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The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 90, NO. 115

THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2007

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

BREAKING NEWS

PELOSI TALKS WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE NANCY PELOSI MET WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT BASHAR AL-ASSAD TO HAVE A DIALOUGUE ABOUT PRESSING ISSUES IN THE MIDDLE EAST, INCLUDING ISSUES IN IRAQ AND LEBANON, ACCORDING TO THE NEW YORK TIMES

LIFE & STYLE

TAMIA TALKS WITH THE HILLTOP RECORDING ARTIST TAMIA DISCUSSES MOTHERHOOD AND HER CAREER, TO FIND OUT MORE CHECK OUT LIFE & STYLE



Former N.O. Mayor Speaks

BY BRITTANY HUTSON Campus Editor

Black Executive The Exchange Program kicked off yesterday morning with an address from the eighth president and CEO of the National Urban League, Marc Morial. He praised students for being future leaders of the "front line" and stressed they will have the power to lead in a society driven by economic institutions.

"When I look today at business students, I see people who are on the new front line of the 21st century movement, a movement of economic empowerment and a movement to build powerful economic institutions," said Morial, who served as mayor of New Orleans from 1994 to

As one of the nation's top black corporate, government and nonprofit organization executives, Morial was a guest on behalf of the National Black Executive Exchange Program/ Howard University Black Exchange Executive Program (BEEP). In its 38th year, the BEEP initiative has brought black executives to Howard's campus in order to network with students.

Morial's address highlighted the need for additional black leadership in economic institupresence in the consumer market but a low number as leaders and powerful executives.

According to Morial, there er spending currently stands at

from the experience.

career in mass media.

Miller, Hord Speak to

CBS correspondent and wife of Marc Morial Michelle

Miller along with Michelle Hord, director of talent and

recruitment and development at ABC News, shared

secrets of the journalism industry with students yester-

day morning. Both women are Howard graduates. Miller

told students to be honest and own up to the mistakes

they will make as professional journalists and to learn

brand," Miller said. Hord, who shared her experience

of having five internships while in college, said to have

realistic and clear expectations of moving through a

"Experience is worth more to you than the name

- Compiled by Joshua Thomas and Drew

Journalism Students



A.K. Adams, a graduate entreprenuar student, speaks to National Urban League CEO Marc Morial about media finances for the African American community.

are approximately 80 to 85 percent of black-owned businesses and the number of black-owned businesses is steadily growing.

"The truth is many of our businesses are small, but it shows [potential for growth]," he said.

"African Americans own more businesses than before. but in the mainstream our presence in the producer's economy is very small," he said.

Morial said black consum-

\$800 billion and is growing at a faster rate in comparison to white America.

Morial said, "I'm trying to paint a picture to business and African-American business owners that there is a huge market that is untapped."

Second-year management MBA student Rich Owens said he agreed with the message that Morial conveyed to the audience.

"What he said is definitely relevant to what we as black people are going through," Owens said.

"It's not about race so much as it is economics and taking advantage of money out there since we spend so much," Owens said. "We need to take that money and put it back into our communities and empower ourselves. My only concern is: will students listen to this information and put it to use."

Another attendee of the address, Cindy Unegbu, a freshman international business major, did take notice and said there was truth in Morial's message.

"A lot of [his speech] about economic advancement and the state of black America is true. Blacks spend a total of \$800 billion, and we are a power-

See MORIAL, Page 6

Who Done It?



Last night, one of the front windows of the Lewis K. Downing Engineering building was shattered. According to Campus Police Sgt. Hawkins, there is no additional information regarding the window other than that it is broken. Any students with details are encouraged to contact Campus Police at (202)-806-1100.

Obama Raises \$25 Million

BY CHARLOTTE YOUNG Hilltop Staff Writer

Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama's campaign is off to a good running start finan-

Obama announced his

presidential bid on Feb. 10. The Illinois senator said Wednesday he has raised approximately \$25 million for the first quarter in his campaign, landing him right behind presidential hopeful Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y.,

who has raised a recordbreaking \$26 million.

The first quarter presidential fundraising, considered by many to be a trustworthy point of reference to show a candidate's capability to win the race, ended March 31 at midnight.

Though Clinton may have raised more money, Obama may still be ahead of her in terms of support. One hundred thousand people donated to his campaign, compared to 50,000 people who have donated to Clinton. While Clinton raised more than \$4.2 million over the Internet, Obama raised \$6.9 million.

In an e-mail Obama sent to his supporters, he said he was proud they had exceeded all of his hopes and expecta-

"It's been a truly historic response -- a measure of just how hungry people are to turn the page on this era of small and destructive politics and repair our American

See OBAMA, Page 6

Legendary Grambling Football Coach Eddie Robinson Dies at 88

BY WINNIE CLARK-JENKINS Hilltop Staff Writer

The former coach of Grambling State's football team, Eddie Robinson, died late Tuesday night in Ruston, La. The 88-year-old died of Alzheimer's-related complications, according to an MSNBC report.

Coaching for 55 seasons, Robinson was the first coach to win 400 games in NCAA history during his career. His record while coaching at Grambling was 408-165-15.

"It is sad to see someone leave us that was so legendary, that was such a great coach and did so much to bring black colleges to the forefront in intercollegiate football," said junior Joe Claiborne, a defensive back for Howard's football team.

Robinson's health was on

the decline since early 2004, according to reports from Dr. Ruby Higgins given to the New York Times. He officially retired in 1997 from his coaching position after the team's performance began to slip with Robinson's old age.

Costley, Hilltop Staff

The former coach was admitted to Lincoln General Hospital in Ruston, La., early Tuesday evening and died soon

He began coaching at Grambling in 1941 and during his 55 seasons at the university, he had over 200 of his players go onto the NFL.

"His resume from his time at Grambling is nothing but impressive and he was truly an admirable person," Claiborne said. "There are very few that could match his accomplishments."

Robinson became a legendary football icon because of his ability to succeed in his coaching career even during a time of institutional racism.

He was able to break down many racial barriers that were prevalent during much of his career. Coaching in the south at a black university also was difficult for Robinson but he was able to surpass his struggle even through the discrimination and segregation.

Robinson had a large following of both college and professional athletes.

"He was a legendary coach, a great teacher and an extraordinary man," George Steinbrenner, the owner of the New York Yankees told the Associated Press. "I've known him for years, we were terrific friends and I lament his loss."



Eddie Robinson instructs his Grambling team shortly before his retirement in 1997. Beginning

in 1941, during his 55 season tenure at the school, Robinson won more than 400 games.

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MECCANISMS

EDITORIALS & PERSPECTIVES 9

Freshman Starts National Book Club to Influence

BY MERCIA WILLIAMS-MURRAY Hilltop Staff Writer

Erica Austin knew her writing would take her far and saw no national via the Internet. point in waiting to finish elementary school before letting everyone know

Austin, a freshman speech communications major, published a book at the age of nine titled "What Every Child Should Know About Prayer."

"I've been writing for a long time, ever since I was in elementary school. My teacher always said I was a good writer," Austin says.

