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THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 90, NO. 43

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2006

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

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BREAKING NEWS

STRIKE AT GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY ENDS

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT GALLAUDET ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THAT IT IS WITHDRAWING THE APPOINTMENT OF JANE K. FERNANDES AS PRESIDENT, ACCORDING TO CNN.COM

BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY

HAPPY FIFTH BIRTHDAY, IPOD

FIND OUT HOW THE IPOD HAS GROWN IN POPULARITY AND EVOLVED IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS IN BIZ & TECH.
PAGE 8



MON, 10/30:
SUNNY
HIGH: 67, LOW: 51

TUES, 10/31:
PARTLY CLOUDY
HIGH: 71, LOW: 56

Lady Bison Place 2nd in Championships

BY EDWARD HILL, JR.
Special to The Hilltop

Cary, NC—Jessica Neal clocked in a personal best 17:47.3 to capture first place in the 2006 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) women and men's cross country championships at SAS Soccer Park on Friday. Neal's finish, along with that of teammate Amanda Stevenson, helped the Bison capture second place with 93 points.

The women, who came into the meet having won three of the last four championships, may have overachieved.

"We are not as strong as we have been in the past," said Howard head coach, Mike Merritt, "but we have developed a strong tradition in cross country here at Howard. We have either won or finished as runner-up."

Neal, a junior transfer student from Ohio State, had to come from behind to win the race.

"This was a good course. Hampton's Krystal Medlin [last year's outstanding performer] and some of the runners from Maryland Eastern Shore paced the race," Neal said. "We ran in a pack and I came from behind to win."

"As a person, Jessica is very quiet," Merritt said. "But she has one of the strongest work ethics of any player that I have coached here. In addition, she is very competitive and she



Reimery Meryl, Contributing Photographer

The Lady Bison placed second in the men and women's cross country championships on Friday. Junior track member Jessica Neal received first place prize.

does not like to lose."

Neal's time was the fastest in the conference this year.

Stevenson had a strong effort, finishing tenth with a time of 19:18.7, and played an integral part in the success.

"She really came on strong

this year," Merritt said. "She knew that we needed an effort like this from her, and she responded."

The men finished a respectable sixth with 168 points, despite not having any outstanding individual perfor-

mances.

"I am very pleased with how the men's team performed," Merritt said. "They have worked hard as a group all season. They gave all they had and that's all you can ask for."

OPEC Cuts Production; Increase in Oil Prices

BY CHRISTOPHER OLIVER
Contributing Writer

Gas prices may be on the rise as members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) met on Oct. 19 to cut the production of oil.

The decision to cut output 4 percent, or 1.2 million barrels of oil a day, is a result of oil costs falling below \$60 per barrel. In the past, oil has been as high as \$78 dollars per barrel, resulting in record highs for the price of gas. Members of OPEC feel that this production cut will boost countries' demands for fuel and increase the value of oil per barrel.

Since OPEC has announced its plan to withhold the surplus, prices have

risen close to \$63 per barrel. High prices per barrel of oil have resulted in outrageous prices at gas stations.

Lately, Americans have been accustomed to considerable lows in fuel cost in comparison to the extreme peaks that once were everyday occurrences. In contrast to last year, the national average for regular grade fuel is \$2.23, a great difference from the \$2.60 average a year ago.

The announcement made by OPEC has the potential to once again place strain on American budgets. High fuel prices mixed with lengthy traffic lights and numerous cars on the road spell trouble for people who commute within the metropolitan Washington

D.C. area. Some students at Howard can relate to this problem as a result of experiencing the drive to and from campus.

"If OPEC decides to cut the production of oil again I may have to consider trading in my vehicle for a bicycle," said political science major Julian Johnson.

Gas station managers seem to be impartial to the rise or fall of fuel prices. Solomon Negussie, manager of Chevron gasoline station on Florida Avenue, said OPEC's decision will not affect the flow of business. "Fuel hikes or declines really do not have an impact on business," Negussie said. "No matter what, people need to put gas in their cars so I'm

always going to have customers."

Gas stations are not the only ones profiting as big fuel companies are making large amounts of money. Exxon reported a profit of \$10.5 billion the last quarter. Chevron reported profits of about \$4.4 billion the last quarter.

The U.S. does not have much control over the cost of fuel.

Since the economy is not greatly affected by gas prices reaching record highs, the U.S., along with much of the world, tends to adapt to the rates set by OPEC.

Unless the U.S. exploits the available reserves, Americans are at the mercy of foreign oil. Alternative fuel sources are often suggested, but experts are realizing that until they are produced and made available for the entire population, the nation will forever be dependent on fossil fuel.

Americans seem to be hit the hardest by oil prices because of the country's strong dependency on the mineral. Analysts are suggesting that the fluctuation of fuel costs will continue until the U.S. creates an alternative energy source or becomes less dependent on foreign countries. Since high gas prices have not had a significant impact on the economy, the only people who will be affected are those who will need \$20 plus to fill the gas tank.

OPEC will meet again in Nigeria during December. A chance of another cut being implemented is possible.

Voter Polls Play Integral Part In Campaign Season

BY NICOLE BAILEY
Contributing Writer

Watching television during an election year is like watching the Kentucky Derby: every major media outlet is attempting to out guess the other in election results. CNN, Washington/ABC News, and Wall Street Journal/NBC News are a few major media outlets that consistently display poll results along the bottoms of the TV screens.

The polls allow voters to predict the result of a race even before an official election has taken place. With so many outlets displaying results, voters can become confused about what outlet is trustworthy.

"I don't trust the polls," said sophomore political science major, Alexis McMillon. "Who is running them...where do they get their information?"

Fritz Wenzel, Director of Communications at Zogby International, a major source of political polls, offers comfort to confused voters.

"We are an independent pollster," Wenzel said.

Wenzel goes on to clarify the polling process.

"We use two principle types of methodologies in American political polling - live telephone interviews using our call center, and interactive surveys which use email and a secure server under our control at all times."

Wenzel points out that the polls reflect the accurate opinion and mind set of the nation, or any political subset.

Sophomore political science major Keisha Herbert is not so sure.

"I have never taken a campaign poll and I have never experienced anyone first hand who has."

Senior political analyst and well-known pollster for over 16 years David Bositis understands students' sentiments.

"Some pollsters do attempt to sway voters [with results] during election years," Bositis said. "Some partisan pollsters use polls in unethical ways (like the wording of questions), but these are not usually published."

Dr. G. Terry Madonna, Professor of Public Affairs and Director of the Keystone Poll at Franklin and Marshall College, agreed.

"It depends on the pollsters, the ones who work for candidates do [attempt to sway voters]; that's their job: not to inform the public but to win campaign," Madonna said.

"The people who do polls for candidates aren't the same ones who do polls for people," Madonna said.

Wenzel defends Zogby international.

"In dealing with bias, our survey instruments are put through an arduous editorial process including many steps of review to make sure there is no bias to the questions in our political polls."

Even with discrepancies in reporting, Bositis feels that polls are accurate.

"Good polls are based on mathematical analysis, and if you choose a large sample you can get an accurate picture, you can reduce poll errors by gathering large numbers," Bositis said. He goes on to explain that polls are often expensive. Bositis recalls a poll that he once conducted that cost \$100 per interview.

"That's why you see joint polls such as the Washington Post/ABC news poll or the Wall Street Journal/NBC news poll, it's a way of splitting cost."

Sophomore political science major Teesheda Roberts wondered who pays for the polls.

"If they cost so much, then the money has to come

See POLLS, NEWS A3



Photo courtesy of www.politicalactionnetwork.com

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries will meet twice before 2007 to discuss raising the price of oil. Americans feel the most strain from the price increases.



File Photo

As election day nears, many voters are curious as to the validity of election result prediction polls.

Students Debate Attending Class During Bad Weather

BY EBONI FARMER
Hilltop Staff Writer

College students are faced with many choices. They must decide whether to go to that house party or that club. There also may come a time when they have to decide whether or not to stay in bed because of the daily forecast they read on the front page of *The Hilltop*.

