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THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2007

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TECH
notebook

BREAKING NEWS

AMERICANS KILLED BY SUICIDE BOMBERS

IRAQI SUICIDE BOMBERS DROVE CARS FILLED WITH EXPLOSIVES INTO AN AMERICAN COMBAT OUTPOST JUST NORTH OF BAGHDAD KILLING TWO AMERICANS AND WOUNDING AT LEAST 17, ACCORDING TO THE NEW YORK TIMES.

CAMPUS

ELECTION GUIDELINES

HOW WELL DO YOU UNDERSTAND ELECTION GUIDELINES? TURN TO CAMPUS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ELECTION PROCESS. **PAGE 3**



TUES, 2/20:
PM SHOWERS
HIGH: 50, LOW: 36

WED, 2/21:
PARTLY CLOUDY
HIGH: 51, LOW: 32

Bison Football Gets New Coach

BY WINNIE CLARK-JENKINS
Hilltop Staff Writer

The Howard Bison football team, who finished their season this year 5-6, named Carey Bailey as their new head coach this weekend.

Bailey is a former University of Tennessee defensive lineman. He played from 1988-91



Carey Bailey was named head coach of the Bison football team this weekend.

for the Tennessee Volunteers.

Athletic Director Dwight Datcher would not comment on the hiring until a press conference later this week. Additionally, *The Hilltop* contacted a Howard University spokesperson, but did not receive a comment.

Members of the football team heard the news about the new coach this weekend, however most of the team has yet to meet Bailey and know little about him.

"I just found out about the new coach. I do not know too much about him though," said senior Vincent Morehead. "However, I am ready to meet him."

Despite knowing very little about him and vaguely about his background, many of the players have a positive outlook

about the new coach and the benefits that he will bring to the team.

"I am happy that we finally have a new coach," said junior Endor Cooper. "It should bring the team back together. It will give the team a leader and someone to look up to."

As well as the positive advantages the new head coach brings to the overall team, there are also benefits for the individual players as well.

"The new coach is likely to come in and do some 'spring cleaning,'" Morehead said. "That means no one's spot is golden so everyone has to play hard to maintain their spot."

Having a new coach on board gives players a chance to prove themselves and really show their talent on an even playing field, even if they feel that the past coach did not give them the opportunity.

The former head coach of the Bison football team was Rayford Petty. He was withdrawn from his position in December 2006. Petty began as the assistant coach in 1992 and

had five seasons with the Bison as head coach.

"When you have a new coach, it is like you are starting from scratch and everyone has a fresh opportunity to show what they have out on the field," said junior Frank Berchie. "When a new coach comes in, you want to put on your best so you are the first thing they look at."

Bailey is noted for his recruiting skills and is one of the top recruiters in college level football.

Now with Howard added to his list, Bailey has also had his hand in coaching at Minnesota, Oklahoma State, Middle Tennessee State, Louisiana-Lafayette and West Virginia.

Since the team just found out about their new coach over the weekend, there is no word yet as to when they will have their first meeting and practice with him.

A press conference is scheduled for later this week to officially announce the hiring of Bailey as head coach and to answer any questions from the media and fans of the team.



The FAMU School of Journalism experienced a shake-up when members of the Famuan staff went on strike.

Famuan Strikes Because of Pay

BY SIDNEY WRIGHT IV
Howard University Wire Service

Because of Florida A&M University's failure to issue paychecks to the staff of the Famuan, the student newspaper, several staff members are on strike.

The staff members walked out after a Sunday meeting with Dean James Hawkins and Journalism Division Director Dorothy Bland of the School of Journalism and Graphic Communication and the newspaper's co-advisers James Stephens and Valerie D. White.

During that Feb. 18 meeting, the administrators attempted to answer questions as to why the students had no paychecks and explained to them how crucial their role was.

"Obviously, it is an individual decision," Hawkins said.

"Each person has to decide that for her or himself. I would hope the students would consider the service they're providing the FAMU community while making their decision."

As reported on Feb. 9, a host of adjunct professors, teaching assistants, student media and interim workers that include graduate assistants had yet to receive a paycheck this semester.

Pam Bryant, the FAMU public relations coordinator, said then that incom-

plete or inaccurately filled out paperwork by a particular college or employee could be the source of the problem. However, she also said, "The problem could certainly be related to budget issues. We just don't know."

Hawkins said he would request on-demand payments for the students of the Famuan first thing on Monday, Feb. 19.

If granted, those checks would provide compensation for the students immediately instead of waiting until the next pay period.

Hawkins' plan, however, did little to calm some of the angry staff members.

"While the Famuan staff understands we provide a service to the community, it is unfair to have to work for free," Driadonna Roland said, a 20-year-old broadcast journalism student from Detroit. "It's not about the money at all. That's not why we do our jobs. It's just disrespect."

Roland, who serves as copy desk chief at the Famuan, said the lack of a paycheck is especially insulting because of the extra hours that staff members already put in and are not compensated for.

Samantha Long, the deputy online editor, said her decision to strike was based on principle.

"I've never seen an instance where you get

See FAMUAN, Page 3

Heart's Day Enlightens Audience

BY EBONI FARMER
Hilltop Staff Writer

The 13th annual Heart's Day, sponsored by the University's English department, did not fail to enlighten students who attended the day's events.

"I was in a room with Nikki Giovanni who is a pioneer in the world of poetry and the African-American community," English major Rachelle Peterson said.

She continued, "I was especially excited to see her because I read her poetry and it's inspirational. She's just a very real person."

Peterson also said, "Everyone knows she has a tattoo that says 'Thug Life' and it's not because she promotes gang violence or anything like that. It's a statement. Giovanni is a walking statement that symbolizes the black struggle in my opinion."

Giovanni and Mari Evans, along with fellow renowned poet Lucille Clifton who was not able to make it to Heart's Day due to traffic, were celebrated throughout the day. Giovanni,

Evans and Clifton were pioneers of the Black Arts Movement in the 1960s and 1970s.

"I attended the session that examined Lucille Clifton's work and as a poet myself, I appreciate the hard work it takes to write a poem that has as depth like Clifton's poem

"Apology" or "Turning," said sophomore music education major Justice Mooresette.

There were six sessions held in Blackburn, which examined the three poets and their work as well as social issues.

Session six was the final session of the day and featured the poets before an audience of students and professionals.

The session showcased Giovanni and Clifton and was moderated by English professor Eleanor Traylor.



On Friday, Feb. 16 in the Blackburn Center, interested students and faculty explored and celebrated the poetry of Nikki Giovanni and Mari Evans.

Traylor praised Giovanni, Evans and Clifton as well for their courage to stand up during a period in time when women were not as outspoken as they should have been.

She said these women had changed the world of poetry and had the world listening to what they had to share.

"They are known throughout the globe as fearless speakers of human feelings. They remain leading voices in a generational battle," Traylor said.

Traylor encouraged Giovanni and Evans to share their poetry with the audience. See HEART'S, Page 3

"Design Squad" Premiere Attracts Young Engineers



"Design Squad" hopes to attract minorities and young women to the field of engineering, science and math.

BY PHILLIP LUCAS
Copy Editor

On Feb. 16 in the Howard University Middle School of Mathematics and Science, PBS premiered the first episode of "Design Squad," a 13 episode series of educational programs geared to increase young people's interest in careers in engineering, mathematics and science.

The show is set to air Saturdays in April on WHUT-TV. The program also hopes to assist in diversifying the engineering workplace by incorporating future minority and female engineers. The premiere of "Design Squad" was a prelude to National Engineers Week, which runs from Feb. 18 to Feb. 24.

Reading and language arts teacher, Rebecca Christian, was hopeful for the outcome of the project. She wanted students to leave with "Hands on experience, actually seeing a project from its inception to the development stage and knowing that they all are creative and that they have potential within them to design whatever it is they want to pursue."

Dr. Aprille Ericsson, a Howard alumna, board of trustees member, professor and mechanical engineer at NASA wanted students to leave with the ability to work in teams, to be creative, think outside the box and have fun. Ericsson offered her opinion on why students are bypassing the engineering field.

"I think that engineering requires basic skills that we see across our nation are beginning to slide and decline. Like mathematics, the hard core sciences, physical sciences," she said. "Often students shy away from that because they hear that they're difficult. But I think that if you have a solid base from first grade and worked on it, those classes are easily achievable."

