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# THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 90, NO. 121

FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 2007

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FRIDAY  
notebook

## BREAKING NEWS

### IRAQI PARLIAMENT ATTACK KILLS EIGHT

SUICIDE BOMBERS KILLED EIGHT AND WOUNDED 20 IN AN ATTACK IN A PARLIAMENT BUILDING YESTERDAY. TWO OF THOSE KILLED IN THE ATTACK WERE IRAQI LAWMAKERS. AL QAEDA IS SUSPECTED TO BE BEHIND THE ATTACK, ACCORDING TO CNN.COM.

## CAMPUS

### CRIME MOB COMES TO HOWARD

RAP GROUP CRIME MOB VISITED HOWARD THURSDAY. FIND OUT MORE IN TODAY'S CAMPUS SECTION.  
PAGE 2



FRI, 4/13:  
SUNNY  
HIGH: 60, LOW: 41



SAT, 4/14:  
PM SHOWERS  
HIGH: 54, LOW: 42

# Intramural Basketball Team Advances to Nationals

BY ELLIOTT JONES  
Sports Editor

At any level of competition, athletes dream of having the opportunity to play for a championship. For Howard University's intramural basketball team, that dream is about to become a reality.

Team 1867, Howard's representative in the National Intramural Recreation Sports Association (NIRSA) will play for the national title at The Ohio State University, beginning today at 4:15 p.m. in a game against the University of Michigan's intramural squad. Team 1867 advanced to nationals after winning the North Atlantic regional tournament last week, defeating Long Island University 56-49 in the regional final.

In doing so, 1867 became the first team from a Historically Black University

to win back-to-back regional titles, as they were also champions of the North Atlantic region in 2006. If the team goes on to win the National Intramural Basketball Championship, it would also be a first for an HBCU.

Head coach Victor Montgomery expressed pride in leading 1867 to success as of late, but also pointed out some of the challenges that come with being an intramural program.

"We come behind the men's and women's varsity [basketball] teams when it comes to practice time," Montgomery said. "We practice two to three times a week. Sometimes we go off-site to different high schools to



Photo courtesy of Victor Montgomery

Team 1867, Howard's intramural basketball team, is poised to become the first team from an HBCU to win a national intramural basketball title.

get more time in. The bottom line is; [if] we don't practice, we don't win."

Montgomery also serves

as an assistant of University Events and Special Services at Howard.

Team 1867 is comprised

mainly of undergraduate students, but also features graduate students and university staff. Among the players is Aki Thomas, an assistant coach for Howard's men's varsity basketball team.

Additionally, Associate Athletic Director and Intramurals Coordinator Dexter Harris serves as the team's assistant coach.

The group also features several team managers, all ranging from freshmen to seniors. Dominique Saint-Fort, a sophomore political science and psychology major and second-year manager for the team, was drawn to the team's sense of togetherness.

"We really are like a family. We take it as seriously as any Division I staff and that closeness makes us even more dedicated," Saint-Fort said.

Latonia Miller, a junior biology major and third-year team manager, agreed with Saint-Fort that the team is a tightly-bonded unit, which helps contribute to its success.

"It keeps you enthused when you are around a lot of like-minded people," Miller said.

Team 1867's hard work and group values are not limited to the court, however. Montgomery ensures that the team participates in numerous community service projects and campus events as goodwill measures, as well as to give his players and staff a variety of experiences while at Howard.

"Since the team is primar-

See NATIONAL, Page 3

## Media Symposium Offers Insight

BY MERCIA WILLIAMS-MURRAY  
Hilltop Staff Writer

A symposium titled "African-Americans in Film and Television: 20th Century Lessons for the New Millennium" brought forth some of the greatest African Americans in the media industry to discuss their views about the portrayal of and black people in the media yesterday.

Session one was an introduction to the day's events by acclaimed actress, producer and choreographer Debbie Allen.



Photo courtesy of Unid.com

The multi-session forum featured actress/producer, Debbie Allen.

Session three was titled "Controlling our Image: Media Ownership and Diversity in the New Millennium." This portion focused on the inner workings of media start-ups, distribution, obtaining venture capital and diverse images in the media.

Session four, "Opportunities in the Digital World," featured Frank Weaver. Weaver is the director of telecommunications policy for Boeing Company.

Weaver talked about the importance of having knowledge in telecommunications, outside of

the field of communications. "You don't have to be a rocket scientist like me. But it helps [to have some knowledge in the field]," Weaver said jokingly.

Session five was "Critical Analysis: Future of African-Americans in Film and Television," which included examples of complex black images on TV during the 20th century.

It was moderated by screenwriter and director, Michael Holman who has been a director for Nickelodeon's "Blue's Clues," RUN DMC Adidas commercials, the nationally-syndicated special "Graffiti Rock" and several other programs.

"Session five really, really brought out, I guess, challenging (the) thought from theory to actual," said Howard University alumnus Jason Hightower.

Hightower, who is an assistant director program fellow for the Director's Guild of America, says that Holman challenged the audience to examine what the ideal of beauty will be 25 years from now.

Session four focused on student research into Africa Americans in film and television.

Hightower said shows are lacking in terms of single black fathers. He notes that the Cosby Show was the "pinnacle of the entire family" set and notes that there are plenty

See SYMPOSIUM, Page 3



Oscar W. Merrida IV Contributing Photographer

Despite placing second in each Burr Night event, Cook Hall holds the lead they secured through winning the debate and dance competitions.

## Cook Hall Leads ResFest

BY VANESSA ROZIER  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Culminating with an emotional basketball championship game between Meridian Hill Hall and Cook Hall, Burr Night was held in the gymnasium Thursday night. Burr night included basketball, dodgeball and swimming competitions between dorms located on and off campus. Students wearing their team colors represented their respective dormitories while watching their teams attempt to step closer to the title of ResFest 2007 champions.