For writing the book at such a young age, Austin earned the prestigious honor of receiving a Trumpet Award.

The Trumpet Awards were created to herald the accomplishments of Americans who have succeeded against immense odds and contributed to bringing about equality. This year's honorees include Toni Braxton for entertainment, Michael Jordan for goodwill ambassador and Clint Eastwood for social justice.

the Ecumenical Hall of Fame by the of any age are welcome to join.

National Council of Negro Women and won an NAACP ACT-SO Award. Her biggest project now is her book club, which has just become

The book club is called the

"Youth On The Move Achievers Book Club and focuses on "The Other Side of Hip-Hop -- Literacy."

"Hip-hop is very influential in today's society whether you want to admit it or not. It has the power to promote positive social reform in today's society," Austin says.

She adds that one of the monumental things about being a Trumpet Awards author is the ability to reach back into society and show young children that reading is fundamen-

"Being that I was an author, I wanted to have a book club," she suys. Austin started constructing the book club in 2003. She originally only wanted to have a group of kids come to her house to talk about influential books, particularly by black authors.

The book club focuses on youth Austin has also been honored in ages 13 to 18 but Austin says people

At the time, she could not focus on it because she had so many speaking engagements. When she got to Howard, Austin started to make the book club a top priority.

Although she was accepted to Howard for the fall semester, Austin transferred to Howard University this semester from The Art Institute of Atlanta.

"Howard University, especially the School of Communications, has been very supportive," Austin says.

Since she was a child, Austin has been a public speaker for youth. Since enrolling at Howard, she has not been able to take on as many public speaking engagements.

"I'm always talking to a diverse audience," she said.

Her speeches focus on spirituality but have also included inspiration and motivation.

"My speeches encourage today's youth reaching for highest potential by pursuing the gifts that God has given them; she says.

She adds, "I'm a living testament about what can happen when you pursue your dreams and your talent for God's glory."

PHOTO COURTEST OF WWW.FACEBOOK.COM

Freshman speech communications major Erica Austin has been nationally recognized for her efforts to get youth interested in reading.

People who are interested in joining the book club can submit raise funds for recreational centers their applications online at www. youthonthemovebookclub.com. The Web site has been up for two weeks.

One of the books currently on the reading list is Sista Souljah's "The Coldest Winter Ever," which first book and will be writing a sec-Austin says will be a good read for youth.

A future goal of Austin's is to so that youth can be tutored and mentored. This will also give young people a positive place to go after

Austin is currently revising her ond book for teenage girls.

Author Visits to Discuss Surviving Sexual Assault



Dorrill Smith - Senior Photo Village

Lori Robinson talks about new book "I Will Survive."

BY TRAVER RIGGINS

Members of the Howard community attended a discussion about sexual abuse and sexual assault with Lori Robinson, the author of "I Will Survive: The African-American Guide to Healing from Sexual Assault and Abuse.

The discussion was intimate and informative, with 60 attendees filling the Hillton Lounge of the Blackburn Center, Members of the audience questioned Robinson about controversial issues surrounding sexual assault and abuse, including men's role in the crime.

"All of these men are perceived as rapists because we are not holding other men accountable, said Joseph Vess, the community orgamizing assistant coordinator for the D.C. Rape Crisis

Men of Strength, sponsored by Men Can Stop Rape, was one of the campus organizations sponsoring the event. It was also sponsored by Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., Gamma Sigma Sigma National Service Sorority and the D.C. Rape Crisis Center (DCRCC).

Asantewaa Nkrumah-Ture, a friend of Robinson's, threw the topic of religion into the discussion.

There are some parts of the Bible, particularly the Old Testament: Ezekiel, Jeremiah, Hosea, [that] have some very graphic depictions of violence against women that are as violent, if not more so, than some of these hip-hop videos," Nkrumah-Ture said.

Nkrumah-Ture organized workshops about domestic violence over the past five years.

Preachers who talk against violence in hip-hop videos need to go back and read their Bibles," she said

Robinson, who shared her personal story early in the discussion, provided useful statistics and knowledge about sexual crimes, some of which shocked the

"Sexual assault is happening more on college campuses, so we wanted to educate women and men about sexual assault, about the state and local laws, so it is a good event for the whole community," said Latasha Mitchell, a Zeta Phi Beta sorority member and junior psychology major.

Robinson conducted more than 60 interviews with lawyers, psychologists; law enforcement officers and survivors. She said she learned a lot from the pcople who are experts in these areas.

"The criminal justice system is completely inadequate," Robinson said.

Others agree and for that reason, grassroots initiatives like the DCRCC Working Group, which educates local 18- to 24-yearolds and spreads awareness, and INCITE! Women of Color Against Violence have taken action against sexual violence.

This is a great start to a conversation that needs to happen more often," DCRCC community organizing director Ericka Ransom said.

Copies of Robinson's book were available for sale.

ETS Officials Cancel Changes to GRE Test

BY BRITTANY HUTSON Hilltop Staff Writer

The revised GRE general test scheduled to be released worldwide this September was canceled earlier this week.

According Educational Testing Service (ETS) Web site, the primary concern over the revised GRE general test was if test takers would have problemfree access. Plans called for the revised test to be delivered over the new worldwide network of 3,200 Internetbased testing centers. ETS officials did not believe that full access would be guaranteed to all test takers.

In the press release, David Payne, the executive new format. director of the GRE Program at ETS said, "The decision to cancel the revised GRE General Test best serves the interests of test takers and the graduate institutions that use those scores to make admissions decisions.'

Payne added, "After much debate and evaluation, it became clear that the current format offers students more convenient and flexible opportunities to test when and where they choose, while still providing score users with valid predictors of test takers' preparedness for graduate school study."

GRE officials believed problems guaranteeing complete access to the new test outweighed the benefits of immediately moving to the



Students are relieved at the canceling GRE test updates.

said.

In the meantime, ETS will continue to offer the test worldwide in its current computer-based testing format.

"As the launch approached, ETS determined that, despite the aggressive development of our Internetbased testing network, we could not guarantee complete access to all students needing to take the exam," Payne said.

Payne added although the graduate community supports the revised GRE general test, they have said that they are satisfied with the current test.

Junior psychology major Lia Rohlehr, who plans to attend graduate school for clinical psychology, was proud to hear about the can-

cellation of the revised GRE

"I'm very happy because now I don't have to rush to take the [old version of the] exam by the end of July," she

She added, "I think the benefit [of the cancellation] is that it will be less confusing for grad schools to assess the validity of the new test

ETS officials will work with the GRE Board to implement many of the planned test content improvements in the future without the access issues associated with changing an entirely new test delivered over a brand new testing network, according to the release.

Registration for General Test appointments beyond July 31 opened Monday.

Students Connect to Alumni at Howard Hall

BY TRAVER RIGGINS AND MERCIA WILLIAMS-MURRAY Hilltop Staff

The Howard University Alumni Association (HUAA) and the Student Trustees held the second annual "Project Connect" last night at Howard Place.