Christian said, "I think that a lot of the schools today actually kind of wait too long to actually prepare kids or expose them to various fields. So that it's more emphasis placed on wait[ing] until you get to college and not so much the high schools and the middle schools," Christian added.

"I think the good thing about some of the charter schools is they allow kids that flexibility, if they have the interest, to develop it, to hone it, so that when you get into the high schools or the colleges you're better prepared," she said.

Ericsson added that people from different cultures might add different perspectives to the field of engineering because of different cultural ways of solving problems.

Deanne Bell, a character on "Design Squad," who also worked in aerospace for three years, hoped the premiere at the Middle School would provide not only a broader sense

See PBS, Page 3

Haynes Details Candidate Rules

BY JAMISHA PURDY
Contributing Writer

What ensures potential candidates a fair campaign process? Howard University's Election Commissioner Allen Haynes said that it's one of the goals of the General Elections Guidelines.

"The purpose of the guidelines is to give structure to the elections process and to provide a framework under which candidates may campaign in a fair and proper manner," Haynes said.

There are more than 50 people on the ballot this year, running for positions ranging from UGSA representative to the School of Divinity president.

Haynes said that students must understand what candidates go through to get their name on the ballot. All candidates must follow the general guidelines, a 21-page packet that outlines their rights, responsibilities and duties as potential candidates.

"I think that it's very important for students to understand the elections process because it gives students a greater appreciation for student government and knowledge of what to hold their student leaders accountable for," Haynes said.

One of the processes that

students wishing to run have to complete is to get signatures of students in the school that they wish to represent.

"Candidates [had to] pick up an application and fill it out completely," Haynes said. "A vital part of a complete application includes a petition form which must be signed by five percent of the constituency that the candidate wishes to serve."

Haynes added that potential candidates must pass through a certification procedure to make sure the student is in accordance with the guidelines.

"Candidate certification entails making sure that the candidate is a registered, financially validated, [a] student in good academic standing and is a part of the constituency that they wish to serve," Haynes said.

Haynes continued, "in addition, a percentage of the names and ID numbers collected on their petitions are verified to determine if they (the names and ID numbers) match and if the students who signed are validated."

Haynes said this two-step process is rather involved and can be lengthy.

However, he said "the Office of Student Activities and Enrollment Management were very helpful to us in get-



Derrell Smith - Senior Photo Editor

Student candidates must follow a strict set of rules both physical and online to stay in the race for their positions.

ting this arduous task accomplished."

The general election manual lays out 24 specific rules of campaigning. It includes regulations on campaigning areas such as the Andrew Rankin Chapel, Mordecai Wyatt Johnson Administration Building and the Armour J. Blackburn University Center. It also outlines the regulations of door-to-door campaigning hours, off-campus campaigning and the destruction of campaign material of other candidates.

Haynes said all of the

guidelines are equally important.

"I really couldn't say that any set of guidelines are more important than another," Haynes said. "My job is to enforce all of the guidelines and, as such, I weigh them as having equal importance."

Chad Williams-Bey, a HUSA presidential candidate, said that the election guidelines are important and support the elections commission in enforcing the rules.

"If you have people on

See ELECTIONS, Page 3

What's In A Name?

A Look at the Namesakes of Howard University



Prudence Crandall Hall

BY BRIGGITTA HARDIN
Contributing Writer

women in New England.

Crandall was dedicated to keeping the academy open for her students, even after many trials and tribulations.

One of the few buildings not named after an African American, the Prudence Crandall Hall dormitory is unique in many ways.

As a "woman of courage," Crandall wished to educate women of all colors, at a time when people of color weren't allowed to receive an education.

Born on Sept. 3, 1803, Crandall was raised as a Quaker, a non-traditional Christian religion, in which the members are obliged to live by individual religious beliefs and inner revelations.

Always wanting to be an educator, in 1831, Crandall opened up a private academy for girls in Connecticut.

The academy was a huge success with all of the students coming from wealthy white families. After being approached by a black student wishing to enroll in the school so she can receive an education to give back to the "colored children," Crandall made a decision that she knew was going to affect her life, and admitted the young woman.

However, the families of the other students were not happy with Crandall's decision of educating black and white students together and boycotted the academy.

Due to the loss of most of her students, she was forced to close the predominantly white academy, but Crandall never gave up on her dream. She began another academy for women of color.

The Canterbury Female Academy became the first private educational opportunity for black

Although Crandall and her students were harassed and the academy was vandalized, still Crandall continued to teach. In 1834, Connecticut passed the "Black Law," making it illegal to educate "people of color," and she was arrested and found guilty for disobeying the law.

Crandall continued to fight for her students and won the case on appeal.

Upset with Crandall's victory, a white mob destroyed the Academy and threatened the lives of her students. Fearing for the safety of her students, Crandall decided to close the doors of the Academy.

In 1886, the state of Connecticut offered Crandall an apology for causing her years of pain and suffering.

After all the hardships she had encountered, Crandall spent her remaining years teaching and becoming a symbol for women rights and education for all.

She married the Rev. Calvin Philleo and later died on Jan. 28, 1890.

In 1995, the state officially named Crandall its "Connecticut State Heroine."

Crandall is remembered years after her death because she left a mark on the world. As a woman of courage and strength, she risked her life and stood up for the education of blacks.

After experiencing many hardships, she refused to let anything prevent her from educating others.

CHAPEL RECAP: DR. ANTHONY CAMPOLO SPEAKS

BY EBONI FARMER
Hilltop Staff Writer

Anthony Campolo, Ph.D., a professor of sociology at Eastern University in St. Davids, Pa. came to Chapel to deliver the word of God to the people of God.

He focused strongly on Romans chapter eight, verses one and two, which describes the power of the Holy Spirit and what it can do to a man.

The King James version reads, "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death."

Campolo said the Holy Spirit changes things for people no matter if they have sinned or been saints their entire lives.

"God and His Holy Spirit is not meant for those who do good all time. It is meant to save those who may be in grasp of damnation," he said.

Campolo described a time in high school when he wanted to go out for the basketball team but he had to get in shape so he joined the track team to become a mile runner. He said that he had neither the will nor the

ability to do what mile-runners like Roger Banister did by running a mile in four minutes.

"The Holy Spirit will give you the will and the ability to do whatever it is that you want to do," Campolo said.

He continued, "If you have the desire to live out the will of God he will give you the strength."

Campolo said that there is a difference between resolving to give of oneself to do the duties God has planned and actually doing them and giving oneself to the Holy Spirit.

"I'm tired of hearing Christians say 'I have sinned.' Forget those things and count the positive things that you have done. Jesus has erased your tape and your slate is clean," Campolo said.

Campolo said the Holy Spirit gives God's children a new identity.

He spoke of an old man who told his story to one of Campolo's friends. The old man did not know his father and was ridiculed throughout his life because of it. One day in church a pastor told him that he was a child of God and it did not matter if he knew his biological father, God was all he needed.

"The Holy Spirit cre-



Jessica De Figue - Staff Photographer

Anthony Campolo, professor Emeritus of Sociology at Eastern University, preached in Chapel on Sunday.

ates a closer relationship with Jesus. Don't fear God because his love is perfect and perfect love cast out fear," Campolo said.

Campolo urged the people of God to help the poor and oppressed. He talked about his efforts to help children in Haiti have shelter, food and a school facility.

He raised money in America to help build a facility for 40 children. The day it was set to open 300 children showed up.

"I was angry I had to choose 40 and I knew that

those who I couldn't take would be dead by the time they were 15 if they didn't get help," Campolo said.

Campolo wanted students to be aware of the importance of their education.

"Your education is not to climb the ladder of success in the corporate world but to help your brothers and sisters in need of help," Campolo said.

He continued, "We cannot continue to be blind [to] the needs of the poor and the oppressed."

Campus Briefs



University of Illinois Kills 'Chief Illiniwek'

The University of Illinois decided after the men's basketball team's last home game on Feb. 21 that they would discontinue the use of their controversial American Indian mascot, Chief Illiniwek, after 80 years to be eligible to host NCAA post season events. The university has not confirmed a replacement for the mascot at this time.



University of Florida to Charge Fee to Hire Professors

Sen. Steve Oerlich, R-Fla., announced plans to charge freshmen an additional \$1,000 in order to hire 200 more professors and 100 more academic advisors at the University of Florida. Neither of Florida's state-sponsored grants, the Bright Futures Scholarship Program or the Florida Prepaid College Plan, would cover the additional fee.



