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THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 89, NO. 118

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2006

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

WEDNESDAY notebook

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Dorms Go Head-to-Head in Burr; Towers Win

BY BRITNEY DAVIS
Contributing Writer

Music blasted from speakers in the gymnasium as many students came inside from the nice weather to support their dorms in ResFest's Burr Night.

The crowd screamed and cheered in Burr Gymnasium as they watched the residents compete in different athletic challenges. Men and women filled the co-ed teams as they battled in dodge ball, basketball and swimming.

This annual event proved to be a crowd favorite for both the crowd and participants.

"I enjoy participating in these types of activities because it's like I'm reliving my childhood," said Erick Wilson, sophomore radio-TV-film major.

Vilero, a Slove resident, participated in the animated game of dodge ball between Slove and Meridian Hill Hall.

Slove Hall beat Meridian Hill Hall in the first round of dodge ball, but it was no easy feat. Sophomore marketing major, Brandon Thrasher, play-

ing for Meridian, proved to be a force to be reckoned with as he singlehandedly tried to save his team in multiple clutch moments.

Ducking and dodging the rubber balls, Thrasher resorted to acrobatic jumps and turns in an effort to go unscathed. The crowd went wild and Thrasher's name was chanted people throughout one side of the gymnasium.

"Even though we lost, we were still a crowd favorite," said Thrasher. "It was hard for them to stop the M. Dot."

Seeing Thrasher's strategy, residents of the Quad huddled in preparation for their turn on the court. Loudly, the girls executed their strategy to "aim low" and "aim for the feet." Once on the floor, the girls were able to beat their opponents with the assistance of many Drew Hall residents, including Nico Stewart and Reginald Darby.

After advancing to the final round, the face-off between Cook Hall and Quad/Drew Hall team sparked competitive aggression. Going for a few



Tuesday night, teams representing different dorms competed in ResFest events at the Burr. The night's events included dodge ball, basketball, and swimming.

rounds, the judges finally called it a tie between the Cook Hall and the Quad/Drew Hall combination team.

"It gets real competitive because everyone wants their dorm to win," said Charziel Rivers, sophomore psychology major.

While many participated in dodge ball, the basketball game allowed the student-athletes to shine. Freshman guard Evelina Cousin and senior guard Ebony Lacey, members of the Howard Community Women's Basketball team, acted as strong forces on their respective dorm teams. Cousin's Quad and Drew squad, coached by Michael Stewart

Jr., Sherree King, and Michael Benjamin beat out the Annex/Carver team.

Surprisingly, in the upper gymnasium, Cook Hall beat Meridian by one point in a game that went into overtime. In the final showdown between Cook Hall and the Towers, the athletic dorm lost to the upper-classmen dorm by three points.

"It was a sensational victory jointly attributed to an excellent coaching staff and cohesion among superb athletes," said Brian Lawson, junior music education major, for the Towers' victory.

Throughout the night, different crowd members began to

act as impromptu cheerleaders. Most visible was the Tulman Quadrangle, whose residents held handmade signs and performed cheers to encourage their fellow residents.

"I am here to support my dorm team and my friends," said Mante Washington, Quad resident.

The cheering proved to be successful as the Quad and Drew team won the swimming portion of Burr Night. Points for each ResFest event will be tallied, and the dorm with the most will prove to be the ResFest champion.

"I enjoy participating in these types of activities because it's like reliving my childhood."

Erick Wilson, 06

Hispanics Surpass Black Business Ownership

BY RUTH AUGUSTE
Contributing Writer

The number of Hispanic-owned businesses in the United States is climbing three times faster than the national average for all businesses, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

The Washington Times reported Hispanics owned almost 1.6 million companies in 2002, 32,412 of which are located within the Washington metropolitan area.

Compared with other major cities, the Washington region has a larger proportion of Hispanic-owned companies in professional areas including high technology, legal, accounting, engineering and translation services.

Analysts and business experts account the tremendous growth to the government's sizeable demand for professional services; numerous educated Hispanics who move here to work for embassies, international groups, and businesses; as well as the growing number of second-generation Hispanics living here.

Emily Blank, Ph.D. in the economics department, said another reason might exist as well. "Hispanics who are new arrivals may find it difficult to find good jobs, so they save up and build their own small business."

The population for Hispanics between the year 2000 and 2004 rose from 12.5 percent to 14.2 percent, becoming the largest minority group in the U.S. according to Fedstat.gov.

"With this burst of Hispanics immigrating to this country, there's a larger group

of them banding together," said freshmen electrical engineering major Moule Uche. "They're also adapting to the American economy, learning the corners and routes of achieving success with their businesses."

Mario Bokossa, a third-year economic graduate student, agreed with Uche. "I think it's great that the Hispanic community is working together and using their resources to advance themselves."

The Columbia Heights and Mt. Pleasant area neighborhoods in the District are mostly concentrated with small Hispanic businesses. However, the largest concentration of Hispanic-owned businesses in the metro area is in Montgomery County, which has 7,495, followed by Fairfax with 7,302.

These areas have it all—from restaurants and bars to super-markets. One reason for such success is loyalty from the community. The Hispanic communities support their leaders and business owners.

"The system of helping each other to achieve similar goals is applied and Hispanics are hard-working people. Importance is placed, especially on saving. They have a lot of tax-free cash at their disposal to invest," said James Jones economic analyst at Pace University in New York.

Feng Yu, a graduate economic major said the business boom is a positive outlet for Hispanic people everywhere.

"This helps to both stabilize and benefit the community. It's great," Yu said.

The Washington Post reported that Asians are the largest sector of minority busi-

ness owners in terms of numbers regarding businesses and employees, but Hispanics and African-Americans start businesses at a faster rate. One out of every four businesses in Washington, D.C. were black-owned in 2003.

But compared to the Hispanic community, African American businesses are smaller in number.

"I think Black business owners need to band together to create more quality businesses so that we too can be a stronger force in the business world," said Aashia Wilson sophomore accounting major.



Hispanic-owned businesses have flourished in the metro District area, especially the Columbia Heights and Mt. Pleasant neighborhoods in Northwest, D.C.

