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The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 90, NO. 94

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2007

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

Notebook

BREAKING NEWS

SUICIDE BOMBER IN BAGHDAD KILLS 40 FORTY WERE KILLED AT MUSTANSIRIYA UNIVERSITY IN BAGH-

DAD WHEN A FEMALE SUICIDE BOMBER WEARING A VEST STRAPPED WITH EXPLOSIVES BLEW UP HERSELF AND THE UNIVERSITY, ACCORDING TO THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY

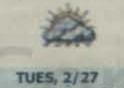
TUITION STALLS EVERYWHERE

HOWARD STUDENTS ARE OFTEN UPSET BY TUITION INCREAS-ES. HOWEVER, TUITION RATES AROUND THE COUNTRY HAVE STALLED. FIND OUT MORE IN BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY.

PAGE 4







Michael Dyson Cancels Chapel Visit

BY PHILLIP LUCAS

Author and activist Michael Eric Dyson canceled his visit to chapel services yesterday because of a pressing engagement with Louis Farrakhan in Detroit.

Dyson was in Detroit over the weekend to support Farrakhan in the worldrenowned leader's final public speech at Saviour's Feb. 22 through 25.

Recently, has been very ill with pros-Fox News. Farrakhan's final but it did not work out. speech was held at Ford Field, home of the Detroit Lions. Detroit is also the Islam, which was founded

Andrew Rankin Memorial at once. Farrakhan Chapel, said Dyson worked with his office to find a way

between my obligation to the Howard community and home of the Nation of the request of one of our by Wallace D. Fard in 1930. been battling for his life," dates with another minister

The Rev. Bernard Dyson said regarding his Day 2007, which was held Richardson, the dean of request to be in two places

He also said that he told the University a month in tate cancer, according to to get to Howard on time, advance that he would be unable to make it to the "I was immediately torn chapel on Feb. 25. Dyson added, "My office contacted Dean Richardson's office and began discussions foremost leaders who has about my desire to trade if possible. When it became apparent that such a trade was impossible, I had to regretfully back out of my obligation."

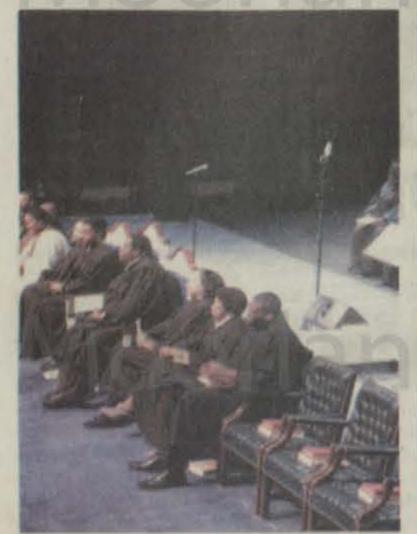
> Regarding the circumstances of Dyson's cancellation, Richardson said, "It's a very sensitive issue." Dyson has visited Howard in the past and plans to do so in the future.

"He's always been supportive of Howard. He comes every year," Richardson

Dyson said, "I have preached at Howard Chapel annually for at least the past six years. I hope to continue that tradition soon."

Dyson added, "After consultaand tion, I trusted that Dean Richardson and the Howard community would

See DYSON, Page 3





Activist Michael Eric Dyson left an empty chair in chapel when he was unable to lead chapel on Sunday because of a time conflict with Louis Farrakhan's final speech.

MURRAY Hilltop Staff Writer Last night marked a

BY MERCIA WILLIAMS-

night of accomplishment for black entertainers in Hollywood. Black actors and artists have made an impact on the silver screen, particularly over the course of the last year.

Representing country of Benin, Djimon Hounsou, who starred "Gladiator" and "Amistad," graced the red carpet as he basked in the glory of his best supporting actor nomination for the movie "Blood Diamond." Hounsou was previously nominated in 2004 for "In America," and is the first black African to earn an Oscar

nomination. One commentator repeatedly referred to two-time nominee Will Smith, his wife Jada Pinkett Smith and their family of Hollywood during the course of a red

carpet interview. presenter Queen nearly four decades. Latifah. Jaden Smith presented an award with another young star, supporting actress nominee Abigail Breslin.

Both Hounsou and comedian Eddie Murphy were in the supporting actor category, but both lost to acting veteran Alan Arkin.

To no one's sur- catch up. prise, the multi-talented Jennifer Hudson took home the Oscar for best supporting actress for her portrayal of Effie "Dreamgirls."

showed a great deal of King of Scotland." emotion as she thanked

God, her family, the Academy and her cast-

Jennifer Hudson won the Best Supporting Actress

award for her role as Effie in the movie "Dreamgirls."

Blacks Win Big at

the 79th Annual

Oscar Awards

Along with castmates Beyonce Knowles, Anika Noni Rose and Keith Washington, Hudson performed a few songs from the film "Dreamgirls."

"Dreamgirls" received quite a bit of attention at the Oscars with three nominations that includthe ed a win for best sound mixing.

> Black actors set a record this year with five nominations in major categories.

Before last night, only eight black people had won Oscars in major categories. They include Hattie McDaniel (1939), Sidney Poitier (1963), Louis Gossett Jr. (1982), Washington Denzel (1989 and 2002), Whoopi Goldberg (1990), Cuba Gooding Jr. (1990), Halle Berry (2002) and Jaime Foxx (2004).

In 2002, Berry son Jaden as the first became the first black woman to win for leading actress. That same year, Washington won in other the leading actor categoesteemed black actors ry and became the first made appearances such black man to do so in

> Over the years, there has been a steady number of black nominees at the Academy Awards, including Morgan Freeman, Terrence Howard and Angela Bassett. While the number of black Oscar nominees has increased gradually, the number of winners has been slow to

Another major category was the best actor in a lead role, which nominated two black actors, Forest Whitaker and Will in the musical drama Smith. Whitaker won the award for his portrayal On stage, Hudson of Idi Amin in "The Last

ASB Raises Funds for New Orleans Trip

BY VANESSA ROZIER & DREW COSTLEY Hilltop Staff

With Spring Break less than three weeks away, Alternative Spring Break (ASB) coordinators are still in search of funding. Close to 500 students are traveling by bus with Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel and the Howard chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) to New Orleans to aid in rebuilding homes destroyed by Hurricane Katrina.

Also, Howard's chapter of NAACP is seeking donations for separate transportation to New Orleans for Alternative Spring Break.

"We're raising money to go towards traveling costs

and supplies," sophomore broadcast journalism major Ty Axson said. He is also serving as co-coordinator for this year's ASB. Axson said fundraising is an ongoing effort, implemented even after returning from New Orleans.

Thanks to the cooperation of WHUR, the Office of the President, the Office of University Communication, Residence Life and the Office of the Dean of the Chapel, there will be a radio-thon, "Helping Hand," to increase contributions.

"Our goal in 'Helping Hand' is to raise \$50,000 to cover the 500 students going," junior broadcast journalism major Debbie Origho, who is also an ASB co-coordinator, said. For 12

will broadcast its regular programs, but with public service announcements and periodic interviews with ASB coordinators, students affected by Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans natives, officials and political leaders.

