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THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 89, NO. 109

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2006

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

WEDNESDAY notebook

WEATHER

WED, 3/29:
MOSTLY CLOUDY
HIGH 57, LOW 45

THURS, 3/30:
MOSTLY SUNNY
HIGH 65, LOW 51

WED, 3/31:
MOSTLY CLOUDY
HIGH 74, LOW 62

BREAKING NEWS

WHITE HOUSE STAFF CHANGES

ACCORDING TO MSNBC.COM, THE WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THAT CHIEF OF STAFF ANDREW CARO HAD RESIGNED.

CAMPUS STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

TURN TO CAMPUS TO SEE HOW STUDENTS SPEND THEIR TIME
PAGE 2



BIZ & TECH VINTAGE WEAR

READ IN LIFE & STYLE WHERE STUDENTS FIND GOOD BUYS ON U STREET
PAGE 5



LIFE & STYLE PHASE ONE ENT.

SEE WHAT HOWARD STUDENT HAS JOINED THE LIST OF STUDENT BUSINESS OWNERS
PAGE 8



HU CALENDAR

MARCH 31
LAST DAY OF GENERAL
REGISTRATION FOR FALL
2006

APRIL 8
LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW
FROM A COURSE
LAST DAY TO COMPLETE A
TOTAL WITHDRAWAL FROM

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Nursing Students Sweat Over Broken Heaters

BY ASHLEY WILBON
Contributing Writer

Winter is in the past and the spring season is here in full swing. Several students are waiting for the drastic change in the weather, however, not all students share the same view. College of Nursing and Allied Health students can witness several different weather changes during just one season.

During the winter months, the College of Nursing and Allied Health has heat, but it tends to malfunction. The heat is unable to be controlled. The professors are unable to change the dials on the heat. As a result, they have to open windows or endure the cold by turning off the heat.

As many may know heat is supposed to rise, but not in this instance. Several basement level classrooms are extremely hot and are referred to as saunas.

"It is extremely hot in the hallways and me along with other students are more subject to get sleepy," said sophomore physical therapy professional, Nicole Sergeant.

In the basement is where several of the first and second year students take their classes. They are in those classrooms everyday from nine in the morning to five in the afternoon and are forced to leave on the air conditioner due to the heating conditions that they face in the basement.

According to faculty, several work orders have been placed,

but nothing is ever done. The school will place a work order and the management will come and view the problem. Once the problem is recognized they will begin the job but they never finish.

"We have reported to the administrative office that the heat affects our cognitive ability to be taught in our classes, [and] tuition has risen \$825 or \$835 in the College of Nursing and Allied Health, [so] they can at least fix the heat in the building," said class president Kunle Olukunle.

The heat is not only affecting the students, it is also affecting the condition of the building. The heat causes the pipes to leak in the ceiling. Once the pipes leak, the water becomes overbearing for the tiles in the ceiling and they begin to fall. Due to the current situations, classrooms have had to be changed around to accommodate the heating conditions.

"This heat is very uncomfortable. It is hard to take tests in the classrooms," said junior health management major Akila Hunte.

There is a miscommunication between Physical Facilities Management and the College of Nursing and Allied Health.

According to Ms. Bush, assistant to Steven Johnson, a complaint about the heat for the college has never been filed. When the new knowledge was brought to Ms. Bush she immediately asked the chief engineer to speak with the Office of the Dean to gain information about the heating problem.



Students in the College of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences have had to endure harsh conditions due to malfunctioning heaters found in the building.

"The heat is very uncomfortable. It is hard to take tests in the classrooms"

- Akila Hunte,
junior health management major

'Love' Owner Talks Business with Students



Kuray Wilbison - Staff Photographer

Marc Barnes, owner of Love night club, spoke to students last evening on successfully starting a business. He shared with students some of the struggles he has faced at the popular club.

BY SHAYNA RUDD
Contributing Writer

According to Marc Barnes, "Work is easy, life is easy, people make it hard."

Barnes is the owner of Love night club, formerly known as Dream.

Yesterday, Barnes came to the School of Business to encourage students who aspire

to pursue event planning, or Night Club ownership.

In addition to helping students understand the hard work of any business ownership, Barnes encouraged students to remain true to themselves in the process.

"I felt his lecture was well-informing, and his encouragement to be true to yourself was extremely helpful. It's not all about glamour," said

junior film production major Kristina Thomas.

Barnes stressed that of "Hard work [comes] before the glitz, or there will be no glitz at all."

"I was determined to be the best, so many people want to cut corners," Barnes said. When asked how many blacks he has as employees, Barnes explained that the majority of his employees were Mexican.

"My staff is Mexican, they are dying to work, and they know what it's like to be hungry. I have two blacks on staff. We need more work ethic," Barnes said.

Barnes also has done event planning for events such as the Essence Music Festival usually held in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Due to recent tragedy of Hurricane Katrina, the venue must be changed. However, Barnes is determined to make all of his events different from the masses.

"I once promoted and planned a party in a week. I have the gift of gab. It's all about the ability to make people feel like they need to spend their last fifty dollars to get an outfit for your party," Barnes said.

In addition to promotion, he also said that appearance is key. "Dirty bathrooms are unacceptable. People want to go out and have fun, that's the atmosphere that my club provides."

When asked what makes his club different from clubs

that surround the Howard University campus Barnes said, "It's all about location and promotion".

Barnes explained that all those things play a factor in the decision to pursue a career as a night club owner.

"Before you say you want to own a night club, go sit in a court hearing for a person who felt like shooting someone because he or she looked at them funny, or someone who sneaks in and partakes in underage drinking and trashes a car. These things will be on your hands," Barnes said.

Despite his real-life approach, Barnes encouraged the students to follow their dreams.

"There will be many doors that slam in your face; you just have to find the one that you have the keys to. Remember to always be humble, God gave to you and he can take it away".

