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THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 90, NO. 119

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2007

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

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notebook

BREAKING NEWS

DNA PROVES BIRKHEAD IS THE FATHER

LARRY BIRKHEAD WAS RULED THE FATHER OF ANNA NICOLE SMITH'S DAUGHTER, DANNIELYNN BY A BAHAMIAN JUDGE AFTER A DNA TEST, ACCORDING TO CNN.COM

NATION & WORLD

A NEW THIRD PARTY EMERGES

UNITY08, A NEW POLITICAL PARTY THAT STRESSES MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROAD, MODERATE VIEWS IS MAKING ITS WAY ONTO THE POLITICAL SCENE.. FIND OUT MORE IN NATION & WORLD.

PAGE 4



WED, 4/11:
PM SHOWERS
HIGH: 62, LOW: 46



THURS, 3/12:
AM RAIN
HIGH: 62, LOW: 43

Students Reflect on "Roots" During 30th Anniversary

BY SHARI LOGAN

Contributing Writer

Days before the mini-series "Roots" was shown Sunday night on TV One in honor of its debut 30 years ago, Bernard Bell, senior vice-president of the network, said that his hope was for the re-broadcast to enlighten a new generation of viewers.

That's exactly what happened for a group of students who watched the broadcast at Howard University.

"I liked how it showed the history of us from the beginning," said Jennifer Bryant, a senior majoring in English. "We did live in developed communities before slavery," she said.

This first episode of the series showed the birth of Kunta Kinte in Gambia, West Africa. Then Kunta goes through his rite of passage, next he is captured by Africans and is turned over to white slave catchers.

For the remainder of the episode, Kinte and 180 other captured men and women endure the Middle Passage—the sea voyage to the Western Hemisphere—in the hold of a ship.

One scene showed a crew member of the ship telling the

captain (Edward Asner) that the captured men and women should be cleaned, so that they look their best for their slave auction. "Cleanliness is next to godliness," the crewman said. "It pays of in pounds and shillings."

"Yes that was their God," said Atiba Wiltshire, a senior majoring in audio production.

Allison Matthews, a senior majoring in sociology agreed. "Definitely, the biggest factor that led to them enslaving us was economical," she said "it was also because they saw us as uncivilized."

While Kunta is lying in the bottom of a ship on a wooden plank with shackles around his feet and wrists, he prays: "Allah, the merciful. Allah, the all-powerful. Allah, the compassionate. Please hear my prayers."

"Wow, most Africans were probably Muslim when they came over here," Matthews said. "I didn't even think of that...That's what the problem is."

Matthews continued, "We are not taught what our original culture was. Instead we are told that we worshipped different gods."

In a scene near the end of



Photo courtesy of www.youtube.com

HU students watched the first installment of the mini-series "Roots," which sparked debate about Western ideologies.

the episode, while Kunta is still in the bottom of the ship, he is told by (Ji Tu Cumbuka) a man that wrestled him prior to his capture, that "Men chained together are brothers. We are one village."

Lymon and Bryant agreed with the statement.

"That is so true. We are connected through pain," Lymon said.

Bryant added, "But then we allow western ideologies to

separate us."

The students then began to name institutions, such as religion and the educational system, that have been oppressive in history. "Education is supposed to

spark critical thinking, not solely train us for the purpose of securing a job," Bryant said. "We want change, yet we still depend on the same institutions that have oppressed us."

Black Students More Likely to Enroll in Grad School than Whites

BY SHIVONNE FOSTER

Contributing Writer

At a time when a bachelor's degree may be arguably deemed "not enough" to compete in one's respective concentration, increasing numbers of students are furthering their education to acquire graduate degrees.

Recent studies by the U.S. Department of Education illustrate that black students are in fact more likely than whites to enroll in graduate school.

Blacks are earning bachelor's degrees at new record highs in the United States. Black graduates accounted for 8.9 percent of those who earned bachelor's degrees in 2005.

Sophomore advertising major Dave McClain said, "I want to go to graduate school because I would like to develop my own company. I can't expect advanced degrees from my employees if I don't have the same expectations for myself."

U.S. Department of Education research indicates that of the students who graduated from four-year colleges in 1993, 45.4 percent of black students went on to enroll in graduate programs by 2003. The number was compared to whites, who enrolled at a rate of 39.2 percent during the 10-year time span.

Black student enrollment is at a higher rate across the board in graduate education with educated blacks more likely to enroll in MBA programs, professional degree studies and in doctoral programs, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

Many incentives come from obtaining a graduate degree, however many areas of concentration allow for successful competition with just a



File Photo

A recent study found that more black students are earning bachelor degrees, and more likely to go to graduate school.

bachelor's degree. Pursuing a graduate education is a decision that rests with the individual and is often pursued after years of working, if the path is pursued at all.

Sophomore philosophy major, Sharday Shelby said, "While I don't plan on pursuing a professional degree directly after I earn my bachelor's, I do feel that a bachelor's degree is often not enough for certain fields in the professional world." She added, "I think further education is important to become more knowledgeable in your field."

While furthering one's education may pan out to be rewarding, it is not always for everyone.

Sophomore audio production major Raquelle Mayoral said, "Successful competition

in my field is possible with just a bachelor's degree, so I'm not sure if graduate school is for me."

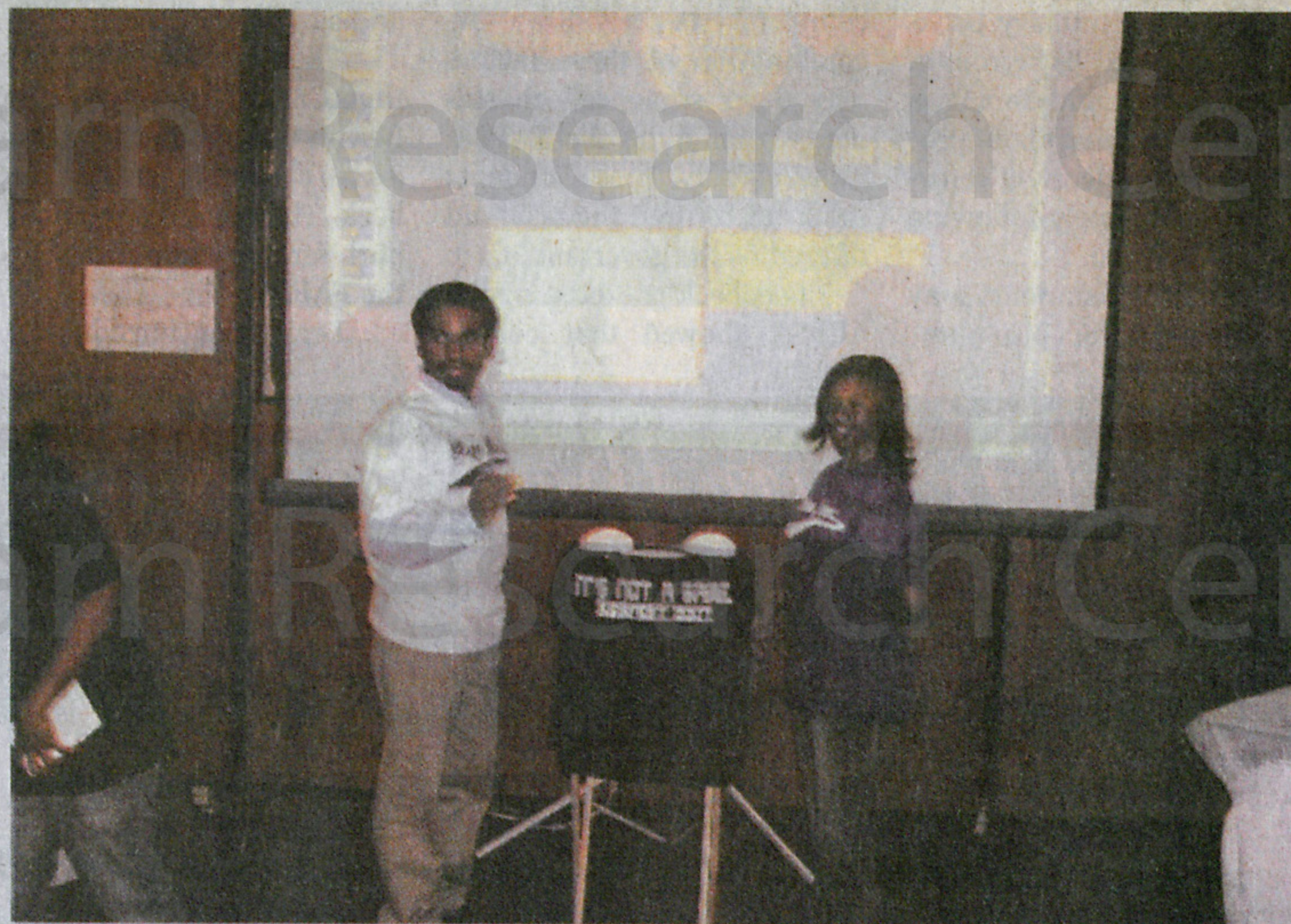
Other students said that a traditional four-year college education is enough and are ready to begin performing in their field of interest.

"I'm just trying to jump straight into the workforce. I'm honestly tired of school," said sophomore marketing major Patrick Scott.

Whether an individual plans to enroll in graduate education or not, their decision may change as time elapses.

However, it is anticipated that the number of black students being awarded bachelor's degrees will continue to rise, thus impacting the percentage of blacks considering graduate level education.

Residents Test Knowledge in ResFest '07 Family Feud



ResFest 2007 held its "Family Feud" competition last night in the Blackburn Center. Dormitories were given topics that ranged from popular Michael Jackson songs to well-known buildings on campus to famous Howard alumni, while going head to head in a process of elimination.

The audience was given chances to participate by answering questions and given prizes such as ResFest-themed hats and backpacks.

"It's a great way to get involved and see a healthy competition between the dorms. The venue could be a little bigger though," said Tashon Thomas, a freshman political science major.

Commenting on what she enjoyed most about the event, Jamica Jenkins, a freshman psychology major said, "It would have to be the enthusiasm and the interaction."

In the end, the Bethune Annex dormitory defeated Slowe Hall, 195 to 159.

--Compiled by Morgan Lynch, Hilltop Staff Writer

Howard Paves the Way for Miss D.C. USA 2007

BY FRANCESCA HARPER
Contributing Writer

As Mercedes Lindsey walked down the stage in her white evening gown, she had no idea that in just a matter of moments, her life would never be the same.