"I have a huge loan so it does not matter if it's sunny or if there is a hail storm outside if classes are still running I will make the effort to be there on time," said sophomore chemical engineering major Keenan Jenkins.

If teachers make the effort to be in class during bad weather they feel their students should do the same.

"There have been times when it is not so great outside that only half of my students showed up. I come out no matter the conditions because I know there are students who are eager to learn. I expect my



File Photo

Howard students and faculty alike weigh the pros and cons of holding class sessions in times of bad weather. Snowdays are preferable to both parties during the colder months.

students to be in class unless it's a holiday or classes are canceled," said English professor Daniel Messina.

Professor Messina has been known to give an extra credit assignment to his stu-

dents when he does not have a full class.

"I have given out a few extra assignments to students who come to class when the weather is bad especially when it starts snowing. If students

decide not to come class I understand the temptations to stay in bed but this is college, we all have responsibilities," said Professor Messina.

Freshmen biology major Juliet Odugwu who is new to

having the choice of whether or not to go class has been tempted to remain in bed.

"It is really hard to get out of my warm bed and have to walk across a cold campus to class. I have missed a few classes because I did not feel well, but it has never been because of the weather," she said.

Spanish Professor Carol Bean says that she does have students missing in class during bad weather but more so "cuando el tiempo es muy bueno" (when the weather is very nice).

"I can honestly say I do not remember ever missing a class because of the weather in my three years. I just throw on some warm clothes if it is cold and grab my umbrella if it is raining," said junior political science major Brittany Green.

"In the spring when the weather is nicer than it is now I have a whole another story to tell."

For other students waking up to sound of rain only makes

it easier not to go to class.

One student said for him the rain alone is enough to put him back to sleep and another said she never goes to class when it is raining because she simply "can't stand the rain."

Rain is not the only issue that students may be conflicted with when it comes to going to class.

"I'm from California so I'm really not used to it being this cold so early. I miss California so much that I missed a Monday morning class because it was too cold," said freshmen computer science Alyssa Sims.

Students from colder regions of the country may not have that same problem.

"Right now it really is not that cold. In Colorado we just had a snowstorm that dropped two feet of snow, which I think, was a record for this early in the year. Girls back home will wear mini skirts with flip-flops in this D.C. weather," said freshmen fashion design major Jenae Sanders.

Campus Briefs



Philosopher Appointed at Harvard University

Renowned African American Studies philosopher Henry Louis Gates Jr. has been appointed the Alphonse Fletcher University Professor, Harvard University announced Interim President Derek Bok on October 23.

"Professor Gates has accomplished something for the University that very few professors have done," said Bok.

"He has taken a field of study that, years ago, was floundering at Harvard and transformed it into the leading department of its kind in this country. In addition, he has been one of the world's intellectual leaders, if not the intellectual leader, in shaping the entire field of African-American studies over the last quarter century."

"I am deeply humbled by this generous gesture by President Bok," Gates reportedly said in regards to the honor.

The University Professorships, created by the President and Fellows in 1935, are chairs intended for "individuals of distinction." Gates has become the first African American of the 21 Harvard faculties currently serving as University Professors.



Morehouse Welcomes Official MLK, Jr. Papers

Morehouse College officially welcomed home the collection of papers and memorabilia from Dr. Martin Luther King on October 21.

The Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Collection was scheduled to be auctioned by Sotheby's on June 30. Interested institutions included the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C., and Boston University, where King received his doctorate in systematic theology in 1955.

In order to keep the documents at Morehouse Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin rallied funding from organizations to purchase the collection. The final decision took 11 hours but in the end, Morehouse College became owner of the 10,000-piece collection, which includes 7,000 handwritten notes and unpublished sermons.

President Walter E. Massey '58 said the College is proud to serve as the home of the King's papers. The civil-rights leader graduated from Morehouse with a bachelor's degree in sociology in 1948.



Lil Wayne Faces Charges By Morgan State

In Lil Wayne's efforts to help out struggling students by having money thrown into the audience at a Morgan State homecoming event the rapper may be facing criminal charges.

Campus police are considering whether to press charges on the artist after someone on stage began throwing money into the audience, which caused a riot and left three young women injured. The women both suffered leg injuries and were taken to Johns Hopkins Hospital. The third was injured but did not seek medical treatment.

According to Police Chief Adrian Wiggins, it was unclear whether Lil' Wayne or a member of his entourage actually tossed out the cash. Lil' Wayne, whose real name is Dwayne Michael Carter, has been banned from performing on campus in the wake of the incident, university officials said.

Sources: www.harvard.edu, www.gallaudet.edu, www.morehouse.edu, EURweb.com

The Hilltop Survey Says...

A copy of
The Hilltop and
\$1.35 will
get you
on the Metro.*

Companies Creating New Products For Project RED

RED, from NEWS A8

relief, food, clothing, shelter and other essentials that are absent amongst poverty stricken people.

Motorola has provided the red sliver phone, Converse has provided the limited edition RED and white Muddcloth trainers designed by Giles Deacon. Giorgio Armani has provided the Emporio Armani sunglasses and a capsule collection set to launch worldwide in November. There is also the iPod nano in RED courtesy of Apple. Myspace.com has even jumped on the bandwagon to help out with a profile launch at www.myspace.com/joined where viewers can read about Project RED and the cause, view its products and purchase them.

The GAP Inc. is also a major participant in Project RED, selling clothing and accessories both men and women can enjoy ranging in price from T-shirts that cost \$28 to more expensive items such as a pair of jeans, not necessarily red, that cost about \$198. Fifty percent of the profits received from these limited edition GAP items will be donated to The Global Fund, making responsible fashion a new trend. A manager from Prince George Plaza's GAP commented that 25 percent of the weekly sales are from Project RED items alone.

The RED line is in very high demand.

Junior fashion merchandising major Marlana Batts said, "Fashion is something everybody loves, and because these items are not necessarily couture it is easily accessible."

Batts is one of the many students who feels that Project RED is a good idea.

"It reflects positively on

the fashion industry, showing responsibility as opposed to superficiality," she said.

Other students, such as sophomore musical theater major Talibah Aquil, share the same sentiment.

"Fashion is what speaks to a lot of youth. It is what they relate to, so I am all for a cause that encourages the younger generation to be of help to the global community through the medium of fashion," Aquil said.

Fashion Fights Poverty is another organization following in the benevolent footsteps of The Global Fund. This organization aims to combat poverty and disease through profits obtained through various fashion shows and functions. The proceeds are given to Bead For Life, a grassroots organization dedicated to helping impoverished women and children in developing countries. The company takes the profits made from hand-crafted jewelry made by the indigenous women of Uganda and uses the proceeds to build up the family infrastructure and contribute to everyday necessities many Ugandan women go without.

Fashion Fights Poverty hosts showcases that are "ethical," like the show held at Gallery Place this past Friday. It featured fashions from American Apparel, Bebenoir, and Bead For Life.

According to director of communications and co-founder of Fashion Fights Poverty, Kadrieka Maiden, "I am not proclaiming that fashion is the best means of fighting poverty, but the organization has definitely recognized fashion as an effective avenue to fight poverty."

Maiden said the fashions in her shows are different from

those in a mainstream fashion show because their origins are more diverse.

"Our organization is unique in the sense that it involves all fashion from clothing design to art textile, and it is another avenue that reaches all consumers, and the money goes toward Bead For Life, which is a good cause," Maiden said.

These organizations are organizations that people can identify with, especially the Howard University student body. Though some are critical of using fashion as a vehicle for fundraising, junior nursing major Brittney Fox doesn't care about the origins of aid, as long as it serves its purpose. "I think The Global Fund, Project RED and Fashion Fights Poverty are laudable causes and are beneficial because they attract the attention of all age groups. People who might be ignorant to issues such as poverty and genocide become informed just by buying an iPod or a T-shirt, and even if they find out about these causes by accident, it doesn't matter. Ignorance and poverty are being dispelled; that's great."

Junior nursing major Jasmine Blackledge approves of Fashion Fights Poverty's mission, but believes there is more work to be done.

