

Howard University

Digital Howard @ Howard University

The Hilltop: 2000 - 2010

The Hilltop Digital Archive

11-20-2006

The Hilltop 11-20-2006

Hilltop Staff

Follow this and additional works at: https://dh.howard.edu/hilltop_0010

Recommended Citation

Staff, Hilltop, "The Hilltop 11-20-2006" (2006). *The Hilltop: 2000 - 2010*. 353.
https://dh.howard.edu/hilltop_0010/353

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the The Hilltop Digital Archive at Digital Howard @ Howard University. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Hilltop: 2000 - 2010 by an authorized administrator of Digital Howard @ Howard University. For more information, please contact digitalservices@howard.edu.

THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 90, NO. 58

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2006

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

notebook

BREAKING NEWS

BOY SHOT; INVESTIGATION ENSUES

A 15-YEAR-OLD MALE SOUGHT HELP IN THE HOWARD UNIVERSITY SERVICE CENTER AFTER BEING SHOT LAST NIGHT. ACCORDING TO AN MPD OFFICER, THE CONDITION OF THE VICTIM WAS UNKNOWN AND THE INVESTIGATION IS UNDERWAY.

NATION & WORLD

HIP-HOP: THE ANTI-CHRIST?

A MINISTER IN TEXAS SAYS HIP-HOP IS ANTI-CHRISTIAN. FIND OUT MORE INSIDE NATION & WORLD.

PAGE 4



MON, 11/20/06
PARTLY CLOUDY
HIGH: 47, LOW: 33

TUES, 11/21/06
SUNNY
HIGH: 46, LOW: 34

Jay-Z's 17-Hour Hangar Tour Hits HU's Campus



BY DENISE HORN & TRAVER RIGGINS
Hilltop Staff Writer

Rapper and hip-hop mogul Shawn Carter, better known as Jay-Z, swooped through campus Saturday in a flash concert behind Cramton Auditorium.

Howard was one of the seven stops the artist made in his 17-hour "Cingular Presents the Jay-Z Hangar Tour."

"They were looking for a non-traditional venue, something really cool," said Shavonne Dargan, senior manager at Live Nation production company.

Live Nation produced three shows, including the Washington, D.C. stop. Howard was the only college campus the tour visited.

"It's a great place to get a lot of students and young support," said Frank Riley, a producer with the tour.

The first stop was in Atlanta at 6:30 a.m. The rap-

per then took off to perform at the Electric Factory in Philadelphia. Jay-Z flew into Dulles International Airport on his G5 private jet and arrived in the District about half past noon. New York was next, followed by The Riviera in Chicago. The tour wrapped up with a stop in Los Angeles and an early morning performance in Las Vegas.

While the public was aware that Jay-Z would be hopping around the country for a day promoting his new album "Kingdom Come," set to drop Tuesday, the performance locations were kept under wraps until the last minute.

Dargan said that the secrecy was part of the publicity strategy. People found out about the show through radio ticket give-aways and hearsay. Howard students were admitted with their football tickets.

Laquinta Washington woke up at 7 a.m. to drive two hours from Richmond, Va. to

see Jay-Z perform after she won tickets from a Richmond radio station.

"It was really good [considering it was] free," she said.

Concert goers sang along as Jay-Z rocked the crowd with several old songs, including "Izzo (H.O.V.A)" and "U Don't Know," and a few from "Kingdom Come."

"I'm really feeling y'all energy," said Jay-Z, decked out in a hoodie, jeans, aviators and "We're four minutes over-time," he said before asking the DJ to drop another beat for the crowd, which was refused due to time constraints.

"Today proved why Jay-Z is the hottest rapper," said Sasha Ramsey, a sophomore interior design major. "No one has ever toured coast to coast in one day," said Robyn Nelson, a sophomore human development major. "It was the best thing to ever happen to Howard. I am definitely buying the album."

The 17-hour "Cingular Presents the Jay-Z Hangar Tour" made seven surprise stops in venues nationwide. On Saturday, Jay-Z performed on Howard University's campus.

B2B Inspires Local Youth

BY TRAVER RIGGINS
Hilltop Staff Writer

After a quick stop at the carry-out with friends, Dunbar High School sophomore Nico Hinkle heads home everyday to help watch his three younger siblings until his mother gets home from her second job at 6:30 p.m. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, the 4.0 GPA student volunteers his time at the Boys and Girls Club. Next summer, he'll be in China as a part of an exchange program learning about Chinese heritage and culture. Hinkle he wants to go to college and be

an entrepreneur.

With an absent father, an older brother who dropped out of high school, another with a partial college education and a position as a hotel manager and his "#1 innovator" grandfather having passed away, Hinkle could use an extra role model.

"I'm at a halfway point," he said.

That's where Beta Chapter, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.'s "Brother 2 Brother" (B2B) conference comes in. In its 16th year, the annual conference is an effort to provide local middle school and high school boys

with first hand college experience and incentives and some new friends to look up to.

"These kids live like five minutes away but they've never ever been up here before," said senior finance major Jason Foster, president of the Howard chapter and B2B coordinator. "There are good things in D.C. but there is such a divide between Howard and the rest of D.C. We want to close that gap."

On the first day of the two-day conference, close to 300 young men from six local schools attended workshops and interacted with B2B volunteers, asking questions, making friends and getting to know college life better. The workshops addressed how to apply for college, safe sex, respecting women and accomplishing dreams in life despite obstacles. B2B raffled off books, T-shirts, balls and other items donated by outside sponsors.

Greg Carr, Ph.D., African American studies professor concluded the day with his speech on being an "intellectual baller," a spin-off of the

See B2B, A3 NEWS



The "Brother 2 Brother" conference stressed the importance of college to middle and high school students.



School of Communications students and alumni gathered in the Blackburn Center Saturday night to "rekindle the flame" and keep the Howard legacy of greatness alive.

SOC Student Council Hosts Networking Dinner

BY MERCIA WILLIAMS-MURRAY
Hilltop Staff Writer

The John H. Johnson School of Communications student council presented their inaugural alumni networking dinner on Saturday evening in the Blackburn Ballroom.

Current and former students from the School of Communications came together to feast and enjoy live jazz music in the spirit of fellowship.

Anthony Woodburne, the student council president, says it was great to see so many alumni and students coming

together.

The opening speaker was Hazel Trice Edney an accomplished journalist who has worked for the black press throughout her entire career.

Edney, who has interviewed notable figures such as President Bill Clinton, Cicely Tyson, Bishop T.D. Jakes and is currently a visiting professor in the school, referred to Woodburne and his staff of assistants as "classy."

Despite her praises of Howard students, she says that if something needs to be rekindled it has died down.

She says that she has come across seniors in the school who don't know the story of Emmett Till and students who do not know who was the first black governor in the United States.

She says journalists should be "committed to the adage of 'comforting the afflicted and afflicting the comfortable.'"

The audience was reminded by Edney to be serious about who they are and to stay informed as various types of media converge.

See NETWORK, A3 NEWS

South Africa Passes Bill Legalizing Same-Sex Marriage

BY JANAY WILSON
Contributing Writer

On a continent where politicians, church leaders and traditional figures often condemn homosexuality, South African same-sex couples can now legally marry based on the country's constitution.

The bill provides for the "voluntary union of two persons, which is solemnized and registered by either a marriage or civil union."

It does not, though, specify whether the partnerships are heterosexual or homosexual.

After the long years of

apartheid's discriminatory regime, which denied blacks the vote and other basic rights, South Africa crafted a liberal constitution in 1996 that outlawed discrimination on the grounds of race, gender or sexual orientation.

"When we attained our democracy, we sought to distinguish ourselves from an unjust painful past, by declaring that never again shall it be that any South African will be discriminated against on the basis of color, creed, culture and sex," Home Affairs Minister Ntsoikiwe Mapisa-Nqakula told the National Assembly.

South African activists have used the charter to consolidate gay rights, in contrast with the bulk of African countries, where gays are often ostracized or brutally attacked.

The bill comes as a shock to the country's 80 percent Christian population.

Christian law maker Kenneth Meshoe said when the law was passed that it was the "saddest day in our 12 years of democracy," and warned that South Africa "was provoking God's anger."

Meshoe's comments reflected the majority view on a deeply conservative conti-

nent.

Homosexuality is illegal in Zimbabwe, Kenya, Uganda, Nigeria, Tanzania, Ghana and most other sub-Saharan countries. Some countries are debating constitutional amendments to ban same-sex marriages. Homosexual sex is illegal on most of the continent, with punishments in some cases including the death penalty.

The bill also says that a marriage officer need not perform a ceremony for a same-sex couple if doing so would conflict with his or her "conscience, religion and belief."

Despite widespread perse-

cution of homosexuals, thousands are happy about the new bill, and some are putting it to use. Couples who had been living together in secret were able to get married, legalizing their union.

The increase of homosexual rights in religiously conservative countries has split reactions from the people who are directly affected by it as well as those in other countries who are indirectly affected.

"I am from South Africa, and everyone I know there is completely against homosexuals," said Adegbola Ajayi, a senior finance major. "I grew up in a family that is totally

disgraced by it. If someone in my family was to tell the family that they were gay, they would be disowned."

Students sometimes form their own political opinions.

"My family is from Nigeria. My mom is Christian, my dad is Muslim and I am Catholic. Both my parents condemn gay marriage, but I am about civil rights," said Abimbola George, a junior political science major. "I believe people should be able to do what they want. The government's role should only be to be active in the community, not dictate how people should live their lives."

Students 'Giveback' by Packaging Food for Families

BY CHARLOTTE YOUNG
Hilltop Staff Writer

It was still dark as the shuttle pulled up to Ferebee-Hope Elementary School in Southeast Washington, D.C. to drop students off for Project Giveback's annual Thanksgiving Food Program.

In an effort to give families around the metropolitan Washington area a happy Thanksgiving, Howard students joined Residence Life's annual collaboration with Project Giveback on Saturday morning.