The swimming event was the first of the night's competition to be completed. The Bethune Annex Hall-Carver Hall team placed first, Cook Hall came

in second and the Quad Hall-Drew Hall team placed third. However, these standings would soon change.

The Drew-Quad team won first place for the dodgeball competition, Cook placed second and Meridian in third.

Dodgeball participant, Bethune Annex resident and sophomore chemistry major, Amber Dorsey said, "It's a good way to get to know the people you live with."

A majority of spectators paid close attention to the basketball games and were impressed with the dunks, tricks and effort the players displayed throughout the night.

See RESFEST, Page 3

# Interfaith Fellows Aim to Link Religions Through Dialogue

BY TRAVER RIGGINS  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Next semester will begin the Interfaith Fellows program sponsored by the office of the Dean of the Chapel, the Graduate school and other campus organizations.

According to Bernard Richardson, Dean of the Chapel, the program is intended to encourage conversations between all religious faiths, explore the connection between intellectual life and spirituality and learn how different faiths approach religions, morality, politics and life in general.

"When we look at the many crises in the global community

and the significant role that religion plays in these crises it is imperative that we become more cognizant of other faith traditions. I hope that the fellows program will encourage more research and creative programming within our community around this critical issue," Richardson said.

"We decided that we wanted to have six specified individuals who would work very closely with these aspects of religious life," junior English major Melanie Chambliss said. She is spearheading the organization of the fellowship.

At the end of the semester, six students will be selected from a list of applicants to be

the inaugural recipients of the fellowship. Over the summer they will have required readings and when school resumes they will be expected to meet once a month to discuss various topics of faith and religion where they will brainstorm campus wide programs to bring knowledge and unity to campus.

Chevonne Byas, a junior sociology and African American studies double major, plans to apply for the fellowship.

"I'm interested because I feel as college students and as people in a diverse world, we need to establish ways to communicate with each other," Byas said.

"A lot of times when we discuss religion, people are afraid to discuss religion so I want to help facilitate a safe place where people are comfortable asking questions and comfortable answering questions," Byas said. "One, for tolerance and also for understanding and it helps to have a better connection with your own religion," she added.

She said that it is important to have a safe and free setting because religion affects everyone, no matter what kind of faith they subscribe to.

"No matter what society you're in, laws are based off of religious views, so it would make you more aware of the

world around you," Byas said.

Chambliss, the chairperson of the Religious Fellows Council, a group charged with informing the university about religion and faith and encouraging interfaith participation, said that there are 27 different religious organizations on campus through which three religions, Christianity, Islam and Baha'i, are represented.

Chambliss said that she hope the Interfaith fellows program will encourage more diverse representation of religions on campus.

"The idea of religious community is something that should always be advocated because we're all striving for

some higher ideal," Chambliss said.

Byas said that the religious education is important for those of every faith, even those without much or those who are strong in their chosen one. She also said that having a united religious community will help people communicate and dispel the notion that only people of certain religions hang out together.

Applications for the fellowship are due on Monday, April 16. They can be found in the lower part of the Carnegie building and stipends are provided. Students of any and every faith are encouraged to apply.



# Crime Mob Details Newest Album "Hated On Mostly"

BY ESAN AYANNA FULLINGTON  
Contributing Writer

Students all over campus knucked when they were buck and rocked their hips along with the members of Crime Mob.

The group, which consists of M.I.G., Cyco Black, Diamond, Lil' Jay and Princess, recently released their newest album "Hated On Mostly" on March 20.

The album includes their latest track, "Rock Your Hips," the title track and "We Some Playaz" featuring Lil' Scrappy and Pimp C. This release follows their self-titled debut album that dropped in 2004.

Though the mob missed their scheduled interview with WHBC, *The Hilltop* did catch up with the group. Here's what they had to say.

**The Hilltop: What do you all feel is the biggest difference this time around as far as recording your sophomore album "Hated on Mostly?"**

MIG: We aren't the same teenagers we was on the first album. We came from the streets and that's mostly what we were talking about. Now, we've been around the world and of course we got new things to talk about.

**The song "Knuck if You Buck" is a staple in clubs everywhere. It's pretty much a classic club hit. Is there any pressure to top that success?**

Cyco Black: When we're in the studio we usually just come up with



Derrell Smith - Senior Photo Editor

Crime Mob, who just released their second album "Hated On Mostly," have matured since the release of their debut in 2004. Cyco Black attributes the rebirth of hip-hop to the South and artistic self expression.

a beat a concept, then a hook. It just comes together. It's not like we go in there with the intention to necessarily make a hit, it all just falls in place.

**You have a new single out "Rock Yo Hips," the video actually has a cool theme. You have the whole Crime Mob College set up, kind of like an HBCU. Who came up with the idea and what was the shoot like?**

MIG: Dr. Teeth came up with the concept and brought it to us and we all liked it. You know we were all in high school and now we're col-

lege age so the theme worked. We shot it at Morris Brown's campus in Atlanta. It was a good time. Diamond and Princess had a Rock Yo Hip contest and they came up with the dance and everything like that. The contest was on MySpace also.

**How has success changed your lives?**

Princess: The money good! We gotta YouTube channel and all that now so people feel like they know us. There are a lot of fake people who come around you who were never around before so you have to deal

with that. But the best part is travelling the world and being able to fulfill your goals.

**You two ladies are planning to release an album separate from the original group. What is your vision for the album?**

P: None of our stuff is planned. We go in the studio and do what we feel. I mean it's cool 'cause we can get into topics that the ladies can relate to. You know, I could be going through some relationship problems or we could have just gotten into it

with one of our friends or something. So, you will see a change of subject matter because we're females, but we're still Crime Mob! We're gonna be working with the same producers we usually work with, Dirty Doc Jam and DJ Montay who did "Two Step" and "Walk It Out."