Students Take Naps at Indiana University - South Bend

According to the Associated Press, a nap club has gained popularity at Indiana University-South Bend since being created during the fall semester of 2006. Two students, Joe Spencer and Michael Duttlinger, started the group in which students can take moderated naps between 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mondays through Thursdays.



Poll Shows Worry for Privatization of Universities

A study conducted in England by YouGov for the University and College Union showed that the public believes the privatization of universities could lead to failing standards and would threaten Britain's international reputation. Surveyors asked more than 2,300 people about their views on the effect of using private companies to provide tuition assistance to university students.

Famuan Staff Walks Out Over Not Being Paid

FAMUAN, from Page 1

people's attention by not being defiant," Long said. "If I would have sat there and pretended like everything was OK, it would have been a slap in my own face."

Long said she understood why the Famuan still had to go to press. "I understand that we have advertisers, and we have to honor those contracts. I think that printing just enough pages for the ads and squeezing stories around them is a good compromise. I just refuse to be a part of it."

A few staff members

did decide to stay on the job. Robbyn Mitchell, the business editor, said her decision was mainly based on habit.

"I'm continuing to work because I can't see myself doing anything else on a Sunday night, and I don't want to think of how the University would be if there was no Famuan," said Mitchell, a 21-year-old newspaper journalism student from Washington, D.C.

Editor in Chief Alaythia C. Burkins echoed that sentiment.

"I'm in full support of

my staff, but I remain here because the student body still needs their news and information," Burkins said, a 24-year-old business administration student from West Orange, N.J. "I think everyone had to do what's right for themselves and their situation."

Burkins wrote a column in the Famuan saying her own lights had been turned off. She concluded, "Maybe the revolution won't be televised—many of us couldn't afford to watch it anyway. But at least it will be printed, thoroughly and accurately."

Literary Greats Share with Students at Heart's Day

HEART'S DAY, from Page 1

ence. Giovanni read her most famous poem "Ego-tripping" which most of the audience knew the first word to: "I was born in the Congo." The poem is a tribute to being a black woman and loving it no matter what obstacles or criticisms that come along with it.

Giovanni kept the audience on their heels as they listened to her telling things the way that they are.

"Ben Franklin realized there would be no civilization here in America without black women," Giovanni said.

Giovanni also told her story of James Tate, the bus driver on Dec. 4, 1955 when Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat and how he died the day she went to Montgomery, Ala. to become the first

recipient of the Rosa Parks Women of Courage Award.

His wife who she called "Miss Tate," said that her husband was a man of time and Giovanni did not understand that.

"No man should be a man of his times. To be of your times during the 1800s means to own slaves," Giovanni said.

Although students enjoyed Giovanni's outspoken charismatic voice, hearing Evans was also something they appreciated as well.

"My favorite poem is Mari Evans poem, 'Who Can Be Born Black.' It's the only one I can recite. It's moving because it's short, but it has such an uplifting and powerful message that was need in the 1960s and 70s.

Evans who revised "Who Can Be Born Black" wanted students to know that what

poets write is subject to change.

"You might have to take one part and move to another or change a word or two to get what you finally want," Evans said.

Evans added that there was something magical happening in the Ira Aldridge Theatre. She described a moment when in one of the day's session they were listening to Giovanni's poetry and Giovanni walked into the room.

"We are a beautiful [race] who has endured a great deal and through it all we have changed the way people think and feel through our words and actions," Evans said. "I wonder if you all understand the inexplicable things that will happen when we stick together as a people."

MS² Exposed to Engineering

PBS, from Page 1

of what engineers do, but a broader sense of who can be an engineer the opportunities available.

Throughout the day students constructed race cars made of rubber bands, cardboard, wooden skewers and compact discs among other supplies illustrating the creative processes in engineering and showing that engineering can be fun. Ericsson said practical, hands-on and fundamental skills such as the rubber-band car challenge are necessary to become an engineer.

"I think it's so important

for people to be in experimental, laboratory and development areas before they really begin to move up and make decisions about projects."

During a speech before the final rubber-band car competition for the sixth grade class, Kathie Olsen, Deputy Director of the National Science Foundation stressed the importance of mathematics and science in the 21st century. Following her speech, Director of Education at Intel Corp., Brenda Musilli spoke of the importance of keeping America competitive in the engineering field as other countries are becoming increas-

ingly competitive.

Ashleigh Veney-Cannon, a winner of the rubber-band car challenge said, "It taught me that by the simplest things you can make something really big, like a car from pieces of paper and things like that."

Her rubber-band car traveled 15 feet across the stage of the Middle School's auditorium.

Bell said, "The image of an engineer with a pocket protector and geeky walking around is gone. There's a new wave of engineers out there and we're here to stay."

Election Guidelines Clarified

ELECTIONS, from Page 2

your back saying that you can't do this and can't do that, it provides for a cleaner, less tedious race," Williams-Bey said.

Marcus Ware and Jamel Franklin, the other two presidential candidates, both has the same sentiments about the guidelines as Williams-Bey.

Since last school year, there have been a few changes to the official election guidelines. One of the major changes was the use of Facebook and MySpace as campaigning mechanisms.

"I recommended that the General Assembly add provisions to the guidelines to take into account the new methods of communication used in campaigning," Haynes said.

Both Ware and Franklin do not agree with the additional provisions with Facebook and MySpace advertisements.

"I really don't understand why they want to limit our communication with students," Ware said. "Facebook and

MySpace are tools to let people know who we are as people and our platforms."

However, Franklin said it is unfair to put restrictions on the internet because Facebook and MySpace are not affiliated with the University.

Haynes added that the change was approved by the General Assembly and that these changes were made to clarify any discrepancy about what candidates can and can't use these mediums for.

"These changes were made to eliminate any gray area about how candidates may use these mediums for campaign purposes," he said.

Haynes added that the general guidelines manual also lays out consequences for candidates who don't follow the guidelines.

"If candidates violate the guidelines, they may be warned or fined for the violation. If the candidate has egregiously violated the guidelines, they could potentially be disqualified and removed from the ballot."

Haynes added that there

are several ways to determine if a candidate does not abide by the guidelines.

"If [election commission] witness a violation, such as posting a flyer in an improper location or campaigning in a restricted area, then [the election commission] would document it and notify the candidate," he said.

Haynes recommends that students really take time to think before running.

"I would advise students to think about where their efforts and abilities would be best suited. Not everyone has the energy required of the HUSA President and Vice President," Haynes said. "It's very important for potential candidates to learn about the positions they're interested in and determine where they could be most effective."

-Additional reporting by Mercia Williams-Murray, Hilltop Staff Writer



What's happening in the Residence Hall?

"Hall Happenings"

February 19 2007-February 24, 2007

Monday, February 19, 2007

"SA Interest Meeting",

Towers West, Community Room, 7:00 PM

Tuesday, February 20, 2007

"SA Interest Meeting",

Towers West, Community Room, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, February 21, 2007

"Steering Committee Meeting",

Towers West, Community Room, 7:00 PM

Thursday, February 22, 2007

"Colorism Discussion",

Cook Hall, 8PM

"HU Caribbean Carnival", Burr Gymnasium,
7:00 PM- 12:00 AM, Cost: \$1.00 (Slowe Hall)

"I Know You Can't Do It Like Me: Vocal and Lyrical Competition",
Meridian Hill Hall Reading Room, 9:00 PM

"SA Interest Meeting",

Towers West, Community Room, 7:00 PM

Friday, February 23, 2007

"Auction", Cook Hall, 8 PM

"Staff Appreciation Day: Show Some Love",
Slowe Hall, 9:00AM-5:00PM

"Movie Night: Last King of Scotland",
Towers West, Community Room, 8:00 PM

Saturday, February 24, 2007

"Dean's Day Out",

Mays Hall, Dining Hall, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

All off campus students are invited to participate with Mays Hall in the upcoming ResFest activities. Please contact Shane at 757-927-0378 for more information



HOWARD UNIVERSITY

2007 GENERAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION

The 2007 General Elections Commission, in connection with the 2006-2007 HUSA Executive Branch, Cordially Invites All Students To Attend the
HUSA CANDIDATE DEBATES.
HUSA Vice-Presidential Candidate Debate

Tuesday February 20, 2007 at 7pm
School of Business Auditorium

HUSA Presidential Candidate Debate
Wednesday February 21, 2007
at 7pm
School of Business Auditorium

COME OUT TO HEAR WHAT YOUR CANDIDATES HAVE TO SAY!

