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WEATHER

 **78**
64
Tomorrow:
 **69**
52

Established
1924

Tuesday
Notebook

BREAKING NEWS

PRESIDENT BUSH WILL ASK CONGRESS TO APPROVE A \$500 MILLION PACKAGE TO HELP MEXICO FIGHT DRUG CARTELS, HE SAID MONDAY ACCORDING TO THE WASHINGTON POST.

NATION & WORLD

OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH AND SUPPORTERS BUYING PINK RIBBON PRODUCTS MAY WANT TO VERIFY WHERE THEIR MONEY IS GOING.

LIFE & STYLE

RESEARCHERS SAY THE USE OF ORAL CONTRACEPTIVES MAY REDUCE CHANCES OF GETTING CANCER DESPITE PREVIOUS NEWS THAT THEY COULD LEAD TO THE DISEASE.

PAGE 7

PAGE 10

Survivor Recounts 9/11 to Meridian Hill Residents

BY ROYCE STRAHAN
Staff Writer

The morning of Sept. 11, 2001, Lieutenant Colonel Marilyn Wills went about her normal routine of waking up her kids, taking a shower and getting ready for a typical day in the Wills household. Wills was unaware of the unfortunate history that would take place at the Pentagon where she worked as she rushed out of the house, not having time to pray with her family as she usually did.

Wills, who is now a colonel, is a survivor of the attacks on America during 9/11. Wills, the aunt of Howard University sophomore public relations major Nicholas Nelson, gave her account of the tragic event Monday at Meridian Hill Hall.

Wills, who is a graduate of Grambling State University, gave a moving testament to the intimate audience of Meridian residents and also encouraged the students to be aware of their surroundings. "For my family at that point there was not a time that I didn't stop to pray with them," Col. Wills said. "The events have changed me a lot and I put a lot in perspective."

Wills was actually not very far away from where the plane hit the Pentagon. She gave her account of how she was in a room during a meeting when the plane struck the building and how out of the 12 people who were in the conference room, only four of them managed to escape the fire that engulfed the room. "It was my day of reality," Col. Willis said. "That was my day of awakening."

After the events, Wills was hospitalized for a week and her skin was burned along with other effects of inhaling the smoke from the fire in the room that day. Wills family, which consists of her husband and two daughters, were also affected by the tragic events. "My youngest daughter didn't quite get it," Wills said. "My husband didn't want my kids to see me, so they didn't. I didn't see them for about two after the incident."

Wills also claims that it's still hard for her to go into the Pentagon at times because of the memories of what she and so many others of her colleagues went through on Sept. 11. "Sometimes I'll go around the Pentagon and still be able to smell the scent of flesh," Wills said. "Going back to work after taking a month off was more difficult than anything."

Wills also encouraged the students to do their best in their education by making the right choices in life. "Life is a journey," Wills said. "You have to choose the route that you're going to take on that journey. You can choose the easy route or you can choose the path that no one has been through and make a trail."

Some of the students present at the presentation were really inspired by Wills personal account of the events which took place. "I thought it was very touching to hear a personal account from someone who was actually there," said Sarah Jones, freshman print journalism major. "It's different from reading it from a reporter when you already know what's going on instead of hearing it from someone who was actually there. I think it was very life-changing."

Battle Lines Drawn at Elite Academy

BY MARTHA WOODALL
Philadelphia Inquirer (MCT)

PHILADELPHIA—Valley Forge Military Academy and College in Radnor, Pa., a premier training ground for the nation's military elite, is in turmoil.

Allegations of student assaults and grade-changing have rocked the school, which has produced such notable alumni as Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf, commander of Operation Desert Storm, and Adm. Gary Roughead, the new chief of naval operations.

Enrollment is down. Finances have worsened. There has been an exodus of faculty and staff, and many alumni and former parents are riled on many fronts. But the grade-changing allegations trump all.

"It has the potential to be extremely damaging," said Michael O'Rourke, a 1970 alumnus. "It makes our little gripes about this tradition or that tradition being overlooked or ignored seem rather trivial. We're talking about whether our diplomas or degrees are worth anything."

Much of the uproar follows the July 2005 installation of Tony McGeorge, a health and marketing executive, as the school's first civilian president.

Several longtime alumni who have criticized McGeorge's administration have received "persona non grata" letters barring them from parts of campus.

Enrollment, which five years ago totaled 690 seventh graders through second-year college students and was 542 last fall, has slipped to 482. The school blames the alumni critics for the decline.

Valley Forge, which reported a surplus of \$1.46 million in the financial year ending June 30, 2004, had a deficit of \$953,214 on June 30, 2006, according

to the school's latest tax filing as a non-profit.

Valley Forge says all of the allegations are baseless and part of a campaign by a small group of alumni upset that Valley Forge College began admitting women last fall.

"In our viewpoint, this is all, by and large, a gender-bias issue by this group," said John Miller, a public-relations expert retained by Valley Forge. "They have been furious since females were allowed in as cadets. They have been upset with the appointment of some females to the faculty, and that has been the basis of everything. ... This little faction has stirred the pot as best they can."

Since McGeorge arrived, more than 41 faculty and staff members have left, according to an alumni-maintained list. The school contends that only 27 have left, and that most departed because they could not meet tough, new academic requirements.