Minutes after the event began, more seats had to be added to the original 30 in networking and mentorship. order to accommodate people into the hall.

Several alumni shared their stories and provided information about alumni relations and HUAA during a question and answer perinetwork with the panel-

attendance.

Project Connect, according to a HUAA media release, is designed to connect alumni with current students, educate them about life after college, expose them to HUAA and provide the opportunity for

This is to help get you to lining the walls and spilling Join us and we're not just asking for your money, but your HUAA executive committee. time, knowledge and your skills," Kesi Stribling, HUAA public relations chair and panelist said.

HUAA President Mwalimu

od. Students were then Sandra Brown said HUAA given the opportunity to "exists to support Howard University -- no individual, no ists and other alumni in particular group, but the institution."

The project was started last year in an effort to link students and alumni. Undergraduate Trustee Jabari Smith said one of his biggest goals of the year was to maintain the relationship the student trustees and HUAA began to construct last year when the student trustees became voting members of the

"I knew this was something I had to carry out so the partnership could be main-

tained, Smith said. He added, "Service to your

university is something that continues after commencement. You should be dedicated to contributing to the university because the investment is really a lifetime investment."

Panelists were able to provide students with a variety of insights. Lt. Col. Michael Collins graduated in 1969. was involved in Campus Pals, The Bison, the ROTC Drill Team and ended his undergraduate collegiate career as Howard University Student Association president. Collins was also a part of the student coalition that took over the Administration building in

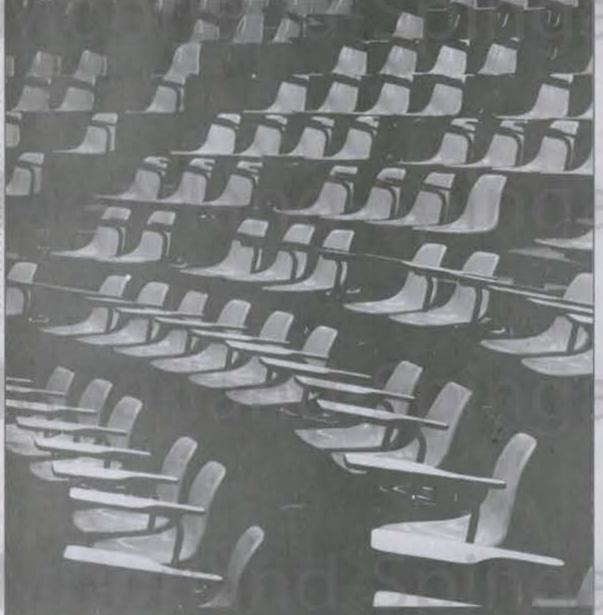
See ALUMNI, NEWS A6



Trustee Smith talks to a student after Project Connect.

THE HILLTOP





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The BISON Policy Board is currently seeking applicants for the 2007-2008:

Yearbook Editor-in-Chief esearc

Applications are available immediately in the Office of Student Activities, Blackburn Center Suite 117

Applications are due before April 6, 2007 (Friday) at 5:00 pm.

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If you have any question please contact the Office of Student Activities at (202) 806-7000.

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Entertainment Panel Discusses Networking

BY CHARLOTTE YOUNG Hilltop Staff Writer

To better equip young black women for the music and entertainment world, the National Association of Black Female Executives in Music and Entertainment Inc. (NABFEME) held a panel discussion on Tuesday night.

The event was held at the Tabaq Bistro on U Street where the low lighting, small dark brown and red square seats and upbeat instrumental music gave the discussion a laid back, modern environ-

"It gave the intimate feel I wanted," NABFEME President Sheraine Gilliam said. " I wanted everyone to be on an even playing field so that they can ask any question they want."

NABFEME is a nonprofit organization geared toward promoting the entry and advancement of women of color in the entertainment and music industry.

It was started in 1998 as a result of the frustration and adversity Johnnie Walker, the former DreamWorks Records head of urban promotion, faced as a black woman in entertainment. The organization offers mentors, education, career development and networking opportunities for its members.

Titled "High Heels in High Places II," the discussion is the sequel to a national tour that took place last year at club H20.

The four women chosen as the panelists for the event were Tia Smith, the execu-

tive director for Talented SOL productions, Deborah Cowan, the senior vice president of finance for Radio One, Lisa Lisa, the program director for XM-67 radio show "The City" and Darlene Chapman-Holmes, the vice president of marketing for American Life

"They're all phenomenal women," Gilliam said. "They definitely made an impact in the industry, and they have reached the top of the chain rather early in life."

The long hallway-like room soon became crowded around the panel discussion.

Despite audio problems making it difficult for the women to be heard at times, the panelists held the audience's attention with stories about their experiences and the adversity they faced as black women in the field as well as gave advice.

Much of the discussion was based on the women's statement that networking is essential in order to make it in the business.

Much of the debate was focused on how much networking is required for getting into the business.

"You have to network," Smith said. "In networking, someone has to trust you. Be authentic. Don't use the same lines everybody else has."

Cowan agreed, saying, "That could be the deal breaker. Your resume may be good, but it might not sift to the top on its own."

Chapman-Holmes detailed a recent experience where she hired a girl simply because she was someone's

"It's good to see professional black women working together and learning from each other."

-Michael Bailey



Panelists stressed the importance of networking at "High Heels in High Places II," hosted at the Tabaq Bistro. Additional panels are planned for Tuesdays at the Bistro.

"That was the biggest mistake I ever made," she said.

Because of that experience, Chapman-Holmes plans to never help out anyone again as a favor. She acknowledges that at the end of the day she also had to answer to people for the decisions she made in

discussion also touched on the importance of

The sooner you begin and the more you do, the better it will be for you," Lisa Lisa said. "Without internships, I probably wouldn't have got my first job.

Chapman-Holmes views as well. internships as the "first step in paying your dues.'

a service job and encourag-

Rona Evans, a new resident to the District, is not a NABFEME member, but heard about the event through an e-mail.

"[I] absolutely will join," she said after attending the discussion. "I think the panel discussion was phenomenal. This is empowering and inspiring," Evans said.

Though Evans enjoyed the discussion, she also believes more information could have been gained if more people had asked questions.

The event was geared

"It's good to see professional young black women As many internships are working together and learnnot paid, she considers them ing from each other," Michael Bailey, a Main Streets affilies people to lend a hand to ate, said. "The mic was jacked up. Maybe they should work on that." Bailey was invited to the event by a friend.

"I thought it was very informational [and] educational. They knew about the field and provided good insight," Bailey said.

Shalima Yarbrough, an entertainment reporter hopeful, was inspired when the panel suggested she take the initiative and launch her resume DVD on her own Web

"I'm going to go home and do that tonight," she said. "So far, out of all the things towards women of color, but I've been to this has been the black men were in attendance best," Yarbrough said. "I wish they had more things like this when I was in school. I'd probably be better off now."

