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THE HILLTOP



The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2006

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

VOLUME 89, NO. 99

MONDAY notebook

BY KEVIN HARRIS

Senior Editor

WEATHER
MON 3/06: PM SHOWERS
HIGH 47; LOW 31

TUES, 3/07:
SUNNY
HIGH 45; LOW 31

WED, 3/08:
PARTLY CLOUDY
HIGH 50; LOW 41

BREAKING NEWS

AL-QAEDA TAPE

BIN LADEN'S DEPUTY
PARTLY RELEASED
AN AUDIO TAPE CONDEMNING
WESTERNERS AND
ENCOURAGING INSUR-
GENTS TO MAKE THE WEST
'BLEED FOR YEARS.'

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CANDIDATE PROFILES
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CABLE 'A LA CARTE' SEE
BIZ & TECH FOR MORE
INFO



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THERE FOR A —
CHECK OUT WHO WON AT
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SPRING BREAK

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SPORTS

Suzanne de Passe Honored at Charter Day



Suzanne de Passe (far right), who helped discover Michael Jackson and the Jackson Five before becoming president of Motown Productions, receives honorary degree from President H. Patrick Swygart.

Media executive Suzanne de Passe was awarded an honorary doctorate of humanities during Howard University's 139th charter day celebration, which took place Friday in Cranston Auditorium.

A tearful de Passe graciously accepted the degrees and used the occasion to urge students to stay in school, telling them that her decision not to finish college made her the perfect "pitch person" to warn them against dropping out.

"I passed the crumple of the test and on the other hand, it makes me every bit as qualified to say to anyone here even thinking of dropping out, don't," said de Passe, after accepting the honorary degree. "... I sometimes wonder where else I might have gone had I stayed the prescribed course and gotten my education."

Though she didn't finish college, de Passe said she has learned a lot of life lessons as a media executive and told students she was certain the education they are receiving at Howard will prepare them for adult life.

To the students who are here today, I really, really, hope you realize how blessed and how prepared you will be to go into the

world armed with a Howard University education," de Passe said.

de Passe said her family has had a long history with Howard, starting in 1946 when her grandfather was a student. One of de Passe's cousins also worked both as a professor and chairman of the English department for more than three decades. Currently, de Passe serves as a visiting

professor in the School of Communications.

de Passe was honored with an honorary degree because of her contributions to entertainment media. She began her career as a creative assistant to legendary Motown founder Berry Gordy. de Passe is credited with discovering pop megastar Michael Jackson and the Jackson 5. Today, working her way up to becoming

the president of Motown Productions.

In addition to her work with Motown, de Passe also worked on several G.I. Joe productions including *The Jacksons: An American Dream* and *Lady Sings the Blues*. Starring Diana Ross and Billy Dee Williams, she was nominated for an Academy Award for co-writing the screenplay to *Lady Sings the Blues*. de

Passe joined an illustrious group of individuals from various backgrounds and professions who were also honored Friday. The University gave alumni achievement awards to Dr. Joseph E. Harris, a scholar and world renowned expert on Africa; Ketanji D. Harris, the first African-American to serve as District Attorney in California; writer-activist Kenneth L. Lattimore;

is precisely the way the anti-Apartheid movement was started."

Though no president has ever formally apologized, Walters said this bill is a good start. "This is a good way to get the ball rolling," Walters said. "This

bill calls for Md. Gov. to Apologize for Slavery

BY KEVIN HARRIS AND
VANESSA MIZELL

Staff Editors

A bill calling on the governor of Maryland to apologize for the state's history of slavery is gaining momentum in the general assembly and may finally be passed despite some opposition from black lawmakers.

The bill, sponsored by Delegate Emmett C. Burns Jr., calls for an apology "on behalf of the citizens of Maryland for the state's history of slavery, its long-held silence in the face of slavery and the atrocities committed under slavery in the state."

Burns said the legislation is necessary to "begin the healing process" between whites and blacks in Maryland. Burns said in an interview with "The Hilltop" that healing cannot begin until a formal apology is offered from the state for its role in oppressing and abusing blacks. "Every minority group who has ever been oppressed in this country has gotten an apology except for African Americans," Burns said. "In more than 200 years, no one has ever said I'm sorry or acknowledged that what happened was wrong and apologized for it. Before we can move forward, we have to acknowledge the past and its effects on current situations."

Burns said the bill is gaining momentum in the legislature after previously dying in the rules committee for several years. "For nine, nnnnn, every time I introduced this bill, it was sent to the rules committee and every bill that goes there dies," Burns said. Part of the reason the bill died, according to Burns,

down."

University of Maryland political science professor Ronald Walters backs the legislation and said its passage will be a part of the process of addressing current issues, such as a lack of healthcare and income disparities that continue to plague the black community even though slavery has ended. "I think an apology is appropriate because we want to ask our political representatives to have a sense of history because that history has a lot to do with the problems we have today," Walters said. If passed, the state's current Governor Robert L. Ehrlich in any future government, would be asked to apologize on Sept. 22, the anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. But Walters warns that Ehrlich, a Republican, may find a way of getting around an actual apology if the duty falls to him. "This is a governor who took the position that multibilingualism is bunk," Walters said. "He doesn't seem to give much credence to the past as being a reason for why black people are suffering today."