Pharmacy Students: Worried, Waiting for Accreditation

BY AKEYLA BROWN
JAMES STAFF WRITER

Since the meeting with Dr. Beatrice Adderley-Kelly in February, pertaining to the private document that was issued to President Swager by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education and was mysteriously released to the student body, the Pharmacy students are still seeking answers from the administration.

After receiving the news that the College of Pharmacy did not meet many of the requirements for accreditation, students threatened to protest until their voices were heard and actions were taken.

"You can't blame us for wanting to take further action if it's our future. We don't want to resort to marching up the hill, but if we have to we will," said graduate pharmacy student Patricia Muhammad.

Since the controversial, passion-ate and crowded February meeting, students have been doing a lot more

waiting than marching. "It's just the same, we are still waiting to get some answers and see some progress," said Emmanuel Abolo, a second year pharmacy student.

Instead of planning a protest, students are busy trying to assist the administration. Ugo Nwuchukwu, a second year Pharmacy student said he and his peers are attempting to open the lines of communication between the student body and the administration so that they may in tandem explore different alternatives to assuage this climactic situation.

"Basically we are trying to be active in getting information," said Nwuchukwu. "There is nothing that we can do to change what has happened but we are trying to stay abreast with what the administration is going to do to retain our accreditation."

In an effort to bridge the gap between the graduate students and administration, the students met once in March with Dean Kelly to discuss the topic of their schools accreditation



Students in the College of Pharmacy have been working with the administration to open up lines of communication and explore different solutions to the accreditation issue.

"There is nothing we can do to change what has happened, but we are trying to stay abreast with what the administration is going to do to retain our accreditation."

Ugo Nwuchukwu, second year Pharmacy student

further.

"She [Dean Adderley-Kelly] said that they are working diligently and that they should be signing the bylaws this April," said John Paul Marcus a third year pharmacy student.

Marcus the President of the American Pharmacy Association Academy of Student Pharmacists said that the student body is working hard to improve their situation. "We are trying to strengthen," said Marcus. "We are thinking of ways we can make the

process of changing the curriculum better."

Students like Marcus feel that the major flaw within the curriculum is the lack of faculty and resources. "The students' concerns are mostly curriculum based, like the shortness of faculty," said Paul Marcus. "We need more faculty and resources over all."

Marcus believes that in order to make these changes communication and research are necessary.

"We need more communication

and we need to look at other pharmacy schools that are successful."

Even though John Paul Marcus is expected to graduate in 2007 and will remain eligible to take the board exams, he said that he is concerned for his peers especially those due to graduate later.

"The students are scared that in the event the school doesn't get its accreditation that they will not be able to take their board exams." He added, "And I am worried for those students as well."

Students Reflect on the Innovation Platform

BY SHAYNA RUDD
Contributing Writer



Byron Stewart and April Harley, both said they enjoyed their term as president and vice president, respectively. They said they hope next year's HUSA staff will learn from their tenure.

This year the Howard University Student Association challenged the student body, administration, and the surrounding community to be "Innovative."

According to Webster's American Dictionary, innovation is defined as something new or differently introduced. The HUSA staff led by Byron Stewart and April Harley, president and vice president respectively, have truly done what they could to meet students' standards of excellence.

"Our student government really put their heart and soul in everything that they did," said Micki McKae, a junior broadcast journalism major. "Our president was exceptional, and our vice-president was very strong especially as a woman in office."

The duo of Stewart and

Harley has truly left an impact on the Howard University community at large.

Karl Fitzhugh said he was pleased with the HUSA administration's accessibility.

"The greatest thing about our HUSA student leaders is that through everything they remained visible," said Fitzhugh, a senior engineering major. "Visibility is hard to come by at Howard when so many people are all about working for themselves."

It appeared that this year was going to be a hard one for HUSA following the success of the REDEFINITION platform, and the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina, however, HUSA was resilient. Marching in the Millions More Movement, marching against Courtland Malloy and The Washington Post, and the development of The United Katrina Relief fund are all examples of how persistent HUSA was to get

Howard University back to its rich roots of activism.

Some students said they believed HUSA made great strides this year.

"I have worked in student government my entire time here at Howard and I have to say that this year's HUSA staff did a good job," said Lynda Lloyd, junior political science major. "They had a lot of setbacks, but they handled it with ease. The most impressive thing they did was help the Hurricane Katrina victims."

The United Katrina Relief Fund, headed by Senior Kiana Moore, was founded to raise money for the Hurricane Katrina Victims. With the help of student organizations, local organizations, and churches they were able to raise thousands of dollars.

Harley said she was pleased with her accomplishments this year as a vice president. "Overall

I enjoyed this year. A lot of things worked out, and a lot of things didn't, but I just hope that next year's staff will learn from the things that we didn't get right," Harley said. "The majority of the things we set out to do we did, so that in itself is commendable."

Stewart shared Harley's sentiments.

"God had his way. I completely enjoyed myself this year. It was a lot of work. People must realize that when you sit down and develop a platform you do it with the intention of completing every task. We did as much as we could do and then some," Stewart said. "I just want the next HUSA staff to learn from our setbacks, be prepared for every thing, and have the passion and vision to make things happen. Without those two things, you have nothing."

Want to be on The Hilltop staff next year?

Come pick up an application in The Hilltop office (in the West Towers) or in the Office of Student Activities.

Deadline: April 21

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Metro Editor
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The  Hilltop

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Bahamas Bans Movie Depicting Gay Cowboys

BY BRITNEY DAVIS
Contributing Writer

While many critics and movie-goers praised the movie *Brokeback Mountain*, people in the Bahamas will have to leave the island to get a glimpse of this Academy Award-winning film because of the government's ban of the movie in theaters.

The film was scheduled to open in theaters on March 24; however, the Bahamian governmental board prohibited theaters from showing the film about a love affair between two gay cowboys.

The ban comes at the request of the Bahamas Christian Council. "The board chose to ban it because it shows extreme homosexuality, nudity and profanity, and we feel that it has no value for the Bahamian public," said Chavarre Turnquest-Liriano, liaison officer for the council board told reporters.