> Similar panel discussions will be held by NABFEME at the Tabaq Bistro every Tuesday.

sponsored by The National

Cherry Blossom Festival Inc.,

tion is made up of dedicated

volunteers who promote, coor-

dinate and provide for the pub-

lic's enjoyment of the gift of

cherry blossoms. The commit-

tee for the festival also strives

to promote good relations and

cultural exchanges with the

people of Japan through the

Goodwill Ambassadors pro-

gram. They also raise money

to put towards scholarships

celebration and a symbol of

economic peace and friendship

as well as a major econom-

ic drive for the city," Diana

Mayhew, the executive direc-

events for the festival have all

gone well and attendance has

Mall with camera in hand,

John Knall said he came

to Washington D.C., from

Raleigh, N.C., to tour the city

Cherry Blossom Festival," he

said. "We haven't gone to too

many events, but we plan to go

to the Tidal Basin tomorrow."

Festival was expanded to two

weeks in 1994 to accommo-

date all the events taking place

and attend the festival.

Mayhew added that the

"It gets better each year,"

Standing on the National

"It's our first time to the

The Cherry Blossom

tor of the festival, said.

been incredible.

Mayhew said.

'It's a fabulous historical

for students in the District.

The nonprofit organiza-

which was formed in 1985.

METRO MONITOR

The Washington, D.C. Council moved Tuesday toward requiring preteen girls to get vaccinated against the human papillomavirus (HPV). The couneil voted 7-3 in support of the vaccination bill. The bill contains a provision allowing parents or guardians to opt out of the mandate. The proposal faces a second and final vote in coming weeks. If Mayor Adrian Fenty signs the measure into law, the District would be one of the few jurisdictions in the country to make the HPV vaccine mandatory.



Officials are growing more worried about one of the District's most popular attractions, cherry trees. They say the throngs of visitors pose the greatest threat to the health of Washington, D.C.'s original 1912 cherry trees. Visitors have been known to snap off branches for souvenirs, and the soil around the roots has suffered decades of suffocation from millions of visitors' feet. Dogs, car exhaust and trash are also threats to the cherry trees downtown.

Schools in Loudon County, Va., are attempting to overcome a deficit in teacher employment. Loudon County officials are vying for teachers in a shrinking labor market, and they will need to do so quickly. There are four new schools opening in August, bringing more than 800 vacancies with them. London recruiters are trying to entice candidates from all over the country to staff the school system, which has tripled in size in

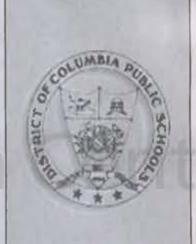


Photo courtesy of k12.dc.as

takeover The. Washington, D.C. Public Schools got its first push on Tuesday. The Washington. D.C. Council voted to give the mayor control over the budget, key administrative functions and the blueprint for modernizing all dilapidated buildings. The move was a dramatic shift in power for the city's public schools. The takeover plan still must go through final approval from the council and Congress later this spring. However, parents could see the first changes this fall.

Compiled By Janelle Jolley, Metro Editor

Cherry Blossom Festival Rooted in Sharing

BY CHARLOTTE YOUNG Hilltop Staff Writer

When the weather begins to warm and bright pink cherry blossom trees can be seen in bloom throughout the District, it can only mean one thing-the start of the Cherry Blossom festival.

Tourists from all over the country congregate in the District to see the trees in bloom and take part in the festival. But all the fun and festivities could not take place without the gesture of friendship and good relations Tokyo offered to the United States almost 100 years ago.

In 1912, Mayor Yukio Ozaki of Tokyo gave the trees to Washington, D.C., as a symbol of the growing friendship between the two powerful nations.

Together, first lady Helen Herron Taft and Viscountess Chinda, the wife of the Japanese ambassador, planted the first two cherry blossom trees on the north bank of the Tidal Basin, located in West Potomac Park on March 27.

Three years later, the United States returned the friendly gesture of friendship by offering Japan dogwood

In 1965, 3,800 additional trees were offered and accepted by first lady Bird Johnson.

However, the sharing was not yet complete. In 1981, Japanese horticulturists came to the District and took cuttings from the trees to replace the Yoshino trees that had been destroyed in a fire.

The arboreal sharing con-



The Cherry Blossom Festival, a springtime favorite for many residents and tourists, would not have been possible if not for a display of cross-cultural generosity from Japan.

tinued into 1999 when cuttings planted in the Tidal Basin. taken from a famous Japanese cherry tree estimated to be more than 1,500 years old was

The first festival to commemorate the gift of trees was annually. held in 1935 by civic groups

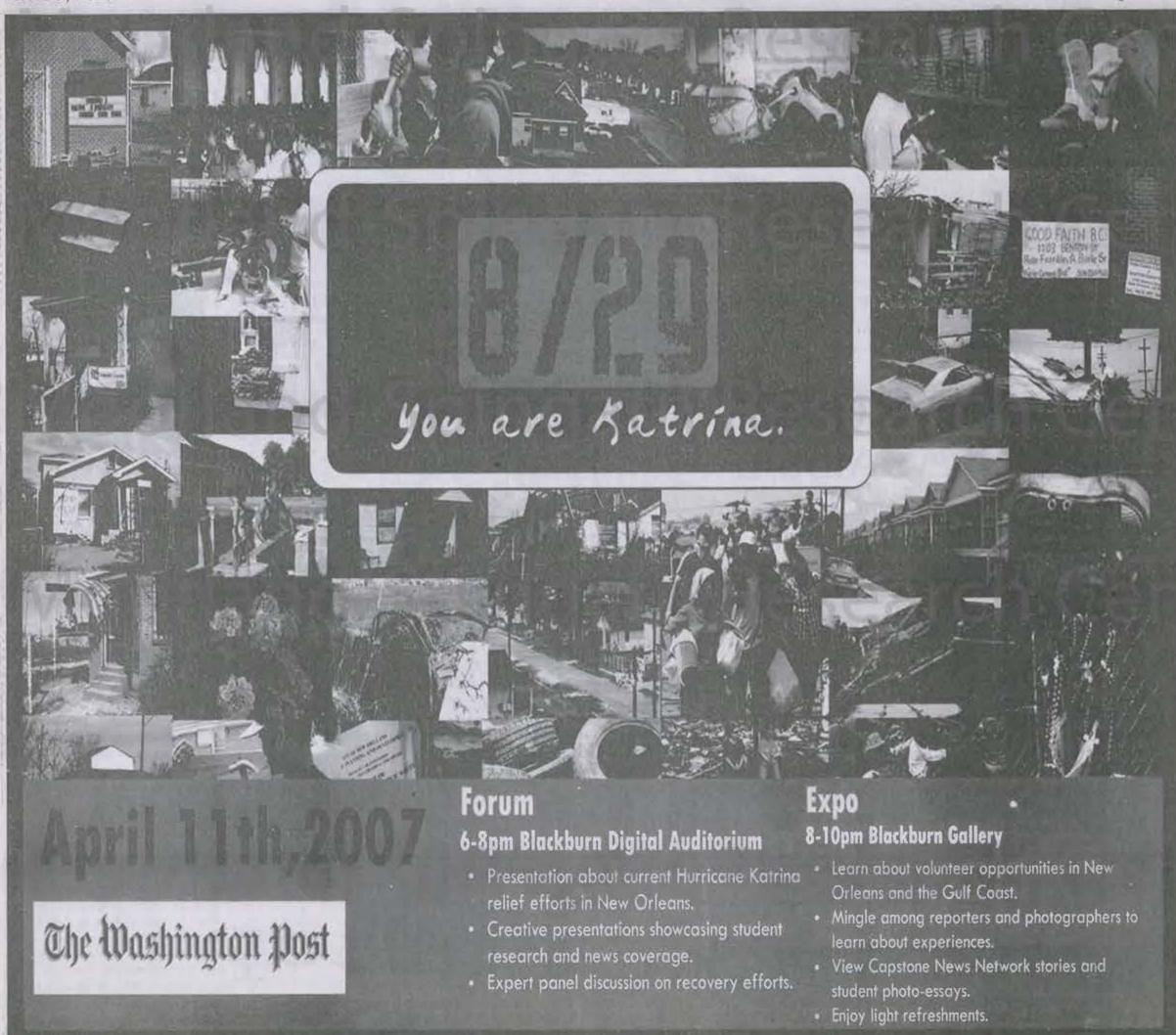
in the District. Since then, the festival has been celebrated

