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# THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 90, NO. 96

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2007

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## BREAKING NEWS

### DOW HITS ITS LOWEST IN FIVE YEARS

THE DOW DROPPED BY 416 POINTS YESTERDAY, WHICH IS THE BIGGEST DROP IN A SINGLE DAY SINCE 2001. THE LAST TIME THERE WAS A DROP THIS SIGNIFICANT WAS THE DAY THE MARKET REOPENED AFTER SEPT. 11, ACCORDING TO CNN.

## NATION & WORLD

### TEENS KILL FOR SPORT

A NEW TREND HAS EMERGED IN WHICH TEENS HARASS AND SOMETIMES MURDER THEIR HOMELESS VICTIMS. FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS ISSUE IN NATION & WORLD.

PAGE 4



WED, 2/28  
SUNNY  
HIGH: 49, LOW: 35



THUR, 3/1  
PM SHOWERS  
HIGH: 51, LOW: 48

## Howard Elections: Is It a Popularity Contest or Student Service?

BY LENDORA WASHINGTON  
Contributing Writer

As the voting date for student general elections steadily approaches, members of the student body are faced with the responsibility of selecting the right candidates to represent them in student government.

The last three weeks have brought rigorous campaigning for the upcoming elections, which are scheduled for March 6. Bombarding students with countless glossy and expertly finished flyers and familiar faces, each candidate is actively vying for students' support.

Selecting a candidate to support can be a challenge for the average student and doing the necessary research on a candidate and his or her platform may seem tedious. Consequently, many would argue that the deciding factor in elections has little to do with campaigning and campaign platforms and more to do with candidates' popularity.

"I think a lot of people vote based upon face or name recognition," said Mosade Edwards, a freshman undecided major. "If I do know the candidate's face that helps, but I need to know and agree with the platform in order for me to vote for that candidate."

Allen Haynes, the general elections commissioner, agrees that popularity plays a role in the election process.

"In any election name recognition is important," Haynes said. "A popular person has to do less campaigning. It does help a great deal."

According to Haynes, a less well-known candidate can face isolated hardships.

"I've seen a less well-known candidate encounter resistance," he said. "A lot of times people vote for who they know. It's very difficult to get

someone to change their mind against a friend. However, it's certainly not impossible."

However, Haynes discourages the notion that a person must be well-known to participate in the race for student government.

"A large number of candidates are members of well-known organizations on campus," he said. "However, that is not at all a prerequisite. It's usually a result of being an active student."

This may be the case for HUSA presidential candidate Jamel Franklin, who is a member of the Campus Pals, Phi Sigma Pi Honor Fraternity and the reigning Mr. Howard. However, Franklin does not believe popularity plays a large role in elections.

"If candidates won based upon popularity then nobody would be campaigning," he said. "A person could just put one poster up and wait for elections. Instead, we're talking to students and making our platform known."

Franklin said HUSA elections are crucial because HUSA is an organization that affects the entire student body.

"It's extremely dangerous to vote based upon popularity because that puts the whole organization of HUSA in jeopardy," Franklin said. "The students run the risk of not picking the right person to represent everyone."

Instead, he encourages all students to learn the character of the candidates and their respective platforms.

"The students should vote based upon a candidate's platform and the character. Everyone should be an informed voter," Franklin said.

Haynes also encouraged a conscious vote and not one solely based upon candidates' popularity. Although he believes most people opt to vote for a candidate to whom they have a connection, he encourages a wise use of the vote.

"People that vote based upon popularity are not taking his or her vote seriously," Haynes said. "A person should vote based upon how he or she wants things to be done and ran. Voting based upon popularity is a disservice to the student body."



File Photo

Election officials and candidates advise students to select the best representatives based on common interest and platform goals, instead of familiar names and previous titles.

## Students Get Lesson on Black Business

On Feb. 27 the ELI Institute in conjunction with the Howard University Law School held a seminar on the history of African-American entrepreneurship. Among the speakers for the event were Dr. Joel Freeman, who is an author, speaker and the producer of the award-winning film "Return to Glory." As a part of his presentation, Freeman spoke about the history of the rise and fall of the black nation. In addition, he also displayed an array of artifacts, which can be viewed at the Freeman Institute. To close his presentation, he shared information from his book "Road To Glory" and showed a portion of the documentary version.

In addition to Freeman, professor Sherman Rogers from the Howard University School of Law also spoke about black entrepreneurship. He touched on subjects such as the difficulties and roadblocks that exist for blacks as a people to empower themselves to become a strong force in the business world as well as the history on which those roadblocks were set.



Tyrone Clemmons - Staff Photographer



Jessica DeTieg - Staff Photographer

Minister Louis Farrakhan spoke on black America and gave suggestions for its improvement.

## Louis Farrakhan Delivers His Final Address

BY VANESSA ROZIER  
Hilltop Staff Writer

In what was speculated as his last major public speech, the Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan spoke to thousands about the current state of black America and the world, as well as what needs to be done to improve it.

