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THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 90, NO. 81

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2007

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

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notebook

BREAKING NEWS

ASTRONAUT ATTEMPTS KIDNAPPING

NASA ASTRONAUT CAPTAIN LISA MARIE NOWAK OF THE NAVY DROVE 900 MILES FROM HOUSTON TO ORLANDO IN ORDER TO CONFRONT AND KIDNAP CAPTAIN COLLEEN SHIPMAN OF THE AIR FORCE, ACCORDING TO THE NEW YORK TIMES.

LIFE & STYLE

THE ORIGIN OF BLACK HISTORY

FIND OUT ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH AND ITS IMPACT ON OUR WORLD IN LIFE & STYLE.
PAGE 8



WED, 2/7:
FLURRIES
HIGH: 29, LOW: 19

THURS, 2/8:
PARTLY CLOUDY
HIGH: 33, LOW: 16



Tyrone Clemmings - Staff Photographer

In response to safety concerns, Campus Police have offered security tips and precautions to students.

Concerns for Campus Crime, Safety Continue

BY MERCIA WILLIAMS-MURRAY
Hilltop Staff Writer

Despite their known presence on campus, some students lack faith in the Campus Police Department (CPD). Although the duties of the CPD include maintaining order on and around campus and providing a sense of security, not everyone has faith in their effectiveness.

Sophomore marketing major Lavon Coker said, "The escort service is out of control."

Coker said the Campus Police should always be available for students.

"You shouldn't call them at 11:50 p.m. and say 'There's a man following me. Can you pick me up?' and they tell you 'the shuttle stops running at 12,'" she said.

Coker says she is lucky because she lives at a location on campus that is most watched. However, that is not the case for locations such as the area surrounding the Health Sciences Library, which is dark at night.

Coker said the CPD should "step up their game a little bit."

For young women who may have to walk around campus by themselves during periods of low activity, one concern is the possibility of someone attempting to sexually assault them.

Sophomore economics major Jessica Sinkfield said the University should be accountable for students' safety.

"This year has proved to be one that highlights that need," Sinkfield said.

She added, "We have to begin holding the University responsible for our safety. We, as students of this university, have elected to come to Howard University to further our lives, not endanger them."

Annually, the CPD releases reports on campus crime. In 2003, two sex offenses were reported on the main campus and the number of perpetrators increased to three in 2005. None were reported to the CPD in 2004.

Young men on campus seem to express concern about the possibility of being harassed or robbed as well.

Incidents of aggravated assault have gone down significantly in the last few years from 20 in 2003 to seven in 2004 and four in 2005.

Robberies reported to the CPD on the main campus include seven in 2003 and one in 2004. However, in 2005, there were eight robberies reported.

Although the incidents of aggravated assault have declined, the rates of robberies and burglaries appear to be increasing on campus. In 2003, there were a total of 34 burglaries reported on the main campus, which grew to 36 in 2004 and 45 in 2005.

Sophomore fashion merchandising major Alexandria Franklin says she has "never felt unsafe on campus, but it is common to not walk on campus at night by yourself."

Franklin continued, "Talking to students--mostly guys--that have stories of how they were robbed on campus at night makes me even more cautious at night."

In reference to the crime patterns on campus, Lawrence Thomas, the chief of the CPD said, "Overall, some areas have increased and some have decreased."

Thomas says that collectively there has been a slight decrease in crimes on campus.

To help prevent crime, Thomas explained that campus police are currently offering a safety awareness program.

The program includes continuous information dissemination, crime prevention tips, alerts and security presentations in the residence halls for students and faculty.

Thomas also said that the CPD keeps the Howard community informed via e-mail, presentations and posted information regarding specific crimes that occur at certain times and places in order to keep everyone aware of specific details and common patterns.

Students Seek Housing Through RSVP

BY EBONI FARMER
Hilltop Staff Writer

For students who want campus housing for the upcoming fall semester, completing the Room Selection Verification Plan (RSVP) is essential. This is a feat some students have conquered, whereas for other students RSVP is something they wished they had taken more seriously.

"My freshman year I didn't get to pick my room until almost the last day because I didn't have enough points. I wasn't that active on campus and I'm from D.C., so that was one of my downfalls because I'm not able to get points for distance from campus," junior finance major Darrel Cox said.

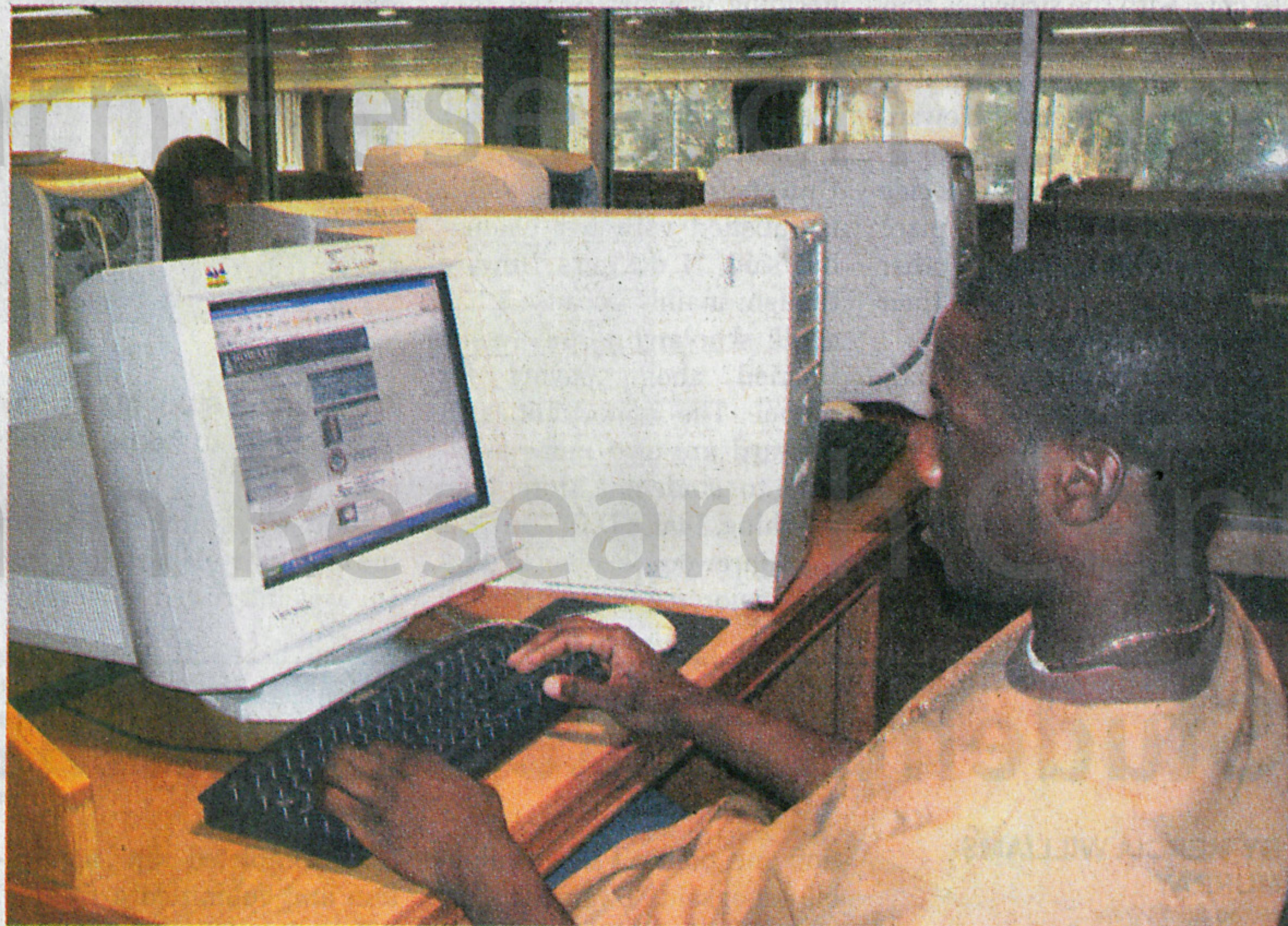
Dormitories like Bethune Annex give students opportunities to earn additional RSVP points so they can attempt to reach the minimum 45 which is needed in order to pick housing on the first day, starting this year on February 26.

"I was able to get my last points in order to qualify to register on the first day by making Valentine's Day cards to give out to hospital patients, and I've gotten points for going to events that the Annex partakes in," freshman biology major Rachel Hopkins said.

She continued, "Some people just don't get enough points because they don't take advantage of the opportunities given to them and when they decide to, it's too late. They end up risking not being able to get or competitively compete for housing next semester."

Sophomore biology major Celeste Rose is nervous about not being able to obtain housing for next semester.

"I really want to stay in Meridian next semester so



File Photo

Students can gain RSVP points through participating in on-campus activities.

that I can have my own room. Housing at Howard isn't guaranteed so hopefully the 40 RSVP points that I have get me into Meridian," Rose said.

Some students have had issues with getting credit online for points they have earned.

"One thing that happened to a lot of my friends is that they didn't get credit for the points they earned. Some of them had jobs, which they were supposed to get two points for and they didn't show up when they went to view their points online," sophomore music education major Arian Carlton said.

Although problems may occur, Dean of Residence Life Charles Gibbs says that students have the opportunity to correct the discrepancies regarding their points by speaking with a housing coordinator.

"Students can come to the office of residence life between February 20-23, if they haven't gotten all of the points that they earned," Gibbs said.

Gibbs also said that for the most part, the current RSVP system has been running smoothly and efficiently. It allows students to compete for housing in a way that is productive because they have to participate in on-campus activities.

The RSVP system was updated two years ago, allowing students the opportunity to pay their \$200 deposit online through the Bison Bannerweb.