Sincerely, Your 2007 General Elections Commission
Allen Haynes, General Elections Administrator

District Nightlife Appears Segregated

BY JANAY M. WILSON
Contributing Writer

Anyone who has lived in the District for any amount of time, cannot help but notice that communities within the District are separated.

Neighborhoods such as Georgetown and Adams Morgan are predominantly white, while many of Hispanic descent live in areas around Columbia Heights. Although certain areas of the District are mixed, it is still noticeably segregated.

The same scenario seems to be true for the nightlife in the District. There are numerous bars and clubs throughout the metropolitan area, but some students on campus have noticed the disparity between the races when it comes to partying.

Nick Owen, a sophomore communications major, said, "I noticed that different races will listen and dance to the same kind of hip-hop music as us, but they don't like to party with us or rather be in the same room as us as they are listening to the same music."

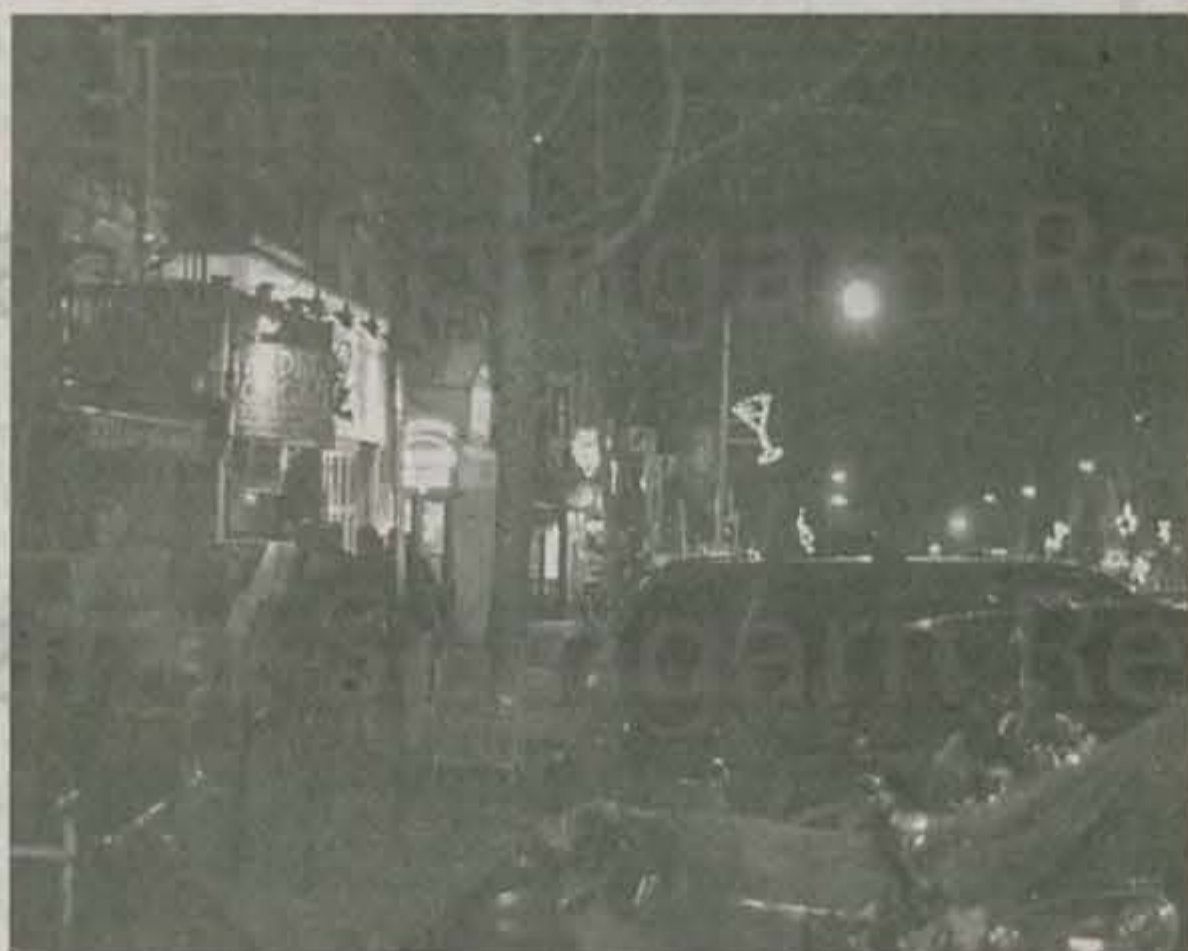
Some students said the distinction is only natural.

"There is nothing really wrong with it," sophomore human development major Tiffany Reeves said. "It is almost like human nature that people of the same race and culture tend to hang out together or do things that are similar."

Other students see it in a different light.

"It is not so much that D.C. nightlife is segregated, it is really that the clubs cater to certain groups of people on different nights that attract different crowds," said Stan Green, a senior management major.

Joshua Martin, a security



Imani Ahmad - Staff Photographer

Many students notice the differences in ethnic clientele at certain local nightlife destinations. Some believe the racial disparity is not intentional, but due to people's musical tastes.

guard at Platinum Nightclub, said, "We try to mix up the crowd so we play different types of music throughout the night so everyone is happy."

Jerome Brown, a promoter for LOVE Nightclub, said, "I do not think that D.C. nightlife is segregated at all."

He added, "We like to play a variety of different music. Certain nights we will play hip-hop, and there may be a more urban crowd, but there will still be some other races mixed amongst the crowd. Some nights we play only salsa and reggae-ton, which generally cater to a Hispanic crowd."

H2O, a club located near the waterfront, has international night to appeal to a broader crowd.

"Every Friday, we have international night, and in each room there will be different types of music playing," said H2O Manager Geo Hilton. "International night has become one of our most popular nights because everyone is able to hear something they like."

Jason Trotter, a senior biology major, said, "Clubs in D.C. are not segregated intentionally. It is all based on what type of music the club is playing that particular night."

Trotter added, "People are not attracted to a club because of what race of people are going to be there necessarily, but rather what type of music will be played."

Autumn Walker, a freshman engineering major, said,

"Some people may think clubs in D.C. are segregated because a lot of the upscale clubs require people to dress up, and it is more expensive to get in."

She added, "This may deter many people who would rather go to a club like Envy where you don't have to dress a certain way, and it is a lot cheaper to get in. This factor could be due to economic factors, not necessarily race."

Party goers also argue that the reason so many people of one race attend one club is a result of advertising. Certain clubs advertise to a specific group of people. The targeted groups usually have nothing to do with race, but more so with age and affiliation.

New Shaw Business Challenges the Community to Experiment with Wine

BY CHARLOTTE YOUNG
Hilltop Staff Writer

From the moment Franco Clark's neighbor brought him down to his large wine cellar, he could no longer look at wine the same way.

Clark found an interest that soon transformed into a hobby and an obsession through which Grape Legs: Fun Wines and Spirits was born.

Taking notice of the potential for growth in the Shaw area, Clark opened Grape Legs in the middle of Little Ethiopia, at the 1900 block of 9th Street in Northwest Washington, D.C. on Feb. 3.

A play off of "great legs," Clark and his partners Bryan Deily and Joey Belcher hope to "demystify wines and make

wines approachable and affordable for everybody."

Clark said, "Wine to most people is unapproachable. When they go into restaurants, they don't know what to order. It's just overwhelming to some people."

He added, "[It's the] same as going to most wine stores in the city. They try to keep a special club--the people in-the-know about wines and the people that are not in-the-know about wines."

Clark wants his wine to be for the people of the community.

"My clientele is not Fairfax, Marlboro or P.G.," he said. "It's all city people."

Shelves line both sides of the small open shop stacked with wine from all over the world, including Argentina,

Chile, New Zealand, Australia, South Africa and Italy.

Only five wines out of 100 are from the United States.

"A premise to this place is to find the wines that nobody else has," Clark said. "If people are looking for Yellowtail Shiraz, they won't find it here. But what they will find is a wine that's much better for the same price."

Wine tastings are available everyday to educate people on wines. Three wines a day, 18 a week, are kept open, and anyone over 21 can sample Clark's wines.

