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# THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

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TECH  
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## BREAKING NEWS

### NOVELIST, BEBE MOORE CAMPBELL PASSES

CAMPBELL, A FORMER JOURNALIST AND NOVELIST, WROTE SUCH NOVELS AS "SINGING IN THE CHOIR," AND "BROTHERS AND SISTERS" DIED IN HER HOME MONDAY FROM A NEUROLOGICAL CONDITION.

## METRO

### CONFLICT OVER THE "L" WORD

NATIVES OF THE DISTRICT ARE OFTEN REFERRED TO AS "LOCALS." LOOK IN METRO FOR MORE ON THE MONIKER. **PAGE 4**

TUES, 11/28: PARTLY CLOUDY  
HIGH: 65, LOW: 46  
WED, 11/29: MOSTLY CLOUDY  
HIGH: 63, LOW: 55

## Highest Ranking Times Editor Dies

BY DREW COSTLEY  
Campus Editor

Gerald Boyd, who became the highest-ranking African-American editorial board member at the New York Times in 2001, died Thanksgiving Day at his home in Manhattan.

The cause of death was lung cancer, according to his wife, Robin Stone. Boyd kept his disease private from many friends and colleagues.

Boyd's career began during the "Black is Beautiful" era of the early 70's and stretched through the beginning of the media conversion era. He was known to go to any length to get a story and was lauded for his devotion to personal relationships in and outside of the field.

In 2003, he stepped down as managing editor at the New York Times along with execu-



Photo courtesy of www.google.com  
Editorial board member Gerald Boyd died from cancer on Thanksgiving Day.

tive editor, Howell Raines, in the wake of the Jayson Blair scandal. The incident not only highlighted the fabrications of a young journalist, but also brought negative attention to Boyd. Accusations were flung at Boyd, saying that he was a mentor to, and therefore softer on Blair in the wake of the scandal. As a result, many of his colleagues and journalism watchdogs refuted that claim, saying that he was actually harder on the journalists that he mentored and taught.

"I resent the fact that people thought that because Gerald was black, that meant he was a mentor to Jayson Blair. Nothing could be further from the truth," said George Curry, Editor-in-Chief of the National Newspaper Publishers Association's news service and friend and colleague of Boyd's for more than 30 years.

"In fact, Gerald told me he had recommended that Blair be disciplined more severely before it was discovered that [Blair] was a liar."

Although the end of his editorial career ended in controversy, Boyd left behind a luminous and ground breaking career that professional journalists should follow. In 2001, he was the senior editor of the special report "How Race is Lived in America", which earned the Times a Pulitzer Prize. He was also named

## Black Leaders Call for Entertainers to Ban N-Word



Photo courtesy of www.yahoo.com  
As a sign of solidarity, prominent leaders in the black community are advocating a ban on the use of the N-word in mainstream media. Paul Mooney (above), a comedian, has vowed to remove the word from his performances.

BY CHARLOTTE YOUNG  
Hilltop Staff Writer

After comedian Michael Richards apologized for using the "n-word" at the Laugh Factory nightclub, black leaders called for the entertainment industry to stop the use of the racial slur.

Civil rights leader the Rev. Jesse Jackson and other black leaders met Monday with TV networks, musicians and film companies to discuss the banning of the racial slur that caused the entire controversy. They also want the public to end the use of

the term as well.

"I think that people shouldn't use the n-word at all, and I think it's a good idea to ban it, but I don't know how realistic it is. How can you tell a nation to ban a word? It doesn't seem like something that can be done," sophomore accounting major Artesia Cauley said.

Paul Mooney, a black comedian who has used the "n-word" several times in his performances, has already declared that he will stop using the racial slur due to the Richards incident.

"I think that it's honorable for him to abstain from

using the word," sophomore film major Lauren Owen said.

"It shouldn't have taken Michael Richards' racial tirade to motivate somebody to stop using the word. But the fact that he's doing that could motivate others to do the same. He's setting a good example for others who thought it was acceptable to use it."

Richards, who is best known for his role as Kramer on "Seinfeld," sparked the racial tension on Nov. 17 when he was heckled at the night club by two black men during his stand-up comedy

act. Outraged, Richards went on a racist rant.

Since the incident, Richards has made several apologies.

Jaime Masada, the owner of the Laugh Factory, has invited Richards to perform Dec. 4 at the club to apologize to all the guests who were in attendance at the Nov. 17 performance.

Masada also suggests that Richards donate at least \$500,000 to charity for every time he used the term, and says that in the future the comedy club will ban comedians from using any "hateful words."

## Secret Santa Exchanges Popular on Campus

BY JOSHUA MITCHELL  
Contributing Writer

With Thanksgiving behind us, many Howard students are now preparing for the winter holiday season. With Kwanzaa, Hanukkah and Christmas right around the corner, excitement for the holiday celebrations and gift giving has risen around campus.

"This is my favorite time of year," said sophomore Psychology major Chaka Howard. "I not only look forward to going home and celebrating Christmas with my family, but I also celebrate with my sisters, 'The family', here at Howard."

Howard, along with four other Howard students, recently exchanged names for their annual "Secret Santa" gift exchange. Howard said that this is the perfect way to spread

holiday joy amongst her friends while not straining herself financially.

"I think the 'Secret Santa' idea is perfect for my friends and I," Howard said. "We would go broke attempting to buy presents for all five of each other, but this way everyone gets a present from one of us and we have enough money left over to go home."

Sophomore nursing major Ariel Rankin, who is also involved in a Secret Santa gift exchange, enjoys the Secret Santa idea for reasons that extend beyond financial hardship.

"I suggested the Secret Santa idea amongst my friends so no one was left out during the holiday season," Rankin said. "When you have a group of friends, people tend to buy gifts for the friends they are closest to in the group and someone

always is left feeling slighted. This way no one is left out."

While some feel Secret Santa gift exchanges are the best way to go for holiday gift giving on campus, others resort to the old fashion method of gift giving.

"I just give gifts to those I want to give gifts to," said Adrian Mood, a sophomore chemistry major. "Of course, I cannot spend a lot of money on a gift for each of my friends, but I try to look out for the people I am closest to."

Mood said utilizing discount stores and buying in bulk during the holiday season are ways to keep costs down.

"There is nothing wrong with going to the dollar store or Target and buying a gift that every one of your friends could use," Mood said.

"There are no rules that say you can not give the same

gift to multiple people."

Daniel Ajo, a junior biology major, is not giving gifts at all, but is having a group celebration with his friends.

"My friends and I decided that we did not want to get into the habit of buying gifts for each other, but we have been having a 'Christmas dinner' before break, and we celebrate that way," Ajo said.

Though many students enjoy celebrating the holidays with friends and family at Howard before leaving for break, some choose not to celebrate at Howard at all. Sophomore Ian Hood chooses to hold off his celebration until he returns home.

"I choose not to celebrate at Howard because I tend to need to save my money for travel back home," Hood said.

"However, last year my friends and I went to a restaurant to celebrate New Years' after we all got back from the break."

Whether celebrating through Secret Santas, group dinners or personal gift giving, Howard said that it is important that everyone have someone to share the joy of the holiday season.

"Howard is our home away from home, and so I think that during the holiday season, whether or not we choose to give gifts or not, what is most important is spending quality time with your friends and family here at Howard," Howard said.

"That is what the holiday season is all about."

## FAMUAN Editor Shot, Killed



BY SIDNEY WRIGHT  
Editor-in-Chief, The Famuan

The Florida A&M University community returned from Thanksgiving break to grieve the loss of one of their own.

The body of Nefertiti Nicole Williams, a 20-year-old public relations student at FAMU, was found in her home in Tallahassee, Fla., on Thanksgiving. Sheriff's deputies said she was the victim of an apparent murder-suicide. They had no motive.

The student's body was found upstairs in her bedroom. The body of Shundavian Marquis Brooks, 20, the apparent assailant, was found downstairs with the alleged murder weapon at his side, Leon County sheriff's deputies said.

Friends called police when Williams failed to show up for a Thanksgiving gathering in her hometown of Bradenton, Fla., just outside Tampa.

According to Maj. Mike Wood of the sheriff's office, deputies believe Brooks killed Williams with a single gunshot wound to the head, then shot himself several hours later.