"There will be many doors that slam in your face; you just have to find the one that you have the key to."

- Marc Barnes

Gameroom Not Students' 'Chill Spot'



Howard's campus game room in Blackburn is not used as much as other campus recreational rooms. Students say the reason is the room's outdated equipment.

BY MELISSA TYLER

Staff Writer

Some students feel that the game room is not the "chill spot" at Howard University like it is on other campuses. Are Howard students missing out on a good time right in the basement of the Blackburn Center?

Sophomore English major Edona Hughes has been in the game room about five times this year through The Talented Tenth and New Jersey club events. Hughes and several other students believe that the game room needs to be lived up.

"I doubt the game room is considered a campus chill spot," Hughes said. "I have never heard anyone say on a regular basis 'I'm trying to chill in the game room.' However, many Howard students hang out in the game room

in between and after classes. They play pool, spades, PlayStation and Xbox video games, pool, watch TV, read and listen to the wireless disc jockeys. On a regular basis, about 30 students "chill" in the game room during the week. Samuel Amosko-Atta, the assistant director for Intramurals and Recreation, stated that about 300 students flow in and out of the game room on Fridays.

"Our focus is to attract as many students, faculty and staff as possible," Amosko-Atta said. "With upgrades and better funding we can achieve this goal." He explained that the game room recreation center is one of the most under-funded student activities and that it receives \$67,000 a year for expenses including equipment and wages of work-study employees.

To whip up more enthusiasm from stu-

dents, the game room offers free use of the video games. Amosko-Atta said two reasons that keep students out of the game room are that they do not have the money and that they are unaware of events there. In addition, the bowling lanes do not have automatic scoring, which can frustrate students who do not know how to score a bowling game.

In Baltimore, Morgan State University is building a new student center with a game room that will have bowling lanes, nine Olympic-sized pool tables, four Ping Pong tables, card tables and arcade games.

"Students at Morgan are expected to come to the game room around lunch time and in-between classes," said Jahsh Long, the recreation manager. "It is predetermined to be the new hangout space on campus."

Howard University International Business major Victor Oraski noted that the pool, video and chess games in Blackburn can get very competitive, but are nevertheless fun.

"A lot of students come here," Oraski stated as he played Halo 2 on Xbox. "It's a chill spot for many people, especially Africans."

Despite the University game room's hand-icaps, it is always occupied with students and organizations including the Howard Middle School of Mathematics and Science, the Center for Academic Reinforcement and several groups on campus. Howard's game room has also contributed to the accomplishments of the MEAC Championship winning chess, bowling, pool and table tennis teams, who practice in the game room throughout the week.

Those who enjoy the game room deem it to be the "chill spot" on campus. Elliot Moore, junior Actuarial Science major, is one of the students who believe that the game room is a chill spot. "It's an alternative to hanging out on the Yard."

More students should check it out and participate in the wealth of events that are held in the game room and decide for themselves whether or not it is the "chill spot."

ONLY @

HOWARD

"... would there be eight doors to a building, but only three of them work (Locker Hall)?"

— Chris Buckner, a freshman molecular biology

"... is there one bathroom per three floors... and they're all women's bathrooms?"

— Kofi Ocran, a senior theater arts major

"... will your financial aid be held because you aren't validated, and you aren't validated because you don't have financial aid?"

— Julius L. Sheppard II, a senior computer-base systems and analysis major

"... are jail cells more spacious than dorm rooms?"

— Ryan Watson, a junior architecture major

"... is the architecture in the Architecture Building unstable?"

— Gabrielle Jones, a freshman architecture major

"... do they accept more students than they have classes for?"

— Amber Fogle, a freshman pre-pharmacy major

"... can women perfectly catwalk on ruglified cement, across uneven streets, up steep hills and through unwelcoming gravel?"

— Ashley Southall, a sophomore telecommunications and broadcast journalism double major

"... is there an ethnically diverse squirrel population?"

— Ashley Southall, a telecommunications and broadcast journalism double major

"... can someone be considered fly if they have on a hoodie with a blazer?"

— Rousikh Muhammad, a sophomore management major

Compiled By Alesha Johnson
Contributing Writer

Students Make Most of College Life Through Activities

BY MORGAN NEVILLES-MOORE

Staff Writer

Walking around campus, it is clear that Howard students are about much more than academics, never sitting still and always on the run, going to and coming from this meeting or that organization's function.

"I think we're a really involved student body," said James Brant, a junior KTVF major. "I don't know any Howard student who isn't in some organization or some community-wide service."

With classes on top of classes and work schedules included, many Brant still find the time to participate in their favorite organizations and clubs.

"I usually work three hours a week and keep my work a six credit hour course load," said Tyheah Jones, a sophomore marketing major. "Even though my class is tight, I still try to make the most of it by going to meetings and helping with events for my organization. It's what gives me a piece of happiness in an otherwise hectic day."

Brant Brant, a junior political science major, said he has the same time schedule as Jones.

"I don't have a job, but, with my classes and all the groups and clubs I'm apart of, it's just like working a full time job," he said. "It can be very stressful and time consuming, but it's worth it. The Howard experience is much richer when you're involved."

It is almost like an unspoken rule among Brant: being active on and around campus is a necessity to the completion of ones Howard tenure. "The people who are active are the ones who get noticed, these are the people who have decided to dedicate their life at the moment to a cause," Jones said.

Sitting still is not an option among some students. Not only is it unthinkable, but almost frowned upon by those who choose to immerse themselves in extra-curricular activities.

"To sit, someone who doesn't want to be active in anything should raise an alert flag," Brant said. "It's not normal to have no desire to do anything beyond the ordinary. We're here for four years or more and just going to class isn't a very rewarding life."

Amun Lee, a senior KTVF major, said all students attend Howard "to get an education; what

each one of us does outside the classroom, in my opinion, is who we really are."