"Fashion cannot solely combat poverty diseases and there is still a need for policy makers and governments across the nation to kick it up a notch," Blackledge said. "If the products are what people want, there are celebrities involved and socially it's time for a change, people will support the cause. I will support the cause. Look at Vote or Die. It did well because of the cause and the celebrity."

Polls Not Factor In Elections

POLLS, from NEWS A8

from somewhere."

Bositis said media outlets pay for polls and that campaigns don't produce major polls.

Madonna feels that modern campaigns cannot run without polls.

"[Campaign strategists] shape their campaign by finding what voters care about and

tailor the candidate's message to fit voters' preference."

Because of this, Dr. Madonna warns voters about which polls to trust. Madonna said polls also are "able to see voters' reactions to certain events, to protect candidates from what they did or voted on. No campaign runs without polls to help make judgments."

He warns voters not to utilize polls that parties and candi-

dates conduct. "Average voters need help; there are a whole bunch of things you need to know to understand polls. There are at least ten different things a [qualified] pollster would look at to determine validity," Madonna said.

Bositis agreed. "They [voters] should rely on polls when they are confident in the reliability of the organization."

click it to us.

The Hilltop wants to read what you have to say. Submit a 500 word perspective to www.thehilltoponline.com.

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Friday, November 3 @ 7PM
 In the Blackburn Ballroom

Call Us: (202) 865-8698 Myspace: www.myspace.com/whbc830amchannel51

This Week in Academics at Howard

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

www.provost.howard.edu

Monday, October 30 – Friday, November 3, 2006

Monday, October 30

12:15 pm
HOWARD LAW STUDENTS AT THE SUPREME COURT

SPEAKERS: Nicole Elam, Keri Fiore, Veronica Joice, Lauren Ruffin, and Peter Steadman
 LOCATION: School of Law, Holy Cross Foyer

Wednesday, November 1

12:00 noon
CONCERT

MUSICIANS: Professors Connaitre Miller, Vocalist and Charles Covington, Pianist
 LOCATION: Blackburn University Center, Gallery Lounge

5:00 pm

27th ANNUAL CHARLES H. THOMPSON LECTURE
 "Providing a World-Class Education for Our Children & Youth: Shifting the Schooling Paradigm"

SPEAKER: Dr. A Wade Boykin, Professor, Department of Psychology and Executive Director, The Capstone Institute for School Reform, Howard University
 Sponsored by the Journal of Negro Education
 LOCATION: Blackburn University Center, West Ballroom

Wednesday and Thursday, November 1-2

SCHOOL OF DIVINITY 90th ANNUAL CONVOCATION & BANQUET
Crisis and Transformation in the Black Church: Engaging Critical Issues at Howard University School of Divinity

Come hear nationally-recognized theologians and academicians as they analyze the past, assess the present and chart the future.

BANQUET KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Rev. Dr. Floyd Flake
 SPECIAL GUEST: Gospel Artist, Maurette Brown-Clark
 Registration fees required.

CONTACT: (202) 806-0500

LOCATION: School of Divinity, 1400 Shepherd St., N.E.

Thursday, November 2

4:00 pm - 6:30 pm

FALL 2006 ENGLISH DEPARTMENT PRE-REGISTRATION MAJOR-MINOR INFO-SOCIAL
 English majors and minors, as well as those considering the field, should attend to receive one-on-one advising prior to the registration period, to hear announcements about upcoming events and opportunities

CONTACT: Yasmin DeGout, (202) 806-5611 or ydegout2@howard.edu
 LOCATION: Blackburn Center, Gallery Lounge

Friday, November 3

4:00 pm

7th ANNUAL STUDENT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
 Keynote Address for College of Engineering, Architecture and Computer Sciences
 "Ethics and Leadership"

SPEAKER: Ms. Linda Gooden, President of Lockheed Martin Information Technology, Deputy Executive Vice President of Lockheed Information and Technology Services
 CONTACT: Marilyn Lanier-Nolley, (202) 806-4381 or mlanier-nolley@howard.edu
 LOCATION: Mackey Building, The Hilyard R. & Helena Robinson Auditorium, 2nd floor

This Week in Academics at Howard is a listing of special academic events published by the Office of the Provost. The objective of this project is to increase awareness of the rich array of intellectual and cultural special events that are sponsored by the academic units at Howard University. This Week in Academics at Howard is distributed to the University community via email and posted at www.provost.howard.edu at the beginning of each week. Schools, Colleges, Departments, other academic units and faculty members may submit announcements about academic events that are open to the University community for listing in This Week in Academics at Howard. Submissions must be received via email or provost@howard.edu by Wednesday of the week preceding the event.

What's happening in the Residence Hall?

"Hall Happenings"

October & November 2006

Monday, October 30, 2006

DEAN'S RESIDENCE HALL PRESIDENT'S MEETING, RESIDENCE LIFE CONFERENCE ROOM, THE QUAD, 4:00 PM-5:00 PM

"SCARY MOVIE MARATHON" - THE QUAD, BALDWIN LOUNGE, 6:00 PM-2:00 AM

Tuesday, October 31, 2006

The Haunted Hilltop, 6:00pm, Cook Hall

"KICKBOXING", BETHUNE SEMINAR ROOM, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, November 1, 2006

"LOUD WHISPERS, OPEN MICROPHONE", BETHUNE, 7:00 PM, \$1.00

Thursday, November 2, 2006

"KIDS2COLLEGE INFORMATIONAL SESSION", THE TOWERS WEST, "KICKBOXING", BETHUNE, 7:00 PM

Friday, November 3, 2006

"KICKBOXING", BETHUNE, 7:00 PM

Saturday, November 4, 2006

"QUAD DREW OUTING", 7:00 PM (SEE COMMUNITY DIRECTORS)

U.S. Still Behind In Test Scores

BY AEJA WASHINGTON
Contributing Writer

Though the United States is one of the most powerful and prosperous nations in the world, its place in education does not seem to fall in sync with that title, according to international students studying in the states.

"I don't think Americans take education all that seriously," said Vernelle A. Noel, a senior architecture major from Trinidad and Tobago. "Americans have more opportunities and resources at the tip of their fingers, but they choose not to utilize them."

Noel added that the Trinidadian public school system is modeled after the British system.

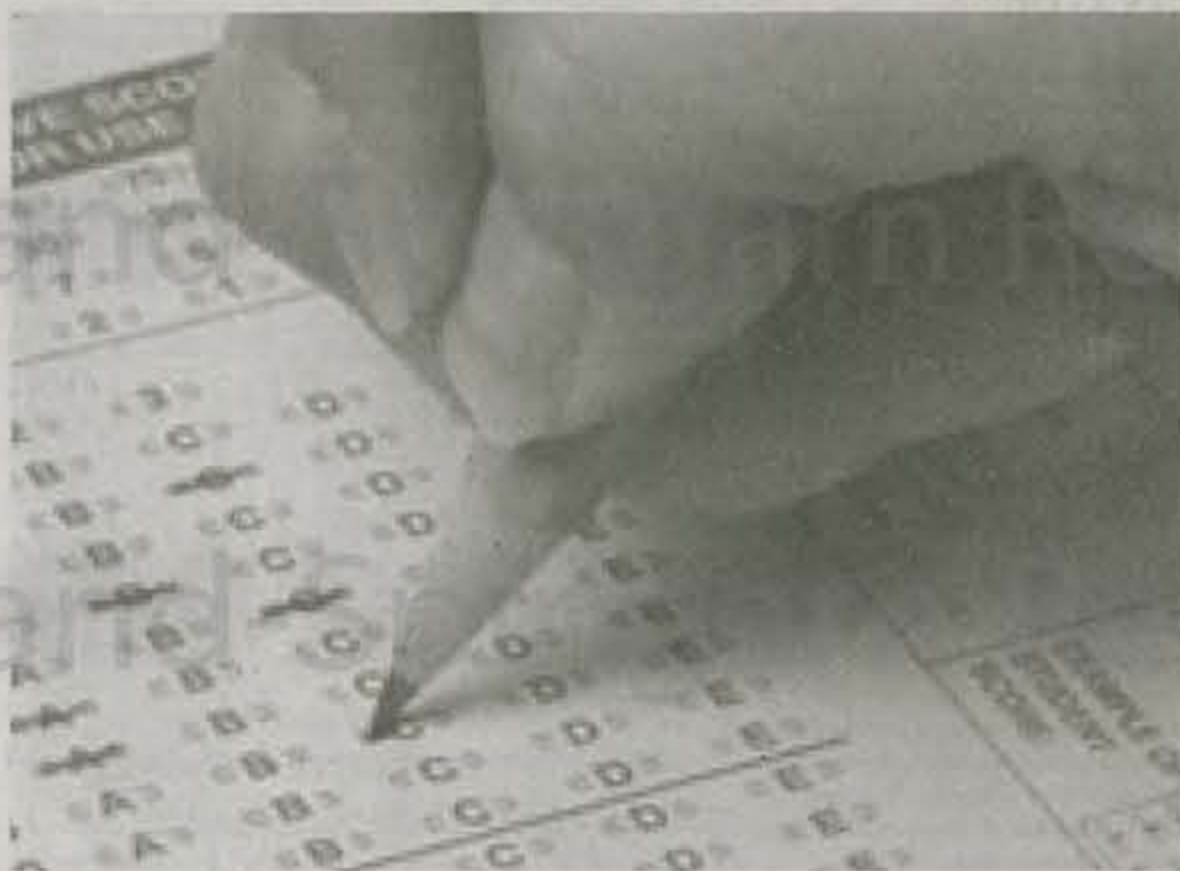
"We take education very seriously in Trinidad, not only in our academics, but also how we view and treat our teachers."

