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THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 90, NO. 29

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2006

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

FRIDAY
notebook

BREAKING NEWS

HOUSE TO INVESTIGATE CONDUCT

THE HOUSE ETHICS COMMITTEE VOTED TO SETUP A SUBCOMMITTEE TO MONITOR CONDUCT BETWEEN LAWMAKERS AND PAGES, ACCORDING TO THE NEW YORK TIMES.

NATION & WORLD

WHAT WOULD JESUS VOTE?

FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED IN A FORUM FOCUSED ON HOW JESUS WOULD VOTE IN NATION & WORLD.

PAGE 4



FRI, 10/6:
RAIN/ WIND
HIGH: 56, LOW: 50

SAT, 10/7:
FEW SHOWERS
WIND
HIGH: 60, LOW: 54

Howard to 'Live Large' in AVEO Challenge

BY SHANAE HARRIS
Campus Editor

AVEO is giving students at Howard a chance to show their ability to live large in any situation with the AVEO Livin' Large Campus Challenge.

The challenge will select two students from Howard's campus and other campuses including Boston University, Northwestern University, Michigan State University, University of Southern California, University of Florida and Texas Christian University to live in the roomy interior of a Chevy AVEO for the entire week of October 23 thru 27, competing to win their own Chevy AVEO.

Members of Capstone Communications and the Public Relations Student Society of America at Howard are helping to publicize the event and get students involved in the challenge.

"We are the only school in this region, as well as the only HBCU, that is participating in this event," said Jonathan Woods, President of PRSSA.

"We want students to enter that will represent Howard well."

According to the AVEO information website, students who are chosen to participate will be required to touch the car for the entire week, with only class breaks and 10-minute restroom and shower visits every other hour. Challengers must eat, sleep, study (and even party) in the AVEO.

"The concept of the challenge is to see who can be the most creative and really 'live large' in their car," said Jenea Robinson, president of Cap Com. "Competitors are supposed to bring their dorm and college life to the car and still do things like have parties and hold organizational meetings."

According to Robinson, PRSSA members will escort participants to class and the restroom.

In addition, the challenge will use Facebook and other online resources for the participating students to display their time living in the car with webcams posted inside and

outside of the AVEO.

"The students will be provided laptops to do their homework, as well as for blogging and posting their day-to-day experience for others to see online," Robinson said.

The winner of the challenge will be chosen through a voting system online. Students will go online and choose who they felt was the most creative and resourceful in 'living large' in the AVEO.

"We want to get Howard students and other students involved so that they vote for the Howard participants," Robinson said.

If the two participants win, the school will also receive a Chevy AVEO.

PRSSA does not yet know where the car would be placed on campus if Howard won, but Woods says it will be visible a week before the competition takes place.

"This is helping [PRSSA members] to develop our public relations skills. Our main job is to get as much media as possible to get students inter-



Photo Courtesy of Jenea Robinson

Students from colleges across the country will compete in the AVEO Livin' Large Campus Challenge. Winners of the challenge will receive their very own Chevy AVEO.

ested," Woods said.

On Thursday, members of the society raffled off two free step show tickets to students in Blackburn in exchange for registering for the event.

"I think this is very excit-

ing for Howard. I'm sure many students will try to compete because every student would love a free car," said Nicole Edwards, a senior public relations major.

Interested students can

enter into the challenge by going online to www.aveolivinelarge.com and registering by October 8. Competitors can enter as partners and have the option of submitting a video along with their registration.

Def Jam Artists Treat HU Students to Free Concert

BY TRAVER RIGGINS
Hilltop Staff Writer

Def Jam artists Bobby Valentino and Megan Rochell unofficially kicked off Homecoming for an enthusiastic audience in the West Ballroom of the Blackburn center last night at a free concert sponsored by Cingular GoPhones.

Both artists are releasing albums soon. Rochell hopes to see her's titled "You, Me, and the Radio," in stores sometime around January while Valentino's "Special Occasion" is expected to hit stores around Nov. 14.

Valentino is excited for the release of his new album which he says is hotter than the first. "I'm offering a ten song guarantee. If you don't like ten songs, take it back," he said.

With a degree in radio-TV-film from Clark Atlanta University, Valentino encourages students to stay in school and earn college degrees even when things are discouraging.

"A degree is something that no one can ever take from you," he said.

Valentino's experience as

lead singer in the teen group Mista in 1996 showed him that obtaining an education was necessary.

"It showed me that I needed a degree even if I had the chance to come right back out. The music industry can be fickle," Valentino said. He encourages Howard students to stick with it, saying Howard is "a great place to go and a great place to grow."

With Homecoming around the corner, both Valentino and Rochell regret not being able to stay and perform.

"I know Howard's Homecoming is crazy," said Rochell who attended the festivities last year.

This will be Rochell's debut album. "It's 100 percent based on me," she said.

Since performing on Apollo at age 11, Rochelle has wanted to be a singer and she is working hard to realize her dream. "People don't know me yet so I have to give it to them," she said.

In two weeks, she will be shooting a video for her single "Let Go" which will give the public a visual and hopefully allow

them to see what type of artist she is.

"I hope people will take the time to appreciate good music and a good person," Rochell said about herself.

Her manager, Nate Morris of Boyz II Men, believes she has what it takes to be successful. "I wouldn't waste my time with her if I didn't think so," he said.

Jalena Wilson, freshman radio-TV-film major, is already a fan of Rochell and thought her performance was wonderful. "I've been with her since day one," she said. "People need to get her album and listen to her music. She is going to be around for a long time," Wilson said.

Students were grateful to be able to enjoy the concert for free. "Everything right now is so expensive for Homecoming. It's good they have something to accommodate everyone," said freshman marketing major Kai Lawson.

A raffle chose about 40 students who were able to meet the singers at the end of the concert. Crystal Allen, freshman print journalism major, was one of the chosen few. She was a little nervous to meet Valentino who she is a fan of. "I used to call and request 'Slow Down' on the radio all the time. They got sick of me," Allen said.

With parts of his ventures already in progress, Valentino has big hopes for the future. Bobby V jeans are expected to hit boutiques this spring. "They are for women of all shapes and sizes: big women, little women, women with no booty," Valentino said.

He also hopes to start a line of stilettos for women and eventually write an instructional book on how to keep and find a good man.

The performance was successful according to Rochelle.

"Howard showed me a lot of love. I had fun and I appreciate it," Valentino said.



Jessica Detiege - Staff Photographer

Bobby Valentino performed Thursday evening in the Blackburn Center Ballroom in a concert sponsored by Cingular GoPhones.

Early Learning Program Dedicates Building



Tyrone Clemons - Staff Photographer

The Early Learning Program celebrated its Building Dedication and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of Building # 58 at 531 College Street, NW on Thursday. President H. Patrick Swygert did the honors of cutting the ribbon. Invited guests included parents of the students in the program, colleagues from the School of Education, deans and department chairs and the extended community. The Early Learning Program also hosted its annual Scholastic Book Fair and fall open house this week.

Students Anticipate Homecoming, Offer Safety Tips

BY STEPHANIE KENNARD
Contributing Writer

Rapper Ludacris summed it up well when he spit the famous line "jump in the car and just ride for hours, making sure I don't miss the homecoming at Howard."

The hype of the Howard University Homecoming extends from famous artists to other celebrities, students, alumni, family and friends.

The tickets sell out, and the area is filled to capacity, making Homecoming the second largest event on Howard's campus, falling short of the commencement ceremonies. Students' excitement ranges from standing in line for more than eight hours for tickets, to purchasing tickets at fifty dollars that originally sold for twenty five dollars. This year's Homecoming, titled "Utopia," features eleven events lined up for the week of October 6-14, providing a plethora of entertainment for students to indulge in.

