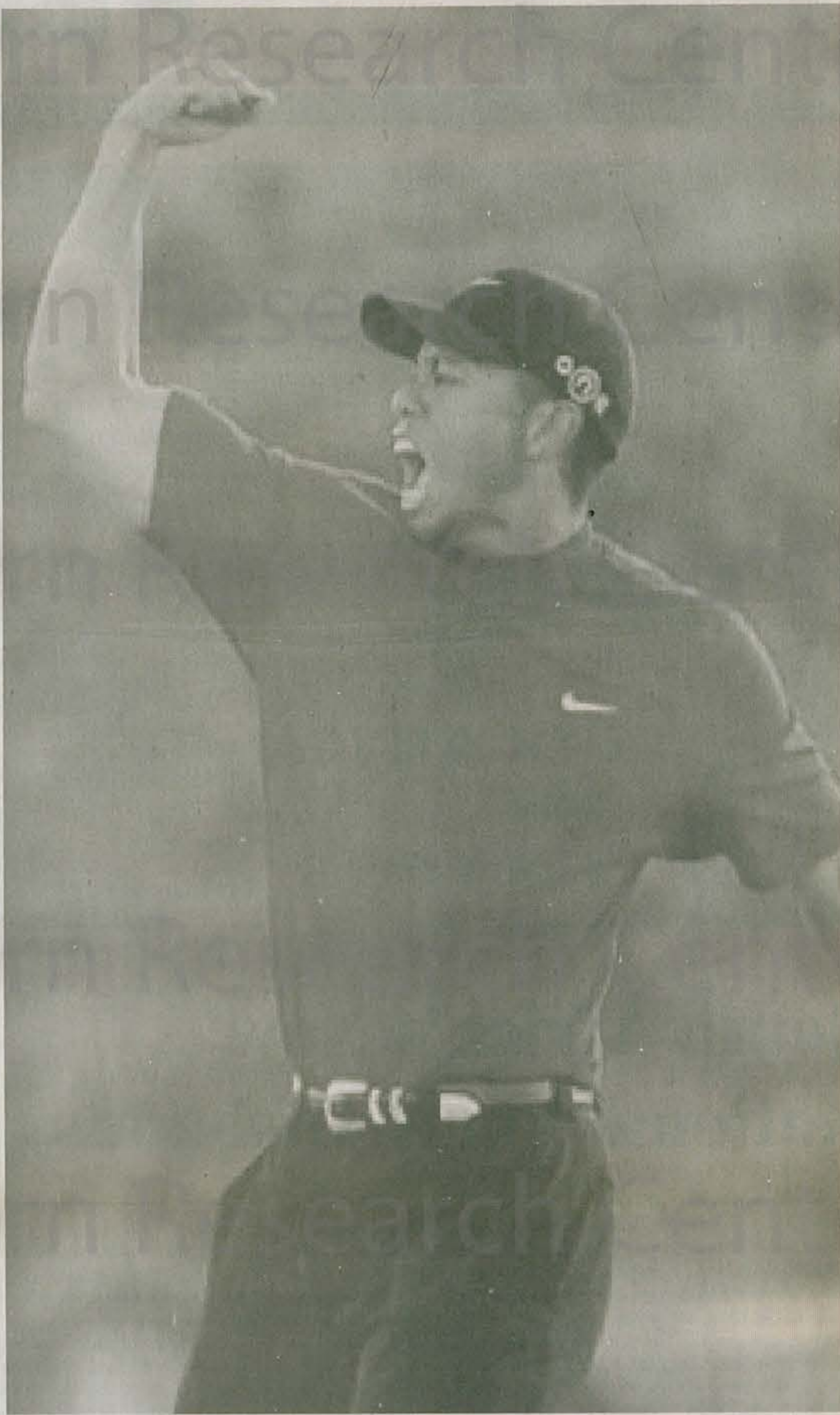
Hassan Disu, a junior electrical engineering major, doesn't quite have the same view. "I believe in enhancers," he said, "But not steroids. They're dangerous and illegal, and those who use them have an illegal advantage."

But according to Disu,

there is more at stake than being suspended for a few days. "In the end it will look worse for individual players than the league, because they lose endorsements if they testified that they haven't used steroids and the results come back that they do," he said.

However, most students seem to think those who have violated the rules should be punished. "I agree with the crackdown [on steroid use], but I don't think it's sincere," said sophomore English major Denika Mitchell. "But it sets a good precedent for the leagues to follow. The players need to be mindful of the fact that they are examples to less prominent athletes, and should act that way."