This decision has been met with much criticism from the Gay Rights Group and groups for equality. The Rainbow Alliance issued a statement on its website stating the decision was "a farce" and it was appalling that a small minority should try to "provide the moral compass for the entire country."

Beverly McKnight, a sophomore majoring in TE, agrees with the critics about reversing the ban. "I don't think they should have banned it because it is not like they don't have a gay population," McKnight said. "Having this might be helpful in bringing the issue to the table for healthy discussion."

Homophobia in the Caribbean has been the topic of many health initiatives. There are pockets of homophobia, but the government has very publicly repudiated such prejudice. The Caribbean has the second-highest HIV/AIDS infection rate in the world, after Sub-Saharan



The Bahamas has joined China in officially banning the controversial Hollywood flick about two gay cowboys, *Brokeback Mountain*.

Africa. According to the CRS report for Congress, the widespread homophobia is having a significant impact in the spread of HIV. Understanding the correlation, many researchers and political figures are taking strides to shed homophobia.

Even with equality initiatives, others agreed with the ban, describing the Bahamas as a Christian nation. The Rainbow Alliance of the Caribbean, however, states that this label is inaccurate.

"The Bahamas may have a Christian over-tone, but is not a religious state, such as United Arab Emirates, where the movie is also banned,"

a spokesperson for the alliance wrote in a statement on the group's web site.

Different groups are calling on the ban to be reversed stating that people should be able to make their own decisions and that the government should take other precautions.

"You have a group of people who are telling grown men and women what they can and cannot watch," Philip Burrows, a theater director in the island chain, told *The Associated Press*. "I cannot understand denying people the right to make their own choices."

Some countries, such as Jamaica and

Singapore, where homosexuality is illegal, have not chose to ban the movie. Some have suggested that the island should have simply issued a rating that would have barred anyone under 18 from seeing the film.

"They don't play about homosexuality in the Caribbean, so I'm not surprised and I don't blame them for issuing a ban," said sophomore public relations major Aviana Brown.

The Bahamas is not the only place that has issued restrictive measures against this film. The movie has also been banned in China and Turkey has restricted viewing to viewers over 18.

Blacks In The Political, Business World

BY KENISHIA WHITE
Contributing Writer

Last week, Congresswoman Cynthia McKinney was charged with assaulting a police officer. She was attempting to enter the capital when a police officer attempted to stop her. This incident, and other recent events, have raised the question of whether blacks have to conform in the business and political world.

McKinney refused to stop and when he grabbed her the end result was McKinney striking the man. The police officer is now

charging McKinney with assault on a police officer.

Soon after the incident occurred, she immediately said it was racial profiling.

"Do I have to contact the police every time I change my hairstyle? How do we account for the fact that when I wore my braids every day for 11 years, I still faced this problem, primarily from certain white police officers," she said in one of her statements.

On March 29, two days later McKinney said, "I am sorry that this misunderstanding happened at all and I regret its escalation,

and I apologize. There should not have been any physical contact in this incident."

In this particular incident, she went around the metal detector because members of Congress are not required to go through.

However, she did not have on her Congressional pin which identified her as a member of the House. The officer asked her to stop three times and she did not. The officer then stopped her physically and McKinney proceeded to hit the man with her cell phone in hand. Political advice major Jennifer Shove said, "It's hard to say in this situation if it is racism or not, because she did not have her pin on. If she had her pin on then they stopped her then it would be a different story."

Hampton University has recently made it a requirement for all their business students to cut all dreadlocks or other "ethnic" hair styles. The purpose of this new rule was to prepare the students for the business world when they graduate.

The dean of Hampton's business school said, "We're developing professionals who will go into corporate America for the most part, so we don't want extreme hairstyles or extreme attire."

Sophomore audio produc-

tion major Erick Wilson said, "I don't agree with Hampton's new rule, especially because it's a black school."

Another sophomore advertisement major Dustin Gavin said, "I don't think they should ban certain hairstyles from students. I think the students would respond better if they strongly suggested to cut or change their hair."

There have been experiments conducted to see if there is a difference in how the professional world responds to an individual based on race. In the experiment, "Are Emily and Greg More Employable than Lakisha and Jamal?" Grad students from University of Chicago Graduate School of Business sent out fake resumes to help wanted ads in the Boston and Chicago areas.

They randomly assigned African American names and traditional African names to different ads to see if perceived race had a contributing factor to call backs from employers. From this particular experiment they found that 50 percent more of the "white" names received more call backs for interviews than the African American names confirming that differential treatment based on race is still a problem in the United States.



Recent events, such as the Cynthia McKinney incident, have raised the question of where blacks fit in corporate America.

Hurricane Season Headed East

BY MONIQUE HOLMES
Contributing Writer

The 2006 Hurricane Season is right around the corner, beginning on June 1 and ending November 30. The east coast is expected to be hit by a number of hurricanes during this season.

Colorado State University hurricane experts, Dr. Philip J. Klotzbach and Dr. William M. Gray, issue a hurricane forecast before each hurricane season. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) forecasters also issue a yearly forecast.

The average number of storms during a normal hurricane season is approximately 16, ten being tropical storms, and six hurricanes; two out of the six are expected to reach or exceed Category 3 on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale.

On December 5, 2005, the last forecast for the 2006 season was issued by the Colorado State University forecasting team and predicted a rough season including 17 tropical storms, nine hurricanes-five expected to reach category three or higher. The forecast included an 81 percent chance of the storms hitting mainland, 64 percent of a chance that the east coast will endure at least one major hurricane.

According to an April 5

article in *USA Today*, Dr. Gray said the average chance for hurricanes to hit the east coast in the last century has only been 35 percent. The article also quoted the Colorado State scientists saying, "Even though we expect to see the current active period of Atlantic major hurricane activity to continue for another 15-20 years."

On April 4, there was a second forecast issued by Dr. Gray which just confirmed the details of the first forecast.

Many scientists expect La Niña to linger throughout the entire hurricane season. La Niña is a cold water pattern, located in the eastern Pacific Ocean, and it affects wind patterns around the globe. The presence of La Niña during the hurricane season predicts a busy season because there will be fewer thunderstorms to keep tropical storms in the Atlantic from budding into hurricanes.

