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THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 90, NO. 18

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2006

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

THURSDAY
notebook

BREAKING NEWS

CHAVEZ ATTACKS BUSH

"THE DEVIL CAME HERE YESTERDAY," SAID VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT, HUGO CHAVEZ, IN REFERENCE TO PRESIDENT BUSH. CHAVEZ WENT ON TO CRITICIZE THE U.S. BY CALLING THE NATION EMPIRE, ACCORDING TO CNN.

LIFE & STYLE

CALIFORNIA'S SMOKING BANS

CALIFORNIA IS PUTTING A BAN ON SMOKING IN VEHICLES WITH CHILD PASSENGERS. FIND OUT MORE IN LIFE & STYLE.
PG 8





THURS, 9/21:
SUNNY
HIGH: 70, LOW: 54



FRI, 9/22:
PARTLY CLOUDY
HIGH: 73, LOW: 64

'Press Play' into Diddy's New Album



Atrice Williams - Staff Photographer
Diddy stopped in D.C. yesterday to visit Duke Ellington School of the Arts on his "Diddy High" tour.

BY SHANAE HARRIS
Campus Editor

Bad Boy Entertainment founder, mogul and acclaimed artist, Diddy, is steadily making his mark with the upcoming release of his new album, "Press Play" on October 17 and promotional tour for high school students titled "Diddy High."

As apart of his tour, Diddy stopped in D.C. to talk to students at Duke Ellington School of the Arts about success and to promote his album that he says has allowed people to "press play into his life."

From his inspiration to his favorite song, Diddy dishes everything about his new step back into the music world and high confidence in his new album.

Q: What was the purpose of your visit to Duke Ellington School of the Arts?

A: "It was the concept of my promotional tour; [which] is to promote the album [and] to be closer to the people that support my music. Also, in the high schools, I ran a marathon for education, [because] education is a platform that I'm about. I came up with the concept of "Diddy High." It's about telling kids the reality of the hard times that they are going to have to face, but if they believe in themselves, set their goals high, and strive for greatness that they can be great. The album is called "Press Play" so the way that we tie it in is that we let them "press play" on my life and get some knowledge on how someone coming from the same place that they came from was able to be successful."

Q: What inspired you to put this new album out?

A: "I had been away from the game as an artist for a minute. And when I started experimenting back with music about a year and a half ago, I started hearing so many different sounds I didn't hear before and seeing so many different colors. I wanted to push myself to come up with something better for me as an artist. I think musically it is a very diverse album, which is kind of a mirror of music that we all listen to. I wanted to have an album that depicted my musical diversity."

Q: With your album releasing close to other hip hop artists' release dates, what is it that you are going to bring to make the public focus on you?

A: "I think that they should focus on everybody else. It's enough room for everybody. One of the things about my album is that it is one of the most highly unanticipated albums. If anything, I'm going to come and shock the world and give them a pleasant surprise. I call myself "Cinderella Man" because I've been away from it so long; but in the movie, "Cinderella Man" won the championship. So we'll see if my Cinderella story comes true."

Q: Did you see this album as an escape from the world and everything else you have to do?

A: "I realized that I can't have one foot in and one foot out of music. So I'm not doing anything else for the next year and a half but music. I'm going to be out on the road promoting my album and touring. I love music and I'm happy to be doing it again."

Q: You mentioned that you are using your album name "Press Play" to give people an opportunity to "press play into your life." How would you say your Howard experience has been incorporated into your upcoming album?

A: "I think it's music. Music has always been apart of my life, especially when I was at Howard. Just all of the sounds and the parties they have at Howard have helped me as a producer. This album is like an evolution of all the musical experiences that I've ever had musically and also personally and I've definitely taken that with me. You will definitely hear sounds that come from that time and era when I was going to Howard University in this album."

Howard Middle School Hosts FMA Live!

BY MELISSA L. TYLER
Hilltop Staff Writer

Several yellow school buses transported approximately 500 middle school students from the District area to Burr Gymnasium yesterday, for FMA Live! - an educational outreach science program sponsored by Honeywell International and the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

The Howard Middle School of Mathematics and Science hosted the event that had two performances: one at 9:15 a.m., another at 1:15 p.m. yesterday and two more performances scheduled for the same times today.

FMA Live!, named after Sir Isaac Newton's second law of motion (force = mass x acceleration), connects with students through original songs, music videos, dance and interactive science demonstrations performed by professional actors, teachers and Howard Middle School of Mathematics and Science students.

"Since the program focuses on Newton's laws of motion, it will prepare our fifth grade students for their solar energy curriculum and will enhance what the sixth graders learned last year," said Rhone Jones, a teacher at Anne Beers Elementary School.

Howard is a catalyst for change and education by hosting the event, which exposes and teaches middle school grades



Derrell Smith - Senior Photo Editor

The Howard Middle School of Mathematics and Science hosted FMA Live!, an educational show that aims to urge youth to pursue math and science careers.

5-8 Newton's three laws of motion and the universal law of gravity.

"The need for more minority scholars in science and mathematics has been a long-standing challenge for us, and certainly one of the biggest reasons behind our decision to establish a middle school here at Howard," President H. Patrick Swygert stated in the event press release. "This collaboration with Honeywell to host FMA Live!, and to expose DC area middle school students to the wonders of science, mathematics and technology is another step in the right direction. I am currently pleased that Howard is able to participate in this way and I know that all of this bodes well for the future."

The students in attendance laughed, smiled and were impacted by the program.

"The program was interesting and funny. I may think about being a scientist now," said Kristie Wheeler, an 8th grader from Hines Junior High School.

Howard was the first stop of the FMA Live! 2006 tour. The university invited 1,500 middle school students from 23 District of Columbia public schools to participate in the interactive traveling hip-hop science concert. While at Howard, the tour will reach its 100,000th student and then travel on to 30 schools in 21 different cities throughout the United States and Canada. The nine-week tour will educate

approximately 14,000 more students.

"We at Honeywell are depending on this next generation of mathematicians, scientists and engineers," said Jim O'Leary, a Honeywell Representative. "Our research has shown that fewer people are pursuing science, math and engineering careers, yet these employment opportunities are increasing."

Honeywell International is a \$30 billion technology and manufacturing leader that provides aerospace, automotive products and specialty materials.

FMA Live! was created in 2004 and since then has traveled 30,000 miles reaching students in 232 schools in 34 U.S. states. The program recently was named the top caused-based marketing program in the United States during the Brand Week-sponsored 2006 PMA Reggie Awards and was awarded a gold SABRE award and recognized as the best community relations program worldwide by The Holmes Group, according to the press release.

"FMA Live! continues to inspire students to pursue technological-related career," President of Honeywell Hometown Solutions Tom Buckmaster said in the event press release. "Honeywell is committed to providing students and teachers with programs, experiences and resources that bring science to life in memorable, life changing ways."



Photo Courtesy of www.amlive.com

Bush Appoints New Envoy to Sudan

BY TAYLOR MASON
Contributing Writer

President Bush recently appointed special envoy, Andrew Natsios, to help catalyze peace in Darfur. But with the conflict becoming even more extreme since its eruption in 2003, will Natsios' efforts be enough to secure tranquility in Sudan?

Natsios, the former head of the U.S. Agency for international Development and Georgetown professor was involved in the Darfurian crises prior to his recent appointment. He worked along side former Secretary of State Colin Powell, and categorized the catastrophe in Sudan as genocide.

The uprooting of African Muslims in Sudan's western region Darfur has worsened drastically. Tens of thousands of civilians have been murdered because of the conflict between ethnic African rebels and Arab militias. Thousands of women have been raped and entire villages destroyed by Sudanese government soldiers and members of the government-supported militia.