Lindsey closed her eyes as the crowd silenced and with Shannon Shambeau as the second remaining contestant, they waited for the results.

"And the winner is Mercedes Lindsey!"

"I just thought, this has to be a dream," Lindsey said.

Cameras flashed as she knelt down to have the diamond tiara placed on her head by the former Miss D.C. USA 2006 Candace Allen, a graduating Howard University senior.

After the tiara and sash were placed, Lindsey proudly walked across the stage as the new Miss District of Columbia USA 2007. Lindsey now had the opportunity of a lifetime to represent the District of Columbia at the televised Miss USA pageant on NBC.

The 26-year-old beauty and former Howard televi-

sion production major never imagined herself competing in beauty pageants.

"Growing up, I was always a tomboy and never really thought twice about pageants. It wasn't until I was approached by Omarosa [Stallworth], from Howard and 'The Apprentice,' and she was very persistent," Lindsey said.

Contestants are scored on their overall performance in interview, swimsuit and evening gown competition. Due to her busy schedule as a television production assistant at Black Entertainment Television (BET), Lindsey did not start preparing until a week prior to the main event.

"I spent an hour just walking back and fourth trying to turn this tomboy into a lady. Then I spent time preparing for interview practice questions in order to give the best answer in the least amount of time," Lindsey said.

Fulfilling her duties as Miss District of Columbia USA, Lindsey is a spokesperson for breast and ovarian cancer along with other causes. After winning, she had three months

to prepare for Nationals, the Miss USA competition in Los Angeles.

Nationals consists of 51 state titleholders competing for the chance to be the next Miss USA. The winner of Miss USA works under Donald Trump and receives a salary, a two-year scholarship from The New York Film Academy and many more prizes.

"Preparing for Miss USA was a whole other ordeal," Lindsey said. "I did a lot of traveling. I flew to New York to meet a designer for my gown, had to fly back to New York to get my headshot and went to North Carolina to meet with a trainer."

With her nutrition plan and athletic trainer, Lindsey lost 17 pounds.

"The hardest part of preparing for Miss USA was trying to get sponsorship," she said. Although her journey was tough, Lindsey said there were no disappointments along the way.

"Anything worth having is worth working for," she said.

Past winners from Howard include Shauntay Hinton in 2002, who also won Miss USA,

Sarah-Elizabeth Langford in 2004 and semi-finalist Candace Allen in 2005.

"Howard is an excellent school and Howard helps create a caliber of women that the Miss Universe Organization looks for in contestants," Lindsey said.

She added, "Howard is home to many of the finest women in the country. Howard women just have this X-factor that can't be obtained unless you have had the Howard experience."

Lindsey is currently organizing a celebrity bowling tournament to raise funds for charity. After her reign, Lindsey plans to continue philanthropy and work with girls on self-esteem and eating disorders.

She has seven months remaining as the reigning queen and embraces every moment as a positive role model for her community.

"As Miss D.C., I am more confident and comfortable in my skin and my views. I am from a small group of women who can say 'I am Miss D.C. USA.' It's such an honor," Lindsey said.



Photo Courtesy of Miss DC

Mercedes Lindsey, a Howard alumna, was crowned Miss District of Columbia for 2007 and will be competing at Nationals in Los Angeles for the Miss USA title.

Advisory Group Aims to Give FAFSA a Facelift

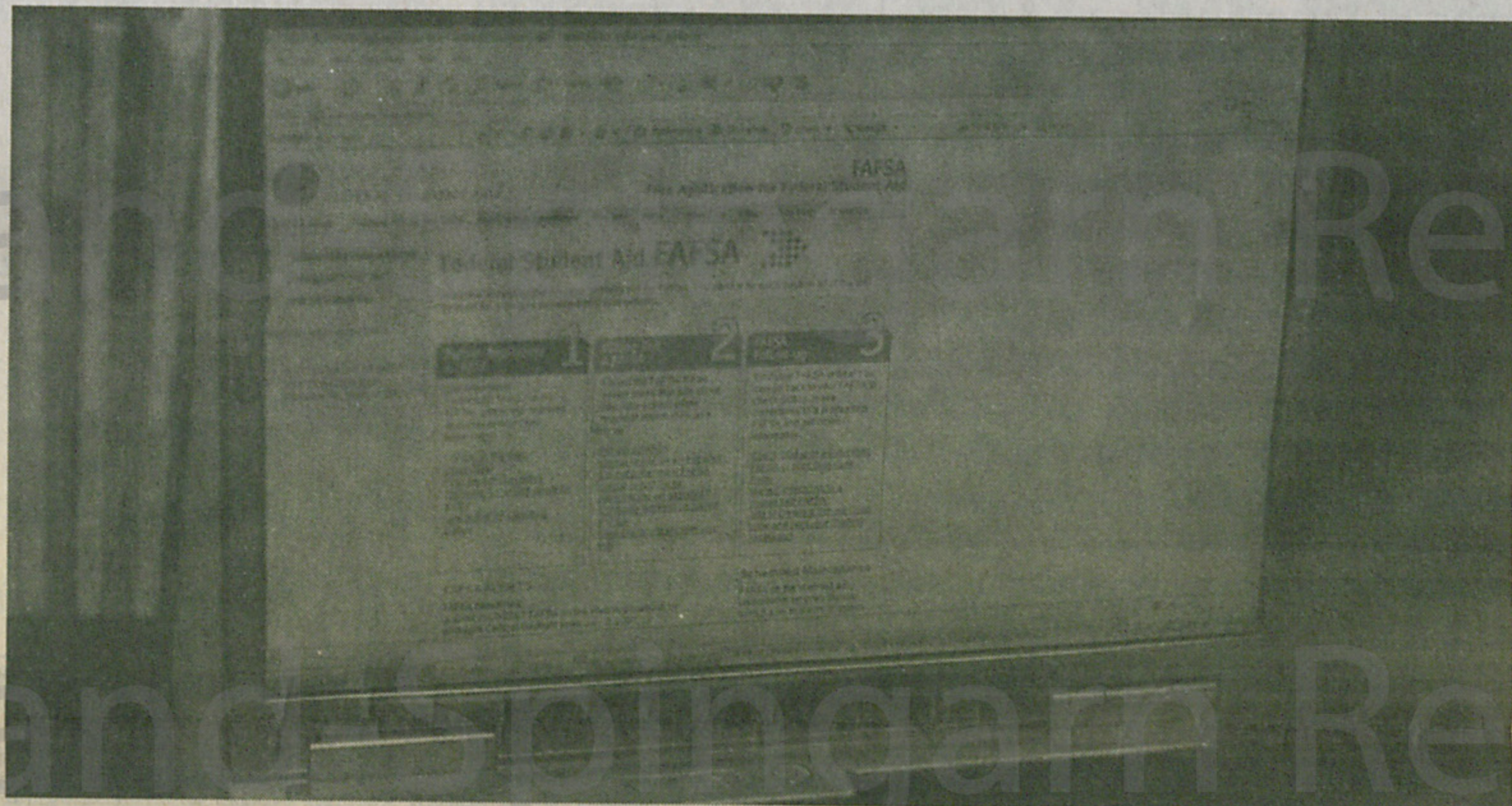
BY LENDORA WASHINGTON
Contributing Writer

A national committee on higher education, the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance (ACFSA), is seeking to simplify the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form due to the extensive amount of time the form takes to complete.

"The ACSFA is an independent committee with the specific purpose of advising on student assistance," said Chip Eunruh, the press secretary for Congressman Jack Reed. "They have found that a lot of people who have gone through the process found difficulties with some of the forms."

The FAFSA consists of approximately five detailed pages of tax information, family income, military background, criminal background, marital background inquiries and a stern warning about providing false or incorrect information immediately following the questionnaire.

In addition, students may have to apply for pin num-



Ishmeal Ahmad - Staff Photographer

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) has proven to be a burden for students. Legislation is currently being drafted to simplify the application process.

bers for both themselves and their parent before they can complete the FAFSA. The combination of these factors may deter some college students from filing the FAFSA. Consequently, these students miss out on free financial aid offered by the government.

Feedback gathered by the ACFSA showed that college

students generally believed the FAFSA needed to be shortened and simplified.

The Center Reed Staff and the ACSFA have worked closely with one another to address issues concerning FAFSA feedback. They found a lot of support for the simplification of the FAFSA.

Legislation introduced by

Congressman George Miller and Senator Jack Reed both aim to simplify and shorten the FAFSA application process. There were two bills that were introduced. The first bill introduced by Congressman Miller reduces the FAFSA from five to two pages.

In addition to the page reduction, there will be a pre-

FAFSA process for students, as juniors in high school and their parents.

With the implementation of this law, coordination with tax code to use information the government already has for financial aid calculations will simplify answering the tax portion of the FAFSA.

Modifications will also be made to improve online access for federal financial aid applications.

The second bill focuses on the simplification of the financial aid process for low-income families. If passed, it will raise the automatic zero-expected family contribution ceiling to \$30,000, as well as institute other minor but necessary simplifications.

The legislation has yet to be passed, but there is a strong probability that it will be passed in the near future.

"We have strong bipartisan support for it," Eunruh said. "We are very hopeful that we can put this on the fast track. However, we don't have an idea of the specific time

frame."

"The FAFSA was just too long to fill out," said Andre Edwards, a sophomore administration of justice major. "In addition, I would have to gather all of my and my parents' tax information, and that would be really time consuming."

Sophomore psychology major Alyssa Armstead shared Edwards' sentiments.

"I didn't file a FAFSA because it takes up a significant amount of time and I don't know how to answer the complicated tax questions," Armstead said. "It would just waste a lot of my time because they never give me any money."

Sophomore marketing major Brianna Hooper found few difficulties when filing her FAFSA.

"I filed a renewal form, so it only took about 10 minutes," she said. "Personally, I did not find it difficult because all I had to do was change facts and figures that differed from the previous years."