Williams was found in her bed on the top floor of the home, which she shared with four others, including Brooks about 10 miles from the FAMU campus. She is believed to have died 10 to 24 hours before her body was found.

Brooks was found on the first floor of the home. He is believed to have died four to six hours before his body was found. A pistol believed to be his was found next to him.

Not as much was known about Brooks. The Tallahassee Democrat wrote, "At 20, he was still trying to figure out what he wanted to do with his life, while Nefertiti Williams, one of his closest friends since childhood and a roommate, seemed to be hitting her stride as an editor at the

See WILLIAMS, Page 2



Photo courtesy of www.wfs.com  
Stores like Target and Wal-Mart offer specials on bulk items. Adrian Mood suggested buying in bulk at these stores during the holidays to cut down on gift costs.



# Poll Says Majority of Students Read The Hilltop

BY SIMONE JOSEPH  
Contributing Writer

According to a poll of 60 students conducted last Tuesday afternoon on campus, 73 percent of Howard students read The Hilltop. This is in line with Poynter Online, an online publication for journalists that reported 76 percent of college students nationwide read their campus paper.

The Hilltop poll also showed that about half of the students polled read the paper in its entirety and less than 40 percent of students only read on occasion.

Since more than 50 percent of the students at Howard read The Hilltop thoroughly and only 12 percent look at specific sections, it can be assumed that there are many students who read The Hilltop daily, compared to those who read it two or three times a week.

Ashley Taylor, an accounting major from California said she looks forward to The Hilltop every morning.

"The Hilltop is very interesting," Taylor said. "My mom encouraged me to read everything in the newspaper," she said. Taylor also said that her mother always reads The Hilltop online in California, and then reads the print edition when she visits Howard.

Many students are attracted to the cover stories and the editorials.

"On my way out the dorm, I recognized the guy on the cover," said freshman Jovann Day, as she pointed out the article about Stephen Nichols.

"Stephen is in my badminton class, and even before this article, he was relating to us his experience on 'The Real World,'" she said.

According to the survey, 35% of the readers skim through The Hilltop occasionally.

"I do not read The Hilltop very much...it's a rare occurrence when I read the whole thing, maybe five times so far this year," said freshman anthropology major Brittani Larry.

But Larry does read "Overheard at the Mecca," the editorial, the cartoon, the "Hilltopics" and articles regarding political issues, as well as the "He Said/She Said."

Larry said, "The reason I don't read it all the way through is because between classes, working and catching up on lost sleep, I don't have the time." She said, "I just grab it at the door [of Meridian Hill Hall] and read what I can on the shuttle ride to campus."

Sophomore chemistry major Alicia Omans picks up a copy of The Hilltop every day, but she mostly just scans through it to read whatever interests her.

"I love the articles that tell about what's going on around D.C. and give suggestions about places to go so we can enjoy the local culture," she said. Omans said she enjoys "Overheard at the Mecca," "He Said/She Said," "Is It Just Me?" and the editorial page. She also said that the daily puzzle is helpful to her.



Derrell Smith - Staff Photographer

According to a poll conducted by The Hilltop staff, the majority of students on campus do read The Hilltop. Also, half of the students who read the paper read it in its entirety.

"The Sudoku really comes in handy when I need something to keep me awake in class," she said.

However, there are students who do not read The

Hilltop. They read other publications such as the Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, ESPN Sports Magazine, Express and Black Enterprise.

Junior anthropology major

Kimberly Martin reads The Hilltop about twice a week. "There aren't many articles I'm interested in," she said.

See POLL, NEWS A3

## Parking Scarcity Continues Despite Full Lots

BY JOSHUA MITCHELL  
Contributing Writer

For freshmen students, bringing a car onto Howard's campus is something they will have to simply wait for because they are not qualified. Upperclassmen, however, have the luxury of skipping the metro and dreadful shuttle wait by hopping into their own rides.

Unfortunately, parking on campus is a scarce treasure that some upperclassmen cannot find.

Parking permits are given to students on a first come, first serve basis. For students who wish to bring a car on to campus, it is not advisable if they did not apply.

"Freshman year I was all about the metro. Once that year was over, my parents bought me a car because I had more responsibilities to take care of and the metro wasn't going to cut [it]," said Jessica Carson, a chemical engineering major.

Carson was able to obtain her parking permit through the lottery system that allows students who did not apply for parking early enough to be picked at random for the 100-200 permits that were not picked up.

"A few of my friends ended up not being able to have a car because they did not apply early enough like me. I was lucky enough to have won the lottery," Carson said.



File Photo

Although upperclassmen enjoy the luxury of having their own cars on campus, limited parking spots make having personal transportation a hassle at times.

Sophomore marketing major Kayla Jones is not at all surprised by the shortage of parking because of the size of Washington, D.C.

"Howard is located in a very small city and finding parking anywhere is a huge hassle which is one of the downsides of having a car. I am able to go where I want, when I want, but it takes me forever to find a parking spot," Jones said.

According to the Parking Office this is also one of the reasons why parking at Howard is scarce. "Parking is a limited resource. The University is constrained by the limits of the city environment. We have the

opportunity to use other modes of transportation to campus and must take advantage of these modes."

Many students and faculty as well opt out of driving while on campus because of the parking constraints.

"I take the metro to work because it is convenient and cost effective. It is a lot easier than driving in D.C.," said David Messina, a history professor.

The Parking and Shuttle Services office has initiated a commuter survey that will allow it to find other models for commuting to campus.

Andrew Daniels, a junior political science major, was not

able to obtain a parking permit his sophomore year.

"Not every sophomore has a car, but I really wanted to have one while on campus because I was used to driving back home," Daniels said.

"Last year I was upset because when I was driving around looking for somewhere to park there were empty spots—but without a permit, I would have ended up with a ticket."

The Office of Parking says, "All lots are fully allocated to the staff, faculty and students. Due to the timing of people on and off campus, a particular lot may appear under utilized but this is not the case."

## Students Mourn Loss of FAMUAN Editor

WILLIAMS, from Page 1

campus newspaper and as a modeling troupe member."

Throughout the course of this semester and last, Nefertiti covered a variety of hard-hitting and investigative pieces. She and her deputy editor, Nicole Bardocolon, wrote about student candidates violating copyright laws by using logos and slogans from major corporations for their campaigns.

She also covered the university revoking the housing scholarships of ROTC students who were not aware they had to maintain a certain GPA, and therefore were surprised when they were told they would not receive funding for housing the following semester. She was also one of the editors who covered the trial earlier this semester of Kappa Alpha Psi members accused of hazing.

Williams' influence and presence was powerful at the Famuan, FAMU's student newspaper, where she was a news editor. According to her co-workers she was funny and able to get her work done while maintain-

ing an atmosphere of fun and excitement. Her attitude was able to bring the paper together in good humor.

"The newspaper is like an extended family we spend so much time together," John Marsh, Famuan sports editor and junior broadcast journalism major.

"We're grieving right now because we lost one of our own, not only a coworker but also a friend," Akeem Anderson, deputy sports editor of the Famuan and sophomore newspaper journalism major, said. Asad met Williams in the beginning of fall semester when he began working for the Famuan.

"One of the first things she did was make sure I was going to remember her," Asad said.

Williams had a knack for making strong impressions on people within a short amount of time.

Tajeedah Asad, lifestyles editor at the Famuan and senior public relations major shared a class with Williams, but really got to know her during their time together on staff.

Over the course of one

semester they grew close enough to share pin numbers to bank accounts and their deepest secrets.

They had computers across from each other where they could communicate with sister-like silent glances.

"That's the hardest thing, looking across my computer and seeing the candles and flowers," Asad said.

Sidney Wright, editor-in-chief of the Famuan, had the responsibility of breaking the news to his staff on Thanksgiving Day.

Staffers could not believe the news. They checked the facts on their computers, perhaps officials had reported the wrong person or some other mishap.

"I didn't actually believe it. I even called her cell phone to see if maybe I got some bad information," Marsh said.

Shocked and saddened, the staff will have to continue to work. They have decorated her computer with candles, flowers and a sign that says "Rest in Peace Nefertiti."

"We don't want anyone else to use her computer," Asad said.

"It really made us realize how close we are and how much we love each other," she added.