Today, the celebration is

during the blooming season. The festival will feature a highly anticipated parade on April 14. The festival ends

April 15.

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*Interest Meeting on April 10th at 7:00 p.m. in Locke Hall 105 Brochures available in Locke Hall 101 – Office of the Dean For further information call, Dr. Barbara Griffin at 202-706-6700

Obama Obtains Millions | Morial Encourages Black Through Small Donations

OBAMA, from Page 1

community," Obama said.

Although Obama had more donors, 90 percent of his donors contributed \$100 or less, while some of Clinton's donors gave the maximum amount allowed of \$2,300.

"I'm happy that Obama has raised almost as much as Hillary Clinton," sophomore telecommunications major Paul McClellan said. "I think the numbers speak for them-

really believe in him, which is commendable because Hillary Clinton has been in the political arena much longer than Obama, alongside her hus-

Senior biology major Ray Bignall agreed.

"I think it's positive that he's been able to raise so much money," he said. "I think it ested in his charisma and his ideas. I think that his campaign

selves. They show that voters represents a fresh approach to politics in this country."

> Other democratic runners include North Carolina Sen. John Edwards who has raised about \$15 million in the first quarter, which is double his total from four years earlier.

New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson raised \$6 million, Delaware Sen. Joseph R. Biden Jr. raised more than \$2 shows that people are inter- million and Connecticut Sen. Christopher J. Dodd raised \$4

Economic Advances

MORIAL, from Page 1

ful presence in America," Unegbu said.

"The time is now to advance socially and economically, not just in media but in business and power structures as well."

"For our people in the 21st century, building business institutions is why all of opportunity granted to stuyou will be thrust to the front line. You are on today's front line," he said.

BEEP was named one of the best in the nation and was named Program of the Year for 2005-2006 by the National Urban League. The co-chairs of this year's BEEP program were the dean of Special Student Services, Barbara Williams, Ph.D., and Director

Wells spoke highly of the dents through the BEEP pro-

of Career Services Kim Wells.

"The great thing about

BEEP is it brings senior top executives to interact and share their experiences with students in order to supply them with the necessary tools for business development," Wells said.

Wells continued, "Career and professional development is much more than writing a resume, doing interviews, or getting job opportunities, students have to know how to network and learn from their experiences."

Fans Voted the Singles For Tamia's New Album

TAMIA, from Page 8

"It's definitely time consuming, but I definitely check it and respond," she said about her MySpace page. "I have very loyal fans. I wanted to give them the album that they told me to give."

And appropriately so, her fans were able to vote online to select her next singles, which will be the storytelling ballad "Me" and "Too Grown for That" produced by Rodney Jerkins and featuring Jim Jones. Tamia said both women and men can identify with the up-tempo single by Jerkins.

"It's about going out and have a 5-year-old daughter like her consistency."

not necessarily going to find someone, but to have a good someone," she said.

While sustaining her music career, Tamia has also things that I do. That's imporhandled the pressures of being a mother while performing on

goal is to keep balance and sometimes I feel like I'm in a circus," said Tamia, who announced at her Washington, D.C., show that she is four months pregnant with her second child. Tamia and her husband, NBA player Grant Hill,

named Myla Grace.

"I'd rather lean on the side time, not to be hampered by of family, but everyone who works with me knows where I stand. That's why I own the tant, the way of multimedia. You can own what you do."

Tamia will most likely "It's a part of the job. The never have to choose, since she attracts faithful fans such as freshman political science major Lauren Belcher.

> "She might not have as much publicity as other artists, but her albums are consistent," Belcher said. "I really like the sound of her voice. It's pure. I

Alumni Association Seeks to Connect to Students

ALUMNI, from Page 2

"It's great to see the activism. I was here during the activism era," Collins said. He said he was able to maintain a good relationship with the University through trials and tribulations because all action taken by the University is done so out of a "tough love" approach.

Aprille Ericsson, Ph.D., a Howard alumna and pan-

drive students to give back, while Stribling continued to encourage students to contribute assets other than money to the University.

"This event was very necessary, having gone to a majority school for undergrad where from the moment you step on the grounds the alumni association is active," said Whitney Jordan, a second year law student.

Freshman psychology elist, also said love for the major Jericho Duroche said

University is what should that the information was interesting and usable. He commended the panelists for sharing their time.

> "[The] problem is that people who would come to this would be more likely to give back anyways," Jordan said.

She said that the HUAA should make efforts to be present at other events more students would be present for to provide a broader depth of what's going on.

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Sometimes It Be's Like That

The Unfortunate Truths of Relationships



BY AMBER ENGLISH Nation & World Editor

For a brief time, my mother worked in counseling. She used to have all these self-help books in the basement. When I got bored, I would go downstairs, pick one out and start reading.

Keep in mind, I was a young girl so I really didn't understand the depth of the book, "Why I Think I'm Nothing Without a Man." However, it had a very pretty flower on the cover.

Fast forward to 2007 and now I wish every woman would read that book at least once.

Last week, I read that Halle Berry tried to kill herself after her split with David Justice. I almost shook my head in dismay until I remembered that I also hit my lowest emotional point over a

Why? For a while I pondered it, focusing on the man part of the equation. But then it hit me: it's so much bigger than that.

Just about everything we internalize from the point of comprehension teaches us to seek companionship. But more than that, it encourages us to seek approval from others before loving ourselves.

Think back to Valentine's Day after it was no longer mandatory to give something to everybody.

My high school sold flowers, and they would deliver them to people during class. I always wondered why people laughed when I told them I sent a flower to myself one day. They were pretty, and I wanted one. Why wait on someone else to send one to me?

But apparently, I should have asked a friend to send one to me. Once again, we seek approval from others before loving ourselves.

Throw hormones and modern media into the mix and our search for companionship turns into a search for a romantic partner.