Jatasha Johnson, a junior broadcast journalism major of Chicago, Ill., is excited about Yardfest "because of the differ-

ent people that come from other schools and it's free."

Senior economics major, Ryan Hussey of Baltimore, Md., is also looking forward to Yardfest.

"I'm excited about Yardfest because it's fun to have top artist[s] come visit and perform here and it's free." Other events that students rated as a must to be in attendance included the step show, the fashion shows, and the comedy show.

Many students new to Howard are looking forward to experiencing Howard Homecoming, including Brittany Eubank of Indianapolis, Ind.

"I am looking forward to the whole Howard University Homecoming experience, the parade, the parties," Eubank said.

As a transfer student, Tina Betts, a sophomore biology major, is excited about getting to experience the great Howard Homecoming.

While some new students are thrilled by the events, others are excited about the people in attendance. Johnnie Glover, a junior broadcast journalism major of Atlanta, Ga., is excited "about the celebrity guests that will be appearing on campus throughout the

week."

Kiya Palmer, a first year social work grad student from Delaware, is "looking forward to seeing all the alumni and students and having a good time."

Although Homecoming is about having fun, students new and old should always take precautions. Sophomore Cicely Barber of Chicago, Ill., recommends: "Get an early start, don't stress: Homecoming is annual, and don't miss any tests to go to an event: you may not be back for the next annual homecoming."

Peris Kihara, a junior Public Relations major of Gaithersburg, Md., believes that all the women on campus should be especially mindful of the surroundings.

"Avoid Georgia Ave, especially during the last two days of Homecoming," Kihara says.

In addition to the many precautions and safety strategies that Campus Police has implemented for the students safety, Chief Lawrence Thomas advises that students enjoy themselves but be mindful that some desirable and undesirable people are in attendance at Howard Homecoming events.



During Homecoming Campus Police Chief Lawrence Thomas advises students to use shuttles and avoid carrying wallets and purses.

"Wearing of expensive jewelry should be kept to a minimum, use the shuttles and escort services, and avoid carrying purses and wallets when not needed," Thomas said. In order to assist Campus Police in their efforts, Thomas insists that any questions or concerns regarding safety be directed to the depart-

ment by phone.

Although the undesirable may appear on campus, Homecoming is about being a part of the Howard University community. But, foremost it is about having fun and benefiting from experiencing one aspect of the Howard legacy.

Workforstudents.com Makes Student Sellers

BY NIKOLE L. PEGUES
Contributing Writer

Among the hundreds of fliers posted around campus, students have surely noticed the bright green workforstudents.com advertisements. The fliers boast of great job opportunities with flexible work schedules and great pay, luring in students who don't have much job experience or money. What the flier doesn't say is that the job entails selling expensive knives for a company called Vector Marketing.

Workforstudents.com is actually the online application site for Vector Marketing Corporation, the distributor of Cutco Cutlery. Vector has been in business since 1981 and has 250 offices nationwide, employing hundreds of high school and college students to work as sales representatives. The company advertises with on-campus fliers, letters (nicknamed "mailers") sent directly to potential representatives, postings on online job search engines and recruiters at high school graduations.

The interview process can take anywhere from one to two hours. The manager pre-

screens all the applicants and then conducts a long group information session. This part of the interview process is very thorough, and every aspect of the job is described in detail, including the \$150 deposit that is required to receive the starter kit.

Freshman psychology major Ashleigh Owens, who applied for the position at Vector, said that the company seemed to take everyone who applied.

"The interviewer took each person into her office to say whether they were hired or not; everyone was," Owens said. "She was trying to make it seem like some people would not be hired. I think the interview was unnecessary."

As director of Campus Relations for Vector Marketing, Sarah Baker-Andrus said the company is proud of its hiring practices.

"We hire everybody willing to support us. If they support us, we support them," Baker-Andrus said.

Baker-Andrus went on to explain that the job isn't for everyone.

"It challenges your con-

fidence, skills and abilities," she said.

Accepted applicants are placed in a three-day, unpaid, training before beginning in-home presentations of the Vector products. During these three days, sales representatives are trained in proper sales techniques, getting referrals, safety and general features of Cutco Cutlery. Those who make it through training receive a base pay for every booked qualified appointment, whether a purchase is made or not.

"I made good money when I worked for Vector," said freshman marketing major Nadia Sicard. "It's hard work just like any job, but they train you in everything you'll be doing. People complain about the work because they don't commit themselves to it."

However, everyone does not agree with Sicard. In the past, Vector has been accused of taking advantage of students and has had legal action taken against the company.

Students Against Vector Exploitation (S.A.V.E.) is a network of current and former Vector Marketing employ-

ees who work to expose the alleged unethical and scandalous nature of the company. The organization's Yahoo group currently has nearly 750 members across the country, who accuse Vector of preying on college students.

A supervisor with the Wisconsin Consumer Protection Department was quoted by The Washington Post in July 1996 as saying that the state surveyed 940 Vector recruits in 1992 and found that almost half either earned nothing or lost money working for Vector. He went on to say that on average, workers in that state earned less than \$3 a day selling cutlery for Vector.

According to Vector employees, one's ability to make money from selling the product depends on personal dedication and sales ability.

While questions still arise about Vector's ethics as a company, many students have either called the number on the fliers around campus, or know someone who has worked for Vector Marketing.



Samara Pearson - Contributing Photographer

Vector Marketing Corporation, which sells expensive kitchenware, employs college students across the nation.

Students Mentor, Tutor for Work-Study Program

BY ANYA L. ALEXANDER
Hilltop Staff Writer

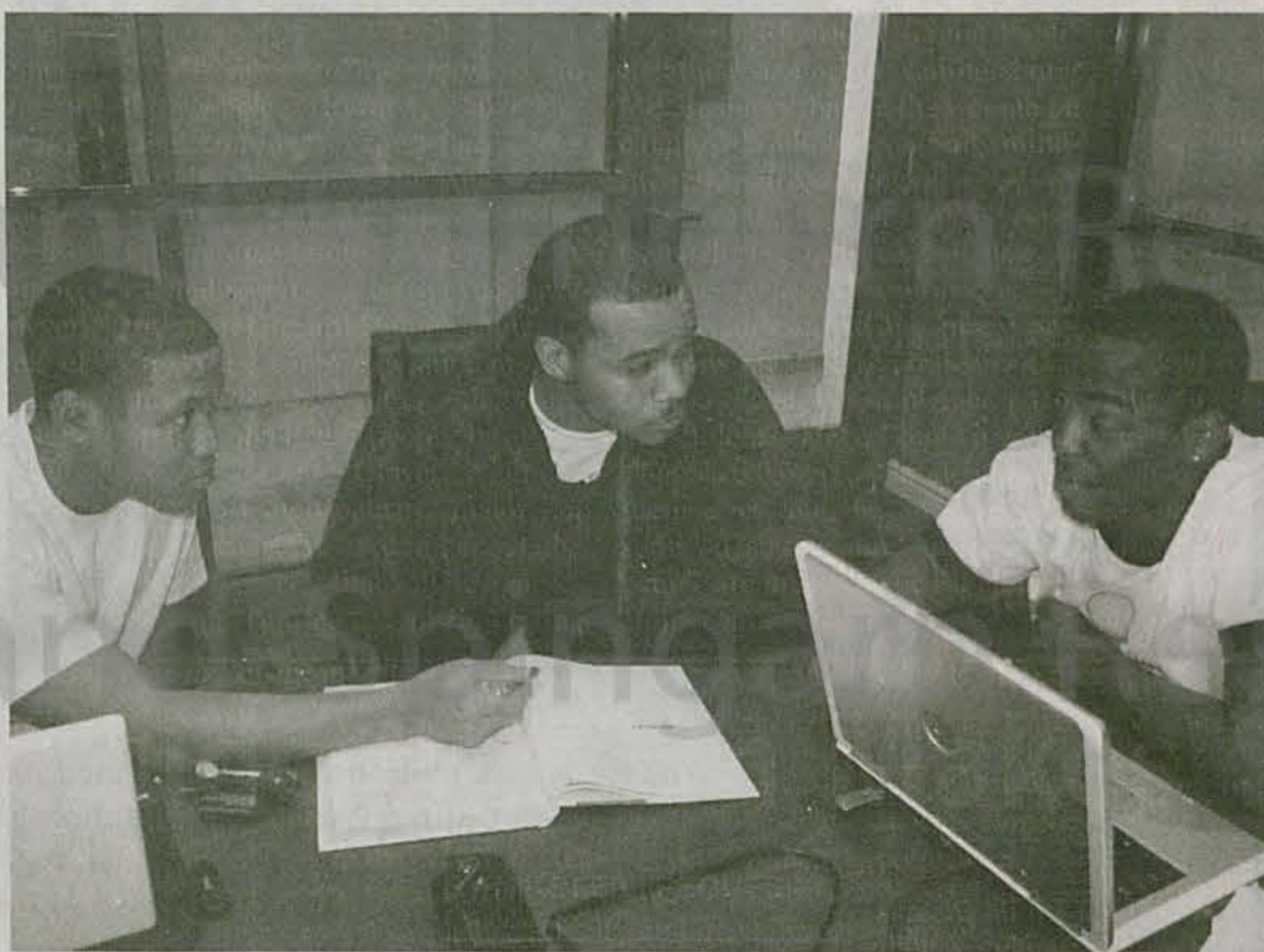
Seeing the tremendous need for children to be educated outside of the classroom, senior speech communications major Kaleah Merriweather volunteers on free time to tutor a 9th grader in Bowie, Md.