**You are all young adults. With the issues we face in today's society, do you all feel a sense of social responsibility?**

MIG: In a way because of the crowd we have. We talk about the different things that we've been through in our own lives. We talk about the fact that you don't have to be out here robbing and acting all crazy.

CB: Yeah, our song "Circles" talks about that stuff. It should actually be our next single from "Hated on Mostly."

**What is your take on the backlash within the hip hop community and society in general about the current state of hip hop music?**

CB: If people feel like hip hop is dead, then it was reborn in the South. Don't get mad 'cause we shining. I don't feel like there is a backlash. We expressing how we feel. Everywhere you go people do things differently. We respect everyone else. We deserve the same respect. We be shining because we deserve to shine.

MIG: Good music sells...

## Inconsistent Weather: A Variable in Class Attendance

BY EBONI FARMER  
Hilltop Staff Writer

In the past few weeks, weather in the District has ranged from the high 70s, bright sun and soft breezes to low 40s with rigid wind, scattered snow showers and rain.

This varying weather plays a major role in whether or not students decide to make the journey from their beds to class.

Some students are making smart choices as the semester comes to an end while others still cannot seem to make it off the Yard on the warm days or out of their beds on the colder days.

"It's crunch time. Finals are coming up and although I would love to stand around and chat or stay in bed, I know what I'm here for and I want to finish strong," sophomore computer science major Mya Wilson said.

She continued, "The weather has been really horrible. One day it was really hot, and the next I had to unpack my winter coat because I thought I wouldn't need it."

Wilson said, "Regardless of the weather, I go to class because you never know what you might miss."

Professors have also seen students coming to class despite weather obstacles because the school year is coming to a close.

"By the end of the semester, some students do stop coming to class for their own personal rea-

sons, but even on the nicer days my students have been showing up because they want to earn a good grade in the course," English professor Dave Messina said.

Messina said students should never use weather as an excuse because they should be used to the changes and need to understand what their priorities are.

Senior finance major Aaron Davis reflected on the days he missed class because of both cold and warm weather.

"It was very tempting to miss class and stay on the Yard because it was nice outside or stay inside because it was too cold. It was too easy, but now that I'm graduating it's hard to do that," he said. Davis continued, "I'm on the fast track and I don't have time to be on the Yard and I didn't even really have time back when I was freshman to be honest."

French professor Lillian Lewis said, "The weather just takes control of the students and they can't focus. It was so cold and then when the warm weather came, they wanted to be on the Yard because they haven't been able to do so since the beginning of the year."

She continued, "I really don't think that is a good excuse, but if I was a student that might be my thought process."

Freshman architecture major Brittany Gordon missed a few classes during the warm weather a few weeks ago and is suffering

because of it.

"I should have gone to class, but there was a lot going on, at least on the Yard, and I didn't want to miss out on the fun. After all, you're only a freshman once," Gordon said.

Gordon said that while she was on the Yard, she missed important information in class. Hence, she will not be missing class for rest of the semester unless she is sick.

Cherryn Wilder, a senior mathematics major, can be seen lounging on the yard on a sunny day.

"I do take every break and opportunity I can to enjoy good weather, but I try to resist the urge to skip class for it. I know once I start, I'm gonna roll with it," Wilder said.

However, she does have her plans laid out in preparation for when the sun is high and the weather is nice.

"I have a core group, we call ourselves the Yard family, and we do plan to meet and spend time on the yard when the weather is good," she said.

"Some of my friends get caught in the web of the great weather and great company," Wilder said.

She continued, "It's easy to find yourself spending the whole day on the yard with your friends, just chilling and enjoying good company."



Derrell Smith Senior - Senior Photo Editor

**ResFest 2007 continued Thursday with Burr Night. Students competed in various activities including dodge ball, swimming and basketball. Cook Hall was honored with first place for overall events. The main attraction was the basketball competition, with Meridian Hall placing first.**



## ResFest 2007 Unites Students for Burr Night

RESFEST, from Page 1

After three rounds of intensive games, Meridian and Cook faced off for first place with the final score of 32-27.

"This year's basketball game was really good. Every dorm had a star player," said Chijindo Emenarii, a sophomore chemical engineering major. Emenarii was one of many students in the standing-room only lower gymnasium during the "playoff" rounds. Capitalizing on Wednesday night's victory, it was Cook Hall who earned first place for the night. Meridian rebounded from the dance competition, winning second place. The Drew-Quad team rounded out the top three.

"ResFest shows dorms as a unit and a family accomplishing one goal," said freshman accounting major and Drew Hall president Dontrell Smith. Smith participated during game night

in the Family Feud game and will be stepping for Drew Hall tonight.

Burr Night coordinator and sophomore business management major Kristin Williams feels good about how the night turned out and is looking forward to next year.

"It was really extensive and tedious," Williams said. She started planning for the event in January. "I'm doing this because Residence Life does so much for us that I feel I should give back."

Lauren Gaspard, a freshman public relations major said, "I really like ResFest. It's a good opportunity for us to have fun in school." Gaspard represented the Quad in her bright yellow ResFest T-shirt. "It's a great idea, but they create rules and don't follow them. They should implement a constitution for ResFest," she said.



File photos

Students have fought the weather patterns by either staying in their bedrooms when it's cold or relaxing on the Yard when it's warm. Professors advise against the habit of missing class.



# Students Outline Paths to Fame at Symposium

SYMPOSIUM, from Page 1

of shows with single black mothers, but the one show that featured a single Black father (with Taye Diggs in the main role), "Kevin Hill" only lasted for six episodes.