"The RSVP system is pretty seamless. Students are able to make the deposit at the comfort of their own desk or their parents can pay the deposit. It went from a two day process to a 15-minute process," Gibbs said.

However, Bisonweb encountered a glitch on February 2, the last day to make the deposit. Residence Life extended the deposit date to 3 p.m. on February 6.

"On the initial closing date for paying the RSVP deposit, the Banner system wouldn't receive credit card payments. After it was investigated, we wanted to make sure all students were able to make the payment."

Freshman music education major Jessica Lewis is one of the students who experienced problems with Bannerweb and had to use the extended deadline to pay her deposit.

"I had some issues with being able to make my deposit on Friday," she said. "I was a little worried, but it was okay after I heard the deadline to pay the deposit was extended until the sixth."

Ceremony Planned for Castro in Miami

BY ANDREW MOTEN
Contributing Writer

Miami announced that the city is planning a ceremony for the death of Cuban dictator Fidel Castro.

The city's representatives are stressing the ceremony will have an uplifting theme and will not be morbidly obsessed with the death of a human being.

Castro fell ill last summer with diverticulitis, a disease of the colon, and handed over control to his youngest brother, and Cuba's Minister of Defense, Raul Castro.

This was the first time since Castro took power that dictatorship has been handed over to anyone else. Recent video clips show that the dictator seems to be in a stable condition for the time being.

Miami residents shared mixed sentiments regarding the event. Some were offended at the notion of marking Castro's death with a celebration despite the disdain felt toward him. Others also expressed their desire to celebrate somewhere besides a city-designated location.

At the outset, plans included the possibility of having T-shirts and musical acts present. The mayor of Miami suggested holding the gathering at the Orange Bowl because it is the site where John F. Kennedy delivered a speech in



Photo Courtesy of www.juventude.u

Fidel Castro has been ill since last summer, suffering from a colon disease. Ever since he passed the torch to his brother, people have speculated about his death.

1961 promising the liberation of Cuba.

It is now being classified as more of an informal gathering as opposed to a party. City officials have also declared the only tax dollars that will be spent on the event will be for public safety.

"I don't think it's a bad idea. It's just being cast in a negative light," junior advertising major Kia Graham said. "I think the purpose is simply to provide a place for people who feel strongly about Castro to congregate and express themselves."

For some, Castro is the embodiment of nearly five decades of oppression and dictatorship in Cuba, having outlasted nine U.S. presidents.

"I just don't think it's respectful to plan a celebration around a person's passing away," sophomore marketing major Millicent Macon said.

She said, "Castro isn't exactly popular, but it isn't in good taste to be awaiting anyone's death so you can have a celebration for it."

Though it is inevitable, perhaps even looming, Castro's death won't necessarily cause the Cuban communist party to crumble or even be deterred. Some Miamians think it is a start.

"There is a big Cuban and Cuban American population here" said Alexander Correa, a junior at the University of Miami. "There are inevitably going to be some feelings

expressed when he dies."

He continued, "I'm against using city and taxpayer dollars on anything that isn't toward the good of all Miami's residents."

Correa added, "This [Castro's death] needs to happen in order for there to be a push for democracy in Cuba."

Correa is a member of the on-campus group Youth for a Free Cuba, which supports democratic transition in Cuba. Correa expressed his hope that Cuban Americans will not be misrepresented in the media if celebrations do take place.

Only time will tell whether the city's plans will be carried out, as the details of Castro's health condition are kept secret by the Cuban government.

Transfer Students Reflect on Howard University

BY SHIVONNE FOSTER
Contributing Writer

Students who transfer from Howard University to other colleges may find a more enjoyable college experience or realize the headaches of Howard are not nearly as bad as they previously perceived.

It's no secret that Howard University gets mixed reviews from its many students, as every college has its strengths and weaknesses. Students try to cope with the struggles they may encounter from being at the University and attempt to make the most of their Howard experience.

Other students decide that Howard is not the place for them and transfer to other universities to receive their undergraduate education.

Sophomore political science major Reginald Darby, who recently transferred to the University of Texas, said, "So far at the University of Texas, all is well. Unlike the infamous A building at Howard, the

administration here is really nice and they fully cooperate with the students. My transfer could not have gone any more smoothly."

Darby explained that his new college has an "amazing" student life, with more than 800 student-led organizations, which is fitting since it is one of the largest schools in the nation.

When contemplating transferring, students are left with the difficult decision of deciding whether or not they will regret the change.

Sophomore sociology major Miriam Harewood, who transferred to Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, is satisfied with her change, but said, "I do miss Howard though, mainly because I had a full scholarship and wasn't worried about paying for school. The opportunities at Howard are also more available to students. More than anything, I miss D.C."

Harewood explained that her major regret was leaving



Photo Courtesy of

While some students transfer due to finances, others leave to be closer to home, friends and relatives.

behind a research project in the chemistry department that she was interested in continuing.

Harewood does enjoy the "scenic and safe" campus of

Miami University. She said she connects better to the teaching style of professors at her new college and is also more supported by academic advisors and administration workers.

The social change from Howard is also a concern of students who contemplate transferring.

"I had so many close friends and each of them knows that I will miss them," Darby said. "But in the end, my decision to leave has satisfied me."

Students leave Howard for various personal reasons including adequate finances, family, distance from home or dissatisfaction with the university as a whole.

"With the University of Texas," Darby said, "I'm able to be close to home, my family and most of all, my little brother, who really needs me as someone to look up to while he is growing up."

The change from a Historically Black College or University played a factor in

some students' acclimation to their new college.

"I have learned so much," Harewood said. "Of course it is from a different perspective being that it is not an HBCU. The classes are more based around independent study and self-developed ideas."

According to Harewood, "My experience at Howard makes me want to give something back to HBCUs when I get established as a professional."

Both Harewood and Darby explained that Howard enabled them to grow independently.

"Howard was great to me while I was there," Darby said. "However there is always room for improvement, and I like to think Howard is working on that."

The Enrollment and Management department in the Administration building declined to offer statistics for transfer students from Howard.

Students Take Advantage of Teach For America

BY MERCIA WILLIAMS-MURRAY
Hilltop Staff Writer

Tevie Monk is a 2006 Howard graduate who received an offer to work in advertising in New York following graduation. However, she believed that teaching was more important in order to fulfill her desire to make a difference. That was when she considered becoming a member of Teach for America.

Teach for America is an organization that works to close educational gaps along racial and socioeconomic lines through recruiting and training a diverse group of people to become teachers in areas that need them the most. At the end of every year, corps members are rewarded an educational award and monetary assistance with their graduate studies.

Another corps member for Teach for America is Lauren Wimbley, a graduate student studying elementary education and human development. She said any program that supports incoming teachers is beneficial to her.

Barbara Johnson, a graduating senior classical civiliza-

tion and political science double major said, "I wanted to be a part of the corps because I have always wanted to make a difference and Teach for America gave me the opportunity to do just that."

She said, "I feel that it is important for young African Americans to give back whenever they can. And what better way to do it than to help educate our youth?"

According to Wimbley, a lot of schools in Washington, D.C. do not like Teach for America because it is only a two-year commitment. A major problem in education right now is teacher retention.

"People always talk about how they are tired of seeing white people always 'trying to save the black kids,' so I figured why not be a part of the solution and be an example to them myself," Johnson said. "I want them to be able to see someone that looks like them in the classroom so they know that it is possible to be young, black and educated in America today," she added.

After going to a couple of events that stressed recruitment, Wimbley began the application process this year.

She completed an application and submitted a resume, personal statement and essay explaining why she wanted to be involved in the corps.

Monk says that Teach for America looks to recruit people who show strong leadership capabilities, the ability to persevere in tough situations and perform well under pressure, since teaching is not easy. Applicants should also have organizational skills and the ability to motivate people.

If an applicant gets through the phone interview, an in-person interview follows. Wimbley said that with 10 other corps hopefuls in the room, she had to teach a five minute lesson on the subject of her choosing. She described the interview questions as being similar to those she was asked on the phone. In addition to a question and answer portion, she had to work through a problem-solving scenario.

After successfully completing all of the rounds, newly recruited corps members pick areas they are interested in working by marking a list of cities as "highly preferred," "preferred" or "less preferred." Wimbley said there is a 97 per-



Photo Courtesy of www.teachforamerica.com

Students of all majors are seeing Teach for America as a helpful post-graduation career.

cent chance of a person getting one of their highly preferred choices, especially if it is an area that is in desperate need of teachers.

Wimbley will be in Houston, her third choice in her "highly preferred" category. Johnson will be teaching high school English in Newark, N.J.

This summer, Wimbley will attend a summer institute

which is held in most major cities and consists of five weeks of intensive training. The institute covers how to create lesson plans and classroom maintenance, among other topics.

Since Houston is a major city, Wimbley will spend some time getting acquainted with the city and looking for an apartment. After she completes the required two years,

Wimbley says she plans to teach in North Carolina, unless she enjoys Houston and the school where she will be teaching.

Now teaching kindergarten in her hometown of Atlanta, Monk has a new appreciation for teachers everywhere. She describes teaching as a selfless job, which one typically takes home.

A Day in the Life of...

a Resident Assistant



Photo Courtesy of www.facebook.com

Bethune Annex R.A., Rachelle Jones, is known for freeing up her busy schedule to talk with her residents.

BY TRAVER RIGGINS
Hilltop Staff Writer

"Being an R.A. is a 24-hour job," said Rachelle Jones, Resident Assistant in the Bethune Annex.

A Mickey Mouse Talk Radio Show alarm clock wakes the sophomore psychology major up every morning.

"It sounds worse than an ambulance coming down Georgia Avenue at two o'clock in the morning," she said, as one of her residents playing on Jones' computer co-signs her statement.

On Wednesdays, Jones, better known as "Peaches," heads to her 9:10 a.m. Slimnastics class and rushes back to the Annex to work behind the front desk from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., answering the phone and handling the mail.