When it comes to the welfare of the American education system, many find its future not too promising. In recent decades, numbers of developed nations surpassed American students academically.

According to the 2003 Trends in International Math and Science Study (TIMSS) only seven percent of America's 4th and 8th graders were considered "advanced," while 38 percent of Singaporean 4th graders and 44 percent of Singaporean 8th graders reached this level.

National results among American students in comparison to international students have often been below average. The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) developed a test called the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) to test and compare the performance of schoolchildren across the world with a view to improve and standardize educational methods.

In 2003, American 15-year-olds ranked 24th of 38 in mathematics, 19th of 38 in science, 12th of 38 in reading, and 26th of 38 in problem solving. Finland and South Korea, respectively, ranked within the top three positions in each category.



The U.S. has been consistently low in math, science and reading scores compared to high school students in the industrialized world.

Statistics like this prove that the current reforms in the educational system are not producing satisfying results.

Current Secretary of Education, Margaret Spellings, acknowledges the educational decline.

"The rest of the world is catching up to us in education, especially in the areas of math and science," said Spellings in the Ask the White House question and answer series.

"These statistics just highlight the need we have to improve the K-12 pipeline in math and science and provide more opportunities for students to take rigorous classes in school," Spellings said.

Many believe that the lack of funding that is going into the public school systems is what is causing America to trail behind our international counterparts. To remedy the problem, more money should be dumped into public school funding.

Per pupil in inflation-adjusted dollars has significantly increased from \$4,479 in 1971 to \$8,996 in 2001 according to the Department of Education. Despite the increased spending, the Department of Education notes that the graduation rates have fallen to 72.2 percent in 2001

from 75.6 percent in 1971.

The results from the 2003 PISA study illustrated that countries that spent more on education did not necessarily do better than those who spent less.

Countries such as Australia, Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, Finland, Japan and the Netherlands spend relatively less on public education but performed comparatively well, as opposed to the United States that spends a lot more but continuously scores below the OECD average. The Czech Republic spends one third per student as compared to the United States.

According to PISA, professor Jouni Valjarvi, who directed the Finnish PISA study, believes that the high scores that Finland attained were due to the high quality of teachers and Finland's LUMA program (a national development program of Mathematics and Science education operated by the Ministry of Education in Finland).

He also brought to light that within the Finnish school system only one curriculum is taught to all pupils.

So are we a nation at risk? "Yes we are," said Carrie L. Ellis-Williams, former mid-atlantic recruiter and deputy

director of the alumni career office for Teach for America who now serves as the Field Director for Kaboom.

"There are a number of factors that contribute to the poor performance in students: poor competitiveness, economic factors, insufficiently-equipped schools, quality of teachers, poor curriculum and the list can go on," Ellis-Williams said.

Like Ellis-Williams, many influential leaders have expressed great concerns about the quality of education that children are receiving.

Earlier this year, President Bush proposed the American Competitiveness Initiative, which provides \$380 million in new funding to the Department of Education to strengthen math and science education around the country.

The Department of Education has proposed Math Now for Elementary Schools and Middle Schools to introduce algebraic and other challenging mathematics concepts early so that students can succeed in higher-level courses.

"If we don't step up and give every child in this nation an excellent education, we will fail generations to come and it will effect us tremendously," Ellis-Williams said.

How well do you know your Nation and World?

- 1) In which continent is the country Gabon?
a) South America
b) Africa
c) Europe
d) Asia
- 2) Which country has the greatest oil reserves in the world?
a) Venezuela
b) Canada
c) Saudi Arabia
d) Iraq
- 3) Name the U.S. Attorney General.
- 4) Who is the president of the NAACP?
a) Kweisi Mfume
b) Julian Bond
c) John Conyers
d) Bruce Gordon
- 5) What is the United Nations Security Council?
- 6) Name three black Republicans that will be running in this year's mid-term election.
- 7) Olusegun Obasanjo is the president of which country?
a) Ghana
b) South Africa
c) Sierra Leone
d) Nigeria
- 8) In October, — soldiers have died in Iraq making the total casualty count — since the March 2003 invasion.
a) 99, 2805
b) 70, 2508
c) 50, 2100
d) 200, 2903
- 9) Condoleezza Rice is calling on which country to disarm their nuclear weapons?
a) Venezuela
b) North Korea
c) Hezbollah
d) Cuba
- 10) True or False. New York City has the highest population of black residents?
a) True
b) False
- 11) Which country does this flag represent?



Answers: 1)b 2)c 3)Albert Gonzales 4)d 5)the organ of the United Nations charged with maintaining peace and security among nations. The Security Council has the power to make decisions which member governments must carry out under the United Nations Charter. 6)Michael Stennis for Senator in MD, Kenneth Blackwell for governor in OH, Lynn Swann governor of Pennsylvania. 7)d 8)a 9)c 10)a 11) Australia

Ever Wonder Why...

There is braille written on drive-through ATM machines?

Drive-up ATM buttons are marked with braille because federal regulations require it. Section 4.34.4 of the ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities (Appendix to Part 1191, 36 CFR Chapter XI, issued pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990) says, "Instructions and all information for use [of an automated teller machine] shall be made accessible to and independently usable by persons with vision impairments." Drive-up ATMs, unlike the walk-up variety, don't need to be wheelchair accessible, but the rules make no exception regarding accessibility by the blind. ATM manufacturers say a fair number of blind people do take cabs to drive-up ATMs, to avoid asking a total stranger to help with a financial transaction.

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Happy Birthday iPod: Apple Music Player Turns Five

BY CHARLOTTE YOUNG
Hilltop Staff Writer

Any day on Howard's campus, students can be seen walking to class with the familiar white cords hanging from ears attached to the respective iPod.

"It's like you have feelings in your pocket," sophomore political science major Christina Griffin said. "Your favorite songs can uplift you or your saddest song can affirm that the situation is bad."

On Oct. 23, Apple celebrated the fifth anniversary of the iPod. Created by the California-based company in 2001, the iPod first started out as a 5 gigabyte (GB) hard drive music device that stored up to 1,000 songs. It became available on Nov. 10, 2001 for \$399. "With iPod, listening to music will never be the same again," said Apple CEO Steve Jobs, at the introduction of the iPod.

Now, iPods range in different sizes and colors. The 1GB iPod shuffle sells for \$79. It holds up to 240 songs. The iPod nano comes in five different colors. It ranges in memory capacity from the 2GB, 4GB to the 8GB and can hold up to 2,000 songs depending on the version. Prices for the iPod nano start at \$149. Starting at \$249, the iPod video is avail-



Photo courtesy of www.worldpress.com

Upon the fifth anniversary of the iPod, Apple celebrates the range of sizes, colors and features developed since 2001. Sales of the latest development, the special edition iPod nano (PRODUCT) RED, contribute to the fight against HIV/AIDS.

able in black or white. It has two sizes: the 30GB and the 80 GB. The 80GB iPod video holds up to 20,000 songs, up to 25,000 photos and up to 100 hours of video.