Merriweather met the thirteen-year-old girl during camp this summer and decided thereafter that she wanted to play a bigger role in this young girl's life. She said that tutoring the girl in English and reading showed her the flaws of the education system in the District.

Even though motivating children can be very difficult at times, Merriweather feels that this experience has put many things in perspective as a Howard student.

"Time spent with her is very rewarding," Merriweather said. "It humbled me and made me feel really good at the same time."

Though Merriweather decided to reach out and tutor a young girl on her own, the Howard University Federal Work-Study tutoring program gives students an opportunity



Atrice Williams - Staff Photographer

The work-study program allows students to tutor children at District public schools.

to receive work-study funds to help supplement educational needs, while giving back to the community.

Lakesha Bradshaw has been the off-campus program

coordinator for more than three years. She believes that Howard student involvement in tutor/student relationships with school children from the surrounding community

has had a lasting impact that reaches far beyond the academic year.

"What I love most about my job is the opportunity to encourage and motivate

Howard students to serve as tutors," Bradshaw said. "In turn, they encourage and motivate the children that they tutor. It is a wonderful cycle of service and giving."

According to Bradshaw, student participation on campus has been excellent because the students become attached to the children they serve. "They tell me that they would tutor for free although the payments help," Bradshaw says.

Generally, once a student decides to tutor they remain in the program their entire time at Howard.

The Federal Work Study tutoring program requires that students complete a Federal Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) and meet requirements by the priority deadlines of February 15th for new students and March 15th for continuing students in order to participate in the program.

Students are provided free training and other resources such as children's books, which are utilized during the tutoring session.

The program is promoted by fliers, advertisements in *The Hilltop* and em-

ployment vacancies in the Student Employment Office. Additionally, students are recruited with dorm visits and tables set up in the Blackburn Center.

There are a total of eight programs that include: Heads Up, Jump-Start for Young Children, For Love of Children, H.D. Cooke Elementary School, Gage-Eckington Elementary School, Bruce-Monroe Elementary School, Good Shepherd Ministries and CentroNi Community After-School and Advocacy Program.

Bradshaw has made many improvements to the program, including making sure all the sites are within walking distance of main campus or accessible by shuttle.

The success of the program was acknowledged by the Washington Post a few years ago for scoring well in community service.

"My hope and expectation for the school year is to continue to employ a good group of students who are committed because of the opportunity to serve and give back to the community," Bradshaw said.

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Church Leaders Ponder 'How Would Jesus Vote'

BY VANESSA MIZELL
Nation and World Editor

To ask the question: "what would Jesus do" used to be a popular statement to wear with the words or abbreviation plastered on t-shirts and engraved on rubber wristbands. Now, with mid-term elections just a month away, Christians are grappling with how to vote Jesus' principles into office.

If Jesus Christ, who according to the Gospel of John once said, "my Kingdom is not of this world," were to approach a voting booth in November, would he vote Democrat or Republican?

At last night's "How Would Jesus Vote" panel discussion, hosted by Advance Church, Christian leaders from all spectrums agreed on which party Jesus would align himself: Neither.

"Jesus came not to take sides," said Advance Church pastor Bruce Clark, "but to take over the world."

The panelists do urge citizens to vote, which inevitably means choosing a politician that represents a certain party.

Panelist and radio show host Janet Parshall said later in an



The "How Would Jesus Vote?" panel met yesterday to discuss the role religion should take in voting and policy making.

interview that in order to make sure that their vote is aligned with Jesus' principles, he or she should have a clear understanding of where the candidate stands on issues.

"Check the voting record of the incumbent or call and find out what the person's views are if it's not an incumbent," Parshall said. "See whether their beliefs or voting record advances or negates principles of Jesus Christ."

If none of the candidates on the ballot line up with biblical principles, or represent this in only half of their views, Parshall says to look further.

"This is where the individual represents a party," Parshall said. "You have to find out where does the party stand on the issue. Because in federal government, the majority party picks the chairs of the committee and they decide which legislation goes forward and

decide the judges for nomination. You might have a great piece of legislation but if the majority party holds the opposite biblical position, that legislation will never see the light [of] day."

She added, "Sometimes you have to hold your nose and vote... there is no perfect candidate. We're all sinners."

The panelists also called on politicians to be Christian leaders. Bishop Harry Jackson of Hope Christian Church mentioned how Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. turned spiritual faith into actual public policy.

"The Civil Rights [movement] had a spiritual base which emanated and spread to integrate the masses and eventually created public policy," he said.

With mass media focusing

more heavily on the evangelical part of Christianity, the panelists said that many are seeing political opposition between white and black evangelical groups. More black evangelicals vote Democratic and whites vote Republican.

"The two parties have two competing ideologies in the role of government," said Richard Cizik of National Association of Evangelicals.

Bishop Harry Jackson, a registered Democrat, is aiming to cross party lines and build bridges between the two parties. In his book, "The Black Contract With America," he highlights moral values that he believes Republicans and Democrats alike can implement.

"Jesus came not to take sides, but to take over the world."

- Bruce Clark, Pastor of Advance Church

"We've Got Issues..." Disenfranchised Voters

"We've Got Issues..." will appear in The Hilltop every other Friday. Produced in part by Project Voice, "We've Got Issues..." will look at a particular topic that is pertinent in our community. It will also present the basic facts and the perspectives of the conservative and liberal wings. Then it's your turn: after reading both perspectives, tell us what YOU think.

Issue:

Approximately 4.7 million Americans are barred from voting because they have felony records. This includes not just prison inmates (48 states), parolees (33 states) and probationers (29 states), but also a large number of people who are off parole and "free," which is one third of the disenfranchised. Minorities are hit particularly hard by these state laws: 13 percent of African-American men are denied the right to vote.

Question:

Should Ex-Felons Be Allowed to Vote?

Liberal View:

Over 4.5 million Americans are hindered from voting because of felon disenfranchisement laws. This is even after the citizen has paid his or her debt to society through probation, parole or prison time. Restoring voting rights to ex-felons who have served their time has bipartisan support. The Bipartisan National Commission on Federal Election Reform, headed by former Presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford agrees that this process is unjust.

