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THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 90, NO. 42

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2006

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

THURSDAY
notebook

BREAKING NEWS

SERIAL KILLER SINGS HIS LAST SONG

FLORIDA SERIAL KILLER DANNY HAROLD ROLLER SANG AS HE WAS EXECUTED WEDNESDAY FOR KILLING FIVE COLLEGE STUDENTS BACK IN 1990, ACCORDING TO CNN.

LIFE & STYLE

DENTAL HYGIENE MONTH

OCTOBER IS THE MONTH TO FIND OUT ABOUT HOW IMPORTANT DENTAL HYGIENE IS. LOOK FOR MORE IN LIFE & STYLE PAGE 8

THURS, 10/26:
SUNNY
HIGH: 55, LOW: 41

FRI, 10/27:
FEW SHOWERS
HIGH: 51, LOW: 48

Howard Club Discusses Personal Side of Marketing

BY TRAVER RIGGINS
Hilltop Staff Writer

The Howard University American Marketing Association (HUAMA) week, titled "Defining Leadership, Exploring Opportunities," continued last night in room 317 in the School of Business with a panel of professionals.

The theme of the evening, "Marketing...the opportunities are endless," was to provide AMA members, marketing majors and others with information on different aspects of the field.

"I want them to learn about the various opportunities available and how excellent marketing can be as a career," said Magaly Cano, senior marketing major and HUAMA president.

"I hope tonight showed people that opportunities are endless for anyone involved in any individual career. In some way, shape or form, marketing is involved," said Shatara Hook, junior marketing major and executive vice president of HUAMA. She organized the night along with Daniele Cook, junior marketing major and HUAMA vice president of membership.

"Tonight was designed to give marketing majors and

AMA members broad and 'out-of-the-box' aspects of what you can do with a degree in marketing," Hook said.

Students were able to draw information from the informal forum, which consisted of four panelists of varied professions in a question and answer session.

The panel included Michael Smith, School of Business professor with 36 years of sales experience at IBM, Randy Brown, associate publisher at Sister 2 Sister magazine, Carletus Willis, owner of United Partners Realty Group and Denise Rolark-Barnes, managing editor and publisher of the Washington Informer.

"I hope students got the message that marketing skills can be used broadly," Rolark-Barnes said.

Laquia Burt, freshman marketing major and AMA member, decided to attend the panel to gain knowledge about marketing instead of her business orientation team meeting.

"Taking the zero was worth getting the knowledge that sometimes in the School of Business it's hard to get. It was the best decision on my part and the best decision for my future," Burt said.

Hook said that she wanted the night to focus on personal issues of marketing careers and not just the business side of them.

The panel discussed issues such as their positive impacts on society, what it takes to make it in their fields and how they found their various passions.

"I learned a lot about how ethics plays into marketing," Burt said. Marketing controls who is represented and how people perceive things,"

Hook thought the night turned out great. "The speakers were on point and the audience was good too," Hook said.

She was happy with the approximately 30 people who came out, especially with two other programs going on in the school at the same time.

"I was pleased because this year we're trying to put AMA on the map and we're accomplishing that with these wonderful people coming out

and speaking," she said.

The HUAMA week continues today with "AMA Steps the Game Up", at 7 p.m. in room 216 the School of Business.

"The night is for people to just get to know each other," said Robin Scott, organizer of the game night and junior marketing major.



Photo courtesy of Howard University American Marketing Association

Wednesday evening, members of the Howard University American Marketing Association were joined by a panel of marketing professionals to discuss the prevalence of advertising in society.

Latino Population Is On the Rise

BY CHLOE LOUVOUEZO
Contributing Writer

Negril, an eatery on the Georgia Avenue strip, offers traditional Jamaican dishes and appetizers.

The vibe of the store creates a very authentic Jamaican feel, with pictures of famous Jamaicans hanging on the walls, the colors of the Jamaican flag bordering the counter, the overwhelming smell of beef patties, curry and rice and plantains as well as the sounds of the Jamaicans taking food orders from customers.

But listen a little closer and Spanish can be heard between almost every cook in the kitchen.

The scenario is similar just across the street at the Georgia Avenue McDonald's. After ordering a hamburger and fries, customers can expect to hear it being repeated in Spanish to the employees preparing the order, "Hamburguesa y fritadas."

Just over a year ago, the majority of the employees at McDonald's were black. Recently the statistics

have changed and now Latino employees make up eight out of 10 of the McDonald's staff.

Latinos from Central and South America are moving into the metropolitan D.C. area at a rapid pace. According to the Census Bureau, Washington, D.C.'s Latino population has reached a little over 500,000 in a general population of 500,000 people, making up 9.4 percent of the total population. Because of illegal immigration, there are many Latinos left out of that statistic.

This population growth has been rising since the 1960s and 70s, but analysts are noticing a recent boom over the past ten years. In the past 30 years, the entire Latino population has increased 267 percent in the U.S.

As a result, Latinos are spreading throughout the city and surrounding counties, making Washington, D.C. more ethnically diverse than ever before. Latinos have contributed to the economy of the metropolitan area in capital reports. In many areas such as Adams Morgan and Hyattsville,

the percentage of Latino staff in neighborhood establishments has reached majority.

Hispanics are not only dominating local food businesses but also have a growing presence in construction and labor industries. Between the School of Communications and the School of Medicine stands the Allied Health Library and the construction is being done directly across the street. The workers stand out from many of the black students, staff and residents walking by.

Angelo Solera, a Latino immigrant and owner of Solera Contractors, agrees that Hispanics have a strong drive to work hard just like everyone else.

"We're no different than any other group of immigrants. There are enough pieces in this country's economy for everyone to share," Solera said.

Solera doesn't believe the Latino population is taking away jobs from other ethnicities. Rather, Latinos are personally creating opportunities for the race that will be difficult to achieve any other way.