The newest of the iPod developments is the special edition iPod nano (PRODUCT) RED. Designed by Bono, the lead singer of U2 and Bobby Shriver, the special edition iPod nano (PRODUCT) RED

is dedicated to the HIV/AIDS cause in Africa. Apple will donate \$10 from each iPod nano (PRODUCT) RED sale to the Global Fund to help continue the fight against HIV/AIDS.

All iPods are rechargeable when connected to a computer with its cable and are able to download music using Apple's online mp3 music store, iTunes. iPod video can also

download movies, TV shows and podcasts from the iTunes Store.

iPods of all sizes and colors can be found on Howard's campus.

Griffin is the owner of a video iPod.

"The iPod is beautiful," she said. "People won't talk to you-they try to, then they get embarrassed because you can't hear anything they say."

Freshman finance major Jeffrey Fleming also enjoys his iPod.

"It's the best piece of technology to happen to music," he said. "I have the [iPod] nano. It doesn't hold as [many songs] as I would like it to hold but I don't have enough music to put on it [anyway]."

Though sophomore legal communications major Shari Graham doesn't own an iPod,

she plans on getting one.

"When I travel I hate being bored. I think if I had an iPod I could watch all the movies I want and listen to all the music I want to occupy my time," she said.

While these students appreciate the convenience iPods offer, not all students buy into the concept of the iPod.

Junior TV production major Alexis Taylor, prefers her Sony Bean, which has an FM radio.

"Everybody has one (iPod) and I'm not trying to be like everybody else," she said. "The fact that I have [the Sony] Bean, it's like 'yes, I didn't buy into the iPod frenzy like everybody else.'"

Patrice Cherry, a junior accounting major from South Carolina, says that while iPods are not popular in her hometown, she enjoys her iPod mini. "Everybody really likes it and wants to get one," she said.

According to Apple press reports, the company made a total revenue of \$4.84 billion for the fiscal 2006 third quarter which ended on September 30, 2006. More than 39 million iPods were sold; a 35 percent growth in the sell of iPods over last year's quarter.

"It's a great investment... everyone who loves music should get one," Cherry said.



Photo courtesy of www.21win-bet.com

Online gambling adds such as this one may be a thing of the past. President Bush recently signed a ban on most online gambling and gambling related money transfers.

Law Bans Online Gambling

BY JOUANNA SPANN
Contributing Writer

Online gamblers will soon have to withstand the late night or early morning yearning for an online bet due to the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act. President Bush signed the bill into law on Oct. 13.

The act attempts to ban most online gambling and make money transfers to accounts from gambling sites illegal. The act is expected to stifle the swelling of the online gambling industry in the U.S.

Recently, analysts said a decline in the online gambling industry could not be foreseen. A U.S. consulting firm, Christiansin Capital Advisors, predicted that global online gambling revenue would increase from the current revenue of \$15 million to more than \$24 billion by 2010. However these figures may be unreliable since Americans have placed only \$6 billion in online bets, and only \$12 billion worldwide.

Senior biology major Abeni Cooper said that she didn't think that the gambling industry had too much to worry about when it comes to making money.

"[The gambling industry] will get along just fine because there has always been [Las] Vegas, which was around before the Internet, and there has always been people shooting dice in the corner," Cooper said.

Lobbyist for U.S. casino industry, the American

Gaming Association, estimated that 4 percent of Americans or 12 million people placed online bets last year. This figure is still not much in comparison to the one-in-four Americans who flocked to state regulated casinos last year.

Senior audio production major Arthur Walcott-Ceasay isn't that worried about the new act.

"I wouldn't consider myself a gambler. I have been to Vegas and Atlantic City a few times, but I just played the quarter games. I have never gambled online and I'm not into computers enough to do it," Walcott-Ceasay said.

Supporters of the bill believe that its passing is a triumph "for family values and a blow against an addictive vice," according to the online publication of Business Week.

A sponsor of the bill, Iowa Republican Jim Leach, said that the bill's passage will prevent casinos from further extending their corruptive reach.

Sophomore nursing major Anaya Smith had the same sentiments as Leach.

"I have never been an advocate of online gambling because kids under 18 have run themselves into debt. The ban is beneficial because of the state it is putting teens in," Smith said.

Many analysts say that there are loopholes in the language of the bill, perhaps giving way for many lot casters to work around the new legislation.

The bill does not explic-

itly outlaw betting on online casino-style games, such as blackjack; however, it does ban the betting of sports. The bill prohibits credit card companies and other payment companies from processing online gambling transactions.

Some poker companies argue that because poker is a game of skill, rather than a haphazard sequence of numbers, it is not subjected to the new rules soon to be implemented.

Still, with the new law's policies and procedures looming just 270 days away, online gaming companies are already feeling the blow.

Forbes' 164th Richest American of the 400 Richest Americans, Ruth Parasol, lawyer and founder of PartyGaming.com, made a profit of \$5 million in 2002, in comparison to a colossal \$293 million in 2005 as revenues for the company increased to \$1 billion. In June of 2005, the company was listed on the London Stock Exchange, which put an amount of \$8.6 billion on the firm.

Now, the once powerhouse company said that it will no longer take monies from the U.S. market. Two poker companies, Sportbet, and Leisure & Gaming, sold their U.S. operations stocks for a dollar. It cost Sportbet nearly \$400 million to pull out of the U.S. market.

Many companies are running after the German, Britain and French markets to make up for lost U.S. revenues.

Wal-Mart Ordered To Pay \$78 Million in Missed Wages

BY SAKITA HOLLEY
Contributing Writer

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. was ordered to pay \$78.47 million in damages on Oct. 13 in what has become the latest judgment in a wide-ranging legal battle between the world's largest retailer and current and former employees in 28 states.

The ruling came a day after a Pennsylvania jury in the Court of Common Pleas sided with Michelle Braun and Delores Hummel, both former employees of Wal-Mart, who claimed the company violated Pennsylvania labor laws by neglecting to pay employees for lost wages. Of the \$78.47 million award, \$2.5 million is allocated for off-the-clock working and about \$76 million for lost rest breaks dating back to March 1998.

The class action suit involves 187,000 current and former employees who worked at Wal-Mart and Sam's Clubs in Pennsylvania from March 1998 through May 2006. The suit charges that Wal-Mart managers forced employees to work through breaks and after shifts to maximize the amount of work done and to cut costs. Managers would even go as far as locking employees in after closing to ensure that the entire store was replenished for the night.

"One of Wal-Mart's undisclosed secrets for its profitability is its creation and implementation of a

system that encourages off-the-clock work for its hourly employees..." Hummel said in her suit filed in 2002.

Wal-Mart attorney Neal Manne refuted this claim.

"I think a lot of employees who had short or missed breaks did it by personal choice," Manne said.

In his closing argument, Manne said that Wal-Mart has a strong company policy against off-the-clock work, a policy that is written in the employee handbook. The policy also gives hourly employees in Pennsylvania one paid 15-minute break during a shift of at least three hours and two such breaks, plus an unpaid 30-minute meal break, on a shift of at least six hours.

The plaintiffs' lawyer Michael Donovan pointed out that employees were sometimes logged on to cash registers when the employees were not on the clock; additionally, Wal-Mart computers were programmed to dock workers for every minute of tardiness. Those minutes of lost pay saved Wal-Mart stores in Pennsylvania \$26 million over the course of a year.

Contrary to company policy, Wal-Mart has in place a system of rewards and punishments that critics say gives managers strong incentives to be highly demanding of employees. According to a deposition by a senior payroll executive, store managers are ordered to keep payroll costs below a target that headquarters sets for every

store. This system also discourages overtime pay. If a store misses its target, store managers have been subject to reprimanding and sometimes demotion or termination.

Although this case adds another blow to Wal-Mart's already tarnished image, some Howard students don't seem to be fazed by the discount retailer's legal woes.