Tia Tyree, a doctoral student in the department of mass communication and media sciences in the School of Communications, discussed celestoids.

Celestoids, as Tyree described, are people who get "15 minutes of fame." She continued, "Reality TV almost guarantees that more people than ever will have their fifteen minutes of fame."

She added, "Now it's 7 minutes of fame." This is because reality shows lead to more reality shows. She uses the appearance of hype man Flava Flav's appearance of

VH1's "The Surreal Life" as an example. The show led to "Strange Love," then "Flava of Love" and "Flava of Love II." Ultimately, "I Love New York" came from the previous show.

"It can create legitimate celebrities," said Chris Bell, a doctoral student at the University of Colorado's School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

He uses American Idol as an example. "Chris Daughtry has the fastest selling debut rock album in history." Daughtry was one of the bottom two contestants on his season.

He added that Carrie Underwood has had the best selling country album in two years and that Kelly Clarkson has been overwhelmingly successful. "You don't even have to win. You can be Jennifer Hudson and leave early, early,

early and still win an Oscar," Bell said.

In Tyree's dissertation she categorized rappers in regards to Hollywood. The six "elite" rappers were the ones who have been in twenty or so movies. They include Ice T, Ice Cube, Queen Latifah, Will Smith, Marky Mark and LL Cool J.

"Snoop Dogg has had 12 or more roles. Mos Def is on the cusp with eight," she said. She adds that Tupac was cranking out one role per year and had it not been for his life being cut short, he'd be with the elite rappers. The most recent rapper to cross over is The Game, who was featured as a gangster in the movie "Waist Deep."

"He's already a multi-platinum selling artist," Tyree said.

# Team Expects Stiff Opposition

NATIONAL, from Page 1

ily undergrad, one of the things we talk about a lot with our guys is male building," Montgomery said. "When we volunteered at the alumni gala, it was the first time wearing a tux for a lot of them outside of prom."

The team has also participated in Commencement ceremonies, Charter Day dinner and the annual D.C. Homeless Walk, among others.

Team 1867 will look to bring the same sense of activism and civic duty to the court over the course of this weekend's tournament as well. The players plan to wear com-

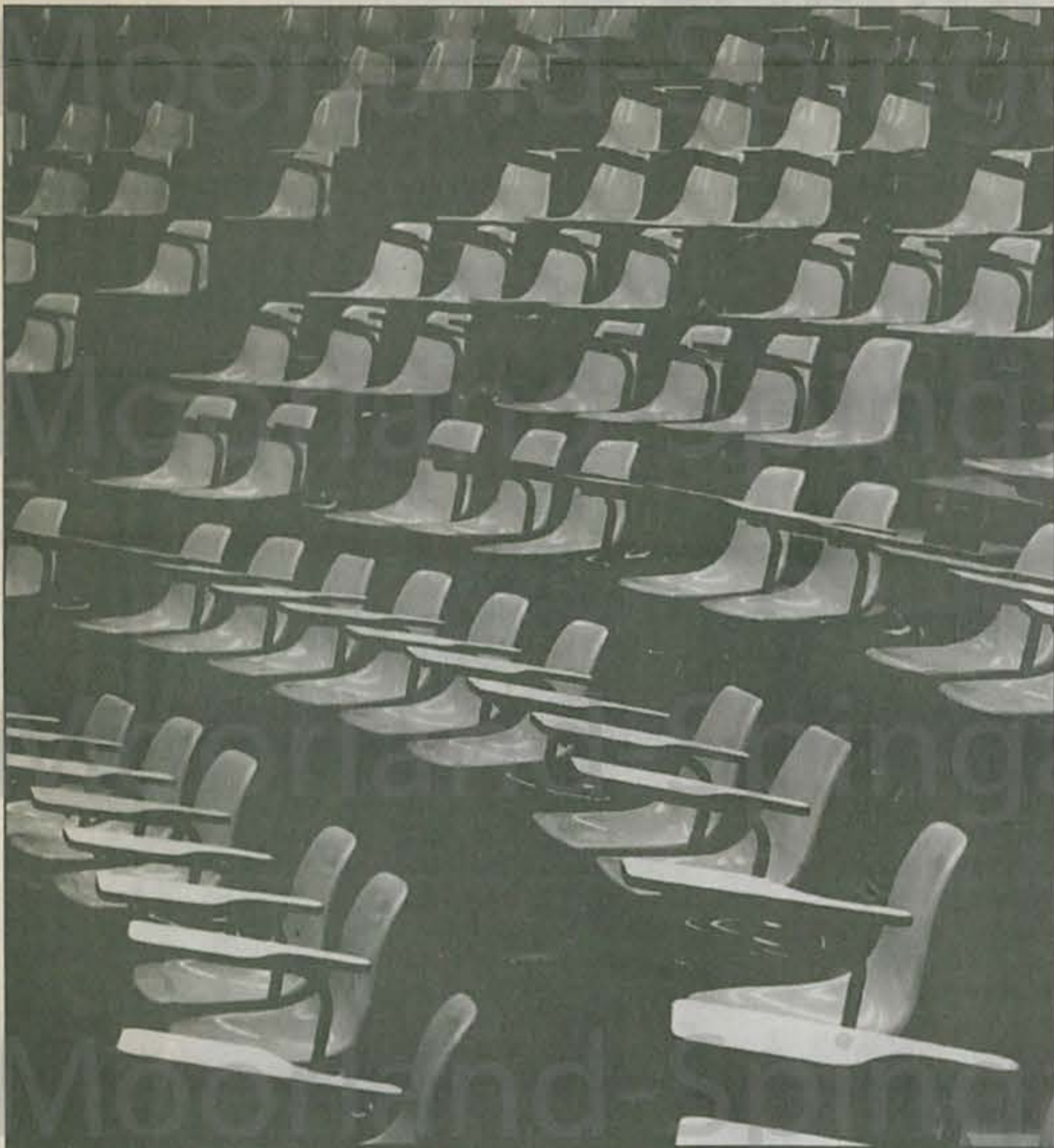
memorative symbols on their uniforms to honor former Grambling State football coach Eddie Robinson, who died on April 3. The team managers also plan to show their support for the members of Rutgers' women's basketball team, who were the targets of controversial remarks from ousted radio personality Don Imus last week, by wearing red and black ribbons during the tournament.