Nicholas Gourdine, the community director for Carver Hall, was the Residence Life project coordinator for the event. Coach Fred Dean, the community director for Cook, and Vallyn Smith, the interim community director at the Tubman Quad, were also involved with the project.

"One of our core values [at Howard] is service," Gourdine said. "At various times throughout the year we like to collectively service the community."

With more than 300 volunteers, the cafeteria of the elementary school was

packed with people dragging boxes out of the delivery trucks and passing them down lines to stack in corners.

Volunteers then separated the food into packages for the families and organized them for distribution. The packages, which were distributed to 350 families in the area, included an entire Thanksgiving meal, including a whole turkey. A Bible was also enclosed within the packages.

"It's been an experience," said freshman political science major Tashon Thomas. "We've unpacked all kinds of boxes from trucks so we've been very busy. It's a great community service project."

Howard alumnus Ransom Miller III started Project Giveback, a local community service organization, in 1995 after he collected money and donations to make baskets for six families during the holiday season.

"It's not like I planned to start an organization... People liked the idea," Miller said in between rushing around the crowded elementary school to help the volunteers and supervise the

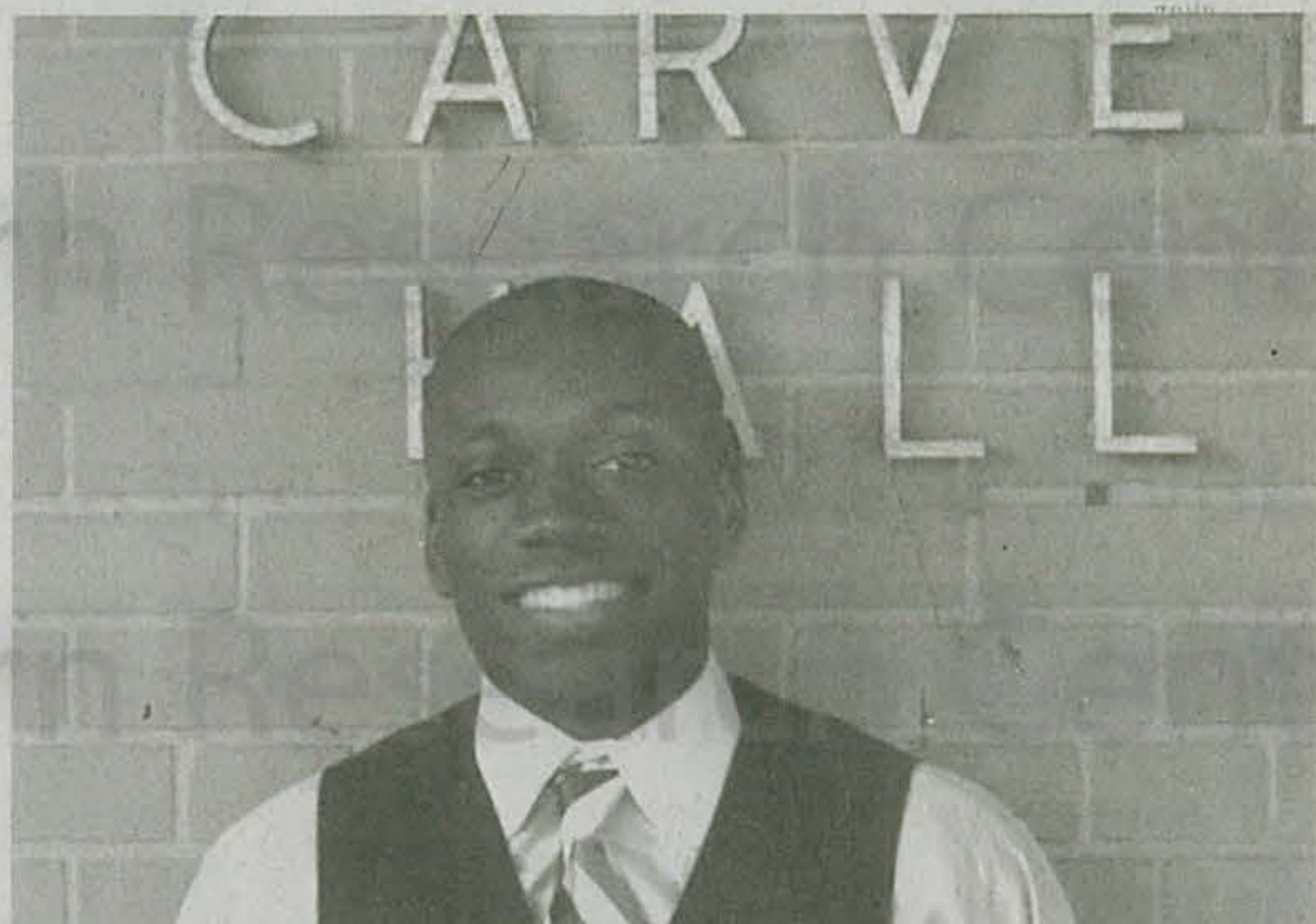
packing. "I knew there was a need and after I took my first job after graduating from Howard, I thought it'd be a good idea to do something nice for people."

The annual Thanksgiving Food Distribution Program is now in its 12th year. Sponsors such as KPMG Foundation, the National Association of Black Accountants (NABA), various churches, fraternities and sororities sent volunteers to help Project Giveback.

Project Giveback has three stages to its annual program. First, volunteers were needed beginning at 5 a.m. to assist with picking up the food from D.C. Share Warehouse.

Howard students helped with the second phase from approximately 6 a.m. until 9:30 a.m., when volunteers assembled the food packages at Ferebee-Hope Elementary School. The last step of the project was the actual distribution of the food to various families by the volunteers.

Ted Sugick, a volunteer with NABA, worked through all three stages, starting his day at 4 a.m. "I didn't mind waking up because people are in a lot of need in [the] city



Nicholas Gourdine (pictured above), the community director for Carver Hall, coordinated the Project Give Back, Residence Life's annual Thanksgiving food program.

and a need of having a happy Thanksgiving," he said.

"I just wanted to contribute. I think it's an outstanding event. I look forward to working it again and again," Sugick said.

Though students from all the dorms participated, the

Howard Plaza Towers and Meridian Hill were the only pick up locations. Breakfast for volunteers was provided by the Towers.

"I think students were eager to participate. They got together and walked in clusters to the Towers,"

Gourdine said. "From Carver Hall, about 25 residents met at 5:30 and walked to the Towers [together]. People talk about service, but it's another thing to make a sacrifice, to get up at 5:30 and give back."

'Love Jones' Caters to Ladies

BY MERCIA WILLIAMS-MURRAY
Hilltop Staff Writer

The Gentlemen of Drew Social Club hosted "Love Jones: The Sweet. The Smooth. The Sexy," a night indulged with poetry, spoken word and song Friday night in the Truth Hall lounge.

Members of the organization catered to the women of Howard University. Upon arrival, the members of the organization opened the doors for guests and welcomed them warmly.

At the beginning, each of the 10 new members of the 25th edition of the organization introduced themselves and said a different catch phrase that prompted the ladies in the audience to shout and applaud loudly.

Jabari Smith, Undergraduate Trustee and fourth-year member of The Gentlemen of Drew Social Club, said he was happy with the new editions to the organization.

"I am very proud of the 25th edition of the organization because they are upholding values and traditions that the organization has not only been built upon but strive upon," he said. "The 10 young men that were fortunate enough to be selected were chosen because of their leadership qualities, as well as their ability to contribute to our earlier established brotherhood."

Dressed in shined black shoes, button-up shirts and slacks, the gentlemen walked around giving select ladies red roses. Slow, sensual songs such as Usher's "Can You Handle It?" and Tyrese's "Sweet Lady" played in the background.

The host, Joshua Nelson, recited a poem bearing the name of the event's subtitle. He then proceeded to introduce his fel-

low members as they stepped up to the microphone to woo and entertain the ladies.

Freshman Terrence Taylor sung a soulful rendition of Musiq's "Love" and with some help from the audience, belted out Ginuwine's "So Anxious."

Glen Jones played Stevie Wonder's "Ribbon in the Sky," Alicia Keys' "Diary," and Lyfe Jennings' "Must Be Nice" on the piano.

In a poem titled "Candy," Jarvis Seegars expressed how sweet the object of his affection is and in a special performance, freshman history major Simone Hall expressed what her man meant to her through spoken word.

Yet another sweet poem came from freshman Travis Sherman. Freshman Davani Durette performed his spoken word called "Picture This" and another poet shared his original work, "Lost in Your Gaze." All of the poems gave praises to women and referred to showing love and appreciation for them.

With assistance from the keyboard, one performer sung her original song called "Wait" in a beautiful, bluesy voice.



Several students shared poems about love during the G.O.D.S.C. Love Jones spoken word event held last Friday.

Kyle Smith, a freshman civil engineering major and co-chair of the "Love Jones" planning committee along with Sherman, said that the committee worked very hard to plan the event.

"We did a lot of word of mouth organizing and worked very hard," Smith said. "I was very pleased and satisfied with how [the event] turned out. It was very good."

Spoken word artists Mr. Jones and Messiah Ramkinssoon sent powerful messages to the ladies. Mr. Jones presented "I'm Looking," in which he explained what men should be looking for in a woman. Ramkinssoon's "I'm So Thankful," described the special woman who changed his life.

The crowd went wild when the members pulled ladies out of the audience, spun them around and sat them in chairs. The members then danced with the ladies seductively. The red ties around their necks were placed over the women's eyes. Blindfolded, the ladies were hand fed cake and strawberries.

"It was good," said Ekata Ayewoh, a freshman nursing major. "And sexy."

CHAPEL RECAP: Nov. 19, 2006 PROCTOR SAYS TO BE WEARY OF DECIDING WHERE TO HANG OUT

BY EBONI FARMER
Hilltop Staff Writer

Reverend Dr. Dennis Proctor Sr. from Pennsylvania Avenue A.M.E. Zion church in Baltimore, gave a compelling sermon following a rendition of "Give Thanks" by the Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel and soloist Judith Christie - McAllister.