"I don't really care, and I am not affected by the verdict at all," said sophomore fashion merchandising major Niasia Rouse.

Freshman finance major Calvin Simmons said his opinion of Wal-Mart hasn't changed because he's been ordered to work through breaks in the past by his employers. In fact, most students surveyed have had to work through breaks, and that despite the \$78.47 million award, most of those students will continue shopping at Wal-Mart for its convenience and low prices.

Freshman print journalism major Kea'nia Gulley, admitted that the verdict has changed her view of Wal-Mart.

"[Wal-Mart] seemed like a store that cared about the community and their workers. It puts them in a completely negative light," Gulley said.

Manne said he "obviously disagrees" with the jury's verdict and its award of damages and plans to appeal both the class certification and the jury's findings.



Photo courtesy of www.arkvoice.com

Walmart has been ordered to pay \$78.47 million in damages for neglecting to pay 187,000 Pennsylvania laborers for lost wages from March 1998 to May 2006.

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Bison Defeat Spartans for Second Straight Win

BY CARYN GRANT
Sports Editor

The Bison football team handed Norfolk State (3-5, 1-5 in the MEAC) their fourth consecutive loss as junior quarterback Brian Johnson led the Bison to their second-straight win, a first since October 1 of last year.

Johnson rushed for a career-high 142 yards in his third start of the season, and senior running back Antoine Rutherford added 91, including a five-yard touchdown carry to score the Bison's lone touchdown in their 13-10 win over the Spartans Saturday at Greene Stadium.

"All three phases of the team played well," head coach Ray Petty said after the game, explaining that in earlier games at least one of the three units (offense, defense, or special teams) has broken down. "These last couple of games, all three phases have pulled together and not made mistakes."

Johnson agreed, attributing the success to players getting used to each other and beginning to "play as a unit."

After a scoreless first quarter, Howard (3-5, 2-3 in the MEAC) took a 3-0 lead, starting the second with a 34-yard field goal by freshman kicker Dennis Wiehberg less than a minute into the period.

The Spartans responded with a 12-play, 32 yard drive in which Norfolk kicker Antonio Gomez rushed for 17 yards, giving the visiting team a first down after the Bison had forced them into a fourth and eleven situation.

The Bison defense, however, was relentless; with a sack by senior



Photo Courtesy of Carroll Smith - All Pro Photo

Quarterback Brian Johnson breaks free of a Norfolk State defender during the Bison's 13-10 win over the Spartans Saturday.

defensive lineman Marvin Wooten pushing the Spartans back 10 yards and forcing a punt from the Howard 37 yard line. This would be only one of five times that the Bison defense would sack Norfolk State quarterback Casey Hansen.

"Defense has been a strong tradi-

tion here the past three years," senior defensive end Rudy Hardie, who finished with two sacks and 4.5 tackles. "The defense is now playing well as a unit. We all made plays when we needed to against a very good offense."

The offense took the field with

the ball on their 22-yard line and drove 78 yards in nine plays for a touchdown with 5:42 left in the half.

The Spartans countered with a 74-yard drive of their own, but were halted by the Bison defense, forcing a 23 yard field goal, putting Norfolk State on the scoreboard and bringing the score to 10-3 which would carry both teams into the half.

"The defense is reaching a point where we feel we are not going to give up points," said senior middle linebacker Timothy Lockett, who had five tackles against the Spartans. "They were able to put together a nice drive, but we were determined not to let them get into the end zone."

Half way through the third quarter, Wiehberg completed his second field goal of the game, this time a 22-yard kick, to extend the Bison lead to 10.

Norfolk State made one last stand in the fourth, when Bison wide receiver Terry Perry fumbled at the Spartan 46 yard line and Norfolk strong safety Chris Arzu recovered.

The Spartans took advantage of the turnover, driving down the field into the red zone. The Bison defense attempted to hold the Spartans off yet again, but was unsuccessful as fullback Daryl Jones was able to push forward one yard to score on fourth and goal to score Norfolk's only touchdown of the game.

With the gap narrowed with under nine minutes remaining, the Bison offense managed to tick time off of the clock, going 34 yards in five minutes before they were forced to punt.

The Spartans failed to score again, sealing the win for the Bison,

SCOREBOARD & SCHEDULE

Men's Soccer

Florida Atlantic	2
Howard	1

Football

Norfolk State	10
Howard	13

Women's Swimming

Howard	118
Drexel	158

Men's Swimming

Howard	95
Drexel	166

Women's Soccer

North Dakota St.	12
Howard	0

TODAY'S GAMES

None

13-10.

Following the win, Rutherford was already looking ahead to next week's match-up against South Carolina State (4-4, 3-2 in the MEAC) in the Bulldogs' homecoming game.

"We have to get ready to go down to South Carolina State and shake things up in the MEAC," he said.

Hall of Fame Coach Auerbach Dies at 89

BY CARYN GRANT
Sports Editor

Red Auerbach, the Hall of Fame coach that led the Boston Celtics to nine NBA championships in the 1950s and 60s died Saturday at the age of 89.

An NBA official told the Associated Press that Auerbach died from a heart attack near his Washington home.

Until his death, Auerbach continued to serve as team president of the Celtics and the team announced that the upcoming season would be dedicated in his honor.

Auerbach was inducted into the Basketball Hall of

Fame in 1968, two years after his last game as head coach of the Celtics.

He won 938 games in his 16 seasons coaching the Celtics. That number gave him the title of the most winningest coach in NBA history until Lenny Wilkens topped the record during the 1994-95 season.

Born as Arnold Auerbach in Brooklyn, N.Y. on Sept. 20, 1917, aside from his incredible winning numbers, Auerbach was also known for celebrating victories with a cigar.

The Celtics did not have a losing season during his coaching tenure.

"Nobody has had as much impact on a sport as Red Auerbach had on the game of basketball. He was a pioneer of the NBA," Tommy Heinsohn, a former Hall of Fame player in Boston and current Celtics coach and broadcaster, told AP.

"He left his philosophy of winning championships, playing hard and playing as a team with several generations of players... The game of basketball will never see anyone else like him."

It wasn't until the 2001-02 season that Phil Jackson tied his record nine NBA championships when the Lakers won the title.

Even after he retired from coaching, Auerbach served as general manager of the Celtics until 1984, during which the team won six more championships.

Steve Pagliuca, a Celtics managing partner, expressed to the Associated Press Auerbach's impact on the NBA on an even larger level.

"Red was a guy who always introduced new things," Pagliuca said. "He had some of the first black players in the league and some people didn't like that, but you've got to do what's right for the fans. So I think we tried to do things thoughtfully. We didn't come in here and change everything overnight."

Auerbach is survived by two daughters, Nancy Auerbach Collins and Randy Auerbach; his granddaughter, Julie Auerbach Flieger, and three great-grandchildren.



Photo Courtesy of www.basketballreference.com



Photo Courtesy of www.mlb.com

Cardinals Win World Series

The St. Louis Cardinals defeated the Detroit Tigers 4-2, Friday to claim the 2006 World Series, 4-1, at Busch Stadium in St. Louis. This is the Cardinals' first championship since 1982.

After finishing the regular season with only 83 wins, the Cardinals beat the San Diego Padres and the New York Mets enroute to landing them in a World Series match-up with the Tigers.

St. Louis entered the series facing a well-rested Tigers squad after they took the Mets to seven games, but beat Detroit 7-2 on the road. The Tigers responded with a 3-1 win to knot the series as the series moved to St. Louis.

The Cardinals, however, regained control with a 5-0 win and held onto it, ending the series before it was scheduled to return to Detroit.

This championship was the Cardinals tenth World Series title in club history.

This year was the third time that the two teams had met in the World Series. In 1934, the Cardinals defeated the Tigers in seven games. Thirty-four years later, the Tigers were victorious in the 1968 Series match-up.

The Cardinals, however, overcame nearly missing the playoffs, delays due to weather-postponed games and a favored Tigers team to capture the title.

Bison Sports Short



Taekwondo Club Members Place in TMA Tom Davis Championship Tournament

The Howard University Taekwondo Club competed in the 2006 TMA Tom Davis Championship Tournament in Falls Church, Va. Saturday.