"So, of course, people who are heavily involved are going to be favored more because they're doing something with their time," she said. "There are about something besides grades. For those people who choose not to do anything outside what they have to do to graduate, I feel haven't quite learned the way of the world yet. The time we spend at Howard is preparation for the real world and you're not going to make it if you're not willing to extend yourself a little."

Another active Brant expresses how being involved on campus and in the community and involvement is much more than an act to gain popularity. It's a chance to evaluate one's self.

"Being involved on campus isn't about popularity in my opinion. It can and has been taken that way, but I don't think that's what it's about. It's about being well-rounded, giving [students] an outlet to creativity that can't be seen in class work and knowing responsibility and how things work outside of a class setting, because that's where most of us will be soon, outside of class and into the real world," Brant said.



Many Howard students are involved in activities outside of the classroom, such as community service, student organizations and the student government campaigns (above).

A Day in the Life of...

BY MORGAN NEVILLES-MOORE

Staff Writer

Waking in bed, flipping through channels, then finally deciding to play a CD instead of watching television, the digital alarm clock by the window reads 8:12 p.m. as Barbara Irlby is winding down her day.

"I go to class and then pretty much the rest of the day is free time to do as I please," said Irlby, junior broadcast news major.

She spent the bulk of her free time catching up on previous calls, her favorite shows and completing work.

"My schedule allows them to monitor to some extent of how classes are offered, but I usually try to schedule back-to-back classes earlier in the day to give me more time to myself," Irlby said.

Irlby is not shy when speaking of why she chooses not to immerse herself with other responsibilities and commitments outside of class.

"I haven't really had a real break yet," she said. "Throughout school, I've taken summer courses every year in work and it seems not out. When I finish class for the day, I just want to relax and not have all those meetings and things around to do," she said.

As she flips through a case of CD's, she remembers something and starts again on why

she chooses not to be so involved.

"I don't feel the need to be so overwhelmed; it's not always necessary in my opinion," Irlby said. "When it comes down to it, it's your skills that are

important, not how many clubs you're in."

After she changes the CD and debates whether to call and order something, she sees on an intercom, she grabs two large books from her closet

and proceeds to explain their existence.

"Since I have the time, I'm keeping scrapbooks of all my experiences during my four years at Howard," she said. "I think it's important to document and keep record of all the good and bad moments."

Besides her scrapbooking, the only consistent event Irlby does during the week is watch her favorite television shows.

"I don't watch television as much as some, but here I do because it relaxes me and that's all I really need to do after being in class."

However, Irlby does become excited at the prospective activities that would make her seem more involved on campus, which Howard doesn't currently offer.

"I love kickboxing," she said. "I would definitely join a club or something for that if they offered classes. Or even yoga. And I'm always open for things that can accommodate my major, like voice-over classes, none of which Howard offers."

Unlike most Howard students who can't wait for Friday and whatever happens the weekend will bring, Irlby doesn't look forward to the weekend.

"I don't really spend that weekend break like other students do because I choose to break all week on Friday is just another day for me," Irlby said as she flips the mode button on television off.



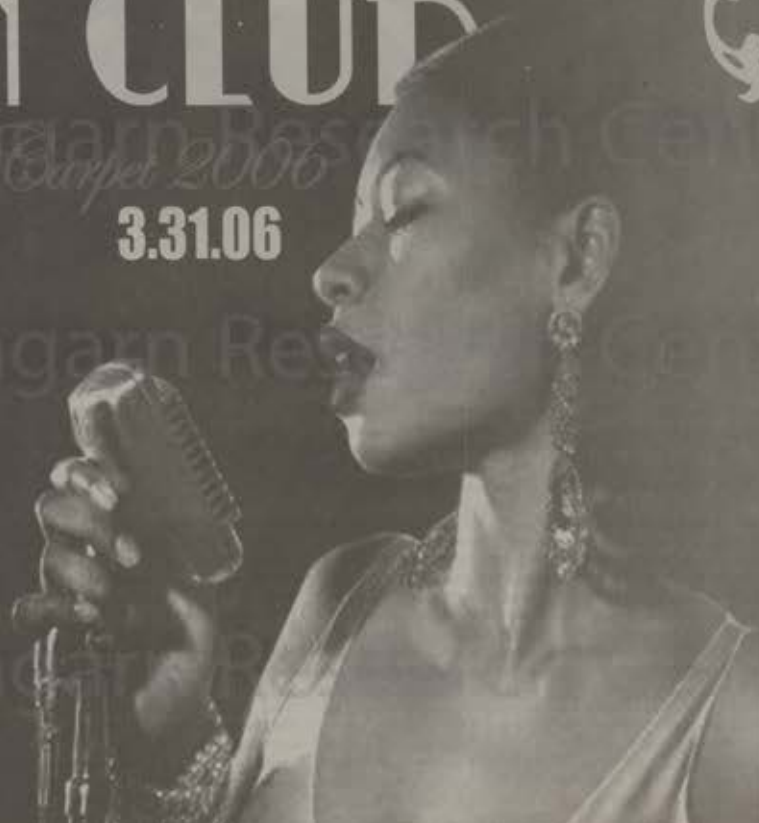
Barbara Irlby, a junior broadcast news major, looks through one of her scrapbooks, one of the main activities that fill her free time.

The COTTON CLUB

At Night on The Red Carpet 2006

3.31.06

The Galleria



design by jlieyedigital.com

THE HOWARD UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

"it's black and white"

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After purchasing your ticket, stop by
the HUSA Office (Blackburn Student Union)
to select your seat.

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first served basis.

Bison Ball

Saturday, April 15th, 2006

7 p.m.