"When you come in you get one-on-one attention," Clark said. "If you go to any other wine store in the city, there's no way they've tasted every wine and can talk to you about what the wines taste

like or what will go well as far as food goes."

Clark has tasted and personally chosen all of the wines in his shop as an added uniqueness to the selection offered at Grape Legs.

"My wife and I have been in there a couple of times," District resident Ethan Solomon said. "Franco is really knowledgeable and hand selects all of the wines in the store. He has some interesting wines that you don't see in other stores and his prices are good."

Affordability, a factor Clark and his partners were very conscious of, is maintained by using only two distributors. Eighty percent of his wines are between six and \$15 so people "can walk out of here spending \$20 on two bottles of wine instead of \$40 or \$50 or \$60."

Clark said, "The wines are from small producers, so large stores won't carry them."

Because of the low profile of Clark's wines, the cost is also lower for bringing them into market.

Grape Legs does not just sell wines. Tequilas, beers, scotches, vodkas and special spirits can also be found in the shop, but just like the wines, these drinks are not from the everyday variety.

Out of all of the wines Clark carries in his shop, he refuses to pick a favorite.

"I want people to come in and try," he said. "I know all the wines here have a place in somebody's house."

The wine shop will eventually have products available online, free delivery for wines and a 10 percent discount with certain purchases. Clark and his partners also want to build another Grape Legs location, as well as a Grape Legs Wine Label.

THE METRO: STOP BY STOP King Street Station

BY JANAY M. WILSON
Contributing Writer

Many Howard students take the metro on a regular basis. When traveling on either the yellow or blue line, many students tend to go no further than Pentagon City. But for those who feel like venturing a little farther past Pentagon City, there is the King Street metro stop precisely four stops further.

King Street is in Alexandria, Va. and thrives on hundreds of businesses located within the area. There are more than 50 restaurants, ranging from Japanese food to Indian food to American. There are about 10 upscale hotels, including the Hilton and Embassy Suites.

A strip across from King Street called Duke Street, is lined with shops including Banana Republic and Gap. There are also book stores, coffee shops and boutiques.

Junior political science major Jerome Jones has ventured to the area to check out the area and stores. He liked the area, but said, "I never really shop on Duke Street because it is too expensive for my budget."

King Street is known for its George Washington Masonic National Memorial. This is the only Masonic building supported by and maintained by the Grand Lodges of the United States.

King Street is the home of many associations, including the Society of Human Resource Management, the Society of Travel Agents and the Transportation Association. Some of these organizations provide jobs for students and alumni.

"I just graduated from Howard [in the] spring

of '05, and I got a job down here on King Street at the Society of Human Resources Management," Rebecca Winn said.

Further along the King Street vicinity is residential housing with a mixed variety of races. There is a total of 18 schools, including three high schools, two middle schools and 13 elementary schools.

A famous high school in the area is T.C. Williams. The film "Remember the Titans," starring Denzel Washington, was based on the school.

King Street is famous for Old Alexandria, which is modeled after 17th century architecture.

One tourist attraction in the historic district is the Black History Museum. The museum was originally a segregated library for Alexandria's black residents. The museum documents the local and national history, culture and contributions of black Americans.

Spring and summer are the most popular times to go on tours in the area. Some other attractions include the Cameron Run Regional Park that features water slides, a wave pool, a lap pool, batting cages and miniature golf. Visitors also flock to tours on horse drawn carts.

The Wilson Bridge in Alexandria was recently rebuilt so extra lanes could accommodate the traffic.

Freshman biology major Tia Johnson said, "I live in Alexandria, Va. and during the week, I like to go to the book stores and read while I sit with my coffee. I have always just enjoyed the atmosphere."

If students are looking for something new to experience, then King Street is the place to visit to escape the District.



File Photos

King Street in Alexandria, Va., off the yellow and blue lines, is a haven for tourists, residents and shoppers.



Photo Courtesy of Charlotte Young

Grape Legs: Fun Wines and Spirits, located in the Shaw community, was established to make wine buying affordable and less intimidating for new customers in the community.



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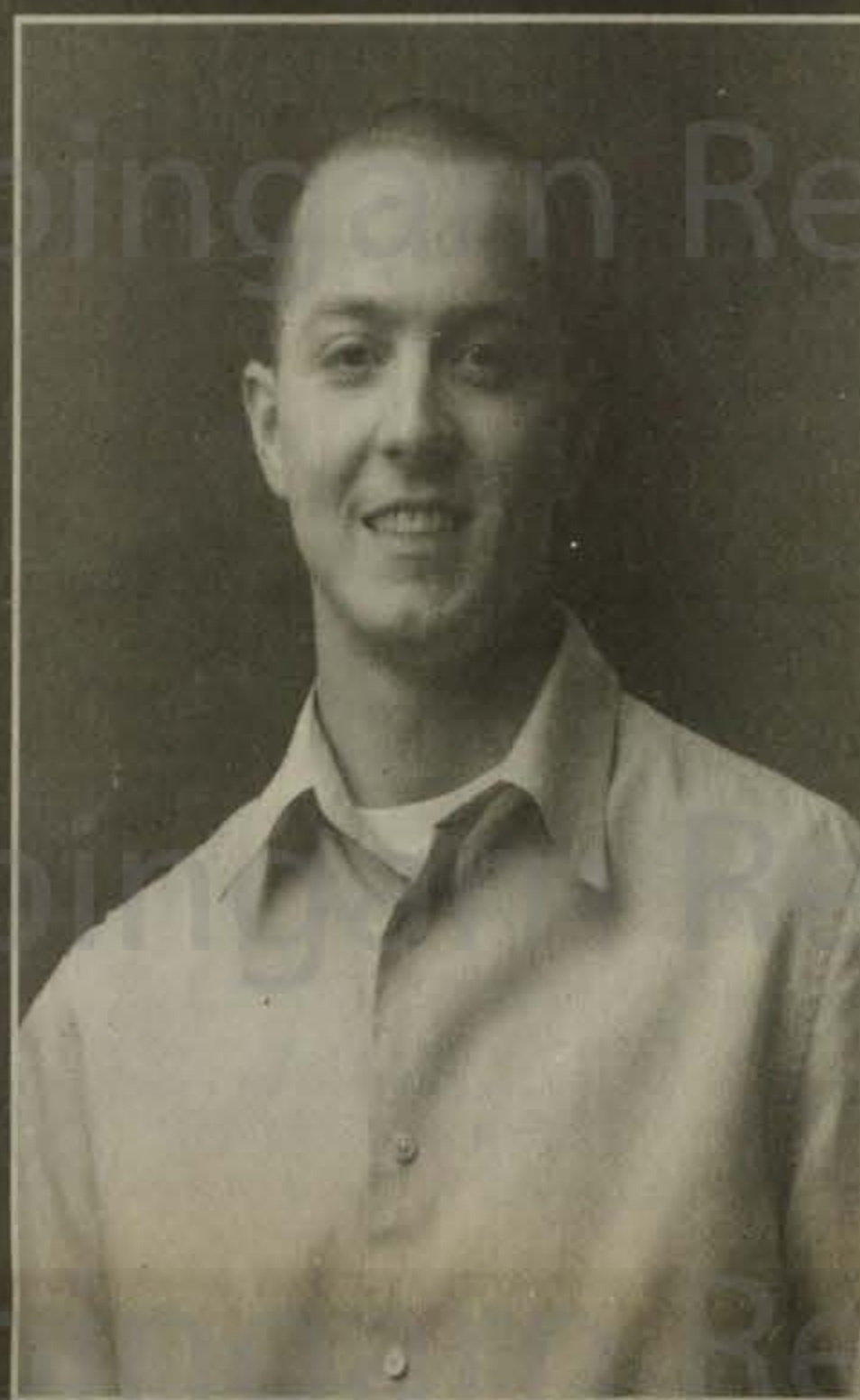
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U.S. ARMY

Rattlers Overpower Bison in Tallahassee

BY EDWARD HILL, JR.
Special to The Hilltop

Tallahassee, Fla. - Feb. 19 - It was the inside power game of Florida A&M University against the long-range shooting of Howard University and when it was all said and done, the power game had the last say. The Rattlers defeated the Bison, 85-75 in a Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference men's game at Gaither Gymnasium.

Florida A&M, which features one of the top frontcourts in the conference, shot 60 percent from the field (32 of 53) for the game and won the points-in-the-paint battle, 40-16.