Several former employees have sued, saying they were improperly forced out. The plaintiffs include former president Peter A.C. Long, a retired rear admiral whose federal suit alleges that he was removed in the fall of 2004 on trumped-up sexual harassment charges after he tangled with top trustees.

"I have hope for the future, but I don't know how we are going to get through this struggle," said Michael Kinslow, a California lawyer and a 1983 alumnus. "It appears that the vocal majority of the board of trustees is enamored with Mr. McGeorge's approach."

Some worried alumni and parents of former students say that approach involves trying to turn the military school into a prep school and compromising Valley Forge's standards and principles.

"We have to save the school."

> See **ACADEMY**, Page 3



George Bridges - MCT

Members of Congress held a hearing on the state of hip-hop. The issues discussed included violence, degradation of women and negative portrayal of the black community. Some say hip-hop artists need to regain a sense of social responsibility.

Congress Takes on Hip-Hop

BY KEA'NIA GULLEY
Contributing Writer

Bobby L. Rush, D-Ill., held a hearing which addressed the ever common issue of misogyny in hip-hop. Those who attended the hearing entitled Don Imus to Industry: Business of Stereotypes and Degrading Images took advantage of expressing how they felt regarding misogyny in hip-hop culture.

Faye Williams, the chair of the National Congress of Black Women, attended the hearing and said, "It begins with people taking responsibility. We are not trying to hinder anyone's freedom of speech." Instead, she stressed that the problem in the hip hop community today can be fixed by urging hip-hop artists to regain the sense of responsibility that she said existed during the mid 80's and early 90's.

The same responsibility that Williams speaks of can be seen in up-

and-coming entertainment labels, like The workshop which was started by Reiana Essex-Simmons, a sophomore film production major.

Simmons said, "Music can still hit hard in the system of your car or at a party without having to first degrade our own people."

Dashamelle Robinson, a psychology major, agrees with the overall message presented at the hearing. "The mold of hip hop has changed, but it is up to us as a community to alter the way we are being portrayed," Robinson said.

Williams said that, accompanied with responsibly is the need for more positive images in daily experiences, the adage, it takes a village to raise a child, applies. Rather than, "Read a Book", which is destroying our children before they can even know the difference," there needs to be people that are conscious going to their fellow neighbor and helping them realize they are more than

what is dictated to them on BET, she said. With a new generation who has barely seen any positive images of themselves and therefore don't know that what they are listening to is wrong, Williams said that "programs such as College for Teens is needed to give children life skills and a positive aspect of themselves that they will in turn take back to their families and communities."

"I rarely even watch BET anymore," said sophomore African-American studies major Tehila Wise who feels that Black Entertainment Television does not hold the black community in a positive light the way it use to.

Others, like Wise, are starting to move away from degrading music and instead are jumping into a different arena of music with artists Common, Mos Def and Lupe Fiasco.

> See **HIP HOP**, Page 3



John Costello - Philadelphia Inquirer (MCT)

The Valley Forge Military Academy and College regimental band rehearses on the parade grounds at the school. The elite school is currently under question for various allegations.

Wildfires Burn Across California

BY BARBARA KOLLMMEYER & RUSS BRITT
Market Watch (MCT)

LOS ANGELES — One person was killed and tens of thousands of Southern California residents were being evacuated from their homes Monday, as wildfires burned out of control across seven counties, stretching from the Mexican border north to Santa Barbara County.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger declared a state of emergency for the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara and Ventura in the wake of more than 11 major blazes. Firefighters were being hampered by "red-flag" conditions of high winds and low humidity, with more of the same expected for at least the next two days.

Resources also are

stretched thin because so many fires were burning at once across the region.

The total area burned, stretching from Santa Barbara to San Diego, is estimated to be in the tens of thousands of acres.

"We've been talking about the drought and the Santa Ana (winds), and with very low humidity it is a design for disaster," Los Angeles County Fire Chief P. Michael Freeman

said. He indicated that he's hoping to get resources from Northern California, Arizona and Nevada to aid strained efforts.

In San Diego County, more than 18,000 acres of land are burning in the area of the Witch Creek Fire, with 62 square miles destroyed and fires as yet uncontained, according to an online report from the San Diego Union-