J.W. Marriott

1331 Pennsylvania Ave. NW

Tickets on Sale Today

at the Cramton Box Office

General Admission \$37.50

Table (10) \$350

Recent Protests Held in U.S. and Abroad



The issue of immigration has become globally debated as the Immigration Bill is being argued on the U.S. House of Representatives. The bill would affect the over eleven million illegal immigrants that live in the United States.

BY SHALEEM THOMPSON
Hilltop Staff Writer

While legislators sat in the White House on Monday discussing the Immigration Bill, supporters of immigration practices protested nationwide. The Immigration Bill could make it a felony to live in the United States illegally, and holds in its hand the fate of an estimated 11 million illegal immigrants in the United States.

The bill will also allow the fencing of 200 miles of the U.S.-Mexican border and impose new penalties against employers who hire illegal immigrants.

Protesting seemed to be the standard practice for the day, as those opposing the bill around the country spoke out against it.

Thousands of students boycotted classes in California and marched towards downtown, as they protested against the bill.

In Detroit, supporters of immigrants marched downtown, many waving Mexican flags.

Whereas in the District of Columbia, about 100 protesters

gathered in front of the Capitol wearing handcuffs. Among the crowd were supporters of immigrants and members of the Catholic Church.

Though the bill could change the lives of many, those in opposing it may have won the first battle in this controversial debate.

The Senate Judiciary Committee has approved a comprehensive immigration bill that would create a foreign guest-worker program and put millions of illegal immigrants on track toward permanent residency and U.S. citizenship.

Like the many students who flooded the streets protesting, graduate clinical psychology major Richard Griffith agrees that illegal immigrants should not be charged with a felony.

"Rather than having them work illegally they should regulate the types of jobs they can get and they should be committed to work for a couple of years under a certain status before they get citizenship," said Griffith. "Most of the jobs they do most Americans won't do it so there is

a need for these people. Taking away these jobs from them [will] not increase jobs for Americans," he said.

Though the legislation was approved 12-6 by the Republican controlled committee, debates by the full senate concerning the legislation will continue this week.

The Senate committee bill would allow immigrants who have been in the country since Jan. 7, 2004 to obtain visas and stay in the country for six years while applying for residency. They will have to show that they are proficient in English and Civics, and pay back taxes and fines.

Political science professor John Davis has a problem with the climate of this immigration debate. "The Conservative element does not want to have amnesty, [however,] the question is what do you want to do with these people [who] over the years have generated into two generation families," Davis said.

Davis also added that security is an issue. "My biggest con-

cern is defense because there is a debate on putting up a fence on the border. We can't fence the entire country and I think it sends a bad message to the world," Davis said. "We should increase border security instead," he said.

Khadine Adams, a sophomore international student majoring in insurance/actuarial science believes that the immigration issues are of the greatest importance and need to be handled.

"Unless there are some extraordinary circumstances, immigrants can't just run around doing what they want and people like that give legal international students a bad name," Adams said.

The United States is not alone in the immigration debate or protesting. Canada faces similar illegal immigration issues. According to the Toronto Star, "Nothing came of former immigration minister Joe Volpe's pledge to find a way to 'regularize' undocumented workers."

In France, thousands of people took part in a national strike on Tuesday because of youth employment laws. Students and trade unions want the government to end the CPE First Job Contract in which, according to French critics, "will create a generation of 'throwaway workers' and fail to cut high youth unemployment."

As Jerusalem residents cast their ballots on Tuesday, Haredi extremists opposing the elections protested as well.

Several dozen yeshiva students pelted police with stones and iron rods Tuesday night from their yeshiva in Jerusalem's Mea Shearim neighborhood, police said. Similar protests in Ramat Beit Shimon turned violent after dozens of extremist Haredi protesters, who tried to block the road leading to the polling station, were forcibly dispersed by police.

Immigration may be on the agenda on March 30-31, when President Bush and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper meet with the President of Mexico, Vicente Fox.

What's Going On in Our Nation and World?



French Strike over Job Contract

About 1 million people, 900,000 in central Paris alone, performed a one day national strike against Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin's CPE First Job Contract, according to Reuters. The contract is structured to reduce the 23 percent youth unemployment rate by encouraging hiring. However, in order to increase hiring, the contract makes it easier to fire employees under 26 if they do not make it through the two-year trial period. The protest turned violent as police used tear gas to deter youth throwing bottles and Molotov cocktail petrol bombs. Other police marked violent protesters with paintball guns and 243 people were arrested.



China Bans the Sale of Human Transplant Organs

According to the Associated Press, China's Health Ministry outlined new regulations on its website that explicitly ban the sale of human transplant organs in order to curb the rampant business that is becoming very lucrative. The new regulations forbid the buying and selling of organs and require the written permission of donors before an organ is transplanted. China has long lacked its transplant business, but Chinese legislators have been asking for regulations and promotion of voluntary organ donations. The current regulation is only temporary, according to the Health Ministry, but more legislation is expected to follow.

Offices Created to Help Africans in Washington

The Associated Press reported that Mayor Anthony Williams signed a bill, Monday, allowing the creation of the District of Columbia Office of African Affairs dedicated to the 400,000 African immigrants in the District. The office will help the immigrants, who account for 16.5 percent of the recent arrivals in the city, obtain city services from the health department, public safety agencies and others, according to Abdul Kaseem of the African Resource Center. "They don't have much of a voice of their own, due to a new culture, a new language and a new way of advocacy," said Kaseem.

Preacher's Wife Admits to Killing Husband

BY DANYELLE HADAWAY
Hilltop Staff Writer

A quiet Mary Winkler shuffled her shackled feet and sniffled sadly as she entered the Selmer, Tennessee court house, Monday for her arraignment. She was charged with first-degree murder in the fatal shooting of her husband, the minister of Fourth Street Church of Christ.

Not entering in any plea, the only words Mary Winkler, 32, spoke were, "No, sir," in answer to the judge's inquiry on whether she had any questions concerning her rights and the charges against her, according to the Associated Press.