Unable to prepare for a situation such as this one, students are looking to one another for support. FAMU has organized grief counseling and memorial services for Williams.

A candle-light vigil for Williams at the Eternal Flame in the FAMU Quad is scheduled for today at 6 p.m. followed by a service orchestrated by several organizations Williams was a part of, including Faces modeling troupe, the National Associate of Black Journalists, Public Relations Student Society of America, and the Famuan. Friends, faculty and administration will be able to commemorate her during that time.

Staffers ask for themselves, as well as the Williams family, to be kept in prayers.

Asad said, "I'm really happy that I got to tell her that [she appreciated Williams] and she didn't go away with out knowing how much she meant to me."

- Additional Reporting by Traver Riggins, Hilltop Staff Writer

## What's In A Name?

A Look at the Namesakes of Howard University



C.B. Powell Building

The C.B. Powell building, home of the John H. Johnson School of Communications, is more than just a building holding everyday classes.

The building was established in 1862 by the secretary of war and was officially named Freedman's Hospital in 1873 to serve and address the needs of blacks who poured in to the city in search of freedom -- hence Freedman's Hospital.

Daniel Hale Williams was named director of the hospital in 1894, and he began the nation's first nursing school for African-Americans while directing the hospital.

Other pioneers contributing to the history of this establishment included Charles R. Drew, who was an instructor surgeon and assistant surgeon at Freedman's Hospital and Sojourner Truth who, after the Civil War, continued to help newly freed slaves through the Freedman's Relief Association, then the Freedman's Hospital.

Later associated with Howard University, Daniels School of Nursing was transferred by the Act of Congress in 1967. Freedman's Hospital was then phased out when it graduated its last class in 1973, holding 1700 nurse graduates from its School of Nursing.

After an initiative of the federal government, the school was quickly incorporated into Howard University where it eventually developed in the medical campus transferring on the site of the Seeley G. Mudd building now used as classrooms and offices. Freedman's Hospital was renamed Howard University Hospital and moved to Georgia and

Florida Avenue.

The building then became the C.B. Powell building after Calvin Bethel Powell donated \$1 million to the old hospital for remodeling. C.B. Powell was an X-ray technician and physician who owned the New York-based Amsterdam News, an important African-American newspaper.

Becoming the largest black community weekly in the U.S., the publication campaigned the cause of the Civil Rights movement and leaders like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and was the first to note the rising influence of Elijah Muhammed and Malcolm X.

Over the course of 90 years, the best and brightest have written for the Amsterdam News, including W.E.B. Du Bois and Malcolm X. The legacy continues in the 21st century destined to operate in a communications world with advanced technology and the unwavering voice of the black constituency.

John H. Johnson School of Communications now operates inside the C.B. Powell building. The school is named after John H. Johnson, the publisher of Ebony and Jet magazines, who made a donation of \$4 million toward the construction of the communications building. This gift is a part of a five-year capital campaign to raise \$250 million.

According to Janette Dates, the dean of the School of Communications, the C.B. Powell Building may become the new site for the College of Pharmacy.

-Compiled by Tiyana Parker, Contributing Writer







# Students Debate Over Meaning Behind the "L" Word



"Local" is used to describe the lifestyles of D.C. area resident; one stereotype is that local residents sport loc hairstyles, along with black North Face coats and Nike boots.

BY DEANDRA WILLIAMS  
Contributing Writer

In today's society, especially on Howard's campus, a few words can say a mouthful. The phrase "what up?" can ask a person about what happened to them recently, what their plans for the near future are or even their emotional state. The word "jump-off" can describe a promiscuous person, a fun party or any object

that's name can be remembered at the present moment. On

Howard's campus however, there is another word that's meaning is under serious debate and is very controversial.

The word in question is "local" and many people have very mixed feelings about what it means and why it is used.

At Howard's campus, the word "local" is used to describe people from surrounding areas

in the District, Maryland and Virginia, but it can be used in a positive or negative way. General student opinions are torn over the subject, although more students feel that the word is derogatory.

Sophomore Kwabena Ofori-ansah from Hyattsville, Md., whose major is currently undecided, believes that the way the "L" word is used has a lot to do with how it is received.

"I am not offended by the

word because I am a local, but when other people say it, they put a negative connotation on it," he said. "People who are not from around here think that all locals are dangerous or behave badly. They hate on us because of the clothes we wear, the music we listen to and just out general lifestyle," Ofori-ansah said.

Being a local was never considered bad to District students, until they reached Howard where they found themselves in a hodgepodge of different hometowns. Gradually they began to feel as if other students had turned the word into one with a negative meaning.

Charles Hatton, a senior management major from Northwest Washington has similar feelings.

"That word has a negative connotation and I don't like it. You always hear some female say 'look at this local trying to talk to me,' or something of that nature," he said.

Hatton went on to express that students who are not from the area look at "locals" as overly aggressive and dirty. From his own personal experiences, Hatton believes students from the area have to work twice as hard to be looked at as equal, especially when it comes to social relationships. He finds it harder to make progress because there is

already a bad vibe that comes along with being a local.

"One day I did something gentlemanly and this lady was like 'oh, you're a good local,'" Hatton added.

Sophomore print journalism major Vanessa Rozier from Milford, Conn., also knows that the delivery of the word has an immense importance.

"When I first got to Howard, I thought that people calling people from the area the 'L' word was degrading. But now I know that as long as it's not used in a bad way, they do not mind," Rozier said.

She believes that all locals are different and can not be grouped into one category because like everyone else, they all act differently.

Just like the infamous "N" word, the word "local" can be used in an affectionate way. In everyday language, especially on Howard's campus, the "N" word is used frequently without deeply affecting the majority of student.

While some students are offended by the "N" word, there are many who use it in a way to show a sense of belonging. A female is often heard saying "that's my [explicit]," or a male could be heard saying "What up, my [explicit]."

This is the same for the use of the word "local." On any given day one can hear some-

one from the area say, "the locals hold Howard down" or "only locals know the true hangouts."

There are many stereotypes that come along with being from the surrounding area. Both people from the metro area and those who from afar are aware of the stereotypes that are connected to being a "local."

Locals have been falsely accused of all wearing black North Face coats and Nike boots. They are also stereotyped as all sporting loc hairstyles, sounding ignorant when they speak and frequently committing crimes.

As with everyone on this campus, even if an individual is part of a certain group, that does not mean that person embodies all the same qualities as everyone else in that group.

Students realize blacks are constantly being stereotyped, but as it is known from the diversity on this campus alone, this racial group has very unique characteristics. The aforementioned statement goes along with people from the District, Maryland and Virginia.

Many area residents believe that not only are these stereotypes untrue for everyone in this group, but they also show an incorrect light on the community.



## BACK ON THE BLOCK: Anacostia



BY DERELL SMITH  
Staff Photographer

Located at the intersection of Good Hope Road and Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, lies the business section of Anacostia. This historic neighborhood, which was incorporated in 1854 as Uniontown, is located in the 7th district of Washington, D.C.

According to the National Register of Historic Places, Anacostia is also referred to as the first suburb in the District of Columbia.

Anacostia once restricted anyone of African or Irish descent from purchasing, renting or leasing any property, until Frederick Douglass purchased the home of a Uniontown developer in 1877 and remained there until his death almost 20 years later.

Yet, it wasn't until the 1950's, during the construction of the Anacostia Freeway, that the demographic of the area became predominantly black.

Anacostia has produced many famous individuals such as Marion Barry, former mayor of Washington, D.C., the late recording artist and songwriter Marvin Gaye, metropolitan opera singer Denyse Graves, recording artists Peaches & Herb and many more.

In addition to the world's largest chair, which sits at the corner of MLK, Jr. Avenue and V Street, Anacostia houses the Bolling Air Force Base, the Anacostia Naval Air Station, the Saint Elizabeth's psychiatric hospital, which is more



The Anacostia neighborhood has attracted new residents while changing from a dilapidated community to a renovated area. Many changes planned for the 7th district include a new football stadium and shopping complex.

than 100 years old, and the Greater Southeast Community Hospital

James G. Birney Elementary School, the city's first public school for blacks, was founded in 1889. The school was renamed for Nichols Avenue, the original name of Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue, in the early 1960's.

The school also served as a community center and library before standing vacant. Community activism saved it from demolition in the 1970's. The remodeled building reopened in 2005 as Thurgood Marshall Academy

Public Charter High School.