Florida has experienced many hurricanes but other major cities along the east coast, Washington, D.C., New York, have not yet been hit by any major hurricanes.

Hurricane Preparation Week is May 21 through May 27. For more information on how to prepare for a hurricane visit <http://www.abc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/intro.shtml>



Meteorologists estimate that the 2006 hurricane season will bring heavy storms to the eastern states.

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'I Smoke, I Drink,' at Work? Drinking on the Job Rises

BY WHITNEY BUGGS
Contributing Writer

The next time the young, usually energetic co-worker at your job bursts into wild tears or frustrated spasms of anger for no reason, consider alcohol as a likely explanation.

Alcoholism and smoking impairment has posed a serious issue for United States employers.

A recent study released in January by Michael Froese, Ph.D., reported that 15 percent of the U.S. workforce has either been hung over, been drinking shortly before showing up at work, or been drinking impaired at least once last year.

The study, funded by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, concluded that more than 19.2 million of U.S. workers have shown up to work buzzed or left their jobs intoxicated.

The study surveyed 2,085 adults in 48 states and the District of Columbia. Among adults surveyed were: lawyers, doctors, teachers, janitors and many others among the ranks of white and blue collared workers.

The study asked participants: how often, during the previous year, had they drunk alcohol within two hours of reporting to work? How often they drank during the workday? How often they worked under the influence? Or how often they worked with a hangover? Researchers interviewed respondents from January 2002 to June 2003 and the sample was chosen to reflect only a proportion of the United States workforce.

According to the report, young, un-married men and lawyers are most likely to show up to work hung over. Managers and adults that work more stressful jobs tend to turn to smoking and alcoholism as a means to deal with lives dominated by their work.

The highest rates of intoxication and impairment were found in management occupations, law, sales, arts, entertainment, sports/media occupations, food preparation/serving occupations and building/grounds maintenance jobs.

In addition, the study indicated people who

worked evening and night shifts, involving irregular or flexible hours, reported to drink during or before work.

Drinking or smoking before or during work has posed a major problem for employers. While many participants blamed stress as their cause for intoxication and impairment, there are only a few whose behavior is covered by law. Recovering alcoholics cannot be disciplined, according to the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Many of the participants expressed that long hours and personal problems are reasons to drink or smoke before and during work.

Sophomore English major Larry Vines has been high at work before, but does not promote other to be intoxicated or impaired on the job.

"I don't think that being high at work is always positive. But the type of work I was doing, being high improved my work ethic," Vines said. "I worked at a shoe store and my main duties involved customer service. When I first started, I was shy and not really excited to talk people into buying shoes. My nerves were tense, but when I got high my nerves would calm and I became more comfortable. Being more open helped me sell more shoes."

Alcohol and drug abuse by employees has caused many expensive problems for businesses ranging from a loss of productivity, injuries, and an increase in health insurance claims.

According to The National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information, losses for companies in the U.S. caused by drug and alcohol-related abuse totals \$100 billion a year. Research also found that those who are impaired affect the productivity of other employees.

School of Communications Dean Janette Dutes said she hopes Howard students recognize that being impaired while at work will never positively affect career aspirations.

"Anybody who wants to enter a job-and stay there and get promoted and make it a career-has to know decorum is to show professionalism. Professionalism is handling yourself in a way that



Photo Courtesy of www.niaa.nih.gov

A recent study by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism found that 15 percent of the country's workforce has been intoxicated while on the job.

people respect," she said. "You are not going to be respected if you go into any operation where you are not in control of your actions because you are either hung over from drinking or any other mood altering substances."

Collection at Chevy Chase Renews Friendship Heights



Photo Courtesy of www.dior.com

Collection at Chevy Chase launched Christian Dior, Louis Vuitton, Jimmy Choo, Cartier, Barney's Co-op, Ralph Lauren and more this past fall. The retail district is located in the Friendship Heights area of Northwest, D.C.

BY MONIQUE HOLMES
Contributing Writer

Friendship Heights, located in the Chevy Chase area of Northwest, D.C., has been an established shopping center for years. The upscale shopping district is home for many national retailers including Saks Fifth Avenue, Men's Store, Lord and Taylor, Linen 'n Things, and Ann Taylor Loft, among many others.

Located on the metro's red line, Friendship Heights has undergone reconstruction since 2003. High-end retailers such as Barney's and Ralph Lauren were added last fall as part of the Collection of Chevy Chase.

Clothing and jewelry boutiques along Wisconsin Avenue have held multiple grand opening sales since last October to celebrate the Collection of Chevy Chase; the most recent

Club Cinema offers a wide selection of mixed drinks, frozen specialties, wine and beer that can be purchased at the theater's bar designed with leather stadium seats.

The other mall, Chevy Chase Pavilion has a limited selection of stores including J. Crew, Talbots, Ann Taylor, and Pottery Barn among the few. Georgetown Klinger, a spa in the mall, is a favorite for stressed students that need to get away for a few hours.

On nice spring days, students can enjoy outdoor shopping at Borders Bookstores, The Gap, Loehmann's, Banana Republic, and many more.

Although shopping by Howard students in Friendship Heights is minimal, most appreciate the unique stores that can only be found in this area of D.C.

"I go to Friendship Heights to shop at Saks and Neiman Marcus," said marketing major Brandon Hines. The collection at Chevy Chase goes beyond just shopping. More students frequent the area to indulge in the variety of different eateries.

"I go out there for Cold Stone and California Tortilla, not really for the shopping experience," said junior business administration major Deven Franklin.

The Cheesecake Factory is a restaurant in the area that rings a bell to most students. Its menu entails more than 200 entrees and countless assortments of desserts.

Maggiato's Little Italy, a spot for dinner in an Italian atmosphere, is also among the favorites.

Clyde's, a local chain that has locations in Georgetown, and Chinatown, specializes in traditional American entrees and classic Italian dishes served in a fine dining atmosphere.