Dean Bernard L. Richardson introduced Reverend Proctor as "one of the nation's most sought after academic and spiritual speakers."

Reverend Proctor based his sermon on Genesis chapter 13, the story of Abram and Lot. Lot, who was the nephew of Abram, became prosperous because of his uncle but eventually turned on Abram.

"When we are facing adversity we help people without question, but when we become even a little bit prosperous we become skeptical and are not as willing to help," Proctor said.

Reverend Proctor also told the story of a woman who yelled at her elderly mother-in-law because she dropped a piece of her fine china. The woman sent her husband to the store to buy a tin plate and he returned with two.

The women questioned why he had bought two and he said because one day she too would be old and in need of a tin plate.

"When did we become a people who do not honor and respect the elderly?" Proctor asked.

Proctor warned those in the audience to be careful where they "choose to chill."

Lot had decided to give his uncle one side of land and to keep the other for himself. When he perched his tent, he pointed it toward the Kingdom of Sodom, a place filled with immoral practices.

Proctor used the term "contact high" to convey his message. "You may not be directly involved in the act, but you're in the region or vicinity of it so you may as well be a part of it," he said.

Proctor said that people should not choose to chill in a certain place based on its appearance because looks can often be deceiving. He said that situations may look pleasing from a distance, but in reality may not be good. Many people learn this lesson a little too late, once they have already become associated with it.

The side of the land chosen by Lot was beautiful and would take less

of his time to maintain. Lot had chosen to take the easy way out and left his uncle Abram with land that was more difficult to maintain. The portion Lot chose would ultimately lead to his demise and resulted in God having to save Lot from himself.

"Howard University was not built into the great institute of higher learning based on people making decisions that would benefit them personally," Proctor said. "It was built on the principle of raising others to higher level so that everyone could succeed."

He added, "Only through the struggles do we become what God wants us to be. God gives birds worms, but they have to dig to find them. God gives us brains, but we have to crack open books to cultivate what God has given us."

Proctor said that God puts people through fires so that they can be withstand struggles. When there is another fire, they are able to survive because they have already been through it.

"God gives us hard times not to break but to make us. Remember God's way may not always be the right way but it is the only way to get us to where He wants us to be."

Professors Cancel Classes as Students Leave Early for Break

BY LAUREN BREWER
Contributing Writer

After the majority of students in his national government class raised their hands indicating they would be out of town by Tuesday, Nov. 22, Professor Alem Hailu decided to cancel class.

"If a majority of the students are not going to show, what is the point?" he asked.

Hailu, along with many other Howard professors, has decided to cancel classes this week. As Thanksgiving break approaches, many students

spend less time in class and more time packing, traveling and making plans for the holiday.

Hailu, who has taught for more than 10 years, said there is usually a significant number of students who do not show up before a long break. Hailu also said that he can afford to cancel his class because he has never been late nor ever canceled a class before.

Many students said that they agree with the decision to cancel classes.

"I agree because you need at least one day to travel," said

Francesca Smiley, a sophomore legal communications major who will be traveling to North Carolina for the holiday. All four of Smiley's professors decided to allow those students with good attendance records to "feel free to not show up" before the break.

On the other hand, some professors chose to continue their lessons and not cancel class before the break. Political science professor Dr. Patrick Ifedi falls into this category, as he is not only holding class, but giving an exam as well. Ifedi has, however, agreed to allow

his traveling students to take the exam early.

"He's letting me and one other person take the test on Monday because we are leaving on Tuesday," said Rodney Young, one of Ifedi's introduction to political science students.

Although students are grateful for the unofficial extended break some of their professors are authorizing, those who do not cancel classes have their reasons. In some classes, professors may be somewhat behind on their lessons, and need to hold class to prepare students

for the final exam.

Furthermore, some hold class to teach students discipline. Although he made the decision to cancel class, Hailu urges students to attend their classes for a very specific reason. "African-American students, especially, need to learn discipline and attend classes when they are supposed to because they have to work twice as hard to be considered equal," he said.

Sophomore psychology major Nicole Manuel is one student who disagrees with professors canceling classes.

"Students may be behind

in classes and they could use that extra class time," she said. Additionally, students may have questions about an assignment, their grades, an exam or the material being covered.

Some students such as Jayna White plan on missing class whether their professor cancel class or not.

"All the students feel like it's a waste of time to go because their peers will be gone," said White, a sophomore sociology major. White said that as long as her grade is not negatively affected, she will not be attending any of her classes.

B2B Attracts 300 Youth

B2B, from Campus A1

 popular Jim Jones song
 "I'm Fly."

On the second day, the youth toured campus and attended the football game. They were pleasantly surprised to be able to see Jay-Z perform in his surprise concert.

"It was something," Angelo Ross, a junior at Cardozo High School said. He has attended B2B for the last three years and thinks it does a good job of getting younger kids to see why going to college is important.

"I learned you have to be serious about the things you have to do," Carlos Morales, a sixth grader from ABC charter school said.

Hayden Hawry, a teacher at ABC, was able to see a major change in one of

his students. He said that Suliman Abdullah, a seventh grader at ABC, was having a hard time staying focused in school and that although he is an extremely bright student, his grades were suffering. He thinks that being able to talk to Howard students and ask them questions got him a lot more focused.

Abdullah, who says that when school gets boring he does not do his work or speak up in class, learned that it's important to study, work hard and pay attention.

"How I'm going to [change] that is by listening and taking in the knowledge they tell us," he said. "I would go to college because I want to have a job and be successful," Abdullah said.

"They said they want to

come to Howard," Hawry said. He said his students, who love the environment, even said they want to paint the trees at their new building when it opens next year.

Next year, instead of the conference lasting two days Abdullah would like it to last a week or a month. "We could take classes on how to be a brother and how to be successful in life and how to enjoy ourselves," he said.

Lauren Jackson, a senior graphic design major and B2B volunteer said, "They really care about each one of these guys and how they're touched. The want to make sure they leave here different than when they came."

From the response, it seems they may have accomplished their goal.

School of C Hosts Dinner

NETWORK, from Campus A1

Theola Labbé, who has been active in the field of journalism for the last seven years, followed Edney. Labbé has covered stories in Maryland and upstate New York and was one of the first Metro reporters to be sent on assignment in Iraq after the invasion in 2001.

Labbé advised the audience to learn from their failures and their successes.

"Even as you pursue your career, don't forget about yourself," she said.

Genevieve Nixon, the supervising producer of BET's "Bobby Jones Gospel," also

spoke saying, "I'm what you call a woman on her grind... I am an entrepreneur... I wear many hats."

An alumna of the school, Nixon suggested that when seeking opportunities, people have to take initiative.

"You have to step out on faith... you have to listen to your inner voice," Nixon said.

An important part of Howard is networking. She says that students should make connections because classmates and friends might become CEOs of their own companies some day and others may be the next marketing directors of Fortune 500

companies.

Targeting the women in the room, Nixon spoke about the entertainment industry warning attacks on others' integrity and tests of morals and boundaries.

She said that a lot of women think that being "cute, friendly and flirtatious," is the way to get their foot out the door.

The event's entertainment included a dance by Miss School of Communications Imani Josey and a rendition of Kirk Franklin's "Imagine Me" by Howard University Middle School student Verica Williams.

Rap Called 'Sacrilegious'

HIP-HOP, from N & WA4

not purposely try to put religious influences in his music. He just tries to be "a voice for the people who can't speak out."

He added that the genre of hip-hop reflects the black experience and cannot be held responsible for effecting change.

"[Blacks] are in a state of darkness...[the artists] are just reflecting what they see in the community...when the community sees a difference, you can hear better news."

Derick "Blaze" Dowers says his music just relays the "perks of being human." Dowers says Jay-Z was one of his biggest influences in rap and that the music sometimes

encouraged him to do things that he was not supposed to do.

"I like to see people move to my music," said Dowers. "It might make you want to sin sometimes, but if it's not comin' from God it's not perfect."

Like many artists, he has to make a choice between making hit singles and making music with substance.

"I understand the business, singles sale, but you have to have a combination. Sure I'll put my club track out to make money, but then my CD will show more substance."

In the United States, only 20 million of the 36 million black people identify themselves as Christian, according to a study by Dr. John Green,

director of applied politics at Akron University. Therefore, some hip-hop fans argue that just because an artist is black, it does not mean they are a Christian.

While 70 percent of the people who buy this music are white, according to a 2000 poll in The Source, 50 percent of the people whom the music is about and reflects are going to jail, being killed or racially profiled. Also, 23 percent of the music industry's income—that's \$3.2 billion—is fueled by hip-hop's close competition with rock, which accounts for 26 percent of its wealth. This has brought some to believe that the true-life lyrics that these rappers pride themselves on are merely being profited on and mocked by America.

This is your
 LAST
 chance!!

Come out to the
 very last budget
 meeting for the
 year.

If you have
 requirements
 to fill for class,
 this is your last
 chance to take
 stories to be
 published over
 the next two
 weeks.

The
 LAST
 Budget Meeting is
 today.

RELIGION SPECIAL

Hip-Hop The New Anti-Christ?