Today, much of the Anacostia area continues to under much renovation. Several old-aged homes and businesses are now being renovated, yet many of the residence feel the community has come a long way.

Robert Hall, the head of education at the Anacostia Museum since 1995, said, "The area has gotten better especially compared to how it was several years ago. This area has lots of schools, churches and museums, including the house of Frederick Douglass. It's a great location and it might [as] well be the next

place of real development in D.C."

The government has also taken notice of this area by creating several projects in the District. In August 2005, former Washington, D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams proposed selling the current Metro office in order to build a new one on a five-acre lot near Anacostia Metro.

In August of the same year, an office and retail complex called Anacostia Gateway was planned eight blocks along Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue. In addition, a resource center for the elderly and disabled was also located

on the avenue.

All of these projects have yet to be completed. Still, local residents are looking forward to the new retail outlet, which is being constructed in downtown Anacostia.

Residents don't share the same excitement for a future new stadium in Southeast Anacostia. The stadium is expected to bring more business to the area, however, the projected traffic has concerned some residents, employees and business owners.

Among the concerned is Barbara Jones, a resident of Northeast D.C., who works in Anacostia.

"I like the fact that there is going to be a new stadium, but I don't like the fact that it's in a poor area because the poor people in the area, nine times out of 10, will not be able to go to the game," she said.

"People from other areas all over will be coming here and it puts us in a position where we can't even enjoy what's going on around us. So in that sense, I don't like it. For jobs, it might be able to give some of the people in this area a job, maybe not. It depends on the amount of education they have," Jones said. Jones has lived in the District since 1994.

Kisha Bridges, a 32-year-old personal care attendant, said, "If the government has money to build a new stadium, then they had the money to keep those other projects open. At least they helped. This new stadium is just so they can make money, there was nothing wrong with the Stadium Armory," Bridges said. "I mean, they play baseball over there. What--it's not good enough for football," she said.

Jones said many inhabitants of the neighborhood are at an unfair economic advantage.

"A lot of people in this area, they drop out of school, they have no education. A lot of them have no desire to do better so because of that, that's going to keep them in the back doing things that they're not suppose to," she said. Despite all the problems that Anacostia faces, Bridges said the area will continue to grow.

## Emergency Budget Meeting

The Hilltop will be running a special editon next week. If you need to fulfill a class requirement or would like to contribute to next week's edition, there is one more chance to grab a story.

When: Tonight, November 28th  
Where: The Hilltop office  
Time: 7 p.m.



The Hilltop

Survey Says...

Reading The Hilltop while sitting on the Yard will increase your sex appeal by 43.76 percent.\*

Thinking about a graduate degree in Journalism?

Take a closer look at one of Columbia University's premier graduate schools, the Graduate School of Journalism.

We are coming to Washington, DC

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November 29  
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A FORUM ON SUPREME COURT CASES

6:30  
BIOLOGY  
AUDITORIUM

THURSDAY 11/30

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- ACROSS
- "Raiders of the Lost \_\_\_\_\_"
  - Actor Kilmer
  - MTV afternoon fare
  - Fruit filled dessert
  - Small bill
  - Wide shoe specification
  - Brazilian soccer Superstar who was the All-Time World Cup goal scorer
  - Quantity; Abbr.
  - Fox Atomic horror movie opening Dec. 1st, starring 28-across and 18-down
  - Clue. Sorry or Monopoly
  - Math Class
  - Pilot Light
  - Food additive that'll cut down on gas
  - "Que, \_\_\_\_\_ whatever will be, will be"

- Airport near Paris
- Annual festival that marks the start of Lent
- Poetic tribute
- Actor Josh, star of 16-across
- Tater (french fry)
- Shade tree
- Load from a lode
- It's dynamite!
- Bouncing main
- \_\_\_\_\_ Paulo

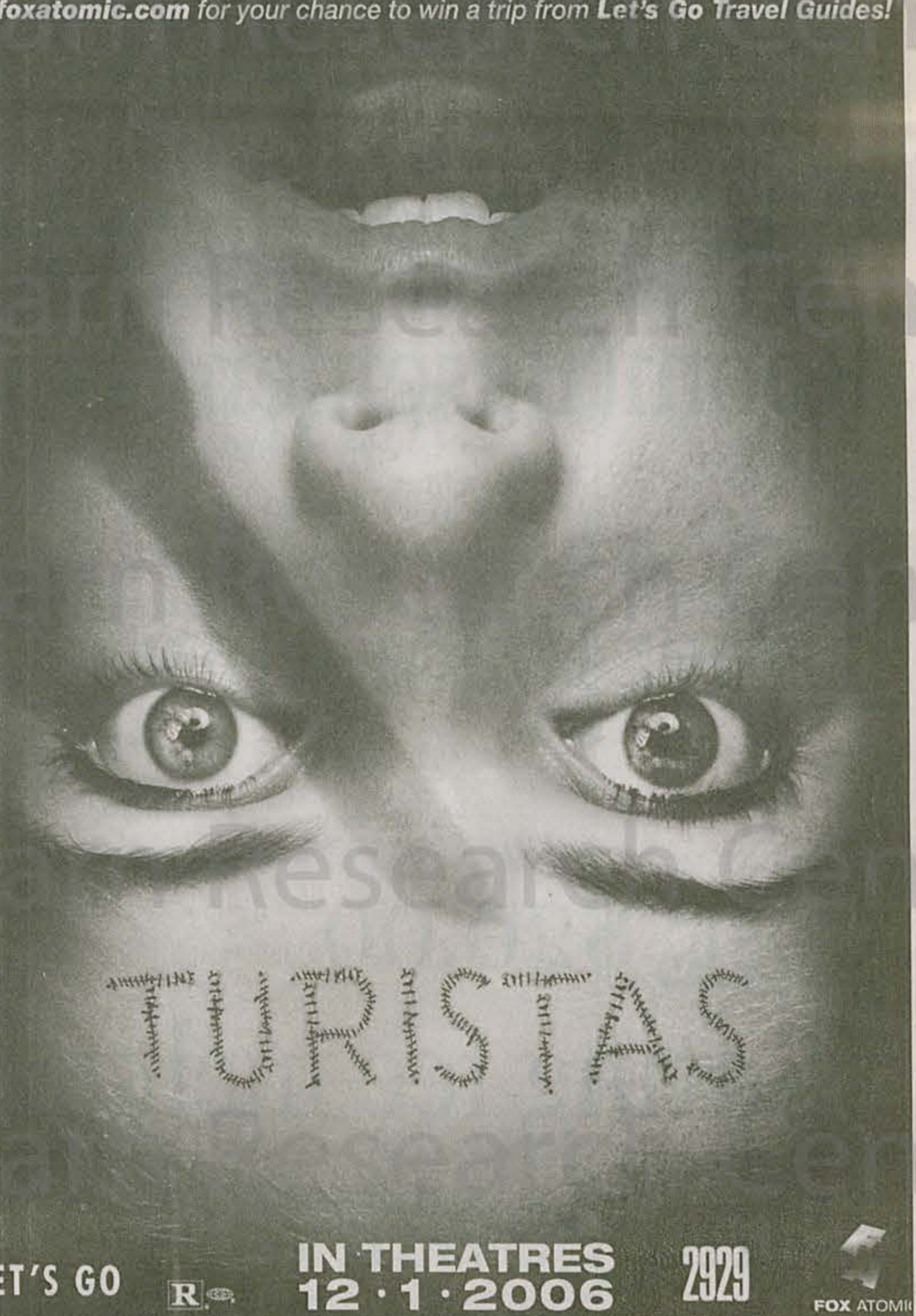
DOWN

- Earth Day mo.
- Setting for 16-Across
- Author Kesey
- iPod setting
- Netman Agassi
- Sainted Pope from 440 to 461 (2 words)

- Server with a pot, milk & sugar cubes (2 words)
- Stick around
- Big names in Travel Guides (2 words)
- "2 Young People Laughing" (Goya painting, 3 words)
- Belgian beer \_\_\_\_\_Artois
- Actor Beau, star of 16 across
- "The Great Gatsby" author \_\_\_\_\_ Fitzgerald
- Deceive (2 words)
- Popular Brazilian beer
- Small egg
- Sports drinks
- Methods
- Pitcher's stat
- August person, most likely

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LET'S GO



IN THEATRES  
12.1.2006

2009





Are you graduating this  
year?