Whether you want to eat, shop, or take pleasure in an upscale experience of a posh shopping district, Friendship Heights is just a metro ride away.

Local Biz in My Corner: Kitty Cat Boutique

BY ALESHA JOHNSON
Contributing Writer

Walking into the Kitty Cat Boutique feels like stepping into every girl's dream closet, inspired by a chapter from the past. The bright splashes of blue and pink paint lure customers into the intimate space with wall-to-wall vintage clothing and accessories.

Pieces from the Kitty Cat Boutique collection were featured in the *Rolling* Twenties fashion show and many Howard students bought their Cotton Club ensemble from the quaint shop.

Each and every piece in the shop is different because the owner, Amira Hikim, hand picks every item in the store.

"Customers can walk out knowing that they are the only ones to own this piece, at least in the DC area," Hikim said.

Hikim, who opened the store on March 11, sought to make her store different. She wanted a store that could cater to a lot of people with a lot of different styles, yet "everyone could feel comfortable, like home," she said.

Hikim admitted, "Vintage and pinup are my thing." Evidence of her obsession is displayed in the large number of funky shoes and exotic purses, including a purse made out of a book.

The idea for the Kitty Cat Boutique began as a means for Hikim to get rid of her large accumulation of vintage clothes and assorted fashion pieces. For years, she has collected items from a number of flea markets, including the Annex in New York.

"It fell into my lap," Hikim said about the opportunity to open her very own store. Hikim saw affordable property open up and leaped at the chance to share her fashion taste and love for classic style with others.

Hikim was a little nervous about opening up her own shop. Her fears stemmed from the assumption that black people are typically apprehensive about wanting second-hand

clothing or shopping at thrift stores.

To her delight, the Kitty Cat Boutique has a successful grand opening and has already established loyal customers. With about 75 percent of her business coming from Howard students, Hikim makes an effort to give student discounts.

Kitty Cat Boutique offers items to both trendy men and women. Guys can find the perfect hat to set off those ultramodern dress shoes. Ladies can spend hours digging through the many belts, scarves, earrings, tates and clutches that flood the boutique.

Kelly McCray, a freshman English major and regular at the Kitty Cat Boutique said "Because I had such a great experience, I want her [Hikim] to succeed. But at the same time I don't want anyone to know about it [the shop]."

Five or 10 years from now, Hikim would like to see the Kitty Cat Boutique branch out. She would like to have locations in Atlanta, New York, and Los Angeles. Regardless of the location, Hikim wants the Kitty Cat Boutique to remain the same, and more importantly "stay vintage."

The Kitty Shop

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Phone: 202-321-7147

Hours of Operation:
Mon. - Thurs. 11:30a.m. - 8p.m.
Fri. - Sat. 11:30a.m. - 9p.m.
Opened Sundays
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the times,
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when...**



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7 p.m.
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After purchasing your
ticket stop by the
HUSA Office (Blackburn
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Seating will be done
on a first come, first
served basis.

Tickets on sale March 27th, 2006
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General Admission \$27.50
Table \$150-\$250

NEWS RELEASE

Thursday, April 20, 2006

Howard University School of Divinity

In partnership with the KingMaker Foundation present

**Family Resources: Changing the meaning of welfare to
Community Empowerment**

The KingMaker Foundation and Howard University School of Divinity are pleased to announce Part II in a series of forums being held on college campuses throughout the country. Looking to the future we would like to explore the concept of welfare and what it means to empower, educate and develop the necessary skills to sustain and market oneself.

What: Family Resources: Changing the meaning of welfare to Community Empowerment

When: April 20, 2006, 8:00AM-4:00PM

Where: Howard University School of Divinity

1400 Shepherd St. N.E.

Thurman Chapel, Washington, D.C.

WE INVITE YOU TO ATTEND A GROUNDBREAKING, GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT ON THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2006 IN CONJUNCTION WITH PROFESSOR OF APPLIED THEOLOGY DR. HAROLD DEAN TRULEAR

**HOWARD
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Dr. Janet Green - 867.8582

or
Request a copy of madymc@cnhed.org

Coalition for Nonprofit Housing Economic Development

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Effective immediately, Sodexo Campus Services will now offer
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To Receive & Use Your Voucher:

1. Go to the Catering Office in the Blackburn Building, Room #133
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3. Take your voucher to the Punch Out or retail location that accepts dining dollars to purchase food items.

Vouchers are not redeemable for cash.

Misplaced or stolen vouchers can not be replaced.

EDITORIALS & Perspectives

VOLUME 89, NO. 118

APRIL 12, 2006

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM



Cynthia McKinney's New 'Do'

There's a fine line between pulling out the race card and simply blaming someone for doing their job. Rep. Cynthia McKinney (D-Ga) has been targeted by the Republican Party a few times prior to her recent phone-throwing incident.

Upon entering the Longworth House Office building with a new hairstyle, the Democratic diva walked past metal detectors without wearing her label pin that identified her as a member of Congress, according to the Washington Post. According to the Post, the white police officer did not recognize her and grabbed her after she ignored his commands to stop.

McKinney claimed that she was a victim of racial profiling and accused the officer of

inappropriately grabbing her to stop her entrance. In response, she allegedly struck him with her phone, according to the Washington Post. An apologetic McKinney said, "I am sorry that this misunderstanding happened at all, and I regret its escalation."

mirrored Brooks Sr.'s, then why wouldn't she wear her ID?

We wonder if her annoyed response to being questioned was a matter of her ego being bruised. Even if she simply forgot her pin why would she blatantly ignore a Capitol police officer shooting at her to stop? That's common sense. The officer shouldn't have put his hands on her but what else would we expect a Capitol security guy to do if he was being ignored? His job is to protect. We can't blame everything on being black. You can't fight every battle especially when striking back will only result in what McKinney calls "much ado about a hairdo" mockery.

Our View:

Her appearance might have made her an easier police target, but that's all the more reason to follow the rules.

And I apologize," according to the article. The Hilltop thinks her color might have had a slight hand in her being briskly stopped, especially since people like Rep. Tyrone L. Brooks Sr. (D-Ga) have agreed to receiving different treatment in government buildings. However, if her experience as a woman of color

security guy to do if he was being ignored? His job is to protect. We can't blame everything on being black. You can't fight every battle especially when striking back will only result in what McKinney calls "much ado about a hairdo" mockery.