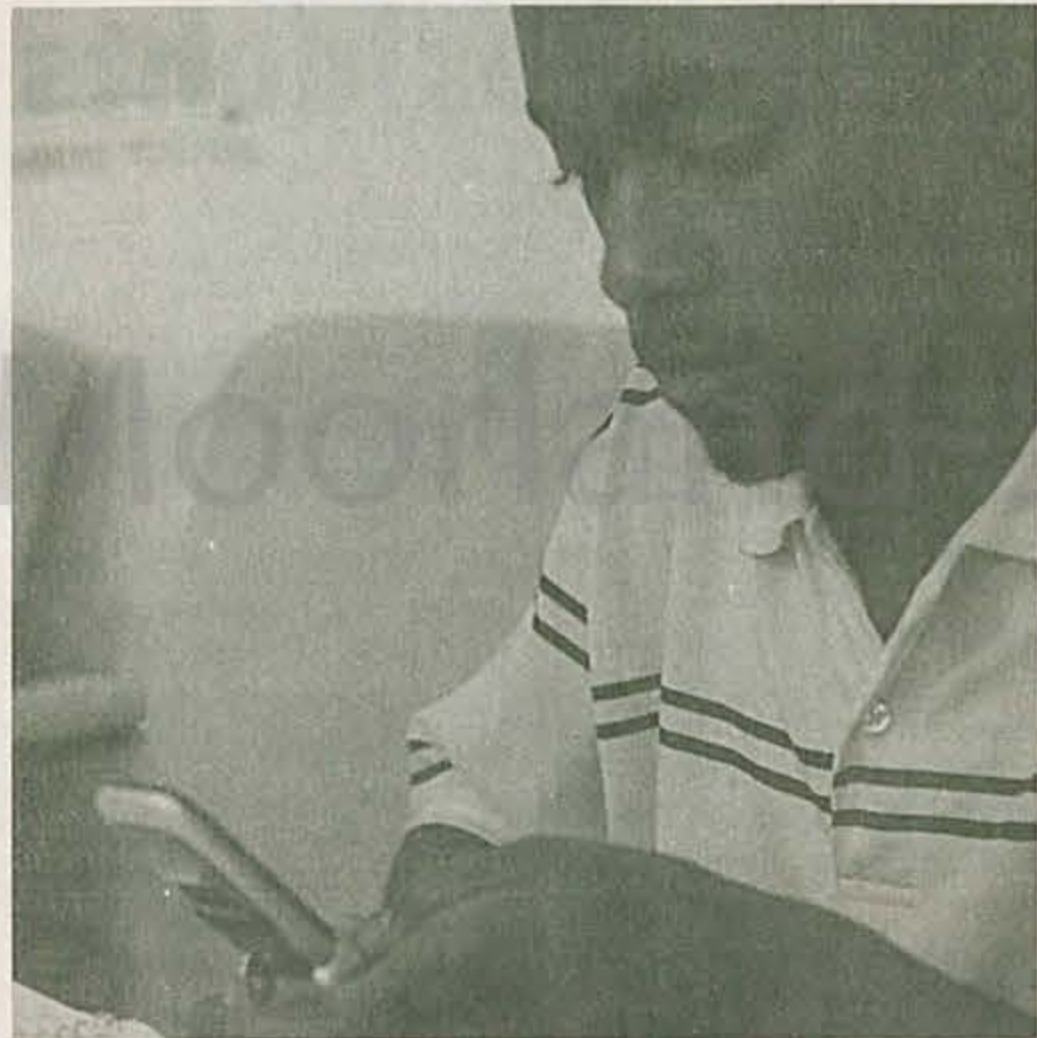
> See **FIRES**, Page 3

Class Etiquette, A Must for Some

BY TATENDA GUMBO
Contributing Writer

The college classroom has failed to accomplish one important element of training: classroom etiquette. As Howard students file from the yard into the classroom, students become forgetful of manners. Text messaging, falling asleep, eating, arriving late to class, leaving class early are a few examples of the lack of etiquette found on campus in the classroom setting.

Entering college solidifies the beginning of adulthood, but the classroom is where the preparation for the future begins. The classroom should re-



Darius Lyles - Staff Photographer

Students and professors debate on the importance of proper class etiquette, such as sending text messages during class.

semble a professional setting, where students are training for their careers.

"Texting, falling asleep, and doing other homework, from the perspective of a [teacher] shows lack of respect for student learning," said Levena Nash De La Rosa, a psychology teacher's assistant. "Everyone is an adult, paying for their education. You are only going to get out what you put into the course."

Some students place more emphasis on this issue than others, but many remain guilty of the fact. "I do text but not to the extreme. It's rude to the professor," said Lynnci Barnes a

freshman biology major, but like many other students she finds it distracting to the learning process.

Many students and professors believe it depends on the classroom setting, rules and discipline of the students. Rules aren't set in stone because college has been built the reputation of students being treated as adults, and as adults students are allowed to make their own choices.

"A professor who presents themselves and has strong classroom discipline will have better class etiquette," said Accacia Thomas-Baker, a sophomore telecommunications management major.

"The professor can address such issues with stern consequences building the respect from students," Baker said.

The freedom to decide what kind of learning experience a person want to have usually leaves both students and teachers frustrated. "The classroom environment is where everyone can learn but when people thing it's about them it affects the [students and professor]," said Caroline Dexter, a professor in the classics department.

Classroom etiquette spreads farther than the classroom itself. These small issues can transcend into the professional world. A habit that builds in the professional world can harm students in a large way.

"The learning in class prepares you for the real world, and the hardest part of jobs is getting there on time and staying

focused," Dexter said. Although this may be the fact, many students place the blame on the courses they are taking. Some classes are not that engaging, leaving students to not pay attention.

"People having cell phones on in class is rude," said Francesca Hinemon, a sophomore international business major.

Many times students fail to remember that they are enrolled in university for the education and opportunities, professors are able to know who will make it based on classroom etiquette.

"A student maximizing use of time in the classroom, that's the student later in life [who will] be successful," said Ransford Palmer, a professor in the department of economics.

Showing the professor you think the information is unimportant and irrelevant might not be the message you want to send, and when students get out into the business world they may send subliminal messages to professionals.