If so,

Yearbook

Picture Time

is back

When: Monday, Nov. 27-Monday Dec. 4

Where: Blackburn Music Listening  
Room(Basement Level)

Time: 10am-6pm

Cost: \$20.00

(Sitting fee includes 6 poses: 3 w/cap  
and gown, and 3 however you like)



NOVEMBER 28, 2006

# Bison Outlast St. Francis, 75-69, at Burr

BY ELLIOTT JONES  
Sports Editor

The Howard men's basketball team followed an electrifying win over Virginia Military Institute in their home opener with an equally close, see-saw battle with St. Francis (Pa.), pulling out a 75-69 win at Burr Gymnasium. The Bison (3-

3) improved their record to 2-0 at home, while their opponents dropped their first road contest and fell to 2-2 overall.

The visitors got off to a quick start, using the inside scoring of senior center J. R. Enright to pull out to a 17-9 lead. However, the eight-point advantage would be the largest of the game for either team, as Howard closed the gap with a 6-0 run.

The Bison regained the lead on a lay-up from sophomore guard Jeron Smith, whose score after a backdoor cut made the score 25-23 Howard with just over five minutes remaining in the first half. The teams played very even basketball for the remainder of the half, with St. Francis shooting 48.1% from the floor and Howard shooting 48.3%.

The Bison held a slight advantage in three-point shooting, going 4-7 from beyond the arc and went into halftime leading 39-35 after a mid-range jumper from senior guard/forward Darryl Hudson at the buzzer.

Despite trailing at halftime, the Red Flash received strong play from sophomore point guard Cale Nelson, who registered nine assists, and Enright used his 6-10 frame to his advantage in the post, leading all scorers with 14 points.

Howard pushed its lead to a game-high of seven midway through the second half, but missed a chance to extend it further when Smith missed the front end of a one-and-one free throw situation. The Red Flash answered with an 8-0 run, led by freshman Devin Sweetney, a Washington D.C. native.

The teams would trade leads eight times and tie eight more times over the course of the second half. The game would shift when Enright, who finished the game tied for a personal career-high 19 points, fouled

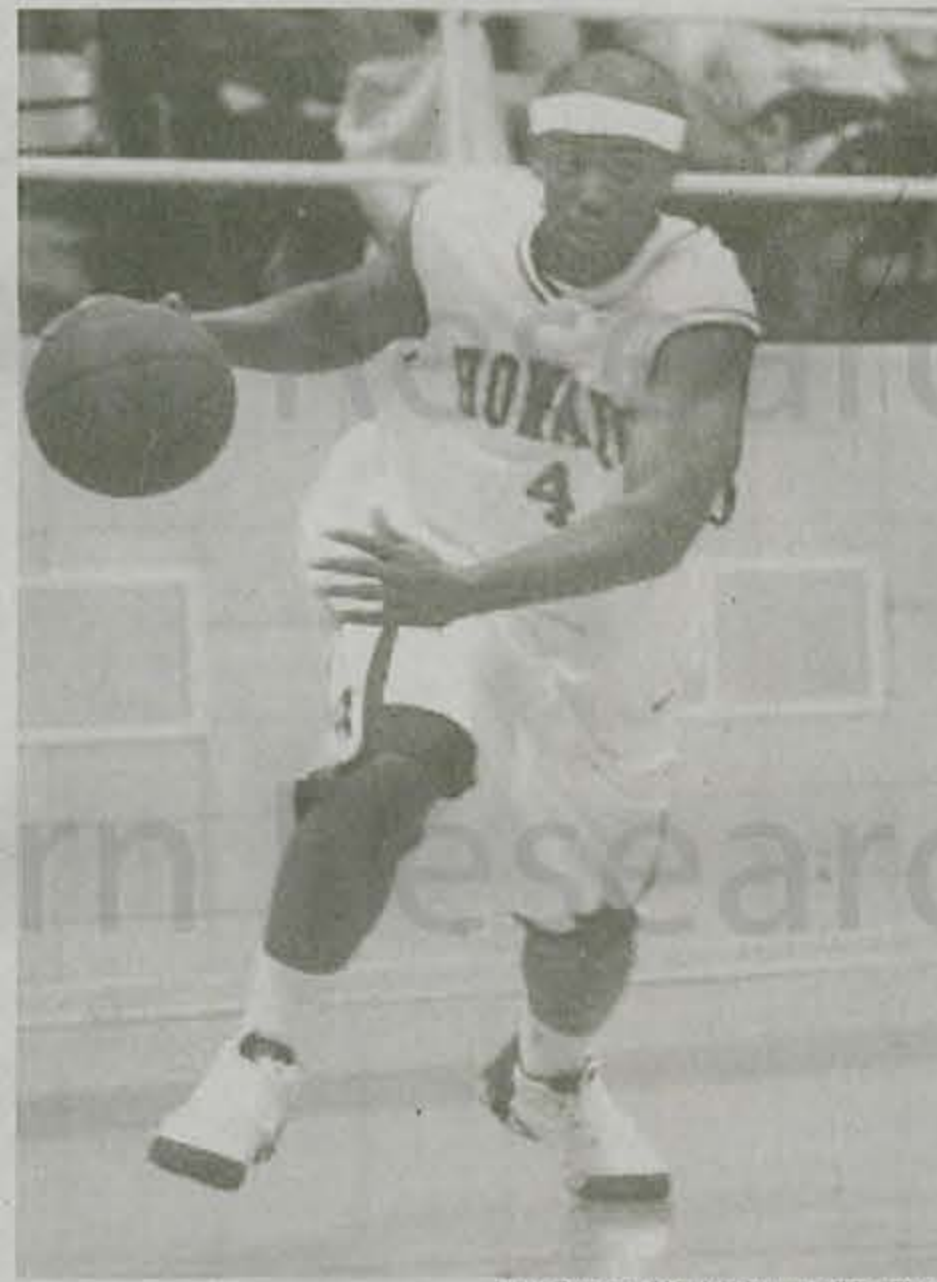


Photo Courtesy of Mark Coleman - All-Pro Photo  
Senior guard Will Gant hit a three-pointer with 35 seconds remaining to give the Bison the lead.



Photo Courtesy of Mark Coleman - All-Pro Photo  
Senior guard/forward Darryl Hudson led the Bison in scoring with 17 points against St. Francis.

## SCOREBOARD & SCHEDULE

### SCORES

Men's Basketball  
St. Francis (Pa.)  
Howard

### TODAY'S GAMES

Women's Basketball vs.  
George Mason  
@ Burr Gymnasium  
7 p.m.

coach Gil Jackson pointed to the growth of his team from last year and their ability to win close games.

"They're learning how to play together and how to win, which are each pieces of building a program," Jackson said. "This time we won it on a big shot, and we don't always want it to come that way, but I thought we did a good job of maintaining our composure."

Howard was led on offense by Hudson's 17 points and by sophomore forward Eugene Myatt, who contributed 15 points as well as some key free throws late in the game.

Sweetney led all scorers with 20 points and Nelson had a game-high nine assists before halftime, yet recorded none in the second half.

Up next, the Bison will take on Hampton in their MEAC opener at Madison Square Garden in New York City for the Big Apple Classic on Saturday, Dec. 2 at 3 p.m.

## Team Dream Places Second, Clinches National Tournament Bid

BY VICTORIA KIRBY  
Contributing Writer

It was 8 a.m. on a chilly, cloudless, Saturday morning when Howard University's Women's flag football team started their first game of many in the Mid-Atlantic Regional Flag Football Championship.

The tournament, which was held at the University of Maryland at College Park, was a three-day event that started on Nov. 17 and ended on Nov. 19. Howard University's women's team, Team Dream, started the tournament against their first opponent Monmouth University from Monmouth, N.J.

Team Dream played the first half aggressively and made interceptions and touchdowns that stumped their opponents and gave them a 12-6 lead into the second half. The third and fourth quarters belonged solely to Team Dream. Monmouth didn't score again for the rest of the game. Howard won 34-6.

After their first win in the tournament, the head coach

of Team Dream Dexter Harris said, "It was a good start. Now that we got the first game jitters out of the way, we should be good."