Required to work a total of 10 hours per week, she spends some days behind the desk and others in the lobby.

Wednesdays are the only days Jones has to attend class and work.

"Being a psychology

major, a lot of my classes are flexible," she said.

She is able to address problems that arise concerning residents between her classes. "We try to take care of things as soon as possible," she said.

For instance, a former resident moved out the hall and forgot to turn in her keys. In order to avoid fining the girl, Jones had to find her and the keys.

"Fortunately she had left the keys in her room with her roommate," she said.

In the evenings, Jones is responsible for a plethora of activities to organize and administrate. She spends some of her nights overseeing Step Team practice for ResFest, but she is also responsible for posting notices about floor activities and floor meetings.

"Some of my residents have other activities, so I have to be considerate of when they are back," Jones said about scheduling the mandatory meetings.

She also tries to make rounds on the third floor of

the West Annex to keep tabs on her residents.

Jones keeps an open door policy, literally.

"If I'm in the building, my door is unlocked," she said.

"It's like she's saying 'Come in whenever you want,' even when she's not on duty," Erin Thurston, a freshman biology major said.

She also tries to stay in her room after 10 p.m. and from 12 to 2 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Not until her R.A. duties are complete does Jones settle down and do her homework, but even then she still incorporates her residents into her life.

At the end of the day, she has chat sessions and quality time with the girls on her floor.

"I'm very social, so my residents come and tell me about the funny parts of their day and I tell them about mine," she said.

Candace Dillard, a sophomore broadcast journalism major said, "She's like a big sister."

Jones takes her position seriously and maintains a life outside of it as well.

"I love being from Florida," said the Polk County resident and Florida Club member. She is also an undergraduate research assistant and volunteer at D.C. Central Kitchen every Friday and Saturday.

On the weekends she goes out to eat "good food."

"I like to get dressed up and go out to eat with a bunch of friends," she said. She also spends nights playing games like Taboo with friends in her room or going out to the movies.

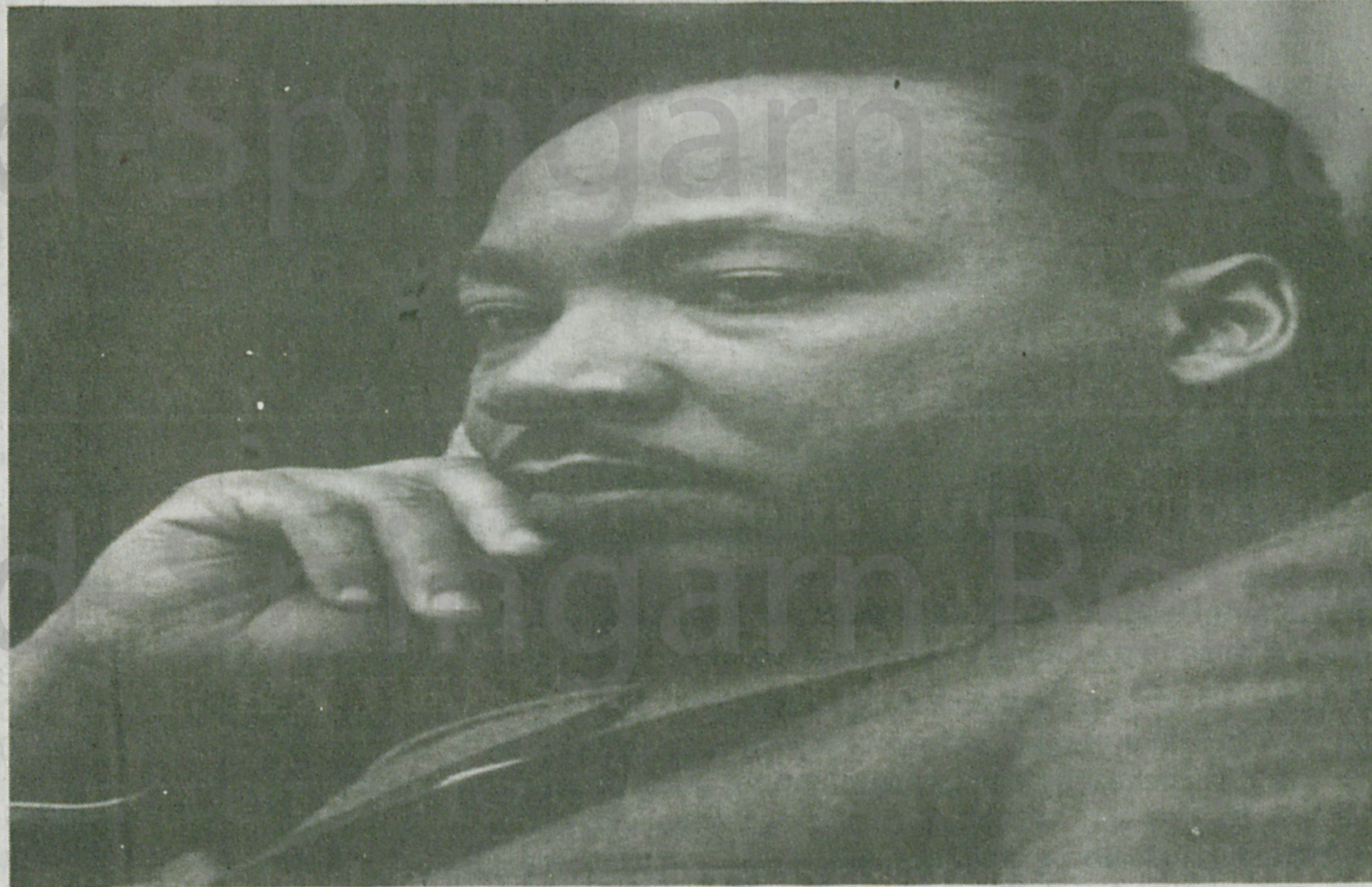
Jones knows that being an R.A. is not a job suited for everyone and thinks that the amount of dedication one puts forth will determine their success.

She said, "I'm here to graduate and now being an R.A., I'm here to help others graduate."

She said that the best part about her job is "knowing that if you excel and do your job, your residents will never forget you."

**Continuing the Dream:
A Monumental Occasion**

Friday, February 9, 2007
Blackburn Ballroom



Join HUSA in raising funds to further support the building of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s National Memorial Tribute

Over 30 items to be auctioned off.
Refreshments will be served.

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College of Arts and Sciences

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IN

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SUBMIT ABSTRACTS TO

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Abstracts for proposed research (work in progress) must be received by the DEADLINE EXTENSION: Friday, February 16th 2007

Acceptances will be posted on the symposium website on February 23rd 2007. Abstracts for completed projects must be received by March 9, 2007.

For guidelines and details, please visit www.coas.howard.edu/research

Congress Keeps Minimum Wage Workers Waiting for Bigger Pay Day

BY NAOMI BRILEY
Howard University News Service

Last week the House approved an increase in the federal minimum wage in a 315-116 vote. Low-wage earners were one step closer to getting a raise before the Senate rejected the proposed \$2.10 increase.

For the last 10 years the federal minimum wage has remained the same, bringing the real buying power to the lowest point in more than 50 years. An hourly salary of \$5.15 today is the equivalent of \$3.95 in 1995, which is lower than the \$4.25 minimum wage before the increase.

The Economic Policy Institute reported that 5.6 million workers would have been directly affected by the increase. The salaries of over 9 million Americans who have wages slightly above the minimum would also go up, bringing the total number of people affected to almost 15 million.

In the U.S., a disproportionate number of minorities and women are minimum wage earners. While African-Americans represent 11 percent of the workforce, they amount for 16 percent of minimum wage workers. Similarly, Latinos make up 14 percent of the workforce, and 19 percent of minimum wage earners. Women account for 59 percent of those directly paid or supported by minimum wages.

The minimum wage for the District of Columbia is \$7.00. By statute, the District's minimum wage is set (at least) \$1.00 above the federal minimum wage. If the federal minimum wage goes to \$7.25,



Photo Courtesy of www.pbas.com

Because the federal minimum wage has not changed over the past 10 years, buying power has diminished. A raise in minimum wage passed a vote in the House last week.

the District's minimum wage would rise to \$8.25.

Those who disagree with the minimum wage increase say small businesses may be forced to eliminate jobs, reduce hours or cut back on benefits. Others say that there should be no minimum wage standards at all.

Will Cleveland, 58, who has lived and worked in the District for over 20 years, said that hard work should be the major determinant of wages. "In America you have the chance to move into higher-paying positions," he said, "Minimum wage jobs are stepping stones."

Cleveland, who worked

in a number of low-wage jobs before, concluding a restaurant owner, concluded that wage usually correlates with ones level of skill.

Other residents in the district say hard work does not always lead to higher income.

Sophia Abate, an Ethiopian immigrant, has been working in low-wage positions ever since she came to America 19 years ago. "I work very hard," she said, "but I never have extra."

A cashier at Julia's Empanadas in Washington, Abate said that she could never afford to bring her two children to the U.S. and that higher minimum wage could

have helped with her rent. "It just doesn't make sense for housing prices to go up and wages to stay the same," she said.

Jose Andrade, Manager of a Washington record store, said he will adjust the salaries of his employees even though the bill wasn't approved. "The minimum wage is just not sufficient for the high cost of living in DC," he said.

He continued, "A lot of African-American and Latinos can no longer afford to live in DC. This is sad for a place that used to be known as 'Chocolate City.'"

Courtesy of BlackCollegeView.com

How Well Do You Know your Nation and World?