Even with the acknowledgement of ethnic cleansing, activists argue that U.S. efforts and interest have lost momentum. "Our government is willing to make dramatic statements about the significance

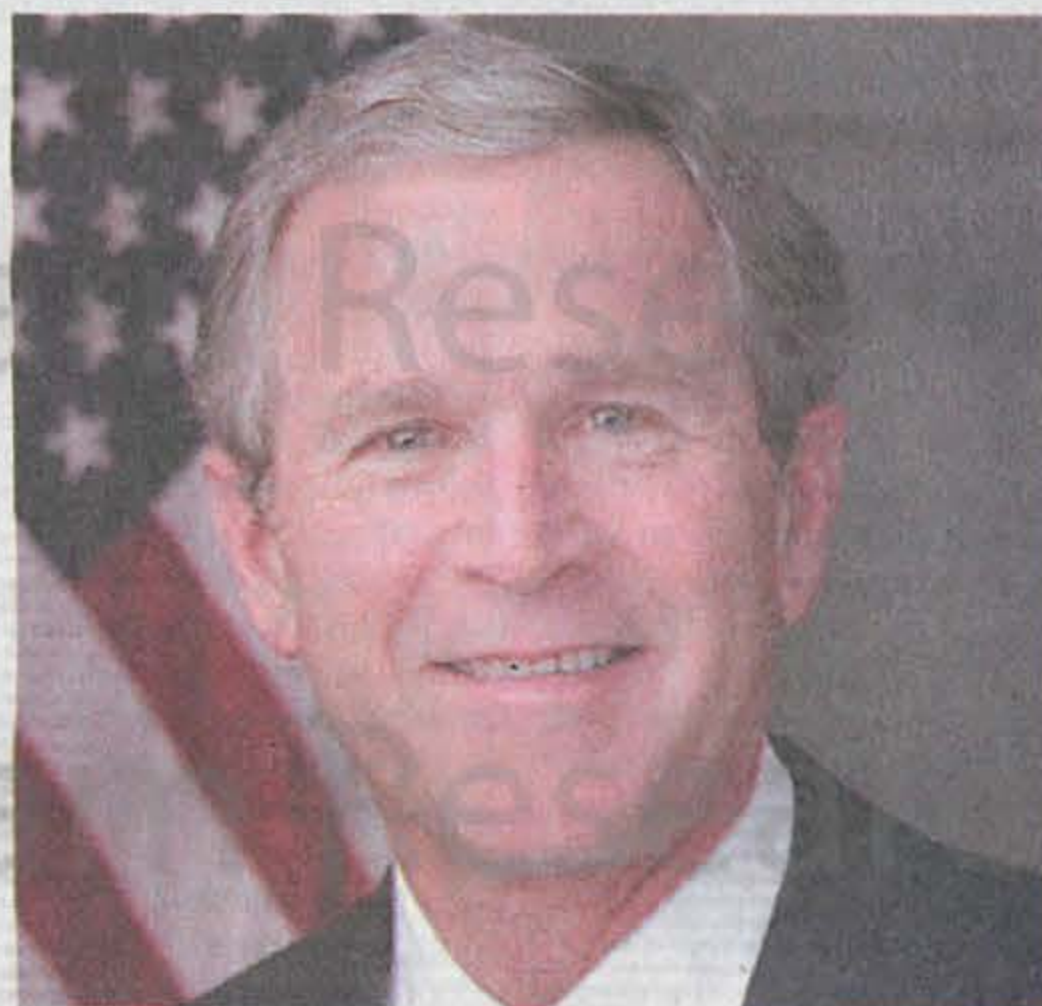


Photo courtesy of www.defenselink.mil

President's Bush's recent appointment of envoy Andrew Natsios may be a step towards a Sudanese resolution.

of peace-keeping, but will not follow through," said Diana Duarte, a program associate for Africa Action. Duarte expressed the urgency for U.S. interaction and aid in Sudan. "There needs to be greater U.S. diplomatic engagement. As the leading country in resources, we have the responsibility to do so."

"There has been a calling for UN resolution for more than two years but there is a lot of opposition from the Sudanese government. The fact that a new envoy has been

appointed is a big step forward but more peace-keeping resolutions needs to be implemented," Duarte said.

The Sudanese government has refused requests for a United Nations force and continues to refuse to allow the African Union force to transition to a U.N. command. An abundance of protests in Sudan has also denounced the proposal for U.S. assistance.

Pressure is rising for Darfurian civilians as the African Union force mandate, currently the only peace-keep-

ing force in Sudan, is scheduled to expire on September 30th. Extension of the African Union force mandate is the subject of meetings between African leaders attending the U.N. General Assembly session in New York this week.

"Essentially, our view of peace and stability are not in the same vein," said Associate Professor Dr. Michael Frazier. "The Sudanese may refuse assistance and sacrifice their own because, to them, the cause may be of greater importance," said Frazier.

When asked about the media's efforts to expose the wrongdoings in Sudan, Dr. Frazier said, "The media has decided that genocide occurring in Darfur is not a priority. They're obviously more interested in other controversies that sell more papers. When you don't choose to invest resources into such a tragedy, you blatantly expose your negligence."

All are encouraged to escalate pressure for resolution in Sudan. Get involved in any way possible to help break the deadlock in Darfur.

To find out more about what is going on, visit www.committeeonconscience.org. One can also contact the media and comment on they're coverage or lack thereof of on the Darfur crisis.

Alarms in Dorms Don't Phase Student Residents

BY CHARDE MILES
Contributing Writer

After a 16-hour day of classes, meetings and studying, a student's head hits the pillow. Sleep drifts behind closed eyelids. Suddenly, a fire alarm blares.

Many students living in dormitories have experienced this at least once. After being inconvenienced with false alarms one too many times, some students choose to not respond to those alarms.

Some students believe that heat and steam from kitchens and girls blow drying their hair causes the alarms to sound.

"High concentrations of steam or heat will set the systems off," said Dean of Residence Life Charles Gibbs, "Although, I have not received any complaints that that has happened."

Megan Schley, a junior broadcast journalism major, said the frequent alarms that served as a disturbance during her stay.

"I would be in a deep sleep, much needed after my busy schedule, and the fire alarms

would wake me up all times of the night," she said. "When I saw that none of the alarms were drills or actual fires, I never responded."

Jason Gresham, a senior business management major, said he was concerned when he first arrived, but, once he learned "the system was sensitive to small things," responding to the ringing was a thing of the past.

"If the alarms would be ringing for too long, I would occasionally open my door to find out if it was a real fire or not," Gresham said.

With recent fires occurring in the dorms, students are becoming more concerned with their safety. Brittany Coleman, a junior legal communications major and resident of West Towers, said she will make sure if a fire is real or not "for my sanity's sake."

"There have been too many close calls, including a fire on the same floor as mine, to not double-check," she said. "We have not been in school for very long and [we] have had too many incidents."

Linnea Nelson, a junior

business marketing major and resident of the West Towers, said she would take the time-to-time inconvenience over her life.

"It is ridiculous how many real encounters the Towers have had with fires just this year," she said. "Luckily, none of the fires have spread or gotten too serious, but I will always make sure to be attentive of the alarms. We are talking about my life being in jeopardy."

Gibbs said that students should take every alarm seriously and react as if there were a fire every time.

There are no official fines assessed if students are found in their dorms during an alarm, but Gibbs said any students found are taking a big risk.

"In the event that, when we do a scanning of the dorm after an alarm, we find students still in the building, they are risking eviction," he said.

Meridian Hill Hall is one dorm that is notorious for fire alarms to go off at any given time of the day.

Sharise Crumley, a sophomore advertising major and



Derek Smith - Senior Photo Editor

Students have begun to disregard fire alarms at Howard due to the fact that there are more false alarms than real fires. Students who do not respond can be fined.

resident of Meridian Hall, said the alarms have not been a problem for her.

"I'm glad that the fire

alarms have not been going off as frequent as the stories I have heard about them, because I might not respond to them

like many people do," she said. "I will make it of my importance to answer to the alarms because you never know."

THE SPOTLIGHT

Employee: Patricia Godley



BY CHRISTINA M. WRIGHT
Managing Editor

Enter the Academic Advisory and Career Development Office on the first floor of the School of Communications, and behind a healthy plant in a green vase sits Patricia Godley at her desk since 2002.

Godley, the administrative aide in the office, can be seen as a little intimidating to those who do not know her, but those who do rave her openness.

"Not only is she intimidating, but she's a kind heart," said Rin Robinson, a junior television productions major who works in the office as a student aid.

The official duties of Godley's job title range from filing to answering phones. But, throughout her day, she does so much more.

Students can rest assured that the overrides that they spent hours getting signed are copied, filed, and taken to the Enrollment Management office single-

handly by Godley.

"I might go up that hill about three or four times every day, especially during registration," she said.

Godley tries to get to work an hour and a half early in order to empty out the papers and boxes of the two guidance counselors.

"I want to get everything ready so they [the counselors] can begin again with the next round of students," Godley said.

But the duties do not end there. Godley said she feels a personal obligation to the students to make sure they have someone to bring their problems to.

"I try to be there for them," she said. "To tell them, 'It ain't that bad, and what's the problem,' so that we can find a solution and how fast we can get to it [the solution]."

Godley has world experience that she share with students, such as making sure the "boys keep their heads on tight."

"Sometimes, in a split second, you can make a deci-

sion that can cost you your life," she said she advises to the young men at Howard.

That wisdom and worry comes from a soft spot of Godley's, as her son was shot and killed 17 years ago, at the age of 16, over a moped.