A Day in the Life of...

a Student DJ

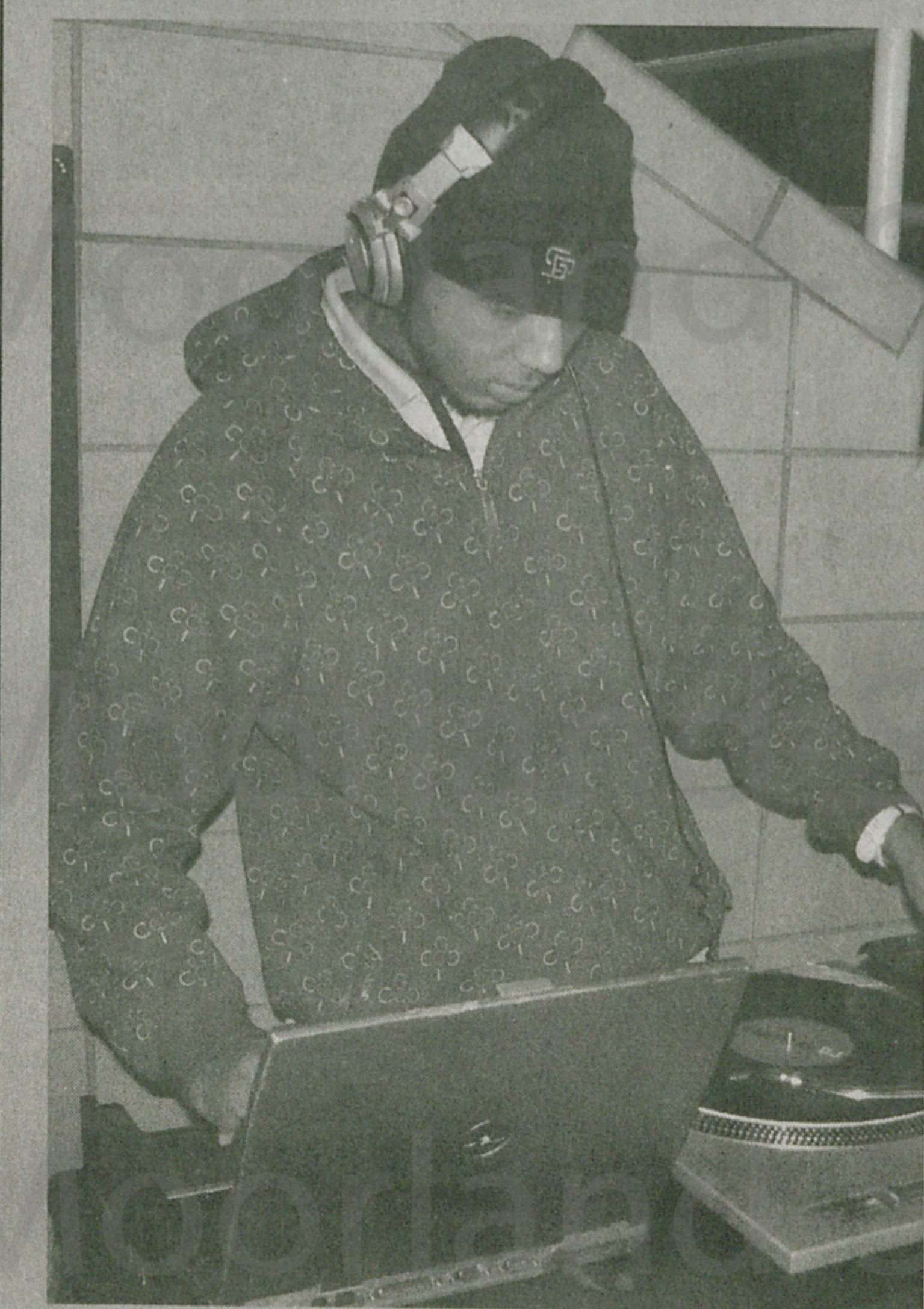


Photo Courtesy of DJ Anonymous

Hakeem Harmon, also known as DJ Anonymous to many on campus, will be traveling this summer with Broadway Miller after graduating this spring.

BY TRAVER RIGGINS
Hilltop Staff Writer

He wakes up at 9 o'clock in the morning. The first thing he does is check his e-mail, then MySpace, Facebook and finally Craig's List. It is nothing remarkable.

"The name DJ Anonymous is derived from me basically coming out of nowhere like a nobody and basically working myself up," Hakeem Harmon, a senior audio production major, more commonly known as DJ Anonymous, said.

Harmon has been spotted spinning and mixing around campus, Washington, D.C. and the nation, but few have had the opportunity to see some of the mystery behind this music man.

Harmon uses the previously mentioned Web sites for networking, event scheduling, and as feedback forums.

On his way to classes, he might pick up a stray event flyer to jot down the promoters' information in his database. This semester, the graduating senior is carrying 19

credits.

"Everything I mostly do is related to some form of promoting myself, getting a job, or doing the work," he said. "I would say 70 percent of my day pertains to that and the other 30 percent pertains to getting out of here."

His 3.5 grade point average may point to Harmon doing more than just "getting out of here."

Harmon uses his audio production knowledge to use certain software and equipment to work with music and one day hopes to own an audio production company.

He not only entertains at parties, but also assembles mixes for fashion shows and dance shows, edits and creates music for events and creates his own mix tapes and CDs.

He distributes some of those tapes on Fridays in the Punch Out and on the Yard when traffic is high. Otherwise, it is not common to find him catching a bite to eat on campus.

"I'm always on the go, so

if I ever do eat on campus, I normally eat at the little vendor stands near the School of [Business]," Harmon said.

"After I get out of classes, I go up to WPGC to watch my mentor. His name is DJ QuickSilva," Harmon said. He spends two days out of the week watching QuickSilva, who he met at an artist meet and greet for rapper T.I.

"That's how I meet a lot of people," he said, referring to meet and greets.

Harmon normally heads back to his apartment and visits several music related Web sites like www.allhiphop.com and record pools to download fresh tracks. Record pools are DJ exclusive Web sites that allow DJs to download and play new records before they are released.

"My responsibility as a DJ is to break records," Harmon said.

He has to play music before it is popular on the radio so that people know it by the time it comes out.

"When I'm driving alone, I only listen to real old R&B. I

hate songs on the radio. They become old to me because I've been playing them for so long," Harmon said. He describes himself as a DJ who caters to his crowd but personally enjoys old school hip hop and R&B.

Some could find it surprising that he does not own an iPod, a device he has no personal use for. He does, however, cherish his four GB USB jump drive.

"I take that around everywhere with me because you never know when you need a song from another person," he said.

Harmon is the official DJ of ResFest for two years running and will be at the dance competition tonight in Burr Gymnasium at 7 p.m.

"You can always find me at Adams Morgan at the Diner. The Diner's the only thing that's open after I'm done DJing," he said.

Harmon will hit the road on tour with fellow Howard musician Broadway Miller for the summer and then head off to Europe in January.

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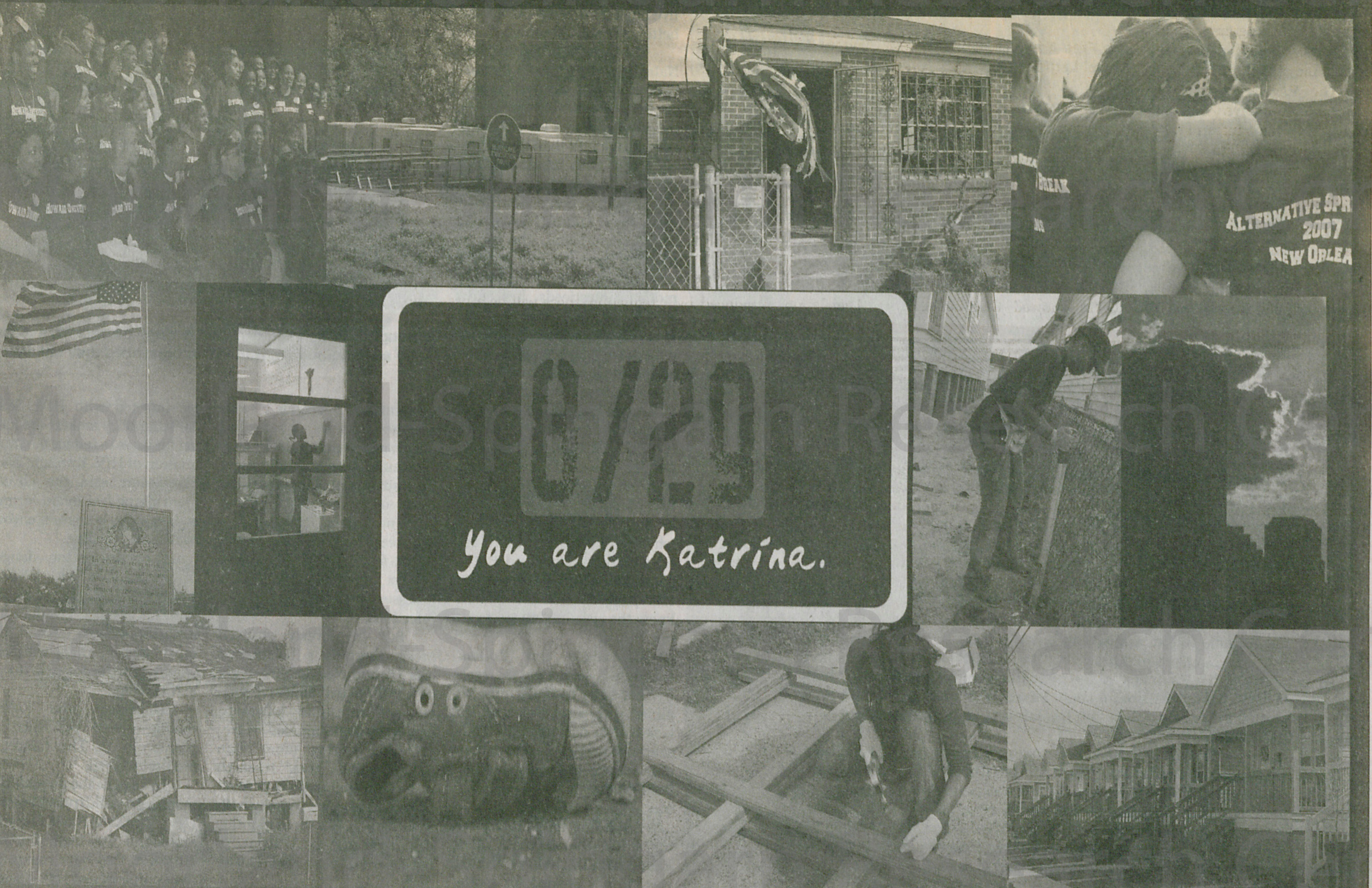
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Reading The Hilltop while sitting on the Yard will increase your sex appeal by 43.76 percent.*



April 11th, 2007

The Washington Post

Forum

6-8pm Blackburn Digital Auditorium

- Presentation about current Hurricane Katrina relief efforts in New Orleans.
- Creative presentations showcasing student research and news coverage.
- Expert panel discussion on recovery efforts.