- Cartoon Network got into trouble when a publicity stunt went wrong in what U.S. city?
 - Minneapolis
 - Boston
 - Washington D.C.
 - Dallas
- What former White House aide is currently on trial?
 - Karl Rove
 - Libby Lewis
 - I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby
 - J.K. Rowling
- Tornadoes killed nearly 30 people this weekend. Where did the severe storms take place?
 - Oklahoma
 - California
 - Texas
 - Florida
- Who is the current Secretary of Defense?
 - Condoleezza Rice
 - Karl Rove
 - Robert Gates
 - Jeb Bush
- Who is the Speaker of the House?
 - Nancy Pelosi
 - Steny Hoyer
 - Trent Lott
 - Loretta Sanchez
- Where was the first human death from Bird Flu found recently?
 - Thailand
 - England
 - Nigeria
 - Zimbabwe
- What is the only cancer to currently have a vaccine?
 - Lung
 - Bone
 - Cervical
 - Throat
- What national advertisement was recently pulled in light of complaints?
 - Chevrolet
 - Doritos
 - Snickers
 - Geico
- Something was recently taken from prisoners in Europe. What was it?
 - Cigarettes
 - Hand Sanitizer
 - Candy
 - Outside Privileges
- True or False: China is a Nation.

ANSWERS: 1) B, 2) C, 3) D, 4) C, 5) A, 6) C, 7) C, 8) C, 9) B, 10) True

White House Aide Faces Fine and Up to 30 Years in Prison

BY VANESSA ROZIER
Hilltop Staff Writer

Two weeks ago marked the start of what could be one of the most heated trials in recent government history.

On Jan. 23, prosecution and defense lawyers gave opening statements to U.S. District Judge Reggie Walton in the case against former White House aide I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby.

According to political science professor, Dr. John Davis, this trial will uncover many secrets from within the current administration.

"Experts have been trying to find out information on Cheney's administration through his tenure," Davis said.

"This trial may also reveal other fallacies or lies regarding Iraq and what we did or didn't know," Davis said.

Libby was indicted on five counts, including obstruction of justice, two counts of perjury, and two counts of making false statements in the

investigation of the disclosure of Valerie Plame.

If convicted, Libby could face up to 30 years in prison and a \$1.2 million fine.

The case against Libby began in 2003 when Plame's identity was leaked to the media. Plame is a former covert CIA operative and the wife of former ambassador Joseph C. Wilson IV. It is illegal to reveal the identity of CIA agents.

Several other high-ranking White House officials have been tapped for possible involvement in this scandal or for testimony. These officials include Vice President Dick Cheney and President Bush's deputy Chief of Staff Karl Rove.

The trial also calls on NBC correspondent Tim Russert to testify. Libby claims that Russert revealed to him the identity of Plame. Russert denies these allegations.

Since the trial began, there have been three government officials have testified that they had conversations

with Libby about Wilson's wife prior to his reported date of learning Plame's identity.

"The witnesses have undermined Libby's time line by a two to four month difference, and therefore his credibility has been undermined as well," Davis said.

Upcoming highlights for this trial may include high-profile witnesses such as Cheney and former press secretary Ari Fleischer.

In the 22-page indictment of Libby, those officials along with other White House officers were discussed but allegations against them were not mentioned in the document.

Davis believes this case could open up many possible controversies from within the Bush administration.

"Why is Karl Rove, the president's chief of staff, involved in a foreign policy scandal," Davis asked.

Officials expect the trial to last approximately one month.

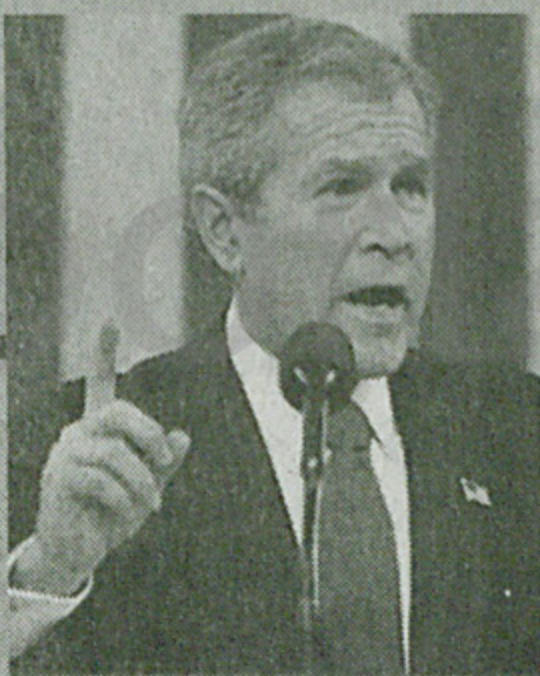


Photo Courtesy of www.dailytexas.com

The trial of former White House aide I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby is beginning. If convicted, Libby could face up to 30 years in prison and a \$1.2 million fine.

THE TRAIL TO THE TRIAL

JANUARY 28, 2003



President Bush states in State of the Union address that British government discovered that Saddam Hussein sought large amounts of uranium from Africa.

MARCH 19-20, 2003



Iraq is invaded by U.S.-led troops.

MAY 6, 2003



New York Times columnist Nicholas D. Kristof reports that an unnamed former ambassador visited Niger in 2002 and reported to the Bush administration before the State of the Union address that the uranium report was wrong and based on forged documents.

MAY 29, 2003



Libby asks an Under Secretary of State Marc Grossman, about the identity of the former ambassador, Grossman reveals that it was Joseph Wilson.

JUNE 11-12, 2003



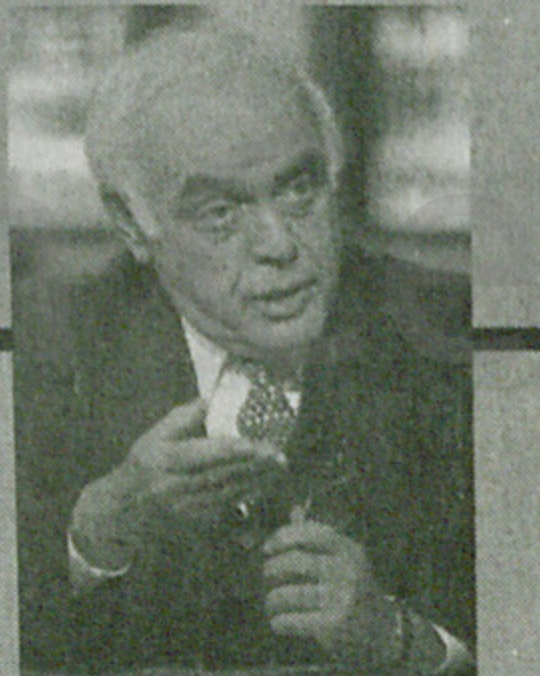
Libby is advised by an unidentified source that Wilson's wife works at the CIA.

JULY 6, 2003



Wilson appears on NBC's "Meet the Press" and the New York Times publishes his opinion piece. Both the interview and the article explain Wilson's doubts about Iraq's relations with Niger and he states that he thought the Cheney administration was informed of his findings.

JULY 14, 2003



Columnist Robert Novak reports that Wilson's wife is a CIA operative and this information was given to him by two unnamed Senior Administration officials.

Photos Courtesy of: www.embasada-american.org; www.cnn.com; www.washingtonpost.com

Graphic Courtesy of Jeremy Williams-Layout designer

FEBRUARY 7, 2007

Video Gamers Can Purchase Movies Through Xbox

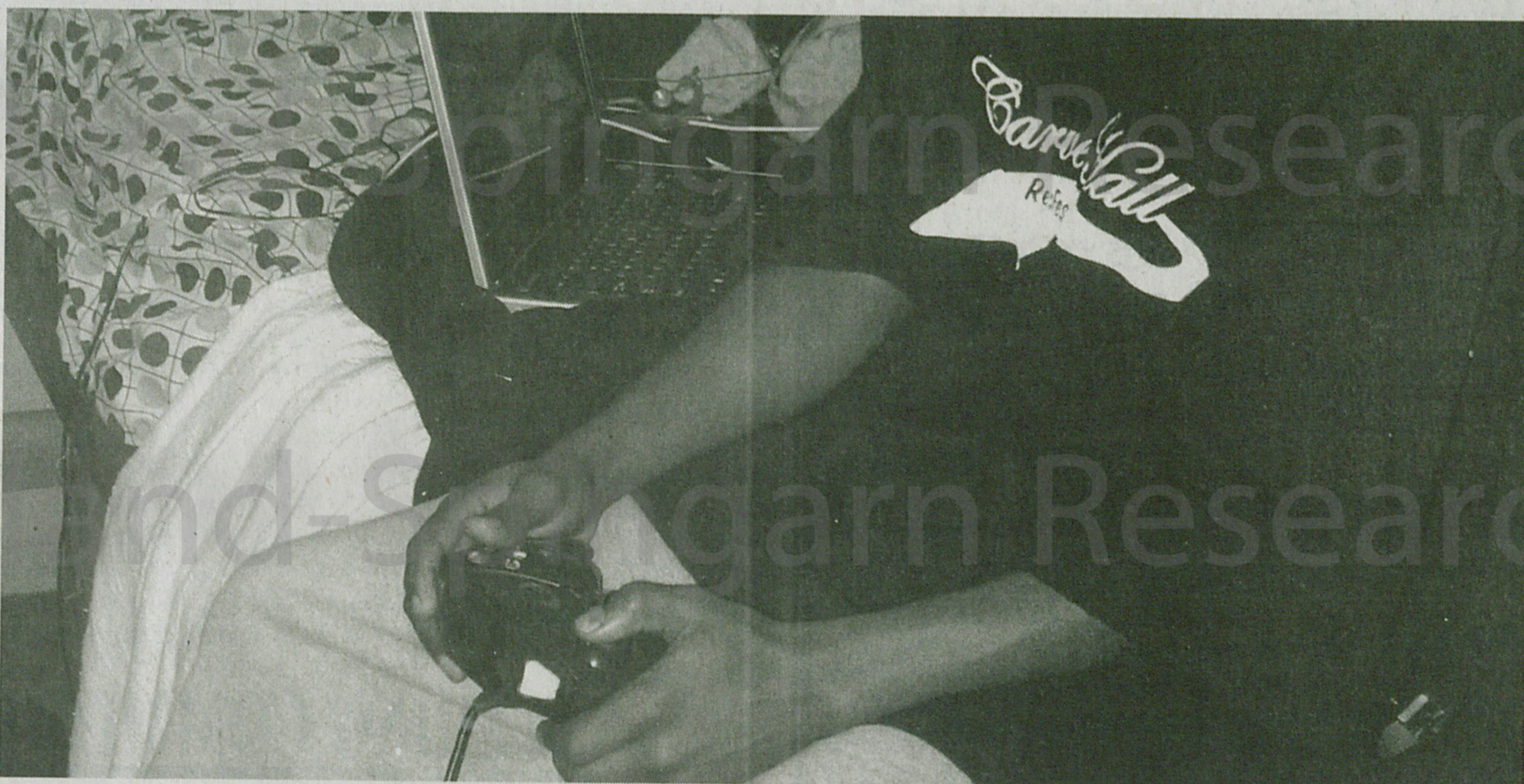
BY IMANI JOSEY
Business and Technology Editor

Software giant Microsoft now offers downloadable films in high definition as well as television programs to Xbox 360 gamers. The latest feature of the popular gaming system comes as a result of Microsoft's venturing into other markets, now including the movie business.