And there is nothing wrong with desiring that special someone. But there is also nothing wrong with being alone.

I know nobody wants to be lonely. But there is a difference between being alone and being

My thought is, if you know yourself and, more importantly, if you love yourself, you could be by yourself on a deserted island and still not be lonely.

Furthermore, if you love yourself, I encourage you to think twice if you find yourself saying, "I need a boyfriend," or "I need a

girlfriend." Need one for what? To be complete? To feel accepted? To feel loved? I encourage you to be content with simply the love from within before seeking the love from another.

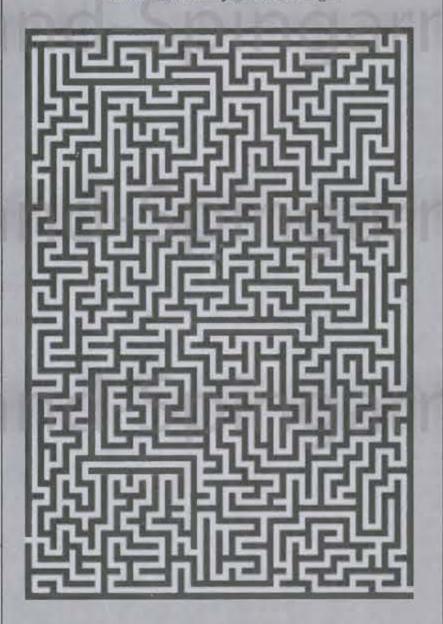
Otherwise, what are you left with when that person is gone?

In closing I'll say this: Though it is time for me to move on, I hope this conversation continues. Although at times I attempted to use humor and satire, mainly to get your attention, the root of this column is a serious matter. Relationships are supposed to enrich one's life, not deplete them. Perhaps through conversations like this, we can make relationships do more of the former, and less of the latter. Or maybe not. After all, sometimes it be's like that.

Have some comments or contributions? Tell me all about it by sending an e-mail to SIBLT2006@yahoo.com

Test Yourself

Knowledge is power, so we at The Hilltop decided to test your knowledge. We'll be posing questions and providing you with activities to sharpen your skills and build your knowledge.



Maze courtesy www.billsgames.com

Overheard @ The Mecca

Not a Tip Drill... Overheard in Slowe Hall

Hungry Hungry Girl: You got \$6 pizzas?

Papa John's Delivery Man: Yeah, pepperoni and mushroom.

HHG: Do you take credit cards?

PJDM: No. I am like strippers. Cash only, no

How Pare He?!? Overheard on the Slowe Shuttle

Girl: Only at Howard can you see your professor at a bar, he buy you a drink, take you out on a date and yet he still give you a D in the class.

Best Friend: He bought you a drink?

Girl: Yeah, he bought me a beer.

Best Friend: Oh. Well that's what you should have been mad about.

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

Why.



...is Ice Cube (right) still

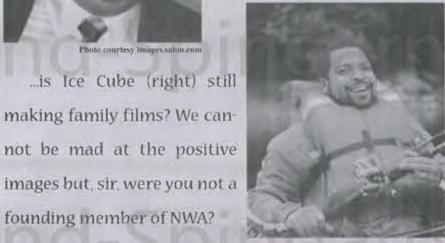
making family films? We can-

not be mad at the positive

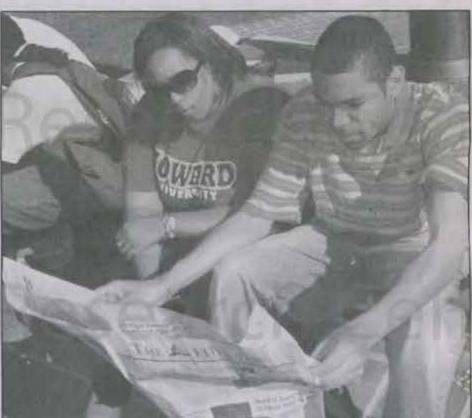
founding member of NWA?

Chief of Staff Karl Rove (left) decide to get his feet wet in rap at a recent dinner? MC Rove should stick to politics.

did Deputy White House



Chillin' With The Hilltop



Junior physician assistant majors Jihan Clay (left) and Jason Perrin (right) cooperatively enjoy The Hilltop while sitting beneath the flagpole on the Yard.

Six Degrees of Separation

Can you figure out a path that connects these two individuals with six stops along the way? Try it out and send us the six degrees you come up with.



Halle Berry



Alberto Gonzales

Please, send any responses to Meccanisms, things you've Overheard @ The Mecca, things to test ourselves on, things that make you ask "Why?" or 'Six Degrees of Separation' sets to meccanisms@gmail.com.

One on One With Tamia

BY STACY A. ANDERSON Capy Chief

In the music industry where artists seem to come and go, fans still "can't get enough" of veteran singer Tamia. She has defined her own musical style while taking her career into her own

The singer, born Tamia Washington in Windsor, Ontario, independently released her fourth album "Between Friends" on her own record label Plus 1 Music Group, after building her ing several major labels.

"I wanted to do an album of songs that spoke to me. I had no agenda or deadline." Tamia said in an interview with The Hilltop. "During that time off, I went to South Africa and did some of the new material there and had a great response. It was a liberating process. I definitely grew and grew enough to trust my own guts and step out on faith to be more in control."

Tamia, who has shuffled from Warner Brothers/Quest. Electra and Atlantic records, has finally found security in and "Stranger In My House." her own business.

stable in my career and in the home of where I put my records," she said of the company she launched at the end start my own label [and] to titled "Into You.

take charge of my own life."

Tamia entered the music scene in 1994 with "You Put A Move on My Heart" followed by a duet with Babyface titled "Slow Jams," both featured on Quincy Jones' produced album. Tamia soon earned two Grammy nominations before she had even released her own album. She also worked with Brandy, Gladys Knight and Chaka Khan on Missing You" for the soundtrack to the 1996 film "Set It Off."

Two years later, she released her self-titled debut album with the lead single "Imagination," produced by Jermaine Dupri. Tamia also garnered success the same vear with her Grammy-nominated duet with Eric Benet, "Spend My Life with You."

"I've been fortunate to work with a lot of people," Tamia said. "Hopefully I learned a thing or two. It's something I cherish," she

Tamia later established herself as a lasting artist with her second album in 2000 titled "A Nu Day." The certified gold album featured top singles "Can't Go For That"

After being diagnosed "I wanted to be more with multiple sclerosis, Tamia returned in 2003 with "More," including "Questions," a single produced by R. Kelly. The album also featured a collaboof 2005. "The best way was to ration with rapper Fabolous

Since the release of her current album "Between Friends" November, Tamia has taken her promotional tour across the country, making some stops in Detroit, Atlanta, Orlando, Charlotte, Baltimore and Washington,

"It's been so much fun," she said as she talked about the live set with a full band. "We call it the 'Between Friends Session' and it's been at intimate clubs."

Tamia said smaller venues often give a personal atmosphere to engage with fans.