Matthew Winkler's wife confessed to shooting him when apprehended in Orange Beach, Alabama, approximately 400 miles south of Selmer. Following a multi-state search, Winkler waived her extradition and was brought back to a Selmer jail by McNairy County sheriff's deputies Saturday.

Winkler was found with the couple's three children, Russell, 4, Mary Alice, 8, and Patricia, 8, all in good health.

Although it is believed that authorities know the motive for the killing, according to the Associated Press, they are only disclosing that they do not believe the motive is infidelity, said Tennessee Bureau of Investigation agent John Meher. Meher would not comment on whether the authorities believed Matthew was abusing Mary.

Tennessee Nebelitt, spokesman marketing outlet from Tennessee, said that she speculates that the minister could have been a possible hypocrite and [his wife] could not take it anymore. "I don't know anyone who can handle living a lie on the long term," she said.

Mary Winkler's attorney, Steve Farnes, told NBC Today that the murder was "unintentional and the couple had been involved in a dangerous situation."

However, on Tuesday, he told the Today Show that he had been misquoted. "I was talking in hypothetical terms... His facts will show what the facts will show—not hypotheticals, not assumptions, not speculations."

When asked if the couple might have had marital problems, Farnes said, "Have

you ever been in a relationship? They all have some problems."

Junior legal communication major Brandon Wallace said that he is concerned for the family. "I am not sure [if] there is a motive for such an act and it's sad for all those involved, especially the children. This family will need some serious counseling."

The couple's children were placed under the custody of their paternal grandparents by an Alabama judge, after Mary Winkler's arrest, according to the Associated Press.

According to a friend that visited her in church, Pam Killingsworth, Mary Winkler wanted the church to know "she was sorry for everything she had done."

Wilburn Ash, an elder at the 200 member church in Selmer, located 80 miles from Memphis, told the Associated Press that Matthew Winkler was hired as a full-time minister after previously being a youth minister in McMinnville, Tenn. The congregation described the Winklers as a happy couple.

Bail for Mary Winkler has been delayed until the preliminary hearing scheduled for Thursday.



32 year old Mary Winkler has been indicted for the murder of her husband, Matthew Winkler, the pastor of Fourth Street Church of Christ, in Selmer, Tennessee.

Compiled by Danyelle Hadaway
Hilltop Staff Writer

Airline Offers More Seating Space at Additional Cost

BY RUTH AUGUSTE
Contributing Writer

Northwest Airlines has implemented a new amenity, and now offers customers the option of more seating space for an additional \$15 charge. The charge ensures flyer reservations for either an aisle or emergency exit seat.

With more than 200 non-stop flights between the United States and Asia each week,

Northwest was the first company to have extra leg room and luggage space added to their business class sections. The airline, which has been in existence since 1926, continues their motto of "moving forward" by enhancing their service.

"This is just the beginning of what special perks our customers will have the opportunity to take advantage of," said Karen C., customer representative for Northwest.

According to the representative, the best part of this feature is simplicity. Customers can request and select their own seating online or over the phone. Since filing for bankruptcy in 2004, Northwest has put forth great efforts to keep customers satisfied.

Students on Howard's campus have mixed reactions to this recent offer.

Shena Richardson, a junior broadcast journalism major,

said it was unnecessary to pay for more space.

"As a college student, that extra money can definitely be geared towards something more crucial," Richardson, also a frequent Northwest customer, was unaware of this new policy, which launched mid-March. "When I travel, I simply look for what gets me to my destination for the cheapest and quickest possible way."

Isaiah Wright, a sophomore biology major, said the special seating is not attractive or luxurious at all.

"They should give me some money for [a seat] by the emergency exit and endangering my life," Wright said.

Freshman political science major Alesha Hassan said the entire make-up of the aircraft should be comfortable. "Space needs to be added to the average compartments instead, that's a wiser investment."

Other students found the deal appealing under certain circumstances.

According to Tawene Chilongo, a senior legal communications major, "For long flights, it's not a bad deal, but to pay \$15 to stretch my legs during an hour flight is frivolous."

Freshman business management major William Whitted, standing more than 6'2" tall, said leg room is always an issue when flying, but agreed with Chilongo.



Malcolm H. Johnson - Staff Photographer

"I'm usually not overly uncomfortable, but still wouldn't mind the extra room. But since my plane ride is [usually] only about an hour or so, it's not necessary."

Since dwindling sales after 9/11, several airlines have made a conscious effort to lure and accommodate prospective passengers.

JetBlue offers 500 channels for customers' viewing pleasure,

while American Airlines has a larger food selection than other carriers. However, the main concern for Howard students when traveling is reasonable prices.

"I personally have no special preferences, which ever company I save the most money with, is where I go," senior TV production major Jessica Catchings said.



Although many airlines offer such luxuries as food and extra space, the primary concern of most students is reasonable airline ticket prices.

Local Biz in My Corner: Meeps Vintage Fashionette

BY MONICA HARRIS
Contributing Writer

Some may be under the false impression that in order to find quality vintage clothing, they must travel great lengths. Meeps Vintage Fashionette, which offers men's and women's apparel, is conveniently located near Howard's campus at 1520 U St. Meeps offers every style including formal, casual, urban, retro, and lingerie and features dolls by local designers.

Local talent in designer labels include Be Pep, Manatee and Daniel Lubrano, all encompassing men's and women's original clothing. Meeps also sales Chocolate City Designs, which features accessories with a retro flair.

Danni Sharky and Leanne Towbridge, who bought the boutique from the founder five years ago, currently own Meeps. The store was named after the founder's grandmother who inspired her to invest her life in vintage fashion.

Sharky and Towbridge search high and low to find apparel that fits the vibe of Meeps. However, this blast from the past also offers clothing for those wanting to indulge in epoch clothing bliss.