The company announced plans for Xbox 360 owners to buy or rent films and television shows via its online Xbox Live Marketplace. The program, which launched in late 2006, was expected to have over 1,000 hours of film before the end of the holiday season.

Users downloading films are used up to two weeks to watch them. A release by Microsoft stated that after a user has hit play, the film will only be viewable for 24 hours before becoming inaccessible.

Purchased television shows will be viewable as long as they remain on the Xbox 360's hard drive. Elaine Simms, a sophomore undecided major said, "I had heard about the feature and hadn't used it yet. But I'm [a] faithful Xbox user, so I'm excited



Microsoft continues to develop new technology by offering gamers the option to download high definition films and popular television shows for the Xbox 360. Sony and Nintendo are expected to soon follow the software giant's steps.

about it to say the least."

Microsoft first ventured into film in December 2005, when it launched the "Mission Impossible III" trailer in the Xbox Marketplace. Available programming includes major Hollywood releases such as "V for Vendetta" and "Nacho

Libre."

Television programming like "CSI" and "South Park." Some, but not all, will be in a high definition format.

"Aren't there enough ways to access TV and movies without having the junk blasted at you from every angle? I'm

not a gamer, so it just seems like overkill to me," freshman English major Lealah Livingston said.

Several media companies are signed on to support Microsoft's new Xbox press release, Time Warner

lends films, television shows and NASCAR features from its Warner Bros. and Turner Broadcasting bases and helped broaden the film library with films from Paramount Studios and shows from CBS, including "Jericho," "Numb3r3"

and "Survivor." Additionally, Viacom's MTV Networks will contribute shows from MTV, VH1, Nickelodeon and Spike TV. The Ultimate Fighting Championship will also supply programming.

Microsoft said it has also begun to develop a download technology for its Xbox that allows users to watch the program or film before it has downloaded entirely to the Xbox 360's hard drive. Using this technology, shorter programs like "South Park," will be viewable instantly. Longer features, such as a high definition film, will require a short wait.

The move to digital distribution of video programming is not entirely surprising for Microsoft. The company faces stiff competition from Sony and Nintendo. Sony's PlayStation 3 is also expected to offer a similar service.

"My little brothers love their Xbox so I'm sure they will be utilizing the feature. It's just another [feature] to me in a long line of ideas to get more of my money. It's sophisticated convenient, though," sophomore political science major Nicole Ross said. "What will they think of next?"

Become Your Own Boss

Howard Student Utilizes Entrepreneurial Abilities

BY BRANN POE
Contributing Writer

As many college students struggle to pay for tuition and books, others are taking matters into their own hands and becoming their own boss.

Sophomore finance major Jason Coles is among the few practicing their entrepreneurial abilities on Howard's campus while gaining a profit from their skills, talents and hobbies.

Coles is the owner of Black White Studio, LLC. Established in 2004, the business specializes in Web site development and custom graphic design for organizations, student campaigns, events and more.

"I mainly operate by myself," Coles said. "Sometimes I contract out

some of the work due to my busy schedule," he said.

Despite his schedule, Coles noticed a need on the University's campus.

"On Howard's campus there is a need for public advertisement," Coles said.

With a business background Coles was able to see this need and take advantage of this business opportunity.

Although a sole proprietorship, Black White Studio, LLC. has many customers and publicity. Coles provided the graphic design and promotion for Jamel Franklin and Alicia Criner's student campaign last year and continues to show his graphic ability in the promotion of LGI Entertainment events.

Aside from event fliers and Web site development,

Black White has provided the design concept for the Howard University Association of Black Journalists' logo and will be providing services for Jamel Franklin's campaign for HUSA this year.

Despite the stereotype of the "broke college student," there are student entrepreneurs who are taking advantage of the networks and opportunities granted in college while making a profit from natural talents and hobbies.

"I just had a hobby of making Web sites," Coles said. "With my entrepreneurial ability I wanted to start my own company."

From there a name was created, the business was incorporated and soon business cards were made.

Once the business was established, word of mouth from friends and the popular Web site Facebook.com generated the customer base for Black White.

By following the right business strategy and having friends who supported his idea, Coles was on his way to becoming his own boss while being a full time college student.

By creating party fliers and designing graphics for friends, his talent was soon spread around campus.

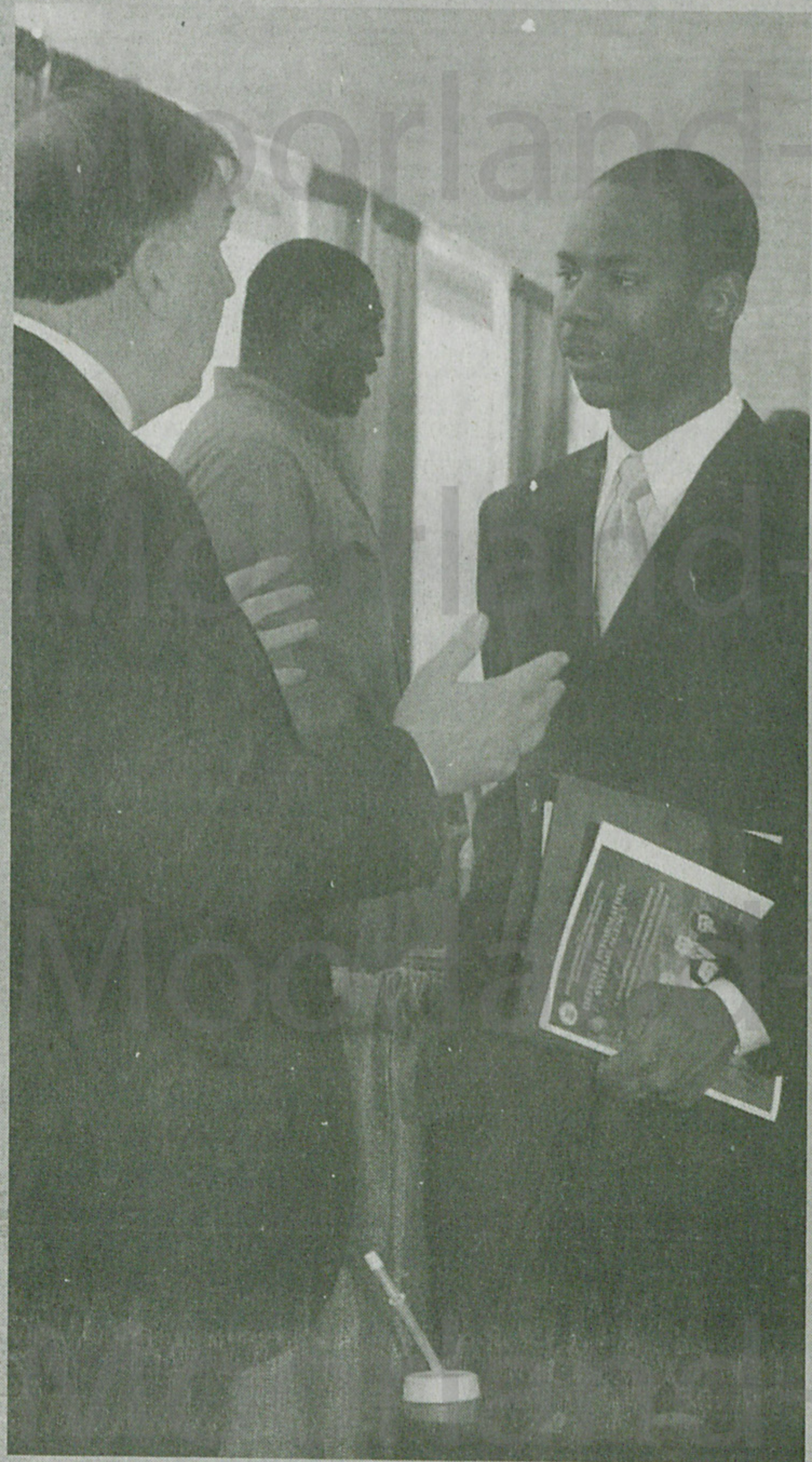
Friends such as Joel Alexis were essential in the promotion of Black White. What started as a simple hobby soon became a profitable business.

As a student in the School of Business, Coles is not consumed with attending speaker's bureaus and information sessions and networking with Fortune 400 and 500 companies.

Upon graduation in May 2009, Coles will have a degree in business administration with a concentration in finance. However, Black White will not end when he leaves Howard.