Senior Bryan Jones came in third place in the black belt division and sophomores Kenneth Connell and Tyrone Clemons came in first place and third places, respectively, in the color division.



Photo Courtesy of Tami Akimura

Compiled by Caryn Grant, Sports Editor

'Freakum Dress': Effective Tactic or Not?

BY DANIELLE KWATENG
Hilltop Staff Writer

What should a woman do when her boyfriend strays or becomes bored? Well, according to Beyoncé, she should pull out her "freakum dress."

On her new album, "B'Day," the superstar sings that the perfect sexy dress is the best way for a woman to restore her confidence and recapture her man's attention. "When he acts up/That's when you put it on/Pin it up tight/This is your song/Poke out your back/It's time to impress/Pull out your freakum dress."

On Howard's campus, rated as the second most fashionable school in the country in 2004 by Seventeen magazine, girls wear dresses every day. Some don't differentiate between a regular dress and a freakum dress.

Sophomore pre-law major Kynal Wilson said a freakum dress is feminine and sexy.

"I guess something that accentuates your curves in a positive way, but not in a skanky way."

"Women have been wearing them for years," Wilson said. "So it's kinda' funny that now we finally have a name for it, but I don't know if it always does the job."

Despite the term 'freakum dress' leaking into the general population's consciousness because of the song's popularity, senior marketing major Magaly Cano doesn't think using a dress is the ideal way to keep a man.

"I know that a freakum dress is a very sexy dress, which is bound to cause some sort of trouble when worn," Cano said. "But when my boyfriend acts up, I just ignore him and let him realize that he was wrong. Then we talk things through. Seems to be working: I get upset, then he gets upset, then I get flowers and we are back to perfect."

Another problem with the freakum dress, Cano believes, is that every woman doesn't look like Beyoncé and that there isn't always the time to primp and preen before the man gets home.

"I don't believe that a freakum dress works for the average young ladies," Cano said. "When we get upset, we too often act in a not-so-rational way, like by putting on scandalous clothing. If we look at things for what they are, a dress is just a dress. So, when men decide that they are going to act up, let them. A dress is not going to change their behavior."



Photo courtesy of: www.beyoncebeauty.com
Beyoncé song "Freakum Dress" has started a debate.

The freakum dress might not be as powerful as some think, if a survey that ran in Essence last

year is any indication. The survey, featured in an article on what black men really wanted in a woman, found that 11 percent of the male respondents claimed to not care how frequently sex was experienced. Another 11 percent are willing to wait until marriage to have sex.

"A dress could not entice me to be a better boyfriend—maybe to do some things that she wouldn't expect, but not be a better boyfriend," said sophomore advertising major Jabari Johnson. "What would entice me to be a better boyfriend is when a girl can cook. Like Nas said, the key to a man's heart is his stomach."

Johnson also thinks women these days aren't manipulative, but in control. "I think girls these days are brilliant," he said. "They got a lot of these dudes wrapped around their fingers, so more power to them. I know a lot of girls getting whatever they want out of dudes so they might as well keep doing whatever they doing; whether it is wearing something he likes, being high maintenance or giving him something else."

The freakum dress frenzy highlights a bigger issue: the relationship dynamics of black couples. The

male-female relationship, which was once cherished and nurtured, like a gift, is now often a tool for both parties to get what they want and even bamboozle each other.

The scary statistics don't help either. Last year, it was reported that for every 115 black women over the age of 18, there are 100 black men. And that doesn't take into account other factors that may lower the odds of having a serious relationship.

Washington D.C. attorney and mentor Georgia Goslee, believes young women are too caught up in what men think and need to work on the self.

"If a man is really interested in you, he'll let you know," Goslee said. "In whatever way he can, he'll let you know, even if he's shy. If he doesn't let you know than he's not that interested in you."

Goslee also thinks the best way to find a good relationship is to not look. "When you're busy working on your studies, goals and spirit, love will find you," she said. "Men want women who have something to offer to the world, and nobody likes a desperate person. I always tell young girls to focus on developing who you are and the right person will find you."

Responsibly Fashionable

BY VERONICA DINGWALL
Contributing Writer

In the ongoing war on poverty, there are over 6 million casualties each year: people who lose the fight to AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, according to annual reports submitted by The



Photo credit: www.projectred.org
Companies like Fashion Fights Poverty are joining the fight against disease.

Global Fund. The statistics rendered are essentially unacceptable to humanitarians across the globe.

These three diseases are also identified as the diseases that claim the lives of too many of the world's poor. Organizations such as Fashion Fights Poverty, and The Global Fund in conjunction with Project RED have recognized the problem and moved into the second phase of response with the use of fashion, celebrity and mass production of "Red" products.

These organizations are utilizing creative outlets to combat poverty related diseases, especially in the ravaged continent of Africa. The Global Fund teamed up with Project RED to manufacture and sell the public products and services, whose proceeds will go to areas and people who are devastated by these diseases.

Every month since Jan. 2006, The Global Fund reveals a new partnership with an already multi-million dollar enterprise. These enterprises have agreed to manufacture some of their products in RED with noble intentions of donating the proceeds to The Global Fund who in turn will use the proceeds to provide medical See RED, NEWS A3

Superstitions Have History

BY JESSICA MORRIS
Contributing Writer

Many people are aware of at least some superstitious beliefs. Many people don't open umbrellas indoors and never break a mirror, but where did these superstitions come from? Why do people say, "God bless you" after a sneeze?

The answers to these questions go far back in history, some as far back as ancient times. Superstitions have been passed down through generations for hundreds of years.

One superstition is that if someone opens an umbrella indoors it will bring bad luck. According to oldsuperstitions.com, this came from when umbrellas were used in the East as early as the 11th century B.C. People used them not only as a protective measure from the sun but also as a device to ward off any harmful spirits. Because of the umbrella's sacred relationship to the sun, it is wrong to open it in the shade.

Saying "God bless you" after a sneeze is a common practice that started from a superstition. In ancient times, man thought his breath was also his soul. A sneeze is the same as expelling life from one's body. Also it was believed to leave a vacuum in the head through

which evil spirits could enter. The phrase "God bless you" then came about to shield sneezers from any ill effects.

Sophomore legal communications major Kristal Morris said, "I grew up always hearing the superstition that walking under a ladder brings bad luck."

This is a common superstition that also began in ancient times as leaning ladders would form a triangle with the wall and the ground. Triangles represented the Holy Trinity, and violating the Trinity by walking through it would be disrespectful to God and unleash the powers of evil spirits.

Many people are aware of superstition, but etiquette is also related in that the basis for these rules are often unknown. These rules have somewhat faded in importance over the years, but they maintain some prevalence today.

While some superstitions stem from religious and secular beliefs, some relate to matters of etiquette.

In an article written by Dorothea Johnson, Protocol School of Washington, she said, "In 2004, a new emphasis has been placed on returning to traditional values. Proper etiquette and protocol has given children and adults alike a vital tool that not only provides a competitive edge, but a sense of

confidence."

There are many rules of etiquette that many people do not even know about. People may also not be aware of the implications.

For instance, according to the book, "Etiquette" by Emily Post, chewing gum while walking in public is considered bad etiquette. A gentleman or lady should never be chewing on a piece of gum while being seen in public.

Another rule is to not draw any attention to oneself while in public. Talking too loudly in public or calling out someone's name are viewed as signs of bad breeding.

More common rules such as men holding doors for women, men paying for dates and not putting one's elbows on the table are rules that are taught in every etiquette course.

According to sociology professor Dr. Jenifer Goode, students at Howard do exercise good etiquette. "Students often hold open doors and say good morning when passing."

Basic consideration for others and presenting oneself respectfully are the basics of etiquette. It is important to know the basics because how a person acts and carry their self represents a person. In any professional setting etiquette can lead to either success or failure.

Entertainment Report Card



'Deconstructing' an 'Empowering Read on Black Men

BY TANARA L. HAYNES
Contributing Writer

If Tyrone ever had to be called, perhaps now is the time to tell everyone who he might be.