"It's been fun. That's what 1 do. 1 love to see places like that, where you can touch people and have that interaction," she said.

She added that her performance at H2O nightclub in the District last month was well received by a packed

"It was amazing," she said. "Everyone was singing the music. That's a performer's dream, to have everyone singing your song."

Tamia said she is also able to connect with her fans through her online account at Myspace.com/therealtamia and the redesigned www.tamiaworld.

See Tamia, Page 6



Announcing her pregnancy at her recent show at H2O nightclub, performing artist Tamia has not let her multiple sclerosis slow down her private or professional lives.



Photo Courtesy of www.mg,vincomlocalnetworks.com

Once the lease is signed and the moving trucks are on the way, unwed couples who choose to live together may find out too late that their expectations for each other and the move do not coincide.

BY CHRISTINA JACKE Contributing Writer

Moving in with a significant other is a big step for anyone, but for college students it is particularly risky.

In his hit 2002 song "Excuse" Me Miss" featuring Pharrell, Jay-Z raps, "But ma you got a freal f'serious role, I'm 'bout to give you all the keys and security code." exchange of keys between a couple signifies that the relationship is serious and committed.

When a couple decides to exchange house keys or thinks about moving in together, what does the big move mean for the future of the relationship?

black relationship expert, said college-educated couples are less likely to move in with their significant other because they are more between graduate school students than undergraduate students.

Morley-Ball said women are willing to say yes to moving in with their boyfriends because they look at relationships for the long haul while agree because they see it as more of a business arrangement.

"Men may look at moving in

with their girlfriends for reasons as to cut back costs on rent or because they are looking for someone to take care of them, like a mother or a provider," Morley-Ball said.

Since men and women view cohabitation in different lights, there may be confusion amongst a couple as to whether the move is a step towards marriage or just a way to save money.

Jessica Harding, a junior psy-He says this as to suggest that the chology major, believes students should only move in with their significant other if the relationship is serious and both parties are ready to commit to each other. Unstable couples should probably avoid moving in with each other, she said.

"I think living with your boy-Joyce Morley-Ball, Ph.D., a friend means moving backwards. You can play house but that won't make a man commit more," Harding said.

Morley-Ball said there are signs career-oriented. She added that that can help determine whether a cohabitation occurs more often man or woman is committed to the relationship.

> "A committed man or woman is sure of themselves, not jealous, spends quality time, has no fear of showing feelings and they compromise with you," she said.

> Marcus Robinson, a senior television production major, believes moving in together definitely

means seriousness. "It means commitment," he said. "Moving in with my girlfriend would mean that I'm in a long-term relationship, and I plan to go to the next step, such as marriage."

There are numerous methods couples can use to evaluate their readiness for cohabitation. Morley-Ball said couples are ready for cohabitation if they are sure of themselves and sure of their partner's expectations.

"You have to know if the move is short-term or long-term [as well as] their habits, dislikes and all the negative aspects before committing to moving in," she said.

The U.S. Census Bureau revealed that more than 11 million people moved in with a significant other without being married in 2000, according to MSNBC.com. This statistic is more than 70 percent higher than in 1990.

Couples planning to move in together are advised to come to an agreement regarding living conditions and expectations.

Creating a domestic partnership contract or cohabitation agreement, which gives unwed couples certain protections offered to married individuals, before moving in together is suggested by MSNBC. com. The agreement should be signed and notarized.

'Til Death the Lease Do Us Part Today Matters Because...

Sarah Vaughan, famed jazz singer, died of cancer this day in 1990.

BY COURTNEY BATTLE Hilltop Staff Writer

Today holds a special place in the hearts of jazz-lovers everywhere. It was on April 5, 1990, that the famed jazz musician Sarah Vaughan died of cancer. Though the artist has passed away, fans have not forgotten her

Cashandra Bacon, a junior jazz. studies major, has gained an appreciation for Vaughan's work. Recently, Bacon did a class project centered on the entertainer, which brought her closer to Vaughan and her music.

"Vocally, she has such an amazing range. Her voice can go very low, very high. It's clear amongst all the registers [and] I think I can appreciate that," Bacon said.

Vaughan was born on March 27. 1924, and grew up in Newark, N.J. Like many musicians, she got her start in the church. She sang in the choir, learned to play the piano, began to play the organ and even sang with entertainer Jabbo Smith, according to an excerpt from "Ken Burns Jazz:

The Definitive Sarah Vaughan." The singer had dreams of becoming a choir director, and her parents were very religious so they wished for her to stay within a spiritual genre of music as well.

In 1942, friends dared her to sing at the world-famous Apollo Theater. She performed "Body and Soul," and won the competition, the prize money of \$10 and a week of performances at the Apollo.

Little did Vaughan know, Billy Eckstine, the main vocalist for pianist Earl "Fatha" Hines, was in the audience the night she won the amateur competition.

Eckstine introduced her to Hines, and before she knew it, she was the female vocalist and second pianist for Hines' band.

In the mid-1940s, Eckstine left Hines' band to pursue his own big band, featuring other stars like Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker. Vaughan performed with Eckstine.

George Treadwell, Vaughan's manager and first husband, boasted that he gave her career an extra boost. He said he recreated Vaughan's image, making her marketable to radio, tele-

vision and record labels.

As a solo artist, Vaughan worked with several labels, which included the independent Musicraft, Columbia and Mercury Records. She reached a point when she was not only singing jazz, but crossing over into pop music

"She just had that kind of talent," Bacon said. "Her voice is like honey-it's rich [and] it's really sweet. I have a copy of her singing 'Body and Soul, and the way she sings completely brings you in," she said.

In later years, Vaughan grew with her music. Her voice actually deepened, and she explored new methods of performing. Whether it was singing with symphony orchestras or with the poetry of Pope John Paul II in the background, she always kept her fans

on their toes. For nearly 50 years, Vaughan. blew audiences away with her voice. Her music continues to impress listeners today. Bacon said more people should take an interest in her music, but specifically black students since jazz music is rooted in black culture.

"I would love to encourage, and especially black students, to listen to Sarah Vaughan and other artists. Music is something we're all involved in," she said.



Sarah Vaughan's voice captivated audiences for nearly 50 years, keeping fans coming back to experience her new sounds.



Candy-Coated Crystal Meth

phetamine, more commonly known as crystal meth, was not enough of a threat to rural America, meth manufacturers are now creating a candy-colored and flavored variety of

Meth is a highly addictive synthetic stimulant that is usually in the form of crystalline powder. The nature and composition of the drug makes it one of the most difficult drugs to quit.

It's just wrong. We at The Hilltop think deliberately targeting young people in order to help the drug trade thrive is deplorable and unconscionable.

However, this marketing tactic of attracting younger users is not unique to the illegal drug market. It all started with the cigarette industry and Joe Camel.

Chocolate, grape, peanut butter and strawberry are just

As if crystal metham- some of the latest flavors being ple of how systematic the drug offered by dealers and manufacturers in our ever-changing drug economy.