BY ALEX MCGAUGHEY
Contributing Writer

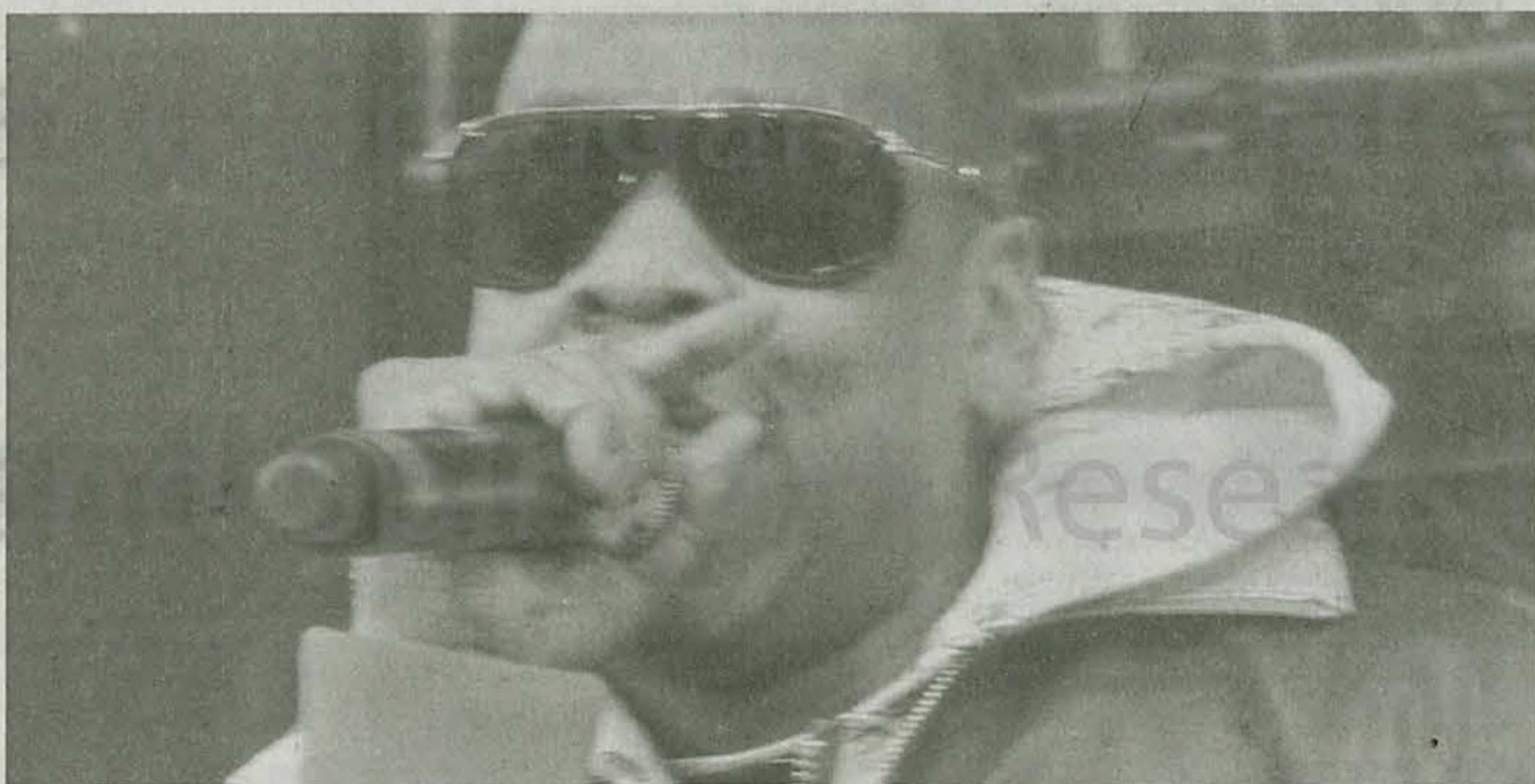
Hip-hop has become a natural part of the American culture. However, consumers and listeners may not know what messages are hidden behind the songs that could subconsciously affect thoughts and actions.

Or at least this is what Texas based youth minister G. Craig Lewis is saying. Lewis is the founder of EX Ministries, a company that tries to derail the youth of America from the hip-hop culture and convinces parents that this culture is harming their young.

He does this through his sermons that confront hip-hop artists. He dissects the music piece by piece, from the significance of tattoos to the lyrical content of songs. His sermon is also readily equipped with DVDs that have topics ranging from "The Truth Behind Hip-Hop 1-3" and "Understanding the 2k Teen". He was not available for comment in this story.

Lewis argues that hip-hop, like rock 'n' roll once did, sends subliminal messages through the music. By playing these songs in reverse, a hidden message can be heard that is affecting listeners without them knowing it.

His most popular and controversial example is playing



Minister G. Craig Lewis accused Jay-Z of having anti-Christ lyrics in his song "Lucifer." The minister warns Americans that the hip-hop culture is harmful to the community. Jay-Z performed the questionable music at Howard Saturday.

a reversed version of Jay-Z's "Lucifer," which he says reveals Jay-Z rapping a slurred "six six six, murder, murder Jesus."

He also approaches the fact that Jay-Z refers to himself as Hova - a shortened version of Jehovah. Lewis wonders why an artist would want to be called, essentially, Christ.

Jay-Z fanatic Broderick Baker, a sophomore engineering major, says, "This doesn't mean Jay-Z is trying to be

Christ. He just thinks of himself as the savior of hip-hop."

Another Jay-Z fan, Laisha Owens says she listens to Jay-Z for entertainment purposes and, as a Christian, knows these things don't affect her personally.

"If Jay-Z said go jump off a bridge, I wouldn't do it," Owens said. "I'm not a follower, it's all about how you feed into these things. Jay-Z just says he's Christ - like, but that's what Christians are sup-

posed to be, right?"

Michael Stewart Jr., an MPA student and aspiring minister, thinks it is inappropriate.

"It perpetuates the degradation of the notion of God, by calling yourself a name that's understood to be greater than you," said Stewart. "Then carnalize the idea of a supernatural power...and produce the idea of a super-man."

Also of note is Jay-Z's Hangar tour. The tour features

him going to seven cities, performing seven concerts in one day. The catch is that no one knows where or when he will be coming-a message all too familiar to Christians.

But, many hip-hoppers are using this type of self-glorifying campaign. Nas named his album "God's Son" and appears on another album cover depicted as Jesus sitting at the Last Supper.

New hip-hop artists are no longer making allusions to

religion, but creating songs steeped in their own religious views. In a Mobb Deep and 50 Cent's song "Pearly Gates," 50 Cent boasts, "If I go to Hell and you make it to Heaven/just get me to the gate and I'll talk my way in...I talked my way outta the hood."

Prodigy of Mobb Deep goes on to say, "Tell the boss man we got beef/...tell his only son when I see him I'mma beat him like the movie/for leavin' us out to dry in straight poverty/ for not showin' me no signs they watchin' over me/ we a new breed in 2006/ we don't give a [expletive] about that religious [expletive]."

Lyrics like these perpetuate the impression that hip-hop is rejecting religion. The strong feelings of one artist can be misinterpreted as the feelings of all youth that listen to it.

Spoken word/hip-hop poet Messiah Ramkissoon, a senior public relations major, says Mobb Deep's lyrics do not represent hip-hop.

"These lyrics are more so a personal standpoint than reflective of the genre," said Ramkissoon. "It's ignorant for someone to classify it as blasphemous. It's synonymous with the religion."

Ramkissoon says he does

See HIP-HOP, NEWS A3

Scandal May Shake Students' Stance on Faith

BY JOSHUA MITCHELL
Contributing Writer

It was seemingly the headline heard around the world, as reports surfaced of an alleged prostitution scandal involving Rev. Ted Haggard.

Haggard, who served as the president of the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE), resigned from his position and was fired as pastor of the 14,000 member New Life Church in Colorado at the beginning of this month after a Denver man accused Haggard of paying him for sex over a three-year period.

Though Haggard has yet to admit to having sex with the man, Haggard's confession to "sexual immorality" and buying methamphetamines has caused a number of reactions from the Christian community and the student body.

Sophomore psychology major Erika Vaughan, who serves as the treasurer for the Howard chapter of the Impact Movement, said she shook her head at the news.

"It says in the Bible that everything done in the dark will come to the light, so it was [bound] to come out," Vaughn said.

According to the Washington Post, Haggard is currently beginning a three to five year restoration process under the watch of appointed "godly men."

Many students, like President of the Howard University Chapel Assistants Ty Axson, are more taken aback by Haggard's attempts to cover up his actions to his congregation and colleagues in the ministry.

"I know that we are all

human and that we all fall short from time to time; that's between you and God," said Axson, a sophomore broadcast journalism major.

With the numerous sexual harassment cases surrounding the Catholic Church and Haggard's recent fall from grace, some students fear that the general public will unfairly look upon the church with a more negative eye.

"I think people will naturally be more skeptical about the church because how can you trust your leaders if they're keeping things from you," says Axson. "I think whatever happens, the general public will be more skeptical about the church."

Some students believe the continued bad publicity for the church will add to the misgivings and shortcomings held by some regarding the Christian faith. Christians students at Howard want others to realize that these acts are not representative of the Christian faith.

Despite the negative publicity that the church has received, some believe that there are still positive aspects that can be drawn from the situation.

"God gets the glory somehow in all situations," says Vaughan. "There may be someone who is struggling with perfection and this may help them to realize that we are all human and all for short of the glory of God."

"He's still a man," says junior political science major Billie Holmes. "And I believe that this will help people to remember that you cannot put our trust in man."



Former Rev. Ted Haggard admitted to buying methamphetamine from a man.

Elton John Fuels Religious Debate

BY CHRISTINA COLEMAN
Contributing Writer

In a London interview, famed musician Elton John said, "Organized religion doesn't work. It turns people into really hateful lemmings, and it's not really compassionate." He went on to say that all organized religions should be banned, attributing war and other misfortunes that befall countries to people's commitment to religion.

According to an ABC poll, 83 percent of Americans practice some form of Christianity and 38 percent claim to attend church once a week. It is no wonder that the comment has caused some controversy in a world that revolves around religion.

Students at Howard University have mixed emotions about the singer's comments.

"Organized religion is what every country and its people are based on," says Dane Norwood, a sophomore finance major. "For Elton John to say that is to deprive the human race of what they believe in."

Norwood is not the only one who feels this way. Tracy Malone, the senior pastor of AME Wesley United Methodist Church of Chicago, believes that John's comment were a "very shallow and narrow perspective."

Malone adds, "I can see why he would say that religion creates hateful people because of all the wars that are started by religion, but he forgot to look at all the good that transforms people's lives after religion."

She attributes John's brash comment to the possibility that he may have had a bad experience in church, being that he is a homosexual and "religions are hesitant to accept the different."

Most students, including Norwood, believe church is important and that people should not base their opinions on their bad experiences.

"Church is an influential institution used to uplift," Norwood says. "That can't possibly make hateful lemmings."