The ASB Week consisted of a poetry slam, a benefit concert, two information sessions and a movie night showcasing Spike Lee's "When the Levies Broke," which raised funds moving the ASB committee closer to trip. its goal.

music education major Quanice Floyd, the fundraising chair in charge of student donations, ASB Week raised more than \$700.

hours next Sunday, WHUR been sent out to local busi-

Donation letters have

ness owners and corporate sponsors, including Wal-Mart and Target, asking for contributions in any form towards the mid-March

The hundreds of students who plan to travel to New Orleans are making the trip free of charge. Students on the ASB fundraising committee are actively raising funds to lessen the amount of money coming from the University, which is ultimately the sponsor for this

Cedric Louiseau, a co-According to freshman coordinator of NAACP's New Orleans effort, said that the group has received donations from several donors. He said that NAACP is trying to raise \$10,000 for the

See ASB, Page 3



HUSA's Blacks in Wax Museum

Friday the Armour J. Blackburn Center played host to HUSA's rendition of Baltimore's Black Wax Museum. Unlike the original, the figures in this museum were not wax. Instead, students like Matthew Manning (left) portrayed historic African Americans. As students stood still from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with minor breaks, they were viewed by visiting elementary school students who were guided through the Blackburn Center and given a brief history of each African American. Some individuals represented were Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks and Frederick Douglass. In addition to this array of historic figures, there was a Divine Nine display which included founders of three prominent Greek organizations on campus. Each founder was played by a member of its organization.

Late Night Studying Aided By 24-Hour Libraries

BY CANDICE ILOH Contributing Writer

Unlike many of the top universities and colleges in the United States, Howard University does not have a library to which students have 24-hour access.

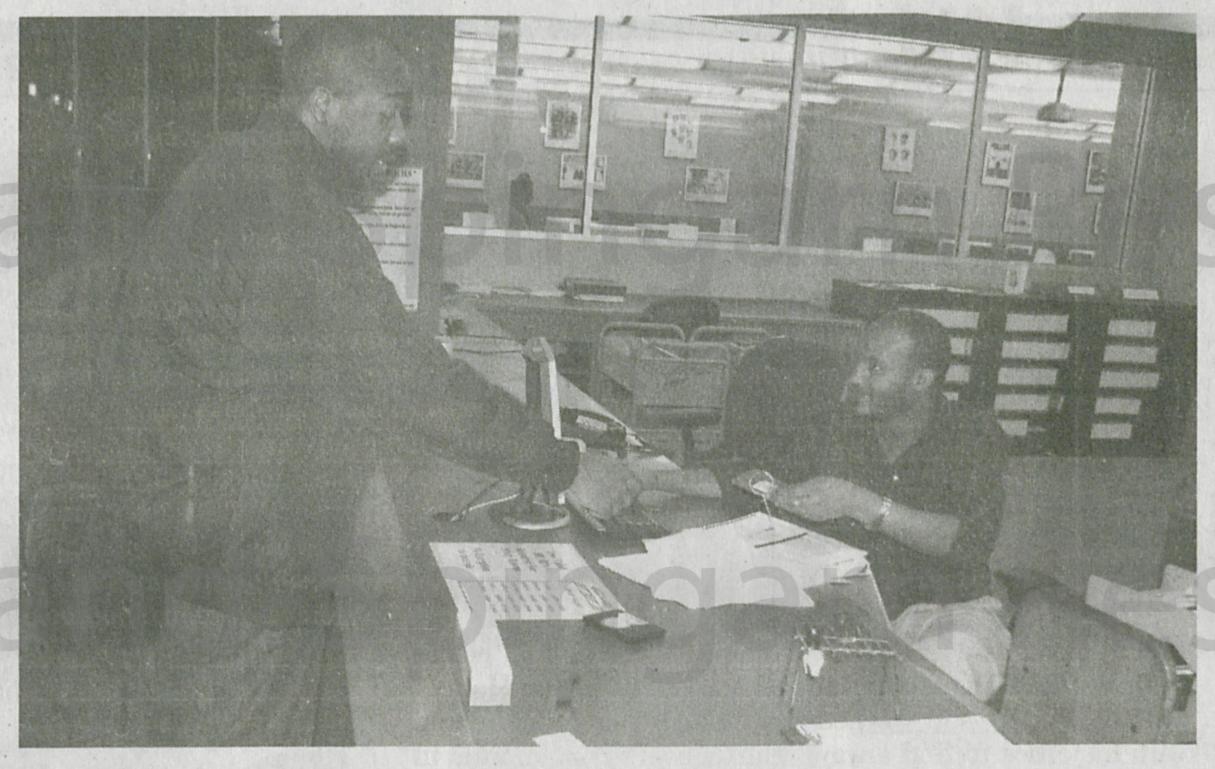
Students at other universities across the country who have 24-hour libraries said that they are helpful and assist students with erratic schedules.

Niceties like convenience, options and accessibility topped the list for their reasoning.

"I like being able to go whenever I want to," said Chioma Anosike, a senior biology major at the University of Kentucky.

Another student at a school with 24-hour library services, Diego Ortega, a junior foreign affairs major at the University of Virginia, said that the library hours have been useful to him in the past.

"I was writing a paper once at two o'clock in the



Derell Smith - Senior Photo Editor

The Allied Health Sciences Library offers late weeknight hours for students with hectic schedules, but many still find its limited operating hours inconvenient and wish for a 24-hour facility.

morning while I was there and needed access to a book that the library had right at that moment so it helps a lot," he said.

Ortega continued, telling

how his friends make themselves at home at the library.

"I have friends who even sleep there, seriously. During finals, they take their books and a pillow and just study,

sleep and wake back up to keep studying," Ortega said. "Everybody has their own need [to study] at different times," he said.

Bianca Madrid, a senior

political science major at the University of Texas at El Paso, said her school only allows the library to be open 24 hours during finals and midterms because, otherwise, there is no need.

For Madrid, the temporary access to a 24-hour library during exam times has made a difference in the outcome of her grades.

"There were times studied with groups, and if it weren't open 24 hours, I don't know what we would have done," she said.

After five attempts to contact Mohamed Mekkawi, the director of libraries for the University, The Hilltop was unable to get a comment from him.

Howard students had multiple opinions on how the resources would be used if the Undergraduate Library (UGL) extended its hours to become a 24-hour library.

Elizabeth McDaniel, a sophomore marketing major, said, "It would really help if [libraries] were open 24 hours. I always end up having to do my work really late, and I usually am up until at least two in the morning doing it."

McDaniel said that although UGL is open late, it is too difficult to get studying

done there. She is not alone in this belief. While UGL does stay open significantly late, along with the Allied Health Sciences Library, many students find that it does not provide the proper atmosphere conducive to getting work done.

"I use the Allied Health [library] because it's professional for people who want to work," said James Shields, a junior marketing major. "Right now I could care less if it [the library] is open 24 hours. We need to work on UGL being more of a studious environment where the rules are enforced."

Shields said that a 24hour library would help students who are crunched for time.

Elections Trying to Secure Laptops for Election Day

BY VANESSA ROZIER Hilltop Staff Writer

Last year, less than one third of students voted on election day, making this year's voter turnout a priority for the General Elections Commission. Allen Haynes, the current elections commissioner, hopes to have computers in designated locations throughout campus on March 6 in order to increase the number of student voters.