Howard countered by dialing long distance, shooting a blistering 51

percent from beyond the stripe. Kandi Mukole, Darryl Hudson and Darek Mitchell combined for 12 of 20 from long range.

The Rattlers (16-12 overall, 10-5 in the MEAC) got 50 points from its frontcourt of Darius Glover (22 points, 7 rebounds), Brian Greene (16 points, 11 rebounds) and Rome Sanders (12 points).

Howard stayed close through most of the game, forging a 39-39 tie at intermission on a 5-0 surge in the final seconds. The teams went back and forth through most of the second half until a 10-2 run helped open a 15-point lead by Florida A&M.

Howard (9-17 overall, 5-9 in the MEAC) continued its hot shooting from the

outside but Glover and the frontcourt sank nine of 12 free throws down the stretch to put the game away.

Hudson led Howard with 18 points, followed by Will Gant with 15 off the bench and Mukole and Mitchell with 12 each.

Next up, Howard will travel to Baltimore to take on the Eagles of Coppin State on Saturday at 4 p.m. and Florida A&M travels to Dover, Del. to take on the Hornets of Delaware State on Saturday at 4 p.m.



Despite Hudson and Gant contributing double-digit point totals against the Rattlers, the Bison lost by ten points.

Lady Bison Fall Short to FAMU, 81-71

BY EDWARD HILL, JR.
Special to The Hilltop

Tallahassee, Fla. - Feb. 19 - Asha Santee poured in a career-high 25 points, but it was not enough to offset a first half deficit as Howard University fell to Florida A&M University, 81-71, in a Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference women's game at Gaither Gymnasium.

The Lady Bison (5-19 overall, 5-9 in the MEAC) got off to a slow start and

allowed the Lady Rattlers (13-13 overall, 9-6 in the MEAC) to build a 17-point halftime lead.

Santee, who hit on nine of 16 from the field, took upon herself to get her team back in the game, tallying 19 points, including 12 straight at one point to whittle the lead to 10 with eight minutes left in the second half.

But Florida A&M regrouped and rode the scoring of Deidra Jones

and Secrett Anderson, who each scored 11 second half points to go back up by 20.

The Lady Bison put together one last run, this time led by Sequoya Moore, Courtney Smiley and Shannon Carlisle, who combined for 28 second half points, to reduce the deficit to a workable margin. But again, Florida A&M had an answer as Joslyne Jackson scored nine of her 11 points in the last two minutes to put the game away.

Howard was able to generate points from its pressure defense, but it lost the battle on the boards (60-46) and points-in-the-paint (34-14).

Carlisle finished with 14 despite missing 14 shots and Moore and Smiley contributed 11 and 10, respectively for the Lady Bison. Tamaya Daniels, who grabbed a career-high 20 rebounds against Bethune-Cookman, led Howard with 10 rebounds.

The Lady Rattlers' finish featured the one-two punch of Anderson (24) and Jones (20). Anderson also grabbed a game-high 12 rebounds. On Saturday, Howard travels to Baltimore to take on the Lady Eagles of Coppin State at 2 p.m. in the Coppin Center while Florida A&M travels to Dover, Del. to take on the Lady Hornets of Delaware State on Saturday at 2 p.m.

One-on-One with...

Howard Cheerleader

Halimah Muhammad

BY ADIA BETTS
Contributing Writer

Since the fourth grade, Halimah Muhammad has been a part of cheerleading. Anyone who knows her can see why. A very lively and outgoing young lady, Muhammad epitomizes the energetic cheerleader profile.

Muhammad is a new addition to the Howard University cheerleading team this year and cheers during the basketball season. She is still working on balancing her time for cheerleading with her long list of priorities.

After classes, schoolwork, organizational meetings, volunteer work and maintaining a social life, it is incredible that Muhammad has time to fit anything else onto her plate.

Only love for one's sport and motivation can clarify why she would add such a time-consuming and demanding sport to her already tight schedule.

This junior television production major has always had a love for cheerleading, and being in the spotlight does not hurt either.

"Nothing or no one in particular encouraged me to become a cheerleader," Muhammad stated. "I love the attention."

Do not take this as a declaration of vanity, she says. It is simply a representation of her affinity to being around people.

"Everybody says that I am crazy and fun to be around," Muhammad said.

Besides the attention, Muhammad enjoys being an important element of the team. She says that is what truly motivates her to go out and give her all game after game.

After all these years, Muhammad still finds joy in cheering. For her, the excitement for cheering lies within encountering and adjusting to the differences between each level of cheerleading as the years pass.

Muhammad says a major difference has been the types of moves and detail incorporated into the cheers.

"We do more dancing in college. Back in high school, we were not allowed to dance."

Another major difference Muhammad

had to adjust to was the seriousness of college-level cheering. The practices are longer and more intense; the cheers are more precise and detailed; the games are more heartfelt. This is a large contrast from high school.

"It is more work than fun," she admits. "However, the hard work always proves worth it."

Muhammad says that every challenge is not personal. When asked what was the most challenging part of cheering, Muhammad said it was making a team effort.

"I want to make sure that I do not let the team down," she said.

It is her understanding of the give and take that sports require that make her a good athlete. Muhammad demonstrates a consistent mix of athleticism, good sportsmanship, patience and ability to work well with others. She is quick to display her love for cheering and willingness to learn.

Muhammad says she loves "the yelling. I love to scream, but I hate the practices at 6 a.m."

She could not think of any reasons that would make Howard

cheerleaders unique from those of other HBCUs or institutions. However, she does know that Howard cheerleaders do work exceptionally hard and she hopes that people appreciate the work they do.

Muhammad wants to make it apparent what exactly cheerleaders contribute to sporting events. She says that "cheerleaders are the people who keep the team's hopes up!"



Photo Courtesy of Halimah Muhammad

Junior Halimah Muhammad's love of cheerleading stayed with her from elementary school sidelines to Howard's basketball squad.

SCOREBOARD & SCHEDULE

SCORES

Men's Tennis

Howard 0
Old Dominion 7

Women's Tennis

Howard 0
Old Dominion 7

Track and Field @ MEAC Championships in Landover, Md.

Men - 10th Place

1 Mile Run
Thurman Sanders - 6th Place (4:27.22)

800 Meter Run
Matthew Cody - 10th Place (1:58.32)

60 Meter Hurdles
Daniel Kinney - (8.13)

4x4 Relay
Howard 'A' - 5th Place (3:18.10)
Women - 6th Place

400 Meter Run
Lauren McNary - 1st Place (55.25)

1 Mile Run
Jessica Neal - 2nd Place (5:06.58)

3000 Meter Run
Jessica Neal - 2nd Place (10:21.42)

60 Meter Hurdles
Alyssa Johnson - 4th Place (8.69)

4x4 Relay
Howard 'A' - 5th Place (3:55.01)

Women's Basketball

(Sat.)
Howard 79
Bethune-Cookman 73

(Mon.)
Howard 71
Florida A&M 81

Men's Basketball

(Sat.)
Howard 56
Bethune-Cookman 54

(Mon.)
Howard 75
Florida A&M 85

Lacrosse

Howard 7
UMBC 23

UPCOMING GAMES

None

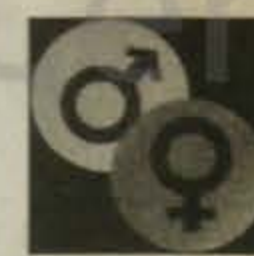
TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY...

On Feb. 20, 1951, Emmett Ashford became the first Black umpire to gain certification in organized baseball, working in the Southwestern International League.



He Said

She Said



Friendship

The dynamics of friendships mark another way in which the sexes differ from one another.

Within their friendships men tend to be more guarded and internal in their friendships than do females. For instance, a man will most often keep the issues and dilemmas in his life private. Guys don't dump all of their problems and insecurities on their boys. In such situations, a man is more likely to share with a trusted few or his significant other than a roundtable of his homies.

For women, that kind of sharing is commonplace. This may be due to the increased intimacy in female friendships lacking in male bonds.

Unfortunately, the added intimacy makes for less longevity. Women have a tendency to not forgive and to hold grudges which can wreak havoc on their friendships.

This was made even more evident to me when I was recently talking to a col-

league of mine. She mentioned that she had known her best friends since seventh grade and that is remarkable for female friendships.

In contrast, my core of best friends I have known since preschool or before. Long friendships like this were common for the men that I asked. However, a friendship since high school or middle school was lengthy for women.