Jose Ortiz, a Puerto Rican immigrant, started his entrepreneurial career selling carpets out of the trunk of his car at a local flea market. Nine years later, his company, Allstate Carpet & Floors, is worth over \$35 million and has expanded into a franchise.

Ortiz believes the U.S. presents a fresh start for immigrants coming from developing countries. "It's inviting to know that immigrants like me can build something from literally nothing," he said.

The opportunities which are available in the U.S. are rare in most Central and South American countries, where some Latino immigrants come from. Many Latinos come to chase the American dream.

"The American dream is not only for Americans," Solera said.



Photo courtesy of www.dcfm.gov

President Bush has issued reassurance about the troops' Iraqi efforts.

BY MERCIA WILLIAMS-MURRAY
Hilltop Staff Writer

This month, 93 American service members have died in Iraq. This is the most since October of last year. In a press conference yesterday morning, President Bush spoke with emotion and sympathy but also frankly and resolutely about staying the course in Iraq.

While he expressed to the audience his desire to bring the troops home as soon as possible, he maintained that this can not happen until victory is achieved abroad. He issued some reassuring words that things are looking up and that positive changes are happening.

This month, American and Iraqi forces have been engaged in heavy combat and have had some success in thwarting the plans of terrorists and "death squads." Also, several powerful bombs, sniper weaponry and other instruments of combat have been uncovered.

In terms of maintaining progression, Bush says, "...make sure we have a strategy that works, tactics that adjust to the enemy and commanders that feel confident..."

Bush also mentioned in the press conference that the security situation is looking up, a statement that is almost countered by the death toll of Americans and Iraqi security personnel (more than 300 have died in battle this month alone).

Bush Remains Resolute Despite Death Toll

Helping to make his case, Bush added "...Iraqi civilians have suffered unspeakable violence at the hands of the terrorists, insurgents, illegal militias, armed groups and criminals..."

"I know many Americans are not satisfied with the situation in Iraq. I'm not satisfied, either." Despite this, Bush remains loyal to the mission in Iraq.

Directing his words to the parents of the troops, he says "...if I didn't believe we could succeed, and didn't believe it was necessary for the security of this country to succeed, I wouldn't have your loved ones there."

Bush felt that it important for the American people to understand is that the success of the mission will leave Iraq able to defend, govern and sustain itself.

When questioned about America retaining military bases in the country, he says that would be a decision that the Iraqi people would have to make independently.

"We cannot allow our dissatisfaction to turn into disillusionment about our purpose in this war. We must not look at every success of the enemy as a mistake on our part, cause for an investigation or a reason to call for our troops to come home," Bush said.



Photo courtesy of www.afic.flickr.com

The U.S. Census Bureau noted that Washington, D.C.'s Latino population has reached 500,000 in a general population of 500,000.

Divinity School Student Honored by Staffing Association

BY MERCIA WILLIAMS-MURRAY
Hilltop Staff Writer

Cheryl L. Cook, a graduate student in the School of Divinity at Howard University, was named the 2006 National Staffing Employee of the Year by the American Staffing Association (ASA).

"ASA receives nominations from its member firms and the person selected is the one who best exemplifies the five key messages which are jobs, flexibility, bridge, choice and training," said Reem El-Khatib, public relations coordinator at ASA.

In a press release dated October 10 2006, Richard Wahlquist, president and CEO of ASA said, "We salute Cheryl and the nearly three million temporary and contract employees who are on assignments every day."

Cook feels more than just proud of being one in three million.

"I'm still pinching myself. You look at people you work with and say 'this could have been anyone,'" she said. "I am extremely honored, and blessed."

Cook, who is working on her masters degree in divinity,

has three passions: community involvement, culture and religion. Her ultimate plan is to be obedient to God.

"That is why I'm at the Divinity School," she says.

After graduation, Cook hopes to use her degree in public administration to teach.

"I want to build a curriculum around my three passions: community involvement, culture and religion. Leadership and development within the Black church are other themes...using the masters of divinity as a jumping point," Cook says.

She currently holds workshops for cultural competence in Fairfax County, Virginia. She helps different groups deal with conflict, religious pluralism and cultural diversity.

"My passion is the thing I do on the side. When communities say 'we have this problem with gangs' or 'youths aren't going to school'... it's work, but it's a change you'll see," Cook said.

Her workshops bring people together. "It's a small thing but it makes a big difference. People will say 'I never talked to my neighbor,

but because of your workshop...'"

Cook currently holds the position as director of E-GOALS at the Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs at the U.S. Department of State. Cook develops online measurement systems that allow the department to survey people, including Howard students, all over the world on their experiences abroad.

"The pre-survey examines what people know [about other places] or what they hope to learn," Cook said.

"The follow-survey shows that exchange programs are changing people's ways of thinking. We collect data to demonstrate the impact they're having."

Cook adds that the surveys save taxpayers money because they are not done on paper. The surveys are also currently being translated into several languages.

"People at the State Department, especially at ABBTECH (the firm that she works for), have been extremely supportive... team and staff."

As a busy woman, Sheryl does not have much spare time--especially since she



Photo Courtesy of howard.edu

Cheryl L. Cook, a graduate student in the School of Divinity at Howard, was named the 2006 National Staffing Employee of the Year by the American Staffing Association.

holds workshops on the side, but when she does have some down time she does one of her favorite things.

"I love to read... particularly non-fiction. The last thing I read was Mitch Albom's 'Five People You Meet in Heaven,'" Cook said.

She also enjoys historical narratives. "I'm one of those people who read several books at a time," she says. In addition to this, she likes going to art shows.

Whether it's an interview, someone sending flowers or preparing for her trip

to Las Vegas on November 9, where she'll be honored at a luncheon during Staffing World 2006, Sheryl Cook is a woman on a mission.

Of all the excitement she says, "It's a lot of pieces to it... but it's a good thing. I'm just thankful."