Tiger Wins Fourth Masters



Tiger Woods roared along with the crowd after he sealed his victory with a 15-foot birdie during a playoff with Chris DiMarco on the 18th hole. Last year's Masters champion Phil Mickelson placed the Green Jacket on Tiger Woods after he won a playoff at the 2005 Masters in Augusta, Ga.

Women's Boxing Takes Blow

BY MATTHEW COOPER
Contributing Writer

On Saturday, April 2, the sport of Women's boxing took a huge blow, knocking down the strides the sport had made over the last 10 years.

Becky Zerlentes of Fort Collins, Co., a 34-year-old college professor, was competing in the Colorado Golden Gloves Championship in Denver against Heather Schmitz. In the second round, the fight was temporarily stopped to check Zerlentes' nose for bleeding.

In the third round, Zerlentes suffered a blow to the head directly above her left eye. This blow knocked her to the floor and left her unconscious. She was immediately rushed to the emergency room.

Zerlentes never regained consciousness and died the next afternoon. The coroner reported the cause of death

as blunt force trauma. Since USA Boxing lifted their ban on women's boxing in 1993, this has been the first death in a sanctioned fight. The death of Quenton Grier was the last USA boxing sanctioned event where a male died after a bout.

There was also Stacy Young, a women's boxer, who died as a result of in-ring injuries in an unsanctioned "Toughman Competition" in 2003.

"The USA Boxing family's thoughts and prayers go out to Becky's family and husband. We are deeply saddened by the loss," President of USA Boxing, Sandy Martinez-Pino said, according to the Associated Press.

"I feel terrible," Heather Schmitz said in an interview with Denver's CBS 4 news. "I didn't want to hurt her."

The sport has seen a huge increase in popularity over the years because of the success of Muhammad Ali's daughter,

Laila Ali. The success of the recent academy-award winning movie, "Million-Dollar Baby," has also inspired many. There are currently 2,200 women boxers currently rising.

However, the sport is still a long shot to be apart of the 2008 Beijing Olympics because of the risk of injuries to women. This incident does not help that cause.

USA Boxing states that the sport is safer than many other contact sports such as wrestling and football.

According to the John Hopkins Medical Institute, it ranks eighth in all sports in terms of fatality rates, 1.3 per 100,000 according to the Associated Press.

Zerlentes had planned for this to be her final fight because of her age. She had been boxing since her mid-20s, and won the Colorado Golden Gloves title in 2002.

Women's Lacrosse Ready to 'Quick Stick' It to Longwood

BY COURTNEY EILAND
Asst. Sports Editor

With a 3-5 record and four games remaining, the Lady Bison lacrosse team is looking forward to having its first winning season. On Tuesday, the Lady Bison will travel to Farmville, Va. to face the Longwood University Lancers, hoping to extend their wins to four, leaving them one win under the .500 mark.

"This is the first season that Howard can actually have a winning record not a losing record, so I'm hoping that we can start a winning streak for the end of the season," said sophomore defender Shanon Morris.

"We won our last game and we're trying to win all the rest of them so that we can make our record good," she added.

Sophomore defender, Ifetayo Blissett agrees saying, "In order for us to have a successful, winning season, I think it's important for the team to think positive and put their best foot forward."

The Lady Bison have been preparing by running sprints, working on stick skills and working on clears.

"We've been doing a lot of conditioning and keeping ourselves in shape," said Morris. "It's the end of the season but we still have to be well-conditioned for the games."

On the Lady Bison squad, they have had key games on the offensive end from sophomore attack wing, Dominique Browner and on the defensive end by junior goalkeeper, Shatarah Ramirez.

Under the guidance of head coach Janet Grubbs, the

Longwood University Lady Lancers are currently 8-2, suffering their only losses to St. Bonaventure and George Washington.

The Lancers have had key games from freshman attack wing, Joyce Haines, who averages 1.2 points and 2.0 shots per game, and senior attack wing, Isa Cohen, who averages 3.7 points and 4.5 shots per game.

On the defensive end, junior goalkeeper, Emily Wilson, who has 65 saves this season, leads the Lancers.

The Lady Bison will prepare to take on the Lady Lancers beginning at 4 p.m. at the Lancer Field.

"I expect good things, and hopefully the team can bring it," Morris said.

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CHAPTER

"THE DIAMOND MINE"

lifelines:



Spring Fever

BY KEITH LAING
Life & Style Editor

Last week, I cursed the sun for taunting me, and we've had a string of warm days since. Who knew that my ranting would actually work?