Perhaps, this is due to the popular mantra "bros before..." well you know the rest. Men don't allow even some of the biggest sins to affect their friendships in the long term. Guys will get into a fist fight brawl over the most trivial of subjects then, be boys again minutes later while laughing about it over drinks.

No model for friend-



Illustration by Jana Homes, Photos courtesy www.fox.com and www.haringliwanag.panstian.net

ships is better than the other. Instead both have their share of positive and negative qualities. Of course, that is why there is a need for relationships with the opposite sex so that we can get what we would miss among our own gender.

Friends... How many of us have them?

These popular Whodini lyrics discuss friendship, but not the role gender plays in these close, non-familial bonds.

Typically, women are thought of as more empa-

thetic, emotionally attached, and expressive while men are said to be distant, detached, and dry.

In an article called "Sex Differences in Same-Sex Friendship," published in *Sex Roles*, Mayta A. Caldwell and Letitia Anne Peplau examined the ways friends of the same sex relate. They found that the genders do not differ in qualitative measures, such as number of friends or time spent with friends.

However, they did support the idea that men and women interact differently with their friends. They found that women showed a tendency to value emotional sharing while men focused on activities and doing things together.

Some may suggest that because women are

so open with their friends, they run the risk of losing them sooner due to fights or grudges. The opposition to such a statement could suggest that because men are not open, they lack the supportive, deep connection that is often used to define real friendship.

Personally, I'd take a friend I can share with over just another person to go to the mall with. And if a friendship is really worth having, it should be worth protecting, thus eliminating the drama of the "friend break-up."

But I must admit the guys do seem to have us beat on some fronts. The less popular "Sisters Before Misters" mentality never quite caught on like the male equivalent did with the "bros." Perhaps, it can be traced back to the phrase's lack of je-ne-sais-quoi or to the sense of competition that women can't seem to shake, but should.

From the Minds of Joshua Thomas & Jana Homes

HOUSEBROKEN



Logic Puzzle

Given the information in the Logic Problem introduction and clues, solve for the unique answer as instructed in the individual puzzle description. Usually, building a grid or table is most effective in finding the solution.

The Summerset seniors have an exciting class trip to New York City. Over Thanksgiving break, the Summerset High School seniors took their class trip to New York City, watching the Macy's parade on Thursday and then spending the next three days touring the Big Apple. Each of the three senior home rooms and the homeroom teacher, accompanied by a tour guide, visited six New York attractions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon each day Friday to Sunday, with no two classes visiting the same site on any one day. Given the clues below, can you deduce each senior home room's teacher and tour guide and at which the New York attraction the students were in each morning and evening Friday to Sunday?

- At the same time Ms. Dailey's home room was at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the home room with Alex as tour guide was walking along Fifth Avenue and the group led by Jeff was at Ground Zero.
- Each home room saw a matinee-i.e., afternoon performance of "Hairspray" on Broadway.
- On Friday, while home room one was at the Empire State Building, Mr. Scott's students were at the Statue of Liberty and the group with Kerrie as tour guide was exploring Fifth Avenue.
- The day home room three saw "Hairspray" wasn't the same one during which they were on Fifth Avenue.
- Saturday afternoon, home room three saw the Statue of Liberty and Ms. Walker's seniors shopped on Fifth Avenue.

Puzzle courtesy of www.alterpuzzles.com

Overheard @ The Mecca

And Kunta Kente Probably Likes White Women
Overheard in The School of C

Howard Girl #1 (works at hotel): I seen all types of people this week. I checked Phyllicia Rashad in. I hate to say it but, but, uhm, Cicely Tyson is a Witch!

Howard Girl #2: What? Why?

HG#1: Man she comes in the lobby with her white blouse and collar popped, some slacks and a turban on her head. She sent back three tea cups and said they had water stains.

HG#2: You better drink that water Jane Pittman!

If That's Not Love, I Don't Know What Love Is
Overheard in The Blackburn Center

Infatuated Girl: I love him. I just love him. I mean granted I don't even know his name but it just seems like he has such a beautiful SOUL.

As Though Education Were Important
Overheard in Douglass Hall

Flustered Student: Man!! I can't believe he didn't let me into class!! I was only an hour late!!!

Where Have I Heard that Date Before?
Overheard in the Annex Café

Concerned girl: Hello Campus Police, I'm walking up Georgia and I think someone is following me. Could you come and get me?

Police: Ma'am what time is it?

Girl: 11:30.

Police: the shuttle service stops running at 12. Thank you.

Check out more at Overheardatthamecca.blogspot.com and submit to Overheardatthamecca@gmail.com

Please send any responses to Meccanisms; 'He Said . . . She Said' topics, things you've Overheard @ The Mecca or any other contributions to meccanisms@gmail.com

EDITORIALS *& Perspectives*

VOLUME 90, NO. 84

FEBRUARY 20, 2007

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM



Famuan Says "No Pay, No Paper"

As reported by Sidney Wright, IV for Black College Wire in today's issue of *The Hilltop*, several members of *The Famuan* newspaper have gone on strike due to failure to receive paychecks from the University. Seventeen members of the newspaper's staff, along with many adjunct professors and other student employees, have not been paid by Florida A&M University this semester.

Castell Brant, the university's interim president, said the students will be paid this week and that there is no clear or distinct reason for the hold up.

This state university should be held accountable for the inability to pay so many employees in a timely fashion. It is wrong that they are not paying these students and blaming it on an error in budgeting.

The frequent question that *The Hilltop* editorial

board members asked was, "How can something like this happen at a university that has been in existence for so long and has state backing

Our View:

We fully support The Famuan in their strike, but hope that they can get back to work soon and other university employees can get the pay that they deserve.

financially?"

The answers have to be stronger than a budgeting error that was overseen during the last administration. It is unreal to believe that a state funded university could incur that much financial ruin to the point where a budgeting error would not allow them to pay a significant number of people.

But it is real that *The Famuan's* Editor-In-Chief Alaythia C. Burkins had the lights in her home turned off for inability to pay her

bills. At an editorial roundtable at the HBCU Newspaper Conference, *The Famuan* Business Editor Robbyn Mitchell said that some of the staff members could not pay their rent, and several have received eviction notices.

The Hilltop staff members have encountered problems receiving payment from the University when first getting on staff, but that is not due to accounting issues.

We support *The Famuan* in their effort to ensure they get paid, but hope they are able to get back work soon.

If the University fails to pay these students and they remain on strike, it will only hurt the University at-large.

Although they will be required to print the advertisements they have already sold at a minimum in the newspaper, the University's community will remain uninformed about issues that effect their lives.

Daily Sudoku

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

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

Do you want to write for THE HILLTOP?

Come to our budget meeting

Tuesday @ 7 p.m.

THE HILLTOP

The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper

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

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

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

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

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

Attention:
The Hilltop
Budget Meeting
Has Been
Rescheduled to
Today, Tuesday,
Feb. 20 at 7
p.m. Due to
President's Day.

Confessions of an L&S Editor



BY DANIELLE KWATENG
Life & Style Editor

Last week, I had a sudden reality check. Of course the place of revelation was the "A" building, where I found out I would now have to partially fund my college experience.

OK, so maybe I'm a little dramatic or spoiled, but at what point did I become a grown up with responsibilities and bills?

Suddenly I have to worry about bills and interest rates and deadlines. The pressure of growing up is intense.

It seems like just the other day I was sucking on my ring pop and playing red light, green light without a care in the world.

Sophomore year seems to be the cutoff for most students. Several of my sophomore friends told me their parents have cut them off this year in some way.

It is like our parents have a timer and when that third semester rolls around, we get dumped with a ton of obligations we are not ready for.

So as I sat in the financial aid office, I contemplated how nice it would be to have a ton of money. I decided \$1 million would be a decent amount to hold me down.

I would pay off my loans, pay all my parents' bills, go on a shopping spree, then take a trip to San Tropez with all my friends. Yeah, that would be great because life is always better with money.

Looking at the designated "American Royalty" of our day, things seem contrary to that belief. From constant drug usage to tabloid spectacles, they have inherited more than just money. They have fame.

In America, having money comes with an unspoken responsibility to carry yourself in a certain way and live your life according to society's standards.

Think about it, if you saw Paris Hilton wearing thrift store clothing and driving a used car, you would wonder why she did not spend more money on herself. They constantly live under a big judgmental microscope.