Uniqueness of Habitat for Humanity Experience Attracts Students

BY EBONI FARMER
Hilltop Staff Writer

Habitat for Humanity is an international organization founded in 1976 by Millard and Linda Fuller. Since its founding, the organization has helped to restore and build over 200,000 houses from the ground up for families across the globe.

Vice President of the Habitat for Humanity chapter at Howard, junior chemical engineering major Brittany Harvey, has experienced building a house from the ground up first hand.

"It is a great experience if you have or have not ever built a house with your own hands. Seeing families move into their first homes and knowing that you helped them to accomplish their dream is a wonderful feeling," Harvey said.

Habitat for Humanity was first brought to Howard University in 1996, but was on and off until 2003. The treasurer of the organization, senior political science major

Hillary Patterson, was the leading aide in reestablishing the chapter in 2003.

"The mission of the chapter is to serve the community by rebuilding homes, as well as making other charitable donations and educating people about affordable housing," Patterson said.

Patterson, who has been a member since 2003, is very passionate about being a part of the organization.

"Helping build homes sheds light on the reality of homelessness. Using your own two hands synthesizes the struggle," Patterson said.

When Hurricane Katrina hit in 2005, Habitat for Humanity's New Orleans chapter was there to help



Derrell Smith - Staff Photographer

President of Howard's Habitat for Humanity chapter Edinah Chikuhguwo (left), and chapter treasurer Hillary Patterson (right) talk after Tuesday's meeting.

families rebuild their homes. Although Howard's chapter has not gone down to the devastated Gulf Coast, Harvey sees it as a desirable possibility.

"It would be great to go to New Orleans. It is a matter

of funding. We have to pay for the all of the raw materials we use to the build the homes ourselves," she said.

This year, the organization will head down to the Southeast District of Columbia during the months

of November and December to help families begin new lives.

President of Habitat for Humanity and junior double biology-psychology major Edinah Chikuhguwo rejoined the organization this year. Her past experiences are what brought her back to Habitat for Humanity.

"The work is gruesome. We do some of it in the winter so it is freezing. It's worth it though. It brings a certain joy knowing that you are building a home, starting a future and a legacy for families who may not have a lot," Chikuhguwo said.

"I have actually seen the homes that I helped to build.

It is an indescribable feeling," Patterson said.

Students at the meeting were very eager to help the community.

"I came to the meeting today because I like building things with my hands, and Habitat for Humanity is a great way to build things and help the community," said junior Public Relations major Devon Miller.

Because Habitat for Humanity is not your average community service organization, it appeals to junior telecommunications major Alan Jones.

"It's unique. I've done the 'picking up trash' and 'serving food' types of community service. I want to try something I have never done before. It seems like a priceless experience," Jones said.

Habitat for Humanity is looking forward to having a fun and exciting 2006-2007 school year. New members are always welcome, so look out for the organization around campus.

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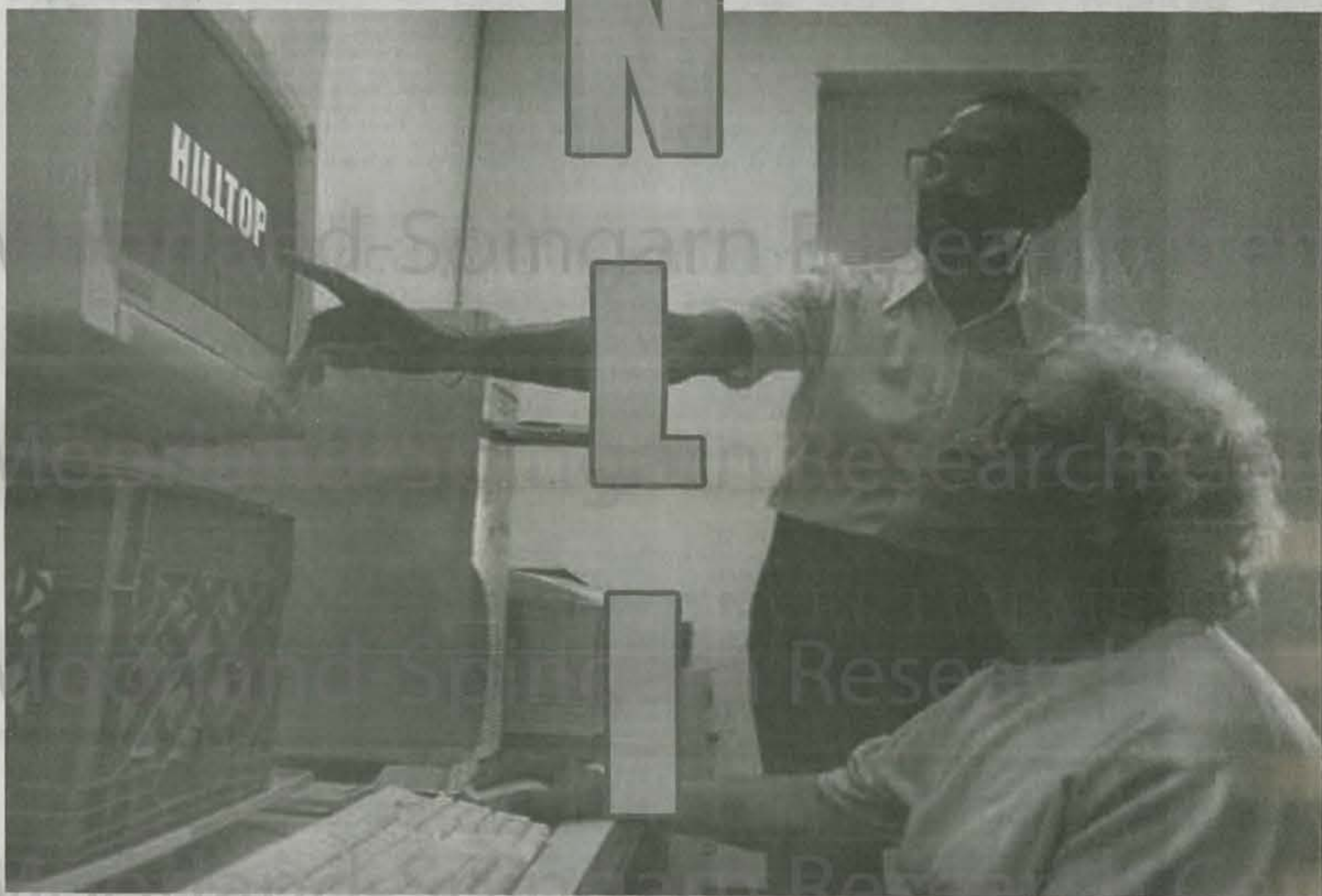
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Car vs. Metro: Students Weigh In On Efficiency