Junior English major Michelle Phillips agrees with Norwood. "Sometimes you just need spiritual edification and prayer, especially when you are away from home."

"Church provides a community where persons feel valued. It gives them a purpose for life and brings out the good in people. It builds a better community," she continued.

However, like John, some students at Howard University have also had bad experiences with religion. Jakeelah White, a sophomore health management major, believes in God and was raised in a Baptist church. However, she had a nega-



Famed pop singer and songwriter Elton John called for a ban on organized religion due to his perceptions of its role in spreading hate and warfare globally.

tive experience in church and therefore is hesitant to attend regularly.

"I'm in between churches right now because I see the corruption that goes on behind closed doors. I see the tithes that are meant for the churches disappear, hypocrisy, etc," she says. "However, that does not mean that I'm a heathen. I have my own personal relationship with God."

Many believe that church is an important part of religion. However, others like White do not agree with that statement.

Sophomore print journalism major Drew Moten does not agree with the concept of congregating in a church.

"I just feel like humans are imperfect and why congregate with people who cannot help my relationship with God. I can have my own spiritual relationship," Moten adds that he agrees with John's comment about religion making people hateful, but disagrees when it comes to banning religion completely.

"Religion sometimes makes radicals, and radicals are not open to others' ideas, which causes conflict within countries, families, etc. But then again, religion is the base of how you run your life and family; a sense of order if you will."

Margaret Downy, the president of the Atheist Alliance, based in Pocopson, Pa., disagrees that religion is the only way to bring good out of people.

"Even though churches can create a sense of betterment in the community, they can also create social dysfunction," she says.

She adds that "humans are social creatures, and as social creatures we can better the world and make a difference

for the life that we have, not a supposed heaven or hell."

Although Downy is an atheist, she respects religion because "it makes the entire country diversified and beautiful." She says she chooses to live her life without a God because she can still do well in her world and community without commitment to a particular sect.

"Elton John should realize that religion should not be banned altogether because the first amendment protects the right to religion, and we here at the Atheist Alliance Organization love the American constitution. However, the more people communicate their true feelings about religion, the more honest and helpful people can be."

Because atheism usually has a bad connotation, Downy wants people to realize that her organization does not discount religion altogether. Rather, they want people who choose religion to weed out the bigotry and instigation of hate that can accompany religion.

"For example," Downy says, "we say we raise our children in an atheist home, not that they are atheist. This way they can choose to believe anything they want to." She says that life is about improving our current conditions because legacy is the only afterlife.

Even still, Downy, like Malone and Norwood, does not believe that John's comment will necessarily affect society negatively.

"His perception might raise the consciousness of people," Malone says. "Anyone who gives considerable thought to the comment will see what he means."

Microsoft's Zune Places Pressure on the Apple iPod

BY JUSTIN CHARLES
Contributing Writer

On Nov. 14, 2006, the Zune, the new portable media device from Microsoft, hit shelves in electronics stores nationwide.

The appearance of the Zune marked the beginning of a rivalry between Microsoft and Apple in the portable media player market.

The goal of Microsoft's Zune is seemingly to pick up where Apple and the iPod have left off. The new features of the Zune make it a running contender to the iPod.

Apart from its larger, more durable frame, it has the ability to share media wirelessly between two Zune devices. The new device can share pictures and audio content which can be played three times in three days.

Microsoft's portable player also comes with an FM tuner, which allows users to listen to their favorite radio stations in addition to their own music. Videos and pictures can be viewed through the Zune's 3-inch screen, which is a full half inch larger than that of the iPod.

Some emerging musical artists have also signed up with Microsoft to have their music introduced to the public as pre-loaded content available



Photo courtesy of CNNMoney.com

The release of Microsoft's media player, the Zune, is slated to create a rivalry between its parent company and the Apple iPod. The Zune offers features that the iPod does not, including FM radio and music file sharing amongst Zune owners.

upon the Zune's purchase.

Legand L. Burge, an associate professor and the interim chair of the Department of Systems and Computer Science, believes that the Zune will make a big impact on the market.

"What sets the Zune apart from the iPod is its ability to share media wirelessly. The iPod doesn't have this feature, thus allowing the Zune

to exploit the peer to peer capabilities," Burge said. "And since you are able to acquire more credits by sharing media, it gives people more incentive to do so."

Some Howard students believe that the Zune will succeed in creating competition with the iPod.

"Though I [prefer] the iPod's compatibility with any operating system, I do like the

Zune's design," Erika Dixon, a freshman political science major said. "I think it's cute."

Dixon added that she liked the new device's resilience. "I own an iPod and only after a year it's already broken. The Zune is bigger so I expect it to be more durable than an iPod. If the Zune was available back when I bought my iPod, I would have definitely bought it instead."

Junior computer science major Jonathon Thomas believes it will be tough for the Zune since it shares the same market as the better known iPod.

"The iPod has been around for a long time now so a lot of people have familiarized themselves with it. Microsoft is going to need to promote the Zune a lot more if it really wants to make an impact,"

Thomas said.

"What the Zune does have going for it, though, is its ability to share files via Wi-Fi."

Thomas still foresees Microsoft's portable media player coming out on top in about two years, depending on how Apple decides to respond with the iPod.

Amber Gray, a graduate student of mass communications and media studies, agrees that there has not been enough advertising of the Zune.

"I haven't seen or heard anything about the Zune until now. If Microsoft wants to compete with Apple, they should really promote their product some more," Gray said.

When informed of the new features the Zune brings to the market, Gray was very enthused about its FM tuner capability.

"I think that the FM tuner is a very great idea. I have the Itrip FM transmitter, an accessory that lets me hook up the iPod to one's car and I get horrible reception," Gray said.

Contemplating the future of the Microsoft Zune, Gray said that she believes in the competitive edge the Zune gives Microsoft in the media player market. "The device could surpass the iPod, given that Microsoft gives it more publicity," Gray said.

Hip-Hop Infiltrates Video Games

BY MORGAN LYNCH
Hilltop Staff Writer

Video game giant Electronic Arts (EA) recently teamed up with Def Jam Interactive and Games to collaborate on music for upcoming video game projects.

The collaboration resulted in the opening of a music studio in Chicago that currently employs over 150 employees.

"We are pushing next generation development and technology to the limits and looking for the best talent to help us to create innovative games," Kudo Tsunoda, the vice president and general manager for EA Chicago, told PS3dailynews.com.

"We are in a great location downtown and in a unique building. That gives us access and visibility to the best resources and creative minds of this thriving city."

By enlisting the services of Def Jam, EA plans to utilize the talents of popular hip-hop artists such as T.I., Ludacris, Paul Wall, The Game and Big Boi for upcoming projects.

Each artist will also make cameos in the virtual world. They will be laser-scanned into the games so that their facial expressions and body movements will appear as realistic as possible for gamers.

The artists will also

complete their appearances by adding music to the soundtracks for the games.

EA is a giant in the video game industry. The company is an American developer, marketer, publisher, and distributor of computer and video games.

Established in 1982 by Trip Hawkins, the company was a pioneer of the early home computer games industry and was notable for promoting the designers and programmers responsible for its games.

Though the addition of popular music is nothing new to the gaming world, the mainstream success of hip-hop music on the charts has increased the demand for it in video games.

The demographics of video game consumers are also expanding and increase the need for the new facets of hip-hop.

Corporations such as EA are capitalizing on the world's interest in hip-hop culture in ways as diverse as collaborating with Def Jam to create hip-hop lifestyle games like "Def Jam: Fight for NY."

In the past, systems like the Microsoft XBOX, Sony PlayStation 2 and Nintendo GameCube have also utilized popular music to enhance the gaming experience.

Dorian Clark, an EA Sports campus representative for Indiana University,

said that the video game soundtrack has almost become as important as the game itself in recent years.

"It's because hip-hop is more mainstream. It's an untapped market. Hip-hop is popular and if you can't beat them, join them. Rock is good, but hip-hop is untapped."

Clark says that hip-hop adds a new quality to video games and can give players a different kind of video game experience.

"Music is essential to any form of entertainment. It adds extra effect to have the artists. For example, to be hearing your friend at a game and then to hear your favorite song come up, it adds on that extra feeling of excitement."

Howard students expressed positive feelings about hip-hop's role in video games.

"When video games first came out, it was all rock music and you got tired of the grunting. Hip-hop is really coming out," Nnamdi Anozie, a freshman biology and political science double major said.

Anozie said that while soundtracks are not crucial to a video game experience, they offer added incentive to buy video games.

"Nobody buys the game for the music. You don't stay at a hotel for the mints. It's just nice to have. Just like with the game."



Photo courtesy of www.google.com

Though research says that many similarities exist between the sexes in the workplace, employee opinions differ about which sex they would prefer to work for.

Male vs. Female Employers: Who Do You Want to Work For?

BY BRITTANY ELLIS
Hilltop Staff Writer

Working has never been the easiest part of life, but a peaceful environment and friendly co-workers can relieve the pressures of the workplace.

It is the role of the boss, however, that rouses the most concern for employees. An easy-going boss can increase productivity, while an overbearing boss can lead to a tense work environment.

Opinions differ about the best bosses and often these opinions are closely linked to gender.

In 2005, the nonprofit organization Catalyst conducted a study entitled "Women Take Care, Men Take Charge" which included a survey on the different behaviors of the sexes in the workplace.

Though there are more similarities than differences between the sexes in the work environment, the study said, employees continued to stereotype the potential performance of an employer based on gender.

According to the majority of survey participants, women were not considered

good problem solvers and were said to be ineffective in leadership positions and unwilling to take risks.

Men, on the other hand, were viewed as arrogant and too risky in their decision making.

According to a survey conducted by the Development International Human Resource, 76 percent of male participants would rather work for another man.

The vast majority of male and female participants preferred male bosses as well, citing men as being more relaxed, less argumentative and more adept at maintaining a peaceful environment.

For student workers, when it comes to the leadership style of a superior, exactly how big is the role of gender?

The Hilltop surveyed Howard University and local students to see which sex student employees prefer to work for.