Expo

8-10pm Blackburn Gallery

- Learn about volunteer opportunities in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast.
- Mingle among reporters and photographers to learn about experiences.
- View Capstone News Network stories and student photo-essays.
- Enjoy light refreshments.

BY PRESCILLA WATSON
Contributing Writer

The first goal is elect a Unity Ticket for the 2008 election. Ideally, the duo would be headed by a woman and

"The person who clearly articulates the issues that are relevant to the country, be them Republican, Democratic or what have you, will be the



Unity08 is a third party currently looking for candidates to run in the upcoming presidential election. Some believe Americans are ready for a change regarding the political arena.

On its Web site, the group says, "Unity08 believes neither of today's major parties reflects the aspirations, fears or will of the majority of Americans. Both have polarized and alienated the people. Both are unduly influenced by single-issue groups. Both are excessively dominated by money."

"It seems as though the Republicans are just for themselves and so are the Democrats," Overton said. "With Unity08, voters will have a chance to put someone in office that views the country from its center rather than from one side."

"I think by its existence it will have a beneficial effect on anybody who's running for president because they will be obliged to look over their other shoulder at the center

Photo courtesy of <http://www.culturekitchen.com>

BY JAMISHA PURDY
Contributing Writer

According to health educator and author Linda Folder Palmer, Ph.D., infant formula was initially created for mothers who were unable to breastfeed.

Photo courtesy of dsf.chesco.org

Although HIV can be transmitted through breastmilk, a recent study advises mothers with HIV to breastfeed their children.

With a growing population of more than five million people

"Citizens are afraid that it might be a waste of their vote. It's a good idea, but I don't think that it will work," she said.

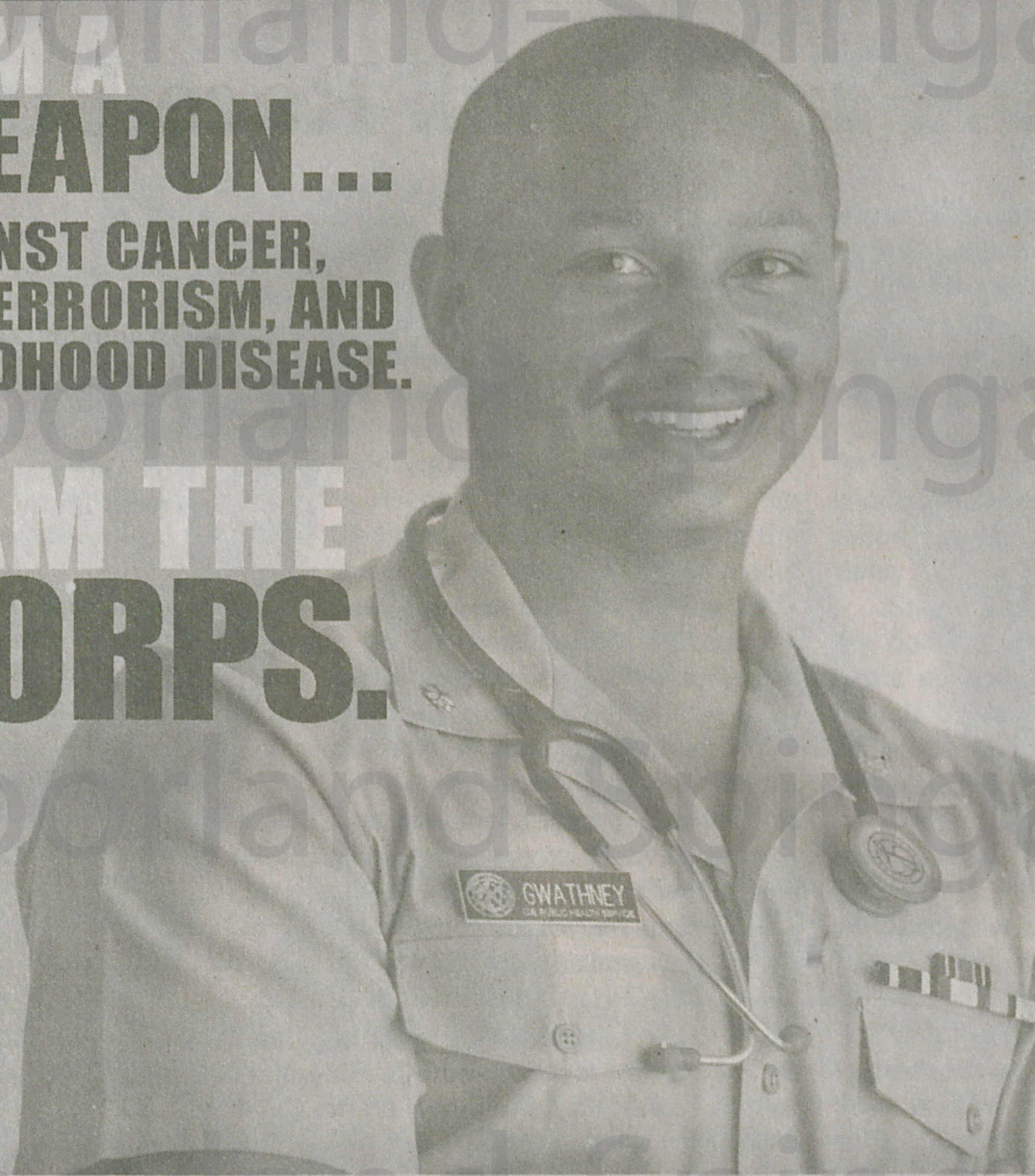
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NFL Looks Toward Three Strikes Policy

BY SIMONE WALLS
Contributing Writer

"One, two, three, you're out of here!" This phrase is usually used when talking about baseball, but in this situation, it concerns the National Football League. After recent events from Tennessee Titans player Adam "Pacman" Jones, there is talk of the NFL implementing a "three strikes rule."

The rule means after players commit three serious offenses, they will be banned from the NFL. Those who agree with the rule are arguing in its favor after consecutive events from the Cincinnati Bengals.

Over a nine-month period, nine Bengals players were arrested on a variety of charges. The NFL is targeting such players as Jones, Chris Henry, Tank Johnson and Michael Vick.

Jones was drafted by the Tennessee Titans 2005 and has been very successful on the field. However, his behavior off the field is damaging

his career and causing controversy.

Jones has been arrested 10 times for crimes including assault, vandalism and public intoxication since becoming a part of the Titans team. His most serious incident involved the assault of a dancer and threatening of a guard's life.

Henry was drafted to the Cincinnati Bengals in 2005 from the University of West Virginia, where he was known for his defiant behavior.

Henry has been arrested a number of times for drug possession, driving while intoxicated, providing alcohol to minors and gun charges.

Now the pressure is on for NFL's Commissioner Roger Goodell to clean up the league. Many agree with enforcing the rule while others believe there are only a few bad apples out of all the players in the league.

Howard University Head Football Coach Carey Bailey believes the problem is limited to a small number of players and that if the rule is implemented, it should involve everyone

from the coaches to the players to the trainers and owners.

"I think it's a good idea as long as it applies to everyone in the league, coaches included," Bailey said. "It must be universal."

Bailey has a no-tolerance policy for his team. He gives the players a code of conduct with a list of rules to follow to prevent problematic situations.

Some of the rules include opening doors for women, pulling their pants up and not wearing earrings or hats in class. Bailey believes that when little things become habits, big things do not become problems.

Dwight Datcher, Howard's athletic director, believes the three strikes rule will help those who are on the border in terms of behavior. "When people understand rules, they can follow them," he said.

"It is sad that behavior rules have to be instituted," Datcher said. "If three strikes does not make them straighten up, I don't know what

will."

To prevent such behavioral problems from happening at Howard, Datcher said he hires good coaches.

Athletes from Howard are agreeing with the implementation of the three-strikes rule. They say there is a certain role that must be taken seriously after becoming an athlete.

Senior accounting major Will Bladen of Howard's football team said, "I agree to the rule to a certain extent. These people are grown men and they should know better than to do certain things on and off the field."

He continued, "They are a representation of the NFL. Therefore, the NFL cannot continue to let them misrepresent them."

"Athletes are looked at as role models for people, so they should keep in mind what they do on and off the field," junior marketing major and Howard University track team member Christopher Taylor said.

SCOREBOARD & SCHEDULE

SCORES

Men's Tennis

Coppin State 0
Howard 1

Women's Tennis

Coppin State 3
Howard 4

TODAY'S GAMES

Women's & Men's Tennis @
Georgetown
2 p.m.