Despite the team's hectic schedule, the significance of this weekend's games is not lost on the team.

"I think our biggest challenge is the realization that this is high-level basketball,"

said senior co-captain Omare Kinsey. "Your first notion is that since this is intramural, it's recreational. But the level of play will be a lot higher," he said.

Montgomery said, "We take a lot of pride in seeing Howard excel, and to see the finished product of hard work. To gain the recognition and respect from some of the other conferences' coaches and officials is important." He added, "When we started playing in these tournaments, we would hear, 'Where is Howard? Is that in Indiana?' Now when we show up, they know who we are and where we're from."



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# Imus Loses Job, New Questions Surface

BY AMBER ENGLISH  
Nation & World Editor

After days of uproar, loss of advertisers and charges of racism and sexism, CBS has terminated shock jock Don Imus, effective immediately.

The decision surrounds comments Imus made on his morning show, referring to the Rutgers University women's basketball team as "nappy headed hoes."

CBS' decision to cancel Imus' show, "Imus in the Morning" followed NBC Universal's decision to cut the show's simulcast on the cable news network, MSNBC.

"From the outset, I believe all of us have been deeply upset and revulsed by the statements that were made on our air about the young women who represented Rutgers University in the NCAA Women's Basketball Championship with such class, energy and talent," said CBS President and CEO Leslie Moonves, when announcing his Imus' termination.

CBS carried the radio show on 61 of its stations across



After a weeks' worth of apologies and appearances on various talk shows, Don Imus said he will no longer go on a "talk show tour" explaining himself or his words.

the country. Initially, CBS announced it would suspend Imus' show for two weeks.

According to CNNmoney.com, Imus' radio show generated \$20 million in revenue last year, approximately one percent of all revenue generated by CBS' radio division.

But after his latest racially

charged remarks, eight major advertisers pulled out of his show. Those sponsors were Staples, General Motors, Sprint Nextel, GlaxoSmithKline, Procter & Gamble, PetMed Express, American Express and Bigelow Tea.

Though Imus has been canceled on MSNBC and CBS,

Imus is still employed by his home station in New York, WFAN-AM.

"I'm not going to go talk to Larry King or Barbara Walters or anyone else," Imus said on WFAN in reaction to his firing.

"The only other people I

want to talk to are these young women at the team, and then that's it."

Imus also made it clear Thursday that he felt he had apologized enough, and would not offer any more apologies for his words.

"If he had done everything he could do he wouldn't have said it in the first place," said Kyosha Johnson, a freshman fashion merchandising major. "He got fired, and now he's mad."

Various black leaders voiced their desires to see Imus fired throughout the week.

Earlier Thursday, the Rev. Al Sharpton held a rally outside of CBS Studios in New York.

"NBC has done in our judgment what is right," he said, prior to Imus' firing. "CBS must not be the dam holding back the waters of insensitivity."

Former NAACP CEO Bruce Gordon is also a member of CBS' Board of Directors. Gordon has called for Imus' termination from WFAN as well.

"As an African-American man in this country, Don Imus violated our community," Gordon said in an interview on CNN's American Morning. "He attacked beautiful, talented, classy women and when those women showed themselves to the country, I think that those words matched with those images made it clear to America that Don Imus was wrong." But some students feel that Imus' comments illustrate a larger issue in the black community.

"We should reevaluate our music industry and media industry," said sophomore pre-pharmacy major Chioma Njoku. "It gives people the wrong impression of who we are."

On a Today Show interview, Imus used the degradation of women in hip-hop to defend his words.

"When white people get in trouble they always use that excuse," said Randall Holloway, a sophomore musical theater major.

"It doesn't make it right for them to say it."

## Question: Should Musical Artists Be Held to The Same Standards?

"I do believe that rappers and comedians should also be held to the same standards that others are held to. Like Imus, rappers and comedians also encourage negative stereotypes of the black community."

-Stanford Fox, freshman architecture major

"No. In a world of comedy and music, individuals invite such products into their home. Whereas, Imus operated in the public sphere, and has been using negative statements against women and minorities for years."

-Jarrod Reed, freshman television production major

"Yes, I believe that music and comedy industry tends to portray negative images of many groups of people, not just the black community. No matter how they are viewed, their words are powerful to the majority."

-James Washington, freshman chemistry major

## "We've Got Issues..."

### The Need For Political Discourse

"We've Got Issues..." will appear in *The Hilltop* every other Friday. Produced in part by Project Voice, "We've Got Issues..." will look at a particular topic that is pertinent in our community. It will also present the basic facts and the perspectives of the conservative and liberal wings. Then it's your turn: after reading both perspectives, tell us what YOU think.

#### Issue:

The "Project Voice" campaign was designed to be a vehicle for the silent minority, of any political persuasion, to voice their opinion of policy issues in question in a section provided by the *Hilltop* titled, "We've got issues!" Opinions that, in effect, were to provoke and encourage greater political discourse, participation and understanding of policy and the political process among Howard University Students. After covering a multitude of issues this year the writers of "We've got issues" requested the last issue to encourage the Howard University community to take the next step.