"Working for a male is not all it is cracked up to be. My male boss was conceited and acted as though he was the king," said Shannon Williams, a junior at the University of Maryland.

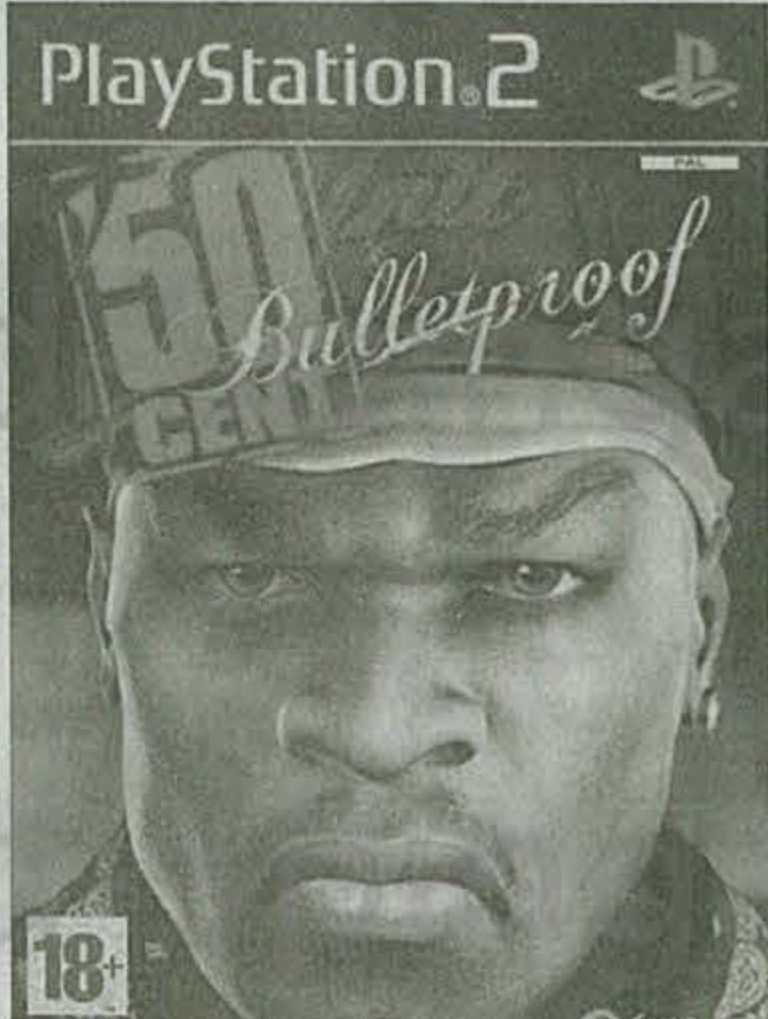
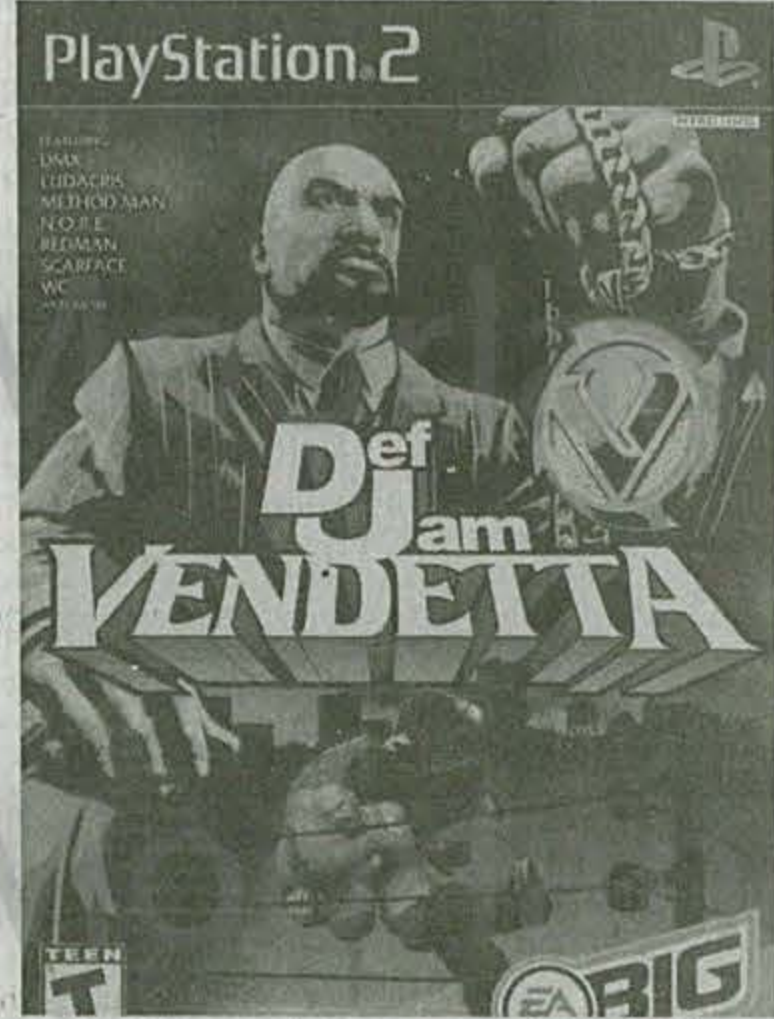
"My boss was over 50. She was caring, helpful and understandable; all the characteristics that I believe make a good boss," said Lydia Harp, a senior sociology major.

"It is not fair to place stereotypes on a woman in the workplace. They are capable of doing the same work as a man can. With the stereotypes placed on women, it may limit their progress in the workplace," said Jennifer Williams, a junior public relations major.

"With my experience, I would choose a male boss any day. Females have proven to be very emotional and with their status, they feel they have to prove themselves," said Tiffany Thompson, a junior sports management major.

"It doesn't matter. It depends on who is the best person to carry out the company's goals and who can build a good relationship amongst the employees," said Dean Sirjue, the assistant dean for administration in the School of Business.

"It is the individual who makes the workplace, not the gender," said Lauri Cunningham, a junior education major.



The addition of hip-hop in the creation of video games has become more frequent as producers tap into the popular music genre.

The Hilltop

Survey Says...

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

What's in a minor?



\$1,000 if it's Community Development

Madeline C. McCullough Scholarships

awarded to full-time HU undergraduates pursuing
minors in Community Development

Application deadline December 13, 2006

Download an application today
at
www.CNHED.org

For more information, contact hraspberry@cnhed.org



What's happening in your Residence Hall?

"Hall Happenings"

November 20-26, 2006

Monday, November 20, 2006



Let's Talk About Love:

ESP (Emotionally, Spiritually, and Physically),

Engineering Building Auditorium, 7:00-9:00 PM

A collaboration between

Carver, Slove, and Bethune Annex Residence Halls.

Free HIV testing and refreshments

Thursday, November 23, 2006



The 2nd Annual

Thanksgiving Dinner,

Bethune Annex Seminar Room, 1:00-4:00PM



This is a free dinner to all

Howard University students & Staff.

Impact Movement and Noonday Prayer Fellowship
invite you to...

The Second Annual
Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday November 23, 2006
Bethune Annex Seminar Room
2225 4th Street NW Washington, DC 20059
1pm-5pm

At Howard For Thanksgiving?
Come Celebrate With Us!

Sponsored by Sodexho, Friends of the Chapel, The Hilltop Newspaper, and Residence Life
and The Office of the Dean of the Chapel

Bison Victorious Over Hornets on Senior Day

BY ELLIOTT JONES
Sports Editor

The Howard Bison football team closed out the 2006 season with a 20-17 victory over Delaware State at Greene Stadium, bringing their overall record to 5-6 and their record in the MEAC to 4-4. The win prevented the Hornets (8-3 overall, 6-2 in the MEAC) from earning a share of the conference title, with those honors going to Hampton.

Howard got another strong outing from junior quarterback Brian Johnson, who led the team with 120 rushing yards and also threw two touchdown passes.

"We wanted to test them with the running game and as soon as they stacked up the line of scrimmage, we were able to beat them with the pass," Johnson said. Since Johnson took over as the starting quarterback, the Bison won four of their last five games and finished with their best conference record since 2002.

Delaware State opened the game with a nine-play drive to Howard's 13 yard line, only to have kicker Josh Brite miss a 29-yard field goal.

After a Howard three-and-out, the Hornets took the lead on a 36-yard touchdown pass from Kurt Elden to Shaheer McBride to make the score 7-0. Elden was starting in place of the injured Vashon Winton, the 2005 MEAC



Senior running back Antoine Rutherford tried to escape a Hornets defender in the Bison's, 20-17, win over Delaware State, and first home finale game win since 1999.

Rookie of the Year who was Delaware State's primary quarterback until suffering a broken ankle on Nov. 11.

The Bison responded on the very next drive, embarking on a 14-play, 90-yard scoring drive capped off by a Karlos Whittaker touchdown from three yards out.

Delaware State pushed the score to 10-7 before half-time, then drove 80 yards on their first possession of the second half to make the score 17-7.

Hornets running back Emmanuel Marc took a hand-off after a fake pitch-out,

broke free from one Bison defender and hurdled another one on the right sideline before falling over the goal line at the pylon.

Trailing by 10, Howard again answered a Delaware State touchdown with one of their own, this time with Johnson connecting with wide receiver Arlandus Hood for a 25-yard touchdown pass. Howard dodged a bullet when Delaware State recovered a fumbled punt inside Howard's red zone, but failed to capitalize as Brite missed his third field goal of the game.

The Bison took the lead early in the fourth quarter on Johnson's second touchdown pass of the game, an 18-yard score to wide receiver Larry Duncan after an 86-yard drive.

After trading possessions, Delaware State sent third-string quarterback Ron Mathis into the game with 2:26 remaining in the fourth quarter. After three straight incomplete passes, Mathis was sacked on a fourth down by Howard's Zusi Airhiavbere, sealing the win for the Bison.