And, the bout of wisdom runs deeper with the added situation of her 37-year-old daughter who is currently fighting cancer.

"When you finally find peace with an unchangeable situation, you surrender to it," she said.

But, even as she expressed that her daughter's health may affect her from time to time, and tear welled in her eyes, a student entered the office with red eyes.

Worries forgotten, Godley excuses herself to tend to take the student to a back office and ask her what's wrong.

"I'm not the counselors downstairs, but I listen to students who need to talk and don't want to go to the counselors or be judged," she said.

"I listen to what they have to say, and I keep it to myself unless it's detrimental to them."

Godley said the worst part of her day is when she sees a student who has a problem that she cannot fix.

But the best part is "watching the students grow."

"I love watching them forge ahead even if they're unsure," she said.

Godley is considered on of the "mothers of the School of C," and she has deemed the students her "extended children."

Student: Trúc Minh Vo

BY LEAH A. SCOTT
Contributing Writer

Listening to the humming of her sewing machine, Trú Minh Vo sat near his mother as she sewed a garment. It was during that moment, the foundation fabrics of a modern Renaissance man had been stitched.

From the western suburbs of Chicago, or "Chicago land", came Trú "T" Minh Vo. As a junior fashion merchandising major, Minh Vo appears to be in a love affair, with fashion as his mistress.

"Fashion is something I do as a hobby, as a career, as a way of life," he said.

His ability has expanded throughout the field of fashion. His capabilities extend into the areas of fashion design, graphic design and interior decorating. Already, he has tapped into an entrepreneurial spirit, through having a "side hustle," altering and hemming for students in Meridian Hill last year. Still he maintains his business while residing in Oxon Hill, MD.

Minh Vo plans to participate in internship programs and work to build his portfolio. After graduating from Howard, he will attend a fashion school. He strives to acquire more knowledge of and experience in fashion, to incorporate it into his own "work of art." Fashion is in his heart, but it is not the only aspect of his multifaceted life.

Minh Vo is a working man, holding down a steady job at J. Crew as a 'clientele specialist.' Being a clientele specialist is "totally differ-



ent" from being a sales associate. There, he focuses on building relationships with the loyal clients of J. Crew.

Besides working for J. Crew, Minh Vo is also active on Howard's campus. He is a member of Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity.

"I love the family I have there," he said.

As a first generation Vietnamese American, Minh Vo has developed and displayed his cultural identity while attending Howard. He serves now as the vice president of an Asian student organization. While under renovation, Minh Vo explains the group's goal is "to help Asian students interact more on campus."

Minh Vo also dabbles in poetry and songwriting, enjoys discovering the District's culture, and absolutely loves food.

"Eating something my mother or grandmother cook takes me back to where I came from," he said. "I like to cook. I get it from my mother." Cooking isn't all he received from his mother.

Minh Vo's mother is his inspiration for life. They share a special bond that is rare. He describes the union as "mentor to mentee, friend to friend, muse to artist." Minh Vo said the relationship has taught him what it means to be a well-rounded individual. She placed in him the values of achievement in an "avant-garde status," and never to dwell in complacency - his biggest pet peeve. She made him "qualified" to encounter all of life's dynamics.

"My mother is love," he said.

Minh Vo is comparable to a colorful wool sweater wrapped in a box. The intricate threads of wool represent his personality, values, and skills. They are woven into his makeup producing a masterpiece. He is an "all around package that has yet to be unwrapped."

The Campus section is looking for
Staff Writers!!!

Qualifications: Heart, a love for writing, heart, persistence, heart, willing to learn. And, oh yeah, did we say HEART?!!

Contact Christina M. Wright for an interview time by Friday, Sept. 22.

Interviews will be held Saturday, Sept. 23.

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**WHO'S WHO AMONG STUDENTS IN AMERICAN
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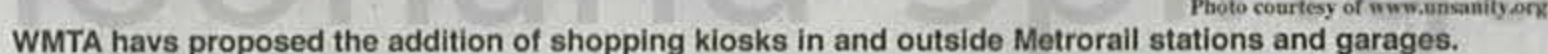
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BY CHARLOTTE YOUNG
Hilltop Staff Writer

This plan will first be tested in 12 select metro rail stops.

Selling food or beverage-

Steven Taubenkibel, Public Affairs Specialist for the Metro said the plan, which was proposed in May, is still "in the evaluation stage."

BY KENEISHIA WHITE
Contributing Writer

Despite the benefits of the Purple Line, there are

This year alone, officials estimate there will be 206 million trips taken on the Metro, meaning that about 564,000 people use the Metro system everyday.

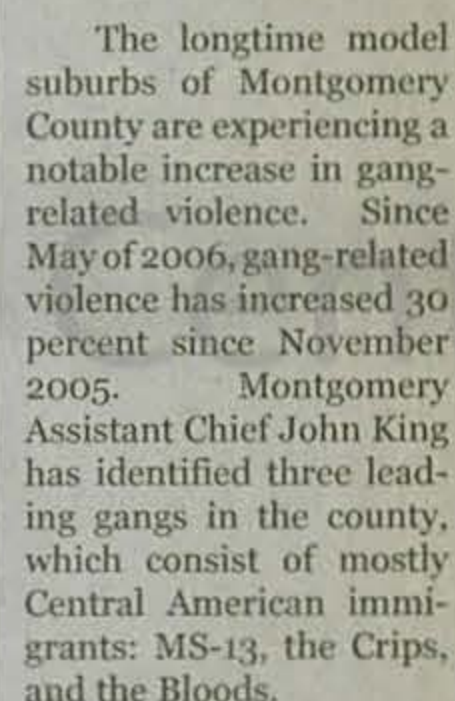
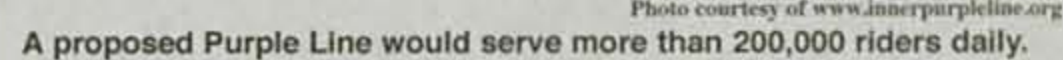


Photo courtesy of library.wellcome.ac.uk

DC is in the third month of its HIV campaign. So far, almost 3 percent of more than 7,000 people have been found positive for the virus, which is more than double the national rate. The incidence of infection so far is the first definitive look at the HIV problem in DC.

In an effort to discourage undocumented workers, Gaithersburg city police are keeping a close eye on a local shopping center where day laborers gather. The police force plans on enforcing trespassing laws against the day laborers *that gather there*, after the owner of the shopping center asked police to start patrolling the area. Immigrant advocates are protesting the city's failure to find a permanent site for the laborers.

Reading The Hilltop
Increase your cool factor
by 32 percent.*



Photo courtesy of www.washingtonpost.com

DC recently held a gun buyback program on Saturday September 16. Residents were encouraged to report to any of three specified police stations to turn in their firearms for a cash payout of \$50, no questions asked. In total, police netted 337 firearms and paid out \$16,700. The buyback program was a tactical measure to try and reduce the likelihood of stolen firearms to make it on the street.

DC Police Chief Charles Ramsey's future at the top remains a question going into the November general election for mayor. Adrian Fenty said he would not make a decision about Ramsey's future until after the election. However, Fenty predicted that Ramsey would not remain the police chief for a full four-year Fenty term.