"We carry all sizes, from extra small to extra extra large, so we cater to everybody," Sharky said. "We cover almost every style from every era."

Sophomore Ayana Crawford, who frequents the boutique, likes the large selection found in Meeps.



Meeps Vintage Fashionette offers unique era apparel and local designer trends.

"I liked that there are a lot of vintage options there, but [they] also have some independent designers," she said. "And it wasn't really expensive either."

"The best thing about vintage clothes is that they give you a variety that you don't see in stores on Georgia [Ave.] or in the malls," said sophomore fashion merchandising major William J. White Jr. "Almost everything at vintage stores is one of a kind. The whole thing about style is being original, and being yourself and embodying that in the clothes you wear."

Vintage shopping can also inspire shoppers to adjust their finds or create their own fashion. "I bought a safari jacket from Meeps," White said. "The jacket was a green army color and I spray painted graffiti designs on it."

For those who find themselves in the market for unique clothing and accessories, Howard students agree that Meeps Vintage Fashionette is the ideal shop to meet a variety of fashion tastes.

AT&T, BellSouth Merger

BY ALPHONSO TINDALL III
Contributing Writer

Over the last few years, corporate battles have been prominent within the telecommunication industry. Americans have seen the expansion of Cingular Wireless as it merged with AT&T, which turned it into the world's largest digital network.

We also witnessed Nextel's acquisition of Sprint, which also expanded its company.

But on March 5, AT&T made another ground breaking announcement: the acquisition of southern telecommunication super power BellSouth, for \$67.1 billion. The merger combines three companies that currently operate independently: AT&T, BellSouth and Cingular Wireless. As part of the deal, three board members from BellSouth will move to AT&T's board. AT&T reported that the merger would benefit their present customers because it will create a more effective and efficient provider in the wireless, broadband, video, voice and data markets.

"This merger is a logical next step that creates substantial value for customers and stockholders of both AT&T and BellSouth," said AT&T Chairman and CEO Edward E. Whitacre Jr. in an AT&T/BellSouth press release. "It will benefit customers through new services and expanded service capabilities. It will strengthen Cingular through unified ownership and a single brand."

Whitacre said the two companies have already worked successfully together to create Cingular Wireless and operate Yellowpages.com.

What are the true pros and cons of this business decision? BellSouth reported the merger will allow full access to research and technology advances from both AT&T and BellSouth labs. The new AT&T will also benefit business and government customers, including military and national security agencies to meet their needs anywhere in the world and not just in their respective regions, as it did in the past.

Students who are customers of either company are not worried about affected service from the merger.

Junior graphic design major, Lauren Jackson said, "I don't mind the merger, but I just hope now my Cingular Service is a little better because of the new change."

Both AT&T and BellSouth's operations will remain the same, but they will definitely raise financial standards, according to the press release.

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Alex Cravanas, a junior electrical engineering major said, "I don't mind the service I have now, but I'm from the South. So if the merger with BellSouth helps service in southern states, it may persuade me and other southerners to switch services."

AT&T and BellSouth estimate that synergies from the combination will ramp quickly to reach an annual run rate exceeding \$2 billion in the second year after closing and estimate the net present value of expected synergies at nearly \$48 billion, as stated in the press release.

Junior economics major John Reid believes the merger is great for AT&T's stock value.

"AT&T already is interconnected with Cingular Wireless, which is the world's largest network," he said. "Now that they can expand even more and bring more to the table, their value will increase."

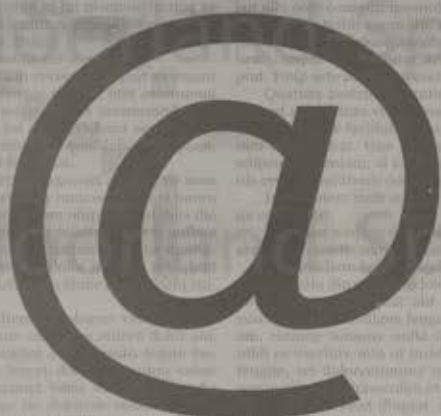
Although there are obvious positive effects of this merger, there are also some negatives. When three dominant companies merge, employment becomes an issue, and in this case the situation is no different. The new AT&T will employ more than 316,000 people, but that number may fall. Reuters Today reported up to 10,000 jobs will be cut starting in 2007.



Students do not mind the most recent phone company merger of AT&T and BellSouth, as long as service is uninterrupted and quality improves.

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The High Price of Perjury

The slow jam king R. Kelly's brother, Carey Kelly, has been all over MTV and the news recently alleging that he was trying to convince his brother to take the blame for the sex tape with a minor. Though the commotion has calmed down about that particular case, Carey Kelly is now stepping up to explain what Kelly allegedly wanted him to do.

He said he was offered cars, a record deal and a few stacks to do the time for his brother. On MTV News, Carey Kelly asked how he would explain to his kids that he was doing jail time for someone who wasn't even loyal to him. R. Kelly's publicists denied the claims and other critics say Carey Kelly is doing this as a publicity stunt. Despite whether or not a deal was put on the table, there is a lesson in committing perjury.

Everyone is screaming that

snitching is so terrible in their lyrics, emphasizing loyalty. This "hood element" is understood because nobody appreciates a tattletale, especially when jail time is evident and lives are on the line.

However, there is so much more to consider when it comes to a serious court case. People act like there is no way for their

the wrap for another person just because they want to be loyal.

Watching Lil' Kim's struggle with lying under oath is another example of a plan gone wrong. Her reality show on BET shows a frustrated artist, disappointed in people and shocked about how much she stuck her neck out for others who wouldn't reciprocate the kind gestures. Even Martha

Stewart's situation of manipulating the truth and serving jail-time teaches a lesson.