#### Question:

### What's The Next Step in Fighting to Improve The Status of Blacks?

#### Lift Ev'ry Voice:

The fact still remains that African Americans are still a disparate racial group—facing the highest rates of poverty at 25 percent; representing 49 percent of new HIV/AIDS cases; constituting a disproportionate prison population of over 800,000 black men, a number that exceeds those in college; adult and child illiteracy and a host of other social ills.

To mitigate these barriers to black advancement, Project Voice charges every son and daughter of Howard University to consider these facts, embrace an issue and become its champion, because "We've Got Issues." We challenge every son and daughter of Howard University to accept the responsibility of being proactive advocates of their people, and not reactive bystanders of the cause. We call upon every son and daughter of Howard University to lift every voice and sing the struggles of its people, so that they too can prosper. But don't just sing it—live it, fight it, change it.

-Nyron Crawford

### Seek Knowledge, Then Act:

In the autobiography of Stokely Carmichael [Kwame Ture] (Peace be unto him) titled *Ready for Revolution*, he reflects about his time as a Howard University undergraduate student when he confirmed his determination to "struggle with and for his people." He wrote, "In struggle one not only fights against something— injustice, oppression— but one must struggle for something equally real but positive."

Ture hinted at the reality that there is more to activism than identifying an issue and providing solutions. When struggling for something "equally real but positive," extensive collaborative preparation must take place if the attempt is to be successful. This year, we as Howard students received a diminutive glimpse of what is still possible when preparation (individually and collaboratively) meets opportunity.

There have been numerous organizations and departments, who have contributed to the cultivation of political discourse nationally and internationally on campus. As these Howard University departments and organizations continue to reach out and engage students in political discourse it is important that we as students do not leave our interest for political change in those meetings, programs, rallies, etc.

If one is looking to become a change agent they must do what Bobby Seale, Co-Founder of the Black Panther party, alluded to earlier this semester, which was to "...know your information frontward, backwards, sideways and inside out."

-Marcus Coleman

\*These opinions are not the those of *The Hilltop*. Project Voice is a student organization dedicated to increasing political awareness on the Howard University campus. For more information on Project Voice, and to give us YOUR opinion, e-mail us at [ProjectVoiceHU@gmail.com](mailto:ProjectVoiceHU@gmail.com).



Photo courtesy of Melech Thomas



# ATTENTION

HOWARD UNIVERSITY  
undergraduate & graduate students

**President**

**H. Patrick Swygert**

**Campus Wide**

**Town Hall Meeting**

when: monday, april 16, 2007

where: blackburn center

ballroom

time: 6:00pm - 7:30pm





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## Players to Wear No. 42 in Robinson Celebration

BY WINNIE CLARK-JENKINS  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Almost a decade ago to the day marks the official date when baseball legend Jackie Robinson's No. 42 uniform was retired throughout major league baseball.

To celebrate the 60th anniversary of Robinson's entry into major league baseball, the MLB is holding a week of events in his honor as well as naming April 15 Jackie Robinson Day. In honor of the day, Robinson's uniform number will be pulled from retirement.

"I think it is great that Major League Baseball is honoring the man who broke the color barrier in this sport by allowing players to wear No. 42," said Howard alumnus Shaun Carter.

Carter is a former player and the creator of the "Howard Baseball" Facebook group.

"It not only allows the players to wear his number for a day, but it helps to remember what Robinson went through," Carter said.

MLB Commissioner Bud Selig is inviting one member of every MLB team to wear the number on April 15.

"Jackie continues to be an inspiration to all our players, and his impact will be felt for as long as our game is played," Selig said in a statement released by the MLB.

Selig officially retired No. 42 on April 15, 1997, with the exception of those players who were already wearing the number.

Currently, the only major league player with the number is Yankees reliever Mariano Rivera.

"No other athlete has [his] number retired throughout a whole league," said Kevin Chavous, a former baseball player and Howard alumnus. "Yet there is no question that Robinson is the only athlete who deserves such an honor."

Robinson became the first black Major League Baseball player in 1947. He was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame and played for six World Series teams during his career. Robinson was also a recipient of six consecutive All-Star Game nominations and several other baseball awards during his career.

"His courage, determination and success in the major leagues laid the foundation for the civil rights movement years later," Chavous said.

Festivities will be held in Robinson's honor during each of the 15 games to be held throughout Major League Baseball on April 15. The national celebration of Jackie Robinson Day will be held in Los Angeles in Dodgers Stadium.

"It is a good idea to have players wear the No. 42 jersey on Jackie Robinson Day," said senior business management major John Byron Minor said.

Minor was a member of a club baseball team for seven years.

"Robinson was not only an amazing player, but he was a humanitarian and fought for his beliefs outside of sports," Minor said.



The first black to play in major league baseball, Jackie Robinson's jersey number was retired by Major League Baseball in 1997.

Major league players from several teams have expressed their great sense of honor in both wearing Robinson's number and having the opportunity to be where they are because of the path he created for them.

"If it weren't for Jackie Robinson, I wouldn't be able to put on the uniform I'm wearing today," said Cincinnati Reds outfielder Ken Griffey, Jr. "He should be an inspiration not only to baseball players, but to anyone who fights prejudice and hatred."

Baseball fans from all over are looking forward to seeing the major league players honor Robinson.

"To see the response of the number of players who will be wearing his number on the day is great," said freshman and former baseball player Jason Clark.

Clark added, "It's all about respect to me and I'm glad that a player like Robinson is able to get it in today's society for what he did back in his time."

The national celebration in Dodgers Stadium with a ceremony, VIP reception and game between the San Diego Padres and Los Angeles Dodgers will air on ESPN Sunday at 8 p.m.

## Tolerance in Professional Sports Leagues Continues to Differ

BY INNIS BUGGS  
Contributing Writer

Every weekend, scores of sport enthusiasts sit and watch in admiration, flabbergasted over the immense athleticism their favorite professional athletes exhibit when competing in a national arena. Ron Artest,

Adam "Pacman" Jones, and Carmelo Anthony have all lingered in the limelight of game-changing prominence.

