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THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 90, NO. 79

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2007

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notebook

BREAKING NEWS

FLOOD LEAVES 340,000 HOMELESS

A FLOOD IN INDONESIA FORCED MORE THAN 340,000 TO FLEE FROM THEIR HOMES. SO FAR AT LEAST 20 HAVE BEEN KILLED, ACCORDING TO THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY

MINIMUM WAGE IS ON THE RISE

RECENTLY THERE WAS A RAISE IN THE FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE. FIND OUT HOW AND WHY THIS HAPPENED IN BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY.

PAGE 5



MON, 2/5:
PARTLY CLOUDY/ WIND
HIGH: 23, LOW: 9

TUES, 2/6:
MOSTLY SUNNY
HIGH: 28, LOW: 14

Conference Urges Students to End Violence

BY AYESHA RASCOE
Editor-in-Chief

The School of Business became the venue for a discussion of something other than the typical topic. The violent streets were discussed as the ladies of Alpha Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. held the inaugural Stop the Violence conference on Friday.

More than 100 youth from three middle schools, Howard's Mathematics and Science Middle School, Mac Farland Middle School and Dr. Anna Howard Shaw Middle School in Philadelphia, attended the event. It aimed to end the rising violence in the city and in schools, and proposed that youth live in L.O.V.E., or Loud Opposition to Violence Everywhere.

Ariel Triplett, president of Alpha Chapter, said the conference was "important for kids in the D.C. metropolitan

area because they need an outlet to prevent violence among themselves, and they need to know how to find ways to function in a dangerous society and protect themselves."

Tamara Stevenson began the conference speaking to students about violence she had experienced herself, according to Triplett.

In order to get students actively involved, they were set up in groups and asked to come up with skits that illustrated violence and a constructive way to solve the confrontation without violence. With the help of volunteers, the students came up with skits discouraging teasing, bullying and gossiping.

"In my opinion, the skits were the best part of the program," Triplett said. "The kids acted out their own ideas and were their own teachers in the end."

Others agreed that the students involvement is the key to

an effective effort.

"The strongest thing is to get them to not just go through the motions, but to think about what they are doing," said Kimberly Williams, a sophomore advertising major who volunteered with the conference. "The mental is stronger than the physical."

Everett Brownlee, Jr., a metropolitan police officer, spoke about real cases of violence.

"The skits y'all did were nice," he said when he began his speech. "But, unfortunately, in Washington, D.C., some of those skits won't work."

He reminded the students of Tashia Ford, a 17-year-old girl who was killed at a local club last month. He explained that she was part of one of the biggest female gangs in D.C. He then told the youth about a 10-year-old boy who is wanted for robbery.

See VIOLENCE, Page 3



Jessica DeTiege - Staff Photographer

The inaugural Stop the Violence conference informed middle school students about ways to prevent violence by using entertaining and interactive methods to drive the ideas home.

Former Miss Howard Holds Conference of Testimonies

BY SHANAE HARRIS
Campus Editor

Students shared personal accounts and stories on Friday in a conference titled T.E.S.T.I.M.O.N.Y.S., (Telling Our Story to Inspire More of Each Nation's Youth to Succeed), held by the 2005-2006 Miss Howard, Shayna Rudd, who obtained the idea through her platform.

"I wanted to do something different than Miss Howard had ever done before," Rudd said.

The event was originally planned to be a conference for youth from area high schools, but according to public relations chair of the conference and senior public relations major Sefanit Befekadu, the two schools that were scheduled to come pulled out at the last minute.

"[The schools] had previously confirmed 80 students and we found out after the conference had started that the busses to bring the students to Howard had been sent away," Befekadu said. "The students went to a job fair instead."

Although plans changed, Rudd and other attendees did not let it change the outcome of the conference.

"Today ended up being a testimony to peers, instead of high school students and I think it has been a gift to everyone," Befekadu said. "You can feel the love."

Those in attendance had a chance to partake in various conferences throughout the day, discussing topics such as "rising above circumstances," "taking off the mask" and "wisdom - the key to your future."

Dr. Gregory Carr, an African-American Studies professor at Howard, spoke

to students about wisdom, telling them that lack of wisdom comes from lack of training in society and the community.

"You've been trained to hate the things that will save your life," Carr said.

Tramaine Stevenson of Philadelphia, a close friend and mentor to Rudd, discussed the female perspective of being wise and "taking off the mask."

"For women, to be an individual [is unpopular], causing you to question your self-worth," Stevenson said. In an activity where students discussed popular songs that are out, she evaluated how women might not be really listening to song lyrics.

She said, "There's information being given to us daily that we may not even be aware of. We're not realizing what we're allowing to pollute our minds."

At the end of the conference, Rudd presented students with the opportunity to give their personal accounts of their lives in a forum titled "Naked."

"I believe that there is so much power in our stories. They help you to 'wake up' and look at the opportunities that you have," Rudd said.

Lauren Jackson, a senior graphic design major, told students to simply, "do you." Jackson added that, "If you have that spirit to just do you, you will conquer all."



Photo courtesy of Derrell Smith

Former Miss Howard Shayna Rudd shared her "TESTIMONY" with students on Friday.

Those who heard the testimonies said they got a lot out of the messages.

"Being at this conference and being around people who are willing to share their stories with me and hear my story has been an amazing experience," said Jabari Smith, a broadcast journalism major and pageant running mate with Rudd.

Befekadu agreed with Smith saying that, "[the conference] has been one of the most enlightening experiences just because as adults, we don't give ourselves time to be human."

Overall, Rudd was also pleased with the outcome of her conference, though it did not go as expected.

"I feel empty, but not in a bad way," she said. "I feel like I had given everything that I could possibly give to this conference and it did not go as expected."

Rudd added that if there was anything she wanted people to know after this conference it would be, "sometimes in order to go out into war, you have to be equipped for the war and I feel like that conference was equipping us for the war."

She added, "People's lives were still touched."

Sodexho Conducts Surveys

BY MERCIA WILLIAMS-MURRAY
Hilltop Staff Writer

In an attempt to reach out to the student body, Sodexho made surveys available so students could rate the company's performance in different areas.

While a few students see this gesture as a genuine measure by Sodexho to raise the bar, others view the surveys with skepticism. Some believe the polling will not improve the service at on-campus eateries, nor the food.

"Our main goal is always customer satisfaction. That's the main goal with any survey we do," said Mohammed Abdelilah, the director of operations for Sodexho at Howard University.

Abdelilah said students are important to the staff.

He added that Sodexho looks to see what foods students are looking for and what students want in general. He says there are so many different types of people on campus and that there are some differences among what types of food are best.

K. Reese Robinson said the polls will allow Howard's Sodexho representatives to make improvements to the Café and terminate unnecessary staff.

"I think that it will because if there's a bad report, I'm sure this will affect people's jobs and positions so they'll be on their P's and Q's if they know they'll be repercussions," Robinson said.

Freshman psychology major Jamila Best took the survey and said the questions were flawed.

"No, I do not think that the surveys help one bit. If one was to look at the questions that were asked on the survey, one would see that they are on a biased rating scale," Best said.

She added, "On top of that, one is only allowed to comment if and only if they find the overall service of a particular criteria to be truly distasteful."

Abdelilah said the results of the survey have not been reported yet. Jamie Mitchell, a representative at the Philadelphia wing of Synovate, the company that provides surveying services for Sodexho, said the polls have just re-opened for the spring semester.

Instead of polling students on the food service company's performance, Best suggested another way to raise the standards and make changes in the right direction.