BY COURTNEY PARKER
Contributing Writer

The District of Columbia in conjunction with its surrounding areas is a thriving metropolis with lots of things to see and do and plenty of places to go. For some, a car is the preferred method of travel as it is convenient and easy. However, for others, the metro is the best source of transportation as it is quick and easily accessible.

The metro system is a fast way for commuters to move throughout the city at a reasonable fare without the worries of parking, tickets or traffic.

For some Howard students, the metro is their only means of travel to and from campus and other destinations in the District. The Shaw-Howard metro station is conveniently located near campus, making it easy for students to commute.

On the other hand, many Howard students bring cars with them to school and take advantage of their upperclassman right to purchase on campus parking or to park on the street. Personal vehicles give students a sense of freedom and also an added convenience, especially for those who live off campus.

"I like having the car because I can just get up and go," says junior television production major Tanesha Terry who lives off campus and com-



File Photo

Some residents and students in the District utilize the metro instead of automobiles to avoid obstacles associated with driving, like limited parking and gas prices.

mutates daily to class.

"Yes there is traffic, but having a car eliminates me riding a crowded metro or waiting on a slow bus."

Junior health management and African studies major Amman Haile agrees that driving is more convenient. "I prefer driving because it makes it much easier to get around and you can get much more accomplished in a car."

Haile does recognize the benefits of riding the metro

and occasionally he rides the train to get where he needs to go. "The lack of parking in the District and the efficiency of the metro make it a viable option."

Parking is one of the major downsides to driving a car in Washington, D.C. Parking garages are costly and street parking spaces are extremely limited. Drivers can often be found cruising through campus faced with the difficult task of looking for a parking

space. Parking on the streets also makes one susceptible to expensive tickets and occasionally those embarrassing orange boots that can be found all over campus.

"I have gotten tickets, but I have a garage now so it's easier, and I've learned from my mistakes as far as knowing how this parking system works," says Haile of the street parking situation around Howard.

Street cleaning and no parking zones can create a

major problem for a driver. One must pay close attention to where they are parking to avoid being stuck with a ticket from the District's parking enforcement.

Students who do not own automobiles rely on public transportation like the metro to get around. The Washington metro system has a plethora of stops that can take one anywhere. From shopping malls to the National Mall, the metro system provides a quick, time-saving ride to destinations.

With fares starting at a \$1.35, the metro is also a cheap alternative to the ever changing but usually high gas prices. The metro is also clean and timely, running on a set schedule that does not usually falter.

The metro can be a preferred method of travel for students like junior public relations major Aviana Brown, who does not own a car and relies heavily on the metro to get where she needs to go.

The choice between having a vehicle or riding the metro all comes down to personal preference. Having a car in a city like Washington D.C. can be very challenging, but it is also very convenient for students wanting more freedom.

"Cars mean money, money that I don't have to spend on tickets, parking, insurance or car notes," Brown said.

Brown also went on to say, "I don't want to keep up with the responsibility."

MS-13 Gang Causes Problems in D.C. Suburbs

BY SOLEDAD RICHARDS
Contributing Writer

Gang signs have been plastered over buildings and homes in Virginia and Maryland.

The gang Mara Salvatrucha 13, better known as MS-13, is possibly one of the most dangerous gangs in the U.S.

Gangs are nothing new to this area or the U.S. Wherever people are, gangs follow. Residents of Virginia and Maryland have recently become more aware of MS-13.

Virginia's strict gang laws and the U.S.' open borders have caused MS-13, a Latino gang largely made up of immigrants, to move to Maryland. Now, the state of Maryland is faced with the harsh reality of removing this gang from the state.

There is no rule book or set way to rid a place of gangs. One of the first steps is to make police officers aware of gang graffiti, signs, tagging and identifying marks. This will be mandated through a gang awareness training pro-

gram for officers, similar to an already existing program at the Laurel Police Station.

In Laurel, Md., all gang related graffiti must be removed at once, including that on personal property.

Owners have 24 hours to remove the graffiti or it will be removed at a cost, according to Chief McLaughlin from the Laurel Police Station. Erasing the gang tagging has helped the problem, as it does not allow members to mark territory as easily.

Another concern is MS-13's association in the school system. Gang Resistance, Education and Training (GREAT) is a program that began in Laurel area schools to help teachers recognize gang members and protect the students. So far, this program seems to be effective in combating the problem.

Gangs in the area are definitely a problem; however, it might not be as bad as one thinks.

When asked if much gang violence has occurred in

Maryland, McLaughlin said that there's not much violence lately because the police department is becoming more aggressive in the tactics used to fight gang violence.

The biggest problem is not the members of the gang, but that "...there are a lot of wannabes, but [the children] have no idea what the gang is about," McLaughlin said.

Strict Virginia apparently drove the gang away from the outlined territory and now Maryland is following in Virginia's foot steps. Police officers and schools are working together to rid the state of this problem. Officers are assigned to schools to train teachers to be aware of this problem.

Maryland is on the right path to eliminating gang activity all together, as the state has implemented programs which will continue to work to eliminate the problem by making the gang look less appealing to teenagers.



Photo courtesy of www.gangnews.com

The primarily Latino immigrant gang Mara Salvatrucha 13 is a major concern for Maryland and Virginia police.