Of course, an unforeseen effect of my spring fever has been the inflammation of my severe and acute case of Senioritis. I'm sure everyone who remembers 865 phone numbers and no cable in the dorms can relate. Like most three-year Howardites, I already had my eye on Saturday, May 14th. All semester, I've been trying to leave class and the professors have been trying to pull me back in. Its like I'm constantly running toward the door and they are continuing to lecture, while holding the back of my shirt.

And now, as if being a senior wasn't enough of a reason for me to think twice about academia from time to time, along comes the sun. I'm sitting in Douglass and the Yard looks like South Beach. My yearning for the fun and the sun combined with my nostalgia for days gone by has created a powerful elixir of absenteeism. I mean, what's one class when it's never going to be like this again?

I've asked myself that questions many times when I'm debating going to class. I could have gotten up early, packed my bag and headed for campus and somehow, still not attended one session.

I can tell myself all night how I need to go to class and then as I'm right in front of Douglass, I find some comfy shade and hold court. And if you asked me why I didn't go, you'll most likely get a "these things happen" or an "it's too nice outside for all that."

A wise man from Brooklyn once compared his talents to being "a gift and a curse." I can totally relate to that. The recent change in the weather has been the best thing that's happened this month for my mood, but at the same time, it has also been ALL BAD for my life.

Either way, I'm just trying to make it. May 14, 2005. 10 a.m. Upper Quadrangle. Main Yard. Despite the weather's best efforts, I'll be there. I just need to find the Blueprint for fun and seriousness before my Mecca days fade to black.

And speaking of fun, this is the last Lifelines. I hope you've enjoyed my irreverent ramblings as much as I've enjoyed sharing them with you, but I'm tired. So, I'll close with my two favorite ways of saying goodbye: it's been real and deuces up!

Well Keith just turned his computer off and walked out of the office. All he said was A-Town Down. We don't think he's coming back, but now that he's gone, we can confess. We kinda like the guy. He's funny and though we spent entirely too much time explaining why he wasn't going to e-mail you back, we enjoy his rantings. We'd never tell him, because his head is big enough already. But don't tell anyone. That'll be our little secret.

BY SHANAE L. HARRIS
Contributing Writer

Spring has sprung and it is evident in not only the warm weather and the April showers, but all around the Howard campus and the Yard. Rather than seeing few people hustling to class in their heavy winter coats and fur-lined boots, now Howard's campus is being filled with the hottest new colors and the latest new fashions for springtime.

According to The Washington Post, bright colors are popping out as fast as spring flowers.

"After the gray skies, gray clothes of winter, it's always a relief to welcome spring by breaking out the color," eBay's Style Director, Constance White, told the Post. "This is a particularly auspicious time to do this because fashion is at the height of a color binge right now."

Khalila Jenkins, a sophomore education major and member of the University Fashion Council agrees with the article and said that it is easy to

find the latest spring fashion apparel and colors at Howard.

"Since the warm weather has arrived, I have seen a lot of pink, oranges, greens, and yellows," Jenkins said. "It seems that the look of bright colored tank tops and matching flip flops will be the popular daily spring look this year."

According to The Washington Post and Howard students, the two hottest colors this spring are pink and teal.

"Pink is still extremely popular," White said in the interview. "We're seeing it on the site, it's on runways, it's still on the street. . . it's such a sweet, innocent color that speaks of optimism."

"Teal, which is a more difficult blue but more sophisticated, will find some traction because it's a great vintage color and actresses have worn it on the red carpet," she added. Other colors including coral, cerise pink, and salmon are also colors to be on the lookout for.

"Some of the hottest colors out this year are the brightest," said Carmelita Turner,

an employee at Forever21 at Pentagon City in Arlington, Va., "It seems the brighter the better."

While new colors may arise with the new spring season, some believe that some styles will stick from last year.

"I personally hope that Chinese slippers come back this year because they're cute and make an easy accessory," Jenkins said.

"Female spring and summer shirts like halter tops, tank tops, baby tees, and wife beaters can always be a girl's best friend during the warm weather months," said Rosa Combs, a sophomore legal communications major. "I know that skirts and capris will stay around too."

From pastel plaid to hot pinks, spring apparel is out and Howard students are keeping up with the fashion game.

"Being one of the best fashion universities, I expect to see Howard students showing off their best looks and hottest spring clothes," Jenkins added.



The dull hues of winter have given way to the fresh tones of spring, including bright shades of pinks, greens, yellows and oranges.

Spring Into Style with Skirts for the New Season

BY YASMINE PARRISH
Contributing Writer



These fun, frilly and flowing skirts are what seems to be called for by the fashion industry and magazine for the spring season of 2005.