This pressure does not constitute their faulty behavior, but it does explain their constant need for attention and the limelight.

Cry me a river, right?

Nobody values their work because people assume if they have money then everything is easy. And the freedom of time to do and be anything leaves them stagnant, doing nothing productive. Now this is only a small fraction of disgustingly rich people, but it is true.

Worrying about interest rates and the six month period after I graduate is a lot less of a long time burden. The keyword is budget. Call me crazy, but I would rather be broke and happy.

-Dani K.

CHAT on "Confessions" will be held Feb. 26 at The Artmosphere Cafe, 3311 Rhode Island Avenue F.M.I. contact: impactdifference@gmail.com.

West Coast Beach Shows Entice Viewers

BY COURTNEY BATTLE
Hilltop Staff Writer

Like fashion, there is always something new happening in television. This time, it is the craze over shows with sunny beach backdrops.

Programs like "Laguna Beach," "The Hills," "Maui Fever," "The Real Housewives of Orange County" and "The O.C." have taken the tube by storm within the last few years. All of these shows have a couple of things in common—they take place in southern California and chronicle the lives of its wealthy residents.

"There's a lot of money in that particular area," sophomore international business major and Vallejo, Calif., native Sonny Baxter said. "It's just a southern California thing—the culture transcends races for the most part."

The craze all started with "The O.C." The drama takes place in Orange County, Calif., and tells of the lives of fictional wealthy young adults and their tumultuous families.

Since the show's debut on FOX in 2003, pop culture has been turned upside down. Viewers have come to know and love the cast and several musical bands, like Rooney, have gained heavy exposure.

Other shows, like MTV's "Laguna Beach," "The Hills" and "Maui Fever," detail the lives of young people and their daily activities. There is a lot of hooking up, partying, going to the beach and shopping. But the characters are supposedly real, so they also go to school and have jobs.

"The Hills" often shows



Shows based in sunny California are gaining popularity with networks airing the likes of "The O.C.," "The Hills," "Laguna Beach," and "The Real Housewives of Orange County."

the main character, Lauren Conrad, going to school at the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising or at her internship with Teen Vogue magazine.

"The Real Housewives of Orange County" differs from the others being set in the gated community of Coto de Caza, where neighbors are rubbing elbows with CEOs and retired professional athletes. In every episode, viewers find themselves wrapped up in the lives of housewives and their families.

With the exception of "The O.C.," all of these shows are some form of reality television.

"The reason a lot of these shows are being produced is that they make a lot of money," said Lamont Gonzalez, a professor in the radio, television, and film

department. "If it only costs you \$10 to make a show and you can make \$1 million on the revenue stream, then your profit margin is large."

Gonzalez also credits the success of these shows to the quick turnaround between production and airing on the television.

According to Gonzalez, the target audience is young. Geared toward the 18- to 35-year-old crowd, these viewers have "a lot of disposable income, meaning they have money to spend," he said.

Some might see the glamorous southern California lifestyle as an escape.

"A lot of people probably look to [the shows] to take them away from their reality," junior political science major Rachael Allen-Stephens said.

Allen-Stephens, who is

from Berkeley, Calif., tunes in for different reasons.

"I watch 'Laguna Beach' and 'The Hills' because it reminds me of my high school, and I can relate to some of the things they go through because they're my age," she said.

Stephen Washington, a sophomore finance major, is not a fan of the programs, but knows they have a certain appeal to teens, especially younger girls.

"There are attractive young actors and actresses on the shows that teenagers have an infatuation with," he said.

As for the future of the beach shows, it does not seem to be going anywhere anytime soon.

"As long as the production companies are making money, you'll see them.

When Can I Catch These West Coast Beach Shows?

The Hills (Season 2)
Mondays on MTV
10pm EST

Maui Fever
Wednesdays on MTV
10:30pm EST

Laguna Beach
Coming in August on MTV

The OC
Thursdays on FOX
9pm EST

The Real Housewives of Orange County
Tuesdays on Bravo
10pm EST

They'll just change forms," Gonzalez said. "When audiences get tired of them, programming will change."

Washington agreed with him.

"I think these types of shows will get recycled, but not necessarily the same shows. If it's not broke, don't fix it," Washington said.

Freeganism, America's Newest Food Diet

BY AMARIS NOBLE & JANELLE EDMONDS
Contributing Writers

Few people wonder what happens to some of the groceries categorized as "best if eaten by" after they trash countless amounts of food.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) states that 4.4 million people are classified as hungry in the United States. But groups of healthy, middle-class social activists known as Freegans, would rather rummage through dumpsters than dine at a four-star restaurant.

Freegans have given a new meaning to the phrase "one man's trash is another man's treasure."

Freegans are disgusted with the mountains of waste produced by society and have taken recycling to a whole

new level. These sophisticated scavengers collect food and products from public dumpsters in efforts to eat ethically and shop environmentally-friendly.

The freegan philosophy argues that capitalism and mass production exploit workers, animals and the environment.

The term is derived from the words "free" and "vegan." However, freegans claim that even the restrictive, vegan lifestyle, which prohibits the consumption and purchase of goods made from animals, is not completely free from the corruption of capitalism.

Senior public relations major Messiah Ramkissoon has been a loyal vegetarian since birth and remains on the fence about the radical freegan practices. According to Ramkissoon, supporting

the economy is inevitable.

"I respect the fact that freegans are pro actively trying to convey a message because that's the only way to get a movement going," Ramkissoon said. "At the same time, they are still eating the manufactured foods and wearing clothes that someone bought from a store."

Freegans make "dumpster diving" a community affair and tour the trash bins of restaurants, grocery stores and retail stores in exploratory packs. But some do not agree with their lifestyle.

"I believe freegans are making a mockery of people who are forced to do that," senior sociology major Bethany Mitchell said. "You can go to a thrift store and get quality clothes in good condition. I would never try

to go into a dumpster to get food or clothes, unless I was desperate or homeless."

Many are concerned with the health risks of consuming half eaten or forgotten groceries.

Kimeera Rao, a clinical dietitian at the Howard University Hospital, said that cleanliness supersedes any political statement when it comes to food.

"I guess freshness depends on whether the food is packaged and the length of time after its past-due date," Rao said. "Since freegans refuse to eat foods that are stored in 'wasteful packaging,' this practice is not hygienic no matter how hard you scrub."

Just like there are variations of vegan and vegetarian practices, meagans are freegans who limit their waste bin searches to meat and dairy products. Rao advises strongly against this form of dumpster diving.

"Stores throw out meats and dairy products for a reason. People should never eat these discarded items because they tend to spoil faster than bread or certain vegetables," she said.

Even after pushing aside broken bottles, tattered clothing and rotten foods, Rao ensures that it is possible for freegans to maintain a nutritious diet.

"Depending on their findings, freegans can have a healthy diet consisting of four to five servings of vegetables a day, fruits, lean meats [and] two to three servings of low-fat dairy," Rao added.

The USDA estimates that 96 billion pounds of food are wasted each year in the United States. According to America's Second Harvest, five to 10 billion of these

pounds could be recovered.

Despite these unnerving statistics, not all retailers discard edible items. John Barilla, the general manager at the Safeway grocery store located on Georgia Avenue, throws away perishable items daily, but donates still-good food to charitable causes.

"The wife of one of our employees works at a local church, and Safeway collects extra bread and they come pick it up," Barilla said. "We try to predict the movement and sale of certain items so that we order just enough and reduce the amount of waste," he added.

Freshman international business major Steven Etienne deems freegan activities die hard but ineffective.

"I work at the Marriott hotel restaurant and we throw tons of food away every day, so freegans are right about Americans' unnecessary waste levels," he said. "I think that they could better convey their message to the media and public by establishing long-term, nonprofit organizations that would collectively battle environmental issues."

In spite of capitalist critics, Adam Weissman, the creator of the freegan.info Web site, "pitied" those who have not delved into this resourceful lifestyle, according to the New York Times.

"Essentially, the sky's the limit," he said. "I am able to take long vacations from work. I have all kinds of consumer goods and I eat a really healthy diet of really wonderful food: white asparagus and cactus fruit, three different kinds of mushrooms and four different kinds of pre-cut salad. And I'm just thinking of what is in my refrigerator right now," he added.



Freegans look through the garbage to find food and other items, believing their lifestyle is effective in fighting Americans' wasteful nature and preventing the progress of capitalism.