Compiled By Janelle Jolley,
Metro Editor

**"EVEN MY GRANDMA
READS THE HILLTOP..."**

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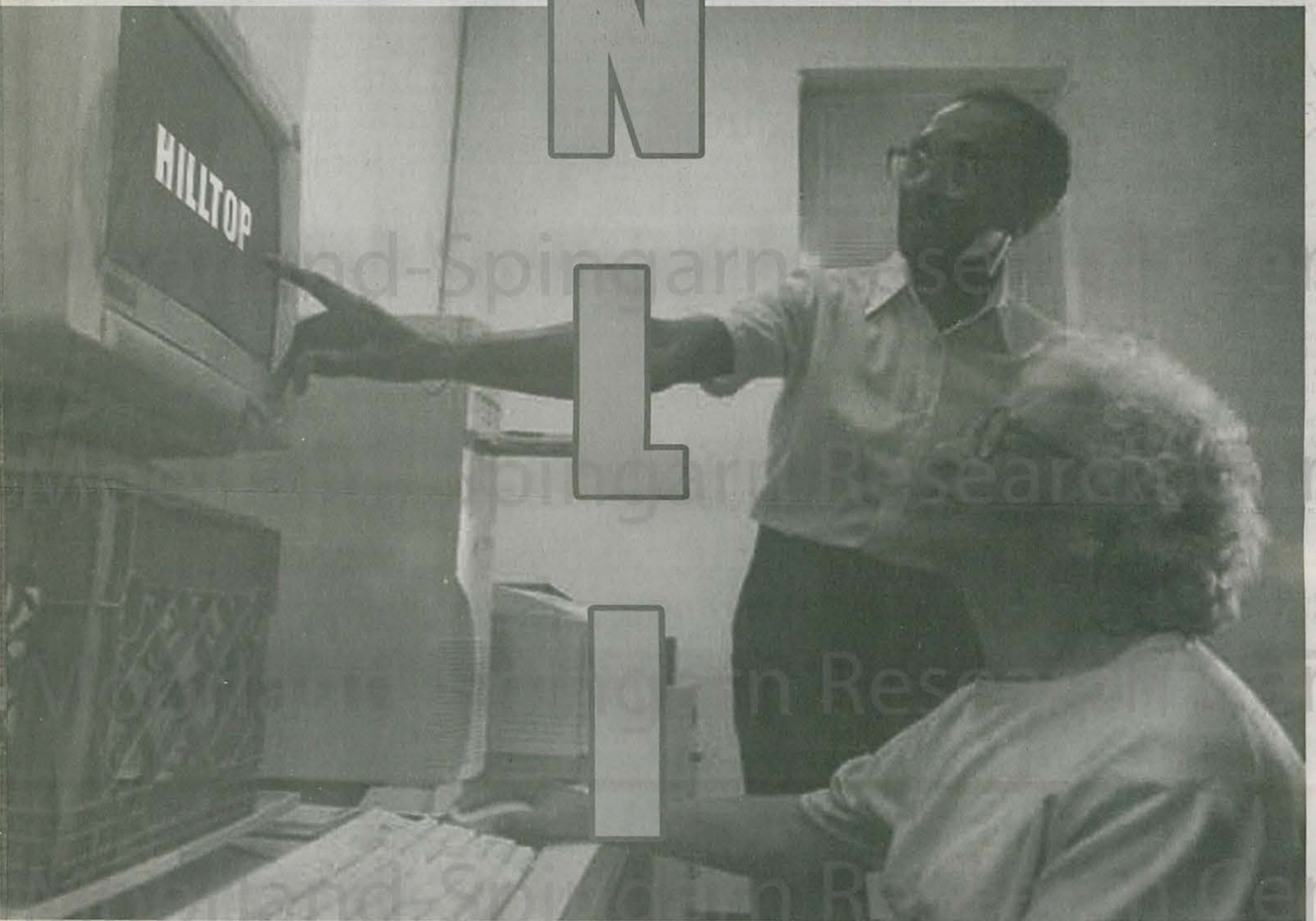
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PAIN IS WEAKNESS LEAVING THE BODY.

THE QUESTION ISN'T HOW MUCH MORE CAN YOU TAKE.
BUT HOW MUCH MORE CAN YOU GIVE.
JUST WHEN YOU'RE READY TO QUIT, YOUR MIND SAYS PUSH HARDER.
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Back
In
The
Day
Cleaning



BY JOSHUA THOMAS
Deputy Managing Editor

Back in the day... your cleaning responsibilities were limited to simple jobs like cleaning your room, cleaning yourself and cleaning your plate (or no desert!)

Nowadays, however, with the added responsibilities of independent semi-adult life, cleaning can stretch to encompass a lot more, and even the somewhat simple duties can often become more complex than before.

As I sit here typing this in my dorm room, I can not help but notice the over abundance of dirty laundry spilling out of my closet. Now, doing laundry is not really a difficult task; separate the clothes by color, throw them in the machine with some soap, dry them and fold them.

Theoretically, the process is straightforward and elementary. But that is only because I left out the variables in the equation. One of these variables, that affects virtually all college students, is that of time. When your schedule is completely filled to the point where resting your weary body is a luxury, finding time for laundry does not rank too high on the list of priorities.

Not to mention the money variable. Scrapping together that \$1 to wash a load and \$0.75 to dry it was already a difficult task, especially when you had several weeks' worth of washing to catch up on. That extra 25 cents for the washer and added 50 for the dryer is definitely not helping out the laundry struggle.

The massive mound of socks and shirts can also serve as a metaphor for the scattered life of a busy college student; something else that desperately needs to be cleaned. The responsibilities of going to class, doing assignments, holding down a job, participating in extracurricular activities, as well as maintaining a social life can easily turn out to be overbearing.

The duties that used to all fit in together perfectly like the pieces of a puzzle often manage to get all scrambled up, leaving you with just a mass of clutter. And of course there are the messes that we make of personal relationships between friends, family and significant others. Situations like these mark the differences between now and then.

Then, any bad circumstances you ran across could have been "cleaned" up with simple solutions like a mother's kiss, a band-aid or a Kool-Aid smile. Yet, the sticky situations that we get into now, as adults, do not have those resolutions that are so clear and easy.

What we really need is a life mop or being broom. Some simple tool we can just wet and push over the things that need cleaning. Things were so much simpler... back in the day.

If you have any "cleaning" tips or want to reminisce about "Back in the Day" email me at jgthomas13@yahoo.com

Chillin' With The Hilltop



Jana Homes - Managing Editor

Evette Lang, a senior French major, takes a moment at the end of her day to relax with her copy of The Hilltop. She says Meccanisms is one of her favorite pages and that she especially likes "Overheard at the Mecca."

THE
HILLTOPIC
VAULT

We at The Hilltop have long enjoyed looking back at the archived issues in the office. Here, we've decided to let you all a peek into the past.

C. BURGIN

MEASURE A MAN'S WORDS
BY HIS ACTIONS, IT
WILL LEAD YOU TO THE
TRUTH. IT WILL ALSO
LEAD YOU TO ME. EX-
PECT THE UNEXPECTED.
YOUR #1 FAN
DM

- SEPTEMBER 7, 1990

Test Yourself

Knowledge is power, so we at The Hilltop decided to test your knowledge. We'll be posing questions and providing you with activities to sharpen your skills or build your knowledge.

Can You Define These Words?

1. Prestidigitation

A. Performance of or a skill in performing magic or conjuring tricks with the hands; sleight of hand.
B. A show of skill or deceitful cleverness.

2. Equestrian

A. of or pertaining to horseback riding or horseback riders; equestrian skill.
B. mounted on horseback; equestrian knights.
C. representing a person mounted on a horse; an equestrian statue.
D. pertaining to or composed of knights or mounted warriors; an equestrian code of honor.
E. of or pertaining to the ancient Roman equites.

3. Flippant

trivially disrespectful, shallow, or lacking in seriousness; characterized by levity

4. Serendipitous

A. come upon or found by accident; fortuitous; serendipitous scientific discoveries.
B. of, pertaining to, or suggesting serendipity.
C. good; beneficial; favorable; serendipitous weather for our vacation.

Definitions Courtesy of www.dictionary.com

Overheard @ The Mecca

DanityKane presents ... Howard Showstopping 101
Overheard on WHBC

Dawn: If you get out of bed at 12:00 and your first class is at 8:00, drop it. If you failed the first two tests and there are only three tests in the semester, drop it. If a book costs more than you got in your pocket, drop it.

Shannon: Just graduate!

Aundrea: Party! Party! (and in case you didn't hear her) Party!

D-Woods: Yeah we at Howard, Kappas eating catfish on the Yard ...

Itchy and Scratchy
Overheard in The I-Lab

Howard Guy: Yo, these mosquitoes have really been eating me up out here!

Friend: They have been biting everyone, its because of the heat and rain.

HG: No, but listen. I have been itching really bad, like...really bad! And I have been feeling sick, I was about to faint in lecture today....

Friend: NO HYPOCHONDRIAC, YOU DO NOT HAVE WEST NILE!!!

Check out more at Overheardatthamecca.blogspot.com and submit to Overheardatthamecca@gmail.com

Six Degrees of Separation

Can you figure out a path that connects these two individuals with 6 stops along the way?
We can. And here's what we've found.



Michael Jackson

Michael Jackson is the sibling of Janet Jackson

who as in "Poetic Justice" with Regina King

who starred in "Ray" with Jamie Foxx

who is "Miami Vice" co-stars with Colin Farrell

who played against "Daredevil's" Ben Affleck

who starred in "Pearl Harbor" with Cuba Gooding Jr.

who was in "The Tuskegee Airmen" with Laurence Fishburne

who used to be on "Pee Wee's Funhouse" with Pee Wee Herman

=> => => => => =>



Pee Wee Herman

Please send any responses to Meccanisms, including 'Back In The Day' topics, things you've overheard @ The Mecca, things to test ourselves on or 'Six Degrees of Separation' sets to meccanisms@gmail.com



California Says No to Smoking in Cars With

BY JACQUELINE COOK
Hilltop Staff Writer

With Surgeon General Richard Carmona calling for a smoking cessation and strict smoking restrictions being put into place everywhere from Florida to New York, life may have just become a little more difficult for California's smoking population.