Maranda York, a senior administration of justice and sociology major, serves as the team captain, president and quarterback this year.

York has watched the team grow and win several championships since she became a member of the team her freshman year. She has also witnessed close calls at the national championship where the team placed sixth in the nation last year.

Retrospectively, she said, "You can't take scoring for granted. Just as quickly as you can score, the other team can score twice."

Her statement almost proved prophetic. Game two against the University of Maryland at College Park Terps proved to be a very interesting match.

After an extremely late start, the Terps went into the second half of the game lead-

ing 13-0. Thomas Haigler, a supporter of Team Dream, believed that "they could win the game if they took advantage of their opponents' weaker players."

In the third quarter of the game, Team Dream player Stephanie Burrell, an All-American senior administration of justice major, injured her knee on the field as she went for an interception. Team Dream ended the game with their first loss at the tournament in four years. The score was Terps 13, Team Dream 0.

Team Dream more than made up for the loss in game three against the College of New Jersey.

Burrell, released from Washington's Adventists Hospital at Tacoma Park, stood on the sidelines with her teammates with crutches under both arms. The first half resulted in great catches, clear-cut flag grabs, and a 13-0 lead for Howard.

Michelle Burke, a junior

See DREAM, PAGE 3



Photo Courtesy of All-Pro Photo

## Lady Bison to Take on Patriots at Burr

The Lady Bison basketball team will host the Patriots of George Mason University at 7 p.m. tonight in their home-opener at Burr Gymnasium. Both teams are looking for their first win of the season.



## TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY...

On Nov. 28, 1961, Ernie Davis, a half-back for Syracuse University, became the first African-American to win the Heisman Trophy.



Photo Courtesy of Victoria Kirby

Team Dream players Maranda York, Lareesha Goodman and Kacie Allen were named to the All-Tournament team at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Flag Football Championship as the team secured a spot in the National Championship.





## He Said

## She Said



### Interracial Relationships

The march on "Black Monday," in which students and other supporters will stand up for desegregation, is just around the corner and yet we as black people continue to segregate ourselves in other areas.

Perhaps one of the most evident forms of segregation is in how we choose a mate. It seems as though we've fought to get into schools with other races, get the same jobs as other races, but when it comes to dating other races that is not acceptable to some.

It seems to be even more unacceptable when that pairing happens to be a black man and a white woman. There are even concentrated efforts like, boycottblackmen.com, that target these couples with statements like, "Are you sick of our black men that leave our race and marry outside our race..." and "Are you tired of seeing our men with white women?"

So is it more important to pick a mate based on their race than other criteria like chemistry, attraction or beliefs?

People should be allowed to find their partners based on their own standards and be able to do so without the criticism of others. On the same token, if being of the same race is one of your deciding factors, then no one should be able to attack that condition either.

The black community needs to realize that interracial relationships are becoming more and more prevalent. According to the Census Bureau, interracial marriages have risen from 0.7 percent of all marriages in 1970 to 4.9 percent in 2000.

And although the Census statistics show that interracial couples including black males and white females are more common than those of a white male and black female by a 2.5 to one ratio, they also show that white women are less likely to be married than white men just as black women are less likely to be married than black men. Interracial relationships have also brought us some of our favorite athletes and enter-



Photo courtesy www.colossiansthreesixteen.com

tainers. These include Tiger Woods, Lenny Kravitz, The Rock, Mariah Carey and Alicia Keys, just to name a few.

Oh, and of course, the Academy Award winning Halle Berry... 'nuff said!

lings, and everyone stopped. A product of a black father and white and Hispanic mother, interracial relationships is a subject close to my heart.

I have heard the stories of my parents' dating and marriage trials. It surprises some that my Mexican grandfather had the most difficulty accepting both the relationship and the products of the forbidden love.

It seems to me that racism expands past white and black, and that none of it is completely necessary. The union of my mom and dad created something so wonderful... me!

Seriously though, I would like to say that interracial relationships should exist no matter what. However, I am also a product of a failed marriage. That failure is one that I have not easily accepted, but I now understand why - cultural differences.

It is not the color of my parents' skin that led to the

demise of their relationship. It is the content of their upbringings. Raised in two completely different environments, they still don't understand why each feels a certain way about any given topic.

Over the years, arguments about how to spend holidays, money, time, and how to raise their offspring have reflected what their parents, aunts, uncles and other relatives believe.

Even now, 16 years after separation, there are still debates over how my 16-year-old sister should be punished for her teenage rebellions.

So, in this debate of interracial relationships, it is time that people look beyond the old ways of creating babies that look like their ancestors. However, those who choose to embark on that union must remember that their biggest challenge will be understanding someone whose beliefs, customs and habits are based on what their Momma told them.

Love can concur all!

From the Minds of Joshua Thomas & Christina M. Wright

## HOUSEBROKEN



## Word Search

A N D S A N O Z I R A A N A T N O M O M K I  
 I I A W A H Y A N I L O R A C H T U O S A O  
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- Illinois
- New Jersey
- Washington
- Indiana
- New Mexico
- West Virginia
- Iowa
- New York
- Wisconsin
- Kansas
- North Carolina
- Wyoming
- Kentucky
- North Dakota

Courtesy of www.free-online-word-search-puzzles.com

## Overheard @ The Mecca

### "The Young and the Restless" Overheard in the School of C

**Girl1:** My name means 'place of refuge.' My parents named me that because they were homeless when I was conceived.

**Girl2:** Wow.

**Girl3:** Well, my mom named me after her favorite soap character. Now she don't even remember which show.

### "Confessions of a Jay-Z Groupie" Overheard in front of the A Building

**Guy1:** (after Jay-Z's surprise performance) That was better than Yardfest.

**Guy2:** Yeah, that made up for all of homecoming.

**Girl:** Y'all just saying that cuz y'all Jay-Z fans.

**Guy2:** Naw, I ain't no groupie, I just got caught up in the moment.

**Girl:** Something a groupie would say.

### "The A building loves me, The A Building loves me not" Overheard in the West Towers

**Girl1:** Yeah I'm a romantic. I like rose petals sprinkled and all that.

**Girl2:** Rose petals, you know how much rose petals cost?

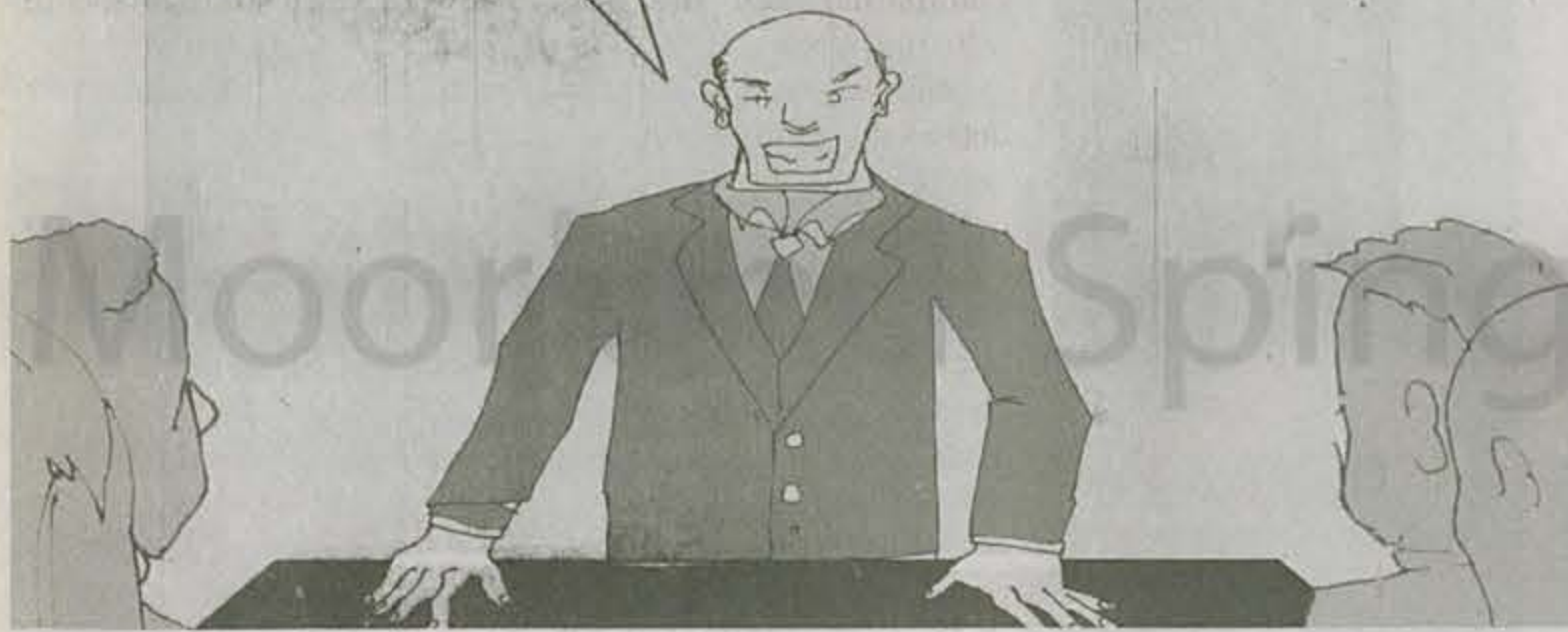
**Girl3:** Yeah, you better make sure you validated before you go buying some rose petals.