The key word in this issue is 'ex.' Once a person has paid his or her dues, they are no longer a felon. Whether or not statistics prove that ex-felons have a high chance of committing an offense again is irrelevant. The United States' Constitution states that one is innocent until proven guilty.

Furthermore, the United States is the only democracy in the world that bans its felons from voting. This process disproportionately disenfranchises black males, of which 13 percent are barred from voting, and Latino males, of which 16 percent are barred from voting.

"Once individuals convicted of felonies have served their time, the criminal justice system is devoted to rehabilitating them as active members in their communities, but denying these individuals the right to vote prevents them from participating in the civic life of their communities," said a representative from the National Commission for Election Reform.

-Breauna Blakely

Conservative View:

John Locke felt that even though life, liberty and property are naturally guaranteed to all men, when we trespass against the rights of others we automatically absolve ourselves of those rights. By willfully breaking the law, these citizens have shown contempt for this nation and its citizens.

To allow those who have broken the law to try to reintegrate fully into society would take the sting out of the correctional process, rendering it relatively innocuous.

In a Department of Justice research study looking at recidivism rates of criminals between the years 1983 and 1994, it was found that 67.5 percent of all criminals arrested during that period were rearrested within 3 years of their original offense.

The bulk of felony arrests stem from violent crimes and drug charges. These people through their own willful accord have shown their disregard for the Constitution, and our civil and natural rights, so why should we feel anymore obligated to honor theirs?

-DeMario Greene

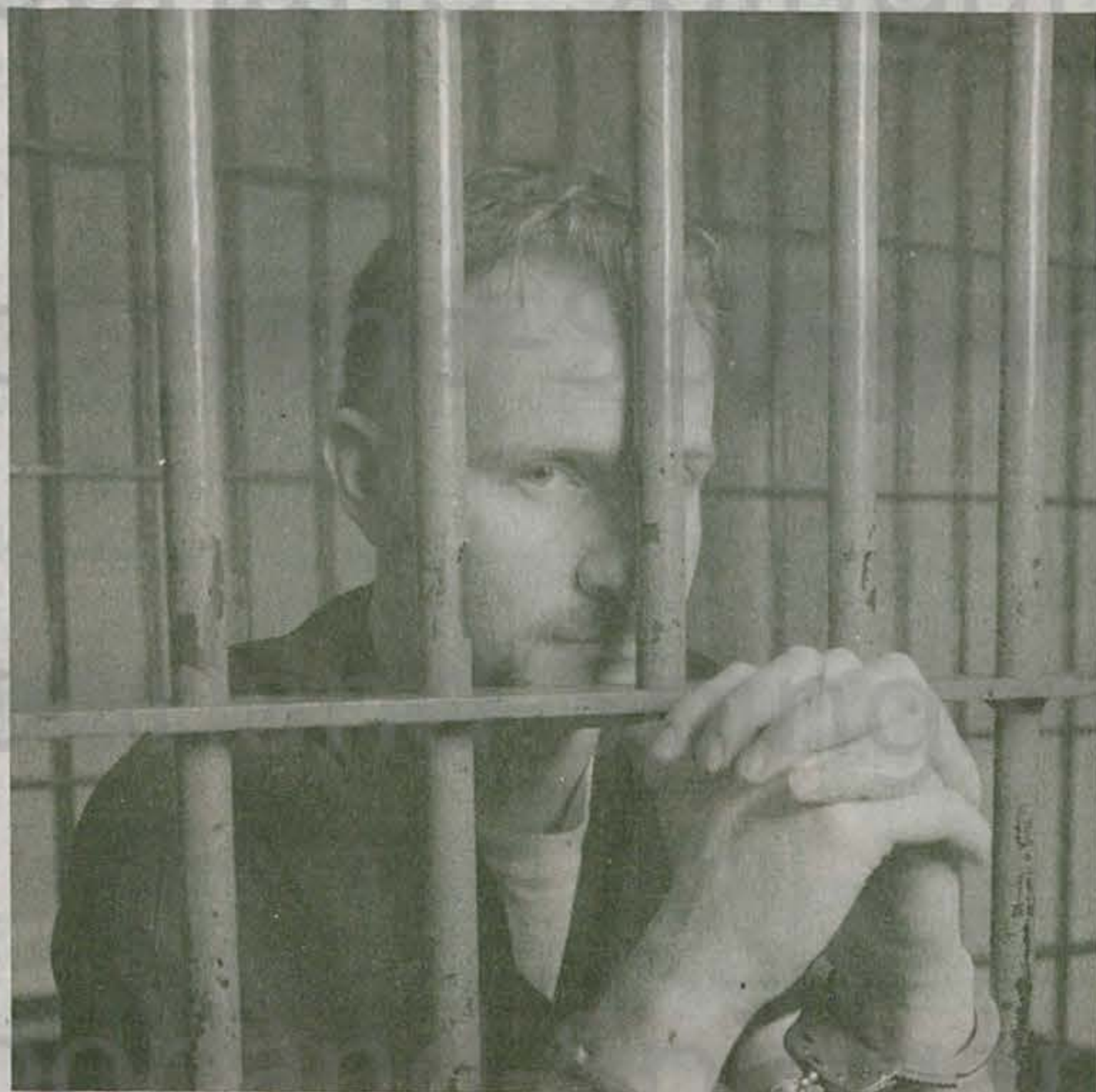


Photo Courtesy of blogs.indiewire.com

*These opinions are not the those of The Hilltop or Project Voice. Project Voice is a student organization dedicated to increasing political awareness on the Howard University campus. For more information on Project Voice, and to give us YOUR opinion, e-mail us at ProjectVoice@gmail.com.



meet us...

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DATE: Tuesday, October 10th, 2006

TIME: 6:00pm - 7:00pm

VENUE: School of Business Student Lounge

SPEAKER: Marcia E. Young
Managing Director
Chief Administrative Officer
Risk Management

Please consult with your Career Services
Department for interview dates and resume
submission deadlines