Both students and professors agree that there is an issue.

"I think that if teachers want respect in the classroom they need to demand it," junior psychology major Tara Foster said.

She continued, "My teacher takes off points if a students cell phone rings or if they have it out."

Students Deal with Only Bank on Campus

BY RANDALL JONES
Contributing Writer

By owning all of the ATMs on the campus at Howard University, Bank of America has become the only choice of on-campus banking for students.

Calling itself a "Bank for Students," the bank offers various student-friendly account options including CampusEdge, Checking, Stuff Happens Card, various credit card options, Keep the Change and overdraft protection. These options have lured HU students in by the droves.

Bank of America, which bought out Nations Bank in 1998, has increased the amount of ATMs present on campus from about four to ten, in recent years.

Harold L. Gray, the senior director for professional development at Howard University said that Bank of America also recruits on campus for full and summertime positions. He said that it is a "main emphasis for their relationship with Howard."

"Over 100 similar companies request to come to Howard for this purpose. Alumni, such as Frank Turner, senior vice president for a location in North Carolina, are bridge builders that initiate them to come back to Howard. The idea is to build relationships in as many ways as possible," Gray said.

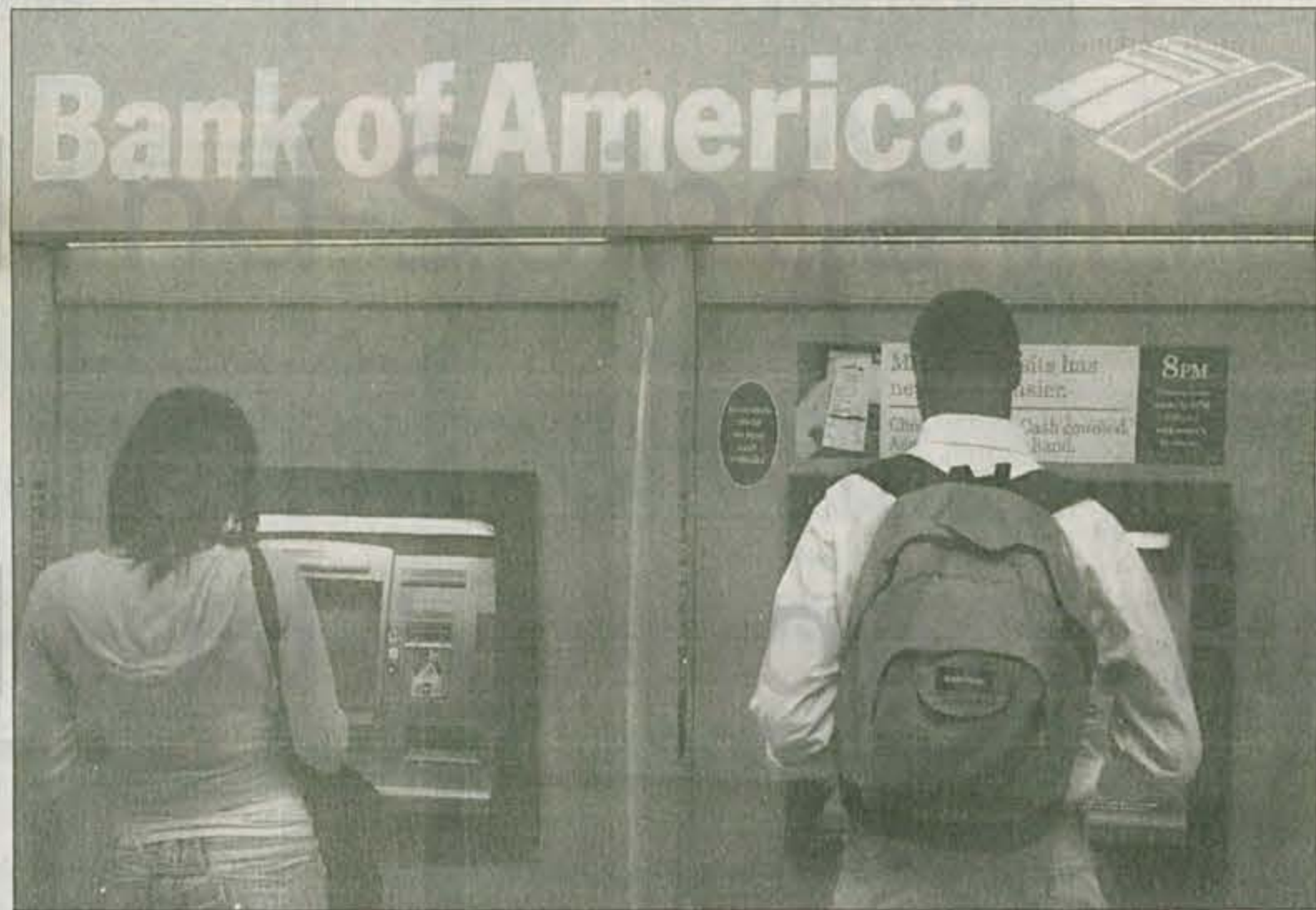
A new fun option given by Bank of America is to "show your school pride," with over 30 university logos and mascots featured on decorative credit and debit cards.