"Christians and Muslims have to break down these artificial divisions and have to rise up as one," Farrakhan said, calling blacks of all religions to work together to achieve a greater agenda in this nation and world. If this unity does not come about, and come about soon, no progress will be made.

In his speech, titled "One Nation Under God," Farrakhan reminded the audience of his previous suggestions toward change. "I asked for us to set up ministries. What are you doing about it? Katrina should have taught us that America doesn't care. We should care," Farrakhan said.

He then charged the Nation of Islam and its followers to action. Farrakhan said that ministries should be set up with education being the top priority. He said there should be a ministry of defense where gang members "protect our community, not destroy it."

As the list of suggestions for what should be done in his forthcoming absence got longer, Farrakhan did not forget to thank the Rev. Jesse Jackson for attempting to erase the word "nigga" from the African-American vocabulary.

"Language represents your state of mind," he said.

Farrakhan has been battling prostate cancer since 1991, but in that time

period, he has managed to lead more than two million people to march by his side in the historical Million Man March. He has also served as the voice for the oppressed, the challenger to those in power and the advocate of peace.

In Sunday's two-hour speech in Detroit, Farrakhan was in the company of great supporters, including Anita Baker, U.S. Representative John Conyers (D-Mich.), Russell Simmons and Navajo Nation president Joe Shirley Jr. The annual convention, which is usually held in Chicago, not only honored the Nation of Islam founder Wallace D. Fard, but also served as a place to make the people aware of political corruption in the U.S. government.

"I'm more than willing to pay the price to preach the truth," Farrakhan said toward the end of his speech. In acknowledgment of the privilege to speak freely, Farrakhan did not hesitate to point his finger at President Bush and the Bush administration for the recent decline in American popularity and the current state of the War in Iraq.

"If you impeach him [Bush], you gotta impeach [Dick] Cheney too. You gotta get rid of him [and] Condoleezza [Rice]. You gotta get rid of the whole kit and caboodle," he said, emotionally.

As applause, cheers and shouts rang throughout the Detroit Lions' stadium, it was obvious that the Honorable Farrakhan, will remain in the hearts of his followers.

"Assalamu alaikum," Farrakhan bellowed into the audience. He then received the official response, "Wa alaikum assalam."



# Four Freshman Girls Compete for HBCU Scholarship

BY BRITTANY HUTSON  
Campus Editor

Kirstan Crawley, Alibia Henry, Jacquelyne Bell and Shavon Comfort were told that in order to further their education at Howard next semester, they would need to find scholarship money.

Instead of limiting themselves to the typical task of filling out numerous scholarship forms, they took the matter into their own hands, literally.

On March 16, the young women will be one of five finalist teams competing in the Second Annual Ford HBCU Business Classic for a chance to win \$100,000 in scholarship prizes.

During the Annual Conference for the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education, the freshmen will compete against four other teams comprised of graduate students from Florida A&M University, Morehouse College, Spelman College and New Orleans' Xavier University. They will present their business plans to a panel of entrepreneurs.

Calling their business B.E.N.A.B. Inc. - which stands for "Because Everybody Needs

A Book" - the freshmen aim to provide students with the opportunity to rent the required textbooks needed for classes at what Crawley calls a "low and affordable price."

"We are all excited," Crawley said. She and her teammates discovered they were finalists two weeks ago.

Their sponsor Rasheem Rooke, the director of judicial affairs at Howard, exposed the women to the Ford HBCU Business Classic. Rooke's boss suggested that the ladies submit a business plan for B.E.N.A.B. Inc.

The young women said they had been working on B.E.N.A.B. Inc. before they were ever aware of the business classic.

"A lot went into the creating of B.E.N.A.B. and it was made from scratch," Crawley said. "All it took was one trip to the [Howard] bookstore during first semester for us to realize that there needed to be a better system because the prices for books today are outrageous."

The young women also note how it is interesting that none of them are in the School of Business. Henry is a political science major, Crawley is a television production major,

Comfort is a psychology major and Bell is undecided.

"It was a quick crash course in business planning," Crawley said.

The Ford HBCU Business Classic was launched in the fall of 2004, and the competition is open to HBCU students nationwide. This year, Ford received business plan submissions from more than 80 percent of the nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The young women were selected from a pool of 100 submissions.

Under the judgment of a panel from SCORE, the self-proclaimed "counselors to America's small business," business plans were required to have five key elements: type of business, product service, pricing considerations, target market, competition and general operations. To narrow the submission pool to the five selected teams, judges used the following criteria to evaluate the business plans: overall presentation, viability and overall benefit to the community.

According to a press release, the Ford HBCU Business Classic was created "after recognizing a need in the black business community



Photo Courtesy of www.gale.edu

Freshmen students teamed up to develop a business plan to enter the Second Annual Ford HBCU Business Classic after discovering they would need to find other scholarship funds.

to educate and develop the next generation of entrepreneurs."