"What I do believe may help is a sit down meeting between the head staff here that runs the cafeterias and possibly a student ran food committee [assuming we have one] to discuss the

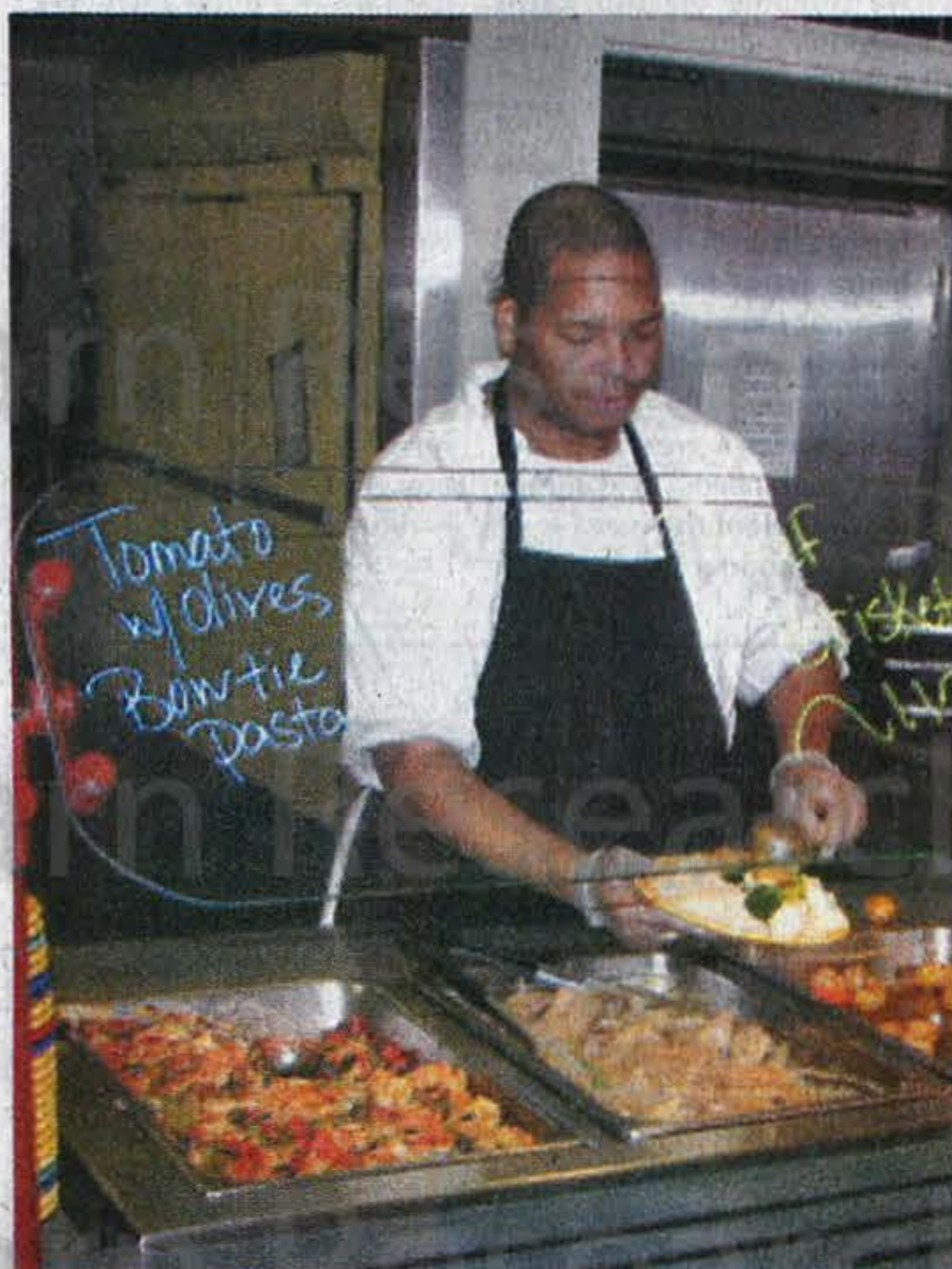
qualms that the students have with the cafe, and then work on changes from there," Best said.

Despite students' complaints and concerns, last semester Mitchell said Howard was not very responsive to the surveys. She added that unlike some other clients of Sodexho, "Howard has not been a very strong participant."

George Gee, a junior finance major, has been going to the Café regularly since the fall of 2004, when he was a freshman. He said that dining options and overall morale of the staff has improved over the last year.

"That was people's main complaint about Howard as a freshman, was the Café. It was always just the spot to go chill, but I only went then because the food was free," he said.

Gee added, "But I kept going as a sophomore and now as a junior because overall the Café's gotten better."



Derrell Smith - Senior Photo Editor

Students filled out surveys informing management of their overall satisfaction with the Café's appearance and food choices.

Architecture Teaches Students to Build 'Green'

BY CHARLOTTE YOUNG
Hilltop Staff Writer

Any given day, the "green" building can be seen on Capitol Hill as a message to conserve the earth's resources. It challenges other organizations to build similar structures.

Owned by the Friends Committee on National Legislation, the "green" building on Capitol Hill has high efficiency lighting and windows. Most of the materials used to build it are recycled, while geothermal heating and cooling are used to regulate the temperature. The building also has a "green" roof. The plants growing on the roof help slow down the rain so it does not quickly enter the gutter. The "green" roof also helps cool off the neighborhood by reducing the heat island.

"Green" buildings or high performance buildings are one way the country can reduce a dependence on limited sources," said Ned Stowe, the senior legislative secretary and lobbyist for the Friends Committee.

"It helps to clean up the environment and prevent future's no reason why I think building built today cannot be high performance. We need



Environmentally-friendly organizations, as well as the School of Architecture and Design, see the importance of conserving the Earth's resources when constructing new buildings.

more architects that understand what that's about," he said.

Architecture students are faced with the challenge to create buildings that are not only structurally sound, but also environmentally friendly.

To achieve that, the architecture department mandates that "the studio focuses curriculum activities including issues

of social and human behavior and concern, response to the physical environment, ethical responsibility for ecologically sustainable design and the cultural context in which architecture is developed," according to the department of architecture Web site at Howard.

"To respond to the goal of an environmental-friendly structure, the architecture pro-

Bryanna Green-Williams - Contributing Photographer

gram here at Howard requires that in the third year of the program students must have been introduced and successfully completed two full semesters of Environmental Systems courses," junior architecture major Nicole Howard said.

Howard added, "Because of global warming issues, courses like Environmental Systems I and II are programmed to

teach students the requirements of achieving an environmental-friendly, Leadership in Energy Environmental Design certified building. As a result, students are able to make these requirements applicable to future design practices and ultimately constructing 'green' buildings."

Sophomore architecture major Jamil Wansley also noticed the introduction of the environmentally friendly aspect in his courses.

"One of our first classes freshman year is called Environment and Architecture," he said. "It teaches us about how in the past people have used materials more wisely than today. [They] build it to last instead of for the moment."

Wansley also sees environmental structures as beneficial in that they "lend themselves to more of a unique design with new technology."

He said, "The main benefit is it'll be able to save natural resources and won't overuse them to ensure future generations will be able to use them by conserving the ones we have."

The Friends Committee is not the only group that recognizes the need for energy

conservation and resources through the building of structures. Many environmental groups recognize the importance of environmentally friendly structures.

"If you look around at the various buildings being built now, they're starting to plan for future," said Ron Zucker, the legislative director for 20/20 Vision.

"The Friends Committee on National Legislation building was redesigned from top to bottom with an eye on environmental impact," he said, making reference to the Committee's "green" building.

Zucker emphasizes the importance of conservation even in the workplace.

"When we're not in homes we're in workplaces. [We must] try to conserve as much as possible in as many places as possible."

Organizations like 20/20 Vision and the Friends Committee will continue to promote environmentally friendly structures.

Stowe said, "We're encouraging people to build these types of buildings and hope there will be more in D.C. soon."

Man Up, Sister Stars Join Forces Tonight

BY KIERRA JONES
Contributing Writer

Sister Stars and Man Up are two discussion groups originating in the School of Communications that meet on the first Monday of every month. The groups meet in different locations to discuss various issues affecting students on a daily basis.

Tonight, the discussion groups will be combined for a special edition of the forum.

The groups were established to enhance communication and listening skills amongst peers, faculty and staff within the Howard community. Both are a year and a half old. All of what takes place at the meetings is confidential.

The coordinator of Sister Stars is Senior Academic Advisor in the School of Communications Bernadette Williams. Associate Dean David Woods is the advisor for Man Up. Both coordinators shared what combining the two groups meant to them.

"I am extremely, extremely excited about what is about to happen," Williams said. "We have been working for several years and having separate meetings with the sisters and brothers and have come to the conclusion that we are all having the same issues."

Woods said Monday is



Man Up and Sister Stars give students an opportunity to express themselves in a supporting environment.

supposed to give people a time to share what they feel and what they think.

"My purpose is to allow a forum where men will listen to women and women will listen to men," he said.

The past monthly meetings have caught the attention of numerous students from various backgrounds.

Michael Cadenhead is a sophomore film production and said that he is intrigued by the idea of a co-ed forum.

"I am attending the Man Up/Sister Stars event because I think it will be a very powerful event," he said. "This will be very interesting to see what would happen if we combine the two forces together and I hope that nobody censors themselves."

Zaree Walker, a junior broadcast journalism major, said, "I have attended a couple of Sister Stars events and being active on the Student Council I know how that has contributed to the freshman experience." She added, "I believe it is a great opportunity that needs to continue for the rest of the year."

Dominique Wilson, a

junior broadcast journalism major, said she is coming out to the Man Up/Sister Stars meeting because, "I think it's amazing that this is the first time they are going to come together."

For many students, tonight's event is seen as a good experience and one that must not be missed.

"I have attended two Man Up meetings and when I attended I see that having male influences to help me out is necessary. I also want to know the female point of view," sophomore public relations major Drew Durand said.

Williams said that the meeting will allow members of both sexes to realize that they can rely on each other for support.