The California State Senate recently approved a measure that bans smoking in vehicles that are carrying children young enough that they have to ride in child-safety seats. Although the Senate has already endorsed the bill, it still needs to receive enough votes in the State Assembly.

If it passes, anyone caught smoking in a car with a child that is required to ride in a car seat will be subject to a \$100 fine.

California law states that anyone under six years or less than 60 pounds is supposed to be in a child-safety seat while riding. This may also change, effectively making the smoking

ban even more strict due to another bill that aims to increase the child-safety seat requirements to those under 8 years or shorter than 4-foot-9.

The bill, proposed by Assemblyman Paul Koretz, (D-West Hollywood), received passing votes from 62 percent of the Senate. It was initially passed last year by the assembly prior to some modifications and it is believed that they will pass it again.

The bill seem to have substantial support from California politicians.

Sen. Deborah Ortiz, (D-Sacramento), told the Associated Press that Koretz's bill is meant to "protect the health of children who cannot protect themselves."

According to Ortiz, for every hour children are exposed to secondhand smoke while riding in a car they "effectively [smoke] a pack and a half a day."

In 2004, Governor Schwarzenegger signed a law that banned smoking in California's prisons. While he has not made

any comments regarding the current bill, his track record may indicate his leanings.

Although he is a smoker himself, junior audio production major and California native Robert Wadlington has a positive view of the bill.

"I think it [the bill] is good because secondhand smoke kills," Wadlington said.

Despite its intentions, some wonder about the bill's effectiveness.

"If [parents] smoke in the house with their children, then telling them that they can't smoke in the car is not really going to have much of an effect," said senior legal communications major Makaila Brooks.

The potential car smoking ban isn't the first of its kind. California lawmakers have also made smoking illegal in most indoor public places as well as on state-owned property.

"You can't smoke anywhere in California. You can't smoke in the bars or even in the clubs,"



Photo courtesy of www.xps.com

Soon California residents may no longer be able to freely light up in their personal vehicles when toting children who meet the safety seat requirements.

Wadlington said. Smoking bans have also been placed on restaurants and some beaches throughout the state.

"It doesn't really affect me. I'll just go to another place and smoke, it's not like you can't smoke anywhere. I'll just go outside," Wadlington said.

Wadlington's reaction is not unusual though. It

appears that a majority of California residents, both smokers and non-smokers, like the state's current smoking bans.

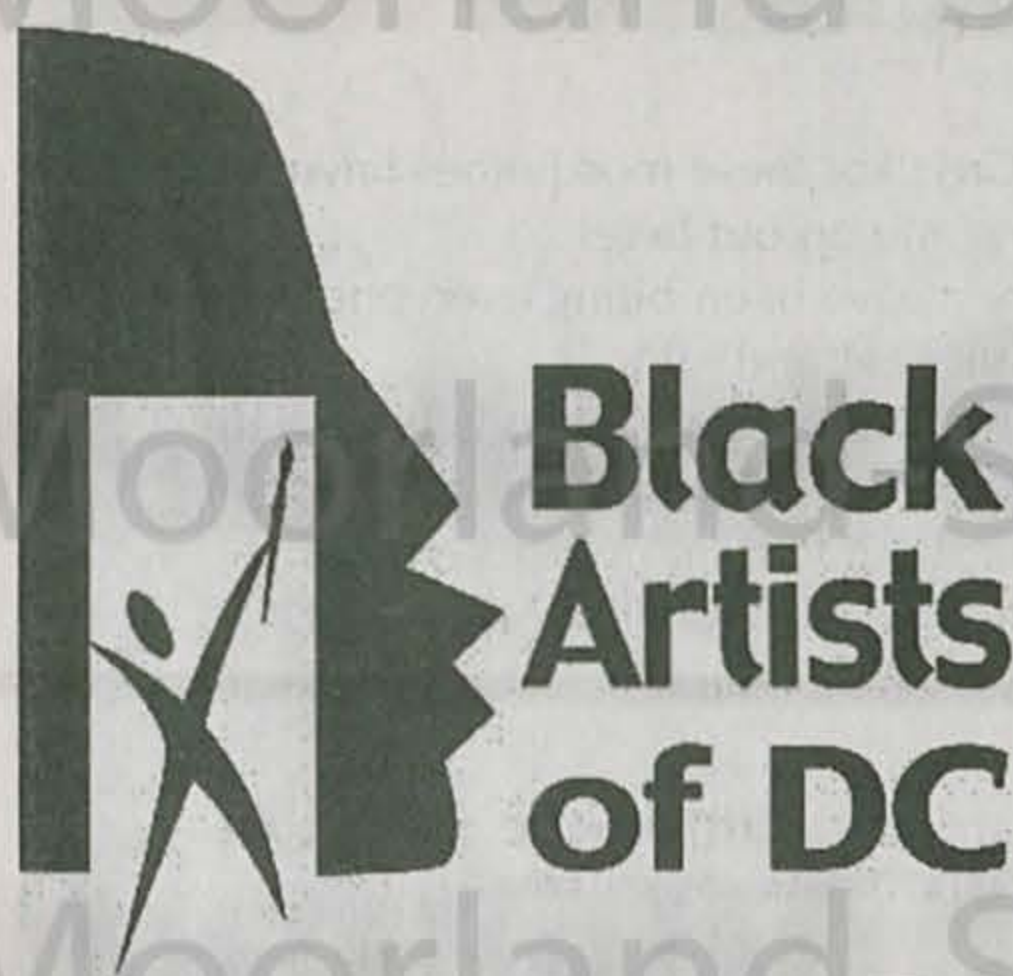
The California Division of the American Cancer Society released a study stating that 61 percent of 600 registered voters approved of the extensive smoking bans already in place. Los Angeles County's

Department of Health also reported that 85 percent of bar patrons frequent bars more often or the same amount under the laws.

"I love them [the smoking ban for indoor public places]," said Brooks who is a resident of Compton, CA. "I think they should be everywhere. The clubs in DC definitely need them."

Artists to Host Exhibition

Black Artists of DC to Hold Arts Showcase in P.G.



File Photo

BADC plans to bring together an exhibit which showcases various artforms from sculpture to sound.

BY ERIN EVANS
Hilltop Staff Writer

The Black Artists of DC (BADC) will host its first public institution exhibit at Prince George's Community College from Sept. 18 to Oct. 12.

Through the exhibit, BADC plans to bring together multiple ideas, expressions and experiences to create the ultimate masterpiece.

"The aim of this exhibit is to demonstrate how the vision of these individual artists can be collected, organized and focused to make a statement of power, beauty and eloquence," said Robles-Gordon, a second year Howard graduate student in the Department of Fine Arts.

Entitled "Convergence of Vision: The Power of Art" the exhibit features visual art from paintings, prints and sculptures to a sound show that includes sentimental aspects of life respective to its artist.

"As a group, BADC seeks to engage and educate

our community in the history and value of Black art," said Claudia Gibson-Hunter, BADC facilitator. "There is such a wealth of artistic talent in the Washington metropolitan area, and we want to expose our community to the hidden treasures they have right in their own backyards."

Amber Robles-Gordon, curator of the exhibit has been active in BADC for the past couple years.

BADC's first two shows, "Hidden Treasures" and "Found" were used as stepping stones onto the black art community in the District.

Its first show, Hidden Treasures, symbolized the organization's breakthrough onto the art scene in DC, according to Robles-Gordon. Over the past three years, the group prides itself in evolving as professional artists.

"We have a standing membership of over 200 people," Robles-Gordon said. "As a collective, we hope to further vision, force, energy and basically making every-

thing happen from A to Z."

Thirty-six artists will participate in the show. Several Howard alumni and faculty are a part of the exhibit. "[With this exhibit] we know that we are contributing to an evolution of serious artists," Robles-Gordon said.

Professor Winifred Owens-Hart and Al Smith, chairman of the art department, will be judging the sculptures/ceramics portion and painting/prints portions, respectively.

The sound show is based on finding items and incorporating them into art pieces, an African-based tradition. For example, Robles-Gordon took prints from a visit to her native island, St. Thomas. She then digitally manipulated each picture and added artistic materials to it.

Planning for the exhibit has taken the past eight months, and most recently, the hardest leg work has been communicating with the community about the event, according to Robles-Gordon.

"I think it's important to see that people are making [black art] happen in D.C.," Robles-Gordon said. "We always talk about our ancestors. Not only should we prepare for the future, but we should pay respect to our past. For the younger generation, we want to show that it's not just what you accomplish but respecting it. Everything is connected."