Marc Perry, the multicultural marketing manager for Ford Motor Company, said in the release, "It is Ford's goal to provide a supportive platform for future business owners. Their success as entrepreneurs will create jobs and opportunities to empower their commu-

nities."

This year's judges will include successful entrepreneurs such as Bing Group Chairman Davis Bing, best-selling author and CEO of FraserNet George Fraser, V&J Holding Co. CEO Valerie Daniels-Carter, Sister2Sister Magazine publisher Jamie Foster Brown, Steve Ewing of Wade Ford and Ford Vice

President of Quality and Advanced Manufacturing Engineering Bennie Fowler. Darryl W. Dennard, the co-host of the "Black Enterprise Report," is also scheduled to attend.

For students looking to compete next year, the competition will re-open in the fall. More information is available at [www.ford.com/go/hbcu](http://www.ford.com/go/hbcu).

## Campus Briefs



### Journalism Professor Writes Book for Women

Chaz Kyser, a journalism professor and newspaper advisor at Langston University, will officially introduce her book on March 7. Kyser's career guide for black women, called "Embracing the Real World: The Black Woman's Guide to Life After College," details the specifics of the struggles black women face in the work force and how to overcome obstacles related to gender and race.



### Tenn. State University NAACP Discuss The N-Word

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) at Tennessee State University held a forum titled "Nigga vs. Nigger" where panelists debated the meaning of the words, the acceptability of them and the overall effect they have on society. The group's next forum will be on student unity and the rivalries among HBCUs that are not present among predominately white schools.



### University Precautions After Student Threat

After a student threatened a building with a bomb and anthrax, the University of Missouri-Rolla's civil engineering building underwent decontamination and search. Twenty-three people who were previously quarantined have been released. Officials believe the threat was the result of stress due to school work.



### Staged Break-up Shows the Power of the Internet

After more than 747,000 hits on YouTube.com for a publicized Valentine's Day break up, University of North Carolina students have confessed that the entire incident was staged. The video footage depicts a cheating girlfriend being publicly dumped by her distraught and disgusted boyfriend via a school chorus group singing a popular Dixie Chicks song. They posted the video to showcase the power of Internet communities and the revenue behind them.



### New Chancellor Selected

Winston-Salem State University elected Donald J. Reeves as its new chancellor. He is replacing former Chancellor Harold Martin, who resigned in 2006 to work at the University of North Carolina as senior vice president of academic affairs.

By Traver Riggins  
Hilltop Staff Writer



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## Clinton, Obama Vie For Black Vote

BY RASHAWN MITCHNER  
Copy Editor

With huge gains in recent congressional elections, the Democratic Party is looking toward the 2008 presidential race with renewed hope.

Apparent frontrunners for the party nomination, Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.) and Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY) are vying for the support of blacks, who historically have held their allegiance to the Democratic party.

Both candidates recently made trips to South Carolina to garner support from key black politicians. While in the state, both made stops at HBCUs, Obama at Claflin University in Orangeburg and Clinton at Allen University in Columbia, according to ABC News.

However it was Clinton who came out on top, earning endorsements from prominent black politicians Robert Ford and Darrell Jackson.

According to MSNBC.com, Ford said that if Obama were to win the primary, "Every Democratic candidate running on that ticket would lose because he's black and he's at the top of the ticket—we'd lose the House, the Senate and the governors and everything."

U.S. Census Bureau statistics show that a little more than 14 million blacks voted in the November 2004 presidential election.

Junior physician's assis-



Sen. Barack Obama and Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton are competing for the black vote since announcing their bids for the house. Fearing an Obama win would put the Democratic helm at risk, some black politicians choose to endorse Clinton.

tant major Ayana Hypolite said she recognized the importance of the black vote in the upcoming presidential election.

"I'm pretty sure the numbers increased on how many black people voted [in 2004], but I'm sure if even more voted it'd be twice as better," she said.

In an interview with Newsweek, David Bositis, a senior research associate at the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, gave his perspective on Clinton and Obama's competition for black voters' approval.

"Before there was talk of Obama getting in the race,

I'm sure Hillary was totally counting on black support," he said. "If the black vote went decisively for Obama, that would make things tough for Hillary, especially since she's unlikely to do well with white Southerners," he added.

Bositis said that because black voters supported Clinton's husband, former President Bill Clinton, they could favor her in the election.

Freshman theater arts major Quentin Warren disagreed.

"A lot of people say they'll vote for her just because she's Bill Clinton's wife, but

I need to see more about her to assess her," Warren said.

For many voters, the debate is about the candidates' credentials and platforms, not their gender or race.

Some question Obama's ability to lead the nation in light of his lack of political experience.

"People will always look to him as an example of what happens when blacks get power," said freshman theater arts major Jabari A.K. Holden.

Holden added that in spite of her years of experience, he also has concerns about Clinton.

"The impression that I got is she's conservative, which is not something I expect from the Democratic Party," he said.