Perhaps meth manufacturers are engaging in this lethal marketing ploy because characters to recruit younger 23 percent nationwide over

Our View: It is reprehensible for drug

> the last five years according to an annual survey by the University of Michigan.

dealers to "candy coat" their

products to attract children.

Whatever the reason is, it is troubling lawmakers who are trying to prevent teen drug

So attracting young people to meth would potentially secure a strong economic base for the industry, as users would be in the grips of addiction for a long period of time - if they're lucky.

This is just another exam-

game is. Nothing happens by accident. There are people and governments that strategize every move and decision about

This trend with meth the drug along with cartoon teen drug use has gone down should be watched closely since it has yet to gain much

> popularity in some of its biggest markets like West Virginia, Tennessee Montana.

Unfortunately, this trend in illegal drug marketing does not stop with crystal meth.

There are reports of the same thing happening with marijuana. Marijuana distributors are branding the drug by using logos and packaging from children's breakfast cereals and candy. They now have "Pot Loops" instead of Fruit Loops.

We at The Hillton think drug enforcement officials should closely monitor and police those in the community who choose to prey on young children for monetary gain.

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

Monday @ 7 p.m. There are only a few left!

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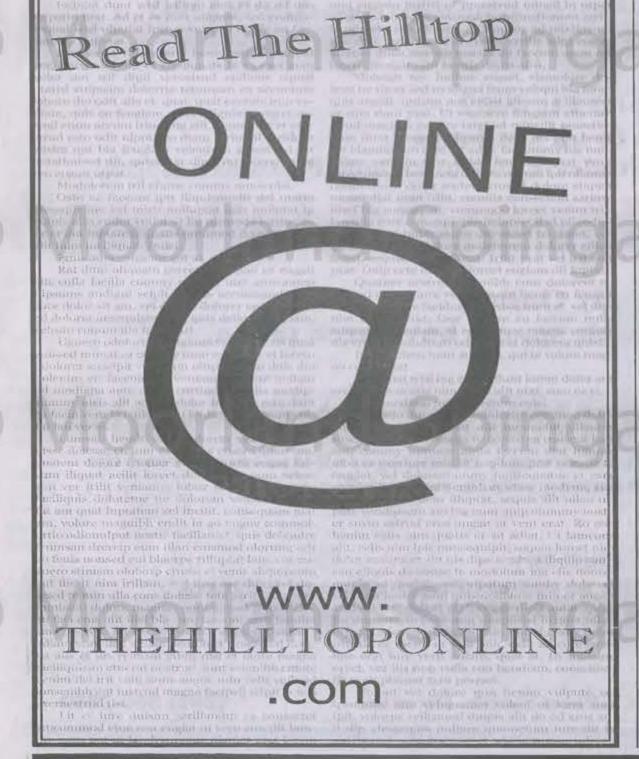
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Now in its 83rd year, The Hilltop is published Monday through Friday by Howard University students. With a readership of more than 7,000, The Hilltop is the largest black collegiate newspaper

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 administra-

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.



Tennis Team's Seniors Reflect on Careers

BY PAIGE FENN Contributing Writer

Next week, three seniors on Howard's tennis team will play the final home match of their college careers. In advance of Senior Day, each player shared their experiences over the course of their time at Howard with The Hilltop.

To be a winning athlete, one must have fight, determination and skill. For the last four years, Nicole Henderson displayed all of these traits and more.

Henderson, a biology major from Voorhees, N.J., has been a promising player for the Howard University women's tennis team since her start as a freshman with a 9-10 record in singles and 6-8 in doubles. Head Coach Larry Strickland summed his only senior women's player up by saying, "If there's anything that I love about Nicole, it's that she never gives up. She gives everything to every point, and she's been one of my most solid doubles players this year."

Henderson's sophomore year proved to be a tough one with a singles record of 8-14. Instead of giving in to defeat, she finished her junior year with a much-improved 8-3 singles record, which was one of the most successful records of any women's player that season.

TODAY IN SPORTS

HISTORY ...

On April 5, 1993, the Florida Marlins

defeated the Los Angeles Dodgers 6-

3 in the franchise's inaugural game.

Henderson plans to take her determination to the medical field after graduation with hopes of scoring well enough on the MCAT to be accepted to the medical program at either Johns Hopkins University or Howard. When reflecting back on her proudest moment at Howard, Henderson simply said with a smile, "I'm just extremely proud to be graduating within four years as an athlete and bio major. I did it. I'm finally here, and now it's time to go out there and help others."

Tennis can be a very deceiving game and if Faron Carter is the opponent, get ready for the deception to begin. When facing Carter, athletes first meet a smart, politely-spoken and friendly civil engineering major who is from St. James, Barbados. Once game, set and match begins, the competitor is faced with an unbeatable serve of 135 mph

"In my 22 years, he's got the biggest and fastest serve that I've seen. He can serve 135 and that's an amazing serve. That's an Andy Roddick serve," Strickland said. Carter successfully began his career at Howard with a combined winning record for his freshman and sophomore year of 19-16. Carter expressed his excitement for the future and his plans to work with a design civil engineering firm while attending graduate school at Virginia Tech or Howard.

was not always easy, but the hard work paid off for Carter when the men's team beat Hampton during his sophomore year.

huge accomplishment for all of us. I will never forget that day," Carter said.

For Carter, the deception will hopefully continue to trip up his opponents for the remainder of the 2006-2007 season.

For senior men's tennis player Othmane Garma, the beginning was the biggest battle to face as an athlete at Howard.

"The hardest match for me was

Being a part of the men's team my first match. I was so nervous, and I just wanted to win, but I had to get over it and just play my game," Garma said.

Born in Casablanca, Morocco, "We hadn't beat Hampton in 15 Garma, affectionately called "OG" years and to finally beat them was a by the team, has spent his years at Howard focusing on being a double major in physical therapy and French and leading the men's team to victories against Hampton and struggles against heavyweight teams such as North Carolina. Sophomore year proved to be promising for Garma with a 12-8 singles record. That year was also a success for the entire men's

> "We had a great team, and we were competing for the MEAC championship," Garma said. "Everyone had a great attitude and we almost

got it, but we finished out in the semis, but it didn't matter. The guys gave it their all, and it was the best year I've had."

After graduating, the professional tour is the next step for Garma. If that road comes to an end, the next step is back to the Mecca for graduate school.

In Strickland's opinion, Garma will not be back to Howard for awhile. Strickland expressed high confidence in Garma, saying, "He's got ground strokes that can stand up to about anybody's game. His thirst for knowledge of the game has always been impressive to me and that will ultimately take OG very far in tennis."

SCORES

Women's & Men's Tennis vs. Coppin State-- POSTPONED

UPCOMING GAMES

Saturday

Women's & Men's Tennis @ Morgan State 12 Noon

Softball @ Morgan State

Track and Field @ Clemson Invite Clemson, S.C.



Senior Faron Carter is one of three seniors preparing for their final game for Howard. The final home match was postponed yesterday.

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> **April 11, 2007 Open to all students**

(including Second Year Law Students, not to include Freshman status)

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Parking and Shuttle Operations

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