"Even though online voting is everywhere, it's not necessarily convenient," Haynes said. Students can vote in their room, the iLab or anyplace with a computer and Internet access, but students still find it hard to find time to cast their ballots.

Kendra Desrosiers, a freshman print journalism major, said, "I think that people will use the computers and stop and vote because they're right there. They would be less likely to vote if they had to go to Cramton or Blackburn or even back to their rooms. So, I think that it will be used."

By placing laptops in hightraffic locations, the majority of students will have the opportunity to vote right where they are. Anticipating having laptops available in academic buildings such as Locke Hall, Douglass Hall and the School of Business, students can stop before or after class to vote for candidates.

Also, the lobby of freshmen dorms, such as the Tubman Quad and Drew Hall, are prime locations to reach freshmen who may not have easy access to the Internet or otherwise know of the process. With Meridian Hill Hall being off campus, there are plans to have laptops available there as well.

"Overall, I think it's a good them to vote on.

idea, but I don't think everyone is going to use it," sophomore advertising major DeAndra Williams said. Locke and Douglass Halls are key locations for these lapbut tops, Williams said that students who

have classes

in the biol-

and chemistry buildings will not make a special trip to cast a vote.

The idea for election day laptops came from a past commissioner who, back when votes were cast in person, raised voter turnout to 50 percent. Haynes said, "He made sure voting booths were everywhere. They were hard to miss."

Haynes, who has planned to implement the system since he applied for his position in December of last year, explained that it can be easy for students to simply forget to vote.

"It's easy to forget that it's election day if you don't cross the Yard," Haynes said.

For students who do not come across a hopeful candidate or an eager campaign team, Haynes hopes they will see signs in the Yard advocating voter participation. These signs will publicize the election date as well as where they can find one of several laptops made available for



Derell Smith - Senior Photo Editor

Though many students have access to personal computers Allen Haynes seeks to provide voting access to those who do not by supplying laptops on election day.

"We know that underclassmen will vote a lot and anyone interested in campus politics, but for everyone else there is less of an interest," junior print journalism major and Undergraduate Student Assembly Representative candidate Nichole Alabi said. "Anything that would bring out more votes would help."

The commission is working with Information Systems and Services to make a wireless connection available for the day throughout the University. Haynes also plans to communicate this effort to different departments, including honors programs of all of the schools and colleges and the University's National Achievement Offices. Haynes said the University has had to be cautious about loaning out computers for any reason because some of the computers were stolen in the past.

"Dean [Tonya] Guillory and the Office of Student Activities have been very useful to us," Haynes said.

HUSA Candidates Reveal Campaigning Budgets

BY MERCIA WILLIAMS-MURRAY Hilltop Staff Writer

HUSA president Jennifer Owens says that the average budget for the HUSA slate has varied since her freshman year between \$600 to \$1,000 for a campaign.

Allen Haynes, the general elections commissioner, said that HUSA slates and trustee candidates have been spending increasingly more on their campaigns. "If you come out under \$4,000, you come out well."

Haynes says that he proposed a spending cap on campaigning during the election season but that the general assembly did not approve this proposal.

He says his proposal to "lower the ceiling" was to minimize the disparities between those who can afford to spend a lot of money and the students who just do not have the financial means to do so.

At the HUSA presidential speak out last week, the candidates were asked to reveal how much money they and their running mates have spent on their campaigns to date.

Presidential candidate Chad Williams-Bey, a senior political science and economics major, says that he has spent a little under \$1,000 and has \$2,500 to work with.

Junior marketing major Jamel Franklin, another presidential candidate, says he has spent \$1,500 and has a budget of \$3,500.

Junior finance major Marcus Ware says he has spent \$3,000 to date on his presidential campaign.

With candidates creating Tshirts and handing out water bottles, stress balls, hand bills and of it like a gamble.' other items for publicity and voter

incentive, Haynes says, "The total [cost] goes up and up and up. There's a lot of money spent on campaigning here at Howard."

Some candidates even pay the people on their campaign staff.

For the majority of campaign funding, candidates save money from summer jobs and internships and have their parents finance their campaigning. Others solicit funds from their churches, write letters to businesses, use their refund checks from school and/or ask friends and family for donations.

Candidates usually order 100 shirts to start with for staff, supporters and friends to wear for events such as "T-shirt Tuesdays." Haynes compared the marketing strategy to a "walking billboard."

Many candidates buy new outfits for publicity shots on their campaign posters. In order to fully play the role of a potential HUSA executive, male candidates will stock up on polo-styled shirts and khakis while females will pick up enough new blouses and skirts to last the length of the campaign.

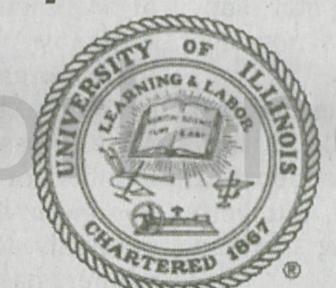
To add the finishing touches to their wardrobes, many candidates buy a Howard pin from the bookstore to wear on their blazers everyday.

HUSA presidents and vicepresidents make about \$6,600 a year. As long as they do not go over this amount on their campaigns, they will make money, especially if both the president and vice president on the slate contribute equally to the campaign.

Haynes compared the loss of a campaign at Howard to a craps

"It's like double sixes being rolled, and the candidate craps out," Haynes says. "You can think

Campus Briefs



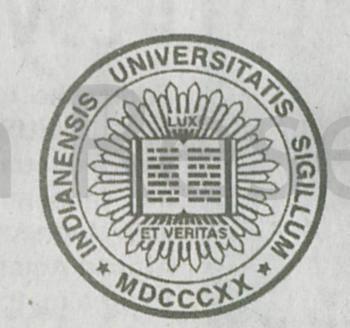
Two BU Students Die in Apartment Blaze

According to Boston fire officials, two Boston University students were killed and another was injured in a fire that displaced 30 residents of the Audubon Circle apartment building. A 21-year-old woman, Riannon McCuish, of Mashpee, Mass., and a 21-yearold man, Stephen Adelipour, were the two students killed in the blaze.



University of Hawaii to Open Two Campuses

University of Hawaii and state officials called for the building of two new campuses as extensions of the university's main campus. After three months of testimony before the university's Board of Regents, a decision was made to create community colleges on the islands of Kona and Hilo. Nearly \$7 million have been put forth for the effort so far.



John Brown University to Research **Healthy Marriages**

John Brown University in Siloam Springs, Ark., has received a federal grant of \$2.7 million for research and development on healthy marriages. The grant was given to the Christian university's Center for Relationship Enrichment, which was started in 1998 by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



Hampton University J-School Fully Re-Accredited

The Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications recommended full accreditation for Hampton University's Scripps Howard School of Journalism. In May 2006, the council only granted provisional accreditation to the school and said that the university was not in compliance with two of the nine standards, which were governance and research.

Author and Activist Michael Eric Dyson Returns to HU

ALUMNI, from Page 1

give my absence this year and understand my need to stand by Minister Farrakhan's side as he finds the strength to stand before the public a final time to declare his message and seal his legacy."

Richardson said, "It happens. This is not the first time we've had speakers have to rearrange. I think sometimes we take [visitors] for granted."