For reasons such as these, both Clinton and Obama are making an effort to gain black voters' confidence. A January ABC News poll showed that 60 percent of black voters support Clinton while 20 percent support Obama.

Sophomore biology major Monique Henry saw Obama's February cover story in Ebony as an effort to reach out to a black audience.

"Even though he talked about his family life, he still put his name out in the black community," Henry said.

Freshman business major David Burnett said that neither candidate takes black voters for granted.

"They both see they're minority candidates, so they know every minority vote counts," he said.

Whether they support Clinton or Obama, voters recognize that both face significant hurdles in terms of bias. Freshman English major Meilani Clay said the decision comes down to whether Americans are more ready for a female president or a black one.

"[The United States] has to be ready to let go in some respects of its sexism or in some respects its racism," Clay said.

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## Senseless Murderers: Teens, "Sport Killings"

### Teens Killing of Homeless on the Rise

BY JASMINE BRUNN  
Contributing Writer

This was the case of Norris Gaynor of Fort Lauderdale, Fla. According to CNN, last year two teenagers, one 17 and the other 18, beat Gaynor until he was unrecognizable and shot him with paintballs, which was caught on tape. The two teenagers are now facing murder charges since Gaynor died of his injuries.

Rex Baum of Milwaukee, met a similar fate. According to the Denver Daily News, Baum was killed in 2004 by a group of three teenagers. Like Gaynor, he was beat repeatedly until he died. At one point one of the suspect, Andrew Ihrcke, stabbed Baum to "see if he was alive." Afterwards, the boys casually brushed the incident off by going to McDonald's. They were caught because they were bragging to others. They were tried and sentenced to 15 years.

With movies like "Bumfights," which portray beatings of the homeless, available to teens, many teens are taking interest. On the other side of the issue, there are groups that are trying to educate and inform the public about teen sport killing and how to help the homeless. Groups like the National Coalition for the Homeless, which is based in Washington, D.C., are voicing their opposition to these acts of violence.

The homeless are also fighting back against movies like "Bumfights." According to CNN, former homeless "stars" sued the producers of "Bumfights" and won in a civil case. A judge in California later ordered the producers to go to jail for 180 days when they didn't perform the community service related to guilty pleas



Homeless persons are often the innocent victims of random attacks and even murder. This practice is often referred to as "sport killing."

they entered for charges of promoting illegal street fights.

Students also expressed opposition to these growing acts of violence.

Junior history major H. Anthony Moore said, "First, thou shalt not kill. Second, like homeless people don't have enough to deal with. The search for food, a place to lay their head for the night, and now making sure a senseless teen doesn't beat them up. Lastly, what if it is were you? Sport killing needs to stop like yesterday."

Tony Jamal, a freshman psychology major, has experienced homelessness before.

"I think this [sport killing] is insane," Jamal said.

Kendall Leach, a freshman political science and education major at Randolph-Macon University

in Ashland, Va., said many of these fights stem from "ignorant views in our country."

According to CNN, Michael Stoops, director of the National Coalition for the Homeless, as well as Brian Levin, a hate crime expert from California State University at San Bernardino, believe peer pressure and mob mentality attribute to sport killing.

Stoops also said to CNN, "We recognize that this isn't every teenager, but for some this passes as amusement."

Kendall Leach also said teenagers are engaging in these types of activities because of laws that are limiting corporal punishment. "With the knowledge that [teenagers] are virtually untouchable, these self-absorbed teenagers are getting off doing whatever they please."



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## BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2007

## James Harris Passed the Baton for Black QBs in NFL

BY WINNIE CLARK-JENKINS  
Hilltop Staff Writer

When people talk about famous black football players in history, names like Jim Brown, Emmitt Smith and Eddie Robinson might come up in the conversation. However, there are a few players in history who made significant impacts for blacks in football. One of them is James Harris.

Harris, who is also known to friends and family as "Shack," had a notable football career both in his college and professional days. He was the first black starting quarterback in the NFL.

"Basically, he broke down the barriers for other African Americans to play quarterback in the pros," said Shellie Bowers Jr., the PA announcer for Howard athletics. Bowers, who is a former student of Harris' alma mater Grambling State University, knows him personally.

"He is just a really down-to-earth person," Bowers said.

Today, Harris is still active in professional football as the general manager and vice president for player personnel for the Jacksonville Jaguars.

However, his impact on football came way before his current involvements.

In the mid 1960s, Harris was the quarterback for the Grambling football team where he was coached by another black football legend, Eddie Robinson.

During his college career, Harris was the recipient of four Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) titles and was named MVP of the Orange Blossom Classic in 1967.

Now a high school teacher in the District, Bower said, "In a documentary I showed to my class, 'Shack' was featured in it, and [he] discussed how Coach Robinson said he was going to groom him to be a starting quarterback in the professional league. During that time, blacks were not thought to be intelli-



Photo Courtesy of www.hqphoto.com

James Harris became the first black professional football player to start a season as quarterback during his stint with the Buffalo Bills. He now works with the Jacksonville Jaguars.

gent enough to play that position."