METRO MONITOR

Prince George's County has experienced a decrease in crime. The number of homicides has declined by 28 percent, rapes by 11.7 percent, and carjackings by 37 percent in comparison to the first nine months of the year. Prince George's County have accredited the decrease to more officers out on the streets, investments in new technology, and more funds available for overtime to keep skilled officers working. PG County shows a total decrease of 15.1% in major crimes.



Photo courtesy of www.washingtonpost.com

Yesterday morning a front end loader tore apart a tent city set-up in front of one of the blocked gates at Galludet University. Maintenance workers then cut a chain keeping Brentwood's entrance closed and took student's belongings away with a backhoe. Earlier student protesters took over the main administration building overnight. They chained the doors and said school officials could not enter unless they were more responsive to the unrest on campus. The students left the building before they could be removed.

42-year-old Percy Jordan from Southeast DC was convicted Tuesday of first-degree murder. He now has the likelihood of facing a life sentence with the possibility of release. Jordan was accused of killing a 63-year-old journalist in a robbery this year in Northwest DC.

A report created by DC city and school officials states that nine out of ten freshman will be limited to low-paying jobs. This is because they will never start college or will give up in obtaining a degree. The report also states that only 9 percent of DC public school freshmen will complete college within five years of graduating from high school. This is far below the national average. The problem, the report maintains, is the failure of the DC school system to prepare students. It also faults colleges for their inability to help students with their deficiencies.

The crime watch will be put into effect for at least another 90 days. The D.C. council passed new crime emergency legislation, Wednesday. Mayor Anthony Williams has also proposed more efforts to anti-crime legislation. Williams wants \$5 million for youth violence prevention programs, \$4 million for police overtime and \$2 million for more neighborhood surveillance cameras. No permanent anti-crime legislation can be considered by council until at least December.

Compiled By Charlotte Young, Staff Writer

The Hilltop

Survey Says...

Reading The Hilltop will increase your cool factor by 32 percent.*

That is, unless you're a complete and total nerd. And even then, it won't hurt. Unless you're like at a party or something and you're sitting in a corner reading to the light of your cell phone. Not that we'd know from, uh, personal experience, or anything.

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Call Christina M. Wright to set up an appointment time.
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REFLECTING ON THE JOURNEY

The 2006 Business Week Conference Gala

Thursday, October 26, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

ZANZIBAR ON THE WATERFRONT

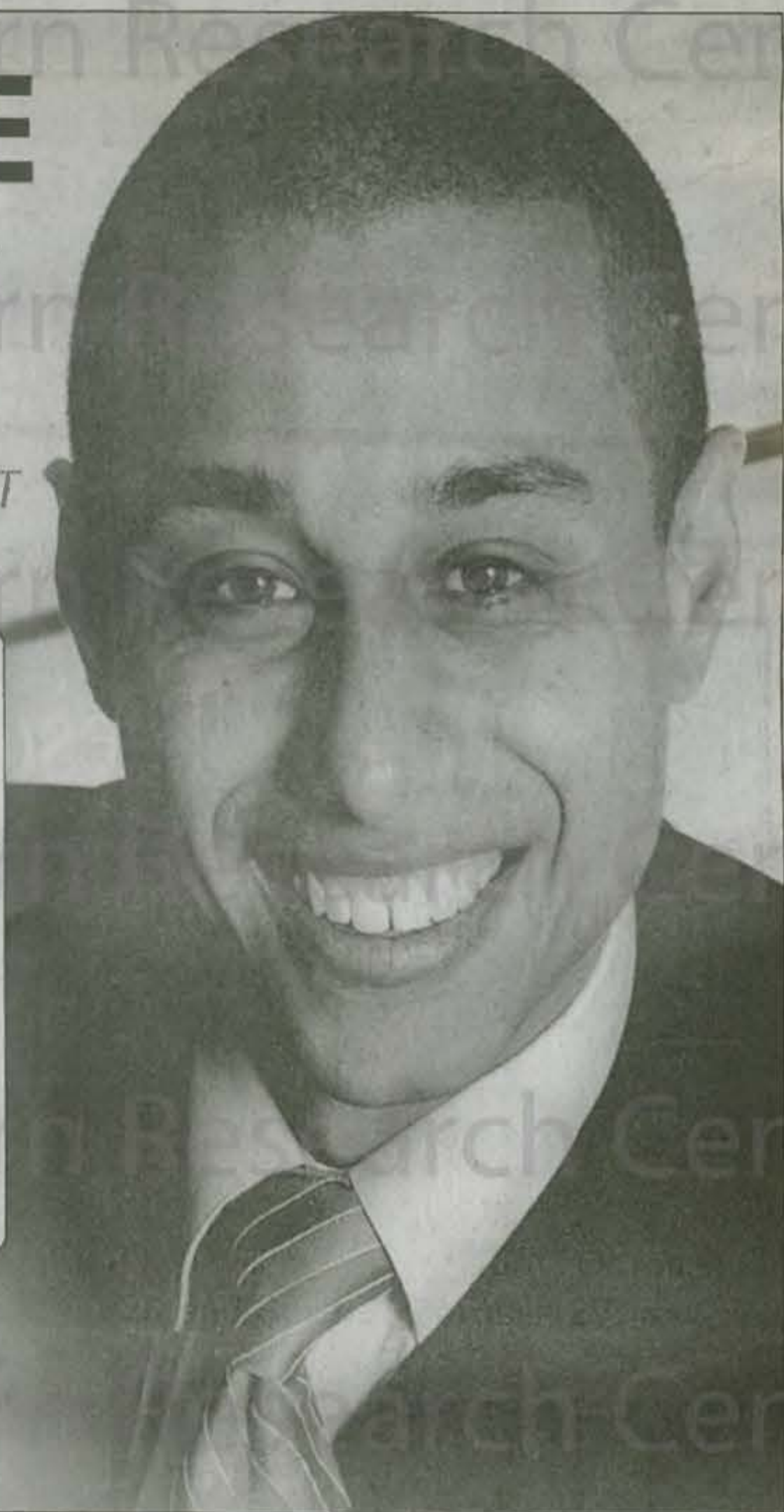
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Tickets are still on sale and can be purchased from the lobby of the School of Business TODAY from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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HAUNTED HILLTOP

Tuesday, October 31, 2006

6pm - 11pm

Location: Cook Hall

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Non Fiction

The 'B.F.' Word



BY SEAN MOSLEY
Copy Chief

This past Tuesday, I learned one of the most valuable lessons that I could possibly learn during my four-plus years at Howard. It was in my Education in Black America class, taught by Dr. Carr, of course.