"Bringing the two groups together will allow us to embrace one another and move further in understanding that we are in this thing together," she said.

The event is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 5, at 6:30 p.m. in the biology building auditorium.

Talented Tenth Encourages Community Involvement

BY MERCIA WILLIAMS-MURRAY
Hilltop Staff Writer

With the start of a new year and a new semester, the Talented Tenth has a new initiative and big plans to go along with it.

"Coming Down from The Hilltop," is a multi-faceted plan which includes community service, as well as community interaction. Taking

responsibility for the community and making it a priority are major components of the Talented Tenth's vision.

Adam Perkins and Darryl Perkins are co-founders of the organization, which they started almost three years ago with the idea of bridging the gap between Howard University and its surrounding areas.

Perkins explained W.E.B. DuBois' Talented Tenth theo-

ry. He said DuBois believed that educated Negroes had a responsibility to the black community to deal with pertinent issues.

To start the year and the new initiative off right, the Talented Tenth have already had a "Feed The Homeless" event on Martin Luther King Jr. Day and just last week, Bison on Ice at Pentagon Row.

Of Bison on Ice, Perkins

said, "We had a nice turn out. We raised a couple hundred dollars."

He said some kids from one of the programs that the Talented Tenth mentors with came out and enjoyed them-

selves.

The funds from Bison on Ice go toward the new initiative—mentoring and helping the homeless. He added that the organization is trying to become a non-profit so that

it can receive money from the government in order to broaden their horizons.

Perkins explained the new initiative as being a broad concept. See Tenth, Page 3

CHAPEL RECAP: BISHOP VASHTI MURPHY MCKENZIE BREAKS TRADITION

BY SIMONE PRINGLE
Copy Editor

Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie preached before a crowded Cramton Auditorium audience Sunday morning.

Murphy McKenzie is the titular head of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (A.M.E.), serving as the president of the Council of Bishops. She is also the first woman bishop in the A.M.E. Church and the highest ranking woman in the denomination.

Murphy McKenzie preached yesterday from Isaiah 43:16-19.

"I am the Lord, who opens a way through the waters, making a path right through the sea. I called forth the mighty army of Egypt with all its chariots and horses, to lie beneath the waves, dead, their lives snuffed out like candlewicks. But forget all that—it is nothing compared to what I'm going to do! For I am going to do a brand new thing. See, I have already begun! Don't you see it? I will make a road through the wilderness of the world for my people to go home, and create rivers for them in the desert!"

She spoke on the topic of patterns and "awfulizing."

"Awfulizing means you make a boulder out of a pebble. You make a mountain range out of a molehill."

Murphy McKenzie noted that when people awfulize, "physically, nothing is stopping you, but mentally you are stopping yourself."

She compared life's troubles to avalanches and landslides.

"How we respond to our landslides is often determined by how we think of them, how we manage our



Atrice Williams - Staff Photographer

Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, presiding prelate of the AME Church, spoke about Isaiah 43:16-19.

lives."

Murphy McKenzie also points out the difference between a problem definer and a problem solver.

She said a problem definer can tell every detail of the landslide, when it happened, why it happened and why the rescue effort failed.

"The problem solver looks at the problem and says, 'I still have joy, after all I've been through, I still have the same pebbles, they are just in a different place,' she said. "The problem definer sees the avalanche as a threat, the problem solver sees the avalanche as a challenge. The problem solver begins to strategize while the problem definer begins to awfulize."

She focused on the fact that the people wanted God to save them.

"God doesn't follow a pattern. The people were expecting a prophet to come save them, the next Moses who would part the

sea, but you can't expect God to follow a pattern. You can't hold God to a formula."

Her sermon's theme dealt with making 2007 a year of change and breakthrough.

"The three Hebrew boys broke out of the fiery furnace, Daniel broke out of the lion's den and Jesus broke out of the tomb, and if God can do that for them, he can do it for you."

Murphy McKenzie added, "God's going to break up some stuff this year and next year you'll be giving testimony of your breakthrough."

She said to the students in the audience that they should think of this year as the year they are going to break out of that hard class with an A, the year they are going to break out of Howard with a degree.

"God has the power to make this your breakout year. Let God do his thing," she said.

Community Involvement Stressed by Talented Tenth

TENTH, from Page 2

cept. He says that the educated few of the African Americans are not really fulfilling their responsibility to the black community.

With this being "The Mecca," he said it's a challenge for the Howard community to do right. Instead of just being concerned with getting a job, Perkins says students should be concerned with the community.

He mentions that in the U.S. there are more than 9,000 black elected officials right now, but unlike the era that included leader Martin Luther King Jr., there are few current policies or politicians helping blacks to survive and

progress in this country.

Perkins said, "It's like yeah, you're a finance major. You have a good job but what are you doing for the community?"

He asked why is it that "The Mecca" doesn't have a community center for people who live in the area, with there being so many black people in the District.

According to Perkins, Howard University is more concerned with, "impressing Morgan Stanley than taking care of the community" and that the university is more concerned with, "what white people think than with being a black school."

He added that a person can not think he or she is set-

ting an example by doing well for him or herself if they are not around the people who need to see that example. Perkins says when students make it, they should not forget their places of origin.

Talented Tenth week will be from Feb. 19 to Feb. 23 and include a forum between Howard University and Washington, D.C. residents. Additionally, there will be a health forum which includes HIV testing and community service. The Casanova Fly party will close out the week.

Perkins and the Talented Tenth are challenging the student body to think outside of the box and to understand the role of being educated black people and role models.

Stop The Violence Aims to Make Impact on Youth

VIOLENCE, from Page 1

Brownlee asked the participants what they could do to end the violence. As the discussion progressed, it was decided that talking to the neighborhood kids who skip school and informing them how school is a good thing would be the best solution. Brownlee told the students that skipping school usually leads to activities that could lead to imprisonment.

"If somebody sits back and tells you jail is cool, they are out of their minds," he said.

When a student raised his

hand and commented that "people don't like police," the discussion turned to why the police force is sometimes seen as the bad guy.

Patricia Roberts, a senior legal communications major, asked if there were any programs the students could participate in to show them that they can trust police officers.

"I believe that the reason violence is so prevalent in our community is because people are afraid to go to the police," she said.

Lori Haymen, director of external affairs at MS, said the conference was "not what I expected, [but] I enjoy see-

ing the Howard students' positive interaction with the kids."

Kemo Logan, the eighth grade coordinator at Shaw Middle School, said she hoped her students could take what they learned at the conference back to school and incorporate it.

"We currently have what we call a 'peaceful posse' at our school, where we pull certain people out and they try and fix varying conflicts that students have within the school," she said. "I think what they learn here could add to that."

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Winks Lodge

At the time the Lodge was built in the 1920s, this historic mountain property was one of two resorts dedicated to African-Americans. JPBMC purchased the Lodge in 2006 and is raising restoration funds.

Who was

James P. Beckwourth?

Born in 1798, Jim Beckwourth was an African-American mountain man, fur trapper, explorer, frontiersman, army scout, War Chief of the Crow Indians, trading post owner, discoverer of the Beckwourth Pass in the Sierra Nevada Range, and all-around "Legend of the West."



James P. Beckwourth Mountain Club
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Website: beckwourthmountainclub.org
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EVERYONE'S READING IT!

FEBRUARY 5, 2007

Senate Legislation Raises Minimum Wage

BY IMANI JOSEY
Business & Technology Editor

The U.S. Senate recently passed a bill setting new legal standards for minimum wage. The Senate voted 94-3 on the bill, increasing in three steps the minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$7.25. The bill also gives \$8 billion worth of tax cuts to small businesses.

The passing of the bill ended a heated debate between lawmakers. The debate resulted in many proposed amendments to the bill

by Republican leaders. The legislation was finally passed without any of the aforementioned amendments. As the bill journeyed between the House of Representatives and the Senate, the eventual consensus on the bill marked the ability of the Senate's and the House's will to compromise.

Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown brought up civil rights leader Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., according to a release of the press conference, after the vote was made official.

"Martin Luther King said

equality means dignity and dignity demands a paycheck that lasts throughout the week," Brown said. "This is a small down payment on social justice."

Other senators were in agreement.

"This is a testament to what we can accomplish when we work together to move critical legislation forward," Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky said. "We look forward to working with the House of Representatives to send a final bill to the president that will be a victory for both those who earn the minimum wage and those who pay it."

The bill's inclusion of tax cuts are an attempt to compensate small businesses, which many argue bear the heaviest burden of the minimum wage increase.

The House technically has the right to set aside any tax or budget bills that come from the Senate.

Senate Republicans and President Bush, however, have said they would not support a minimum wage bill without

tax breaks for small businesses.