"I plan on passing it down to another student," Coles said, "and concentrate on finance."

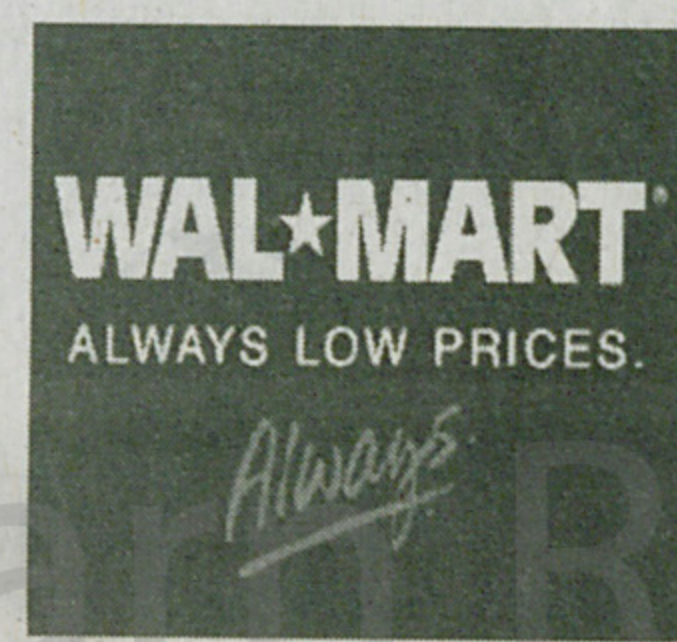
He added, "When you have a dream, go full stream with it."



File Photo

Students at Howard attend the annual job fair to interview with businesses and to also flex their entrepreneurial skills by promoting their own businesses.

You Might Want to Know



Wal-Mart Tries its Hand at Video Downloads

Wal-Mart Stores Inc., introduced a test version of its new video download service Tuesday, making it the first major retailer to offer such a service with the backing of all of Hollywood's big studios. The service features more than 3,000 movies and television shows from 20th Century Fox, Disney, Lions Gate, MGM, MTV Networks, Paramount Pictures, Sony Pictures Entertainment, Universal Studios Home Entertainment and Warner Bros., Wal-Mart said. The downloads are priced from \$1.96 for episodes of television shows to \$19.88 for new release movies.



Snickers Pulls Plug on Super Bowl Smooch Ad

Masterfoods, a division of Mars Inc., killed an advertisement that showed two men kissing. After a number of groups objected, Masterfoods USA, the maker of Snickers candy bars, pulled the plug on a controversial Super Bowl commercial which showed two men accidentally kissing. The 30-second commercial featured two mechanics who both end up sharing a Snickers bar and an inadvertent kiss, and reacting by pulling out a clump of chest hair to "do something manly." The candy maker posted three alternate endings to the commercial on its Web site after negative reactions.



Jobs Says to Record Labels: Unlock Your Music

Apple Inc. CEO Steve Jobs says the music industry is putting a lot of effort into protecting software that may not be worth it. Jobs called on the four major record companies to start selling songs online without copy protection software known as digital rights management (DRM). He said benefit to the record companies to sell more than 90 percent of their music without DRM on compact discs while selling the remaining small percentage of their music encumbered with a DRM system.

Compiled by Imani Josey
Business and Technology Editor

The Hilltop

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

What you do may vary, depending on attractiveness, attire, and whether you're actually reading. But we recommend you take it inside.

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2007

The 'Elder' of Golf, Lee Elder, Set the Course

BY BRITTANY FITZPATRICK
Contributing Writer

Lee Elder never planned to use his talent to shatter the color barrier within the historically segregated game of golf.

However, on a golf course in Augusta, Ga. in 1975, he putted his way into golf history by becoming the first African American to play in the extremely competitive Masters Tournament, paving the way for future black golfers such as Tiger Woods.

Elder once said, "I didn't realize how important it was at the time. All I really wanted so badly to do was play in the tournament. It didn't dawn on me what had happened until after I played. I don't think I knew what a big deal it was."

His participation in the Masters Tournament came 14 years after the repeal of the Professional Golfers of America's (PGA) "Caucasian-only" clause, which restricted PGA membership and participation in its tournaments to Caucasians only.

Elder followed a long line of black golfers who dreamt of playing in the tournament but

failed to meet the qualifications set by the Masters Committee. His success has had lasting effects not only on himself, but also on the game of golf. However, Elder's road to the Masters was loaded with hardship.

Elder was born on July 14, 1934 in Dallas. He lived in a disadvantaged neighborhood, a world away from the clubhouses in which he would later play. He lost his father in World War II, and his mother died just three months later.

As a result, Elder moved to Los Angeles with his sister. It was there that he began to teach himself the game of golf by creeping onto all-white golf courses in the middle of the night.

After developing his golf skills, Elder dropped out of high school to become a caddy for white golf-



Lee Elder made history in 1975 when he became the first African American to play in a Masters Tournament, leading the way for the likes of Tiger Woods.

ers to provide for himself and his family. His career received a major boost after his match with famous heavyweight boxer Joe Louis in Cleveland, which caught the attention of Louis' personal golf instructor. He took Elder under his right arm, taking him to play matches overseas.

After a brief stint in the military, Elder turned professional and joined the United Golf Association (UGA) Tour of professional black players, through which he won five UGA championships. In November 1967, Elder became one of the first black golfers to join the PGA tour. In 1974, he earned an auto-

matic invitation to the 1975 Masters Tournament through his win in the Monsanto Open, a PGA Tournament in Pensacola, Fla. The Tournament was held at the Pensacola Country Club, where, just six years earlier, Elder and his fellow African American PGA Tour members were denied entrance and forced to dress in the parking lot.

Although he swore he would never return to Pensacola after such poor treatment, Elder returned in 1975 to fulfill his dream and the dream of so many black golfers who came before him. "Lee Elder is a significant

figure not only within the game of golf, but also in sports history period. He changed the way the game is played," William Rhoden, a Howard University sophomore and golf enthusiast, said.

Elder's victory in the Houston Open in 1976 gave him the opportunity to play in his second Master's Tournament in 1977. In 1979, Elder became the first black golfer to play for the Ryder Cup Team. The Ryder Cup places the best American professional golfers against those of Great Britain.

In 1984, he joined the Senior PGA Tour. Despite health complications due to a heart attack, Elder went on to win 12 PGA Tournaments.

Today, Elder spends his time helping the disadvantaged and racially oppressed. He is also supportive of today's black golfers. He was present at Tiger Woods' historic victory in 1997. Woods acknowledged Elder's tremendous influence just before putting on the famous green jacket after his big win. "I was the first one to ever win, but I wasn't the pioneer," Woods said.

This is the first installment of a Hilltop series celebrating some of the lesser known black athletic figures who have helped pave the way throughout history. Check back each week during Black History Month for another historical profile.

"I was the first one to ever win, but I wasn't the pioneer."

- Tiger Woods

Burr's Lower Gym in Desperate Need of Improvement, Renovation

BY KENYA DOWNS
Hilltop Staff Writer

With the upper gym receiving new floors and improved seating, it is projected that attendance for games held at Burr Gymnasium will increase. But in reference to the lower gym, students are questioning when the same attention will be paid to the part of Burr that more students frequent.

The lower gym hosts different intramural sports leagues and houses numerous physical education courses, so the need for the gym and its equipment to be up to date is becoming increasingly important to both the student population and the staff.

Latoya Luces, a junior biology major, has had classes and attended intramural activities in Burr. She said the conditions of the lower gym are disgraceful.

"The conditions are deplorable because the score-

board doesn't work, the lights clearly are broken and there is absolutely no seating except for the broken bleachers," Luces said.

Luces offered suggestions for how the Department of Athletics could improve the quality of the lower gym.

"The basketball hoops should be retractable because they get in the way when there are no basketball games taking place," she said. "Also, they need to revamp the women's locker room and the security between it and the lower gym. There is no reason why I should walk out of the women's rest room to see guys standing outside the stalls coming from their tae kwon do classes."

Dwight Datcher, the director of athletics for the university, understands students' concerns regarding the conditions of the lower gym and agrees that changes need to be made. However, he said that as the athletic director, he has no

control over the renovations of the building itself.

"I agree that there are improvements to be made regarding the lower gym, as well as the pathway between the gym and the women's locker rooms. It is in our plans to make some improvements on the lower gym but it is going to take some time," Datcher said.

The lower gym also hosts intramural sports games, which draw huge crowds. Often, the fans are left standing because of a lack of seating or taking a risk sitting on a dangerous set of bleachers that are broken and falling apart.

For the players, the aging floor causes for low levels of traction, which may possibly cause injury with players sliding and falling off balance. The scoreboard is currently not in working condition and the lights often flicker, while some don't work at all.

Carisse Agard, a sophomore sports medicine major,

is a player for Femme Fatale Footballers, a team organized in the intramural soccer games held every Friday night in the lower gym. She said the gym needs renovation to better accommodate the growing popularity of all intramural leagues.

"The quality and efficiency of the lower gym are less than desirable. It is appalling that players are subjected to old, dirty, slippery floors and sub par equipment. The people in charge of intramurals and the facility in general know that a large number of people come out to the [soccer] matches, therefore more should be done in terms of seating to accommodate them," Agard said.

Datcher also noted that the Department of Health, Human Performance and Leisure Studies is ultimately in charge of the decision and renovation process.

"There are lots of improvements I would like to make to the entire facility and we do a lot of improvement to the building, but we are not in control of it," he said.

Chair of the Department of Health, Human Performance and Leisure Studies Dr. Doris Corbett recognizes that the lower gym has seen better days and also hopes to improve it in the future. But she said that the lack of monetary resources presents a burden when trying to manage the facility.