Richardson noted that because of Howard's reputation and prestige, students are able to take advantage of such events and should not be too disappointed when things do not go as planned.

Dyson said he is always delighted and honored when he is asked to preach at the chapel and enjoys interacting with students on campus.

"I pray and hope that Dean Richardson will invite me again to the chapel as soon as possible," Dyson said.

The end of February proves to be a busy time for Dyson. He is still scheduled

to appear in the chapel today at 2 p.m. He will address students who are attending the Alternative Spring Break trip to New Orleans to assist in the post-Katrina reconstruction effort.

According to Richardson, Dyson was a financial supporter of last year's Alternative Spring Break trip to New Orleans.

Dyson is also scheduled to be in the Howard University Bookstore this afternoon at 4 p.m. to discuss his book, "Debating Race."



What's happening in the Residence Hall?

"Hall Happenings"

February 26 2007-March 3, 2007

Monday, February 26, 2007

"Cultural Dance Exchange", Howard Plaza Towers,
West Towers Community Room, 7:00 PM
"Let's Get Personal: A Panel Discussion with Resident Assistant",
Tubman Quad, 7:00 PM

Tuesday, February 27, 2007

"Health & Wellness Awareness Program", Cook Hall, 8:00 PM
"Kick Boxing", Bethune Annex, Seminar Room, 7:00 – 8:00 PM
"Can You Handle It: Real Life Scenarios", Tubman Quad, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, February 28, 2007

"Soul Food Wednesday: Bible Study", Carver Hall, Lounge, 7:00 PM
"Study of the Koran", Carver Hall, Lounge, 8:00 PM
"Ethnic Notions", Cook Hall, 8:00 PM
"Steering Committee Meeting", Howard Plaza Towers,
West Towers Community Room, 8:00 PM
"Got Questions: The Interview Process", Tubman Quad, 7:00 PM

Thursday, March 1, 2007

"Kick Boxing", Bethune Annex, Seminar Room, 7:00 PM-8:00 PM
"Through Their Eyes: The Vision of a Community Director",
Tubman Quad, 7:00 PM

Friday, March 2, 2007
"RA After Hours: Game Night",
Tubman Quad, 7:00 PM

Friday, March 2, 2007

Announcements

- RA Applications are due SOON. Please see your Community Director and the Residence Life web site for more information.
- The Harriet Tubman Quadrangle presents RA Week. A special thanks goes out to all those who have served as a RA in "The Quad".
- ResFest, anyone? Any off-campus students interested in participating in ResFest is invited to join the Mays Hall team. Please contact Shane at 757-927-0378 for more information.

Alternative Spring Break in Search of Financial Support

ASB, from Page 1

trip, \$5,000 of which will be spent to charter a bus for transportation while the rest will cover miscellaneous costs. At this point, they have raised just over \$5,000.

Last year, Reid Temple A.M.E Church in Glenn Dale, Md., paid for the charter bus that sent volunteers with the NAACP. Louiseau said the group is looking for churches to donate again and are circulating a sponsorship DVD, which was made by Harrison Parnther, that recapped the group's trip to New Orleans

in 2006. Parnther volunteered with NAACP during the 2006 ASB.

"We are trying to find another generous donor," Louiseau said. "And we really want to go down [to New Orleans] and leave our mark."

Parnther, a junior philosophy and political science major, said that the video will show prospective donors that the group is serious about returning to New Orleans.

"I wanted to tell the story from the perspective from someone who looks and talks like the people there. [The video] will let people know that we are serious about going back," Parnther said. "And that this is important to us."

Upon return from ASB, it is expected that students will need continued support.

"Going through a trip to this magnitude can change a person's life," Origho said. ASB coordinators plan to provide emotional support for students to help with personal growth as well as the means of helping to touch the lives of others, and to strategize for future financial goals.

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U.S. Tuition Stalls, Room and Board Rates Increase

BY MORGAN LYNCH Hilltop Staff Writer

For the first time in financial aid history, students across America will see a stall in the tuition prices for the 2007-2008 academic year. According to the College Board, tuition prices for the upcoming school year will not rise.

The increase in fees will be attributed to room and board, which will rise by 19 percent.

tutions showed a general the 2006-2007 school year, topping at \$30,367 in tuition fees while room and board increased by 5 percent.

According to the College Board, the overall increase will come to 4.2 percent for a total of about \$43,980 in costs for tuition, room and board and fees.

Some institutions have decided to keep tuition, room and board and miscellaneous fees at a standstill.

Princeton University has decided to hold its fees the same for the first time since 1967 at a rate of \$33,000 this year.

According to the College Board, more than 65 percent of students are enrolled in four-year universities that cost less than \$9,000 per year. Also, less than 5 percent of students attend universities with tuition prices at \$33,000 or higher. More than \$134 billion is given out in grants and scholarships.

Many Howard students are concerned about the possible tuition increases.

"It's frustrating how they Other four-year insti- want us to go to college and some of us don't have the increase of 5.7 percent in means to pay for it," freshman marketing major Laquia Burt said.

> getting an education all the more unobtainable. Now you've raised tuition, but where does the money go?"

Howard students with tuition about concerns increases are advised to take advantage of the services and provisions of the financial aid

The University offers grants, scholarships and loans. A yearly merit-based trustee scholarship is offered to students through the individual's school.

Students are also advised to familiarize themselves with Federal Stafford Loans for Students and the Connect Loan: Private Loans for Students.

As Congress recently passed legislation lowering percentage rates on student loans, now would be a good time to look into that option. Students should also fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each year.

Some Howard students are worried about staying informed of changes in tuition stalls and increases.

"There needs to be more Burt added, "It makes communication between the school and the students,' freshman legal communications major Angie Porter said. "I have an idea that the alumni also know more of what's happening with the money."

> Freshman political science major Charles Beavers said, "It's really frustrating how they raise tuition without improving the infrastructure."

> According to Howard's "H-Book," there are certain fees that students are charged when entering Howard.



While tuition rates across the nation have stalled, students may find themselves lined up to pay the rising costs for room, board and other fees, which have been increasing.

They include charges for the Undergraduate Student Assembly, the yearbook, the Howard University Student Association, self-help pro-University-wide grams, activities, the Homecoming Steering Committee and The

Hilltop.

There is concern amongst some students about what will happen if they are not able to keep up with possible tuition increases.

Freshman international business major Sheree Jackson said, "Of course they'll see an occurrence of

lowered enrollment. It will be less attractive to new applicants because Howard is high for an HBCU. I want to see a push from students to seek quality needs to match what they are paying. Otherwise kids will take their money and go elsewhere."

Big Biz @ HU: Sankofa

BY JANAY M. WILSON Contributing Writer

People passing down have Avenue Georgia stopped and noticed the business Sankofa. It sits on 2714 Georgia Ave., not far from the School of Business.

The store was opened in 1996 by Halie Gerima, Shirikiana Aina.

United States from his involving it." native Gondar, Ethiopia to study acting and direct- into the store, they see that nity. ing at Goodman Theater in Chicago. He later trans- with items influenced by ferred to the theater depart- African culture. There are ment of the University of chairs from Ghana and pil-California-Los Angeles, lars and hieroglyphics repwhere he completed his resentative of Egypt. There master's degree in film. are also tables and chairs, He later relocated to as well as a minibar painted Washington, D.C. to teach with African symbols. at Howard.

and directed in 1993. As a result of the film "Sankofa," Gerima was able to get the money needed to open the store.