Mavis Haye, assistant manager at a Bank of America located at 1835 Columbia Road in Northwest Washington, D.C., said that schools as well as charitable organizations can be featured on a Bank of America card.

Howard University, however, is not associated because it does not allow Bank of America to solicit credit cards to the students.

There are ATMs located in many public areas on campus, as well as select dorms.

However, Bethune Annex does not have one, and many residents have agreed



Darius Lyles - Staff Photographer

Bank of America is the only banking offered to students on campus. Some students find its services sufficient whereas others opt for a different company.

that an all-girls' dorm should be a staple for an ATM, more so than an all-male dorm such as Drew Hall, considering the safety precautions necessary for the young women traveling around the campus at night.

Though the proximity of the ATMs located in the Blackburn Center makes it difficult to place one there, Howard's goal is to place one wherever possible.

Students such as David Jones, a junior marketing major, began a relationship with Bank of America because of the proximity of its locations to the campus.

"I love it. After leaving Norfolk, I have never thought about changing [banks]," he said.

Even though Jones was once slapped with about \$300 worth of overdraft fees, he still has his account. Davani Durette, a student in the College of Arts and Sciences, says he is also happy with the service.

Courtney Powell, a sophomore chemical engineering major feels differently. Powell said, "They're too fickle. They have high fees, and I believe they use shady practices to encourage their costumers to overdraft."

According to Powell, the overdraft protection they offered linked her checking account to her savings account; they're main reason for

allowing money inside the savings account to cover fees is in the event of an overdraft.

"They allowed for multiple charges to drop on the checking account, prior to moving the money from my savings account," she said.

According to Powell, the bank gave her a "vague" explanation.

They told her she "needed a certain amount of money present in her savings account before the over drat protection could be issued."

"I used the service frequently during the summer, and had never dealt with this problem. Not only had they not lifted the fees, they in fact had moved the money into my checking during the overdraft, but eventually pulled it back out," Powell said.

She also questioned as to why Bank of America had also stopped a large wire transfer that was sent as an alternative option to block fees.

Powell said that Bank of America had charged her 20 dollars for the transfer, but entered it into her account late. "They admitted that it was their fault, but still refused to lift the fees."

Powell said that she even experienced identity theft. "Everything that could have possibly gone wrong happened. Just impersonal customer service. I've decided to

switch to another bank."

Kira Graves, a sophomore public relations major, has also experienced identity theft.

"The account was an inconvenience. I only use it to pay my credit card bills, and it took two months for them to put the money back. I had to fill out all this paper work to continue the investigation, but luckily I was able to get help from my father, who paid the balance until the money was returned," Graves said.

Graves initially chose Bank of America because its banking center hours fit easily into her schedule and also for the abundance of their locations.

"I hadn't even had the account for a month. They still haven't ordered my checks yet, and I opened my account in July," she said.

Still, many students are apparently satisfied customers of Bank of America. And despite a few drawbacks, Bank of America continues to thrive significantly in the banking industry.

"Bank of America helps build strong communities by creating opportunities for people—including customers, shareholders and associates—to fulfill their dreams," said Kenneth D. Lewis, chairman, CEO and president of Bank of America.

Following Footsteps: Shai



Photo Courtesy of Wikipedia.com

Howard alumni Carl Martin, Darnell Vann, Marc Gay and Garfield Bright formed the group Shai during their tenure at the university.

BY BRITTANI MONCREASE
Contributing Writer

"The very first time, that I saw your bright eyes, your lips said 'hello' and I said hi." Sound familiar? In 1990, four gentlemen established the R&B group Shai right here on Howard University's campus.

Imagine strolling along campus and straight ahead a small crowd forms. While easing closer with suspicion, the nodding of heads to a beat is noticeable and the encouragement of the pack can be heard. In squeezing through the maze of people, an opening is found in which four young men standing at the head of the crowd are singing. As they end their first number, the audience anticipates for more. Respectfully, the group returns to the snapping of their fingers as the lead singer begins the first verse of a new song.

Shai, a popular R&B group in the '90s, began at the Mecca. In 1990, English major Carl Martin from Lafayette, La. and music major Darnell Van Rensalier from Patterson, N.J. allowed their love for music and vocal ability to bring them together. They were both pledging Beta Chapter, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

As a duo, they started singing around Washington D.C. at local events. Later, Marc Gay, a zoology major from Miami, Fla. and Garfield Bright from Nashville, Tenn. joined the group. Gay discovered the name "Shai" which means "personification of destiny" in Egypt.

With only 100 dollars, the group recorded their first demo tape. Martin wrote the first single known to music lovers as, "If I Ever Fall In Love."

Shai entered the song into a contest hosted by the WPGC radio station in Washington, D.C. This contest allowed listeners to call in and request their favorite new single. Shai won the contest and from there, their career took off.

Many radio stations grabbed hold of the newborn group's single, and the demand quickly grew. Not long after playing "If I Ever Fall In Love" on radio stations, the group got signed to Gasoline Alley. In 1992, Shai began recording their first album entitled, "If I Ever Fall In Love." Other hit singles from the album were "Baby I'm Yours" and "Comforter."

After recording their first album, the group began singing songs for movies and making guest star appearances on many television shows. Their song "The Place Where You Belong" was featured on the Beverly Hills Cop III soundtrack in 1994. The group also performed on the show Family Matters in 1992.