After the game, Head Coach Ray Petty expressed

how pleased he was to send this year's senior class off with a win against a quality opponent.

"It's a great way to send off our seniors. This is my fifth year and my first Senior Day win over that time," Petty said. In fact, it was Howard's first win in the regular season home finale since 1999.

Petty also noted how well the Bison responded after losing defensive end Rudy Hardie and center Travis Harmon to injuries during the first quarter.

"Every time someone went down, another one stepped up. They really pulled together as a group," Petty said.

Linebacker Timothy Lockett, a candidate for MEAC Defensive Player of the Year, made his final appearance in a Howard uniform and was proud to end his collegiate career on a winning note.

"It feels great. I've had to look the seniors in the eyes for the last three years feeling bad that we didn't get the job done. I just asked the team to play their hearts out, and that's what they did today," Lockett said.

In addition to winning for the seniors, the team was encouraged by their strong finish to this season and what it means for the future of the team.

"The way we played today exemplified greatness. It meant a lot for next year," Petty said.

SCOREBOARD & SCHEDULE

SCORES

Volleyball

Howard	0
Florida A&M	3
MEAC Tournament	

Women's Basketball

Howard	47
Seton Hall	66
Seton Hall Tournament	

Howard	67
Navy	77
Seton Hall Tournament	

Women's Swimming

1. Maryland-Balt.Co.	511
2. Duke	495
3. North Carolina	441
4. George Mason	367
5. Seton Hall	191
6. Georgetown	187
7. Shippensburg	176
8. American	114
9. George Wash.	94
10. Howard	58
George Mason Invit.	

Men's Swimming

1. Md.-Balt.Co.	694.5
2. North Carolina	422
3. Duke	361
4. Seton Hall	297
5. Shippensburg	253.5
6. George Wash.	185
7. George Mason	180
8. Georgetown	113.5
9. American	90.5
10. Howard	33
George Mason Invit.	

Football

Delaware State	17
Howard	20

TODAY'S GAMES

None



Photo Courtesy of Getty Images

Buckeyes Win Big Ten Title, Clinch Spot in BCS Championship Game

The Ohio State Buckeyes outlasted the University of Michigan in what was deemed by many, the "Game of the Century," as they defeated the Wolverines, 42-39, Saturday.

The win gave the undefeated Buckeyes the Big Ten Title and a guaranteed spot in the Bowl Championship Series national title game in Glendale, Ariz. on Jan. 8.

Despite the loss, Michigan (11-1) remains No. 2 in BCS standings.

Mecca Mob Seeks Growth, Recognition

BY DREW COSTLEY
Campus Editor

When Virginia Hansom and Nuru West started the Mecca Mob after the men's basketball team's 69-67 loss to South Carolina State last season, they saw a lack of fan support for a team that had potential.

"Students were walking about before the game was over," said Hansom, a senior public relations major. "It was a close game and the fans were walking out right when the team needed them most."

Hansom and West immediately took action, creating what they want to be the official student cheering section for the men's basketball team. They began offering free Howard paraphernalia to fans in exchange for their energy and presence in the first rows of Section 8 in Burr Gymnasium.

"We understood the fact that the team wasn't winning a lot of games last year," Hansom said. "We just wanted to get the fans to show them that they make a difference and that we support them."

Throughout the 2006 season, the Mecca Mob's membership dwindled from 20 consistent members to 10, according

to West. This year, the fanatic group is looking for increased membership and to become recognized as a student organization on campus.

"A lot of people have told us how student [fan] sections have failed in the past at Howard," Hansom said. "But we want to get a section like Georgetown and Maryland have fan sections."

Hansom and West, managers for the basketball team, are leading the effort for the Mecca Mob to be recognized as an organization and have submitted a drafted constitution to HUSA with a sufficient number of petition signatures to be recognized.

They have already successfully lobbied to have the seats in Section Eight of Burr Gymnasium painted a different color than the rest of the seats in the stadium.

Both West and Hansom said that they are looking for energetic, outgoing fans to come out and help get the rest of the Bison crowd hyped for games. They are having an interest meeting tomorrow at 7 p.m. in Burr Gymnasium in a room yet to be determined.

"We both have a strong passion for the game," said Hansom, who managed her men's basketball team

at Henrico High School in Virginia. West played basketball at Laurel High School in Maryland.

"We just saw the lack of support for the team from fans that come to the games consistently. There would be people talking on their cell phones and ignoring the game completely or socializing and ignoring the game completely"

The energetic duo wants to share their passion for the game and for the Bison basketball team with other students and hopefully inject them with zeal for the team. They also said they want the representation to extend to every sports team at Howard, not just the men's basketball team.

"The [future] of the Mecca Mob really depends on who comes out for it and comprises it," said West, a senior management major. "We are looking for spirited, outgoing people who can get the fans laughing and excited for the basketball team."

The Hilltop

Survey Says...

Reading

The Hilltop

for only 20 minutes a day, three days a week, will help you lose 12-18 lbs!*

EDITORIALS

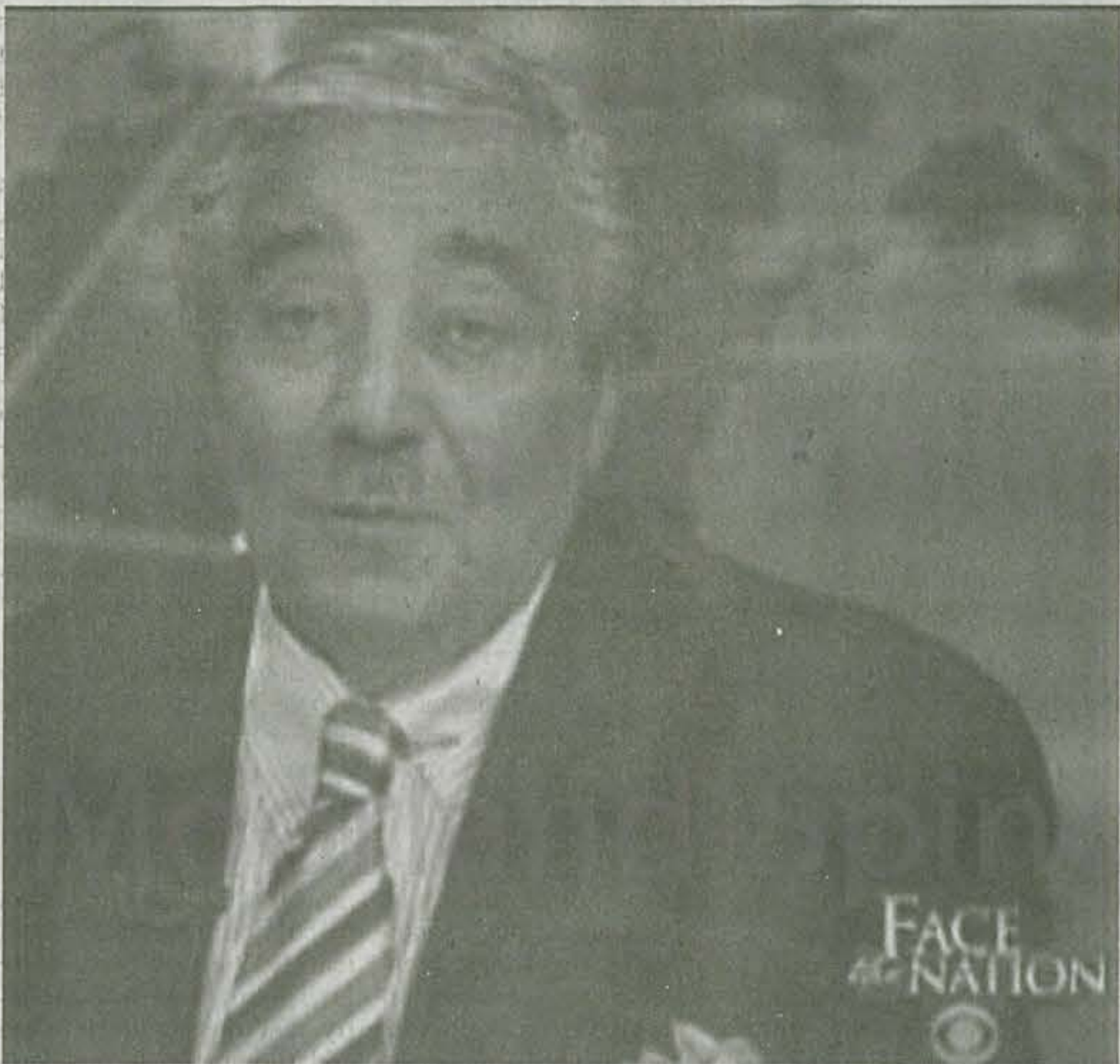
es

Perspectives

VOLUME 90, NO. 58

NOVEMBER 20, 2006

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM



Rangel: 'You Bet Your Life...'

On CBS' Sunday morning news show, Face the Nation, Democratic Congressman and incoming chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., reaffirmed his desire to push a bill that would reinstitute a mandatory military draft.

When asked by host Bob Schieffer if he was serious about pushing the legislation, Rangel replied, "You bet your life..." and went on to say that it will be one of his first orders of business once the new Congressional session begins.

Rangel's reasoning behind this push is questionable. As stated on the show, Rangel feels as though reinstituting the draft would deter legislators from hastily sending the country to war as he feels they did with the 2003 Iraq invasion. Rangel, a senior member of Congress and an Army veteran himself, has been pushing for this new legislation since 2003, and even presented a plan this year to create a draft that would include men and women ages 18 to 42.

While we at the Hilltop understand Rangel's view and his rationale, we staunchly oppose a reinstitution of a mandatory draft. Sending young men and women to war as a "wake-up call" to an opposing political party is a misguided political strategy. We have come to expect "war-game" political strategy

with our country's seemingly always out-of-touch government officials, like President George W. Bush and outgoing Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld, but we expected more from Rangel, who has proven to be more for the interests of minorities than

Our View:
The way to avoid war is through diplomacy, not by raising troop numbers.

not during his 30-plus years in Congress.