It is not a coincidence that the store is across University.

"We are glad that we were able to get the store at this location. It is open to

the community and next to one of the biggest HBCUs in the nation," Aina said.

Sankofa is an Akan word meaning, "One must return to the past in order to move forward."

Aina says, "This store is a reminder of where we came from, how far we have gotten and where we can go. Too often, people seem a professor in the radio, to forget where they come TV and film department from, and Sankofa is a place the African-American comat Howard, and his wife, for people to remember and munity. learn about African culture Gerima arrived in the and engage on discussion

it is dimly lit and decorated

As one walks further The store obtained into the store, there are its name from a film that shelves filled with literature Gerima wrote, produced for all age groups written by numerous black authors.

Nayo Thomas, a sophomore political science major, went to Sankofa on her birthday last year.

because it had a nice relaxthe street from Howard ing vibe, and it is somewhere you can go to be comfortable. It is very homey," Thomas said.

In the spring, Sankofa

Samara Pearson - Staff Photographer

will serve food such as vegetarian and meat dishes, along with sandwiches, smoothies, coffee and tea.

There will also be entertainment on various nights. On Wednesdays, Sankofa has movie screenings at 7 p.m. to show film projects currently in the works. Patrons can discuss their take on the films and other issues in Africa and

Friday is open mic night, when poets get the chance to share their spo-When customers walk ken word with the commu-

> Davon Harris, a junior speech communications major, said he used to go to Sankofa every Friday to listen to poetry.

"I really enjoyed it there. I really vibed with the people, and it has a good community feel," he said.

The store offers a wide variety of movies, music and literature for the African-American community. Many of the films Gerima has made are available to purchase in the store. Gerima's films can be "I really enjoyed it held to the same standards as good literature.

The LA Times says, "Gerima's films are emblematic of how important it is for people of color to tell their own stories."

Brandon Badie, a sophomore pre-pharmacy major, saw the movie "Sankofa" and thought the business' title was appropriate.

"When I saw the movie 'Sankofa,' I really enjoyed it because it exposed a lot about what happened at plantations during slavery," Badie said. "I can see why they decided to name the store Sankofa. It really fits with the atmosphere."

Filmmaking also goes on in the store. Gerima, his staff and interns do production and editing in the store. Gerima makes films related to the African Diaspora, a subject he says is important for people to know about.

The store occasionally has book signings from authors of controversial books. Other items Sankofa sells include post cards and pictures. Sankofa is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Miss A Higher Sense of Pride



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Miss Howard University 2006-2007

Miss MEAC 2007

Vote Online Until March 3rd www.meachoops.com/msmeac



Bison's Comeback Falls Short At Coppin

BY EDWARD HILL, JR. Special to The Hilltop

Baltimore - Feb. 24-Junior guards Tywain McKee and Darryl Roberts combined to score their team's last six points as Coppin State held off a Howard rally to win, 50-46, in a Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) men's game at the Coppin Center.

The loss marked Howard's eighth loss to Coppin State in its last nine meetings. The Eagles' defense recorded season-lows in points allowed, field goals with 13 and opponents' field goal percentage at 31 percent.

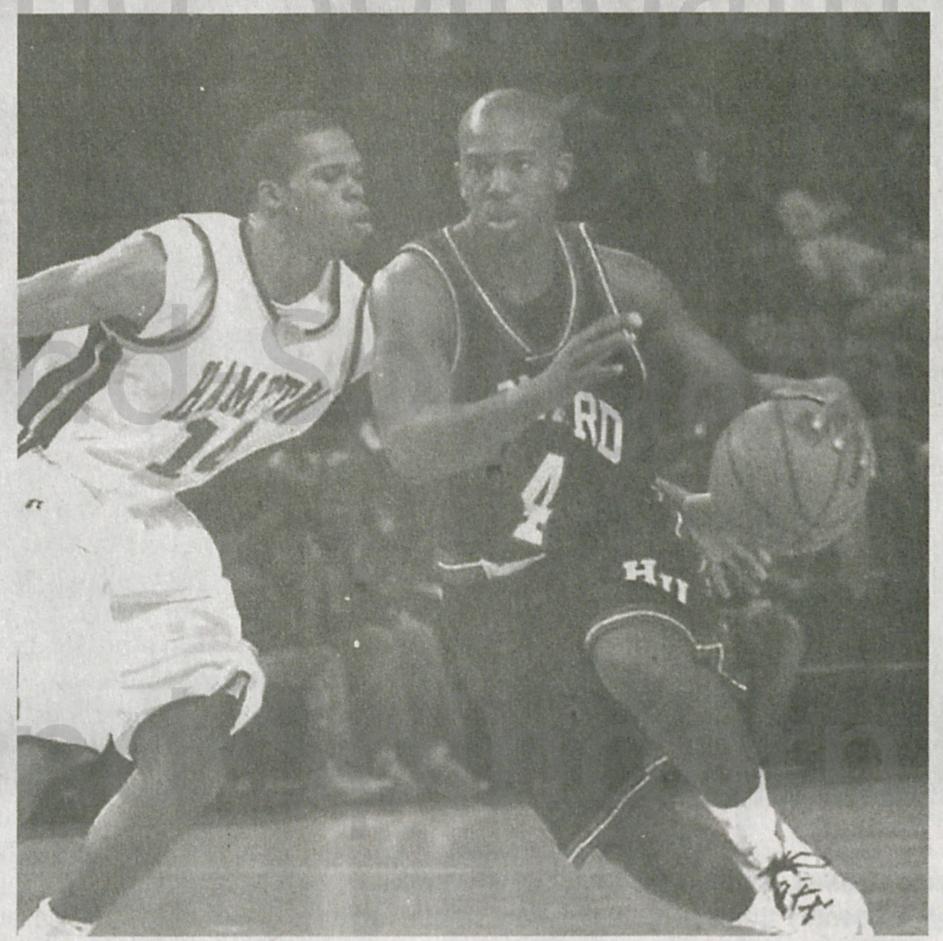
Coppin State was also able to convert 15 Bison turnovers into 21 points, while Howard converted only 10 points off of turnovers.

The Bison (9-18 overall, 5-10 in the MEAC) trailed by 10 points midway through the second half when freshman forward Kandi Mukole and senior guard Darryl Hudson helped Howard climb to within two with 1:02 remaining. Mukole scored eight of his 10 points in the second half before fouling out.

The Eagles (9-18 overall, 7-8 in the MEAC) called a time out with 42 seconds remaining. After the time out, Roberts maneuvered through the defense and scored on a floater with 29 seconds left on the clock, giving Coppin State some

breathing room at 47-43.

The Bison failed to score at the other end and McKee converted two free throws to up the margin to



Senior guard Will Gant hit a three-pointer with eight seconds to play, closing Howard's deficit to 49-46, but the Bison would never get the ball back. 49-43 with eight seconds to play.

Will Gant then hit a three pointer to get Howard to within three at 49-46. The Bison were forced to foul, and Roberts hit one of two free throws to seal the victory.