BADC worked with The Perfect Plan of Greater Washington, a full-service event planning organization, to plan the grand event.

The exhibit will be displayed in Prince George's Community College Marlboro Gallery on Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

Bling Bling Hits Retail Stores

BY CARLA THOMAS
Contributing Writer

A new board game is hitting the shelves this Christmas which is sure to make all hustlers who play C-LO swagger into Toys R Us.

Jeff McGill, 35, from Atlantic City, New Jersey has created Bling Bling, a board game that uses the rules of the street crap game, C-LO.

Although, McGill cannot imagine millions of dope boys running to Toys R Us to pick up a game that can easily be played on any corner, he believes that his game will be the streets new favorite past time.

McGill is an entrepreneur with a multi-media company, 456 Productions. 456 Products and Gameologist Group LLC came together to make a game that relates to McGill's real life.

"The game is the ultimate hustler's game, it's a reality board game, it's where we live, it's not stuff that we are making up. I'm a street kid, been through it all, I put my experience into a game," McGill said.

McGill wants people to know, that you won't quite understand Bling Bling unless you have a hustler's spirit. Yes, it will be sitting on the toy shelves next to Chutes & Ladder but it still has 'hood authenticity.

In Bling Bling, players are adventurers in a hood, trying to collect as much money as possible in the 30-60 minute game play. Bling Bling uses the same game rules as C-LO, as players move around the board and accumulate cash and property, which can develop into city projects.

Players can either win or lose money and move their "man" to the "The Bank Statement," or play "C-LO Heads up" with the Bank for cash or land on "Now Whut?," where players can

land into the unfortunate inner city "hoods." The winner is the player that acquires most of the cash and property, and is crowned, "Ultimate Hustler."

Craig Smith, senior, television production, believes that Bling Bling won't be a hit to the urban youth market.

"I don't think its gonna sell to minorities, but [to] white people, they buy any new product. Plus, if we already know how to play the game what's the point? Though, I can't knock the man's hustle."

Smith states that he knows how to play C-Lo but can't really understand who Bling Bling is marketing to. "I can't see hustlers gather on a Monday night, kicking back a few beers and playing board games," Smith said.

McGill explains, "The response to Bling Bling has

been all good. It's not a crazy game, it's not degrading, it's no more of a game than 50 Cent's Bulletproof or Grand Theft Auto."

"Yeah, I'm not expecting corporate American to understand this game but we are going to do our numbers regardless," McGill says.

"I don't understand why people will buy Bling Bling, when you can just play it," Shari Hinds, senior, physical therapy major states. McGill understands why some people just don't get it, "If you're not a hustler, you won't understand."

Though the idea of the game confuses some, McGill believes that there is a market for a game like this. "This game is different, those who play the game will like it," McGill said.

Bling Bling is available for pre order at www.myspace.com/blingbling2002.



www.456web.com

Bling Bling, the board game formed after the urban dice game C-LO will hit stores this Christmas.

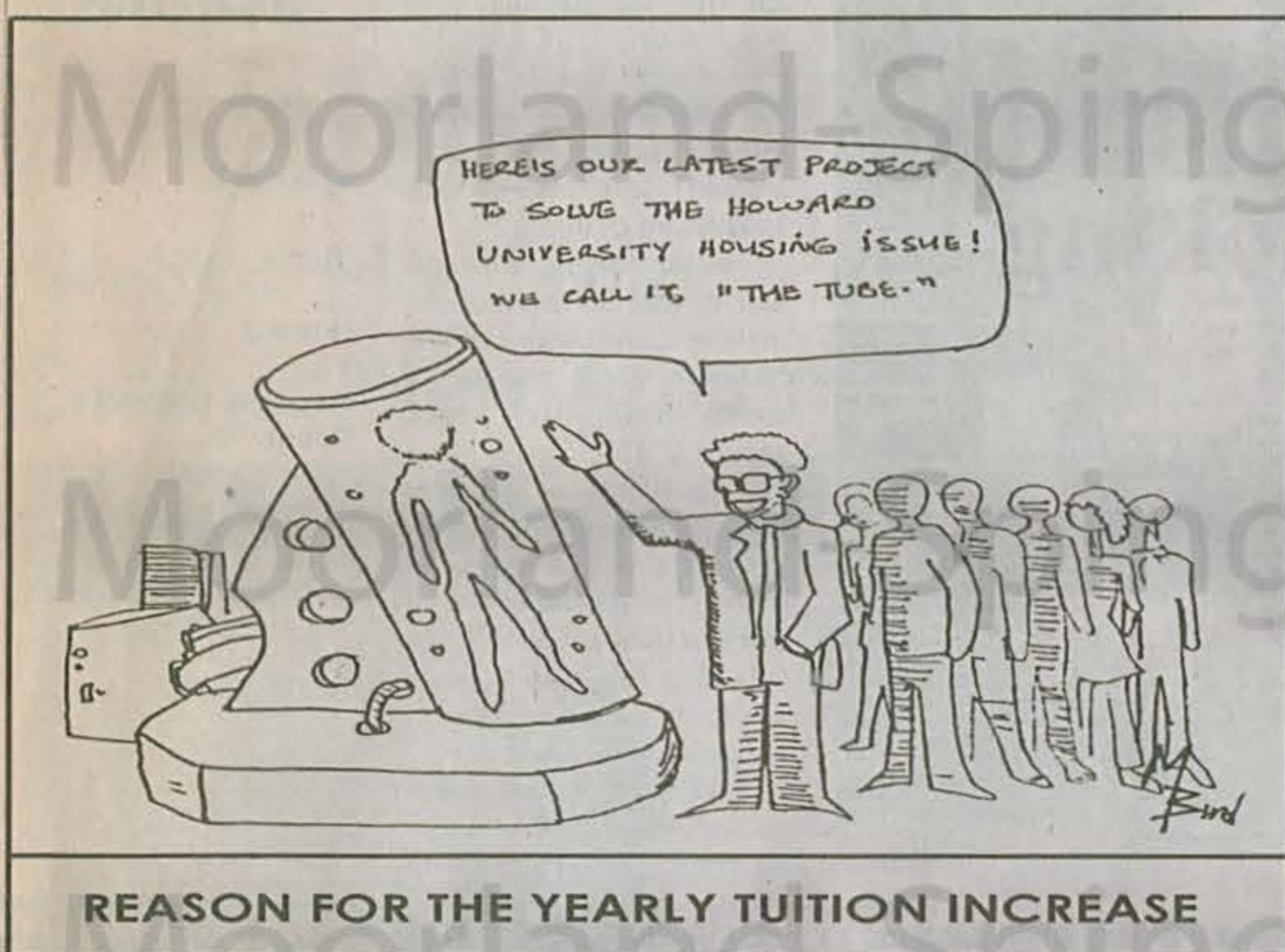
EDITORIALS

e³ Perspectives

VOLUME 90, NO. 18

SEPTEMBER 21, 2006

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Living La Vida Roaches

Across the country college dorm rooms have seen major improvements over the last few years, some going as far as to utilize housekeeping services. However, outside of painting the hallways and putting down new carpet few changes have been made for the "best" spot on campus, the Howard Plaza Towers.

This we could accept, if we weren't being charged more to stay in rooms that do not offer more. We understand the confines of an urban location limits the building of new on-campus housing. But we don't get why the housing we do have continues to cost us more.

Also the discrepancies in costs leaves many of us scratching our heads. Like any other apartment for rent, prices should be adjusted by room space - not roommates. Someone with a shoebox for a double studio shouldn't be paying more than someone with a huge room in a triple studio (which now costs what a double studio used to!).

We are happy that the new male dorm is finally being built,

and hope that it's amenities are slowly incorporated into the old dorms as well.

Like all things, we also have to be careful what we wish for as the Towers did make one "adjustment" over the summer. The Towers now allows you to go online to see what washers and dryers are available when you want

Our View:

We don't understand why prices have gone up so much for housing, but the quality has not.

to wash clothes. This sounds like a possible upgrade until you learn that this website is the reason why each load of washing and drying now costs \$.25 more. With washers and dryers that can only take two pairs of jeans per load already and many students not even knowing about the website, the decision seems to have been made without consulting students. We much rather have our extra quarter per load and check the aged machines ourselves.

With our gripes, we do real-

ize that even with the increases in cost, Howard housing is less than a lot of other colleges that have much better facilities. Though we don't need a maid just yet, since we are paying more than in the past we would love to see where that money is going.

As always we as students carry a responsibility in wanting better facilities. We must continue to take care of what we do have - and it seems like students have been doing just that as many have moms, dads and aunts who stayed in many of the dorms we still live in, including Meridian Hill "the Ebony Sex Palace" Hall.