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Why I Brought Pi Kappa Alpha to Howard

T. J. Lewis

In September of 2005, I was entering my last and final undergraduate year at Howard University. My overall experience at Howard, at that point had been one filled with fond memories of lifelong friends and experiences. Still, however, I felt there was more I could do. In that same month, I had been talking to a friend of mine who was from George Washington University, about being a member of his fraternity, Pi Kappa Alpha. The Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity only accepted men who stood for being Scholars, Leaders, Athletes, and Gentlemen. I felt that those pillars were something I could guide my life with.

After a lengthy conversation, he told me I couldn't join at George Washington, because I wasn't a student at GW. After a little research, I found that I could start a colony of Pi Kappa Alpha, if my present school didn't have a chapter. And that is what I did, along with the help of some

of my closest friends, who are now my fraternal brothers. We became members of the fraternity because we felt Pi Kappa Alpha was something that could help us better ourselves and our school. Right now, I'm running as a Democratic Candidate for the Maryland House of Delegates District 45. I'm running for a number of reasons, but a major one is because I truly believe that I will do a better job than current delegates in office. The same mentality I had when I decided to run, was the same one that I had when I decided to join Pi Kappa Alpha. I felt I would be a better man, because of the principles that the fraternity was founded on. We, as the newest members of Pi Kappa Alpha, have been granted the same duties started by the six founders of Pi Kappa Alpha on March 1, 1868, and that duty is to simply find the best collegiate men on our respected campus, and make them better men. There are some who think me, along with my fraternal brothers, are wrong for bringing Pi Kappa Alpha to Howard.

I must ask why? The reason why we brought another fraternity is because a fraternity brings a sense of brotherhood, pride, and service.

The present fraternities at Howard are ones that are not only some of the greatest in the world, but also its members are some of the best on Howard's campus. Why not add more to the pot? Why not have another great international fraternity, which could create even more great Howard men? Fraternities are founded to assemble men of a certain character to not only excel in their own lives, but help the lives of others. All fraternities were founded on those principles regardless of race, color, religion and creed.

On my last note, I would like to thank those who have supported the brothers of Pi Kappa Alpha thus far, and I would like to extend a hand of tranquility and progression to others we have not had the privilege to work with yet.

Now in its 89th year, The Hilltop is published weekly through Friday by Howard University students. With a readership of more than 7,000, The Hilltop is the largest Black collegiate newspaper in the nation. The opinions expressed on the Editorial and Perspectives Page are the views of The Hilltop Editorial Board and those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of The Hilltop Editorial Board, Howard University, its administration or the student body. The Hilltop encourages its readers to share their opinions with the newspaper through letters to the Editor or Perspectives. All letters should include a complete address and telephone number and should be sent electronically to our website at www.thehilltoponline.com. The Hilltop editorial office is located at 2001 Harrison Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20059 and can also be reached via email at editor@thehilltoponline.com and by phone at (202) 681-6744. The Hilltop reserves the right to edit letters for space and grammatical errors and any inappropriate, libelous or defamatory content. All letters must be submitted a week prior to publication.

Navier Clothing: An Urban Luxury Line Created By Students



BY AMINA COOPER
Contributing Writer

Navier Clothing might be the next big thing to emerge out of urban luxury wear, and students at the Atlanta University Center have had the first sneak peek. Since launching in 2001, Navier, the brainchild of three young men out of Morehouse and Clark Atlanta, has been gaining a buzz among students with their fashion shows and sophisticated designs.

The idea to launch a clothing line began in 2001 when Morehouse Junior David Ratcliff and his friends Lee Driskell, and Kuyler Gresham, a junior at Clark Atlanta, attended a fashion show at Tri-Cities High School, an Atlanta area performing arts school with alumni ranging from R&B

group Xscape to rappers Outkast.

The student designs showcased in the fashion show particularly inspired Ratcliff, then a student at nearby Westlake High school.

"Later that night, we were all discussing the show and decided that we wanted to do our own line, it started out as a joke, but a couple of hours later we decided to make it official. We came up with the name Navier, which we still use today, and never looked back," Ratcliff said.

This men's line is definitely not your average urban line and is following in the 'butter up' look popularized by Jay-Z and Sean Jean. With hallmarks of tailored designs cut from silks, velvets and cottons, this lifestyle brand is definitely inspired by a young urban aesthetic but located a bit outside of the average college students budget.

The intended buyers for the clothes are males between the ages of 18-35 with an income of \$75,000 or more. Navier has a certain type of client who expects luxury, innovation, and quality above all else," Ratcliff said.

Navier ranges in price from around \$495 dollars for a silk jacket to \$2,400 for a custom blazer. Navier also produces silk and soft leather ties "the bread and butter" of their sales, cashmere sweaters, socks, trousers and dress shirts.

The motivation to create the brand was born from a combined

love of nightlife, culture and refinery. Research and hands-on experience in design was important, but more crucial, they insist, was learning from the mistakes they made.

Today, the three young men design for two different looks, a line of retail products and a line of runway concepts. These fashions, designed six months to a year in advance, are placed into a 'look book' and shipped to various buyers.

The latest designs for Spring 2007 are inspired by the mod look of sixties London, and will include sea island cottons, cashmeres, and vibrantly colored silks.

Spring 2006 line is a fusion of street sensibilities and GQ fashions. Students have been demanding the key look from their 'Gold Leaf Ltd.', line of retail looks, the silk jacquard and satin hooded jackets cut from traditional Asian fabrics. Since dressing a recording artist in the hoodies, David Ratcliff says the demand for them has surprised even their own expectations.

Dressing celebrities is one of the ways the three HBCU students have generated a buzz for Navier, and it is something they hope to continue. Aubrey Graham from the show *Degrassi* and an up-and-coming artist from major labels are some of the celebrities that have endorsed the line. Navier is also currently focused on shopping their line to various boutiques in Atlanta and NY. "Our Fall

Holiday and Spring 2007 Collection will be shipped to Saks Fifth Avenue, Bergdorf Goodman, Neiman Marcus,

as well as select Macy's," Ratcliff said.