In 1969, Harris became a professional player for the NFL. He was drafted in the eighth round by the Buffalo Bills.

At the start of his career, he made a huge leap in black sports history by becoming the first black professional football player to start a season as quarterback, as well as being the second black player ever to start as quarterback, according to the American Football League Web site.

"The fact that he did so many great things during his career really made it easier for quarterbacks in my position today,"

Bison junior quarterback Brian Johnson said. "I also can appreciate the fact that he came from an HBCU as well."

Early on in his career with the Bills, Harris played alongside another football great, O.J. Simpson. At that point, Simpson was still a rookie, playing as a back fielder for the Buffalo Bills.

In 1972, Harris began playing for the Los Angeles Rams. While with the Rams, he made history again in 1976 by securing the highest passer rating in the NFL with 89.8 percent.

The final team that Harris played for was

the San Diego Chargers, but he left the Rams with the highest career completion average of any quarterback in the team's history.

Once he was traded to the Chargers, he played for almost three years before ending his 12-year career with the NFL in 1981 after not finding much success with the team.

Despite his less notable final years in the NFL, Harris still set numerous precedents that many minority quarterbacks look to today.

"He paved the way for black quarterbacks not only in college but in the NFL as well," Johnson said. "In the upcoming draft, there will be at least five to eight African-American quarterbacks that are expected to be drafted. In a way, they have to be thankful to him for what he did."

In early 2003, Harris took on his current position with the Jaguars. His job as vice president of personnel involves dealing with player acquisitions, including the annual college draft, the free agents, trades, undrafted player signings, and the scouting and signing of players from other professional leagues, according to the Jacksonville Jaguar Web site.

During his time in professional football personnel, Harris has worked for teams like the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the New York Jets and the Baltimore Ravens.

Harris, 59, has been inducted into four halls of fame since ending his career, including the SWAC Hall of Fame, the Grambling Athletic Hall of Fame, the Atlanta Right and Wrong Hall of Fame and the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

He was also nominated by Grambling State as a distinguished alumnus for his contributions to American society during his time in the NFL.

*This is the fourth and final installment of The Hilltop series celebrating some of the lesser known black athletic figures who have paved the way throughout history.*

## Softball Dominates in 3-Game Road Stretch

The Howard Lady Bison softball team went undefeated, 3-0, last weekend in a series of away games. The Lady Bison traveled to Ettrick, Va., on Friday, Feb. 23 and defeated the Virginia State Lady Trojans 12-0. The Lady Bison followed up their first game victory in the second game of the doubleheader with another impressive 20-2 victory.

On Sunday, Feb. 25, the Lady Bison defeated Winston Salem State University 15-1 at a game played in Winston Salem, N.C. Up next, the Lady Bison will travel to Farmville, Va., to take on Longwood this Friday, March 2.

From [www.howard-bison.com](http://www.howard-bison.com)

## SCOREBOARD & SCHEDULE

### SCORES

None

### TODAY'S GAMES

**Lacrosse v. Ohio**  
@ Greene Stadium  
4 p.m.

**Women's Basketball**  
@ Norfolk State  
6 p.m.

**Men's Basketball**  
@ Norfolk State  
8 p.m.

## Woods Foundation to Host PGA Tournament in D.C.

Students who will be in the area this summer have the chance to witness the return of the PGA Tour to Washington, D.C.

The Tiger Woods Foundation will be the host organization and primary beneficiary of all charitable proceeds of the event, which is set to take place during the Fourth of July weekend. The tournament will replace the

International outside Denver, which announced earlier this month that it would no longer exist because it was losing too much money.

The District's PGA event stopped last year when sponsor Booz Allen declined to renew its deal.

It is not yet known if Woods will participate in the event.

## Around the Sports World

### TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY...

On Feb. 28, 1940, the first televised basketball game was broadcast by W2XBS in New York City. The University of Pittsburgh defeated Fordham University, 50-37, in the game played at Madison Square Garden.



# Black Enterprise Names Top 50 Hollywood Power Brokers

BY SHIVONNE FOSTER  
Contributing Writer

Black Enterprise magazine recently announced its Top 50 Hollywood Power Brokers, topping its prestigious list with Oprah Winfrey. Winfrey is celebrated along with many renowned and up-and-coming professionals who have greatly influenced show business.

The list can be found in the March issue of Black Enterprise.

Winfrey is honored for her great achievements with Harpo Productions Inc., which serves as the umbrella production company for "The Oprah Winfrey Show," "The Dr. Phil Show," "The Rachael Ray Show" and television movies like "Their Eyes Were Watching God." Winfrey is also a co-founder of the Oxygen Media Network, which reaches 69 million households.

Professionals like Winfrey, whose influence over the media industry spans two decades, have paved the way for many rising minority professionals in show business.