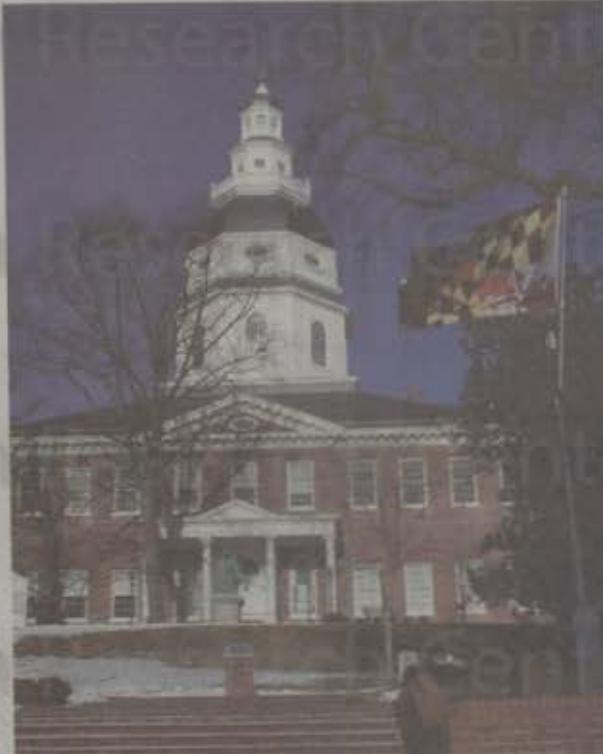
Both Burns and Walters expressed hope that if passed, this bill could possibly lead to a future president apologizing for slavery on behalf of the United States.

Former President Bill Clinton, who was very popular in the black community during his presidency, avoided giving an apology while in office despite intense pressure from many black lawmakers to make history by being the first commander-in-chief to formally apologize to blacks for slavery. Reportedly, the former president

abstained from an apology from Clinton could prompt descendants of slaves to seek reparations.

Though no president has ever formally apologized, Walters said this bill is a good start. "This is a good way to get the ball rolling," Walters said. "This

At right: Emmett C. Burns, Jr., the Maryland delegate sponsoring a bill which would request an apology on behalf of the state of Maryland for its "history of slavery." Below: the Maryland State House.



Candidate Profiles: Walls, Haynes Campaign for Board



Faith L. Walls, Graduate Trustee Candidate

BY SHANAE HARRIS
Assoc. Campus Editor

Faith L. Walls, a first year graduate student and candidate for graduate trustee, focuses on the value of Howard's legacy with her platform titled, "Forever Alma Mater."

Currently a residence assistant at Meridian Hill Hall, a graduate intern at the Howard University Middle School of Math and Science, and fund-raising chair of the Graduate Student Advisory Council, Walls

has attempted to make her own history at Howard and wants to expand Howard's legacy by becoming graduate trustee.

"I am a candidate for the position of graduate trustee because I believe that I have the experience, passion, institutional love and the moral character that would allow me to be a well respected student trustee," Walls said.

According to Walls, her platform, "Forever Alma Mater" will propose various new ideas such as a graduate student resource center serving

as a "headquarters" for cultural, social, and academic development; executive programs that will allow students the flexibility of balancing education and career; a professional development office to assist graduate and professional students in graduating; and a black male initiative that will target collegiate black men and the black youth.

"[My Platform] was created out of a most sincere love for our university as it speaks to the role of the board to ensure that Howard University is around forever," Walls said.

With plans to fundraise for Campaign for Howard, hold a reception for graduate students and trustee board members, and a town hall meeting with President H. Patrick Swygert and graduate deans, Walls recognises that, "it is the responsibility of the board to not only raise money, but to review, make policy and pass initiatives that will ensure that impact of Howard University globally is endless."

Walls said that her past positions as HUSA vice-president and HUSA policy board chair has helped her become more familiar with Howard.

Walls added, "As graduate trustee, I would see my responsibility challenging and two fold; understanding clearly the role of the board and to represent the student's perspective in order to be effective."

BY SHANAE HARRIS
Assoc. Campus Editor

Allen Haynes, junior political science major from New Orleans, La., is running for undergraduate trustee and opting to take his position "Beyond the Boardroom."

Haynes said that he is running for this position because he feels that, "the position of undergraduate trustee can be more. I feel that this position can be a powerhouse if it is used to the full potential."

As his own personal powerhouse, Haynes has participated in many organizations on campus and held positions such as recording secretary and regional delegate for Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity, as well as chief of staff for the College of Arts and Sciences.

Through those two organizations, I have been able to participate in a lot of service activities and do a lot of work on campus," Haynes said. "My position is always going to be what it is because it's the truth. I feel that the position of undergraduate trustee can be used to bridge the gap between students and leadership at the university."

Haynes' platform titled "Beyond the Boardroom: A Call to Service" includes 5 portions that include fundraising for the Campaign for Howard, focusing on issues of the student body, and informing students of what



Allen Haynes, UG Trustee Candidate

is going on within the board of trustees.

Trustees Beyond the Boardroom is a series of programs where students and president are able to interact to give input and gain insight to the board and Efforts Beyond the Boardroom seek to work within a budget to create programming relevant to student body to cover issues I feel I as trustee am responsible for,"

Haynes said. "My focus for this campaign is not only informing students about the issues but to be honest and have integrity and make sure I can stand behind everything I said I'd do," he said.

Chapel Speaker Says 'Remember, Lest We Forget'

BY AYESHA RASCOE
Campus Editor

The Rev. Dr. Renita J. Weems urged the Rankin Chapel congregation Sunday to look onto the past both and to remember the sacrifices their ancestors made on their behalf.

Described by the Dean of Rankin Chapel, Bernard Richardson, as "one of the greatest preachers alive -- male or female --" Weems began her sermon on the subject "Remember, Lest we forget" with a song about the temporary nature of struggles.

"Trouble doesn't last always. No matter how bad it gets, there is a beginning and an end," said Weems after finishing her song.

Presaching from the books of II Samuel, and Hebrews, Weems described how after David became king, he sought to bless a descendant of his best

friend Jonathan, who had perished in battle. Weems pointed out that David's story exemplified the loss people often experience on their way to greatness.

"When you get to where God takes you, while it's a tremendous achievement the truth of the matter is you will look back and know it cost you," Weems said.

Weems then talked about how David, by showing kindness to Jonathan's descendant, was fulfilling a promise he made to Jonathan to always remember him and his household.