Commissioner Suspends Jones, Henry for Multiple Arrests

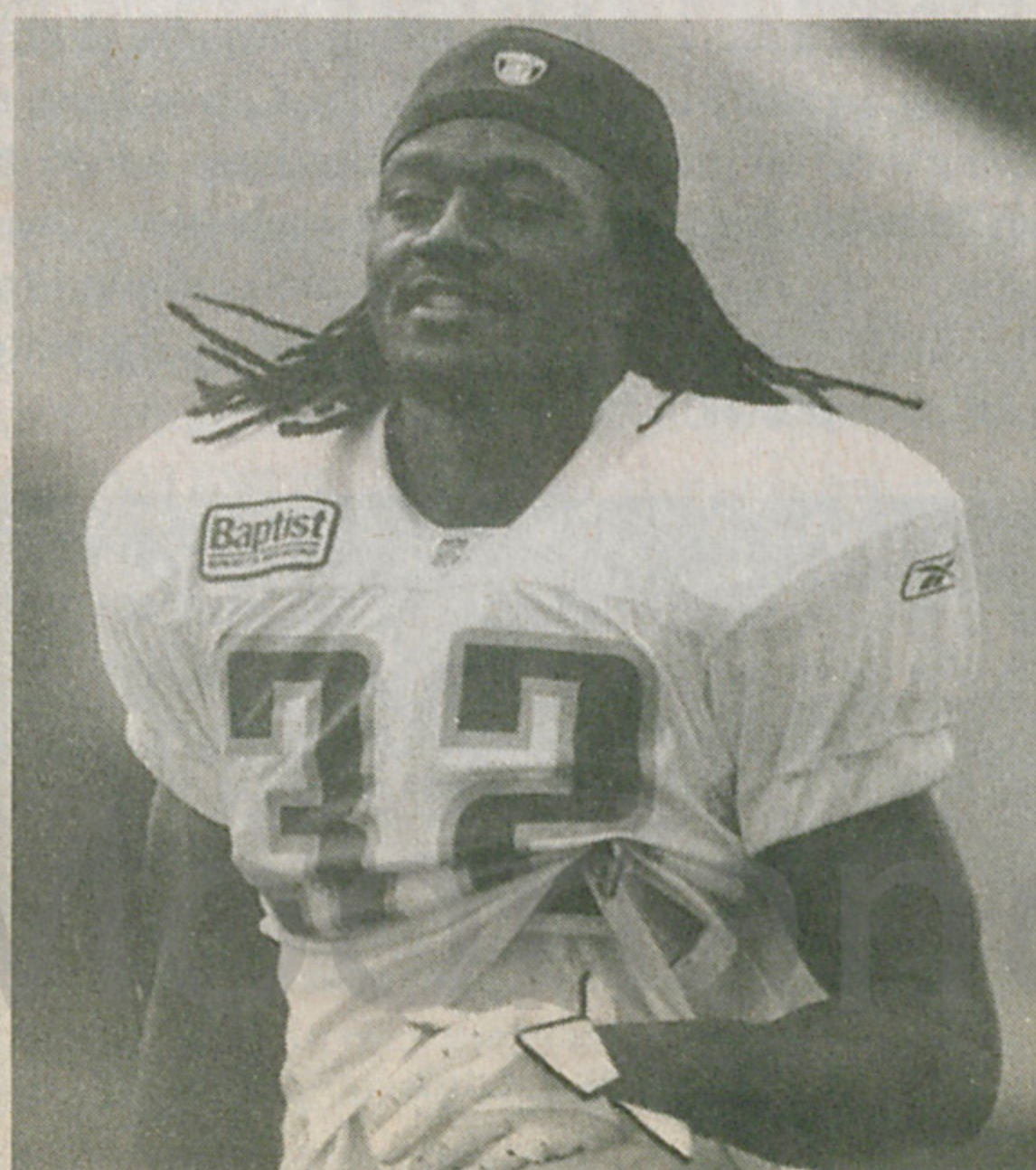


Photo Courtesy of www.spokesmanreview.com

Tennessee Titans cornerback Adam "Pacman" Jones was suspended without pay for the 2007 season and Cincinnati Bengals wide receiver Chris Henry was suspended for eight games, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell announced Tuesday. Both players have been involved in numerous legal troubles violating the league's personal conduct policy.

As a result of the suspensions, Jones will lose \$1,292,500 and Henry will lose between \$204,705.88 and 230,294.12 in salary depending on when the Bengals' bye week falls.

According to ESPN.com, in a letter to each player, Goodell wrote: "Your

conduct has brought embarrassment and ridicule upon yourself, your club and the NFL, and has damaged the reputation of players throughout the league. You have put in jeopardy an otherwise promising NFL career, and have risked both your own safety and the safety of others through your off-field actions. In each of these respects, you have engaged in conduct detrimental to the NFL and failed to live up to the standards expected of NFL players. Taken as a whole, this conduct warrants significant sanction."

After their suspensions, each player must apply to be reinstated to the NFL.

Both the Titans and the Bengals said they supported the suspensions.

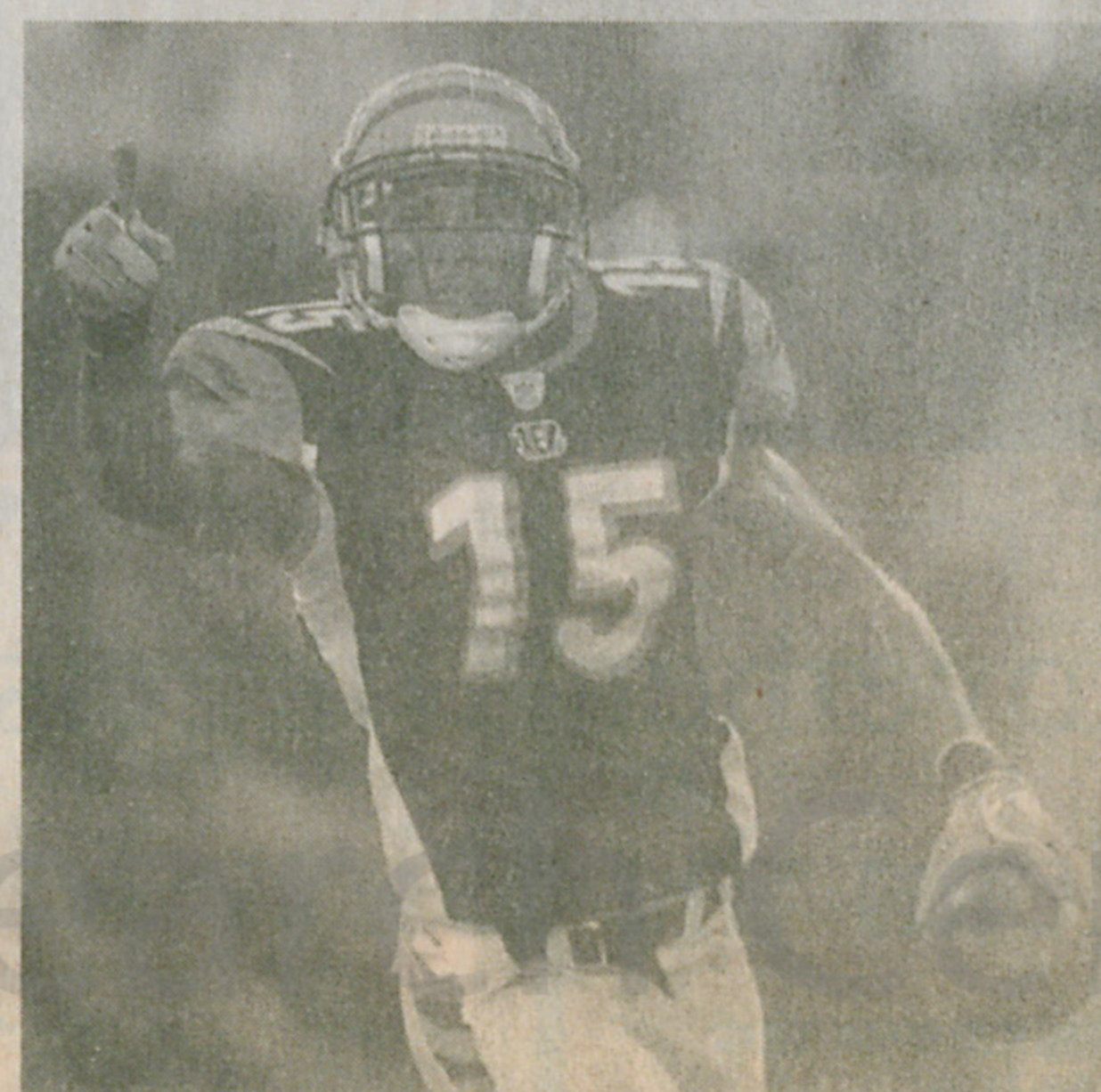


Photo Courtesy of www.fannation.com

Around the Sports World

Durant Declares for 2007 NBA Draft

All-American freshman Kevin Durant announced Tuesday that he would leave the University of Texas and enter his name in the 2007 NBA Draft.

Durant wowed opponents and spectators as he averaged 25.8 points and 11.1 rebounds this past season en route to becoming the first freshman to win the John Wooden Award, along with winning the Naismith, AP, Adolph Rupp, NABC and Oscar Robertson awards.

The 6-foot-9, 225-pound phenom is expected to be one of the top two picks in the June 8 draft.



Photo Courtesy of www.texasports.com

Stringer, Rutgers Respond to Imus

Head coach C. Vivian Stringer and the Rutgers women's basketball team responded Tuesday to remarks made by radio host Don Imus.

Imus referred to the team as "nappy-headed hos" on his show last week.

Stringer said his comments were "racist and sexist remarks that are deplorable, despicable and unconscionable."

Essence Carson, a member of the team, announced that they had decided to meet with Imus privately.

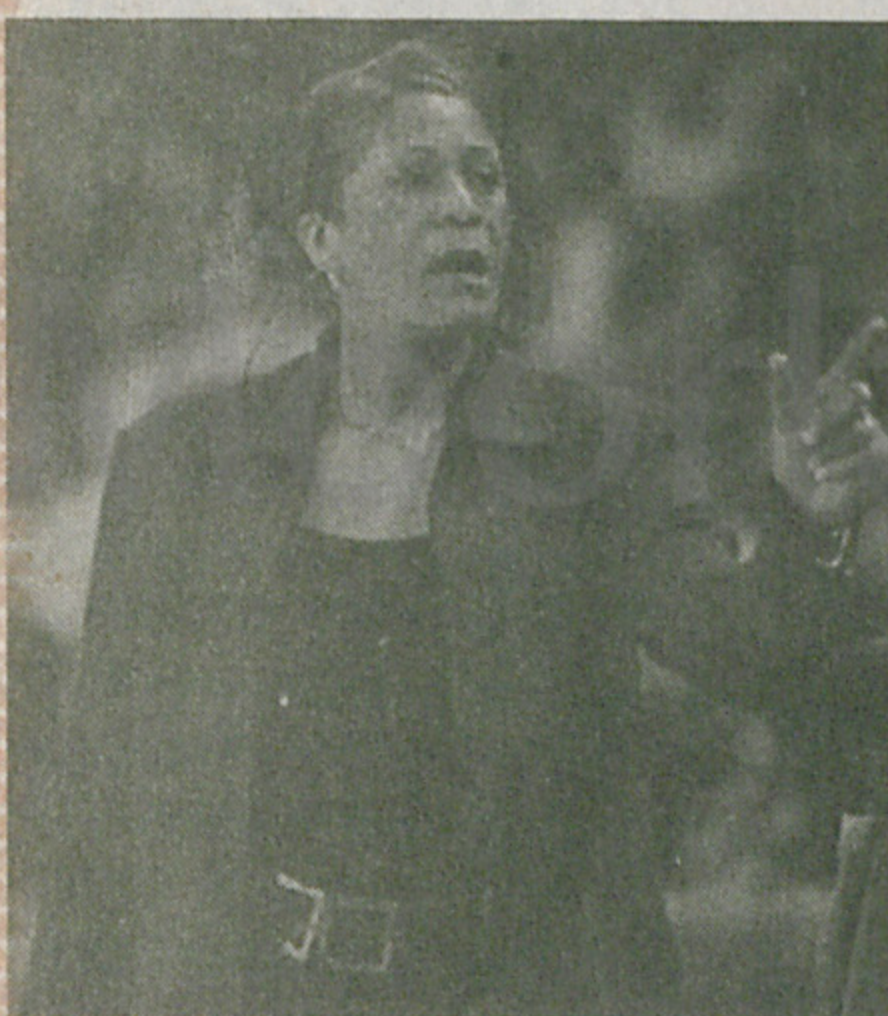


Photo Courtesy of www.dailytargum.com

TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY...