However, rather than enjoying the benefits that come with such admiration, these NBA and NFL athletes are defending themselves and their respective sports as the result of the violence they have committed on

and off the playing field.

Recently, the Tennessee Titans' infamous Adam "Pacman" Jones, a heralded kickoff return man and cornerback, was suspended for an entire season by NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell for his reoccurring run-ins with the law.

Many remember the 2004 brawl between Ron Artest of the Indiana Pacers and the New York Knicks and their fans. The incident left Artest with a 73 game suspension that included playoff appearances, one of the most severe suspensions in NBA history.

Yet there are some people who believe America is developing a double standard. Many complain that professional athletes in the majority-white NHL continually showcase severe violence in their sport. However, society and the media do not react as strongly as they would to similar acts by athletes in the majority-black NFL or NBA.

David Singer is the creator as well as the editor in chief of the Web site [www.HockeyFights.com](http://www.HockeyFights.com). The site updates hockey enthusiasts with analysis regarding numerous issues in the world of NHL hockey in addition to recent game coverage and hockey fights. The site ranks individual players and teams according to the amount of fights they have been involved in throughout the season.

Singer disagrees with the claim

that a racial double standard exists when comparing violence in the NHL to that of the NBA or NFL.

"I don't think race plays a factor in terms of acceptance. It's the sports themselves and the fact that fighting has traditionally been a part of hockey," Singer said.

He added, "Some of the most watched fight-related highlights this season featured Donald Brashear, Georges Laraque and Ray Emery—all Black NHLers. Race was never an issue during or after any of the fights involving those players."

Howard University Assistant Basketball Coach James Wilhelmi believes that within our society, the NHL cannot contend with historic American pastimes like the NFL or NBA in terms of popularity and mainstream media coverage. He said this subsequently affects how each field is approached. Professional leagues like the NBA and NFL are more scrutinized simply because they have more influence over the public due to their popularity.

"In terms of American popularity, I put the NFL at No. 1, followed by the NBA at No. 2. Fans are more familiar with the sports and the players that play them, and are consequently held to a higher standard," Wilhelmi said.

The NHL's popularity is still recovering from a 2004 lockout that lasted until 2005 for a stint of 310



When New York Islanders' Chris Simon received a 25-game suspension for hitting New York Rangers forward in the face with his stick last month, questions arose about NHL's tolerance level for violence.

## SCOREBOARD & SCHEDULE

### SCORES

Men's and Women's  
Tennis @ Georgetown  
\*Suspended due to rain

### WEEKEND GAMES

Friday

Lacrosse @ Longwood 4 p.m.

Softball v. North Carolina A&T  
(MEAC Round-up, Lexington, S.C.)  
4 p.m.

Softball @ South Carolina State  
(MEAC Round-up, Lexington, S.C.)  
10 a.m.

Saturday

Track & Field @ Univ. of Virginia

Softball @ Bethune-Cookman  
(MEAC Round-up, Lexington, S.C.)  
2 p.m.

Sunday

Lacrosse @ Villanova 12 p.m.

Softball @ Florida A&M  
(MEAC Round-up, Lexington, S.C.)  
10 a.m.

Softball @ Norfolk State  
(MEAC Round-up, Lexington, S.C.)  
4 p.m.

games, the longest in the league's history. People who oppose the violence in the NHL say the league promotes such acts to boost the sport's notoriety. Singer agrees that hockey fights do sell tickets and add marketability to the sport, but says none of it is intentional.

"The league itself doesn't actively promote fighting to help sell the game, but everyone knows it's there," he said.

Singer added, "There are two sure-fire things that get you out of your seat at a hockey game—goals and fights."

Even in the NHL, various recent incidents have raised concerns about the league's current state of violence. In March, Todd Fedoruk of the Philadelphia Flyers was violently knocked unconscious by Colton Orr of the New York Rangers. Fedoruk was ultimately forced to leave the game carried off on a stretcher. Many believe the incident was premeditated as it occurred just 21 seconds into the match.

"Unlike the NBA and NFL, fighting has been a traditional aspect of hockey," said sophomore public relations major Kim Johnson. "I don't think fans even want to see it banned. Yet something needs to be enforced before someone gets seriously injured."

With the 2007 NHL playoffs going on now, the league has not yet addressed if new rules concerning violence will be enforced next season. However, after multiple incidents on and off the field during the 2006-2007 NFL season, Goodell has publicly announced that a "low-tolerance" policy will be in effect for future seasons.

### TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY...

On April 13, 1980, the United States boycotted the Summer Olympics in Moscow.

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**BY PAIGE FENN**  
*Contributing Writer*

The site also gives its members advice on treatment, screening locations and support for their condition. Pozmatch.com is a site dedicated to helping HIV-positive people find companionship and live a healthy life with the virus. It is sponsored by Living Positive, an organization that aims to simplify the lives of those living with HIV. This online haven narrows down a person's type by asking for physical traits and personal

According to [www.cool-](http://www.cool-)

Whether the outside community supports these sites or not, they have become popular among the 56 million Americans with STDs. Until there is a solution for these STDs or more acceptance from those who are not infected, these singles will most likely continue their quest for love in a place of understanding and support.

A new social networking sites is [www.positivesingles.com](http://www.positivesingles.com), Its goal is to help the 56 million Americans living with STDs find love or friendship as well as health information.