Now, anyone who has taken Dr. Carr's class, would know that one weak or unsubstantiated remark will buy a student a ticket to silence and shame for the rest of the class period.

During each class period, many topics regarding the past, present and future of black education are discussed. In the midst of a discussion about teachers and their students not being culturally-connected, I brought up a question: "How do we diagnose the unmerited negative relationship that often occurs between black female teachers and black female students?"

Now, before I even parted my lips, I knew that bringing my question to light with this example was not the best 'look,' but I felt that in the tradition of DuBois, Locke and West, it was important for me to add this to the discussion.

Less than a millisecond after I finished presenting my question, I received a barrage of criticism and requests for clarification. As one can imagine, mostly coming from the female population of the class.

I admit, I did not articulate my question as clearly as I could have, but I believe my question was valid and had merit.

Despite the displeasure with my assumed view, I continued asking my question until finally my inquiry was interpreted correctly... to some extent.

I do not regret bringing up this question; perhaps the manner in which I asked my question brought forth the spirited reactions.

I am often accused of "inciting" riots in my classes with some of my statements and questions, so I was not necessarily taken aback when my words weren't received with open arms. My belief is that the only way to reach true understanding is through healthy dialogue.

So to all my brothas...take heed:

Before you decide to make any statement or bring forth any question that includes "black female" in the phrase... stop for a second...think about it...get your facts together...and shoot. If you throw up a weak shot, then believe me...it will get 'punched.' And if it does get 'punched'... grab the board...do a double pump and throw it back it up there. The other team may not be on your side, but they will respect your game more if you bring it rather than just sing it.

To the ladies in Dr. Carr's 3:40-5:00 p.m. Education in Black America class, I say thank you! Thank you for making a brotha clarify himself...thank you for challenging a brotha, but more importantly...thank you for making a brotha think.

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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 and build your knowledge.

Can you match these commemorations with their respective calendar month?

1. National Black History Month
2. National Dental Hygiene Month
3. National Literacy Month
4. National Women's History Month
5. National Physical Fitness and Sports Month
6. National American Indian Heritage Month
7. National Gay and Lesbian Pride Month
8. National Book Month
9. American Cancer Society Month
10. National Baked Beans Month
11. Universal Human Rights Month
12. National Catfish Month

ANSWERS:
1) February
2) September
3) October
4) March
5) May
6) November
7) June
8) January
9) April
10) July
11) December
12) August

For more on this month's commemoration, see today's "Dental Hygiene Month," on Life & Style, page 8.

Overheard @ The Mecca

So... I Guess That Rules Out Smoke Signals?
Overheard in The DMV

Guy: So can we exchange numbers or something?

Howard Girl: No.

G: How about email addresses?

HG: No.

G: Text message?

HG: That would be the same as giving you my number.

G: Well, can I write you a letter or something?

You Could Make A Killing By Importing...
Overheard on the Yard

Guy: Can I talk to you, girl?

Long-haired girl: No.

Guy [to friend]: She the reason why there ain't no mo' weave in D.C.

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

Chillin' With The Hilltop



Photo Courtesy of Jana Holmes

Now, we know there are no people chillin' with this Hilltop, but we thought it was pretty great that someone was enjoying it enough to take it on the run with them. We told you The Hilltop and \$1.35 would get you on The Metro.

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 peek into the past.

THE "R" ONE,
1 MONTH. NOVEMBER 6TH.
PURE
JOY.
2 FLIRTS. 1 UNION. 0 B-BOYS.
GREAT COMBO, WOULDN'T YOU SAY? CELEBRATION?
THE USUAL: RICHTER SCALE
MADNESS, PEP TALKS,
LAUGHTER, TALKS, QUIET
MOMENTS...TOGETHERNESS...
SOON!!
LOVE, QUAIL
(U-NO-WHO)
-November 2, 1990

Six Degrees of Separation

Can you figure out a path that connects these two individuals with six stops along the way?
See if your answers matched up with those provided by junior English major Jason Victor.



Oprah
Talk Show Host

Oprah Winfrey recently interviewed Janet Jackson

who is the daughter of Joe Jackson

who reportedly abused Michael Jackson

whose trial featured celebrity witness Chris Tucker

who starred in "Friday" with Ice Cube

who made "Higher Learning" with Tyra Banks



Tyra
Talk Show Host

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

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

October's Focus is Oral Health, Not Candy Consumption

BY ERIN EVANS
Hilltop Staff Writer

Several students are looking forward to the last day of this month where creativity will be sparked as costumes are thrown together to celebrate Halloween. Candy will be consumed by the pounds, satisfying even the biggest sweet tooth.

However, the month of October is observed by some as a month to stay away from the tendency to indulge in sugar filled treats.

The American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) observes National Dental Hygiene Month during October to promote good oral hygiene.

This week, Residence Life will present two seminars on dental hygiene. On Thursday, Oct. 26, Drew Hall will host "Keeping Them Pearly White" at 7:30 p.m. and on Friday, Oct. 27, the Howard Plaza Towers will present "The Ins and Outs of Oral Healthcare" at 7:30 p.m.

Third year graduate

student at the Howard University College of Dentistry Jodi Pessoa said that although October is officially observed as dental hygiene month, it is important to monitor oral health all year.