On April 11, 1947, Jackie Robinson became the first black player in modern Major League Baseball.

Men's and Women's Tennis Victorious Over Coppin State in Senior Day Games

BY ERICA ROBINSON
Hilltop Staff Writer

The men's and women's tennis teams tallied another win Tuesday in their Senior Day game.

The game was originally planned for last week, but was rescheduled due to poor court conditions.

The women defeated Coppin State 4-3 and the men won by default since there was a shortage of players on Coppin's team.

Senior Nicole Henderson said Senior Day is "a day to give thanks to the seniors that have contributed four years of athletics and academics. It is a special day. It shows all the hard work."

In order to thank the seniors for their contributions, Coach Larry Strickland distributed gifts. He gave Henderson roses and a card and Faron Carter and Othmane Garma from the men's team a card and cake in honor of their hard work and achievement for the past few years.

"We are really going to miss them. Each one of them brought something very special," Strickland said.

The match against Coppin State was also the last home game for the season before the MEAC championships, which run April 19-21.

It was evident how much the team has progressed since the beginning of the season. All the women won their singles, which gives the team extra assurance that they will perform to their greatest capacities at the championships.

Sophomore Whitney Ambush conquered her opponent Aleja Brown with a remarkable 6-0 for both matches. Junior Laura Marin won 6-2 her first match and 6-3 in her second match against Nina Sehessen.

Junior Jasmine Smith played a tough match against her opponent Ana Seheseen. Michelle Gee won 6-0, 6-1.

It was an intense match with Smith's teammates constantly cheering her on. Her opponent was very dramatic throughout the

match, constantly shouting and trying to create distractions. In order to express their support, the team continued to motivate and encourage Smith as her opponent continued to lash out in anger.

"We are even more intense to show Jasmine we are behind her," Ambush said.

Wright won 6-4, 6-0 against Andrea Apostu. In doubles, the women won 4 out of 7 points.

"Everybody came out to play hard," Henderson said. She said all the hard work put into the season was evident in the team's performance. I am very proud to be on this team."

Overall, it was a very close match.

"We were intense because it was a tight match," Ambush said. Although the team had already secured the match, the team-

mates still supported one another. "Everyone played excellent from player number one to six. Everybody was fighting hard working for ever point," Ambush said.

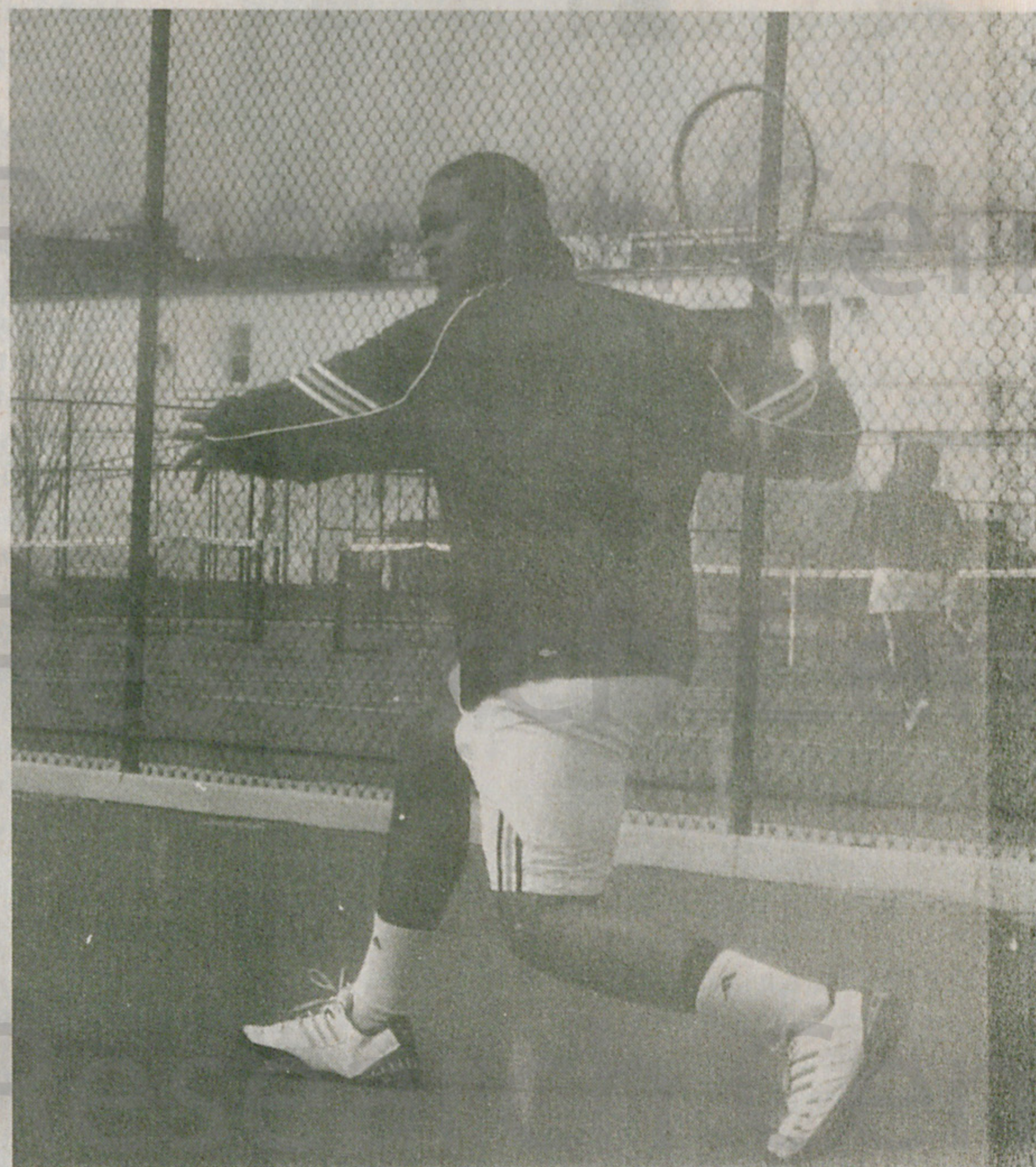
Competition wise, Strickland believes Coppin has gotten a lot stronger. However, he said the team did very well.

With one match left against Georgetown this Thursday before the MEAC championships in Raleigh N.C., the team has to continue to be competitive.

"We will be prepared next week. We have a little more work to do," Strickland said.

Strickland said he wants the team to give it their all at the final competition.

"They need to remain competitive and give it everything they have and compete at their highest," he said.



Ismael Ahmed - Staff Photographer

Faron Carter, along with fellow seniors Othmane Garma and Nicole Henderson, celebrated senior day with wins over Coppin State.

Queen Latifah Serves as Inspiration for New Clothing Line

BY JAMISHA PURDY
Contributing Writer

Singer, songwriter, actress and CoverGirl model Queen Latifah has a new accolade to place under her belt. Queen Latifah has taken plus-size fashion to another level with Curvation, a clothing line inspired by the full-figured woman.

Curvation was originally an intimate apparel line featuring bras and bodyshapers. Last month, the company released its new line of business, evening and sportswear inspired by Queen Latifah. The company's representatives say the new line is for women who have trouble finding comfortable and attractive apparel.

"Curvation was created for the countless women who told us they couldn't find intimate apparel that was both beautiful and functional," read the official Web site, www.curvation.com.

Queen Latifah spoke about being the muse for Curvation.

"I'm really going to try and be a driving force for Curvation because I need clothes that fit me and look good," she said. "I'm tired of shopping in the men's department to find my size."

She continued, "Most women in this country are a size 10 or better. And it's like, come on. We are consumers. We are buying this stuff. Make things for us."

Fusing the aspects of femininity and function, Curvation gives women who wear sizes 12W to 24W access to affordable clothing.

"For the first time the 60 million curvaceous women in America have an intimate apparel solution that is both sensual and liveable and affordably priced," Curvation representatives said.

Sandra St. Gerard, a junior physics major, said everyone should have an individual style.

"I personally tend to go for the idea of comfort versus style," she said. "That isn't to say that I

find it hard to [find] affordable or cute clothing. In fact it's quite the opposite."

St. Gerard said retailers are more aware that beauty does not come in just one size.

"Retailers usually come out with new lines of products or clothing based on the needs of society. I don't necessarily think women in our society are getting 'bigger.' But rather, more people are accepting that beauty isn't always a size zero," St. Gerard said.

St. Gerard also said that although Curvation is meant to be affordable, it is out of her price range.

"If I were a working adult or professional, I would definitely wear Curvation. But as a broke college student, Curvation is a little on the high-end side," she said. "About \$20 to \$40 for a pair of jeans is somewhat reasonable for me. But a \$95 dollar pair of Curvation jeans [is] a bit much."

Despite the price, St. Gerard agrees that Queen Latifah is one of the best representatives for Curvation.

"I think [Queen Latifah] is an excellent driving force for this line of clothing. Despite all her time in the industry, she hasn't [fallen] for 'the smaller, the better' stereotype," St. Gerard said.

Other celebrities such as Diddy, Jay-Z and Nelly all have clothing lines, but fashion sportswear designer Sunil Ramchandani said Curvation is different from all the other celebrity-endorsed labels.

"First of all, this isn't just another celebrity-endorsed label," Ramchandani said. "Queen Latifah—who she is, what she likes and the active life she lives, is the energy, attitude and inspiration that infuses every aspect of this line."