Investment Banking

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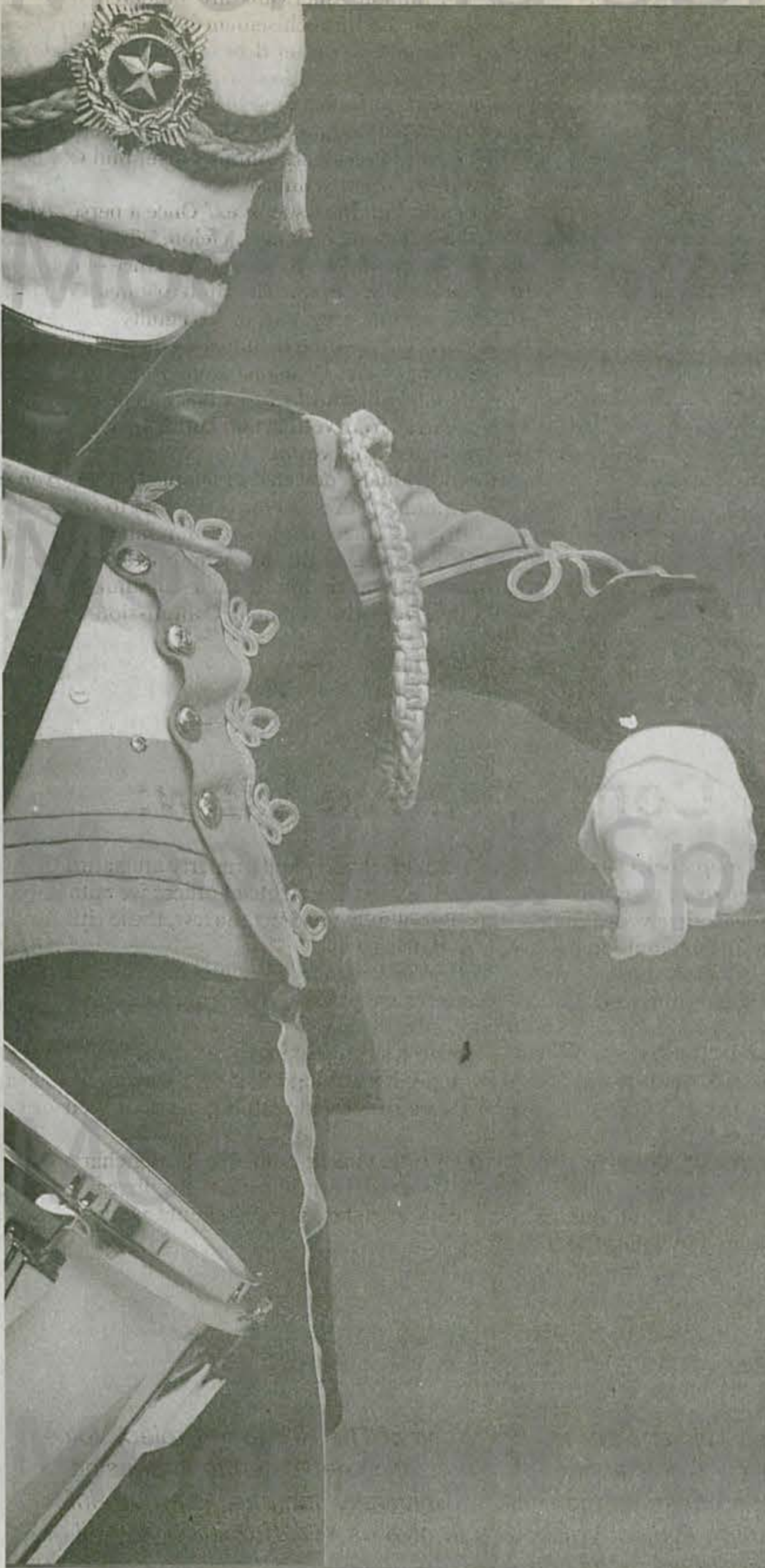
"The people I work with are just great. Although they demand a lot from me, they are encouraging and helpful and — most important of all — good friends and fun to work with."

JESSICA TONG, ANALYST

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5:00PM · CRAMTON AUDITORIUM

CORONATION BALL
12:00MIDNIGHT · ODYSSEY CRUISE YACHT

SUNDAY.OCTOBER.8TH
GOSPEL CONCERT
7:00PM · CRAMTON AUDITORIUM

TUESDAY.OCTOBER.10TH
COMEDY SHOW
7:00PM · CRAMTON AUDITORIUM

THURSDAY.OCTOBER.12TH
FASHION SHOW
7:00PM & 10:30PM · CRAMTON AUDITORIUM

FRIDAY.OCTOBER.13TH
YARDFEST
12:NOON · MAIN YARD

R&B CONCERT
7:00PM · CRAMTON AUDITORIUM

SATURDAY.OCTOBER.14TH
HOMECOMING PARADE
10:00AM

HOMECOMING GAME
HOWARD UNIVERSITY -vs- MORGAN STATE
1:00PM · GREENE STADIUM

STEP SHOW
7:00PM · THE DC ARMORY

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Volleyball Team Falls to Morgan St. 3-1

BY JULIANNE HANCKEL
Hilltop Staff Writer

Last night, the Lady Bison volleyball team dropped their first home match to the Lady Bears of Morgan State, 3-1. Howard's record fell to 3-11, as Morgan improved their record to 9-6.

The Lady Bison had the special privilege of being the first Howard team to play on the newly refurbished Burr Gymnasium floor.

Howard entered the contest after dropping three games in the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) Comfort Inn Classic last weekend, losing to Fairleigh Dickinson, Providence and St. Francis. Meanwhile, the Bears were coming off a 3-1 win against UMES this past Tuesday in Baltimore.

Even though Howard lost the match, Morgan State coach Ramona Riley-Bozier understands that Howard must travel to her school for MEAC conference seeding.

"It seems like they lost some steam towards the end of game four, but I understand that HU won't let you take anything away from them," Riley-Bozier said.

The Bears got off to a quick start, building a 15-point lead and never looking back, taking game one 30-15.

"I thought the first game was kind of slow," Riley-Bozier said. "But everyone comes to play, and we play games where we are in total control."

At the start of the second game, Howard charged ahead to take a 6-2 lead. The Lady Bears had difficulty with serve returns and spikes from the Howard side of the net, as those mistakes gave Howard the early lead.

This time it was Howard that led by more than six points in the beginning of the game, as Morgan State was forced to take their first timeout of the match. Howard continued to lead the second match with a score of 18-12 as Morgan State gained the ball back, but lost service on a side out. The Lady Bison made a statement with their comeback in game two as they won with a 30-27 score.

"After this game, I thought we would be excited to win the third and possibly the fourth," Howard coach Orlando Larracuenté said. "But instead, we were emotionless and totally quiet."

The competition seemed evenly distributed among the two teams as in each game, the point gap became narrower and narrower. The Lady Bison were attempting to catch up to the Lady Bears' 17-11 lead, but after many

tries to regain ball control Howard was only able to cut it to 22-17.

After a Morgan Maxwell block at the net, and a serving loss by Howard, the Lady Bears were back with the ball on their side and the score in their favor, 25-20. This time, though, Morgan State took the win, 30-21.

"Howard is a scrappy team, they always fight until the end," Riley-Bozier said.

"Our ball control and more importantly our fighting spirit was gone," Larracuenté said.

"Because we haven't been successful, it's in the back of our heads, and it is holding us back," he said.

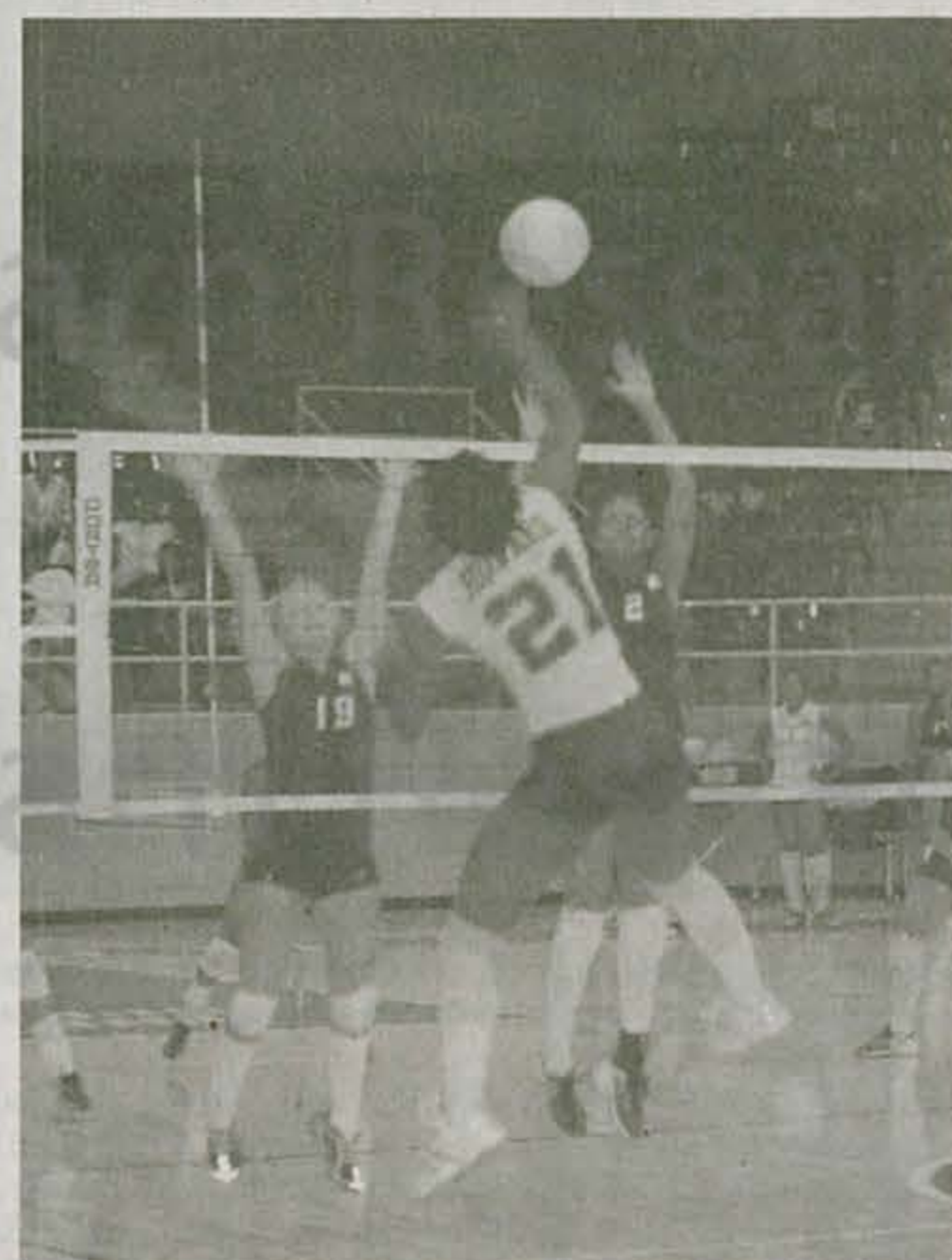
The beginning of game four proved to be an easy start for the Lady Bears as they led by 12 points, and pushed the efforts of the Lady Bison on the floor. With a fast accumulation of points for the Lady Bears, the spikes of freshman Ivanti Bush found all of the gaps of the Howard defense and tested the positioning of the team on the floor.