"While October is recognized as Dental Hygiene Month, it is important to see a dentist every six months depending on the risk of infection," Pessoa said. "If you brush and floss daily, then the risk is lower."

Throughout the year, dental students are active in the community while promoting oral healthcare.

In September, dental students volunteered for the Black Family Reunion by administering oral and blood sugar screenings, anemia testing, oral cancer exams and cavity checks. Students also held the Annual Health Fair.

Dental students contribute to the Boys and Girls Club as well as homeless shelters and senior homes throughout the District.

This year, the ADHA focuses on early childhood

oral health care and its importance for long-lasting smiles with its topic, "A Healthy Smile Lasts a Lifetime."

"Preventing early childhood caries is essential to the health of a child's mouth and body," said registered dental hygienist and ADHA President Marge L. Green in a statement.

Dental caries are cavity formations in teeth caused by bacteria from sugars and other starches causing tooth decay.

"Dental hygienists are the frontline of defense against oral disease and play an essential role in the prevention of early childhood dental caries, as well as the education of both parents and children on the importance of proper oral health habits."

"Although some people may be skeptical of receiving treatments from students, [the College of Dentistry] has definitely been beneficial to me," said senior human development major Nicole Cosey. "I no longer have to brace myself when I eat. I even feel like

I take better care of my teeth since I went there in September."

Services at the Dental school are performed by pre-doctoral candidates under the supervision of faculty members. Most services are free for Howard students.

"We are here to serve," Pessoa said. "We want and need the experience. Anything you need can be taken care of here from cavities to even teeth whitening. Most services are free, so why pay a lot more money when we are available?"

ADHA began National Dental Hygiene Month in



Photo credit: www.mountains.edu

Dentists want to stress the importance of properly caring for teeth especially during Halloween, a time of major candy consumption.

1992 to observe proper oral hygiene across America. It is also used as an opportunity for communities to

recognize the contributions of dental hygienists and other oral health professionals.



Entertainment Report Card



Coppola's New Film Lacks True Substance

BY CHRISTIAN RICHARDSON
Contributing Writer

Sofia Coppola's (Virgin Suicides, Lost in Translation) portrait of the lavish teen queen Marie Antoinette seemed to be a rock opera infused with punkish pink and black titles; not to mention the pink Converse sneakers under the lavish gowns that screamed anarchy.

The trailers for the movie lure in audiences to view Coppola's vision of what the young dauphine may have been like, but the movie itself proved to be very disappointing.

Aside from the heavy British accent in the French and Austrian monarch, Coppola's film is definitely not a historically accurate account, nor is it a political drama.

If one was looking to feed the historic appetite of the reign of Louis XVI (played by Jason Schwartzman) and his Austrian bride, they would not find it here. The movie is mainly fantasy without a story line.

Movie veteran Kirsten Dunst plays the 14-year-old dauphine, sent from Austria to the French to wed Prince Louis XVI in order to help form an alliance between Austria and France.

After the passing of King Louis XV, the young couple was crowned king and queen of France. From there, she was forced to live out her adolescence under constant judgment, surrounded by servants who robbed her of privacy, and pressured with the obligation to give birth to a male



Photo Courtesy of www.poviewer.com

Sofia Coppola's film version of the famous 18th century Austrian queen has modern touches but lacks plot.

heir. Frustrated with the lack of true adolescent freedom, she abuses the liberties afforded by her position: expensive fashions and decadent desserts, gambling, lavish parties and cavorting with Swedish soldiers. From there, the movie fails to climax, leaving the viewer looking for more.

Just as one thinks Coppola is going to put that tale into gear, she brings it back down again. Through Coppola's depiction, the importance of all these events is watered down, if not completely lost for their relevance. Coppola uses repetition not only to show the passing of time, but also to serve as filler for an excuse to play 80's rock music.

Although Coppola took cues from Antonia Fraser's biography of Marie Antoinette, "Marie Antoinette: The Journey," in preparing her script, she failed in her presentation. The script's lack of in depth

historical cues and explanations and therefore the dialogue is minimal. Coppola movie's was purely a collection of monologues.

The movie was filmed in the Chateau de Versailles in bubbly pastel tones, with the cast dressed in luxurious costumes. Her brightly colored back drop and excessive costumes, however, did not help to take attention away from the lack of story.

Coppola neglects showing violent details and over-romanticizes her heroine's fate. She instead concludes on an unruffled note.

Kirsten Dunst is honest as the self-absorbed teenage heroine. However, there was not enough material to sustain the viewers' interest; the story of the rich and misunderstood girl, even with the star studded cast.

Grade: C-

Anticipated Album Fiasco's 'Food' Worth the Wait

BY KENDRA DESROSIERS
Contributing Writer

Lupe Fiasco's debut album, *Lupe Fiasco's Food & Liquor*, solidifies him as one of the industry's top emerging artists from Chicago's underground.

After several mixtapes and unfortunate leaks of the early versions of his album, Fiasco has revamped his sound and style for his freshman album. With the accompaniment of hip-hop and neosoul dignitaries, Jill Scott and Jay-Z as well as hit-makers The Neptunes, Kanye West and Soundtrakk, Fiasco runs through 16 notable tracks on a sampling of his best lyrical ability and production credits.

Fiasco starts the album strong with tracks such as "Real," "Just Might Be OK" and his first single, "Kick, Push." The skater's anthem, "Kick, Push," in combination with the efforts of N.E.R.D. member, Pharrell Williams, birthed the new trend of skateboard culture in hip-hop and virtually put Fiasco on the map for those who had ignored his underground tracks or appearances with Kanye West, K Fox and Tha Rayne.

Fiasco's second single in the U.S., "I Gotcha," with the skilled production of The Neptunes, has proven itself to be the most radio friendly and dangerously addictive track on the album. "I Gotcha" is followed by ballads, "The Instrumental" and "He Say She Say," a song depicting Fiasco's father/son relationship and the toll it took on his coming of age.