"Navier has a certain type of client who expects luxury, innovation, and quality above all else."

David Ratcliff, Navier founder



Photos Courtesy of Navier Clothing
Atlanta students founded Navier Clothing in 2001.

HY GRADE Magazine Launches

BY ASHA HORNE
Contributing writer

The newest "interactive arena where students in the United States and from all across the world can voice and share (and share) their experiences, opinions, perspectives, achievements and concerns in a single publication" will soon be hitting shelves.

HY GRADE Magazine was established by three Howard University student entrepreneurs in November of 2004. Almost two years have past since Greg Lewis, Horace "Billy" Bradshaw and Andy Copeland created HY GRADE. According to Horace Bradshaw, HY GRADE originally began as more of a college guide. "It's actually crazy how we came up with the idea. One night Greg called me at about 4:00 a.m. and suggested we start a magazine, so the next day we all got together at Starbucks and started coming up with ideas." The purpose of this magazine is to inform and entertain students by delivering "the compelling synergy of campus life and lifestyles, [as well as] academic and athletic achievements of students."

HY Grade "is a college entertainment magazine founded with the aim to increase and encourage the impenetrability of education," said Greg Lewis, who is currently working towards his Masters Degree in Organizational Communication. As an avid reader of magazines, particularly *Entrepreneur* and *Fortune*, Greg describes HY GRADE as a "hybrid between *Source* magazine and *Money* Magazine."

With a mission to "compensate a much overdue void," the creators of HY GRADE "believe that publications specifically geared toward college students and their experiences have been excluded from the realm of popular print media. HY GRADE is a catalyst in its realm of interest and its embryonic potential is limitless."

Scheduled to hit shelves Friday, April 28, 2006 HY GRADE is the newest representation of tomorrow's leaders and "a pedestal of recognition for their tenacity, resilience, accomplishments, skills [as well as] talents in their respective endeavors."



Whitney Back in the Headlines



"Diane... let's get one thing straight. I make too much money to ever smoke crack. Crack is wack!" said legendary songbird Whitney Houston. According to recent reports by The Sun, Allhiphop.com and Eupweb.com Houston has been on a downward spiral of excessive drug use. "The truth needs to come out. Whitney won't stay off the drugs. It's every single day. It's so ugly. Everyone is so scared she is going to overdose" said mom-in-law Tina Brown. Brown also reported that she has witnessed Houston purchasing eight balls of crack, riding cigars, slicing them in half and mixing marijuana and crack before smoking it. Unfortunately, it doesn't end there. It has been rumored that while high, Houston has been engaged in sexual relations with other women. Supposedly she is so strong out that Bobby Kristina (Whitney's 13-year-old daughter) is temporarily living with her brother and sister-in-law.

Trey Songz in Jail

The past week singer and Virginia native Trey Songz was arrested on Clark Atlanta University's campus for obstruction of justice & disorderly conduct. Following from Trey's refusal to get out of the passenger seat of an SUV, eye witnesses reported that he was then thrown to the ground and handcuffed by university police. "We have had contact with him & he is okay. He is being held overnight for obstruction of justice & disorderly conduct for merely refusing to get out of the passenger seat of a car! I can't even fathom that these fraudulent charges will stand up in a court of law! Again, we always thanks for your continued support!" stated Mama Songz, April Tucker.



Bow Wow 'In Love' With a Stripper?



The rumor mill has been turning and according to celebrity matches, rapper Bow Wow was seen "entertaining" a stripper in his penthouse suite at a posh Beverly Hills hotel. Apparently he was in town for the Nickelodeon Kid's Choice Awards, without Ciara. This news comes on the heels of Bow Wow reporting to *Teen* People that he and Ciara were no longer a couple. "Ciara and I have parted ways. I wish her all the best."

Entertainment News courtesy of www.allhiphop.com and www.eupweb.com
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Saving for Par: The Way the Langston Golf Course Affected an Impoverished Northeast Neighborhood

Part One: Langston's Leader Gets His Just Due

BY MATTHEW COOPER
Contributing Writer

Langston Golf Course is a prime jewel in a rough Northeast D.C. neighborhood, thanks to James "Jimmy" Garvin, the general manager responsible for many helpful programs introducing golf to kids in Washington.

Garvin, a modest 59-year-old, has not only been managing Langston golf course for the past 16 years, but has started golf and education programs for the youth in the surrounding area. The golf clubhouse is also equipped with an education center, with high-tech computers, and math and SAT prep programs available, as well as tutors to assist the students.

Garvin has also implemented free golf instruction for DC children aged 7 to 17. Currently, about 500 children are in the program. The program runs on Saturdays during the school year,

and five days a week during the summer.

"For such a long time, there have been a concern about costs, and we try to offset those costs," Garvin said. "Children also only have to pay \$2.50 a day to practice on their own time."

Garvin is being awarded for his hard work and accomplishments by being elected into the African-American Golfer's Hall of Fame held in May 25 - 30th in Phoenix, Az. Garvin is proud yet humbled by his accomplishments. "If I had to choose between the hall of fame and the education center, I would choose the education center."

Garvin has not only provided golf to children that would probably not have stepped foot on a green, but has traveled abroad with them as well. For the past three years, he and the junior golf program have traveled to the Bahamas to participate in a tournament.



The Langston Golf Course, above, plays host to many of the Metro area's African-American golfers.

"Some kids have never left D.C., and it is a thrill to go to the Bahamas," Garvin said.

Garvin was introduced to golf while attending Howard from 1974 to 1978, by the baseball coach at the time, Chuck Hinton.

"I gave him his first golf clubs," said Hinton, a regular patron at Langston who also used to play for the Washington Senators. Early on, he didn't have much success in the game, but that did not deter him. "He used to throw the clubs."

Ever since that time, Garvin has been involved in golf, working at Rock Creek golf course before moving over to Langston in 1990.

Work ethic and consistency have been integral to Garvin's success and the success of Langston.