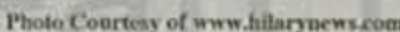
**BY CARLA THOMAS**  
*Contributing Writer*

According to [www.billboard.com](http://www.billboard.com) which releases weekly ratings of the most popular songs, six of this week's top 10 rap songs refer to women in derogatory terms. Rapper Mims, has the No. 1 rap song in the country with

A woman who stars in video is often referred to as a

After the uproar over Imus' racist remarks, many people are calling on rappers to be held accountable for their lyrics and impact on people outside of their fan base.

Coates, who only wears his preferred fragrance American Eagle, on special occasions, recognizes the power of a good scent. "I do know they can give a lasting impression of that person," he said.



Some popular perfumes and colognes include Calvin Klein's Euphoria and Sean John's Unforgivable.



## EDITORIALS

## &amp; Perspectives

VOLUME 90, NO. 121

APRIL 13, 2007

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM



## Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is

Recently Howard University, through varied capacities, has become involved with human rights issues in Sudan and Botswana.

The Hilltop reported on April 2 that the university was both divesting from Sudan and helping to start up the Botswana International University of Science and Technology.

It is great the university's administration has joined the list of universities that have divested from Sudan and became the first historically black college or university to take such action.

The human rights situation in Sudan, particularly Darfur, is atrocious and it is a disgrace that so many people have been murdered and displaced.

But it is also disgraceful that Howard remains the only HBCU that has shown support for the realization of human

rights for another portion of the black diaspora. Although there is a smaller representation of international students at other HBCU's, these schools should have been the first to show interest in the human rights situation in Sudan.

Howard is not excused from their late decision to join divestment efforts. The situation has been going on for the

to lead industries where there are disparities in the representation of blacks.

But the President of the African Students Association, along with a few other students interviewed for the purposes of this editorial, have the right idea.

Although the administration has led the way in global leadership for the black diaspora, more students need to show interest in international human rights issues.

We have held major protests against things that we do not believe in several times in the past two

years, but they have all been for issues concerning people in the United States. If we do not step up to help black people internationally, the administration's efforts will look like a hollow attempt to help suffering people abroad.

## Our View:

*More students need to get involved in helping blacks from the entire diaspora.*

larger part of this decade.

It is good that the university is showing interest in building human capital in Botswana, especially in the areas of science and technology. This venture, combined with the opening of MS2, show that Howard is interested in molding blacks

## Perspective: A Disgrace to the Black Community or Just Another Dumb College Student?

Not only was the fight at the first annual Howard Hampton Charity Cabaret a disgrace to both schools, myself, JDI and The Breathe Easy Foundation, but I feel like it might as well have been a disgrace to humanity as well.

And if you think that was dramatic, go ahead and stop reading now, but I promise it will make sense in the end.

I'm not going to say much because it disgusts me to reflect on our respected charity event being tarnished by such ignorance and immaturity.

But I will say this: I, on behalf of everyone in association with JDI, now feel that we have "failed" at our gracious attempt to for once bring together these two prestigious Historically Black [Universities] in harmony.

Our attempt to demolish all of the various racist, political, anticipated, as well as "pre-meditated" views of which many claimed to be stereotypical behavior of ignorant African-American students in college.

Our attempt to counter this apparent pre-meditated "failure" by providing grounds

for (what we thought would be) a guaranteed "good time" free of cops, tasers, blood, ignorance or mayhem.

Our attempt at anticipating the fact that our charity sponsorship backing would give our donors a sense of importance, maturity and prestige.

Our attempt to try and "start" the transition of the previous and now "undisputed" legacy of Howard-Hampton "violence" and contempt for each other, by countering the unavoidable Howard-Hampton "tension" with a harmless "Best Dressed" competition, we fell short.

Now after all of this explanation ask yourselves this, and I really hope I can get some closure here, because I honestly don't know who to point fingers at anymore.

Is that "one" student to blame? The one who decided to ignore the hundreds of beautiful females in dresses (half of which he probably never saw before) exiting the floor to their hotel rooms, to throw the first punch at another male to set off pandemonium?

Am I, and everyone on behalf of JDI and the Breathe

Easy Foundation to blame, for assuming that we could pull off a "non-violent" HU-HU competition free of confrontation in the first place?

Or are we to blame because, at the end of the day, no matter who started the fight, what school he was from, or what started it, it was still a disgrace to Howard University, Hampton University and all of the African-American students that represent these two HBCUs, even if it did start with just one ignorant individual?

Whatever the case is, I will never give up hope and even though everyone in attendance didn't grasp the reality of equality, free drinks and good fun that night.

I, David Borrego, JDI Ent. The INC. and our associates at the Breathe Easy Foundation hope that one day, whether it's tomorrow, next week or next year (if we decide to try this again) we can all try once more to start developing a standard for Howard and Hampton enjoying each other's "prestigious" company in harmony.

- Casey Crawford

## Daily Sudoku

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

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

No more Hilltop budget meetings...  
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The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper

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

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

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

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

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

The Hilltop  
Survey Says...

The Hilltop surveyed its readers on their opinions regarding the recent events at Howard University. The survey results show that a majority of readers believe that the recent events were a disgrace to the black community and that the university's administration should have been more involved in addressing the situation. The survey also found that a majority of readers believe that the recent events were a disgrace to the black community and that the university's administration should have been more involved in addressing the situation.

Reading The Hilltop  
in class is not a good thing.\*



## CLASSIFIEDS

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

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**APRIL 16**  
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**-BIBLE STUDY WITH HUCC IN HILLTOP LOUNGE @ 8PM. PARTY ON YARD @ 9:29PM**  
**4/17/07**  
**-MONEY MGMT. 101 IN SB AUDITORIUM @ 7PM;**  
**4/18/07**  
**-PRAYER CIRCLE MAIN YARD @ 6:15PM**  
**4/19/07**  
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6. ALEXIS TAYLOR ZKA WAITIN' 2 ENHALE
7. AMBER BROWN ZKA BLACK BEAUTY
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