Weems stressed that it was not only important to focus on how David kept his promise, but the congregation must also think about what brought the promise to David's memory. She speculated that perhaps David's memory was triggered through his worship of the Lord.

According to Weems, many

people come to church just so their memories can be stirred.

"I come to church because I need to be reminded that there is more to life than what I want," she said.

She stressed the importance for all people not to forget where they come from.

"We need to remember the price, like David, that was paid to get him where he was," Weems said.

As civil rights leaders like Coretta Scott King and Rosa Parks pass on, Weems said she is beginning to feel greater responsibility to educate young people about the struggles these leaders overcame so that the younger generation could have better than what they had. Yet, Weems believes people have to do more than just remember the work done by their predecessors.

"There comes a time when



Rev. Dr. Renita J. Weems is an author and the William and Camille Cosby Professor in Humanities at Spelman College.

Campus Briefs



Prairie View A&M Experiences Water Problems

Students at Prairie View A&M have been voicing their concerns lately regarding the drinking water on campus.

Students say the water is brown and often tastes like chlorine. Still, Prairie View officials insist that there is nothing wrong with the water.

According to the school's water supervisor, Frederick Alexander, the brownish color of the water is caused by rust in water pipes and the chlorine taste is due to the lack of use of the faucets in the rooms. Alexander says his department's job is to run the water to dorm areas and dealing with the brown water is not in his jurisdiction, but it's that of dorm managers.



Cornell Stabbing Possibly a Hate Crime

Preliminary reports involving a stabbing at Cornell University in late February all suggest the motive behind the crime was race.

Nathen H. Poffenberger of Woodsboro, Md., was charged with Class B felony assault following an incident that resulted in the stabbing injury of a 22 year old black man from Union College who was visiting Cornell with two friends.

The victim was stabbed when he confronted Poffenberger, who witnesses say was directing racial slurs towards him. The victim however did not sustain life-threatening injuries and was released from the hospital. Poffenberger is out of jail on \$20,000 cash bail.



Harvard U. President Announces Resignation

Lawrence H. Summers, the president of Harvard University, announced his resignation after a spending a year in the hot seat due mostly to the school's arts and sciences faculty.

Summers fell under criticism following his remarks regarding innate differences, which he said allow men to succeed over women in both math and science. Arrogance and continuous spats with faculty also are attributed to the resignation by the former United States Treasury Secretary.

Harvard's former president, Derek C. Bok, will reassume the position on an interim basis July 1.

Excellence Awards

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE
MARCH 24TH, 2006

Submit no later than 5pm

Late Applications will be accepted



The BISON Policy Board is currently seeking applicants for the 2006-2007:

Yearbook Editor-in-Chief

Applications are available immediately in the Office of Student Activities, Blackburn Center Suite 117.

Applications are due by March 24, 2006 by 5:00 pm.

If you have any question please contact the Office of Student Activities at (202) 806-7000.

WELCOME BACK STUDENTS

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Trinidad And Tobago Celebrates Another Year of Carnival

BY SHAHEEM THOMPSON

(Hilary Scott photo)

Thousands of people danced the streets of Port-of-Spain last Monday, kicking off the Carnival festival at dawn with J'ouvert celebrations. Traditional carnival characters such as the blue devils, mud devils and jah molasses paraded on the streets causing some observers to run in fear of being touched by them. There were several all-inclusive bands that

year and one of the larger bands was called "Yellow Devils." According to the Yellow Devil band founder Joel Simmons, participation increased from last year. "J'ouvert is something that brings people together from all types of backgrounds and while there was a decrease this year in local participation we had an increase foreign participation," said Simmons. Band leader Queen Hopkins describes Yellow Devils as J'ouvert with a twist since a lot of bands can mud but they are pure. With

increased security with the band and drinks inclusive and breakfast provided Hopkins believes his band provided the greatest J'ouvert experience.

Each year a king and queen of the J'ouvert are chosen, based on their representation of current political and social events or issues. This year Patricia Goddard won first place with her costume titled "I Rock, I Rock. That is my stance," as she portrayed things that are taking place in the country. Her costume displayed the government's Vision 2020 plan and its banner flower. Trevor Thomas captured the man's title with his costume titled, "After Carnival I going on a river little" which portrayed a Trinidad popular past time of going to the river with friends and cooking. His costume included a large pot, dead duck, curry and hot pepper.

Later that day the main bands come on the streets. People paraded with many parts of their costumes as it was more of a relaxed day as people focused more on having fun than competing. Tribe, which celebrated its second year as an independent band, crossed the stage at the Queens Park Savannah first. A stage is erected there yearly as a judging point for the different bands to cross with their beautiful costumes. Rhianon Pemberton, a Tribe representative believes that the band has

really improved. "Our costumes sold out in two days as compared to five weeks last year," said Pemberton. "Thanks to all the feedback last year we were able to make a lot of improvements this year. For example, we constructed new bar trailers that were much lower to accommodate shorter people and we also had more bar trucks so that no one had problems getting drinks."

The main event of Carnival was on Tuesday and people wore their full costumes with headpieces, make up, body paint and accessories. There were many bands including Tribe, Poison, Legacy and for the first time this year Island People. Each band based their costume presentation on a particular theme, which contained sections which reflected them. This year many bands designed elaborate costumes. In one of Tribe's sections titled "Nylon pool" pair of the costume was made from snakeskin shininess. The bands crossed the various judging points and paraded on the street until late Tuesday night. This year the band Trim Reversers won for the third time, the title of the "George Bailey Carnival Band of the Year," with their theme "Rome, the Empire."

Tourism Minister, Howard Chin Lee, believes that this year's Carnival was a success. In a Post Cabinet meet-



Photo Courtesy of Shaeem Thompson
Women and men alike join in the festivities of carnival. Each year a King and a Queen is chosen based on their representation of current political and social issues.