"He has established his leadership," said Ernest Andrews, the pro-shop worker and instructor at Langston golf course. "He is here

EVERYDAY, at 5:30, 365 days a year."

Garvin is currently also a full partner for golf course specialists, the parent company of Langston golf course, which also owns Rock Creek golf course, Burke Lake, and East Potomac Golf course in Washington, and Burke Lake and Twin Lakes in Virginia.

In addition, he serves as the personal instructor for Mayor Anthony Williams. Garvin also helped to open a 5-hole children's area of the course for their own practice time.

Garvin's accomplishment is special for him as well as the long-time patrons of the course.

Tony Burnett, another long-time patron at Langston says, "Mr. Garvin is everything for the golf course, especially establishing youth golf for the kids."



Above (right) is Langston Golf Course President Jimmy Garvin. The Howard alum began working there in 1978.

Final Intramural Friday Decides Final Playoff Spots and Provides Blowouts, Down to the Wire Finishes

BY KERNE STANLEY
Contributing Writer

Howard University's varsity soccer season is as distant a memory as cold and rainy weather, but for many soccer enthusiasts, there is still a lot to cheer about.

Intramural soccer, every Friday evening in the Burr Gym, continues to attract a boisterous mix of fun-loving people. Last Friday was no different. Teams representing countries, regions and different education disciplines play hard for fans, themselves and love of the game. But stakes were a bit higher Friday night, since those games decided the final playoff spots.

With the league divided into two groups, A and B, the Group B final games were first. Do It Warriors went ahead against W Street Eagles in the first quarter. The Med School men kept the Do It defense busy with some energetic play and hustle. But the end score was no reflection of that. Do It ended W Street's playoff run with a 6 - 1 drumming. Two scoring strikes from Derek Dickinson and lone scores from Kareem Cupid, Nikote Etienne, Israel Lyons and Kerne Stanley left Do It in second place in group B. Going into the play-

offs, Do It coach Kasim George is confident in his team's chances of winning.

He said, "We have a healthy and confident team right now and we are just going to take it one game at a time."

The next game featured Shottas and Takoma. The Shottas could have snatched Do It's second place with a win. Takoma, who played one man short for much of the first half, managed to squeeze three goals past the Shottas' defense while maintaining a clean sheet.

Takoma's goals came from Jason Gross, Anton Render and Zackary Francis. Both teams finished the regular season with 13 points. However, Shottas had the superior goal difference which gave them third place and Takoma fourth in Group B.

In the third game, the W Street Eagles played last season's Cinderella team, Juve ASA. With playoff positions already decided in Group B, these two teams were playing for pride.

At the end of the first half, last year's semi-finalist, Juve, went into the locker room with a comfortable 3-0 lead. Strikes were from Nelson Abwo, Ahmed Bakare and Lateef Bakare. Juve decided to change goalkeepers at the half. This may have been a



Last Friday's intramural action decided the final seeding for the intramural playoffs. Above are some of the intramural players practicing on the outdoor field.

questionable decision. The game ended 3-5. W Street's Carl-Ray Rhoden, Earl Otaguaid and Beniah Nwankwo all added to their season goal tallies. Super Eagles has the remaining play-

off spot after finishing first in group B.

That team's leading goal scorer, Dean Harrison said, "With fair officiating and good sportsmanship among competitors, my team's chance at winning the competition is one of the best."

These three games brought a wealth of excitement to the Burr. The final, and most entertaining game of the night, belonged to Alumni and Berm International. This Group A match up brought the only two unbeaten teams to a clash that would decide who would be able to play lower-seeded teams in the playoffs.

Bermie drew first blood with a snipe off the head of Jason Williams. Alumni leveled the score when Carlington Clarke cleaned up his own rebound. The score remained 1-1 into the second half. Then magic. Alumni's Dave Mitchell, third leading scorer in the league, tapped in the winning goal after eluding his marker with a brilliant touch. Senior psychology major Danette Morrison described the move as, "mind blowing."

Action continues Friday at 6 p.m. with first round playoff action.

Regular Season Final Standings

League A

1. Alumni - 18 pts.
2. Bermie - 15 pts.
3. Restoration FC - 10 pts.
4. CSA - 10 pts.

League B

1. Super Eagles - 18 pts.
2. Do-It Warriors - 15 pts.
3. Shottas - 13 pts.
4. Takoma - 13 pts.

Intramural Playoff Schedule: Alumni, W. Street Eagles Take Top Spots

Game One: No. 2B Do-It v. No. 3A Bermie @ 6 pm
Game Two: No. 1B W. Street Eagles v. No. 4A CSA @ 7 pm
Game Three: No. 2A Bermie Intl. v. No. 3B Shottas @ 8 pm
Game Four: No. 1A Alumni v. No. 4B Takoma @ 9 pm

Semi-Final One: G1 v. G4 @ 6:30 pm - 4/21
Semi-Final Two: G2 v. G3 @ 7:30 pm - 4/21
Championship Game: 9 pm - 4/21

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TUESDAY 4/11/06
NATIVE OMAHA
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ACADEMY
SESSION 2

BLACKBURN
AUDITORIUM
7:06PM

WEDNESDAY
4/12/06
THE RIGHTS OF
PASSAGE
(A Brief History of
Hazing)

BLACKBURN READING
LOUNGE
7:06PM

THURSDAY
4/13/06
VOTE OR DIE: THE
IMPORTANCE OF
THE BLACK VOTE
(POLITICAL
EDUCATIONAL
FORUM)

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**THE POODLE TRAIN
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7:22PM**

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2006-2007
E-Board Positions**
*President
*1st Vice-President
*2nd Vice-
President
These positions
can only be held
by present e-
board members.

*Recording
Secretary
*Treasurer
*Financial
Secretary
*Parliamentarian
*Chaplain
*Historian
*Community
Service
*Programs
*Fundraising
*Public Relations
All candidates
MUST be paid
members.

NCNW elections
have been moved
to Monday,
April 17, 2006.
The letters
of intent and
resumes are
to be sent to
[brandiveley@
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no later than
Friday, April 14th
by noon.

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Wednesday,
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