Another reason Rangel presents for reinstituting the draft is to raise the number of men and women enlisted in case of future conflict with North Korea and Iran. With about 1.5 million men and women currently on active duty in the U.S. military compared to North Korea's 1.1 million and Iran's 500, we wonder if bolstering troop numbers is a legitimate strategy to solve foreign conflict.

As for the idea of the possibility of the sons and daughters of policy makers going to war, the experienced Rangel is a bit naive in thinking that the likes of Bush, Vice President Dick Cheney and other pro-war politicians would actually put their children's lives in danger when they themselves made every effort to avoid serious military conflict during the institution of the previous draft. Rangel must also con-

sider the reality that as with the previous draft, most of those drafted and sent to fight would be people of color.

Though we at the Hilltop are opposed to a draft, we do commend Rangel for his continuous efforts to improve the lives of not only his constituency, but the lives of all Americans. Rangel has, in the past, pushed legislation in favor of the minorities in the military, including the establishment of the Office of Minority

Affairs Within the Department of Veteran Affairs.

Rangel, who has been quoted as saying that he would have retired if the Democrats had not taken control of the House after the results of the 2006 mid-term elections, appears to be an example of an "institution," that now at age 75, may be out of touch with the desires of the voters.

As "future leaders for the global community," we declare to all legislators:

Before you decide to send our country's brightest and best to war for political gain, consider more *tactful* ways of maintaining the United States' status as a superpower.

"We must fight as a race for everything that makes for a better country and a better world. We are dreaming idiots and trusting fools to do anything less."

- Ralph J. Bunche

Daily Sudoku

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

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

Do you want to write for THE HILLTOP?
Come to our **LAST** budget meeting

Today @ 7 p.m.

THE HILLTOP

The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper

Ayesha Rascoe

Editor-In-Chief

Christina M. Wright

Managing Editor

Jana Homes

Managing Editor

Joshua Thomas

Deputy Managing Editor

Drew Costley

Campus Editor

Stacy A. Anderson

Copy Chief

Caryn Grant

Sports Editor

Brittany Hutson

Campus Editor

Tomi Akinmusuru

Willlette Elder

Elliott Jones

Sports Editor

Shanae Harris

Campus Editor

Denise Horn

Jasmin Melvin

Janelle Jolley

Metro Editor

Ciara Famble

Life & Style Editor

RaShawn Mitchner

Sean Mosley

Imani Josey

Business & Technology Editor

Brittney Johnson

Life & Style Editor

Simone Pringle

Copy Editors

Morgan Nevilles-Moore

Life & Style Editor

Bryan Jones

Senior Photo Editor

Laura Aderotoye

Business Manager

Vanessa Mizell

Nation & World Editor

Derrell Smith

Jessica Detiege

Ashley Marshall

Asst. Business Manager

Amber English

Nation & World Editor

Samara Pearson

Atrice Williams

James Murray

Advertising Manager

Charreah Jackson

Editorials & Perspectives Editor

Tiffani Bell

Online Editor

Lauren Pass

Office Manager

Courtney Eiland

Layout Designer

Marcus Bird

Cartoonist

Morgan Brown

Cara Douglas

Office Assistants

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.

The Hilltop:
2251 Sherman Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20001

Editorial Office:
(202) 806-4724
www.thehilltoponline.com

Business Office:
(202) 806-4749
hilltopbusiness@gmail.com

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.

Read The Hilltop

ONLINE

@

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

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.

Payment acceptable by cash or check. Any questions please contact The Hilltop Business Office (202) 806-4749 or by e-mail www.hilltopbusiness@gmail.com

ATTENTION! CAMPUS PAL APPLICATIONS ARE STILL ON SALE. COME TO BLACKBURN SUITE #107 BETWEEN 10AM-5PM UNTIL DECEMBER 6TH

U.S. ARMY RESERVE FINISH YOUR COLLEGE DEGREE WHILE SERVING IN THE U.S. ARMY RESERVE. GET HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE AND AN ADDITIONAL PAYCHECK EVERY MONTH. IN THE U.S. ARMY RESERVE, YOU WILL TRAIN NEAR HOME AND SERVE WHEN NEEDED. EARN UP TO \$23,000 FOR COLLEGE COSTS AND \$4,500 IN TUITION ASSISTANCE PER YEAR, PLUS ENLISTMENT BONUSES UP TO \$20,000. TO FIND OUT MORE, CONTACT 1-800-USA-ARMY.

NICE ROOM FOR RENT, N.W. FOR FEMALE, NON-SMOKER, SEPERATE BATH, NEAR BUS/METRO, QUIET AREA, FURNISHED/UNFURNISHED. CALL 202-806-3934

SITTERS WANTED. AVERAGE \$10 PER HOUR. REGISTER FREE FOR JOBS NEAR CAMPUS OR HOME. WWW.STUDENT-SITTERS.COM

WARRANT OFFICER FLIGHT TRAINING IF YOU ARE 19-28 YEARS OLD, HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND ARE OTHERWISE QUALIFIED, YOU MAY APPLY TO THE WARRANT OFFICER FLIGHT TRAINING PROGRAM AND LEARN TO FLY ONE OF THE ARMY'S SOPHISTICATED HELICOPTERS. YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR \$37,224 FOR COLLEGE THROUGH THE MONTGOMERY GI BILL. TO FIND OUT MORE, CONTACT 1-800-USA-ARMY.

NO MORE... THE TIME IS NOW IF YOU ARE IN THE COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES, COME OUT AND SUPPORT UGSA'S EFFORTS TO SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THE DECEMBER 4TH CASES. VOLUNTEER INTEREST MEETING MONDAY NOVEMBER 20TH AT 6:30PM BROWSING ROOM OF FOUNDERS LIBRARY PLEASE JOIN US

HOME-BASED WELLNESS STUDIO SEEKS HAIR MODELS. MODELS RECEIVE 1 FREE SERVICE. OTHER SERVICES INCLUDE FACIALS; FOOT/HAND MASSAGES; STRESS/AROMATHERAPY. CALL CLAUDE 202-445-7600 FOR AN APPOINTMENT.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES STUDENT COUNCIL PRESENTS: "ASSC IN YOUR AREA ... TUBMAN QUAD" NOVEMBER 20TH, 2006 TUBMAN QUAD 7:00PM REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

WANT TO OWN YOUR OWN BUSINESS? The Howard University Entrepreneurial Society (H.U.E.S.) WILL BE HOLDING A MEETING TONIGHT @ 7PM IN THE BLACKBURN Forum.

TIMOTHY, I HOPE TOMORROW BRINGS YOU AS MUCH HAPPINESS AS YOU HAVE BROUGHT TO MY LIFE. HAPPY 21ST BIRTHDAY BABY! LOVE, JESSICA

DOWNTOWN HOUSE FOR RENT 2252 12TH STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C.

3 BEDROOMS, 1 1/2 BATHS, CENTER HEAT (GAS) AND AIR CONDITIONING, HARDWARE FLOORS. TWO BLOCKS FROM HOWARD UNIVERSITY AND SUBAY. \$1,800.00 PLUS SECURITY DEPOSIT. CALL LEN 301-292-0994

1 more day til sunshine

U.S. ARMY THE U.S. ARMY IS CURRENTLY OFFERING SEVERAL SIZABLE ENLISTMENT BONUSES OF UP TO \$40,000. YOU MAY ALSO QUALIFY FOR UP TO \$71,000 FROM THE MONTGOMERY GI BILL AND ARMY COLLEGE FUND. OR, YOU COULD PAY BACK UP TO \$65,000 OF QUALIFYING STUDENT LOANS THROUGH THE ARMY'S LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM. TO FIND OUT MORE, CONTACT 1-800-USA-ARMY.

DOWNTOWN HOUSE FOR RENT.

2252 12TH ST., N.W. WASHINGTON, DC.

3 BEDROOMS, 1.5 BATHS, CENTRAL HEAT(GAS) AND AIR CONDITIONING, HARDWOOD FLOORS, 2 BLOCKS FROM HU AND SUBWAY. \$1,800.00 PLUS SECURITY DEPOSIT. CALL LEN 301-292-0994.

LAST DAY TO BECOME A GOLDEN KEY MEMBER TUESDAY NOVEMBER 21 COME TO THE TABLE IN BLACKBURN TODAY TO PICK UP YOUR APPLICATION.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY CLESEAN GLOVER. PLEASE have some fun today. if you don't then i will take this happy birthday back. YEAH

OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL AFTER YOU EARN YOUR BACHELOR'S DEGREE, YOU MAY QUALIFY TO BECOME AN ARMY OFFICER. DURING OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL, YOU WILL LEARN VALUABLE MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP TECHNIQUES. YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR \$37,224 FOR COLLEGE THROUGH THE MONTGOMERY GI BILL. OR PAY BACK UP TO \$65,000 OF QUALIFYING STUDENT LOANS THROUGH THE ARMY'S LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM. TO FIND OUT MORE, CONTACT 1-800-USA-ARMY

Appletime Reindeer on a frosted mouse. Lather. Rinse. Repeat.

ALPHA DELTA BETA CHAPTER, CHI ETA PHI SORORITY INC. PRESENTS SURVIVOR: KEYS TO SUCCESS FOR NURSING SCHOOL. MONDAY NOV. 20TH, ANNEX 1, RM 124 7:32 PM

THE LADIES OF ALPHA CHAPTER, DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC. PRESENT "THE GREAT ESCAPE: A LITERARY CIRCLE" BOOK COST: \$11.00 MONEY DROP OFF DATES: MONDAY NOVEMBER 20, 2006 AND TUESDAY NOVEMBER 21, 2006 LOCKE HALL 6:00PM COME ESCAPE WITH US!

Farai, You are my Inspiration.

"A Night at Lucky Strike" TONIGHT 7PM 5-9 PM

Cost: \$5 (includes slices) Bowl, Eat and Support the 2007 Stop the Violence Campaign!

THANK YOU CHASITY AND VICTORIA FOR REPPING THE GA CLUB AT THE HOMELESS WALK.