Spring is here once again and the ladies of Howard University have traded in those bulky sweaters and heavy boots for sexy sandals and the quintessential springtime skirt. From the runways of Tracy Reese and Narcisco Rodriguez to Howard's own runway, The Yard, this season's hottest skirts can be seen everywhere.

According to fashion professor Doreen Vernon, "this season's skirts are fuller and longer than in season's past and have a very feminine touch." Skirts for spring and summer 2005 are full, fun and flirty and every well-dressed Howardite probably has one. They can be dressed up with racy stilettos or dressed down with Grecian sandals and a tank top.

"Skirts are a definite must this spring and you will be seeing a lot of them because the weather is nicer," said senior fashion merchandising major Melanie Like.

How do the females on Howard's campus wear their favorite spring must-have?

"Well, it depends on how comfortable the girl is with herself," freshman advertising major Lorin Dale-Pierce said. "It's all a personal decision

despite what magazines may tell you. I wear skirts at any length, as long as they're not down to my ankle because it makes me look short. My personal favorite, though, is the mini skirt."

Many students agree with Dale-Pierce. While the magazines may tell you longer, fuller, feminine, the ultimate decision belongs to those who purchase and wear the skirts.

"People will wear mini skirts even though this year's trend calls for skirts to be a tad longer and a whole lot looser," Aikeisha Jones, a sophomore fashion merchandising major, said.

While all the designers are showing fuller widths and longer hemlines ladies shouldn't be so quick to throw out their skirts with shorter hem lengths. Freshman fashion merchandising major Truc Minh Vo said that he believes that the mini skirt will always enjoy a measure of popularity.

"The mini skirt has become a classic item, it will never go out of style. The mini skirt is the new 'little black dress,'" he said. "What are really big this year in skirt design are peasant skirts, full skirts and really earthy bohemian styled skirts. You may even catch skirts with really delicate tie-dye patterns."

According to Marilyn Johnson of The Atlanta Journal-Constitution people can "pair these skirts with T-shirts, layered sleeveless tanks, lace-trimmed camisoles or little crocheted cardigans. Jackets can also top these skirts." Johnson goes on to warn, "Just make certain they are cropped or body-hugging. And avoid wearing a full skirt with a full top as it can create an unflattering silhouette."

Of course, Howard students have their own tips on how to avoid mini miscues.

"Skirts are an easy option for students because you don't have to do a whole lot to make them look nice," Lake said. "Just slap on a pair of cute shoes and you are good to go."

"This season designers have returned to the original elegance of the female anatomy," Vernon added. "This season's skirts are very appropriate for just about any occasion."

From weddings, to class on Thursday afternoon, to Sunday morning church service, no one can go wrong with these ladylike duds. So next time you're wondering "What am I going to wear today?" pass over the jeans and Nikes and opt for a full, feminine skirt and wait for the compliments to come flying as you walk across the Yard.

Just for Kicks: Sneakers Sneak into Spring Style

BY BRIANNA COOK
Contributing Writer

Paying \$75 for sneakers is common to most college students, and many consumers. A growing number of sneaker fanatics and aficionados are upping the ante for the latest and greatest footwear.

Now, more than ever, trendsetters are paying upwards of \$150 for "exclusive" or limited edition sneakers. Whether they are the latest Jordan's, Air Force Ones or the craziest colored Nike Dunks, the sneaker game is getting serious.

"I go out of my way to get exclusives, especially Dunks and Jordan's," Jason Gresham, a sophomore business management major, said. "It personifies my personality."

When asked how much he'd be willing to spend on limited edition footwear he responded, "The most I'd spend is \$200 or \$250."

Popular books like "Where'd You Get Those," "Sole Provider: Thirty Years of NIKE Basketball" and the upcoming

release "Sneakers: The Complete Collector's Guide" are sneaker culture "bibles." Many sneaker vultures have collected shoes from around the world for years, while many are just now hip to the culture.

Nowadays, sneakers are not only for sports or leisure. Sneakers make or break your image in the urban community.

When it comes to Hip-Hop, the best and the most rare apparel has always been widely accepted and appreciated. Fresh kicks right out of the box complimented shiny fat gold rope chains and flawless Gazelle glasses. Now fresh sneakers compliment crisp jeans and flawless hats.

Reissued classics are amongst the most expensive of this style staple.

"I think there is definitely a trend of wearing exclusive sneakers, especially to people who care about their style," freshman biology major Diego Humphrey explains. "Because of my expensive style, I can spend up to \$500



This Roswell Raygun Nike Dunk Low, which is being sold exclusively in Melbourne, Australia, exemplifies the colorful, coveted sneakers of spring.