Last week, Bush was named the Rookie of the Week by MEAC sports. Morgan State took the win at the end of game four with a score of 30-16.

Larracuenté explained that winning is contagious and losing is a disease.

"We are sick, and we have to find the medicine to cure whatever illness we have," he said. Larracuenté also said that the Bison have to push themselves over the competitive edge and really understand the game and how it is played.

The Lady Bison travel to Dover, Del., tomorrow to take on the Lady Hornets of Delaware State. Their next home game is Tuesday, Oct. 10 at 7 p.m. against the UMES Lady Hawks.



Morgan Maxwell of the Lady Bison goes up for a spike against the Morgan State defense.

SCOREBOARD

SCORES

Volleyball

Morgan State 3
Howard 1

WEEKEND GAMES

Saturday

Swimming vs. Towson @ Burr Gymnasium
1 p.m.

Football @ Winston-Salem State
2 p.m.

Volleyball @ Delaware State
7 p.m.

Men's Soccer @ Hartwick
7 p.m.

Softball @ George Washington Tournament
TBD

Sunday

None

Monday

Women's Soccer @ Liberty
4 p.m.

DIVISION SERIES MATCHUPS

AL Division Series



Series tied 1-1



Oakland leads 2-0



Cardinals lead 2-0



Mets lead 2-0



Major League Baseball Playoffs Get Underway

BY MICHAEL A. BENJAMIN II
Contributing Writer

From the first windy day of spring training in March, the goal of every Major League Baseball team is to win the World Series. Now in October, only the eight teams that have made the playoffs can still realize this dream.

This year, the American League has been the dominant of the two baseball leagues.

During interleague play, the American League pounded the National League, posting a record of 154-98.

The New York Yankees, Detroit Tigers, Oakland Athletics and Minnesota Twins each have 90 wins, and they will be representing the AL in this year's edition of postseason action.

The New York Yankees boast a lineup that is arguably the best in baseball. According to ESPN.com, the Yanks claim the second highest batting average in the Major Leagues at .285, and have scored 930 runs this season.

However, Arthur Surratt, a sophomore marketing major and an avid White Sox fan, believes that starting pitching and a deep bullpen are vital to success in the playoffs similar to that of the 2005 champion White Sox. The powerhouse lineup that the Yankees boast is not as important.

Marcus Stanton, advertising major and graduating senior agrees with Surratt. "[Playoff success] is all about elite starting pitching and a great closer."

The Yankees are led by MVP candidate Derek Jeter and closer Mariano Rivera, and are likely to provide some theatrics in their 11th straight postseason appearance.

The Yankees will be playing the Detroit Tigers, a young team led by manager Jim Leyland and a solid pitching staff with their ace, Rookie of the Year candidate Justin Verlander. Verlander has 17 wins to lead the Tigers, along with a 3.63 ERA.

The other AL Divisional Series showdown is between the Minnesota Twins and the Oakland Athletics. After botching out on June 10 with a 27-34 record, the Minnesota Twins have caught fire and captured the AL Central crown.

The Twins possess three AL MVP candidates: batting champ Joe Mauer, slugger Justin Morneau, and ace southpaw Johan Santana.

However, the A's have their own all-time great in hitting Frank Thomas as well as a pair of great hurlers in Barry Zito, a 16 game winner, and closer Huston Street with 37 saves.

This year, the National League has played kid brother to the American League all year long, with the New York Mets the lone NL team over 90 wins this season.

The parity in the National League kept a heap of teams in the mix until the season's end and the Los Angeles Dodgers, St. Louis Cardinals and San Diego Padres were able to slide into October baseball, along with the Mets, playing in their first postseason since 2000.

Although the Mets have won four straight games entering the playoffs, they have literally limped into the postseason.

According to the New York Times, ace starter Pedro Martinez has a torn rotation cuff in his right arm, a torn ten-

don in his left leg and will be out for the postseason. While warming up for Game 1 of the NLDS, Orlando Hernandez tore a muscle in his right calf, and was replaced by rookie John Maine. Maine and the Mets will face a Dodgers team that caught fire and eventually squeezed in as the wild card team behind the play of first baseman Nomar Garciaparra.

Sophomore philosophy major Jessamyn Perkins believes that the National League Wild Card Race has been a sad story this year.

"Originally, the Wild Card was designed to reward the deserving team that just happened to be in a tough division, [but now it's like watching] a turtle compete against itself," Perkins said.

The final NLDS match up will be between the San Diego Padres and the St. Louis Cardinals whose batting order revolves around slugger Albert Pujols, who finished with 49 home runs and 137 RBIs this season. St. Louis is also strengthened by former Cy Young award winning pitcher Chris Carpenter, who went 15-8 with a 3.09 ERA this year.

The Padres counter with their surprise power hitter, Adrian Gonzalez, who chalked up a 24 homer, 85 RBI season, and closer Trevor Hoffman, the record holder for the most saves in major league history, a feat he accomplished this past September.

After 162 games, these eight playoff teams separated themselves from the pack. Now, the world will notice every mental error, admire every pitcher with ice water in his veins, and cheer every walk off blast of baseball's postseason.

Swim Teams Begin Season With Meet vs. Towson

BY JULIANNE HANCKEL
Hilltop Staff Writer

The Howard men's and women's swimming and diving teams are set to compete in their season opener against the Towson University Tigers this Saturday at the Burr Gymnasium pool at 1 p.m.

The meet against Towson is the first swim meet of the season for both teams as the Bison try to compete at even a greater level than last year.

"Towson is a strong team, and very competitive," said Howard Swimming and Diving coach Schaeffers Rawoings. "Towson is a stepping stone for us," he said. "It will determine where we need to work from for the rest of the season."

Junior finance major Kerhyll Gantt, a member of the women's swim team said, "This year, our meets start out against tough teams, but we do try and help each other improve our swimming. If one of us looks bad, we all look bad."