"I think this list and Oprah's position on it reflects the direction of black soci-

ety," sophomore philosophy major Sharday Shelby said. She believes that Howard's campus illustrates that young blacks want to pursue higher education, and now they have a growing number of distinguished black professionals to aspire to.

Black Enterprise, a publication with a goal to financially empower blacks, has developed into the premiere business and investment resource for blacks. The magazine has encouraged its readers, both young and old, to also achieve greatness by showing examples of successful minority-owned businesses.

Harold Gray, the director for professional development in the School of Business, agrees that Black Enterprise has been a motivational example for future entrepreneurs.

"Professionals like Oprah Winfrey are people for the younger generation to aspire to and emulate," Gray said. "Oprah has a great influence. Whatever she chooses to attach her name to—from a book to a movie—is an instant seller. Acknowledgment on her show serves as great marketing for any product."

He continued, "Power is a major tool. The major element of power is resources. It all depends on how you use your resources."

Gray explains that students striving toward an esteemed professional career must observe those who have already brought something to the table and who are "operating in their sweet spot."

The Top 50 Hollywood Power Brokers list is comprised of professionals from various fields. Rounding out the top 10 of the list are: Winfrey, Time Warner Chairman and CEO Richard D. Parsons, actor Will Smith, former basketball star and entrepreneur Earvin "Magic" Johnson, Robert L. Johnson of Our Stories Films, movie producer Tyler Perry, Douglas V. Holloway of Cable Investments and NBC Universal Cable, actor Denzel Washington, comedian Eddie Murphy and talk show host Tyra Banks.

Black Enterprise's highlighting of these eminent individuals serves as a celebration of black accomplishment in entertainment, and it renders inspiration for those with big business dreams of their own.



Photo courtesy of www.oprah.com

Oprah Winfrey's success in television, movies, magazines and other media endeavours

## Web Sites Cater to the Wants of Virtual Relationship Seekers



Dereel Smith, Senior Photo Editor

GreensandCornbread.com and its companion Web site WhiteBreadandButter.com offer an online community and virtual dating service for those looking for either long-term relationships or casual dating.

BY MONICA HARRIS  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Virtual social networks have taken over the Internet in the past few years. From Blackplanet to Facebook and MySpace, anyone who so desires can become a part of an online community that caters to their wants. But are dating Web sites a viable way to improve one's love life?

Carlton Enoch has created two related Web sites that serve as a way for singles to meet whether they are seeking long-term love or a flirty friendship. One of the only dating Web sites created by an African American, GreensandCornbread.com was designed specifically for the African-American community. It launched just before Valentine's Day.

"I'm not a real fan of dating sites, but I will admit that the name alone would peak my interest," junior marketing major Marlena Thomas said. "And once you've got the consumer's attention, it's easy to sell them from there."

GreensandCornbread.com has a long list of features, including forums, blog postings and the ability to make reservations at local soul food restaurants. Successful couples can be broadcast live on a date for the rest of the community to watch. The web site also offers flash chat, which makes it possible to instant message a potential lover on a personalized page created by the user with a picture or live video.

"It's just so much. It sounds like a dating theme park. But if

you're really looking to find your mate online, I guess with all these features this would be the perfect place to start," senior advertising major Kimberly Mills said.

Perhaps the most unique feature of the Web site is virtual dating. With this element, the user creates an image of their likeness and actually steps into a virtual world filled with other users of the Web site. This world has plenty of places to go and things to do. There are night clubs, restaurants, parks and more.

"You can literally be hanging out by the pool and be approached by someone on the other side of the world," Enoch said of the virtual dating Web site.

The computer game "The Sims" was the inspiration behind virtual dating, according to Enoch.

A sister site to GreensandCornbread.com is WhiteBreadandButter.com. This dating Web site offers all the same features and is marketed to mainstream America. "We can't leave them out," Enoch said.

As a gift to Howard, Enoch is offering all Howard students a free year-long subscription to either site if registration is completed prior to April 1.

"I don't think I would ever visit a dating Web site," junior chemistry major Sharla Collins said. "To me it's an act of desperation."

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 70 percent of black women in America are unmarried. When asked if this staggering statistic relates to his Web site's mission, Enoch said, "I think it might not be

such a bad thing. People are taking their time these days. It's bad to jump into marriage. But besides that, these sites will broaden the possibilities for us in relationships. You can meet someone outside of your community that you may not have otherwise been exposed to."

Enoch, a true entrepreneur, has experienced several professions in his lifetime already. Kicked out of high school for not passing classes in the 11th grade, Enoch decided not to let that stop him. He soon looked for jobs that he could obtain without a high school diploma. Law enforcement was his first career as he worked for the federal government as a bounty hunter.

After a life of chasing and capturing criminals in Ohio, Enoch decided to retire and blow off steam in Phoenix. While at a restaurant in Phoenix, Enoch was offered the job to host a locally syndicated sketch comedy show called "Off the Hook."

During that time in 2000, Enoch wrote a book about his time as a bounty hunter titled "Eye See Me: A True Life Story." The book was so popular that he got an offer to star in a movie production based on the book. The "Eye See Me" movie is set to be released in theaters across the country in November 2007.