It is up to every individual to attach a price to loyalty and helping out others in a tough situation. If you were personally

involved, then more than likely you will try to cover your butt. However, if you had nothing to do with a given crime and people want you to lie, it may lead to you spending your life behind bars.

Our View:

Looking at the recent R. Kelly allegations and Lil' Kim's struggles, maybe loyalty isn't so great.

skeletons to be brought out of the closet. When you put your hand up and swear to tell the truth in court, any variation of your story can send you in the slammer for someone else's crime. It's a touchy subject but we've seen what happens to people taking

Memoirs of a Transformation Part Two: New Orleans, Louisiana

Brittany Gail Thomas

Stories of black men and women being shot upon sight while they searched for food to feed their hungry families, as well as prisoners inhumanely left to die in their jail cells and carcasses floating in the high altitudes of germ infested water haunts the survivors of this domain. Land being continuously snatched from under the legs of the landowners, rent being raised beyond that of living standards, children left without an education system to fall back on, and parents unemployed due to the hire of people from different states and countries further illustrate struggles to survive. Families, who built and attained their entire lives within their homes, are forced to create makeshift communities amongst tents and hotels full of strangers without assurance of where their next meal or living arrangement will come from. In the midst of the struggle, black men are transformed into warriors refuting death amongst their people without a leg to stand on. Black women, comparable to Harriet Tubman, speak and personify the strength

of their lineage through their pronouncements of faith in God and undying will to have hope despite it all. Children who were left defenseless and desensitized by the devastation that has altered their lives still find room to embrace hope in a smile.

It is hard to find definite inaccuracies in these tales when each of these accounts are accompanied by visual displays of blacks being demonized as "welfare cases" and treated as second class citizens in desperation for financial assistance from insurance and government agencies when it was their bondage and struggles that encompass the very fabric of New Orleans.

I found an experience to be angry about.

We are losing the war in New Orleans. The war for life and hope when men find no solace in the system that is supposed to protect their inalienable rights as citizens, women are left unaided in the struggle to find and keep her children's head above water, seniors are being set aside in a judiciary system that anticipated their death before their time, and when family's entire lives are submerged under water and insurance companies find every justification under company pol-

icy to prevent them from finding fortress. But most notably, racism triumphs over humanity and corruption goes unpunished in a country that proclaims to be the defender of humanity.

This experience was not one taken in assurance of happy festivities and much deserved pat on the back for a job well done, nor was it the opportunity to be placed on television programs and in newspapers as another representative of a distinguished black university who was in service for one week and left no mark as a catalyst of change. For me, this was a journey of service and duty, and a method by which I paid homage to people of color and was embedded in the struggle.

This experience is the catalyst for change amongst every person that experienced it and every heart that was touched by it.

Experience New Orleans: a transformation in frame of mind, a demand for change in step and a true call for leadership for America and the global community.

God bless the victims help with their relief.

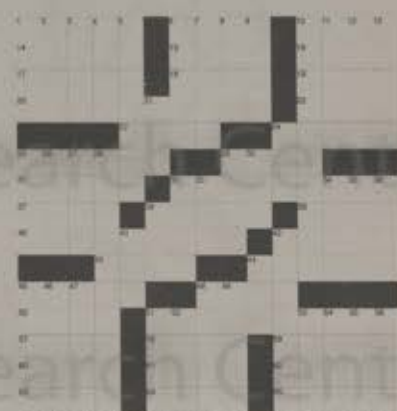
3/29/06 HERE, KITTY by Galy R. Stein, edited by Starley Newman

Across

- 1 One-celled organism
- 6 Hermetic poet Ogden
- 10 Web action center
- 14 Sahara beast
- 15 Notion
- 16 ... of the stone
- 17 Laughing world
- 18 Fido's barking organ
- 19 Sentiment
- 20 Type of instant history ticket
- 22 Part of the eye
- 23 Timing device
- 24 First steps
- 25 Talk nonsense
- 29 Small dog, familiarly
- 31 Andrew ... Webber
- 32 Sudden shudder
- 33 "Gone With the Wind" intrusion
- 38 Chicken (homonym)
- 39 "Vikes"
- 40 They winter in Florida
- 42 Ordinary language
- 43 Viability problem
- 44 Retirement, with "er"
- 45 Ransom's subtext
- 48 Top-billed performer
- 50 Former spouses
- 51 Carpenter tool
- 57 Swede
- 58 Tube-shaped pasta
- 59 Distributed
- 60 Doing nothing
- 61 Hertz competitor
- 62 Anthel Zola
- 63 Bonito, for one
- 64 Monthly payment
- 65 Shoe bottom

Down

- 1 Part of a play
- 2 ... Among
- 3 Rules of Keweenaw
- 4 Lapins of films



Prepared by Starley Newman, distributed by Crossword Puzzles, Inc. Clipping & Software by PZD.com

- 5 Considering everything
- 6 Desk-to-desk period
- 7 Fernando's farewell
- 8 ... centered romantically
- 9 509
- 10 Sound of a well-tuned cat
- 11 Wild pigs
- 12 Actress Dickinson
- 13 Bread baker's ingredient
- 21 Billiard's stick
- 24 Approves
- 25 Diner sandwiches: After
- 26 Aida of "The Aviator"
- 27 Brooklyn or Manhattan, for short
- 28 Bawdy
- 29 Frost-filled desserts
- 30 Gutter line
- 32 Ripped up
- 33 Also
- 34 Flapjack franchise
- 35 Tip of an airplane
- 36 Lost for
- 38 "That's show ..."
- 41 Make illegal
- 42 Veterans Day events
- 44 "That's what you think"
- 45 Make a second offer
- 46 Run, for example
- 47 Charming woman
- 48 First short fabric
- 49 Novel plot surprise
- 51 Business bigwig
- 52 Not on tape
- 53 Office note
- 54 Script, as a poem
- 55 "Vogue" rival
- 56 Hays

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Students Start Phase One Entertainment

BY BRITTANY ELLIS
Contributing Writer

For many, college is considered a stepping-stone to helping students reach their goals and prepare for the future. College also gives students opportunities to start their own businesses and opens the door of opportunities. Jessie Harris, a junior public relations major at Howard University, is making her college experience a successful one.