Ramchandani says that instead of large prints and logos, Curvation clothing is accented with detailed zippers and a small signature in the corner to provide variety for consumers.

Despite its stylish apparel, St. Gerard says that until Curvation lowers its prices, it will not be a threat to other, plus-size stores such as Ashley, Stewart and Lane Bryant.

Curvation is sold in Kmart, Wal-Mart and online at www.shopcurvation.com.

The fashion world has begun to recognize the appeal of producing plus-size clothing. Designers like Calvin Klein and Michael Kors have added new plus-sizes to their spring lines.

"The more clothing [lines] for plus-size women the better," St. Gerard said.

Movement Targets Youth to Clean the Dirty Mouths

BY KAMIRRIA HARRIS
Contributing Writer

The Stop Cussin Movement aims to eliminate the use of profanity in children's everyday dialogue by using animated characters to deliver the message.

The movement's mascot, Big Brother, and the animated Stop Cussin Kids, Jazzmin and Treyvar, represent children who are "victims of air pollution when one decides to use profanity and not respect their space."

The message is being delivered by an assortment of items such as apparel, housewares and posters. The Stop Cussin Movement is in the works of creating a cartoon and a commercial to coincide with the printed material.

The birth of the Stop Cussin Movement can be attributed to Tonya Ellington, also known as Miss Right Now. As the founder of the movement and its concept, she created the idea in September 2005. The movement was introduced to the world in January 2006 via radio programs.

A "woman of many trades," Ellington has worked in various fields within the music industry for nearly 21 years. She now runs the movement independently while also being fully employed at a large corporation.

The No Curse Tour stresses that people should be a part of the solution and not the problem. Ellington said children will curse less if the people around them curse less. She encourages older siblings, parents and other adults to watch what they say when children are listening.

The movement has received some recognition through media outlets, churches, PTA meetings and youth summits. Having traveled to New York, Ohio and Florida, the tour is expected to expand to more locations in the near future.

Ellington said the movement is progressing. She said the first step children need to take in rectifying their word usage is admitting that they curse.

Ellington shared a story of a young girl who admitted she cursed because her mother often used profane language in her presence. The girl soon made

of young people who respect themselves, their peers and other people around them."

As a single mother of a 10-year-old son, Ellington said it is her responsibility to instill in him, as well as in other youth, the right values. Believing in the motto, "it takes a village to raise a child," Ellington said this task was meant for her because her heart is set in helping people.

Staying true to her



Christian beliefs, Ellington said the movement was a "God-given mission" that was put in her spirit to complete.

"It has nothing to do with me, but it is an assignment that has been given to me," she said.

Ellington referred to Proverbs 30:11-14, which she said displays the need for the Stop Cussin Movement. It reads, "There is a generation that curseth their father, and doth not bless their mother. There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness. There is a generation, whose teeth are as swords and their jaw teeth as knives to devour the poor from off the earth, and the needy from among men."

Ellington has a message for Howard University and the rest of the world.

"Let's keep it real, speak the truth," she said. "Watch the tongue because it's powerful."

For those interested in getting involved with the movement, more information is available at www.thenocursetour.com and www.stopcussin.com. Stop Cussin materials, can be purchased at www.cafepress.com/stopcussin4kids.

changes to her vocabulary after relocating to live with her grandmother.

"If it's in your environment, you will become adapted to it," Ellington said.

Sophomore sociology major Melanie Holst-Collins agreed. "It's inevitable," she said. "Children are going to be socially influenced no matter how their parents raise them because children are constantly being exposed to profanity."

She said Ellington's idea has merit. "However, this effort is worth a try in order to create a generation

Today Matters Because...

Jackie Robinson became the first black player in the Major League Baseball.

BY OLIVIA WILLIAMSON
Contributing Writer

Today marks the 60th anniversary of an event that changed America. On April 10, 1947, Jackie Robinson became the first black man to enter Major League Baseball (MLB). His entry to the league came after a long struggle to the top.

Robinson's career afterward was marked by as many victories as personal and social defeats. However, Robinson's position is one that changed the course of history as well as the black presence in America.

Robinson was born Jan. 31, 1919 in Cairo, Ga. as the youngest child in a family of five. A year later, his family moved to Pasadena, Calif. where he was raised.

Robinson was a lettered athlete on most of the teams at John Muir High School. He served as a shortstop and catcher on the baseball team, a quarterback on the football team, a guard on the basketball team, and a member of the tennis team, in addition to running for his track and field squad.

Robinson's athleticism gained much attention as several local newspapers ran articles on his victories. In 1938, he was named baseball's Most Valuable Player of the region as a student at All-Southland Junior College.

After college, Robinson took the path of the typical college athlete's dreams and was scouted by Dodgers' manager Branch Rickey.

Instead of following that course, he served in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1944 as a second lieutenant. Robinson faced the same prejudices in the military as he did as a civilian.

During a military bus ride in Texas, Robinson was reprimanded for refusing to sit in the back of the bus. He was put on trial by the military and dishonorably discharged for his disobedience.

Robinson's early stance against racial discrimination and inferiority was an example of his strength and principles.

After serving in the army, Robinson returned home and



Photo courtesy of icellife.com

Jackie Robinson became an advocate for human rights after his famed accomplishment as a baseball player.

to his athletic roots. Rickey was once again looking to recruit Robinson and selected him from a list of promising black players to be assigned to the Montreal Royals.

It marked not only the end to a history of an all-white professional American baseball league, but also the end of the Negro National League, since there was now no need for a black minor league division.

Robinson's early professional baseball career was successful. He entered the International League with a batting average of .349 and a fielding percentage of .985. The Dodgers recruited Robinson to play for the major league within a year, and on April 15, 1947, he played and won his first MLB game against the Boston Braves.

Despite Robinson's success and obvious talent, he continued to receive harassment from his new teammates and team fans. Some of his fellow Dodgers even refused to play alongside him, choosing to sit out if Robinson was to play.

It was not until an incident in which an opposing player from Philadelphia openly called Robinson a nigger that his teammates unified in his defense.

Robinson played in 151 games during his first year in the major leagues. He led the National League with his famous stolen bases and won the first ever Rookie of the Year Award, still serving as a second baseman.

Two years later, Robinson

won the Most Valuable Player for the entire National League. He won his championship ring in the 1955 World Series in a groundbreaking New York Dodgers vs. New York Yankees game.

After 1956, Robinson was traded from the Dodgers to the Giants and offered an unprecedented \$30,000 in cash as a signing bonus. He declined the offer and decided to retire at age 37.

Robinson was one of the most successful athletes in baseball history. His career marked not only a major victory for black America, but America as a whole.

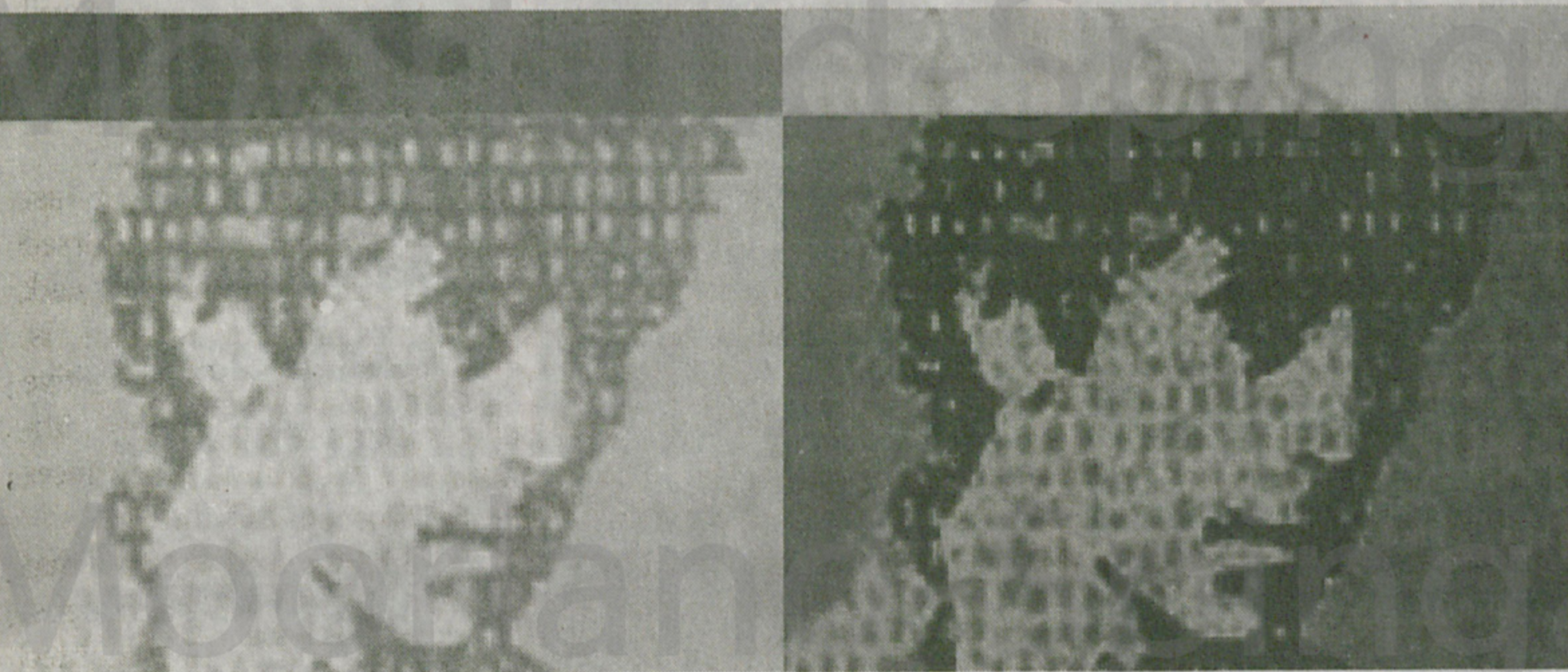
Robinson was one of the first black people to be welcomed into the homes of Americans through television and to be favored as an athlete rather than discriminated against. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1962. In 1986, he was awarded the Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award.

His legacy is continued through the philanthropic efforts of the Jackie Robinson Foundation, which offers fellowships, endowments and funding for youth organizations throughout the country.

Today, Robinson's legacy continues to be admired.