"We try our best to provide students with the best education, faculty and resources with the budget we have," she said. "We are aware of the concerns and are doing everything possible to meet the needs of both the athletes as well as the students."

Corbett encourages students to voice their concerns regarding the maintenance and stability of the lower gym and Burr as a whole.



Derek Smith - Photo Editor

The poor condition of the lower gym in Burr Gymnasium has brought about concern for the safety of students and athletes who use the space on a daily basis.

SCOREBOARD & SCHEDULE

SCORES

Men's Tennis	
Howard	0
North Carolina	7

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A Wealth of Black History Month Activities Offered in D.C.

BY MONICA HARRIS
Hilltop Staff Writer

Washington, D.C. is the prime location to find a great number of tributes, activities and commemorations to engage in as a reminder of the great contributions blacks have made over the years. The District has an abundance of celebrations in store for Black History Month 2007.

The congregation of Allen Temple A.M.E. Church, located in Southeast Washington, D.C., has several plans underway to remind blacks of their history.

Last Saturday, Allen Temple hosted "Bridges of Song" a tribute to the elders in the Anacostia community that the church serves. These pillars of the community ranged in age from 78 to 96 and have grown up as active members of Allen Temple. The elders were serenaded by the youth of the church, who sang traditional and contemporary gospel songs. The dance ministry performed as well.

Rev. Michael Bell of Allen Temple instructed his congregation to dress in keeping with the month's meaning. The first Sunday of February

was dedicated to the ancestors of the church's members as they dressed in full traditional African attire for the day's worship services. The third and fourth Sundays of February are dedicated to remembering slavery, a part of African history that some would rather forget. In keeping with the day's theme, the congregation is asked to come to worship services dressed as slaves.

"Rev. Bell is always looking for ways for us to self reflect as a community. This is our first year of doing this, but we are excited to see it through," said Rev. Carolyn Scales, an alumna of Howard Divinity School.

Allen Temple A.M.E. is located on 2498 Alabama Ave., in Southeast Washington, D.C.

Additional Black History Month celebrations are also planned throughout the Washington, D.C. area. Howard's spoken word enthusiasts are likely to have visited Sankofa Video and Bookstore on Friday nights when the store hosts an open mic program. This month, the owners are hosting activities relevant to black history.

On Saturday, author C.A. Wright presented his new book, "Diary: 10 Months in



Photo courtesy of File Photo

Sankofa is one of the places that holds Black History events in the District to celebrate Black History Month.

Washington D.C.'s Oak Hill" and signed copies for customers.

Tesfu Gerima, an employee of Sankofa, said, "The book bridges Washington D.C.'s history, politics, legal system and how it affects the local youths arrested for crimes within the District of Columbia. Washington, D.C.'s Oak Hill Youth Center is a juvenile facility with a long-standing history of failure that surpasses two decades."

Sankofa Video and

Bookstore will also hold free film screenings each Wednesday of the month.

"The films shown are very rare, hard to find and enlightening. We encourage Howard students to attend," Gerima said.

The screenings started Jan. 31 with the presentation of the film "Through the Door of No-Return," which documents how filmmaker Shirikiana Aina attempts to put the pieces of her deceased Ghanaian father's life together

in an effort to better understand her African roots.

Sankofa Video and Bookstore is located directly across the street from the School of Business at 2714 Georgia Ave.

The Washington, D.C. Department of Parks and Recreation in conjunction with the United Black Fund Inc. will also be recognizing Black History Month. The organizations have sponsored the 21st Annual Black History Invitational Swim Meet at the

Takoma Community Center.

Thirty teams with a total of 600 swimmers ranging in age from three to 18 will travel from all over the United States to compete. According to an official press release, the swim meet was started to give competitive youth a place to show off their sportsmanship and express themselves through sport.

For more information about celebrating Black History Month in the Washington, D.C. area, visit godc.com or dc.gov.

Many Unaware of Black History Month's Origin, Key Figures

BY JEANETTE HORDGE
Hilltop Staff Writer

During Black History Month, Americans recognize the achievements and impact that African-American culture and people have had on history. Often times, activities are held in remembrance of past leaders and activists in order to keep African-American heritage alive.

Nevertheless, nobody seems to know why February, out of all twelve months, was set aside for acknowledging black history.

Students around Howard's campus find themselves puzzled when asked about the history of Black History Month. Many are surprised by their own lack of knowledge about the it.

Neal Roberts, a freshman biology major, said, "Wow, I don't know where Black History Month came from. But I think we celebrate Black History Month because African Americans have been here since the beginning of the country and so we remember our ancestors, with hopes that the past doesn't repeat itself."

At the turn of the 20th century, black history had barely begun to be studied or



Photo courtesy of ieeilife.com

Carter G. Woodson established Black History Month to recognize blacks' accomplishments.

even documented. Despite the fact that blacks had been in America since the beginning of industrialization, it was not until the 20th century that they gained a respectable presence in history books.

It is Carter G. Woodson who is credited with acknowledging African Americans' absence from America's docu-

mented history. Woodson graduated from Berea College in Kentucky in 1903. He earned a Ph.D. in history from Harvard University, becoming the second black to earn a Harvard Ph.D.

Woodson was concerned that the contributions of black Americans were overlooked or misrepresented, and he began

lobbying for "Negro History Week" as early as 1915.

As an active promoter of black education, he founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, the Journal of Negro History, the Associated Publishers and the Negro History Bulletin.

In 1926, Woodson began promoting "Negro History Week" during the second week of February to celebrate the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass because he felt that they had dramatically impacted the lives of black Americans.

It wasn't until the 1960s that February was known as Black History Month. In 1976, Woodson's legacy, now renamed the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History, successfully lobbied to extend Black History Week into a month-long celebration.

Today, several cities host festivals, events and ceremonies to acknowledge Black History Month. In school, students learn about civil rights activists and influential leaders who changed the lives of African Americans.

However, many continue to wonder why students only learn about black history dur-

ing one month.

Fantasia Hopkins, a freshman biology pre-med major said, "I have never been taught about black history in school unless we were going over a civil rights portion of our American government class. But other than that, I didn't learn anything [about black history] in high school."

In many American History textbooks, there may be a section titled on African Americans and slavery. In most cases, this section contains information about the slave trade and its impact on American society. The text may even go on to explain the civil rights movement and acknowledge activists such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Rosa Parks and Frederick Douglass.

Freshman marketing major Samantha Turner said, "Before coming to Howard University, I definitely didn't learn enough about black history in high school."

She continued, "Unless it was Black History Month, but even then I only learned about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. For the most part, my parents taught me everything."

Sometimes, standard textbooks acknowledge the scientific contributions of

African Americans like Daniel Hale Williams, John Mercer Langston and Clara Brown. Unfortunately, there are numerous African Americans whose contributions throughout history have been ignored.

Many months throughout the year have been set aside to acknowledge the history of other cultures. In addition to Black History Month in February, March is National Women's History Month, May is Asian Pacific American Heritage and Older Americans Month, June is Gay Lesbian Pride Month, September is National Hispanic-Latino Heritage Month, October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month and November is National American Indian Heritage Month.

It is evident that many cultures wish to be recognized for their roles in American society. African American culture has been given the opportunity to also do so.

Therefore, it is important that students everywhere recognize not only the contributions of those who are listed in standard text books, but also those whose contributions have gone unnoticed.

Know Your Howard Heritage

Edward Franklin Frazier



Frazier was born in Baltimore on Sept. 24 1894. He earned his B.A. from Howard University and obtained his M.A. in sociology from Clark University in Atlanta. Frazier went on to teach for several years at various universities, including the University of Copenhagen. However, his most notable accomplishments are his published works on African-American life. "The Negro Family in Chicago" was published in 1932. His most important work, "The Negro Family in the United States" was published in 1939 during his term as head of the sociology department at Howard University. Frazier's most controversial book was his study of the African American middle class, "Black Bourgeoisie" in 1957. This work received the most critical reviews because Frazier exposed the truth about the real position of African Americans in the United States.

Billy Eckstine



Eckstine's smooth distinctive baritone voice broke down barriers throughout the 1940s as he became the first leader of the original bop big-band, then as the first romantic black male in popular music. At the time, many white bands featured male entertainers singing romantic ballads. Until Eckstine, it was unheard of for a black band to do such, so they were stuck performing novelty or blues songs. He left Howard University after winning an amateur singing contest in 1933 and began singing in nightclubs until he met Earl Hines. Eckstine recorded more than a dozen hits during the late 1940s, including "My Foolish Heart" and "I Apologize." He was also very popular in Britain, hitting the Top Ten charts twice during the 1950s.

Isabel Wilkerson



Wilkerson is Howard University's first Pulitzer Prize winner. She won the award in 1994 for a profile of an inner city child and her coverage of the Mississippi floods. At the time of the article's publication, she was the Chicago Bureau Chief of the New York Times. Wilkerson is known for her aggressive and provocative journalistic style. She is a contributing writer for Essence Magazine and also writes many pieces about the perception of blacks in American society. In one memorable article titled "South African Sojourn," Wilkerson said that what she found in South Africa reminded her of the same changes and experiences black Americans have endured. In addition to her Pulitzer Prize, Wilkerson has also won a National Association of Black Journalists "Journalist of the Year" award and the George Polk award for regional reporting.