But as many of us look forward to graduating from Howard, memories like housing play a part in giving back as alumni. By Howard providing the best experience it can, graduates are more inclined to give back - and that experience includes housing.

With roaches and increased costs, we guess a lot of us must thank the Towers for preparing us for live outside of Howard.

Perspective: Rowdy Negroes

Greetings,

I was absolutely appalled when I turned on the 6 o'clock news Tuesday evening to find that Georgetown University had issued a security alert on its campus after a fight broke out at party.

It is alleged that some Howard University students crashed an off-campus Georgetown University party

and after being asked to leave started a fight.

If this is true, then once again, we have given others to look at the only Black University in the nation's capital negatively.

This is certainly a matter that should be looked into and publicly confirmed or refuted by President Swygert. As an alum, I hope that Howard becomes more selective in the

students they admit regarding the candidate's intentions upon entering the University.

In this day and time with the state of African-Americans in this country, we cannot afford to let the ignorance of others misrepresent what we have and continue to accomplish.

Candyce Paylor Anderson
Howard Alumna, 2005

Perspective: Howard and Hampton, Where's The Love?

From the time I was ten until the time I was seventeen and it was time to apply to college, I dreamed of going to Howard. Unfortunately I didn't get to Howard, but I still have a love for the school.

Every May, while growing up, I'd sit in my living room in Baltimore, and watch HU's graduation on WHUT. To me that one event each year made a resounding statement about the past, about the present, and about the future.

As the author of this arti-

cle [page] points out a rivalry is natural and it's healthy, but only if the rivalry makes both sides better. A rivalry is about compelling people to give their best, and it takes two of the best to be the best.

HBCU's such as Howard and Hampton continue to play a vital role for improving not just the black community, but the entire world community. African-Americans, Africans, and other persons who benefit from the education offered at a HBCU don't just walk away

with a diploma. HBCU graduates walk away with a true sense of identity, with their talents affirmed, and with a knowledge of the obligation of service through leadership. Howard and Hampton shouldn't knock each other from behind, but instead stand side by side.

Oh and I do hope to be at Homecoming, go HU!

Christopher Nelson

Daily SuDoku

Directions: Each row, each column, and each 3x3 box must contain each and every digit 1-9 exactly once.

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Come to our budget meeting

Monday @ 7 p.m.

THE HILLTOP

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Now in its 83rd year, The Hilltop is published Monday 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 & Perspectives page are the views of The Hilltop Editorial Board and those of the authors and do not necessarily represent Howard University or its administration.

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.

Access Granted



Boo-yah No More?

BY CARYN GRANT
Sports Editor

I remember vividly the days in which I would watch SportsCenter with my older brother. We would both laugh as Stuart Scott would exclaim, "Boo-yah!" Whether we were laughing at Stu's glasses or his catchphrase is besides the point.

It became a necessary component of each episode of SportsCenter and thus an intricate part of my life and brother-sister bonding time.

However, sources inside ESPN say that the NBA Shootaround team is yet another cut in what is being called the "End of the Boo-yah Era."

Reports say that host John Saunders and analysts Greg Anthony, Tim Legler and Stephen A. Smith may be replaced by a team consisting of former SportsCenter anchor Dan Patrick, Washington Post columnist Mike Wilbon and former NBA all-star Mark Jackson.

As much as I disagree with some of Stephen A.'s rants and grow annoyed with his constant head-butting with Legler, it is all in the spirit of entertainment.

Now, I am a Michael Wilbon fan (I tried with all my might not to be a groupie when I saw him at the National Association of Black Journalists Convention last month), but perhaps the "Worldwide Leader" is looking to tone-down a bit.

But growing up, watching people that looked like me and talk like me report the day's sports news is what drew me into the industry in the first place.

Today's ESPN crew consists less of personalities and more of simple straight sports news being read verbatim off of teleprompters.

Where's the color?

Where's the excitement?

Where's the uniqueness and cutting edge ideas that set ESPN apart from other sports networks?

If ESPN continues down the road of the shifts and changes that have taken place recently, they will no longer be able to call themselves the Worldwide Leader of anything.

The monopoly that is ESPN has too large a stake in the sports industry and far too much influence to play it safe and conform to the standards of other stations.

I think TNT's Inside the NBA just gained another supporter. If only I can stomach Charles Barkley's foolishness for an entire season.

In remembrance of the old Shootaround crew and the glory that ESPN once was, I give a resounding "Boo-yah" at the top of my lungs.

Today is Caryn's birthday. However, instead of celebrating the occasion she is busy writing letters to ESPN voicing her displeasure with the recent news. Join her in her fight by e-mailing her at caryngrant86@hotmail.com.

Volleyball Battles Hampton at Trinity

BY JULIANNE HANCKEL
Hilltop Staff Writer

After almost a week of rest, the women's volleyball team will play its first MEAC conference game against Howard rival, Hampton University.

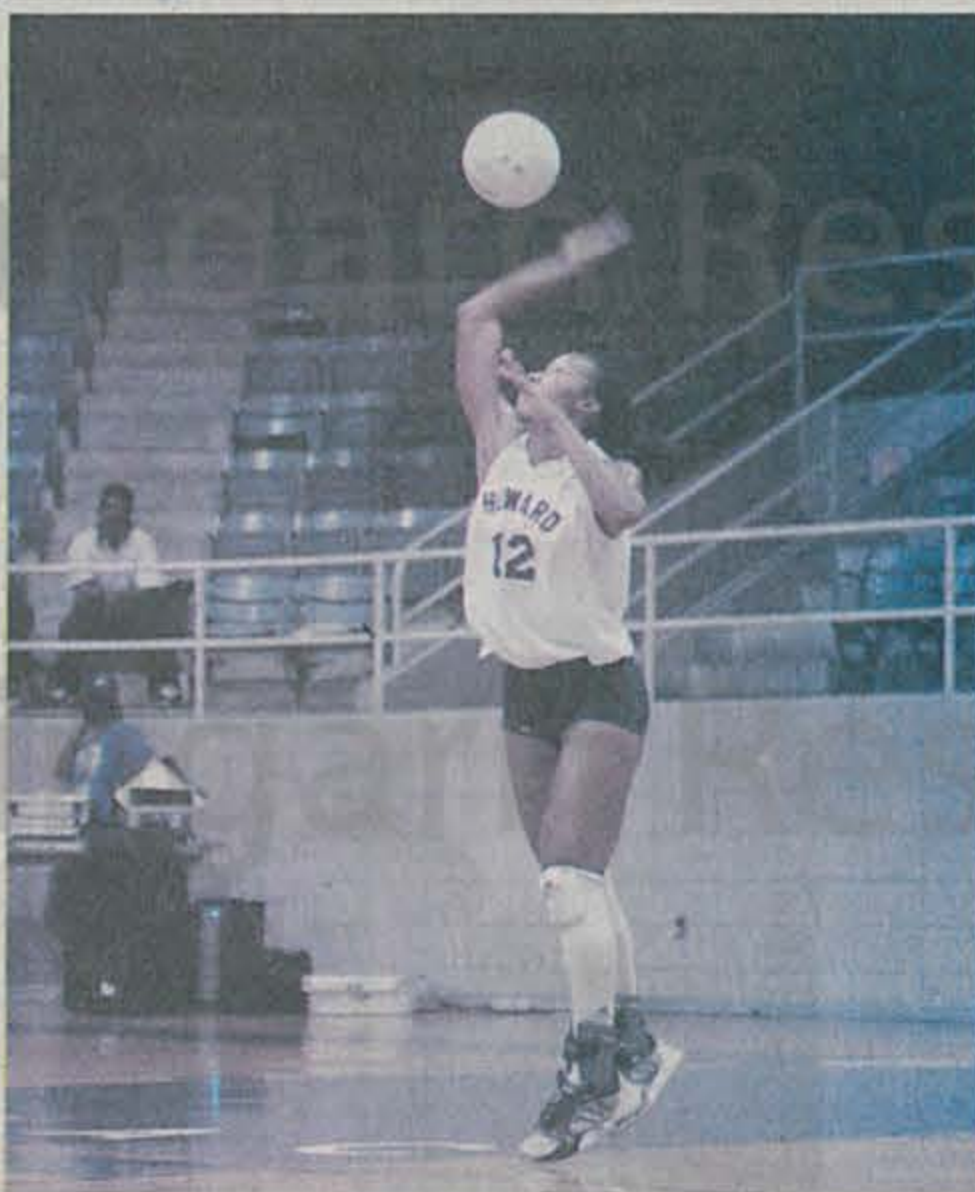
Hampton enters the game with a record of 4-6, after a win over Norfolk State on Tuesday. The Bison have been consistently building upon their strengths since the beginning of the season, and have improved their record to 2-7 with a loss after four matches to University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) on Tuesday.