Upon finishing their first album and singing for the television screen, the R&B group recorded their second album in 1995 entitled "Blackface." It was released with the single "Come With Me." In 1999, the group recorded the album "Destiny" after Martin left the group. Martin was replaced with Erik Willis. Their fourth album was entitled "Back From the Mystery System: The Love Cycle," which Willis debuted on.

Despite the decrease of the popularity of the group for many years, their music is still remembered. Their songs are used a lot on popular shows such as American Idol and Making the Band 4. Not only is the group involved musically, but they also make time to give back to the community. They have worked with many charities like the Make A Wish Foundation. To enhance the knowledge of music among students, the group founded Project S.T.A.R. It gives students all over the country an opportunity to receive first-hand experience on the music business and knowledge of what goes behind the scenes.

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Prestigious Valley Forge Facing Allegations, Fallen Enrollment

Continued from FRONT, ACADEMY

These private institutions today really help kids," said Jeffrey Winans, an archaeologist in Riddick, Fla., and a 1966 graduate.

Told of Miller's allegation that the dispute stems from the admission of women, alumnus O'Rourke, a former industrial sales manager who lives in Tucson, Ariz., was momentarily speechless.

"Initially, there was an uproar by some of the alumni, but it was mostly because the administration didn't handle it correctly," O'Rourke said. "Ever since, I think, most alumni see that the females are an excellent addition to the academy. To use this as a reason to cover up the Valley Forge Academy administration's scandals is beneath contempt."

Kinslow said a few women were enrolled in Valley Forge's junior college when he was there in the 1980s.

"This guy Miller is a stranger," he said, "and unless he can lay a foundation for how a cheating scandal and the allegations of ... physical assault are related to concerns of gender, it lacks credibility."

Created in 1928 as a private, all-male college-prep boarding school that fosters leadership, Valley Forge Military Academy and College is not operated by the military. Its two-year college, however, offers one of the five early-commissioning programs in the country. Students who complete the two-year Senior ROTC program are commissioned second lieutenants in the Army, and some head to one of the service academies.

Valley Forge College admitted women at the urging of the coed service academies and at the prospect of losing federal funding for the Senior ROTC program.

But alumni and former Valley Forge parents who have expressed concerns say they are upset by what they view as the erosion of discipline and tradition since McGeorge, a former consultant to the school, was appointed its 10th president.

Robert K. Wrede, a Los Angeles lawyer who recently resigned as a trustee because serving consumed too much time, said he supported McGeorge. Noting the school's tough financial position, Wrede, a 1957 graduate, said, "I believe that Tony McGeorge is not only up to meeting the challenges but is making progress."

But other alumni vented -- sometimes in profane language -- on a Web site called CanMcGeorge.com. The site was shut down after McGeorge threatened to sue the operator.

The alumni, who have since created a site called "Save Valley Forge," contend they were galvanized in September when they heard about the grade-changing. They were troubled when they learned about the assault charges.

Two parents say they did not send their sons back to Valley Forge this fall because other students had attacked the boys and the school ignored their complaints. The alleged perpetrators were not disciplined, the parents say.

Radnor police and the Delaware County District Attorney's Office are investigating the assault on Inge Christiansen's 16-year-old son, who suffered four fractures near an eye and a fracture on the side of his head when two older students knocked him to the ground and kicked him in his barracks in mid-May.

After being treated in the school's infirmary, Christiansen said, her son was driven by campus security to Bryn Mawr Hospital. During surgery, a metal plate was screwed into the bones. Christiansen reported the assault to Radnor police.

She said her son had been attacked after breaking up a fight that evening. Sources at the school allege Christiansen's son precipitated the attack. The alleged perpetrators were permitted to graduate.

"It is not a reform school," Christiansen said. "I really wanted to send him to get a good military start. ... I am so sorry that the school has changed so much that it is not as good as it was."

Her son now attends a public high school near

their home in Southern California.

Caroline Kiracofe said that her 13-year-old son had been repeatedly tormented, including being kicked while doing push-ups, and that one of his arms had been branded with a five-pointed star during the spring semester.

She said her happy eighth grader, who had wanted to go to the Naval Academy, was now in therapy to deal with the trauma he had experienced in the barracks.

The mother, from Hollywood, Fla., said school officials had said her son agreed to be branded. "A 13-year-old who has been pummeled for weeks does not consent to a branding," she said.

Miller, the school spokesman, said he could not comment on the allegations because of privacy laws.

The grade-changing allegations surfaced in August when Richard Robitaille, who had been at Valley Forge for a decade and had been associate dean at the college, declined the post of interim dean. In a letter to McGeorge on Aug. 26, Robitaille said he had refused, in part, because Katherine Anderson, the top academic administrator, allegedly had changed several students' grades.

In his letter, Robitaille, who has a doctorate in education, outlined nine allegations of grade changes. In one case, he said, a student with 14 unauthorized absences got a B after his father complained to school officials about the original F.

In another, Robitaille said, Anderson allowed a student who had done no course work to withdraw on the last day of class because, she said, an F would ruin his career. And Robitaille alleged that a history teacher who had caught a cadet cheating in class had been ordered not to fail the student and to allow him to return to class.