There is a slight problem that is working against the women's swimming and diving team that has Gantt concerned about the team's performance on Saturday.

"Because we are a black school, and there are not that many black professional swimmers, we are always out numbered," Gantt said. "If there is an event with four or more

swimmers in it from another team, Howard is only able to produce two swimmers for the event. We are always at a disadvantage."

Rawoings agrees with Gantt that both teams are outnumbered, but feels that the men's team is at a greater disadvantage.

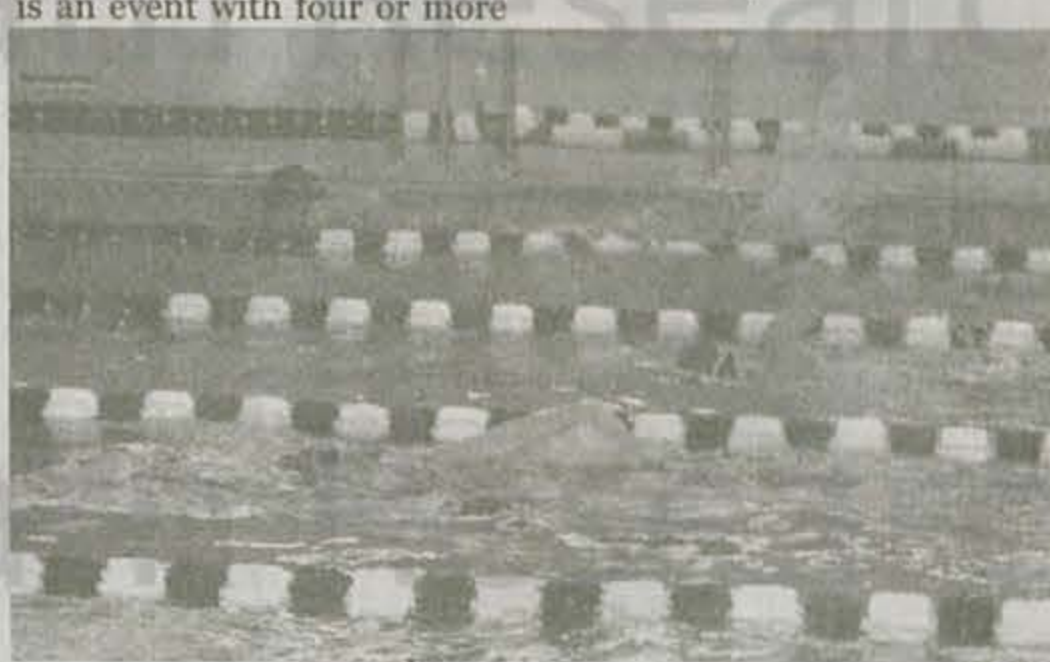
"The men have to be more competitive," Rawoings said, "the only reason we won't win is because of our numbers. We have a great team this year."

The lack of swimmers on the Howard women's swim team causes the team to lag behind in points for every event because they are not able to match the other teams in numbers that qualify them to swim in certain events.

This causes the team, also known as the "Sharks," to consistently lack points and fall behind. This year, Gantt hopes that the team will be able to improve their status because of the hard work that they have put into the pre-season.

The men's swimming and diving team has also had their fair share of pre-season practices, joining the women's team with two-a-days starting at 6 a.m., and again in the afternoon.

The men's team also dips into the pool on Saturday mornings, making Sunday the only day the team has to relax and catch up on work.



The Bison Swim teams host Towson at 1 p.m. tomorrow.

TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY...

On October 6, 1963, the Los Angeles Dodgers swept the New York Yankees to win the 60th World Series.

To Sleep, or Not to Sleep...While in Class

BY SIMONE STEPHENSON
Contributing Writer

One of the major problems college students face is a lack of sleep each night. Health officials suggest that students get six to eight hours of sleep every night, but many students wonder if that is feasible as a full-time student.

Many students have after-school jobs, or are involved in other extracurricular activities such as sports teams or campus organizations. Most would say that a decent amount of sleep every night is not realistic.

Some students are physically and mentally satisfied with only three to five hours of sleep every night.

"I for some reason don't need a lot of sleep every night," said junior actuarial science major Marietta Sloan. "A few hours and some coffee or a Red Bull in the morning is good enough for me."

Other students, like junior advertising major Sharise Crumley, may not even be able to function with such few hours of rest.

"I definitely need several hours of sleep at night, otherwise I crash during the day," Crumley said. "Then, if I nap, it throws my sleep schedule off later that night...then the process repeats itself the next day and then the next."

Some students need the full six to eight hours; however, this is often not even an option for students who have early morning classes. "I never



File Photo

Students often suffer from a lack of sleep or have irregular sleep cycles because of heavy course loads, jobs and extracurricular activities. As a result, many fall asleep during class or miss it entirely.

thought about the actual hours, but I generally fall asleep around two in the morning and I have classes at 8:10 some mornings," said junior public relations major Miranda Teel. "So,

that's about four and a half hours a night. I do get tired during the day, but if I nap I won't fall asleep until even later the next night."

Like Crumley, Teel suffers from

the common problem for students, the effects of napping which is considered a lose-lose situation: If one naps, sleep is lost later that evening. But if students don't nap, fatigue and

a lack of energy occurs throughout the day. Not only could one have difficulty concentrating in classes, but professors may have a negative view of students who look tired and even fall asleep in class.

"I can't let myself fall asleep in class," said junior business marketing major Camille Barnette. "I feel like, if you fall asleep, you have no excuse not to do well...because clearly you think you know all there is to know," Barnette said.

Professors often have a different take on the same story.

"I think [students falling asleep in class] is for a number of reasons," said Dr. Carr, assistant professor of African-American Studies. "But I also know that when I was in undergrad, I worked the third shift, 10 p.m. to 6 a.m., flipping burgers at Krystal's, then I had an 8 a.m. class."

Carr added, "I don't ask students to leave, but I try to make my classes interesting enough so they can't sleep. I try to give them something to pay attention for. That's my responsibility."

Some students have, mastered the art of finding ways to fall asleep peacefully. Crumley turns her T.V., radio and lights off before bed. "Darkness and silence are key for me," she said.

Barnette commented that some sound eases her to sleep. "I have to sleep with the television on. I like to fall asleep to Nick At Nite."



Photo Courtesy of images.asiatoday.com

Students look to power naps, exercise and drinks such as Red Bull for energy.

Tips: Staying Alert All Day

BY JACQUELINE COOK
Hilltop Staff Writer

According to the American College Health Association, 24 percent of college students report sleep difficulties as one of the top 10 impediments preventing academic performance.

Despite the fact that health experts recommend about eight hours of sleep per night, the average college student receives less than seven.

Denyce Calloway, an associate professor in the department of health, human performance and leisure studies, believes that there is no substitute for adequate sleep.

"You need to make sure that you get enough sleep, make sure that you eat properly - that kind of thing - because if you don't get enough sleep, you will not be alert," Calloway said.

The eight-hour recommendation may not be for everyone. According to Calloway, "different people have different sleep requirements."

"One way to tell that you've gotten enough sleep... is that when you wake up you're not sluggish," Calloway says. "When you wake up, you feel bright-eyed and you feel ready to start your day."

While a good night's sleep is not to be underestimated, there is temporary relief for those insomniacs suffering from mid-day fatigue.

A little physical activity can be the difference between falling asleep in class and getting all the notes.

"Go exercise, it gives you energy. Go run or get on a

bike or something," suggested junior fashion merchandising major Adrienne Mickens.

Sitting down all day in class causes students to feel stiff and tired. A five minute stretch or 10-minute walk is a sufficient way to get the blood flowing. If students have little time for physical activity, just ignore elevators and take a quick jog up a flight of stairs whenever possible.