Shirley Franklin

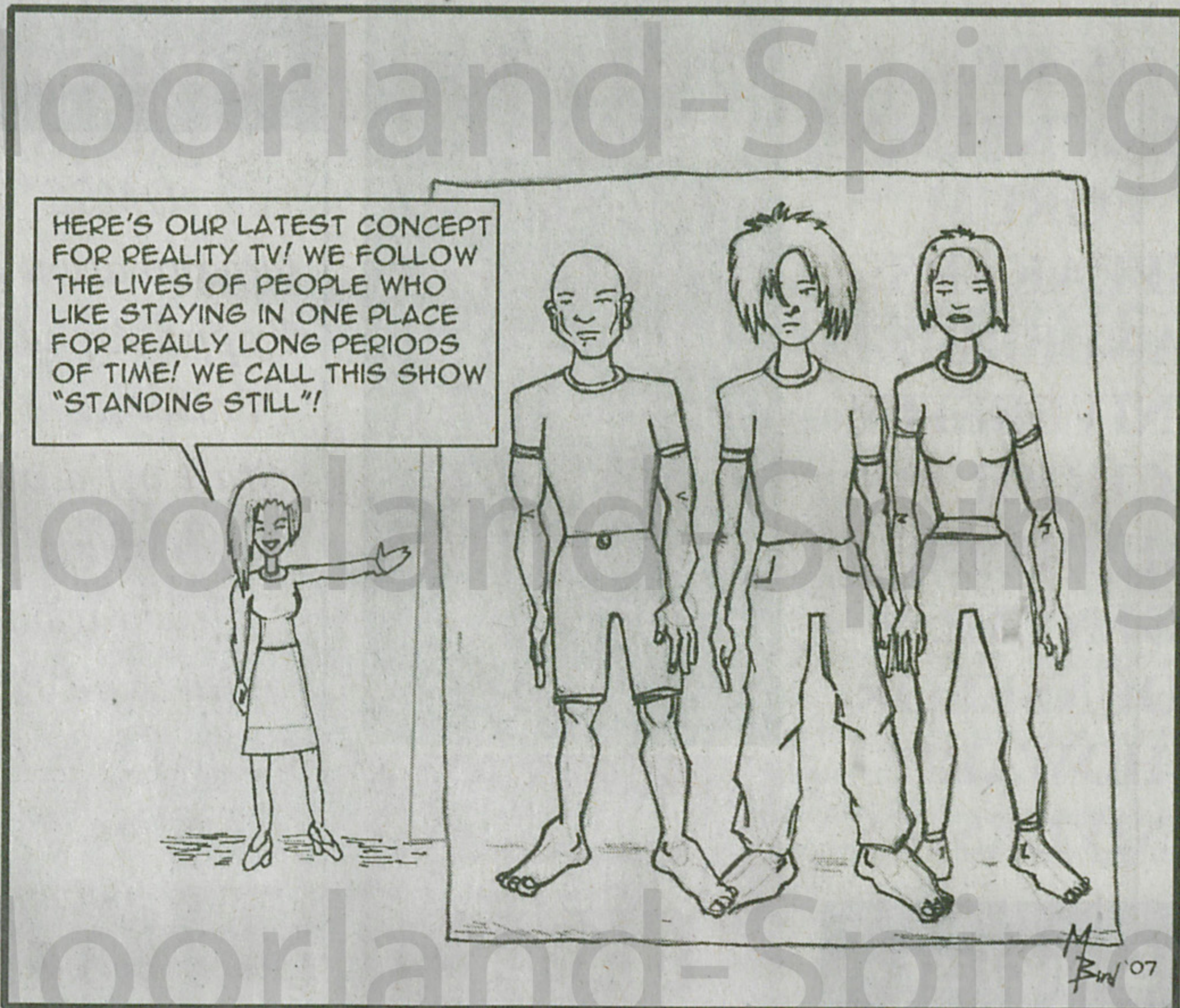


Mayor Shirley Clarke Franklin was sworn into office on Jan. 7, 2002, becoming the 58th mayor of Atlanta. She entered with a campaign commitment to bring an efficiently operated, accountable, open and honest government to the people of Atlanta. With her election, Franklin became the first female to hold the position and the first African-American woman to serve as mayor of a major Southern city. A graduate of Howard University with a B.A. in sociology and an M.A. in the same field of study from the University of Pennsylvania, Franklin was named one of the five best city American mayors by Time Magazine in 2005 and in 2006. TheWhiteHouseProject.org named her one of their "8 in 08," a group of eight female politicians who could possibly run for and or be elected for President in 2008.

Daily Sudoku

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

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



Unreal Reality Shows

This season in television brought about an influx of even more reality shows to the market. At some point, one would think the market would be saturated, yet nearly every show manages to garner an audience and rake in the ratings. But when is enough, enough?

If it were up to the studios that produce these shows there would never be enough reality shows.

Reality shows are cheaper to make because they involve less expense in production and they do not have to pay the talent, unlike the sitcoms that ruled the 90s. And regardless of how people complain about the number of reality shows they are still watching, as evident by the high ratings of such programs.

Yet, these shows can be

damaging. We believe that one damaging aspect of these shows is that they allow viewers to sit back on their couches and live out their lives vicariously through the people on the shows.

Our View:
Reality shows aren't going anywhere, but we should reevaluate why we watch them and stop allowing them to take the place of living our actual lives.

This happens because the shows use regular people who viewers can identify with and the shows cover such an array of topics that there is bound to be something for everyone.

Reality shows also appeal to the worst parts of humanity. The shows humiliate people, degrade them and even deceive them on national television all

for our amusement.

These acts would be considered unethical and reprehensible in everyday life yet they are accepted in TV land.

However, some reality shows actually serve a purpose.

"Beauty and the Geek" helps the socially inept and those that rely on beauty for survival.

TLC's "Little People, Big World" exposes America to the life of a section of our population that many would not know

anything about otherwise.

"Black White" served as a vehicle to explore the perception of racism or lack thereof in this country.

Although some reality shows can do good, in general the shows take advantage of common people and give others an excuse to not live their own lives.

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Perspective: Antoine Bethea Not Mentioned in the Paper

I have a question for *The Hilltop*: Are you guys going to run a story about Antoine Bethea's participation and performance at The Super Bowl?

I looked throughout the Monday's edition of the Hilltop and there is not one red men-

tion of Bethea, one of Howard's own, in the paper. But before I jump the gun, I will wait for [yesterday's] edition.

-Bryan I. White, Class of 2007, School of Communications

Editor's Note: There was a story about Bethea that ran as a preview on Friday, Feb. 2, 2007.

Read The Hilltop ONLINE

www.thehilltoponline.com

THE HILLTOP ONLINE

com

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 Hilltops should be directed to The Hilltop Business office.

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

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

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

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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

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

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I MISS MY BABY

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.

MARCH 16-19TH 2007 BLACK COLLEGE SPRING BREAK CRUISE FROM MIAMI 2 THE BAHAMAS ALL YOU CAN EAT MEALS LEADERSHIP & FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SEMINARS. WWW.MAAT-ENTER.COM/CRUISE

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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.

VOL. II COMING TO YOU!!

"HEALTH PROFESSIONS SOCIETY MEETING ON 02/07/07 @5:30PM, BLACKBURN FORUM SPEAKERS: VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, GENETICS COUNSELOR, HOWARD UNIVERSITY

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

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

A Fun-filled night at D' Light Skate N' Palace

Friday, Feb. 9 7-10 p.m.

Purchase tickets from the Ladies of Alpha Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

MODEL AND DESIGNER CALL FOR AD3 PRODUCTIONS. DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO ROCK THE RUNWAY? TRYOUT SATURDAY 2/10/07 FROM 10AM-2PM AT THE JOKES ON US COMEDY CLUB. FOR MORE INFO (301)-437-8664

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF INTERIOR DESIGNERS WILL BE HOSTING VALENTINES DAY SALES IN THE BOTTOM OF BLACKBURN FROM 11A-3P PRICE RANGE FROM \$1 TO \$7 COME OUT AND SUPPORT OUR ORGANIZATION!

NO JUSTICE, NO PEACE

JENAE LYNESE SMITH, I LOVE YOU WITH ALL MY HEART AND I MISS YOU RYAN L. SMITH.

EMSL Organization and Kappa Alpha Psi, Fraternity Inc. Start off a week of Valentines Celebrations with Fore Play: Prelude to a KISS Auction. Feb. 9th at Bohemian Caverns. Follow by Afterparty at 10pm

FOR RENT: 2 Huge Detached Mansions w/RMS FOR RENT AS LOW AS \$500/MONTHLY (UTIL./AMENITIES INCL.) EACH HOME, 4 LVLS, 6 BRDRMS, + 2 APTS / 4 MORE RMS. AVAIL. FEB. WALK/BUS + METRO TRAIN ACCESS. ON-SITE PARKING. CALL 202-415-5446. CONTACT: HANS, 202-415-5446

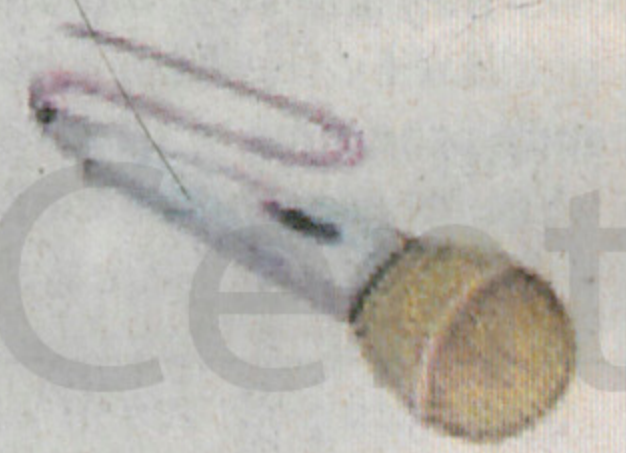


WHBC-AM CHANNEL 51 & UGSA

PRESENTS...

VERBAL ARMAGEDDON VII

24 MC's, 3 Rounds, 1 Winner



Round 1 - "Self-Definition"

Wednesday, February 7, 2007

Blackburn Ballroom @ 7pm

For more information log on to:

www.myspace.com/verbalarmageddon1

Cost: \$1

WHBC would like to thank the organizations/groups that participated in Organizational Night @ The Burr on Monday.



Check us out online: www.whbc830am.com