"My parents own a small business, so the tax cut helps," freshman undecided major John said. "At least there is something that will help them out too in this new law. I see it from [their] perspective more than anybody else's."

Other students agree.

"You can't live off of \$5.15. You can barely eat off of \$5.15. I'm glad somebody finally noticed how horrible the minimum wage limit was," sophomore public relations major Elaine Simms said. "I'm glad that it was raised. Now people can actually have a chance at better living," she said.

The last minimum wage increase took place in 1997. That hike was instrumental in the first legislation prom-



Photo courtesy of www.fche-befc.gc.ca

Some employees can expect larger checks during upcoming pay periods, as The U.S. Senate raised minimum wage by more than \$2.

ised and passed by the newly elected Democratic majority in the House. A minimum wage increase would directly affect 6.6 million workers currently earning the \$5.15 wage, according to the Economic Policy Institute.

The hike could also

increase the wages of another 8.3 million people who earn just above the minimum.

Workers in 28 states and Washington, D.C., already have a higher minimum wage. A number of those states have automatic increases for inflation.



Photo courtesy of www.brianmae

American Unemployment Rate Falls by 20,000 as Jobs Increase

BY IMANI JOSEY
Business & Technology Editor

The number of U.S. workers applying for jobless benefits fell by 20,000 in the beginning of the year.

As of the end of January, the number had fallen to 307,000, in a much sharper decline than expected that underscored the strength of the labor market, according to government data.

The latest figures from the Labor Department covered the final week January. The figures also compared with Wall Street forecasts for unemployment claims of 315,000, versus 327,000 unemployment claims from the previous week.

The Labor Department says there were no special factors impacting last week's numbers. The lower-than-expected numbers came a day before the government would release its take on the January employment rate.

The Federal Reserve will be watching the employment rate in order to monitor wage pressures that feed inflation.

Analysts polled by Reuters expect the employment report to show that 149,000 new jobs were created last month from 167,000 in December, while the unemployment rate will remain unchanged at 4.5 percent.

"Hopefully the Democrats being in office can pull that number down even more. Maybe that number can reach zero," junior psychology major Megan Ribbles said.

"Everyone should have some steady employment so that they can provide for their loved ones. Being without is a horrible feeling," she said.

Last week's claims data were gathered too late in the month to be reflected in the January employment report, but they still signaled strength in the labor market.

The four-week mov-

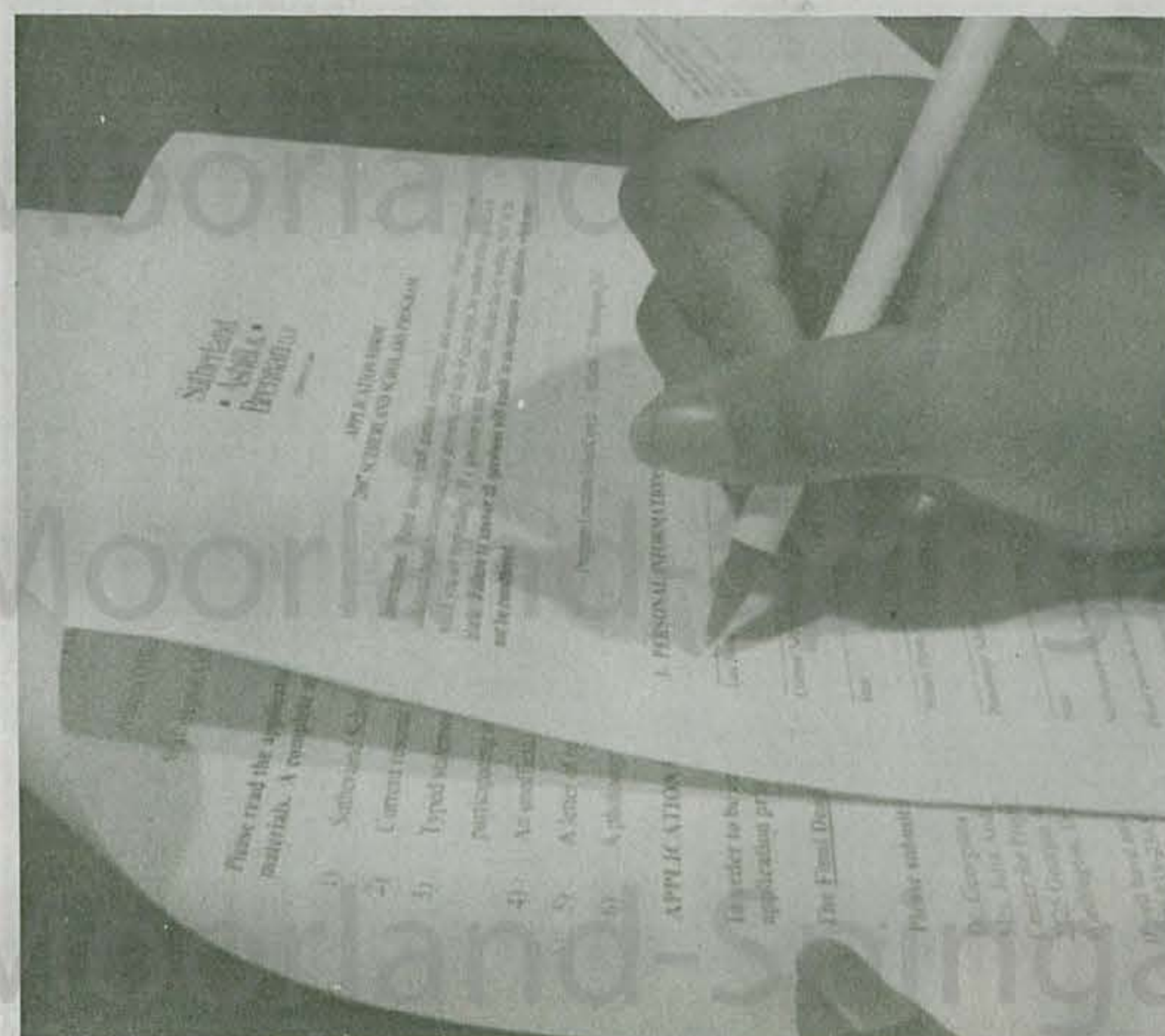
ing average is regarded as a more representative gauge of underlying employment trends because it irons out weekly fluctuations in the data.

The average dropped to 304,750 claims. This was its lowest reading since 301,500 in February 2006.

Howard University students were excited to see the fall in numbers.

"It shows that we're making some positive moves in this country," said junior nursing major Irever Junion. "The economy should be getting better. There should be more jobs available soon," she said.

The number of people who remained on the benefits rolls after drawing an initial week of aid rose by 71,000 to 2.553 million in the week ending Jan. 20, the latest week for which these data were available.



Dereck Smith - Senior Photo Editor

Many Americans fill out job applications to no avail. The unemployment rate dropped by 20,000 in January with the creation of 149,000 jobs. The rate of unemployment remains at 4.5 percent.



Photo courtesy of www.zune.ru

Photo courtesy of www.netpublics.annenberg.edu

What Do Student Consumers Think?

As the new year rolled in, the options in music playing devices rolled right with it. A market once dominated by the Apple iPod had to make room for the Microsoft Zune. Microsoft launched the Zune music player in November 2006. The Zune had advanced many features, including some completely alien to the iPod.

The Microsoft Corporation forecasts

that Zune sales will exceed one million units by the end of June. Though Microsoft faces a major challenge in grabbing market share from Apple Inc.'s dominant iPod digital music player, sales for the new device have been consistent. So which device do Howard students prefer to listen to? Some Howard students were asked and responded accordingly.

"I just bought my Zune over Christmas break. I love it. It lets me share music with people who also have Zunes. That's cheaper for me than always buying the songs. I wasn't going to buy one originally, but a trip to Best Buy changed that. I'm very satisfied with my purchase."

- Lealah Livingston, freshman political science major

"I'm fed up with these players. I have an iPod but it broke a little while ago. I'm not tough on my electronics so I know it wasn't me. But now it's going to cost more to fix it than it would to replace it. I don't know much about the Zune, but I trust that their device will probably leave me in the same situation as my iPod."

- Charlene Rogers, sophomore English major

"I'm trading in my iPod for a Zune. My suitemate has one and I like it more than my iPod. I like the way it's designed with the nicer screen and presentation. It's a bit bigger, but I never needed one of those little iPods anyway. I have a tendency to lose things."

- Sabella Flagg, sophomore public relations major

"I have some family with a Zune. I got to try it out a little while ago. I liked the fact that it had radio and that you could put pictures on there and stuff. Besides that, I wasn't too impressed with it. Well, I wasn't impressed enough to go out and buy it."

- Domonic Forbes, sophomore undecided major

"I don't even know what a Zune is. I have an iPod. It plays my music and lets me buy from the Apple store. I don't need any of the excess features. I just need to press play and hear what I want to hear. Sorry Microsoft."