Check out more at [Overheardatthemecca.blogspot.com](http://Overheardatthemecca.blogspot.com) and submit to [Overheardatthemecca@gmail.com](mailto:Overheardatthemecca@gmail.com)

Please send any responses to Meccanisms, 'He Said . . . She Said' topics, or any other contributions to [meccanisms@gmail.com](mailto:meccanisms@gmail.com)



OKAY PEOPLE! ITS BEEN A GREAT YEAR! WE DID THE SPRING THING AND OF COURSE, THAT LED TO SUMMER. SUMMER WAS AN AMAZING TIME PERIOD! WE HAVE TO ATTACK ALL THE HOLIDAYS NOW WITH GUSTO! ITS STARTING TO GET COLD AND I CAN ALREADY HEAR THOSE BELLS JINGLING! SO WHEN YOU GET BACK FROM YOUR THANKSGIVING BREAK, WE CAN TALK ABOUT TAKING CHRISTMAS BY STORM! YEAH!



## Enough is Enough; Stop the Senselessness

Saturday evening should have been a happy time for a 23-year-old black man in Queens who was set to marry his girlfriend and the mother of his two daughters. Instead in the wee hours of the morning he became another unarmed black man gunned down by police.

We are outraged that in the year 2006 as black people continue to excel and break barriers in all areas, we still are constantly categorized as criminals and innocently gunned down by those who are to serve and protect us.

Sadly, we weren't as shocked as we would like to pretend to be of a black man gunned down. The fact that we aren't surprised illustrates a bigger problem in our society. We are happy to see this campus fired up about fighting for affirmative action, but if we can't even live to reap the benefits of a law that prohibits segregation what good is it doing?

Our treatment by law enforcement is definitely separate and extremely unequal.

Saturday morning Sean Bell, the victim, was leaving a strip club with two friends and another unidentified man when there was some commotion outside the club. As they got in their car a police officer who was in plain clothes got in front of the car where he was brushed and his shin scraped. Then their car hit an unmarked van with undercover police officers and

that's when the police fired.

Just how these cops not in uniform, flashing no badges and having no sirens expect men to act when approached in the middle of the night we don't know.

We do know that none of the men gunned down were armed and 50 shots were fired. How is this ever justified?

And more importantly, why did it take these undercover

Recently having the O.J. "If I did it," drama and "Kramer" from Seinfeld showing how he really feels about black people, the current state of race relations in this country is truly backsliding – or we are finally realizing how little has changed after all.

"A full, fair and complete investigation of this incident...I would urge everyone to withhold judgment as well until all the facts are known," said Queens District Attorney Richard Brown, Newsday reports.

Having the most information before forming an opinion is important, but what new details could possibly justify undercover officers gunning down men with no weapons and showing no intent to commit a crime?

It would be easier for us all to isolate the heinous shootings of blacks by cops to a New York issue, but just last Tuesday a 92-year-old black woman was gunned down by police in Atlanta after they suspected her involvement in a drug sale. The home was surrounded with undercover cops under a no-knock warrant and in fear when she had her shotgun, police gunned the woman down.

These recent murders of blacks by police illustrate bigger issues in our society. We as blacks have had our humanity taken away. It's time we stand up, speak and demand justice for these wrongdoings.

**Our View:**  
*The days of killing unarmed black men must stop. Justice and answers must be provided.*

police officers so many shots to realize no one was firing back? Unlike other cases, the police department did not issue a report on the shooting, the L.A. Times reports. The department's departure from procedure shows how even on paper there was no justifying the cold killing of a young black man.

A vigil was held yesterday for the groom who never made it down the aisle and we stand with Al Sharpton who was with the family the same day and all those who fight against the continual injustice dealt to our community.

With such excessive and unwarranted force, it's no surprise that blacks remain apprehensive about dealing with the police, which is part of the reason why crime does run rampant in our neighborhoods.

## Perspective: 'The Last King of Scotland' Positive?

I was shocked to see the positive review in "the Movie Review: The Last King of Scotland." I hated that movie. It perpetuated everything negative about Africa. The movie portrayed Idi Amin as dumb, childish and barbaric. The young, white doctor however was portrayed as rational, handsome and humane. The white doctor is the audience's hero. He was also our main character, the one we, as an audience, are supposed to care about. They are happy that he survives even though all the Africans in the

movie die in a cruel way. The audience is also happy to see the white hostages freed. Again, no African is saved.

The most Hollywood scene was when the white doctor has sex with Amin's wife and we hear a rock & roll soundtrack. From the camera's angle, her behind is grossly enlarged. Well, why be surprised? African women have big butts right?

Overall, I was disgusted with the movie. I went to view it in hopes of finding a movie about Africa that would enlighten us. Instead, the audience was

miseducated and a true injustice was done to them. So, Kevin MacDonald only reinforced the audience's fear and misunderstanding about life in Africa. This movie was anything but a "winner." I am definitely not a defender of Idi Amin's policies, he has done many injustices. But the movie ONLY showed that, all the bad sides...so where is the good? An HBCU like Howard should not congratulate directors and movies that perpetuate racist, harmful stereotypes of our people.

**Isha Mahamud**

## Perspective: Explaining th The Annex Hermit

I feel the need to take it upon myself to address the topic of the "Annex Hermit." Let me first begin by stating that to label an entire dorm with a stereotype of that magnitude is completely and utterly preposterous. This act of stereotyping dormitories seems to be the "IN" thing to do lately. It's wrong to assume that all Annex residents are hermits; just as it is wrong to assume that all ladies in the "Quad" are promiscuous or that all the men in Drew have some type of STD. The Annex was NOT built to be like the Quad, therefore the Annex should not be compared

to the Quad or to any dorm for that matter.

Let me not continue without saying that...yes, there are Annex residents who do not leave their suites often, but these are also the same people who worked extremely hard the previous year to receive enough RSVP points to reside in the Annex and enjoy their well deserved privacy.

As for the 300 freshmen who are randomly placed in the Annex, they try to enjoy their freshmen experience the best way they know how.

Attending campus events,

joining clubs and eating meals outside of the Annex cafeteria are easy ways to meet new people and many freshmen don't let living in the Annex hinder their social life.

So Howard University students, the time has come for us to stop labeling each other based on our dormitories and realize that there is no reason to "divide" an institution that needs to stay "united" in order to prosper.

**Erin Thurston, Bethune Annex Vice President**

## Daily Sudoku

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

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1			2					4
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		7	5	3		2		

Look out for our midterm report on Undergraduate Trustee, Jabari Smith, in tomorrow's paper.

## THE HILLTOP

The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper

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Now in its 83rd year, The Hilltop is published Monday through Friday by Howard University students. With a readership of more than 7,000, The Hilltop is the largest black collegiate newspaper in the nation.

The opinions expressed on the Editorial & Perspectives page are the views of The Hilltop Editorial Board and those of the authors and do not necessarily represent Howard University or its administration.

The Hilltop reserves the right to edit letters for space and grammatical errors and any inappropriate, libelous or defamatory content. All letters must be submitted a week prior to publication.