(Photo Courtesy of Shaeem Thompson)

The Island of Trinidad celebrates its Carnival every year with many elaborate costumes like this woman's, pictured above.

Megachurches Gaining Popularity

BY MICHELLE J. NEALY

(Contributing Writer)

Rev. Dr. Renita Weems, an ordained elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church and an acclaimed author on spirituality and wholeness, wrote in an editorial for Ebony magazine that, "God may not change but the way people relate to him does."

Since the mid-1970's, there has been a rapid proliferation of churches with massive attendance. According to a new study by researchers at Hartford Seminary in Connecticut and Leadership Network in Dallas, the number of megachurches has doubled in the last five years to 1,210. A megachurch is defined as a church that has a weekly attendance of at least 2,000. There are few places where these technologically tricked-out, mega-sized megachurches are more prevalent than in the D.C. metropolitan area. According to the research, D.C. is home to seven megachurches. Maryland and Virginia are

Mega-churches provide powerful preaching and diverse ministry with technologically advanced facilities and resources. Reid Temple African Methodist Episcopal church sits on 5 acres of land, in Glen Burnie, Md., with a sanctuary seating capacity of 2,500. There are 15 classrooms for instruction, a computer lab, and forty-five nurseries. These ministries include a youth ministry, a young adult ministry and a single parent ministry. It's like minus marketing major Tessa Piersson says, "In a megachurch there is some thing for everybody. There are a plethora of ministries to participate in and if you have a talent - dancing, singing, acting, instruments - there is an outlet for you to develop your talent."

Piersson, a frequent visitor of Reid Temple and president of Howard University's Christian Sisters United, is a native of Oakland, Calif. With only 30 members on her Oakland church's roster, Piersson was accustomed to the intimacy of a small church. "It has taken time to transition, but I appreciate Reid's resources," said Piersson.

Greater Mt. Calvary Holy Church, less than ten minutes (driving) away from Howard University, is home to 7,000 members. On any given Sunday at Greater Mt. Calvary Holy Church there are going to be multiple sign language, liturgical dance, children's church, one of Calvary's many choirs, a six piece band and often times special celebrity guests. People like the Stellar Award winning singer Shirley Caesar will grace Greater Mt. Calvary's pulpit with a song or a sermon.

There is an existing research that states that there is a direct correlation between a church's resources and its population, but one has to wonder why so many people are flocking to churches with enormous congregations.

Rev. DeWayne R. Thomas, assistant professor at Howard University and associate pastor at Remington Way Temple African Methodist Episcopal Church in Baltimore, Md., surmises that it is neither the church's aesthetics nor its resources that draw the masses. "I think the world has become so isolated and so volatile in all areas, social, political, economic, and even in safety and security, that people now realize that there is a need and a want to connect back with God, the creator and then connect with other families and other people that recognize that there is something greater."

Senior political science major, Ogagben, is a frequent member of Calvary and Reid Temple. "At my church in New Bedford, Massachusetts, there are about 30 members and one organist. At Reid there is a youth choir, a men's choir, a women's, a widow's ministry and a transportation ministry. Also, the church is open every day of the week. Someone is always available for you, and the all the work doesn't fall on just one person."

While megachurches are bleeding in praise and popularity, Bernard Richardson, PhD Dean of Howard University's Rankin Memorial Chapel, advises all not to trouble themselves with a church size. He says, "although megachurches have increased in exuberance, that doesn't decrease the affinity of smaller churches."

"God wants as many people as possible to reconcile with him as possible," says Thomas. "And if He has to do it through a megachurch or a minichurch, He wants

people to that [He's] got a place for them. If you want to be around a lot of people, He's got a place for you. If you don't want to be around a lot of people, He's got a place for you."

Similar to smaller churches, megachurches also have drawbacks. "In a megachurch the intimacy can be lost. In smaller churches, at home, you know everybody's name and I can talk to my pastor at anytime. At a megachurch you are just a member. If you're lucky you may get to shake the pastor's hand. And you can introduce yourself but it's not likely that they'll remember your name," said Ogagben.

Most megachurches have dozens of ministries. One of the reasons megachurches appeal to ordinary is the proximity to the congregation small groups in which they can fellowship. "There are many components within the megachurch where people can find family and sense of a smaller community."

Three Sundays ago, Rev. Matthew Watley, executive minister at Reid Temple, introduced a rather unconventional method of preaching in his sermon. He used clips from contemporary cinematic production to relay spiritual information to the congregation. He called it "Faith & Film."

According to Ogagben, Watley used a 30-minute clip from the movie "Crash" to convey people's need to be touched.

"Megachurches have the money that enable creativity and a new approach of combining the sacred with the secular," said Ogagben.



Photo Courtesy of T.D. Jakes Ministries
T.D. Jakes is one of the more popular pastors of a megachurch. His church, "The Potter's House" started out with 50 families and now consists of more than 20,000 members and has bases in Canada and the United Kingdom.

University Censors Student Newspaper

BY JENNIFER MATTHEWS

(Contributing Writer)

Recently there has been a lot of controversy over the ongoing censorship battle at Governors State University. The students' former Phoenix Editor in Chief, said, former Phoenix copy editor, filed the lawsuit in federal court just last August, stating that Governors State administrators were at the rear of a move that placed a faculty member in the editor in chief position at the student paper, according to the lawsuit. The two students behind the lawsuit claim that a photographer for the paper was banned by a campus police officer from taking pictures of a commencement ceremony along with other charges.

Governors State University's former student newspaper, The Innovator, stopped publishing in 2000. The reason for this halt was because staff numbers objected to a school administrator requiring prior approval of the paper before publication.

The students sued the school and on last Tuesday, the Supreme Court granted a chance to decide if college administrators have the right to censor college newspapers. Student press advocates, who completely agree with the students in both sides in the case, have said the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision allows administrators to censor some college students' speech based on a legal standard that was once applied to high school and elementary students.