The game was a low-scoring affair that slowed to a crawl as each team used the entire shot clock on each possession.

Despite missing 20 of 25 shots, Howard was able to stay close and only trailed 23-21 at the half.

Both teams shot better in the second half, but the Eagles' defense and the scoring of McKee, who led all scorers with 19 points, made just enough of a difference.

Senior guard Darek Mitchell led the Bison with 14 points while Paul Kirkpatrick grabbed a gamehigh 10 rebounds. Meanwhile, Mukole chipped in with 10 points, four rebounds and three blocks.

Up next, Howard will travel back to Baltimore to take on the Bears of Morgan State on Monday at 7:30 p.m., while the Eagles host Maryland-Eastern Shore, also on Monday at 7:30 p.m.

Additional information compiled from www.coppinstatesports.com.

SCOREBOARD & SCHEDULE

SCORES

Women's Basketball

Howard Coppin State

Men's Basketball

Howard 50 Coppin State

Women's Tennis @ MEAC Roundup

Howard N.C. A&T 0 (Fri.)

Howard Bethune-Cookman, 6 (Fri.)

Howard S.C. State 6 (Sat.)

Men's Tennis @ MEAC Roundup

Howard Bethune-Cookman 6 (Fri.)

Howard S.C. State 7 (Sat.)

Softball

Howard 12 Virginia State

Howard Virginia State 2 (Fri.)

Howard 15 Winston-Salem St. 1 (Sun.)

Lacrosse

Howard Monmouth

TODAY'S GAMES

Women's Basketball @ Morgan State 5:30 p.m.

Men's Basketball @ Morgan State 7:30 p.m.

Howard Overwhelmed By Lady Eagles 78-57

BY EDWARD HILL, JR. Special to The Hilltop

Baltimore - Feb. 24- Coppin State continued its dominance over conference opponents as the Lady Eagles defeated Howard, 78-57, in a Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) women's game at the Coppin Center.

Coppin State (20-6 overall, 15-0 in the MEAC) bolted out to an early 15-4 lead in the first six minutes and never looked back, winning its 14th straight overall and 45th straight against MEAC opponents.

Shalamar Oakley did most of the damage early, scoring 13 of her game-high 17 points in the first 20 minutes. The Lady Eagles shot 50 percent, making 18 of 36 shots from the field while holding the Lady Bison (5-20 overall, 5-10 in the MEAC) to 24 percent shooting. The

TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY ...

On Feb. 26, 1962, Wilt Chamberlain

of the Philadelphia Warriors scored

67 points in a game against the New

York Knicks.

Lady Eagles led 39-24 at intermis-

The second half proved to be much of the same as Rashida Suber led the way with 11 of her 14 points.

Howard was led by Shannon Carlisle, who had 19 points, six rebounds, four assists and six steals. Sequoya Moore added 10 points and 11 rebounds, earning her first double-double of the season.

Courtney Smiley contributed 13

points while Asha Santee, who poured in a career-high 25 points in the last outing A&M, was held to four.

The Lady Eagles tured a balanced attack with Tanzia Harden and Tamika Noel both register-

ing double-doubles with Harden's 12 points and 10 rebounds and Noel's 10 points and 12 rebounds.

Despite the loss, Carlisle became Howard's all-time leader in steals, bringing her career total to 230. This season, Carlisle is leading the MEAC in steals and is fourth in the nation.

The Lady Bison have also received steady play from Moore as of late, as she scored in double figures for the fourth time in her last five games. Tamaya Daniels, who had averaged 12 rebounds per game the last five outings, finished with a total of six against Coppin State.

In their next game, the Lady against Florida Bison will travel to Baltimore to take on the Lady Bears of Morgan State on Monday at 5:30 p.m., while Coppin State will look to continue its streak when it hosts Maryland-Eastern Shore at the Coppin Center at 5:30 p.m.

> Additional information compiled from www.coppinstatesports.

Broncos Running Back Dies

Suddenly After Charity Event

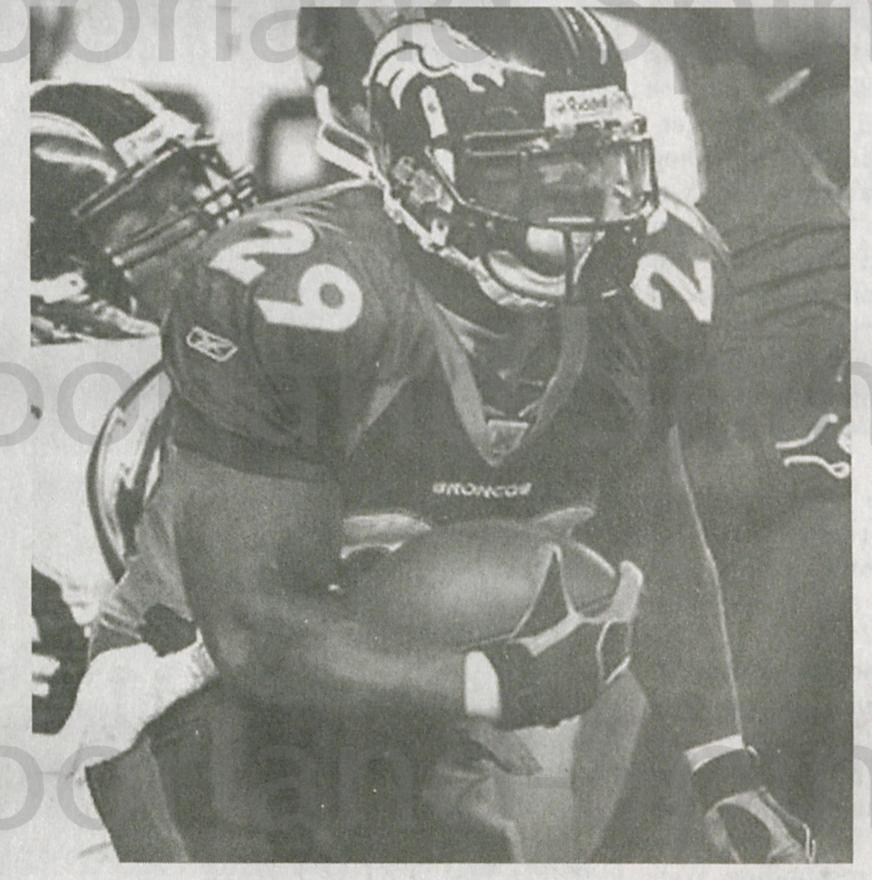


Photo Courtesy of www.cnn.com

Damien Nash, a second-year running back for the Denver Broncos, died suddenly Saturday evening following a charity basketball game in the St. Louis area. His death comes less than two months after the killing of Broncos cornerback Darrent Williams on Jan. 1.

Nash was a fifth-round draft pick of the Tennessee Titans in 2005. He joined the Broncos as a free agent before the 2006 season, appearing in three games and rushing for 66 yards on 18 carries.

Nash, a native of East St. Louis, III., organized the event to raise money for a foundation named for his older brother, Darris, who underwent heart transplant surgery. An official cause of death has not been given yet.

-Information courtesy of sports.yahoo.com.