- Adrienne Pickette, junior biology major

"I hate it when these companies start feuding. These little players they sell are not worth it. They always update them so that you can never have the best features of either. I want the days of the walkman again."

- Nicole Ross, sophomore Spanish major

"I don't have enough money to think about replacing one with the other. Let me get a CD player first."

- Henri Bell, freshman undecided major

Complied By Imani Josey
Business & Technology Editor

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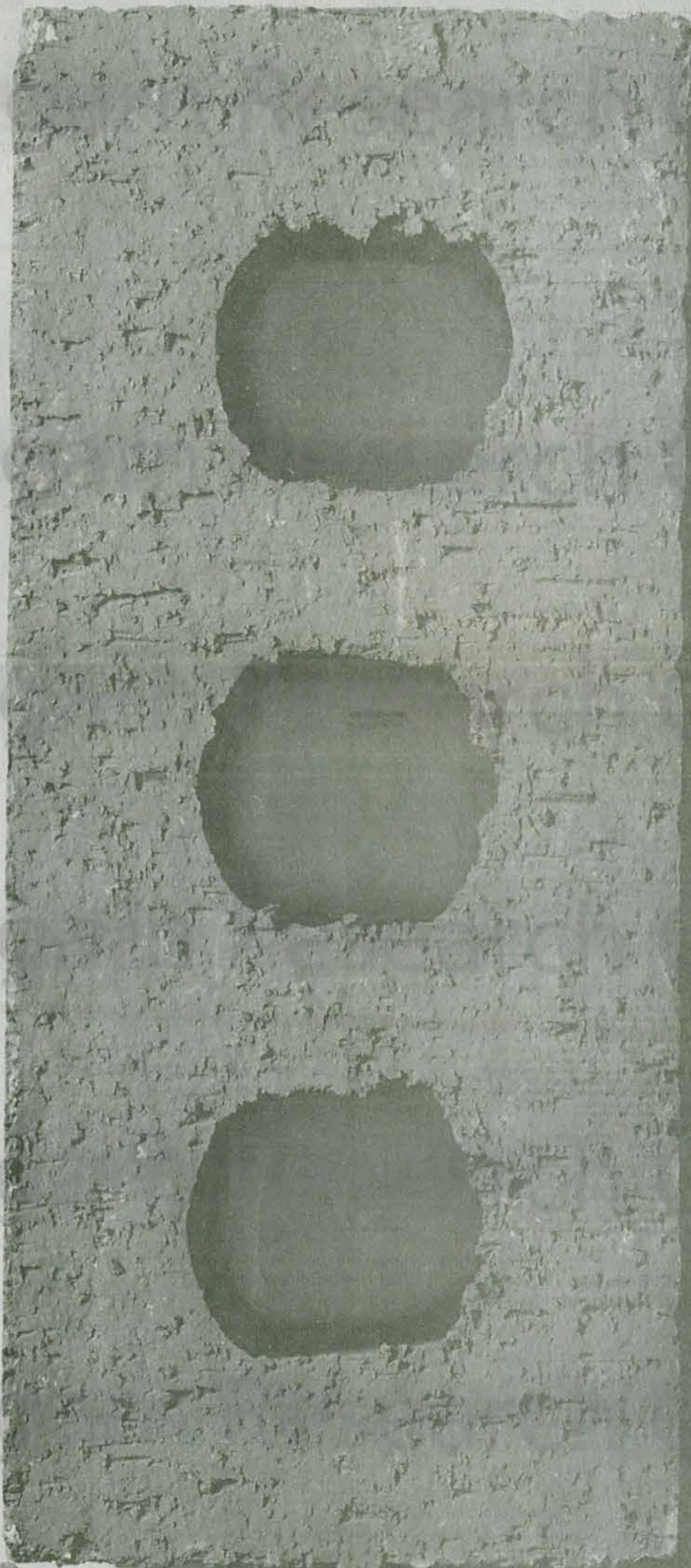
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Lady Bison Win Game, 3-17 Record

BY WINNIE CLARK-JENKINS
Hilltop Staff Writer

The Lady Bison won their match up against South Carolina State Saturday afternoon. Howard blew out SC State with a final score of 85-50.

Saturday's game marked Howard's fifth consecutive home game. This was the second straight win for the Lady Bison and the third win for the Lady Bison this season. The team is now 3-17 this season and 3-7 in the MEAC.

"I knew that I had to come into this game, step up and play my role," said sophomore guard Lonice Kenley. "It is a lot different starting, then coming off the bench."

Kenley had to step in and take a leadership role for the team Saturday after junior Christina Aden suffered an injury last week, putting her on the bench. With her first career start, Kenley stepped it up by pouring in a career-high 17 points.

Shannon Carlisle had a game high of 18 points.

"My defense was just sparking my offense during the game," said Carlisle. "The more stops in front of me, the harder I pushed through."

In the first half, the Lady Bison kept a steady lead over South Carolina State. Howard's lead got greater and greater as the clock went further into the first half. Six minutes into the first half, Howard started off with a huge lead with a score of 21-6. At the end of the first half, the score was 47-21 with Howard in the lead.

Kenley ended the first half with 12 points and Carlisle ended the second half with 11 points.

"We are a different team now," said Cathy Parson, head coach of the Lady Bison. "Their attention to instruction is better and they are developing a hunger to be successful. It is showing in our energy at the beginning of games and in execution."

The Lady Bulldogs of South Carolina State, who are 5-16 overall and 3-8 in the MEAC, defeated Howard in their last match up on Jan. 6 by a final score of 75-60. The Lady Bulldogs came into the game with only nine players dressed to play. Resulting from being short-handed, South Carolina State had 13 turnovers in the first half and made only 18 percent of their shots.

The Lady Bison commit-

ted 14 turnovers, a season low, while they had 19 assists on 26 field goals.

The ladies have been able to maintain their momentum from their last win, despite the fact that the team has been plagued with a number of injuries to some of their key players.

Christina Aden, was injured last week and had surgery for her ruptured Achilles tendon.

Melloni Benson, who has had a series of minor injuries throughout the season, also went down due to a foot injury during the second half of Saturday's game.

"Melloni going down today was my biggest obstacle today," Parson said. "It is hard to see a player that has such discipline and that takes direction and coaching so well take a fall. You're talking about losing two key players from the starting lineup."

Benson is expected to re-join the Lady Bison this season, but it is undetermined exactly when.

Although injuries have



The Lady Bison won the game on Saturday against South Carolina State, making their record 3-17.

been an obstacle, Carlisle raised the Lady Bison's score with her three-point shooting, making four three-pointers, as well as her hustle to the basket.

Senior forward Courtney

Smiley also hustled throughout the game by contributing 11 points and seven rebounds for the Lady Bison. Sophomore center Tamaya Daniels also had a career-high 11 rebounds.

The Lady Bison will play against North Carolina A&T, looking for a third consecutive win at home tonight in Burr Gym at 6 p.m..

SCOREBOARD

SCORES

Women's Basketball

S.C. State 50
Howard 85

Men's Basketball

S.C. State 65
Howard 58

TODAY'S GAMES

Women's Basketball vs. North Carolina A&T
@ Burr Gymnasium
6 p.m.

Men's Basketball vs. North Carolina A&T
@ Burr Gymnasium
8 p.m.

Bison Suffer Fourth Straight Loss to Bulldogs

BY ELLIOTT JONES
Sports Editor

Howard's shooting woes from behind the three-point line continued Saturday when the Bison went 3-17 from long-range on their way to a 65-58 loss to South Carolina State at Burr Gymnasium. For Howard, standing record 7-15 overall, 3-7 in the MEAC, the loss was the team's fourth in a row, and its seventh loss in the last eight games.

Meanwhile, South Carolina State, standing record 8-13 overall, 6-5 in the MEAC, won for just the second time on the road this season.

"Sometimes, I think we put too much pressure on ourselves," said Howard head coach Gil Jackson. "I think we were a little hesitant [on offense] and with every missed shot, we lost more and more confidence."

Howard struggled to find a rhythm from three-point range as senior guards Will Gant and Darek Mitchell, normally two of the Bison's most consistent outside shooters, shot a combined 1-11 on three-point attempts.

Furthermore, Howard was thoroughly out-rebounded by the Bulldogs 39-25, including a 13-8 advantage for South Carolina State on the offensive glass.

"They hammered us on the glass tonight," Jackson said. "They came up big on a number of second chance baskets. We have to know that although we are smaller in stature, we are going to fight tooth and nail inside and we better get it done before Raleigh," he added, referring to the site of the MEAC Tournament in North Carolina this March.

Howard traded baskets with the Bulldogs through the first eight minutes of the opening half, with points coming from senior forward Stanley Greene's three-pointer and three free throws from freshman center Nate Cooper. However, Howard quickly fell behind moments later due to a 13-2 South Carolina State run midway through the first half.