"When I think baseball, I think Jackie Robinson," senior fashion merchandising major Ashley Miller said. "I like that one of the most notable athletes, at least from my experience, is a black man who overcame racism enough to achieve then what many don't today."

EDITORIALS & Perspectives



Use Facebook, Don't Abuse It

In today's highly technological world, Web sites like MySpace.com, Facebook.com, are popular tools of networking.

Sure, many students don't believe Facebook is a networking tool. Students claim to use it just to "keep in touch with friends," be it from high school or to keep track of events.

According to Alexa.com, a Web site rating and trafficking company, Facebook.com is the seventh most visited Web site in the United States.

Lately, Hilltoppers have seen an increase in outrageously inappropriate Facebook groups, pictures and events. One Hilltopper was shocked when she saw the group "If this group reaches 100,000 I'll sleep with all the members."

Acts like this turn responsible future Facebook users away from the site, people who could possibly benefit from using it.

One Hilltopper, who is creator and administrator of 28

Facebook groups, said as long as the groups have legit purpose and meaning and aren't offensive and vulgar, they are fine.

Groups like, "Right? Wrong? Doesn't Matter Here! ABORTION & MARRIAGE are private," "Barack Obama for President," and "Black Women Who Have Faith in Black Men,"

Our View:
Inappropriate material is tainting great resources like MySpace and Facebook.

obviously serve a genuine purpose and have reason for existing.

When you make groups "We All Want to Kill George Bush" and even events like "National Make-Out Day," and "My brother is coming April 17-20th - I want him sex'd up, hardcore," you're defeating Facebook's original purpose.

Not only may some people find these groups offensive, but stating you want to kill the president is just not smart,

period. Facebook users need to be aware of what they create and post online and who sees it. MySpace and Facebook accounts have been deleted for much less, not to mention the lawsuits and other federal action that can be taken against users.

In this day and age, Web site users need to think twice before voicing opinions and playing "jokes" on the Internet. There comes a point where you cross the line between being protected under the First Amendment and when

you reach trouble unprotected. Either way users utilize the site, they should keep in mind the fact that some people are there to network and conduct business. Not to mention with the extension of Facebook, there are many corporations that use networking sites to screen potential employees.

MySpace and Facebook were created for friends and associates to keep in contact, not for people to create and post inappropriate material.

Perspective: Campus Police Security

Howard University needs to improve campus security and its current police force. This is essential to creating a safe learning environment. Students have the right to a safe environment, but Howard has failed to do this. The evidence can even be seen right on campus itself. The situation is not so poor that it cannot be improved, but still improvement in security procedure is needed.

There are a total of 112 call boxes for emergencies on campus. Yet, most of them do not work. These devices are in need of repair. Knowing this it would only ruin the efficacy of the Blue Light system. The Blue Light system provides a network of communication between police officers and the students who need them. Repairing the call boxes is most imperative. Without it the security system is penetrable. "The Blue Light" emergency system is an interactive voice communication telephone system used for reporting emergencies on campus" (H-Book, 76) explains how the call boxes are a major component of security procedure.

Another area of the Campus Police that needs to be improved is the escort service. The most common complain from Howard University students regarding the escort service, is that it takes too long. The escort services are available at night as an alternative to walking alone to one's dormitory. Depending on where you wait on campus, the time it takes for the escort service to come, an incident might already have happened. The escort service needs to improve the response time so student can safely get home. At night situations can become dangerous quickly. This slow arrival of the escort service is most likely due to the fact the Campus Police are under staffed. Howard needs more officers to handle these duties.

Identification cards are distributed to every student and faculty member. Howard University Campus Police never ask for I.D cards. Only on some rare occasions, officers actually do an I.D check. According to the Howard University Campus Police Report "the Physical Security Bureau is responsible for all structures, residential facilities, and other Howard University owned properties" (Lawrence, 7).

Howard University cannot be protected if the Campus Police do not do I.D. checks all the time. Strangers could easily infiltrate Howard University property without any officer's knowledge. This is putting students at risk, when Campus Police is not following proper procedure. The only solution to this problem is to have officers check I.D. every time a person enters a Howard University building. That would vastly improve security on campus.

A survey was conducted regarding the state of security. Students were asked the following questions: do you feel safe on campus? Do you feel the police are doing an adequate job? Do you feel safe in your dorm? Have you ever been robbed? The results explain a lot about the Campus Police deteriorating situation. Seven out of ten Howard University students said they do not feel safe on campus. Eight out of ten Howard University students said that they feel the police do not adequately do their jobs. Six out of ten Howard University students said that they do not feel safe in their dorms. Four and ten students have been robbed on campus. The results of the survey just show how this part of our institution must be changed. Having an unsafe learning environment can affect students negatively. Students should not have to worry about crime trends or whether they will be robbed. Some students have actually seen officers sleeping on the

job. The Campus Police must respond to this problem before a major catastrophe occurs.

Although the Campus Police has a myriad of problems it has accomplished much. One success is the crime prevention program. The crime prevention program provides seminars for dorms on safety. Safety Awareness Outreach distributes pamphlets to students on how to best protect themselves. Also self defense courses are offered here at Howard University. The Howard University Campus Police Department has been actively making these programs to respond to crime trends. Yet, there is a difference between doing a minimal job and an excellent job. Crime is a part of society and it will never go away. That is a fact of life, but it can at least be diminished. This world is not perfect and it never will be, but it can at least be made a little more tolerable. The Campus Police must do their job to the best of their ability and constantly improve their department. It is not that they have not accomplished anything, its just improvement is necessary to enforce security measures.

When students arrive at Howard University they expect the best. The best professors, the best facilities, and the best education are the attributes students associate Howard University with. Knowing this, there is no reason for the Howard University Campus Police to perform poorly at their duties. Having broken call boxes left broken is unacceptable. Students must be assured that they will be safe and comfortable here at Howard University. The improvement in security is a vital one and is not out of reach. The Howard University budget can stand to allot the appropriate funds to improve security. Students' well being depends on it.

- John Sanders

Daily Sudoku

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

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

No more Hilltop budget meetings...
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THE HILLTOP

The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper

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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.

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4.11.07 COMMUNITY FORUM - A LOOK INSIDE THE KATRINA RELIEF EFFORTS, 6:00-8:00PM DIGITAL AUDITORIUM BLACKBURN CENTER

VOLUNTEER EXPO - A CALL TO ACTION 8:00-10:00PM - THE GALLERY LOUNGE BLACKBURN CENTER

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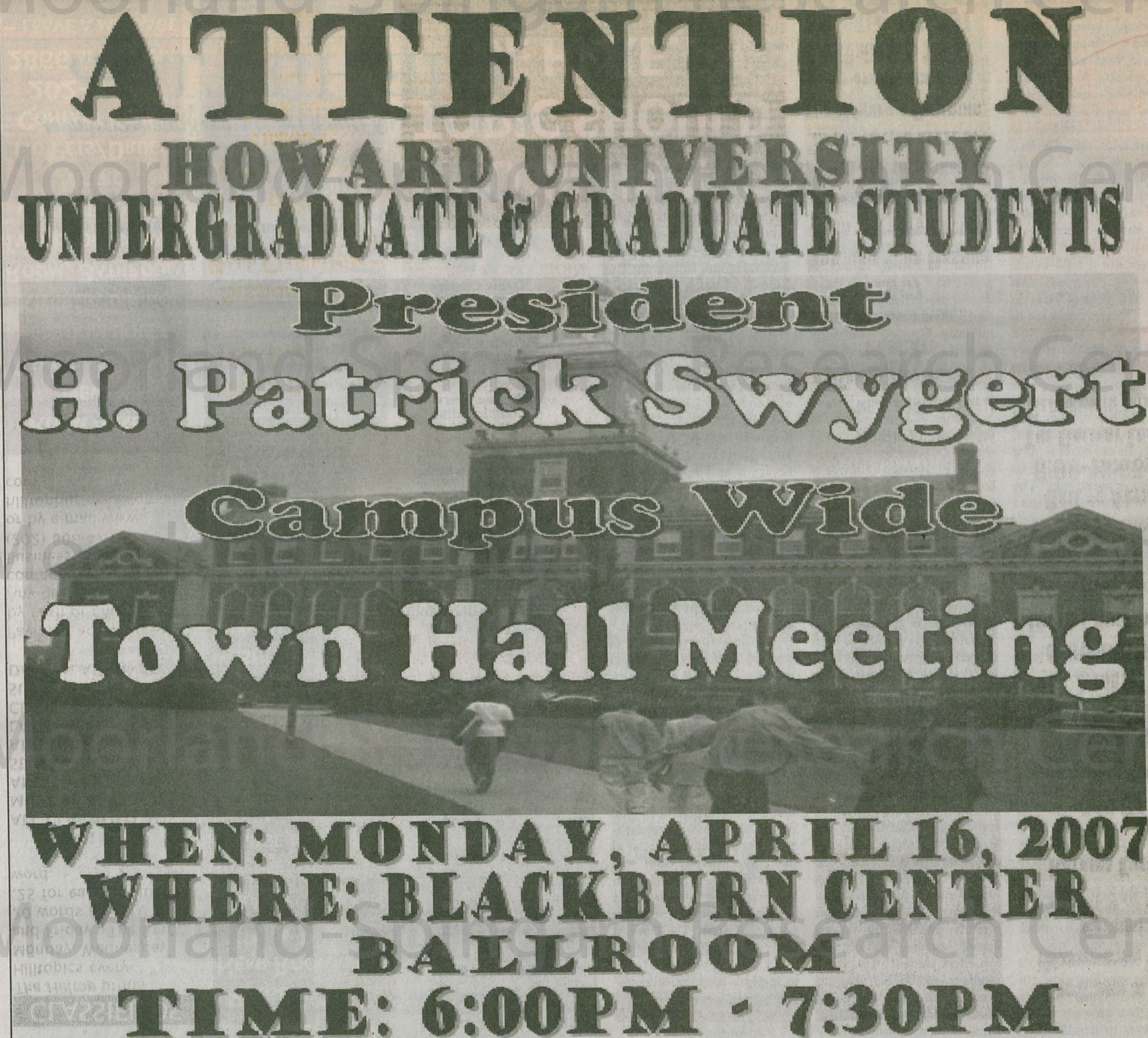
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President
H. Patrick Swygert
Campus Wide
Town Hall Meeting
WHEN: MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2007
WHERE: BLACKBURN CENTER BALLROOM
TIME: 6:00PM - 7:30PM