For Howard students curious about Internet dating but not willing to pay for membership, both Web sites are offering free subscriptions for registering before April 1. Others who are interested can purchase a one-year subscription for only \$12.95.

## Today Matters Because...

### Michael Jackson Won Eight Grammy Awards

BY COURTNEY BATTLE  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Feb. 28, 1984, marked one of the most important days in music history. On this day, musician and entertainer Michael Jackson won eight Grammy Awards. The pop icon, who came from humble beginnings in Gary, Ind., proved to the world that anyone can make dreams a reality.

Michael Joseph Jackson was born on Aug. 29, 1958, to Joseph and Katherine Jackson. He was the eighth of 10 children, but even at a young age, he managed to stand out from his siblings.

At the age of 7, Jackson began his musical career. Under the guidance of his father, Jackson and four of his brothers formed The Jackson Five. After performing in various clubs and bars, the group's name began to spread, and by 1968, they were signed with Motown Records.

The group's first single, "Got to Be There," was a hit. They went on to produce other successful songs such as "Ben" and "Rockin' Robin," but the group's sales began to decline in 1973.

When they signed a new contract with CBS Records in 1975, Motown sued for breach of contract. Legal complications caused the group to lose the rights to their name, and they came to be known as The Jacksons. Another Jackson brother, Randy, soon took Jermaine's place, and six more albums were released by the mid 1980s. Jermaine eventually returned to the group in 1983.

Jackson scored the starring role in the 1978 film "The Wiz," which was produced by renowned musician and producer Quincy Jones. Jones also produced Jackson's first solo album, "Off the Wall," which was released in 1979.

"Off the Wall" became a world-



Photo Courtesy of www.michaeljackson.com

wide smash. After the album, Jackson went on to take the music world by storm. His 1982 follow-up album "Thriller" became the best-selling album in music history.

It was with "Thriller" that Jackson showed the world that he was not only a musician, but also a phenomenal dancer. At Motown's 25th anniversary television special in 1983, Jackson unveiled what is now known as the moonwalk.

Jackson also exuded a sense of service. In 1985, he co-wrote the song "We Are The World" with fellow musician Lionel Richie to raise money and increase public awareness about the famine in eastern African countries.

In the late 1980s, Jackson's success continued, but not at the rate it had in previous years. He released the album "Bad," which went platinum eight times but did not quite achieve the success of his other albums.

After touring to promote the "Bad" album, Jackson became the center of controversy. Whether it was his changing skin color, plastic surgery or questionable relationships with children, Jackson seemed to always be in the media for everything but his music.

Yet Jackson continues to do what he does best, and his efforts have not gone unnoticed. After "Bad," he released several studio albums and compilations.

Faith Minor, a senior English major, says Jackson set the tone for many up and coming artists.

"I don't think that people would be as adventurous in music [if it weren't for him] because he paved the way for people to think outside the box," she said.

Sophomore business administration major Chris Hines agreed, saying, "His music and performance has broken barriers for blacks and has shifted the flow of music forever, which is an outstanding achievement for any artist. There's not too much to dislike about Michael. He's inspired people all over the world."

Jackson will always hold a special place in the hearts of many, including Minor.

"He will always be the 'King of Pop' in my eyes," she said.

Though many now question his actions, Michael Jackson will undoubtedly go down in music history as one of the greatest artists of all time despite his erratic behavior.



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# EDITORIALS *& Perspectives*

VOLUME 90, NO. 96

FEBRUARY 28, 2007

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM



Photo courtesy of entertainment.blogger.com

## 'Real Women Have Curves'

Full-figured women are breaking through the negative stereotypes set forth by the media and breaking ground in how women of such figures are perceived.

As of late, much of the battle has been on the shoulders of now Academy Award winner Jennifer Hudson. Since her crowd and critic pleasing performance in the blockbuster motion picture "Dreamgirls," Hudson and her full-figured frame have been everywhere.

The "Dreamgirl," whose portrayal of Effie White won her the Academy Award for best supporting actress, has made magazine history. Hudson became the first black songstress to grace the cover of Vogue magazine.

That accomplishment says a lot about the changing perception of full-figured women in America.

Vogue, a popular fashion magazine known for famous cover shots, has taken a step away from the skin-and-bones models that frequent the cover and has taken a step down the road of progression.

Thanks to Hudson

Tyra Banks is straying from her former figure in favor of a more realistic and comfortable weight for her height.

Women such as these stray from the sloppy and unkempt stereotype of the past to portray an image that shows that larger women are able to be glamorous and have sex appeal while maintaining comfort in their own skin.

We feel that this progress is essential in today's world. It is even more essential as a weapon to fight the battle against negative representations such as the "mammy" image that still appears today in such films as Norbit.

This is great for the self-esteem of women and girls who feel pressured to meet the Eurocentric, pencil-thin model of beauty that has ruled the mainstream for years.