## The Way I See It ...

The End is Here



BY CIARA FAMBLE  
Life & Style Editor

The semester has been rough. It has been a barrage of papers, exams and lots and lots of projects. But on the upside, it seems like I'll finally get a chance to complete some of my projects. The classes you have in your senior year are really amazing. Suddenly you find that a subject that never interested you before is really fascinating, but you may also find out that you really disliked something you thought you liked. One professor that seems to have it out for you can make your academic life miserable. But take heart! Roll out of bed, grab your books and go to that class, because the end is near.

"The end" I'm talking about is the end of the semester. If you spent the semester struggling in a class or working too many hours at your outside job, or in a very demanding and competitive internship—or doing some combination of all three—then take a second, breathe, and receive the gift that Howard is giving to you.

A lot of us don't want toys for Christmas anymore. If anything, we want phones, laptops or the latest video game console. After all, Ebay Market Research reported that the Web site saw sales of over 28,000 Playstation 3 consoles at an average price of \$1,370, when its two models retail at \$500 to \$600.

But even if we don't get all the coveted gadgets we crave, the 2 to 4 weeks we get off in December are very much our toy. Most of us don't think of it that way, but it is. When else can we get away from all our worries about how everything will turn out and what we'll do with our lives. We get to go home, hang out with family and friends, shop, eat and everything else that goes along with being a young post-adolescent. Then we come back and start fresh.

I, for one, plan to use my time off to recuperate from what has turned out to be a very stressful semester. I look forward to the time when I can just chill out, with absolutely no obligations. Even though I feel like the break is really short—but that's a completely different column—I still look forward to it, and I can't wait to spend some quality time doing nothing.

In middle school and in some subjects in high school, you have the same classes with the same teachers all year, with only certain classes changing. Here, at the end of one semester, you can decide to change the way you handle classes completely. If you dislike a class or the way it is taught, you don't have to be there after December. That's not to say you can't make the wrong decisions the next semester, but there is always the possibility of changing your experience.

It can work beautifully, but even if it doesn't, there's always next semester. Good luck with finals!

Ciara can be reached at [lifeandstyle2006@yahoo.com](mailto:lifeandstyle2006@yahoo.com). Oh wait, no she can't. It's the end of the semester!

# Students Make Holiday Wish Lists

BY AMARIS NOBLE  
Contributing Writer

Back when attending college seemed light years away, Christmas preparation lasted for months. Kids spent hours cutting out ads from Toys-R-Us magazines and writing extensive "what-I-want-for-Christmas" lists. However, times have changed and the average Howard student is all grown up and recognizes the true meaning of Christmas.

Junior public relations major Devon C. Miller remembers how excited he was as a child during the Christmas season.

"When I was little, I was searching Toys-R-Us in July picking out what I wanted for Christmas," Miller said. "When I wanted a certain present, I would run and get my dad every time the commercial came on TV, which is finally how I got my He-man sword."

Freshmen students are away for only four months before they return home for winter break. However, living on one's own often makes even the most independent individuals feel a little homesick.

Chaz Gatewood, a freshman biology major, said that he will be returning home to Connecticut with a new attitude toward Christmas.

"I'm used to always having my friends and family right there whenever I need them," Gatewood said. "I was happy to do my own thing at first, but now I recognize everything that my mom does for me, from buying groceries to getting me whatever clothes I needed to start the new season. Now I can't wait to get home and just spend Christmas with her."

Major adjustments have been made to the college Christmas list. Items such as video game systems, exclusive team jerseys and Malibu

Barbies are being replaced with more practical gifts that will help make college life easier.

Sophomore physical therapy major Jamal Williams explained that growing up doesn't mean that suggestions can't be made for under-the-tree surprises. As the college student matures, his or her list becomes more practical.

"I don't need toys and petty stuff anymore," Williams said. "I ask for things like suits that I need for job interviews or cookware. I want essential things now. I guess I'm trying to grow up a little."

Shannon Whitaker, a sophomore psychology major, has also revised her Christmas list.

"I pretty much ask for money now," Whitaker said. "While living away from home, you never know what emergencies might come up that require money that I often don't have."

Today, finding a part-time job is a reality for countless college students. Having a little pocket change throughout the year has helped many Howard students finance the very activities and material items that they had once pressured parents to fund. Williams expressed how working throughout the school year has resulted in a shorter Christmas list.

"When I wanted an iPod, I saved up my own money and just bought it. It seems stupid to be grown with a job and turn around and ask another grown person for an Xbox or something," Williams said.

Sociology professor Ivor Livingston suggests that the media influences even the oldest consumer. Certain more adult toys may appear on the holiday lists of Howard students.

"Students want to go home and be with family for Christmas, but the media bombards them with certain things that they 'need' like MP3 play-



Photo courtesy of www.rotten tomatoes.com

Holiday wish lists now include expensive electronics such as iPods and MP3 players, as well as cash, instead of the once desired dolls, action figures, and board games.

ers," Livingston said. "It seems to me that the media often supersedes the importance that someone has for wanting to be with their family."

Not everyone looks forward to Christmas as an opportunity to catch up within the world of technology or fashion. Livingston explained that the probability that college students will comprehend the significance of Christmas after living independently depends on

one's age and socialization.

"Family relationships are preeminent," Livingston said. "As people get older, they better understand relationships within the family. As you mature, you are not as concerned with what people give you, but with being with your parents. When you are younger, you are concerned with spending time with family, but are also preoccupied with receiving gifts."

After spending hours

in Howard's distracting Undergraduate Library or bustling I-lab, students need a break to recharge for the spring semester. Sophomore administration of justice major Davon Franklin anxiously awaits the Christmas break.

"After a taxing semester of nothing but exams and projects, there is nothing that I want more than to eat my mom's cooking and just be around people who love me."

## MOVIE REVIEW: AUDIENCES EXPERIENCE DÉJÀ VU WITH ANOTHER DENZEL HIT

BY DANIELLE KWATENG  
Contributing Writer

For many, the new Denzel Washington movie "Déjà Vu" is worth the trip to the theater. The only obvious déjà vu about this movie is that Washington is once again playing the black cop role. Set in the heart of New Orleans, Washington's character Doug Carlin is put on the case of a domestic terrorist attack. A great element of this movie is that the director, Tony Scott, recognized the ravaged post Katrina New Orleans and the city's undying resilience. Although the setting of the movie could have been in any U.S. city, images of the 9th ward and the French Quarter give the film a "real life" feel. Jerry Bruckheimer, who's known for the "Pirates of the Caribbean" franchise, produced this movie, so one can expect an element of adventure.

Another aspect of this movie that the audience will appreciate is the mental obstacle course it takes you on. The main component of the plot is based on a scientific discovery that defies the laws of physics. In the film, the government creates a machine that allows them to look at people from anywhere in the world four days prior. There's a lot of technical lingo used that can get confusing if viewers don't keep up. Luckily the plot is lightened with the occasional joke to appeal to the audience.

If you haven't seen it yet, here's just a little summary of the movie. ATF agent Doug Carlin is put on a terrorist case, but in the process finds the remains of a local Creole woman named Claire Kuckever, played by the up and coming actress Paula Patton. Claire, who is randomly pulled into the destructive path of the psychotic terrorist, becomes the key to breaking the case. This is Patton's second leading role this year, including this past summer's "Idlewild."

In investigating the case, Carlin finds out about this top-secret project the government has been working on to travel through time. Audiences may be surprised



Photo courtesy of www.zip.com

Denzel Washington plays a cop solving a terrorist case in New Orleans.

to see that one of the nocturnal scientists is played by Erika Alexander, who is best known as Maxine on "Living Single." Along with the help of these scientists and government workers, Carlin's mission is to manipulate time to solve this case and get closer to his mystery woman. Realistically this movie takes a big detour, but does show the more romantic side of science fiction movies.

Honestly, this is not the most profound film this year, but being set in New Orleans provides a sense of originality. One deep point audiences can take away from the film is the force of human strength and the benefits of taking risks.

Grade: B+

## EMERGENCY BUDGET MEETING

The Hilltop will be publishing a special edition next week, and we are looking for writers. If you would like to contribute or need to fulfill a requirement, there is one more chance.

When: Tonight, Nov. 28th  
Where: The Hilltop Office  
Time: 7 p.m.