The Bison were able to trim the Bulldogs' lead to nine as the teams entered the halftime break, with a

jump shot from sophomore guard Dominique Davis bringing the score to 34-25 in favor of South Carolina State.

At the beginning of the second half, Howard's struggles on offense only increased as the Bison only netted four points over the first nine minutes of the second half.

The Bulldogs extended their lead to a game-high of 18 points before the Bison mustered a comeback attempt. Howard reduced the deficit to single digits with three minutes to play, powered by field goals from Gant and senior forward Darryl Hudson, who finished with a game-high 19 points. The Bison would come as close as five points in its comeback after a three-pointer by freshman guard Julius Hearn, but would get no closer down the stretch.

After the game, Hudson applauded his teammates for fighting hard for the entire game.

"We don't give up, that's one thing we don't do. We always fight back, I guess that goes back to knowing how to close out games," Hudson said.

South Carolina State got a huge boost from sophomore forward Chris Miller-Williams, who came off the bench to lead the Bulldogs in scoring with 13 points. Miller-Williams also finished the game with seven rebounds.

Looking forward, Jackson admitted that he and his coaching staff have some decisions to make as far as who will see more playing time for the rest of the season.

"At this point, we have to discuss when we go with the young kids so they can get better for the future," Jackson said.

Jackson also attributed his team's poor shooting to a lack of composure in high-pressure situations.

"It's a situation where players are saying to themselves, 'I gotta make it, I gotta make it.' That's not going to work," Jackson said. "What will work is if all our guys went tonight and shot 200 baskets. You gotta put in the work to be better. You can't cheat the game."

Sophomore forward Eugene Myatt returned to the lineup after missing the last 10 games with an ankle injury, although his status is unclear for the rest of the season.

"It was really an eleventh hour call by our trainer to let him (Myatt) go. But he may not play again this season, he may have a stress fracture in his ankle," Jackson said.

Despite the loss, Jackson and his team were pleased with the atmosphere inside of Burr Gymnasium. "I thought the crowd was great. They were trying to stay with us the whole game. Last year those cats would have been out of there," Jackson said. "They believed that we were going to come back and win until the final buzzer. Most of them believe we'll beat A&T. I wish there was some way I could thank them."

The Bison will battle North Carolina A&T tonight at 8 p.m. in Burr Gym.

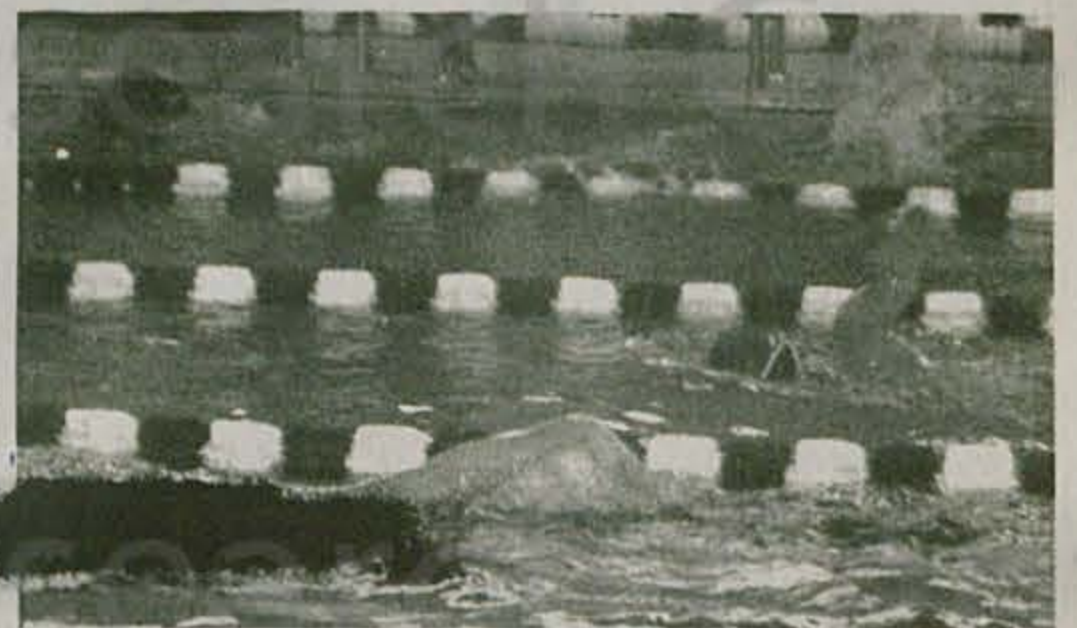


Ismael Ahmad - Staff Photographer

Saturday's loss to S.C. State was the fourth straight for the Bison, who play North Carolina at home tonight at 8 p.m.

TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY...

On February 5, 1974, Bob Douglas, known as the "Father of Black Professional Basketball," became the first African American to be inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame.



File Photo

The Sharks face stiff competition in the Northeastern Conference Championship February 15 through 17.

HBCU Swimmers Have Friendly Competition

BY ERICA ROBINSON
Hilltop Staff Writer

The HBCU championships, the meet the swim team had been waiting for, occurred Saturday, Feb. 3 at 2 p.m. Swimmers from North Carolina A&T as well as FAMU joined the Bison in competition.

This is the team's favorite meet since they get the chance to swim against people who look more like them.

"Historically, all the black teams cheer for one another," junior Captain Tyrone Dash said. For the team, it was a rewarding experience to swim against people they can identify with. "We realize we have to stick together as a minority and try to strive for excellence," Dash said.

Since the opponents were

also minorities, there was a family-like atmosphere. "It was more cool and relaxed," sophomore captain Nzingha Murphy said.

Before the swim meet began, there was a team meeting. "I was telling them we are the favorites of the swim meet and not to underestimate their opponents," Dash said. His inspirational talk was led by a prayer by senior Uche Manu, then it was game time. "You could feel the energy from the crowd and the team. It felt like a family there with all the support," Dash said.

With large support from the Howard crowd, the team was able to be very successful in all their events. "It was a fun, inspirational meet," Dash said.

It was obvious that the

team's hard work had paid off. "Everyone was so hype about it. It was evident at the end of the races. There was an overwhelming feeling of team spirit," Dash said.

Whether it was 1st, 2nd or 3rd place, the team won almost every event. "We did excellent. Everybody put a lot [of] effort into the pool and it really showed," Murphy said.

Dash said, "It's a humbling experience. We gave it our all. Just seeing everybody fighting to get those places was a very good feeling."

The competitors were long-time friends and family. "We grew up with a lot [of] our competitors. There was no hostility there," Dash said. Dash swam against his brother Jack, a freshman swimmer for FAMU. Murphy also saw her

old friends in the pool. "We were familiar with both teams and they were familiar with us," she said.

The Northeastern Conference Championship will be held at Prince George's Sports Learning Center from Feb. 15 to 17.

"Scoring as a team, we might not be at the top because a lot of the white schools have a lot more swimmers. But I am confident individually our members will make a strong show," Dash said. The team appreciates the support from Howard students and hopes there will be even more support at the championships.

Dash said, "I think we are going to do great. We have a boost of confidence and we can place higher than last years."

Age Ain't Nothing But a Number in Dating Trends

BY JEANETTE HORDGE
Hilltop Staff Writer

"Age ain't nothing but a number," are the infamous words of the late singer Aaliyah and now R&B group Pretty Ricky. These artists sang about their relationships with older people and claim that their age is merely a number which doesn't reflect their maturity and abilities.

Actors Ashton Kutcher, 27, and Demi Moore, 42, tied the knot last year despite the media's "robbing the cradle" jokes. So, is dating someone of another age really worth the try?

Dr. Michael Cunningham, a psychologist in the department of communications at the University of Louisville in Louisville, Ky., did an unpublished study of 60 women in their 20s, 30s and 40s, who were shown pictures of men in the aforementioned age ranges.

"The women," he said, "were more interested in men their own age or older."

Many believe that girls mature faster than boys, thus explaining why women prefer to date older men.

Racheal Anderson, 20, a sophomore psychology major said, "Although I have never dated anyone my age and definitely not anyone younger, I think it is important for people to get to know each other." She said, "It's not good or bad to date older or younger. You just want to make sure there is an



Demi Moore and Ashton Kutcher were married in late 2005. The public was shocked by their relationship because of the 16 year age gap between the two. The couple is still together and going strong.

emotional connection."

Many students begin exploring the world of relationships in high school. At times, they may find themselves feeling deeply in love as a relationship progresses, until it all comes crumbling down. Some relationships may come to an end after an argument, infidelity or personal changes. As a result, many people re-evaluate their past relationships in hopes to improve their next.