Even former supermodel

**Our View:**  
*We are glad to see full-figured women positively affect their image in the media.*

and plus-size personalities like CoverGirl spokesperson Queen Latifah, America Ferrera of "Ugly Betty" and Toccara Jones, who gained fame on "America's Next Top Model" and now co-hosts BET's "The Black Carpet," the stigma of full-figured women is changing for the better.

## Clarification: 2/26 Edition

The Hilltop would like to clarify information in an article that ran on Feb. 26 titled "ASB Raises Funds for New Orleans Trip." The article described separate efforts from two Howard University organizations that are going to New Orleans for spring break. The Andrew Rankin Chapel is sponsoring a group of 500 students who are volunteering in New Orleans over spring break. The 'Helping Hand' radio-thon on WHUR will be trying to raise \$50,000 for the Chapel's effort.

The Howard University Chapter of the NAACP is sponsoring its own community service trip to New Orleans separately from the Chapel. This group is trying to raise \$10,000 for its trip.

### The Hilltop

### Writing Workshop

Wednesday @ 6:00  
The Hilltop Office,  
P-Level, West Tower

### Why Come?

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If you're interested in becoming a staff writer, you must attend.

## Daily SuDoku

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

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

Do you want to write for THE HILLTOP?

Come to our budget meeting

**Monday @ 7 p.m.**

## THE HILLTOP

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

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

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



## CLASSIFIEDS

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

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**CANVAS OF HANDS 4 DARFUR – HU YARD, FEBRUARY 28TH, 12 NOON – 2PM**

**NIGER – DELTA: A TALE OF IRONY – BLACKBURN GALLERY LOUNGE, FEBRUARY 28TH, 7PM – 9PM**

**ASA GAMES NIGHT – BLACKBURN RECREATIONAL ROOM, MARCH 1ST, 6PM – 9PM**

**NOIRE (FASHION SHOW) – CRAMTON AUDITORIUM, MARCH 2ND, 7PM – 10PM**

**FIVE WEEKS AND THREE DAYS**

**Ware/Roberts for HUSA Presents "Put it on Blast!"**  
A forum to address the concerns with Campus Security Chief Lawrence Thomas will be present

**Thursday, March 1, 2007 7:00pm Rm. 143 Douglass Hall**

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**Kick off of ELI's Planning the Entrepreneurial Venture (PEV) Certificate Program Announcement of the PepsiCo/H. NAYLOR FITZHUGH Scholarship Program (Spring 2007)**

**Monday, February 26th**  
12:00pm-2:00pm - What is Social Entrepreneurship (Workshop)  
Guest Speakers: Dr. Clarence Brown, Professor, School of Social Work, Howard University; Representative of American HUMPHRIES (Student Non Profit Organization); Tobias Shortem, Director, Social Entrepreneur, IDEASIA; and Jessica Johnson, Assistant President, Minority Scholarship Fund  
Location: Blackburn Center Auditorium – Refreshments will be served

**Tuesday, February 27th**  
12:00pm - 2:00pm - History of African American Entrepreneurship  
Guest Speakers: Dr. Joel Freeman, Author/Speaker/Trainer and Co-Producer of award-winning film "Return To Congo"; and Sherman Rogers, Professor, School of Law, Howard University  
Location: Blackburn Center Auditorium – Refreshments will be served

**Wednesday, February 28th**  
12:00pm-2:00pm - Faculty Recognition Luncheon  
Recognition of faculty members who have contributed to entrepreneurship education on Howard University's campus including the Ford for Academic Excellence Grant Recipients.  
\*Invitation Only  
Location: Blackburn Center Reading Lounge

**Thursday, March 1st**  
FORD DAY  
9:30am-11:30am - Own Your Own Ford Dealership  
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• Maria Jordan - Past President, Experiance Ford, Chic, IL  
• Ruben Hill - President, The Ford Lincoln Mercury, Vallejo, CA  
• Nate Sutton - President, Sutton Ford Superstore, Matteson, IL  
Location: Blackburn Center Ballroom, West Side

11:30am-3:30pm - HU Black Marketplace  
Showcase of Howard University Student Entrepreneur and The National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) Students, highlighting their products and services  
Location: Blackburn Center Hilltop Lounge

12:00pm-2:00pm - Ford Luncheon  
Keynote Speaker - Danny Hazel, President of Ford Customer Service Division: Business Plan Competition Winners will be announced and presented with cash award; Presenting of ELI's First Entrepreneur-in-Residence - Elliott Johnson, Marketing/Sales and Business Strategist. \*Invitation only  
Location: Blackburn Center Ballroom, East Side

**Friday, March 2nd**  
11:00am-12:30pm - "Cyber Hope - The Truth About Making Money on the Internet"  
Guest Speaker: Jamila White, Entrepreneur / E-commerce Day, Co-Sponsored by the District of Columbia Small Business Development Center (DC SBDC)  
Location: School of Business, Room 218

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