A simple deep breath or two can prove to be helpful. Yogic breathing involves sitting up straight, closing the eyes and inhaling gently through the nose. Follow this by exhaling forcefully through the nose and quickly drawing your stomach in. The increased levels of oxygen in your system improve alertness.

Good posture can also have a huge affect on how you feel. Slouching causes the muscles in the back, neck and shoulders to work harder to hold you up which can tire the entire body.

Many students find that a nap between classes is a good choice in the battle against exhaustion.

"I just take a nap for maybe, like, an hour...that's usually refreshing. It all depends on my class schedule," said junior nursing major Lashonda Harding.

A 15-20 minute power nap is an effective way to get a quick energy boost. These naps are short enough to fit in a hectic schedule but long enough to allow students to wake up feeling refreshed. People who nap like Harding should be careful - any nap longer than 20 minutes won't be nearly as helpful.

Those drowsy students

with no free time tend to turn to edible energy aids.

"I might drink a lot of water or liquids so that I won't be able to sleep too long," said sophomore biology major Daniel Ajo.

Water is great for reasons other than keeping students from oversleeping. Drowsiness is a sign of dehydration. Carrying a bottle of water throughout the day can help ward off sleepiness and prevent unnecessary snacking.

Caffeine and sugar seem to be the preferred stimulants on campus.

"I always go to Starbucks and I get something to eat, like maybe a piece of cake or a drink - something sweet to wake me up," said junior nursing major Nicole Durant.

Mickens agreed, citing Dr. Pepper and "energy bars with peanut butter and chocolate" as the best options. She suggested drinking caffeine in the middle of the day for an energy booster. While caffeine does temporarily perk up energy levels, it should be avoided in favor of healthier options like whole grains, fruits and vegetables. Those like Harding who choose to just "drink a soda" instead should be aware that once the initial effects wear off, caffeine may leave you feeling even more worn out.

Some students opt to rely only on sheer will to get them through a long day.

"Sometimes you need to be fueled by the desire to stay up and do what you do. I'm not really one to go out and look for stimulants or things to keep me up," Ajo said.

What About Your Friends?

BY ERIN EVANS
Hilltop Staff Writer

At five years old, the criteria for finding and making friends often didn't go further than who had the best toys at playtime and snacks at lunchtime. Now as college students, several qualities and requirements are under consideration when selecting a circle of friends.

As people have different life experiences and views on societal issues, determining a true friend can be a hard decision.

Freshman biology major Naima Blakes finds herself traveling in a pack of nearly ten girls. Whether it's going to the club or just to the mall, she is constantly with her new found friends.

"You always know when it's a group of freshman because they roll like fifteen deep to walk to the Yard, especially at the beginning of the year," sophomore telecommunications management major Anthony Derall said. "The crazy thing is that just last year I was doing the same thing."

Derall, who keeps in touch with most of his friends from freshman year, said he does feel disconnected from some of his friends.

"We live in different places," he said. "It's not like I see them everyday in Drew anymore."

The convenience of living

in the same dorm during the first year of college is not the only factor for some students when finding and keeping friends. Honesty, trust and similar interests are a few qualities that students look for in determining friends.

Dr. Gwendolyn C. Davis, professor of controlling stress and tension, said that when choosing friends, one must look for admirable traits in the other person. A friend, she said, should not add any unnecessary stress and should be someone worthy of confiding in.

Senior broadcast journalism major Sudana Irby believes that time is a factor in determining friends.

"In the college setting, you only have four years to get to know people," she said. "I don't know if I made any lifetime friendships because it seems like the time went by so fast."

According to "Friendship," a book by Joel Block, humans are "wired" with a basic desire for contact with others. Friendships make people whole. Friendships, however, do require work and attention.

Tamena Wilson-Williams, a senior international business major, has kept in touch with several friends, but in some instances has a less strong bond with them.

"I have friends that I still keep in touch with since

freshman year," she said. "You might find someone who's your best friend, [but] you start growing apart. You used to do this and that and now you hardly even talk."

Often, new interests and new friends tend to threaten past friendships.

Several students say that some of the most valuable tips in maintaining friendships are the willingness to open up, being sensitive to feelings and understanding that friends make mistakes, too.

College friendships are not the only relationships that can fizzle out. High school friendships are often the first relationships to end when students enter college.

"Even though I've only been here a little over a month, I already feel detached from my friends back home in Texas," Blakes said. "I feel like I've started a whole new life up here with new friends, not necessarily better, but new and different. Change has been good, though."

Pre-college friendships are maintained by phone, texting and instant messenger conversations. But, for Blakes, nothing beats face-to-face interactions.

"I do miss my friends, and probably won't see them until Thanksgiving or Christmas," she said. "I have built up years of trust in them and I hope that college hasn't changed us too much."



File Photo

Factors to maintaining a healthy friendship include honesty, forgiveness and sensitivity.

EDITORIALS *& Perspectives*

VOLUME 90, NO. 29

OCTOBER 6, 2006

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM



HBCU Decline: A Serious Concern

While we are booming at The Mecca and complaining of not having enough housing because freshmen stay in Meridian, our sister and brother HBCUs are struggling – some wishing they could fill the dorms they have.

Enrollment numbers at black colleges are down, according to the Associated Press.

Though it is a good thing that more blacks are going to college, less are attending HBCUs.

Right here in our neighborhood the University of the District of Columbia (UDC), a majority black university, had an enrollment of 9,663 in 1995, but in 2004 the school had 5,168 students.

HBCUs started off as alternative schools for the white institutions that shut us out. It is completely understandable that as we were accepted into these schools where we were once denied, the role of HBCUs would shift.

There is a difference from being allowed and being wanted.

Black students today aren't feeling obligated to attend or even consider black

colleges, and it is up to us to make them see the enormous benefit of nourishing yourself among your own.

Traditionally, white institutions are doing what they can to attract our brightest students – the University of Virginia at Charlottesville now has a cer-

selves. Howard's own Olu Burrell made it his goal to help save Morris Brown College in Atlanta and we should all realize that if one HBCU is in trouble, the rest better wake up.

The reality is most of us could have attended other top schools, but chose Howard.

Though we might have gotten the same academic exposure and probably even better facilities, there is absolutely no experience like the black college experience.

If you fail a test here or at any of the nation's 103 HBCUs, you will never be able to say it was because you are black. You don't have to fight anymore. Affirmative action had nothing to do with your acceptance.

Though enrollment is not an issue for Howard now, it could be one in the future if this trend continues. HBCUs are vital to our communities and are an extension of black socialization.

There is a beautiful feeling at a black college while looking at the school's earliest photos to be able to see people who look like you and to know you were always wanted. Let's make sure our grandchildren can know the feeling.

emony called "Donning of the Kente" where black freshmen are given an African stole – so it is more important than ever that HBCUs remain competitive.

Unfortunately, for HBCUs to improve and build on the areas where they are weak, it takes money, something that has always been scarce in our schools.

We as students, alumni and believers of HBCUs must do whatever is necessary to make sure our sacred institutions don't disappear. Too many have already closed or are in critical condition.

Those of us that are going strong must not separate our-

Our View:

HBCUs are still relevant and necessary but must become more competitive to attract top black students.

Perspective: Convocation Coverage

Dean Richardson gave one of the best convocation speeches ever on Friday, September 29, 2006 in Cramton Auditorium. I was really looking forward to seeing that speech or at least an article pertaining to that

speech in Monday's Hilltop. You always capture all of the Sunday morning worship services, especially the dynamic ones, and I feel that Dean Richardson's speech was just as important, in fact I considered it GREAT!!!

- Theresa C. Austin,
Admin. Asst. in the
Office of the Senior VP/
CFO/Treasurer and
Protocol Officer for the
Convocation Ceremony

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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Attention:

Due to the Columbus Day holiday next week's Hilltop budget meeting will be
Tuesday Oct. 10

THE HILLTOP

The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper

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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.

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