The claim of the school did not want the paper printed until she could read all of the articles that would be presented in the paper. Students felt the dean's actions were unjust and out of line for an administrator. Sources say that the campus journalist had written unflattering stories in their papers about departments at the school in University Park, south of Chicago. Unfortunately for the students, the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the university administrators could regulate the paper's contents because it is published under the auspices of Governors State.

This censorship issue has been a problem for college journalists throughout the ages. Prior to this case, the administrators at Governors State University told the company that printed the student newspaper not to publish any editions of the paper entitled

of the Tourism Development Company (TDC), many of the visitors enjoyed the shores during this year's Carnival season. While this is not the official Central Statistical Office (CSO) figure, Chin Lee said that he had arrived at the number above after talking to different stakeholders. "Based on talks with local businesses and the president



"The Innovator" if it had not been pre-approved by school officials. Previously, "The Innovator" had published some articles that were unflattering of the faculty members. Fortunately for the students, the court ruled in favor of the students and said "students at public colleges and universities are entitled to strong first amendment protection."

Many administrators argue that there are three reasons why college newspapers need to be censored. First, if there is no censorship there will be a disruption to the school. Second, they argue that it is their responsibility to protect their students from offensive speech. Lastly, they argue that they can enhance censorship to make sure that the ideas of the articles that they disapprove of are not attributed to the school.

"I hope this case doesn't encourage universities to restrict activities of campus newspapers," said Professor Lamb, a journalism professor.

"Students should sue if they feel that it is an absolute need for it and also if they feel that their rights have been violated," said a Legal Communications student, Brittany Davis. "Governors University newspaper has been put through a lot and they deserve to be able to have their paper without the thought of censorship," said journalism major Shanae Dokes.

"There should be no reason for censorship in college newspapers, college students are adults and they should be treated as such," said sophomore journalism major Shanae Crumley.

"The students at Governors State had a right to sue, especially if they feel that their first amendment rights were violated" said journalism major Carrie Miles.

FCC Recommends Pay-Per-Channel Cable

BY ROSHNI L. ROUNTREE
Contributing Writer

Selling cable by the channel may be the solution to saving money on the average household cable bill, according to a Federal Communications Commission released in February.

Currently, cable is sold as a package deal. However, selling the channels individually, or "a la carte," may be more beneficial to consumers. There are two reports on the a la carte model and both contradict one another's findings.

The revised report found that average consumers buying 11 cable channels a la carte would see their bills fall by as much as 13 percent or rise as much as 4 percent, depending on a variety of assumptions, reported the Washington Post.

The revised report, known as the Further Report, contradicted the system economical.

The earlier report, known as the 2004 Report, concluded opposite results than the Further Report but was based on mistaken calculations and weak assumptions made by Booz Allen Hamilton.

In the 2004 report, Hamilton assumed that consumers would watch 25 percent

less television and "overstate the average price per cable channel to gross than 30 percent," according to the Further Report.

The Further Report stated Hamilton acknowledged the errors, but stuck with its basic conclusion that "a la carte" would not be more economical.

Fadima Venkatesharam, an economics professor, assessed the possible effect of selling cable from the a la carte model.

"Channels that are less in demand may be weeded out because of inefficiency or simply lack of demand. This may result in overall increase in efficiency, thereby bringing down the cost of surviving channels," Venkatesharam said. She continued, "this may reduce the costs and consumers may benefit under the 'a la carte' system."

Though Venkatesharam said the a la carte model might be more economical for consumers, associate professor of economics, Emily Blank, gave a different perspective.

There might be organizational problems for the firm trying to provide channels A, B, C, and D to one customer and channels A, C, and F to the next. A standardized product would be easier, and therefore, less costly to offer, Blank said.

Cable bills may vary from residence to residence but students living on and off campus shared similar views on the a la carte issue.

David Dawson, a recent graduate of Howard University who now lives in Prince George's County, Md. believes having less channels would be more economical.

"It depends on which model was cheaper but it [a la carte] could be less expensive," Dawson said. "I definitely watch like seven different channels, and the other 200 I get are a waste."

On the other hand, senior advertising major, Nellisha Gregory, who lives on campus, takes preference over the packaged model of cable.

"A person would probably be better off just buying a cable package instead of paying per channel, especially if you watch a wide variety of channels like myself," Gregory said.

Danielle Williams, a freshman biology and sports medicine double major, also living in a dorm, agreed with Gregory.

"I would prefer to pay as a package, charging per channel would possibly be more expensive to get the same amount of channels included in a package."



A recent report suggests it may be beneficial for viewers to pay for cable per channel, which, in turn, would weed out unwatched, unwanted channels and curb high bill prices.

Local Biz in My Corner Soul Vegetarian Restaurant

BY KISA WILLIS
Contributing Writer

Burgers, gyro, tacos, macaroni and cheese and sweet potato pie are now available for a strict vegan diet.

Soul Vegetarian Restaurant has made this a reality.

Located on Georgia Avenue, directly across from the School of Business, Soul Vegetarian has masterfully combined the scrumptious taste of "down-home cooking" without animal ingredients to create healthy and nutritious alternatives to the typical, greasy soul food.

With mouthwatering sandwiches such as the "Garvey Burger," named after political activist Marcus Garvey, customers can rejoice in the hearty food and the history of the people that the tasty sandwiches are named after.

All sandwiches are made from beans or vegetables and are seasonal or permanent under names such as, "Black Star Line Burger," "Frederick Douglass," "Bob Marley Special," and the "Talmud Special."

There are even the "Jerusalem Bakes," to replace french fries. These pastries are actually baked instead of fried and cleverly renamed to set them apart from the rest.

Considered "a transnational diet," the restaurant aims to help people transitioning from a meat-filled diet, to vegetarian habits through the aroma, taste, texture and name of easily recognizable foods.