Food & Liquor reveals its grassroots movement undertone with tracks "Sunshine," a Common-esque ode to hip-hop, "Daydreamin," an insult to the current state of the

rap music industry, featuring the neosoul vocals of Jill Scott. "Hurt Me Soul," is a reflection on the darker side of society. "Sunshine," can easily be misconstrued simply as a love song by less attentive listeners, but to the skilled ear, it is understood to be reminiscent of Common's rap classic, "I Used to Love H.E.R.," a tribute to hip-hop culture disguised as a love song that depicts the deevolution of hip-hop as mainstream appeal increased.

"American Terrorist" is quite arguably the most controversial song on the album. The song portrays the plight of minority groups in America and criticizes warfare over tensions between religious affiliations.

Fiasco's lyrics to "American Terrorist" read, "It's like, don't give the black man food, give the red man liquor/red man, fool, black man, [explicit] Give yellow man tool, make him railroad builda/Also, give him pan, make him pull gold from river/Give black man crack, glocks to

teens/Give red man craps, slot machines."

As a follower of the Islamic faith, Fiasco felt it was imperative that he express his views on the war on terrorism and Iraq to remove possible confusion and denounce stereotypes.

The album ends with "The Emperor's Soundtrack" and a part II to the leading single, "Kick, Push." The "Kick, Push" B-side adds dimension to the skateboarder references and personality to Fiasco's image.

After an outro, giving a bevy of shout-outs to Fiasco's contributors, supporters and influences, it was no mystery as to why *Food & Liquor* was one of the most anticipated albums of the year. Fiasco has entered the mainstream on a strong front, leaving many fans in a state of curiosity similar to when Nas, Blackstar and The Roots first debuted, wondering if the next album could beat a classic.

Grade: B+



Photo Courtesy of www.danaweb.com

Lupe Fiasco's new album "Lupe Fiasco's Food & Liquor," is said to be as good as rapper Nas' work.

EDITORIALS *& Perspectives*

VOLUME 90, NO. 42

OCTOBER 26, 2006

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM



Time and Care: Priceless

Just last Friday, Carl Payne, who many of us know as Cole from "Martin" or Cockroach from "The Cosby Show," along with two other Howard alumni and other cast members from a play in town stopped by Childers Hall to talk to students aspiring to be actors.

The fact that this happens is no big surprise. To students, it's a testament to how fortunate we are at the Mecca to have alumni that take the time to come home and share the wealth.

A lot of times, universities measure wealth strictly by monetary donations. However, we at *The Hilltop* realize that the time successful graduates take to return to campus to encourage students and share secrets of success means so much more.

Yes, we all love to brag to our friends that Diddy, A.J. from 106&Park, Anthony Anderson, Ananda Lewis, Kenny Lattimore and Wendy Raquel Robinson (or Principal Grier from the Steve Harvey Show as we like to call her) attended the great Howard University. But we are just as proud of those alumni not in the public eye who give back to

their alma mater.

Last week, Class of 1990 graduate Gus Johnson, sports announcer for the Knicks and play-by-play commentator for the NFL, NBA and the Olympics, donated audio equipment for a complete studio in the School of Communications.

Our View:

Though we'd love for our alumni to give more financially, their coming back to inspire us means so much more.

And on a personal note, we appreciated the advice of *New York Times* senior vice president, chief legal officer and Howard alumnus Solomon Watson earlier in the year on reminding us on what our rights are as a student paper.

Watson's visit also raised another issue that we, as current students, can learn from. Though fliers circulated stating that he was a *Hilltop* editor while at Howard, staff members quickly learned he was never on staff when talking to him.

When he was here a few decades ago, he described the

paper as "cliquish" and when he applied he was turned down (something we'd like to think would never happen now.)

Luckily for us, he didn't hold a grudge. We as students must be mindful of how we treat the people we sit in class with everyday, because we never know where that person will end up in the future.

Alumni from Howard are known to not only come on their personal dime back to campus, but also on the dime of the big companies they now work for in order to recruit other students.

The publicity of alumni exposing the Howard brand to mainstream America is priceless. Sure we'd like to see the alumni donation rate rise, but donating time and advice is a great start. So we thank the alumni who give back (many who work right here at the University) and until you can write more checks, we'll take those recommendation letters.

The old saying rings true at The Mecca: If you give a man a fish, he'll be fed for a day, but if you teach a man to fish, he'll never go hungry again. Alumni, thanks for passing the fishing pole.

Daily SuDoku

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

		8	4	9				
	1					3		
	4			5				7
5	6		2	1		3		
		1				5		
	2		7	4			1	6
4			1				6	
		6				9		
			6		3	4		

Do you want to write for THE HILLTOP?

Come to our budget meeting

Monday @ 7 p.m.

THE HILLTOP

The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper

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There are OPENINGS at The Hilltop!!

Come one, come all to the second round of hiring for *The Hilltop* -- The nation's only black collegiate paper that dared to be daily.

Open positions:
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We are looking for qualified and dedicated students who love journalism.

Positions are open to ALL MAJORS AND ALL CLASSIFICATIONS - yes, that includes all you freshmen who have high school experience.

Interviews will be on Saturday, OCTOBER 28 and SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29.

Call Christina M. Wright to set up an appointment time.

(202) 497-2606

The Hilltop encourages its readers to share their opinions with the newspaper through Letters to The Editor or Perspectives. All letters should include a complete address and telephone number and should be sent electronically on our website at www.thehilltoponline.com.

Any inquiries for advertisements or Hilltopics should be directed to The Hilltop Business office.

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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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The Hilltop

Survey Says...

Unless, of course, said class is Advanced Reporting & Writing, and you totally forgot to pick up a Washington Post from Starbucks because you woke up for your 8:10 class at 8:00, and you didn't make it into your seat until 8:35. And you were looking seven kinds of crazy.

Reading The Hilltop in class is not a good thing.*

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