Fawn Stone, 19, a sophomore advertising major said, "I realized in order to be happy with someone you need to be happy alone first."

At one point, Stone was in a relationship with an older man. Being that she is usually approached by older men, Stone said, "I usually date men between 24 and 30. I was once told by a guy that you can't expect any college guy to commit, but you can expect that from an older guy."

Many female college students feel that their male colleagues are incapable of being faithful and loyal to one female.

However, biology major Francisco Fonseca, 19, said, "I have been in two long term relationships and both of the girls were younger than me. I learned how to be a good boyfriend if I wanted to be. As of now, I am not in a relationship, but if that changes I will be good," Fonseca said.

A 2003 AARP Magazine survey on sexuality among single Americans ages 40 to 69 found that 35 percent of women want to date younger men and 34 percent are. Three percent of women date men 15 or more years younger, 5 percent date men 10 to 14 years younger and 11 percent date men five to nine years younger.

Ironically, many males believe that dating older women results in a more mature and worthwhile relationship.

Nick Nelson, an 18-year-old freshman public relations major said, "I like to date older because then girls play [fewer] games. It is almost as if older girls have a better idea of what they want out of life and in a man."

Nelson added that he specifically looks for mature qualities in women. "They are done growing, therefore they have more experience."

Tina B. Tessina, PhD, a licensed family therapist in practice in Long Beach, Ca., and author of "The Unofficial Guide to Dating Again," said, "Men like the sophistication and life success of their older mates."

Age has a significant effect on one's preference. Although many people believe dating older or younger does not matter, after analyzing their successful and unsuccessful relationships, a pattern is almost guaranteed to occur.

Students Prove to be Die Hard Daytime Drama Fans

BY COURTNEY BATTLE
Contributing Writer

Stay at home mothers are not the only ones watching soap operas anymore. Howard students are glued to the television screen for daytime television.

"I've been watching 'Young and the Restless' for about seven years now," sophomore business management major Sonia Jones said.

Jones recalls getting hooked to the dramas at a young age.

"My mom was always watching 'Young and the Restless,' and when my sisters and I were younger, we weren't allowed to watch it because it could get a little raucy. But now we all watch it and talk about it," she said.

Broadcast on television, soap operas had their origins on radio. "The Guiding Light" started as a radio show in January 1937. Eventually it transformed into a television program and now it is considered the longest story ever told.

Now referred to as "soaps," soap operas are open-ended dramas in which the story lines can go on for days.

"They are pretty predictable, because it takes a whole week to actually get to the end of a scene," sophomore business management major Marta Bell said.

Originally, soaps chronicled family and marital issues, legal problems and romances. However, as they became more complex, they began to incorporate more action and adventure into the story lines. By the 1990s, younger characters and issues such as drug addiction and AIDS were more prevalent in episodes.

Today, some of the most popular soaps have been in rotation for more than 30 years including "As the World Turns," "General Hospital," "Days of Our Lives," "One Life to Live," "All My Children" and "The Young and the Restless."

Some soap operas have even crossed over into the supernatural and proven to be too much for the seasoned soap viewer. The cancellation of "Passions"

pleased some students.

"If it would've continued, it would have gotten out of hand," sophomore broadcast journalism major Tanara Haynes said. "It was becoming a mockery of soap operas near the end."

"Passions" had characters such as a 300-year-old witch named Tabitha whose companion was a little person named Timmy.

Other students were outraged by the cancellation of "Passions."

"Passions" was my favorite show to watch," Heleena Moon, a sophomore legal communications major, said. "I remember running home after school faithfully to catch it at 2 p.m. every day." Moon added, "It really spiced up daytime television. You always knew that you weren't going to get your normal story line on 'Passions.'"

Regardless of unusual characteristics, soap opera viewers

are hooked by the excitement the programs bring to daytime television.

"My favorite part is the drama involving each character and how they all intertwine with each other," Jones said.

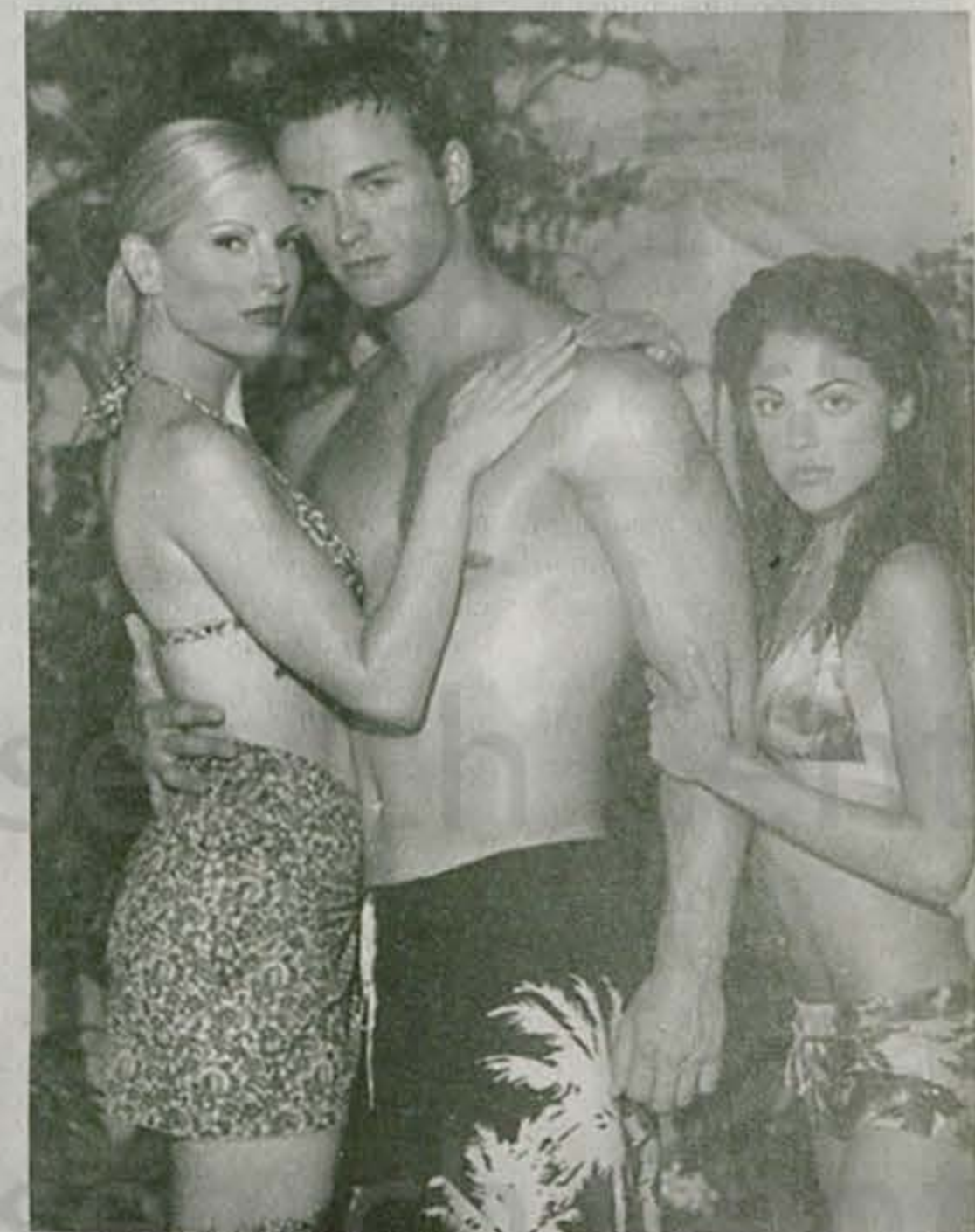
Bell said, "It's like a natural instinct to like to see drama happen or something unfolding."

Soaps also cover day-to-day issues. "They take things that happen in everyday life and magnify things that actually do happen, but you don't hear about," Haynes said.

Jones added that soaps are easy to follow.

"I've missed months of the show and been able to catch up with it mainly because I know the characters."

Haynes said, "It has to be the entertainment, the drama, and the characters. You get caught up in it and you're always waiting to hear what's going to happen next."



With the cancellation of NBC's "Passions," many students are left with a gap in their daytime television routines.



Photo courtesy of David S. Rubin

Rapper Kanye West will star in his own reality TV show, planned to premiere on HBO. As of now, the highly anticipated show is unnamed and still in development.

Kanye Takes On a New Frontier: Reality TV

BY MONICA HARRIS
Hilltop Staff Writer

Fans know him as a rapper, a producer, a fashion guru and outspoken activist for issues in the black community. The next step in Kanye West's career path will be reality television star.