There are burgers under common names such as, the "Steak and Cheese Slab" and the "Gym." These sandwiches are made with wheat protein to give them a meaty texture and taste, loaded with barbecue and special sauce.

The famous sweet potato pie and pita cheesecake burst with flavor, but include no refined sugar or dairy products, giving a complete vegan experience.

Soul Vegetarian Restaurant, an establishment of the African Hebrew Israelite community, began in Chicago by Prince Asiel, the national ambassador for the nation.

The restaurants have since expanded to Atlanta, St. Louis,



Soul Vegetarian, conveniently located on Georgia Avenue, offers healthy entrees with a down-home appeal.

D.C., and planned to West Africa and Japan.

Abdullah Ben Yehuda, manager of the Georgia Avenue restaurant said, "[African Hebrew Israelites], have always been vegetarians. We found this diet so rewarding, so we wanted to offer this experience to the community."

Even people who are not vegetarians have found Soul Vegetarian a delicious choice.

"It's not a complete vegetarian, but [the food] tastes better than other vegetarian restaurants," said Tony Baylor, a D.C. resident and Soul Vegetarian regular who eats at the restaurant two to three times a week. "They've got mostly the vegetables that I want. [There's] not too much variety and selection at other [local food] restaurants," Baylor's favorite dish is the infamous "Garvey Burger."

According to Ben Yehuda, there is "a pretty good mix" of students, professionals and local residents who come in the early morning, breakfast, dinner and "last minute before we close the door."

Howard University students are finding Soul Vegetarian to be a nice change from the typical food selections offered around campus.

"The food is really, really good," said Makala Abraham,

a junior acting major. "I go on average, once a week. It's inexpensive and I get filled up after it."

Soul Vegetarian offers lunch and dinner discounts to students with official identification. Soon, there will be a meal card offered at the purchase of the first meal, and after the sixth purchased meal, the seventh one is free.

Ashley Simmons, a sophomore French major, finds a vegetarian lifestyle expensive and looks forward to future discounts and specials.

"The food is great, and I'm a vegan, so it caters to my needs. But I only go like once a month because it can get a little pricey."

For students, however, the number one complaint is the long wait for food preparation. "It really takes too long," commented several Howard students.

Despite the wait, many still sacrifice a little time or call ahead to pre-order for food worth such a hassle.

"Anyone who desires a way of good living and eating, we are an example of that," said Ben Yehuda. "We exemplify that is possible."

MySpace Goes Mobile

BY JACQUELINE COOK
Contributing Writer

Hello Hello is black, contains a megapixel camera, and has state-of-the-art music and video capabilities. Along with the Kickflip, it is one of the new offerings of wireless company Hello scheduled to debut this spring.

Hello is a newcomer to the wireless services scene. Since their debut last October, the Los Angeles-based company has recently partnered with the popular internet community, MySpace, to create a set of unique handheld devices that cater to users of the popular website.

The new Kickflip phone will have features similar to the Hello's virtual mobile entertainment center, including a screen opening that flips either left or right with a simple nudge of the finger.

To many, this deal would appear to be a wise and profitable decision on behalf of the two companies. MySpace has a population of about 60 million members, offering Hello an edge over more established wireless providers. Despite this, many students are not convinced that the appeal of MySpace will guarantee the success of the new cell phones.

Hello intends to duplicate the success of similar ventures made in South Korea. According to a press release from Hello, the new phones will draw consumers by allowing them to access the site through mobile devices, while remaining "true to the online MySpace environment."

Hello has optimized many of the site's features for mobile technology. Users will be able to send messages over MySpace, use the online community's popular bulletin boards, update their blogs, add new friends...as well as view photos and user profiles.

Additional features included exclusively for the phones are photo storage space, direct photo

posting from one's phone to their profile and a mobile online status indicator.

Robert Gelick, head of media and community services at Hello, stated in a press release that the mobile MySpace service will provide a unique opportunity by allowing users to "share their lives as they happen and evolve the MySpace experience from being about what you did last night to about what you are doing right now."

Students, however, seem unconvinced of the new device's appeal.

"I don't think that anyone is going to run out and buy a phone just because of MySpace," said sophomore accounting major Brooks Eason.

Junior legal communication

major Makala Brooks has another perspective.

"It seems convenient if you're addicted to MySpace," Brooks said. "But, since I'm not a MySpace addict, it's not something that I'm overly excited about."

One challenge Hello may encounter while trying to appeal to their 16-25 year old demographic is in trying to differentiate their products from other established devices such as the T-Mobile Sidekick and Sprint's Treo.

Brooks, a MySpace member who admits to being attached to her Sidekick, said the Hello phone features "sound like something that [I] can already do on [my] Sidekick."



MySpace members will be able to instantly access their account through a new mobile device created by Hello. The device will be released this spring.

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EDITORIALS & Perspectives

VOLUME 89, NO. 99

MARCH 6, 2006

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM



Howard Voting Outcome

A Bison recently said that Howard elections mirror that of the black community. We get hyped about who is running, what's wrong and right with the candidates and then we sit back to see who wins. After the winner is announced, we pick apart the results whether we participated or not.

According to General Elections Commission Chair Michael Lawson, 3,330 students participated in the student elections. Jennifer Owens and Stephen Nichols received 68.2 percent of the votes, which equates to 1,942. This percent shows that students got more involved this time around, which was exhibited in the amount of writing in the election gathered as well. Looks like we stepped out a bit more this

year! Congratulations to the "On" slate for the win. Now we have work to do...

One of the problems with student body elections is the lack of enthusiasm for not only voting, but also running. There is little competition for

responsibility, the pressure of pure disinterest in what goes on at Howard? Involvement should be important to more of us.