Howard University alumni Natalie Hopkinson and Natalie Y. Moore made that the goal in their new book, "Deconstructing Tyrone: A New Look at Black Masculinity in the Hip-Hop Generation."

An idea that came from playing around while brainstorming, the authors decided to use Tyrone from the hit song, "Call Tyrone" by Erykah Badu. Hopkinson said, "Looking at the song lyrics people think Tyrone is this trifling man, but he's not, he's just his friend. No one really knows who he is," Hopkinson said.

From there, the two authors were inspired to dissect the roles African-American men play, the stereotypes that are given and accepted and the impact the roles have on black children and women.

While the title may lead one to think that this is another book about the black male in the hip-hop generation, the reader will be quickly corrected the moment the book is opened and the introduction is read.

The hip-hop theme is only used to give the book its flavor and help the reader relate. In fact, there is only one chapter devoted to the subject, and even then it is only used to look at the relationship women have with the industry: a hot topic that is always being examined in the black community.

With 11 chapters dedicated to breaking down the black male, the reader is drawn into learning who or what Tyrone is really all about. It's evident that he is more than the depicted rapper on television in the music videos or the dead-beat father, but he is the

hard working lawyer or mayor of a city, such as Kwame Kilpatrick of Detroit, who is used as an example.

The two authors committed themselves to bringing light to all the myths and urban legends about the black male. In a chapter titled Visible Tyrone, in which homosexuality and brothers on the down low are discussed, readers get a taste of why black men fear being who they are and deny such acts as having sex with other men.

In other chapters such as 'The Pole Test,' and 'Baby Daddy,' the two ladies bring forth the effects black men have on black women. The Pole Test is a chapter that profiles strippers and the relationships with their fathers, stressing the importance of how having a father figure present in a girl's life determines how development into women occurs.

'Baby Daddy' goes into paternity, child support and statistics on how many single mothers there are compared to those who are with the fathers of their children. However, the chapter does not stop there. The authors also bring up how marriage does not always establish whether or not the father will be around or do his job.

The book offers much insight into the black community and how relation-



Photo Courtesy of www.amanin.com
"Deconstructing Tyrone" is an insight into who and what the black man truly is.

ships operate within it. The authors do not only put personal experiences into it, but also prove that male masculinity is looked at and experienced by many across different scales, such as the younger generation.

"Deconstructing Tyrone" ends with a chapter in which teenaged girls ranging from ages 12 to 14 express personal feelings about men. These women lay down the law about self-respect and respect from others. By the end of the chapter, one feels confident in the direction the black community may be going.

The book is empowering, and looks as though it can point the black community down the right path. It encourages blacks as a whole to crave learning more about black masculinity rather than settling for what is produced and concocted on television and other media.

This book is for everyone on all levels.

Grade: A

EDITORIALS & Perspectives

VOLUME 90, NO. 44

OCTOBER 30, 2006

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM



Get Rich Or Die Trying

No, we aren't talking about the rapper who considers himself the George Bush of hip hop. But the title of 50 Cent's first album rings true for the experience of many in the middle class and students looking to enter the job force, as the middle class shrinks and the gap between the have's and have-not's widens.

As we talked about the danger of sensational broadcast news last week, CNN's recent report by Lou Dobbs "War on the Middle Class," may be something we all should be looking deeper into.

Dobbs pointed out that the middle class in America is using the same amount of money to pay rising tuition, health care, energy and other costs and is fighting a Capitol Hill run by special interests and big businesses.

Many of our friends at other colleges have already felt the tightening of funds as the New York Times reported last year that support of public colleges was lower than it had been in the last 20 years — schools the paper points out "played a crucial role in the creation of the American middle class."

With people getting less time to pay off loans and students graduating with all time high amounts of student loans, more citizens are entering into debt.

Now is the time for us as students to decide where we want to land on the economic

G.E.D." Those industrial jobs he refers to that many black families lived comfortably from like factory workers and miners are now obsolete with the advancements of technology.

Even more damaging to the working class is that those jobs not taken by machines are now moved halfway across the world. So on top of there being less work for the skilled worker, now you are competing on a global scale.

Jobs that used to keep the middle class afloat are now going offshore as companies capitalize on cheaper labor in other countries. This just stretches the American wealth gap that higher living costs has already affected.

We must plan now for our future, recognize the great investment in a degree, even with the attack on students that makes paying for that education harder today, and realize our community needs us.

We know 'when America catches a cold, black people catch pneumonia' so we have to do the work to support and elevate our middle class.

Our View:

Students should start now to plan to their financial future because the middle class is shrinking and you are going to end up on one side or the other.

ladder, a ladder that is becoming steeper. We must make plans to do what we have to do to make sure that happens.

The fact that America's middle class is shrinking means you can only move further up or further down. For too long, the squeaky wheel has gotten the oil, so large corporations and causes with big money can get the ear of Congress members, while those citizens who elected them work overtime trying to send children like us to college.

Bishop T.D. Jakes said in a televised sermon yesterday, that in past years, Americans "could make Ph.D. money on a

Daily Sudoku

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

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

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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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.

The Hilltop

Writing Workshop

Wednesday @ 6:00
The Hilltop Office,
P-Level, West Tower

Why Come?

If you want to be a better writer, for The Hilltop or anyone else,
If you're interested in becoming a staff writer, you must attend.

CLASSIFIEDS

The Hilltop prints Hilltopics every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The first 20 words are \$10 and .25 for each additional word.

ALL CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE PAID FOR AND SUBMITTED SEVEN DAYS IN ADVANCE. \$3 LATE FEE FOR ALL CLASSIFIED ADS NOT SUBMITTED SEVEN DAYS IN ADVANCE.

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Thursday, 11/2/06 8 pm

Blackburn Gallery Lounge

It's time to voice your concerns!

THE BROTHERS OF PHI BETA SIGMA FRATERNITY, INC. ALPHA CHAPTER AND THE LADIES OF ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY, INC. ALPHA CHAPTER PRESENT: BLUE AND WHITE WEEK:

"CONSTITUTIONAL BONDZ"

10/29 CALL TO CHAPEL CRAMTON AUDITORIUM 11:00 A.M.

10/30 "COLOR ME HEALTHY" DOUGLASS HALL ROOM 116 7:20 P.M.

10/31 TRICK OR TREAT FOR UNICEF GEORGETOWN AREA AND HOWARD COMMUNITY 5 P.M.-9 P.M.

11/1 "SEXUAL AWARENESS" BLACKBURN READING LOUNGE 7:14 P.M.

11/2 "DIABETES AND AFRICAN AMERICANS" TRUTH HALL LOUNGE 7:20 P.M.

11/3 BLUE LIGHT SPECIAL: A NIGHT OUT TBA

CIRCLE K INTERNATIONAL CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND

"ONE LOVE: SHARING, CARING, AND SERVICE" "TREATS NOT TRICKS" H.D. COOKE ELEMENTARY (BEHIND BETHUNE ANNEX) 2:00PM-4:00PM OCT. 30, 2006

"BISON STUDY BUDDIES" BLACKBURN RM. 148 12:00PM-3:00PM OCT. 31, 2006

"SNUGGLE TOYS" BRING A STUFFED ANIMAL DOUGLASS HALL RM. 116 7:30PM Nov. 1, 2006

"THERE BUT GO I" TOILETRY/ CLOTHING DRIVE TABLE DOWNSTAIRS BLACKBURN 12:00PM-3:00PM Nov. 2, 2006

"A NIGHT IN CHINA TOWN" MATCHBOX (IN CHINA TOWN NEAR FUDDRUCKERS) 7PM Nov. 3, 2006

The Ladies of Alpha Chapter Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Present...

"Stop the Violence"

Volunteer Workshop

Wednesday November 1st 7pm

DGH Rm 201

INTERESTED IN THE CARIBBEAN STUDIES MINOR? ATTEND AN ONFO-SOCIAL ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH 4-6:30 PM, BLACKBURN GALLERY LOUNGE (OR CALL 806-4221).

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HUSA PRESENTS "AMERICAN BLACK OUT" A DOCUMENTARY TUESDAY AT 7PM. BLACKBURN AUDITORIUM.