According to AllHipHip.com, Kanye West and HBO executives are set to begin taping a reality show series that will follow the hip-hop power player in his day-to-day life as a rapper and producer. The hip-hop Web site also reports that West is developing the series with Larry Charles, the executive producer of such small screen hits as "Mad About You," "Seinfeld" and "Curb Your Enthusiasm," another HBO original series.

Sophomore television production major Jevonne Bowman is optimistic about the show.

"Considering Kanye West's history, I feel like he is the perfect candidate to have a reality-based show. He is controversial, opinionated and self-assured, to say the least. I think that HBO would be a good outlet for him because they won't censor him as much as another network would," Bowman said.

The Hollywood Reporter has released a statement announcing that the executive producers for the show will be record producer and former Def Jam label executive Rick Rubin, in addition to West. Rubin is also West's manager.

West's two albums have gone multi-platinum and he has received an immense number of accolades for his star quality and raw talent as a hip-hopper. With the

strength of a monumental fan base, the show is almost guaranteed to be a hit.

Success almost inevitably brings dilemmas, and for West this was controversy. When Hurricane Katrina devastated the South in 2005, West was asked along with Mike Myers to host an NBC live concert and fund-raiser to benefit the victims of the tragedy. Enraged at how he believed the federal government neglecting the needs of the victims, West strayed from the script that the teleprompter was feeding him and spoke from the heart, saying, "George Bush doesn't care about black people."

This caused some to believe that West was acting inappropriately and speaking far too impulsively for the nationally syndicated event. But of course he was praised by many who embraced his opinion on the issue and were happy that someone of his caliber had the courage to speak his mind to the world. However, this problem may have an effect on how the show is received by the public as a whole.

"The public is going to respond to the show how they always do, biased. As soon as a person starts to say anything quasi-radical they dismiss the person," Lebrese Black, a junior audio production and music major, said. "Or on the flip side, they will appreciate him speaking out at the least, as I do. I hope he goes all out and doesn't hold his tongue."

The show is untitled as of yet and when HBO was contacted for additional information, they did not promptly respond to several messages left by The Hilltop.

EDITORIALS & Perspectives

VOLUME 90, NO. 79

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WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM



Wild N' Out: Senior Edition

"I'm gonna be old and in a diaper, in a wheelchair, knocking people over. You know normal old people stuff," one Hilltopper said in response to the news of a 67-year-old woman giving birth to twins recently.

The aforementioned woman, Carmela Bousada, used all her life savings to buy fertility drugs, artificial insemination, donor eggs and sperm, and lied to American doctors in order to get fertility treatment.

Bousada, who had her last period 18 years ago, admitted she "conned American doctors" into thinking she was younger, according to an interview with News of the World.

The disillusioned elder has no remorse for her deception and sees no harm in what she has done.

"My mum lived to be 101 and there's no reason why I shouldn't do the same. She

was in a wheelchair and blind, but I've always been healthy," Bousada said.

It is our belief that this act is wrong and completely unfair to her children. Bousada could very well pass on before her children reach their teens.

At 67, how will she be able to chase around twins once

After that incident, she seemed more concerned with the appearance of her breasts than the nourishment of her children.

"And for the toll breast feeding took on my bust, it wasn't worth it. I had a decent cleavage before, but now they've gone all saggy and dropped completely."

Bousada has some issues, but we also place a lot of the blame on the clinic that gave her fertility treatment in the first place. It's against the clinic's policy to administer treatment

to any woman more than 55 years old, yet they did not check any form of identification to verify her age.

It seems to us that a clinic performing techniques to reverse the effects of nature should do a more extensive background check on patients.

Both Bousada and the clinic were irresponsible. Now the health and future of her twins is in jeopardy.

Our View:

People need to be less selfish and more responsible when bringing new lives to the world.

they become toddlers?

The health issues are something else entirely. Both boys were born seven weeks premature and under six pounds. Bousada has already had difficulty with breast feeding the twins.

"When I did get one of the twins to latch on, it was very painful," Bousada said. "In the end, the midwife said the bottle was better."

Perspective: Letter to President Swygert

Dear President Swygert,

I'm saddened to hear and read of the continued fiasco that is taking place at the School of Divinity.

As a Regional Alumni Representative and School of Divinity Alumni, it's difficult to believe that such a powerhouse and global institution as Howard University is incapable of assembling an effective search committee to submit the name of one qualified candidate to be appointed dean of such a notable institution as the Howard University School of Divinity.

Mr. President, please explain to us in your own words, not those of a surrogate or delegate, why it is taking almost five years to appoint a dean? This makes no common sense to any independently thinking individual.

The presence of the School of Divinity is important to the history and global ecumenical representation of Howard University. Many of this country's greatest religious leaders either matriculated at or served as faculty or leaders of the school including Benjamin Mays and Howard Thurman.

The continued neglect of my alma mater is unacceptable! If it were not for the School of Divinity, there would be no Howard University.

During your administration, we have witnessed nothing but neglect of the School of Divinity. We, the graduates of the School of Divinity, experienced first hand neglect by the larger Howard University Community. There's nothing that you or your administration can say to me and others who matriculated from the school to suggest any different.

The aforementioned neglect has included everything from lack of or limited funds for scholarships to deplorable living conditions in Mays Hall.

I remember when I first moved in the dorms at Mays Halls in January 2002 and how I contemplated calling the Health Department to shut down the building. Every creature known to man was living in that building including rats.

I personally took my hard earned money and purchased shower curtains and other supplies to at least make our living conditions somewhat acceptable.

I constantly pleaded with

the Provost's Office, Residence Life and other departments to take interest in us.

If it were not for the tremendous teaching ability and the love shown by many of the students and staff, the School of Divinity would be an afterthought.

Out of respect for you as leader of my alma mater, I highly recommend that your administration be diligent in its efforts to continue to make the Howard University School of Divinity the crème de la crème of religious education.

Please note, no one is indispensable; the School of Divinity may not be the only institution conducting a search for a leader who has resigned. I'm open for positive constructive and progressive dialogue.

Respectfully,
Rev. Eric Mason
Chief of Staff, Lane
Tabernacle Church;
C.M.E.

Regional IV Alumni
Representative and
Immediate

Past President of the
St. Louis, MO Club for
Howard University.

Daily SuDoku

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Come to our budget meeting

Monday @ 7 p.m.

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

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

The Hilltop:
2251 Sherman Avenue NW
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Now in its 83rd year, The Hilltop is published Monday through Friday by Howard University students. With a readership of more than 7,000, The Hilltop is the largest black collegiate newspaper in the nation.

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

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

The Hilltop is Hiring!
We are currently looking for staff writers and section editors.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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

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NOTARY PUBLIC

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HUSA presents Continuing the Dream: A Monumental Occasion. We are inviting everyone to join us on February 9, 2007 at 6pm for our auction. All proceeds will go toward the MLK Build a Dream Monument. Auction will be in the Blackburn Ballroom and is cocktail style. For further info, stop by HUSA office.

LEGAL AND BUSINESS CONSULTANT NEEDS OFFICE ASSISTANT MOST BE VERY, VERY ORGANIZED, NEAT AND PUNCTUAL. \$10 + BONUSES, 20 HR. WEEKLY (202) 486-2714

It's about to get real UNRULY up in here. Ay Ay!

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM HORIZONS CLUB IS A FREE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR DC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS. WE ARE LOOKING FOR WORKERS TO MENTOR, TUTOR AND EMPOWER OUR STUDENTS.

HORIZONS MEETS 4-7PM MONDAY-THURSDAY AT CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH IN CHINATOWN.

THOSE ABLE TO MAKE A PRE-SCHEDULED WEEKLY COMMITMENT WILL RECEIVE \$10 PER HOUR AND DINNER.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL ALLYSON WISDOM: AWISDOM@CALVARYDC.ORG

SPRINGFEST FASHION SHOW MODEL CALL MONDAY FEB. 12 4-6PM TUESDAY FEB. 13 6-8PM READING LOUNGE

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TODAY. BIOLOGY BUILDING RM 142, 5PM.

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Sterling A. Brown English Society General Body Meeting

TODAY! Monday, February 5, 5 PM Locke Hall, Second Floor

Please Be In Attendance

Discussion will cover Heart's Day and Upcoming Events

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

Good Luck, P2.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Women's Game @ 6 Men's Game @ 8 @ the Main Gym!



WHBC 830 AM CHANNEL 51 WE GOT IT ON LOCK



WHBC IS HOSTING ORGANIZATIONAL NITE AT THE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL GAMES ON MONDAY FEB. 5TH! WE WANT ALL THE STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS THERE TO REPRESENT!!!! BE ON THE LOOK-OUT FOR GIVE-AWAYS AND BRING YOUR SCHOOL SPIRIT!

GOOOOOOOOOO BISON!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

ALL ORGANIZATIONS

- Come and Rep YOUR Organization!
- Wear your Gear!
- We're Looking for Who Reps the Hardest!!!!

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