Politically we have some work to do. We got upset when Courtland Milloy called us out for not being a politically active speaker, but when we can barely vote for our own elections, we prove nothing. There are a million government agencies,

internship opportunities and important people right here in D.C., yet some of us sleep on our resources. Not only do we need to make our institution of a government more efficient, but we also need to foster politically active habits now.

Our View:

It was great to see more people voting in this year's elections, but we hope to see a bigger turnout next year.

campaigning because there aren't enough people running. Building business people, politicians in the College of Arts and Sciences and the School of Business should seize the opportunity to get some real experience and resumes built. What is it about HUSA, UGSA and other positions that steer students away? Is it the

internship opportunities and important people right here in D.C., yet some of us sleep on our resources. Not only do we need to make our institution of a government more efficient, but we also need to foster politically active habits now.

Sixth Street and Our Security

By Emma Peter Lane I

I find it necessary to express the opinion, at this point, that gates, fences and walls will only shift crises on our campus. Only dedicated and serious security, along with cautious attitudes will eliminate it. Much like the proposed giant fence on our southern border, the gates that would be erected would not solve the basic problems that allow crime to flourish here.

Criminals will either attempt to maneuver through the gates or wait outside them for the inevitable moment when students leave the protected area. As a person whose property has been stolen quite a few times since my arrival in 2001, I would like to see greater security and police forces patrolling the campus rather than new gates.

I would also suggest permanent posts in problem areas like the Towers and McDonald's, especially after dark. Also,

access to all University buildings should be strictly moderated by student ID only, after a certain time.

Finally, students should avoid running the campus alone around or after midnight. As an earlier memory episode where a stranger posed as a student proved, we are only safe when our security depends on common sense, strict enforcement of the rules and dedicated, trained professionals rather than iron bars.

click it to us.

The Hilltop wants to read what you have to say. Submit a 500 word perspective to www.thehilltoponline.com.

WORD LOSING (?) Giving the remaining words a whole new meaning by Marcia Raver, edited by Steven Novakoff.

Across

1. Peace of mind
2. One who competes
3. Honey comb
4. Indoor golf
5. Intensity increased
6. Intensity increased
7. Maximize
8. Surprise visit a local
9. Old fashion
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Trading Races: Reality Show Proves it Matters if You're Black or White

BY CIARA FAMBLE
Life & Style Editor

It's the early movie *Trading Places*. Eddie Murphy switched lives with rich white men to see what it was like on the "rich" side. Since then, there has been more trading in television than in a kindergarten class. People trade spouses, spaces and now they're trading something even more unbelievable: races. Think you could tell if someone was basically in blackface right in front of you? DeVaughn Harris couldn't.

DeVaughn Harris, a sophomore speech communications major, was a member of the poetry class in which a white girl, Rose Bloomfield, 16, emerged as part of film's new reality series on FX Networks, "Black/White".

"I found out about the class, and I was basically trying to become a better poet," Harris said.

Bloomfield, along with her parents, Bruce Marcellini, 47, and Carmen Wurzel, 48, make up the white family that was one-half of the "Black/White" equation. Brian Sparks, 41, wife Renee, 36, and their son Nick, 6, are the black family from Atlanta that make up the other half.



"Don't believe the hype, everything in the world isn't black and white. Everybody isn't a stereotype. Just because I look wrong I'm about to do right," Ice Cube sings in the title song.

With this show, he wanted to "expose the subtleties of racism, the layers of racism," he told The Associated Press.

Makeup artist Brian Sipe and Keith Vanderlaan are responsible for creating the look for both families on the show, a fact that Sipe told the Christian Science Monitor that he wouldn't have attempted as early as ten years ago. "I really didn't think we could pull it off, just because of the nature of need-

The new show *Black/White*, follows two families: the Sparks (right), a black family from Atlanta, and the Marcellins (left), a white family from Santa Monica, Calif., as they use makeup to switch races.

On the show, the families work out their struggles as they live together, and prove that America still has a long way to go when it comes to dealing with race.

Rapper-turned-actor Ice Cube and documentary-turned-reality show producer RJ Cutler hope to promote discussion with what is now a social experiment than the latest in outrageous subgenres of reality television shows.

It will explore race in America as it is experienced by two families who, by the magic that is Hollywood makeup, trade racial places for six weeks.

Ice Cube sees the show as a way to show how racism has gone undercover, to show how it has moved from mainstream social practice to the elephant in the room that no one wants to talk about.

"It just seems like another reality show that will go badly. That they'll be shocked over time it just makes it worse. The idea of someone walking around in makeup is stupid. We can see that it's a white person," Thomas said.

But the makeup is exactly what bothers junior film major Kristina Thomas.

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that it's a white person," Thomas said.

The show has been called a television version of the 1999 book *Black Like Me*, by Howard Griffin, a white man who tanned and stained his skin black with dye, to better understand race relations in America. In that book, Griffin "passes" for black in the deep South and is constantly denied the use of facilities.

denied work and exposed to levied curiosity and questioning about black male sexuality.

Though it is set in

a posh Los Angeles

suburb instead of

Alabama and de



just segregation is no longer the norm; the essential purpose is the same: to find out what life is like on the other side of the proverbial fence. And though her father refuses to admit that racism exists, in the end, a message of tolerance still comes through, at least from Harris.

"When she [Bloomfield] was with us, there wasn't a sense that she was an outsider. Some people were mad when they found out [she was white], but most of us just accepted her. She was an open-minded person before and after we knew. We embraced her for who she was," Harris said.



Spring Break Destination: Atlanta, GA

BY ANGELA BACON
Gary Editor

With spring break only a week away, many students are still scrutinizing to make last minute decisions on where to go, how to get there and budget limitations. With all of these things in mind, Atlanta, Georgia is the perfect place for the student looking for a break from the cold and fun at the last minute.

Kidding from such historic sites as the birthplace of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to the incomparable series of eight cities, shopping, and local culture, Atlanta, Ga. is sure Jacking an attraction to suit a variety of tastes.