"We felt a little slow in our playing, like something was missing between us on the floor," said senior libero Vanessa Hubbard after a previous game.

It appears that they have begun to find what they were missing as they have come off of a very strong season opening win against Coppin State last week.

Though the Lady Bison do not look like much is missing from their set up on the court, they have struggled with some of the basic fundamentals needed in order to keep the ball down and in control.

After Tuesday's game



Sophomore Janel James and the Lady Bison look to attack Hampton tonight at season's first MEAC contest.

against UMES, Coach Orlando Larracuente said, "It was a highly contested match. Though we did mishandle balls at opportune times to score."

All in all, Larracuente feels that the Bison put up a good fight in the four-match game on Tuesday, and that he was pleased with the effort the Bison gave on the

floor, but feels that, "We let some matches slip out of our hands."

However, Larracuente feels that there was a very specific game during the match on Tuesday that the Bison should have won. The team went point-for-point in each of the four games, but

UMES managed to get the best of Howard in the end to

come out with the final win.

Sophomore Janel James led the way for the Lady Bison with a double-double consisting of 15 kills, 16 digs and one block assist. Junior Morgan Maxwell contributed a double-double as well with 13 kills and 13 digs.

Senior Jenica Leonard had 15 digs during the four matches, and senior setter Shannon Grant put up 33 assists in Tuesday's match against UMES.

The Hampton University Lady Pirates volleyball team has been picked to finish seventh in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) volleyball title race by various team coaches and sports information directors.

With six top starters returning this year for Hampton, the Pirates are coming off of their best year since they moved to Division I in 1995 with a 20-15 record.

On September 16, the Lady Pirates extended their season record with a win over Savannah State. According to MEAC Sports, the Lady Pirates were led by sophomore Morgan Williams, who had a match high 15 kills.

Outside hitter Chavanna Hoskins added 12 kills and a match high 14 digs.

Sophomore outside hitter Aminah Charles had a career

SCOREBOARD & SCHEDULE

SCORES

Men's Soccer

Howard
1
Maryland Baltimore County 3

TODAY'S GAMES

Volleyball v. Hampton
7 p.m. @ Trinity

high ten kills and sophomore setter Jasmin Elder handed out 40 assists. Hampton hit an impressive .303 as a team in the opening game of the match and followed with team attack percentages of .278 in the second game and .237 for game three.

Because of the special event being held in Burr Gymnasium, the Lady Bison are scheduled to play at the Trinity Athletic Center located on Trinity University's campus at 7 p.m. tonight.

Athletes Face Unbalanced Student Crowd Support

BY WINNIE CLARK-JENKINS
Hilltop Staff Writer

It is not uncommon to come to a Bison football game in Greene Stadium and have trouble finding a seat in the stands. Even in the lowest winter temperatures, students venture across campus to attend home basketball games in Burr gymnasium. However, sports like soccer, swimming or track do not attract anywhere near the crowd volume as these sports.

"We don't get very much support from our fellow students," said junior track runner, Chris George. "We don't have home meets which may be the reason why people don't come out."

George and other track members feel that they would have better support if they had meets at home, however the track in Greene stadium is not up to par for NCAA track meets.

"I think we could get more support if people didn't have to go away for our meets," George said.

Some argue that these sports do not advertise well enough or they do not attract large crowds just because of the nature of the sport. In spite of this, many athletes are anxious to compete in front of their peers.

"Our crowd support in descent

but we could do a lot better," said Tracy Javier, a senior softball player. "We play across the street at Banneker, so we get a lot of support from local DC residents, but really only when it is warm out do we get some support from Howard students."

Both, George and Javier agreed that the teams do not always do such a great job when advertising their games.

Most Howard students have never been to a sporting event other than a football or basketball game. Some students are not even aware of all the sports on campus, so it is hard for many sports to get support from the student body.

"I didn't even know we had a bowling team," said freshman psychology major, Jamie Cook. "I just found out that we have a swim team."

Although these sports do not attract as large a crowd as the football or basketball teams, many students admit that they only attend those games for social reasons.

"I go to watch the cheerleaders at the football and basketball games more then to see the game itself," said junior chemistry major, Stephanie Short. "I like to go to see



Large crowds such as this are seen at football and basketball games, but other sports don't get the same support from Howard students.

my friends."

Students often do not attend some of the other sporting events because they do not know any players on the team, so it is a less engaging experience for them.

"I don't have any close friends that play on any of the other teams. I have never been invited to the games so I have never been attracted to go," Short said.

Even some members of the football team feel that despite the larger

size of their crowds they do not have as many "true" fans in the stands supporting them.

"We do have some die-hard fans," said Endor Cooper a junior on the football team. "I feel like crowds come to see the band and chill with their friends and then they leave at half time; they aren't really there for the game."

A large number of Howard athletes are still looking for support from their peers in crowds of all sizes.

Roger Clemens leads Astros to Win in Possibly Last Home Start

Houston Astro pitcher Roger Clemens pitched six scoreless innings for win no. 348 in his final home start of the season, and possibly his career.

He is scheduled to start at Philadelphia on Monday and Atlanta on Sept. 30.

The 44-year old won't confirm whether he will return next season.

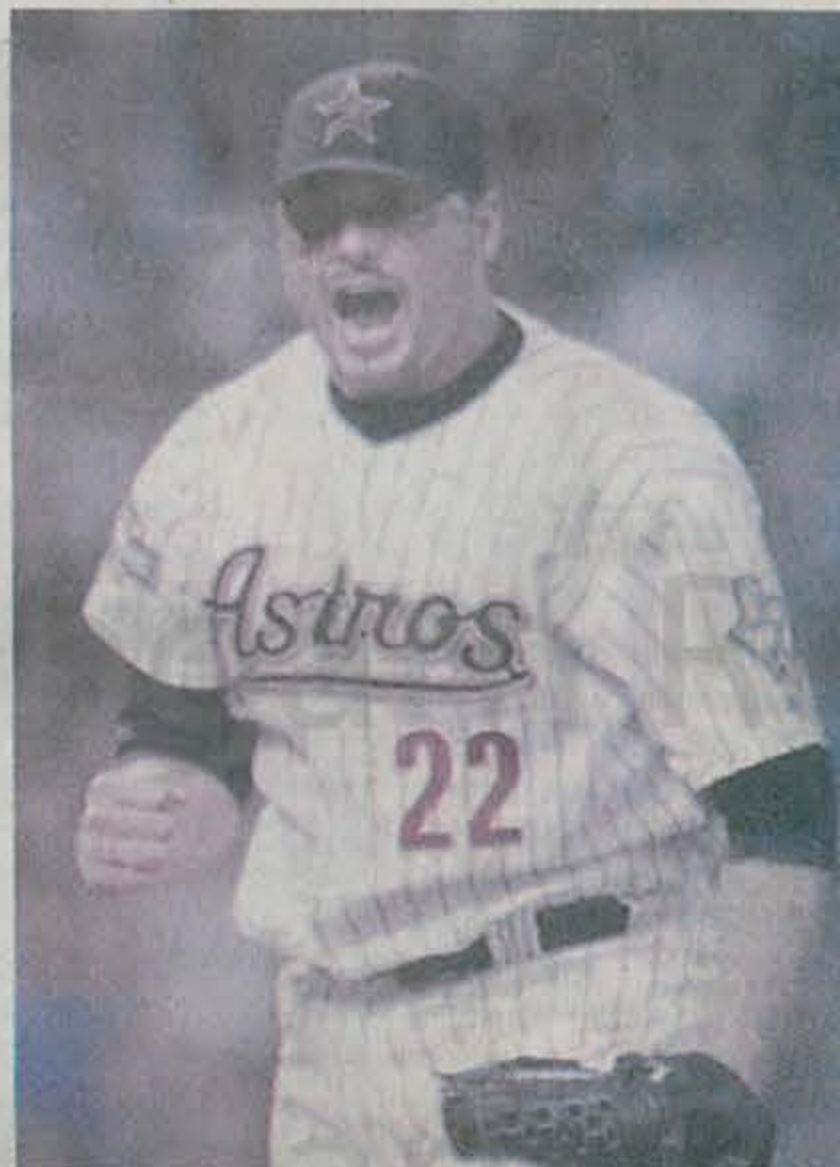


Photo courtesy of houstonastros.blogspot.com

TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY...

On Sept. 21, 1991, USA Basketball announced the "Dream Team" for the following year's Olympics.