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Biracial Students Share Their Stories

BY COURTNEY BATTLE Hilltop Staff Writer

In this day and age, race still plays an extremely large role in American society.

In a recent interview with Essence magazine, Kanye West was quoted as saying, "If it wasn't for race mixing, there'd be no video girls." Alluding to lighterskinned black women, West was bringing light to an issue that has plagued the black community for years.

Some believe it is difficult for the black community living in a society ruled by "white privilege." For those who come from a half white and half black background, it is not always so clear cut.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, as of 2004, there were more than 3 million black and/or mixed people in the United States.

"I don't know why things have to be either or, black or white," Tiffany Williams, a sophomore fashion merchandising major at Virginia Commonwealth University, said. "I think it's unfortunate because I would like to think that America has come farther than that."

Williams, who is mixed herself, said, "So many times I've heard my black friends say something about white people and then look at me and say 'no offense.' I think it's ridiculous."

Williams added, "I can remember several times where others have tried to make me pick or put me into a certain group for their own convenience. And that, too, I think is sad."

Dr. Jules P. Harrell, the chair of the psychology department, said, "It's very difficult to be black in the society, and I think that you're still black when you're mixed. I don't think it makes it any easier."

Harrell said mixed students might find it hard to associate with both sides of their heritage. "I think, in the end, it's probably very difficult to identify with each side equally," he said.

Brittany Kozerski, a freshman communication studies major at the University of Michigan, comes from a mixed background and feels similarly.

"I think I identify more with my African-American side because my moth-



Derell Smith - Senior Photo Editor

Many biracial students such as Lucia Hassell, who is African American, Native American and Indian, feel obligated to identify themselves with one parent's race.

er is African American. And I think that really does make a difference because a lot of mixed people I know with white mothers tend to associate more with their white sides," she said.

Kozerski adds, "I also associate more with my black side because I don't feel as accepted on the white side as I do with the black."

Williams said, "I don't feel that I identify more with one side. Growing up I had more African-American friends, but I don't feel that I identify with them more. I was brought up in a more liberal household that I've learned is different from both cultures."

Being in school has not seemed to pose a challenge for Williams. "I love college. VCU is a very culturally diverse university and that is something that attracted me to it. I could never have seen myself attending a majority white or

black school. I would have been extremely uncomfortable," she said.

Kozerski has also had a positive experience in school. "I have mostly black friends and am completely accepted in the black community here, yet I also have some white friends," she said.

Mixed students face issues that are centered around their perspective of the

world, according to Harrell "Although they may have partial access through the white parent, they

don't have full access," he said.

Kozerski feels good about the experience of being mixed.

"I think that it is much easier to be mixed in America because you can easily identify and participate in both cultures without anyone really saying that you do or do not have the right to because, technically, you're as much black as you are white.'



Shoe Addict

BY SAKITA HOLLEY Contributing Writer

Perhaps the love affair began the first time a young girl tried on her mother's favorite cherry red pumps, or the time the girl put thumb tacks on the bottoms of her shoes to make that click-clacking sound.

For many women, this fatal attraction began at a young age, but for Zanetta Williams and Riqua Hailes, their love of all things heeled was solidified when they opened a boutique called Shoe Addict in Georgetown.

The doors to this shoe sanctuary first opened in 2004, and in three years it has served to fill the void for the exclusivity-driven fashionista.

From the outside looking in, Shoe Addict unapologetically entices unsuspecting punters with inviting and visually stimulating views. Shoes rest on ivory mantelpieces like forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden.

The shoe lover has arrived. Once customers cross the threshold, it feels like one has entered their own personal vanity room.

"Even when I've made up my mind about my purchases, I linger in the store a little while longer because the service is always so warm and friendly," biology major Melba Ross said about her shopping experience.

If the wall-to-wall displays were not enough to put shoe lovers in a blissful state, they are warmly greeted by uber-friendly shoe specialists, oftentimes the owners themselves.

Here, customer service is not the usual mundane performance one would receive at many other favorite shops. At Shoe Addict, a high value is placed on the overall experience.

Aside from the allur-

ing ambiance and the atypical customer service, Shoe Addict's real draw is undoubtedly the variety of the merchandise.

The store keeps shoe lovers coming back with a well-edited collection that will fit the budgets of both the cheap chic fashion enthusiast and the highclass diva, with prices ranging from \$40 to \$400.

Hailes says she wanted to sell shoes that were averagely priced but "more funky and fun." An eclectic mix of brands like Betsey Johnson, Seychelles and Ferylrobin add validity to their notion of funk and good times. Exclusivity is no coincidence at Shoe Addict. When not shopping at their coterie of more than 30 vendors, Williams and Hailes are always on the prowl for unexposed designers and collections to add to their repertoire.

"I love shopping at Shoe Addict because I never know what I will find," sophomore fashion merchandising major Nicole Edmonds said. "They always keep it fresh by introducing new styles and brands that I've never heard of."

Currently, this shoe lover's paradise only carries women's merchandise, but can easily accommodate the needs of a man in search of the perfect present.

"I've heard a lot of girls talk about this place. So if I ever need to pick something up for someone, this is probably where I'd go," sophomore pharmacy major Justin Ortique said.

With the convenience of an online shopping module, anyone can give Shoe Addict a try from the comforts of their own home or any wireless Internet café.

Shoe Addict offers the perfect mix of fashion, flair and simplicity and can double as a go-to destination in clutch situations.

Technology Increases Teen Dating Abuse BY COURTNEY CLEVELAND

Contributing Writer

It was 10 p.m. and a then 17-yearold student, who did not want to be identified, had received 12 text messages in the past hour. Each one was worded differently, but they were all from the same person asking the same questions.

Her boyfriend wanted to know where she was, who she was with and what she was doing. This behavior may seem excessive to some, but to the student, it was an everyday occurrence.

Now a sophomore public relations major, she looks back on that relationship with new clarity.

"[My ex-boyfriend] kept tabs on me constantly," she said. "He always had to know where I was, and if I missed his call he would blow up my cell phone until I answered."

She added, "Sometimes he would curse me out over the phone or texts. At the time, I thought he was just being overprotective, but looking back he was just controlling."

The behavior she experienced is an example of how technology is taking abuse in teen dating to new levels. According to new research, it is a trend that is alarmingly common.

The survey, conducted by Teenage Research Unlimited, provides shocking statistics on the experiences of teens in relationships. According to the data collected, 25 percent of teens in relationships say they have been called names or harassed by their partner through cell phones and texting while 22 percent say they have received unwanted sexual propositions via cell phone.

The use of technology to control partners is on the rise as well. One in three teens say they are text messaged 10 to 30 times an hour by their partner inquiring about their whereabouts and company. Almost one in four teens in relationships communicates with their significant others via cell phone or texting hourly between midnight and 5

The survey also reveals that parents are unaware of this behavior for

the most part. Sixty-seven percent of the parents whose teens were receiving 30 texts a day from their partner were unaware their children were being checked up on.

Although the data is alarming, it is not surprising to some.

"I'm not particularly surprised because it's a natural progression," David Johns, a senior business administration major, said. "We have all this technology that allows anyone to reach you at any time. If a person is controlling or abusive, they are going to use that to their advantage."

Junior psychology major Brooke Adams said immaturity is a reason for abusive teen relationships.