Atlanta is home of many historic points of interest for the student looking for a piece of history over the break.

As the birthplace of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Atlanta also plays host to the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historical Site. Located in downtown Atlanta, this free attraction features a museum, the King Center, and guided tours to the former home of King and the church where he preached for many years.

Also a point of interest for the history enthusiast is the Fox Theater. Beautiful in its architecture, the middle-eastern style building has served historically as the venue for films, plays, and musical concerts in the Atlanta area. Guided tours of the facility are available through scheduling.

If history sounds a little dull for your taste, don't worry. Atlanta has a lot more to offer than historic sites. Known across the globe for its influence on the big-league field, Atlanta is famous for major league baseball.

The party season that can be easily found in the ATL area of the city, those many noted clubs for the spring breaker looking for a good time. Among noted clubs, the most famous have caught the attention of college students who have visited Atlanta.

Upon public relations major Leah Orlin commented on the night life. She reported while Atlanta has April:

"I first went to Atlanta last April with the HU student radio station, WMBR. I fell in love with it," Orlin said. "It's like a U.S. version of Ibiza."

"It's not minus the palm trees," Orlin

said. "It's Hard Out Here for a Pimp," Hustle & Flow

* Sound Editing: King Kong

* Foreign Language Film: Tsotsi, South Africa

* Film Editing: Crash

* Best Actor: Philip Seymour Hoffman, Capote

* Cinematography: Memoirs of a Geisha

* Best Actress: Reese Witherspoon, Walk the Line

* Best Supporting Actor: George Clooney, Syriana

* Best Supporting Actress: Rachael Weisz, The Constant Gardener

* Best Adapted Screenplay: Larry McMurtry and Diana Ossana, Brokeback Mountain

* Best Original Screenplay: Paul Haggis and Bobby Morrocco, Crash

* Best Director: Ang Lee, Brokeback Mountain

* Best Picture: Crash

And the Oscar Goes to...

We have the comprehensive list of winners for those of you who love to watch the celebs and for the technical film buff out there.



* Visual Effects: King Kong

* Animated Feature:

Wallace & Gromit in the Curse of the Were-Rabbit

bit

* Short Film (Live Action): Six Shooter

* Short Film (Animated): The Moon and the Son: An Imagined Conversation

* Costume Design: Memoirs of a Geisha

* Make-Up: The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

* Best Supporting Actress: Rachel Weisz, The Constant Gardener

* Documentary Short Subject: A Note of Triumph: The Golden Age of Norman Corwin

* Documentary Feature: March of the Penguins

* Art Direction: Memoirs of a Geisha

* Original Score: Gustavo Santaolalla, Brokeback Mountain

* Sound Mixing: King Kong

< Original Song: "It's Hard Out Here for a Pimp," Hustle & Flow

* Sound Editing: King Kong

* Foreign Language Film: Tsotsi, South Africa

* Film Editing: Crash

* Best Actor: Philip Seymour Hoffman, Capote

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* Best Picture: Crash

In Research Center

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TOURNAMENT TIME!

MEAC Tournament
Raleigh, N.C. March 6-11



The MEAC announced its 2006 tournament seedings on Saturday. For the second-straight year, Coppin State women and Delaware State men each took the No. 1 seeds.

However, the Lady Bison weren't far behind with a No. 4 seed and the Bison men finished as the ninth place seed after a three-game winning streak late in the regular season.

The CSU Lady Eagles captured the conference title by going undefeated (18-0) in conference play. The last MEAC women's team to finish the regular season without a loss was the 1996-97 Lady Bison team that went on to win the MEAC tournament.



As a top-five seed, the Lady Bison will receive a bye into the quarterfinals round. They will face No. 5 South Carolina State Thursday at 2:30 p.m. The Lady Bison convincingly defeated the Lady Bulldogs 77-58 at Burr Gymnasium on Jan. 5.

The Bison men will jump right into action tomorrow at 9 p.m. against No. 8 North Carolina A&T. They beat the Aggies this past weekend 58-50 in Greensboro to cap off a three-game winning streak. If the Bison can win tomorrow night, they will face the No. 1 Hornets of Delaware State on Wed. at 8 p.m.



Photo by Mark Danner - HU Photo

Bison Weekend Scoreboard



Manhattan College 18 - Howard 11

The Lady Bison lacrosse team fell to Manhattan College 18-11 yesterday at Greene Stadium as they fell to 0-5 on the season. Freshman attack Sakita Holley led the Lady Bison with five goals for five points. Junior attack Dominique Browner and sophomore midfield Alana Webb added two goals each. The Lady Bison will be back in action in Greene Stadium this Thursday at 4 p.m. when they host Stonehill College.



Hampton 5 - Howard 4, Hampton 5 - Howard 0

Howard 3 - Norfolk State 2, Norfolk State 4 - Howard 2

The softball team lost three of four games this weekend as they traveled to Virginia to play double-headers against Hampton and Norfolk State. The Lady Bison are now 5-3 on the season. They head to Baltimore this weekend to face St. Francis (PA), UMBC, Vermont and UMass at the UMBC Tournament.

Around the Sports World



Tiger Wins at Doral for Second-Straight Year

Tiger Woods retained his title at Doral Sunday as he held off opponents to finish 20 under. Woods' Ford Championship victory at Doral was his second PGA Tour win of the year and the 13th time he has successfully defended a title.

Hall of Famer Puckett Suffers Stroke

MLB Hall of Famer Kirby Puckett had a stroke yesterday in his Arizona home. The 44-year-old was taken to a hospital in Scottsdale, Ariz. Puckett led the Twins to World Series titles in 1987 and 1991. Glaucoma forced the center fielder to retire in 1996 when he went blind in his right eye. Before his retirement, Puckett was a Golden Glove winner and 10-time All-Star with the Minnesota Twins.

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(I DON'T FORGET
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