McGeorge reportedly responded to Robitaille's letter, promising to look into the matter. After three weeks passed without anything happening, Robitaille sent the letter to the trustees.

Trustees, who said they would conduct an independent investigation, appointed Frederick Breitenfeld, a respected educator and a former Valley Forge trustee, to lead it. Breitenfeld did not return a call for comment.

In a letter to parents last week, McGeorge wrote that the investigation had determined "that the claims alleged by Mr. Robitaille were without merit. A week ago, the executive committee of the board of trustees reviewed the investigation and was satisfied with its findings."

Robitaille, who is working at another educational institution in New Jersey, declined to comment other than to indicate he was not contacted during the investigation.

Miller, the school spokesman, confirmed that Breitenfeld had not called Robitaille because the allegations were straightforward.

Valley Forge has been seeking to discredit Robitaille in the last few weeks, and Miller last week described him as "not credible." Miller said the former associate dean had resigned by e-mail July 19 and did not mention the grade-changing allegations until he sent a four-page "diatribe about perceived injustices."

Pat Picone, who is copresident of the parents' association with his wife, Patsy, said his family had had no concerns about the academics or safety of his son, who is in his fifth year at Valley Forge.

"We are really happy with the school," he said.

But David Eyler, whose son graduated from the academy in the spring after four years, said he was among those who had come to believe that military schools should not be run by civilians. "I have had three of my sons go to military schools," Eyler said. "It is a lot about tradition, and those guys (alumni) don't want to see those traditions die."

O'Rourke put it like this: "The alumni only wish to restore our alma mater to a state of its former greatness and reputation."



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Hearing Explores Violence, Degradation in Hip-Hop

Continued from FRONT, HIP HOP

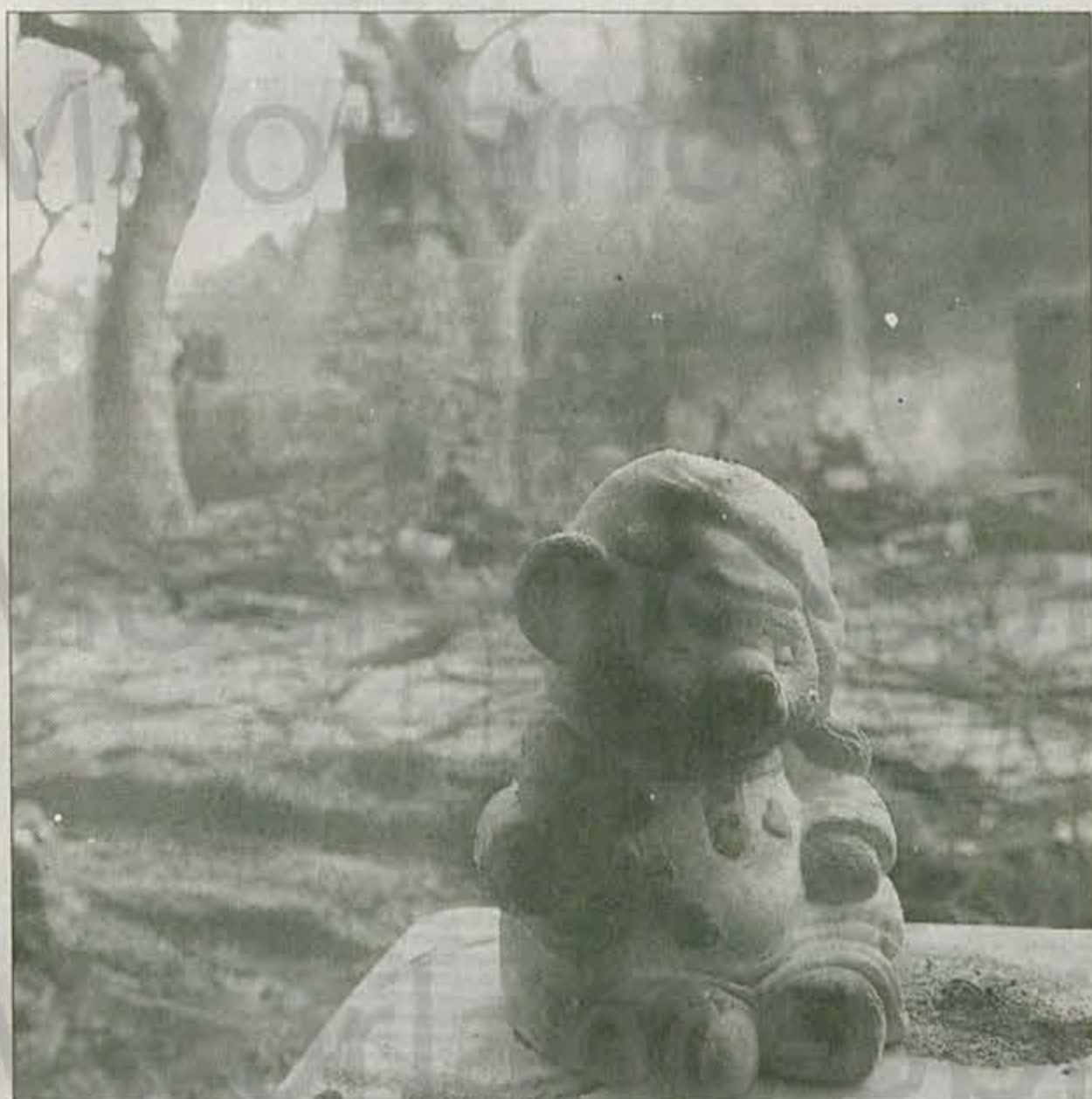
"Many artists today say that they are just telling a story of things they have been through, but there are many others like Talib Kweli who speak about their life experiences in a way that doesn't have to promote violence or tear down our women," said Adam Allen, a senior international business major.