Jessie Harris was born and raised in Brooklyn, N.Y. A big hip-hop fan, she has always been interested in the entertainment industry and plans on one day having the number one major black-owned distribution label.

When Jessie entered college, she embraced her ambitions New York side and asserted her plans head on. "I'm from NYC the home of hustlers," she said. "There is always a way to make money, you just have to be smart about it." She has been just that. Realizing that she was an entrepreneur early on, Jessie entered college as a plan to fall back on making that her way of making money and getting a head start on her future.

Last spring, Harris and an old high school friend started their own entertainment company called Phase One Entertainment, which is a division of the parent company Phase One Group. Phase

One Entertainment is based in Atlanta and Washington, D.C. and specializes in artist showcasing, event planning, community development and focuses on merging the gap between education and entertainment. Jessie's plan of action was to dominate college campuses in the area. "We choose Phase One as the name of the company because right now hip-hop is at a stand still. This is just the first phase to bring hip-hop back to the way it used to be," Harris said.

Upon the launch of her new company, Harris planned two successful events to jump start the beginning of her new venture, the first annual Fourth of July All White affair and The Vintage Meets Old School affair.

At the beginning of the semester, Harris formed an open mic for DJ's every Thursday at the Island Cafe. "It was open mic with a twist," she said. The mission behind this project was to get local DJs from other states recognized and for the DJs to build their resume.

"DJs are important as well, they are another art form of hip-hop," Harris said. During the event, DJs were given the chance to promote themselves. Events also attended the event to watch DJs battle.

Harris is an entrepreneur. She is her own self-promoter, manager, agent and known by some in the industry as the

Mistress of Ceremony—reclaiming the true essence of hip-hop. Harris said that the entertainment industry is tough.

"You have to have a strong mind for it," she said. She said that she couldn't have made it without her mother and faith.

"It's important to have faith and believe in yourself."

She later said, "Strangers embraced my idea more than my friends did, aside from my mom I really had to believe in myself and have patience."

Harris is involved in many organizations on campus and explained that it can be difficult to manage all of her responsibilities. With different organizations, meetings, multiple side jobs, school and her company, Harris has taken on many tasks and is able to maintain a good GPA and keep her company together.

For those who are interested in getting some helpful tips on starting their own business or even talking about the entertainment industry can visit www.phaseone.com. The most important tip that Harris gave on entering the business is asking, "What void am I filling and is my product worth selling?" Not everyone will like your idea but if you have confidence then you're one step closer to being successful.

Phase One Entertainment is just the first step inside of this



Photo Courtesy of Jessie Harris

As a big fan of hip-hop, junior public relations major Jessie Harris made her hobby a career and formed Phase One.

Tips for Entrepreneurs

Surround yourself with supportive people.

Be flexible in your thinking.

Develop a good relationship with your bank manager and creditors.

Plan some 'thinking time' into every day.

Plan time to do something you enjoy.

Write a business plan.

Develop an excellent telephone manner.

Never lose sight of the big picture.

Solicit advice from the right people.

Have an existing, loyal customer base and start locally.

Information Courtesy of www.rivillage.com



The Game Files vs. Koch

According to allhiphop.com, The Game has filed a lawsuit against Koch and Fast Life Records over material the plaintiffs claim copied before he landed a deal with Dr. Dre's Aftermath/Interscope imprint.

The lawsuit alleges that Koch Entertainment Distribution, Koch Entertainment and Fast Life Records are liable for at least \$1 in separate counts of copyright infringement as a result of making and distributing at least five albums from The Game. The labels released *Undisputed*, *Undisputed Vol. 2*, *Undisputed Vol. 3*, *Chopped & Screwed*, *USA MC*, and other recordings the rapper recorded before he landed a major label deal and released his debut album, *The Documentary*.



Ocean's 13 Coming Soon

After receiving rave reviews for "Ocean's 11" and "12," action director George Clooney, Brad Pitt and Matt Damon are set to star in "Ocean's 13." The third flick in their franchise about a gang of lovable crooks, distributed by Warner Bros., announced Monday according to new publication. A supporting actor Oscar winner for the oil industry thriller "Syriana," Clooney will reprise his role as leader of the pack Danny Ocean, with the group pulling off a new heist in Las Vegas. Clooney's producing partner who made the 2001 hit "Ocean's Eleven" and its 2004 sequel "Ocean's Twelve," will direct again.

Ja Rule, Naomi Campbell star in Diddy's Cooking Showdown



According to allhiphop.com, Ja Rule and Naomi Campbell have signed on to star in Sean "Diddy" Combs' new show, *Cooking Showdown*. The show pairs well known chefs with celebrities during a week-long cooking competition.

Cooking Showdown is hosted by Food Network host Sandra Lee and former *Growing Pains* star Alan Thicke. The week-long cooking competition also includes master chefs Wolfgang Puck, Cat Cora and Gordon Armstrong.

In addition to Ja Rule and Campbell, Tim Allen, Big Kenny for country music group Big and Rich, model/volleyball player Gabriella Reece, Chelsea Cade (2005 Miss USA), Tony Danza (Kansas City Chiefs) and Aubrey Parker Audis (MTV's *True and Back*).

The first three episodes feature the three chefs tutoring a selected celebrity on how to best prepare a three-course meal, while offering cooking tips to viewers.

Judges select one winner from each night. The three finalists then have a timed cook-off on Thursday, with the winner being chosen on Friday by judges and the viewing audience.

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