"The problem is [teens] are getting involved in relationships that they aren't ready for," she said. "They look at warning signs as signs that that person cares about them, then it escalates into a problem that they don't know how to handle."

Dr. Jill Murray, a psychologist specializing in teen dating violence, sees such behavior as an attempt to establish "an electronic leash."

Murray said, "The technology sets up the opportunity for constant stalking, for constant communication, for constant intimidation and threatening behavior."

She added, "We're seeing an increase in teen dating abuse, and I believe that this is a good part of it."

The research was released in conjunction with the launching of the National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline (NTDAH) and its corresponding Web site, loveisrespect.org. The initiative is backed by the National Domestic Violence Hotline in partnership with Liz Claiborne Inc.

NTDAH is a 24-hour national telephone hotline created to assist teens, ages 13 to 18, experiencing dating abuse. Loveisrespect.org is an interactive Web site that allows users to receive immediate, confidential assistance in one-onone private chat rooms.

Liz Claiborne Inc. has also created a national high school curriculum, Love is Not Abuse, which is designed to help teachers identify the signs of abuse. It will be taught in approximately 1,000 schools by the end of February.



Photo courtesy of www.shoeaddictshoes.com Shoe Addict, a women's boutique in Georgetown, carries designers such as BCBGirls and Just Cavalli.

THE STATS: Shoe Addict 3222 M Street NW Washington, D.C. 20007 (202) 377-SHOE Hours: Mon - Sat 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Sun 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. www.shoeaddictshoes.

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Derell Smith - Senior Photo Editor Sixty-seven percent of parents whose teens were experiencing abuse from their significant others were unaware their children were being harassed.

EDITORIALS es Perspectives

VOLUME 90, NO. 94

FEBRUARY 26, 2007

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM



VP Dick Cheney Spins British Pull-out of Iraq

Even after British Prime Minister Tony Blair has pledged to pull out of Iraq, Vice President Dick Cheney

continues to support the U.S. war efforts and has attempted to spin the British pull-out as a positive occurrence in the war in Iraq.

Here at The Hilltop it does not make sense to us that while others, namely Britain, are withdrawing from Iraq, the United States is trying to

send more and more troops overseas for Iraqi occupation. It is also ridiculous that

Cheney can take an event like

Britain pulling out of Iraq and attempt to spin the event as a good thing for our nation's occupation of Iraq.

Our View:

We, the United States, should

follow the lead of the British in

removing our military from Iraq

and not see this as support to

send more troops.

portray Britain's troop with-

drawal as a positive occur-

rence is appalling and insult-

ing to the intelligence of the American people.

Clearly, losing an ally in any altercation cannot be

viewed in such a positive light and definitely should not be used as rationale for sending in more troops.

However, Cheney's attempt to spin negative events into support for his agenda is nothing new.

Lest we forget,

The fact that Cheney it was Cheney who spun the would have the audacity to news of the unfortunate events of Sept. 11 into an all out war on terrorism that landed us in Iraq in the first place.

Daily SuDoku

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

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

THEHILLTOP

The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper

Perspective: Response to Illini Mascot

I'd just like to comment on the Illini mascot. I'm full blooded Native American, specifically Navajo, first of all. I've been living in Algonquin

over a year. I come from the reservation, born and raised, with my traditions that I still practice to this day. But what I did not like about the mas-

cot is that "he wasn't Native American." To me that's

- LeAnn Ward

Perspective: A Matter of Priorities Has your mom ever yelled at you about "getting

your priorities in order?" Did you actually apply that message, or brush it off as "just another angry mom" moment?

recently attended informational forum event that took place in the Browsing Room in Founders Library. This happened on Thursday, Feb. 22.

Did you know about it? I didn't.

I had no idea that this annual, all-day event even existed. The only reason I was able to catch the final 10 minutes of this event was because I had an African-American studies class during that time and my professor was a speaker.

How about when Bill Cosby came to speak at Howard University? Did you

know about it? Did you go? If you're like me, then you were shocked to read the article in The Hilltop the day after the event took place.

The truth is that priorities seem to be out of order at Howard University.

Why is it that one can find detailed information about a party one to two weeks in advance, but that same person would never find out about a positive event before it happens?

It does not make sense. Have we become so infatuated with fun that we've forgotten the issues set before us by our ancestors?

The best publicity I've seen for a positive event at Howard can be found in Blackburn. There is a poster advertising an event "Debating Race" with Michael Eric Dyson.

This will take place Monday, Feb. 26 from 4 to 6 p.m. It doesn't give a location, so I guess a search of Blackburn will be in order.

Hopefully this type of publicity will continue and the students of Howard will be informed of more events than just club events.

On a side note, I was overjoyed at the sight this past Wednesday. I was walking in front of Miner's Hall, the closed building next to the School of Business, and I saw this woman trying to walk from her car across the

She was about to slip and this guy reached out his hand to help her down to the sidewalk. As I've said before, chivalry is not dead!

- Jamil Wansley

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

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

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

THE HILLTOP

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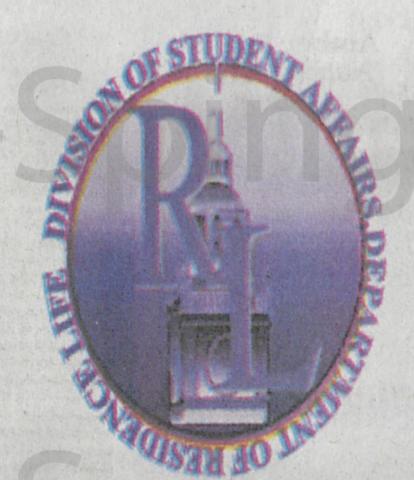
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THE SC CLUB

WILL BE

SEMESTER. WEDNESDAY @ 7 PM IN DOUGLASS RM 137. COME TO PAY DUES AND CET INFO OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENT STODDARD BAPTIST NURSING HOME

ARE YOU UP TO THE **AMERICORPS** CHALLENGE? HEADS UP IS SEEKING HOWARD UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

CO-LEAD YOUR OWN **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASS** \$4,500 LIVING STIPEND LMAY APPLY FWS) \$2,362 **EDUCATIONAL AWARD** LEADERSHIP SKILLS AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UP 10 \$800

REIMBURSEMENT FOR HOUSING \$100 TRANSPORTATION WOUCHER

MMERSE YOURSELF IN AN URBAN SCHOOL SYSTEM

MENTOR YOUTH AND BOND WITH CHILDREN GRADES K-6 HAVE A

SUMMER AND YEAR LIKE NO OTHER!

SERVE-LEARN-LEAD JOIN TODAY APPLICATION PRIORITY DEADLINE IS MARCH 16,

2007;

WWW. HEADSUP-DC.ORG/ INVOLVED/AMERICORPS.

> HTML> FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

RECRUITMENT @HEADSUP-DC.ORG

COME OUT TO **HEAR YOUR** HUSA CANDIDATES **DISCUSS THE ISSUES IN** TONIGHT'S CROSSFIRE **DEBATE!** BLACKBURN READING LOUNGE 7PM ALSO, DEADLINE FOR WRITE-IN

> LIFE COMES @ Y()[FAST

> >

CANDIDATES IS

NOON TODAY!!