Another participant of the hearing, Mr. Towns, expressed it best when he stated, "This is not a problem of rap. It is a problem of

our community."

Instances such as Don Imus' comments about young black women shocked America into a debate of whether or not issues like degradation of women should be tolerated. While strides are being taken today, if responsibility of the artist and a positive perception of ourselves remains the focal points of change in the hip hop community, Williams said that within time, hearings like that of last month with Imus' name representing its purpose, will not longer be needed.

Officials Say Wildfire Evacuations were 'Unprecedented'



Wildfires destroyed four homes in Angeles National Forest near Saugus, Calif. Sunday. Tens of thousands of Southern California residents were evacuated.

Continued from FRONT, FIRES

Tribune. Officials said one person had died and 17 others were injured in San Diego County.

The Associated Press reported that as many as 250,000 people were being evacuated in San Diego County, including hundreds being moved by school bus and ambulance from a hospital and nursing homes. Northeast of San Diego, the community of Ramona, with a population of 36,000, was ordered to completely evacuate.

In Orange County, a fire threatening the city of Irvine was 30 percent contained. Firefighters are investigating arson as the cause of the fire.

Mandatory evacuations were under way for northern San Diego, encompassing 10,000 homes. Herb Greenberg, a columnist for MarketWatch, was among them.

"This kind of an evacuation was unprecedented. Officials came on the TV at 6 a.m. (Pacific), and said if you live in this area, get out," Greenberg said while traveling north on the Pacific Coast Highway (state Highway 1). He added that the evacuated area, just east of Del Mar, stretches from 10 miles long

to about five to seven miles wide.

"This is not the kind of place you expect to be evacuated by fire. It'd be like being in L.A. somewhere in some noncanyonish tract homes or cul de sacs."

Many people in the affected area in San Diego were trying to go south, according to Greenberg, to get to Qualcomm Stadium, one of the designated shelters listed for the area. Emergency officials are asking residents to avoid major highways and to keep cell-phone use to a minimum to prevent hampering emergency communications.

The raging fires across Southern California are being fueled by dry brush created from a record drought this year.

Some of the worst fire damage has taken place in the coastal Malibu area of Los Angeles County, where more than 2,200 acres have burned and more than 500 people have been evacuated. Classes at Pepperdine University there have been canceled Monday, and all roads to the campus are closed.

Highway 1 remained closed to traffic from the north and south.

There were some encouraging signs from reports that said winds had begun to die down in Malibu, and that the

situation had improved from Sunday and earlier Monday, but officials maintained that the situation was tenuous. Ten buildings were lost on Sunday, including a landmark church.

Further north and east of Malibu, several blazes stretched across the mountains north of Santa Clarita. Twenty-five structures were damaged there, officials said.

Authorities ordered an evacuation for the city of Santa Clarita and Castaic, the northernmost portion of Los Angeles County.

In San Francisquito Canyon, firefighters were monitoring a blaze that was threatening some ranch homes, with about 30 trucks gathered from various jurisdictions. Some firefighters had been on duty since Sunday morning.

Fires also were reported in mountainous parts of San Bernardino County about 60 miles east of downtown Los Angeles. Homes were burning unchallenged in the resort town of Lake Arrowhead, which reportedly started near a power station.

Aerial crews were unable to reach the area because of high winds. A few miles away, in the Green Valley Lake area, a separate "monster fire" described by officials, is also burning.

Haitian Tenor Breaks Silence in Upcoming Concert

BY ASHLEY SOUTHALL
Contributing Writer

Three years after his last musical performance, Jean-Claude Eugene is ready to take his bilingual act back to the stage.

The Haitian-born tenor will give a three-hour show Sunday, Oct. 28 at the University of the District of Columbia's Reflections program, a showcase of Haitian history and identity through dance, poetry and song.

"I'm really excited to get back on stage and perform," Eugene said. "I love music and it's even better when I get to share my music with others."

Reflections is divided into three segments: paradoxes, beauty and hope. As the featured artist, Eugene will perform a variety of pieces in Caribbean and jazz beat in genres ranging from classical to pop.

His sets include a live ensemble band and visuals of what Eugene affirms as "the essence

of Haiti."

"All of the different sections are going to show what Haiti is really about," Eugene said.

Eugene said his music draws from his observations of the every day. His music covers a range of topics from love to nature. But Eugene says he places special emphasis on social issues.

"If you're an artist you have to have that eye to see things and translate that to words and music," Eugene said.

He is a fan of Haitian and French singers who he says put a great deal of energy into crafting their lyrics.

His favorites include French-language vocalists Gur DuRosier and Charles Aznavour.

"These are people who will take care of their lyrics. There has to be some level of poetry to it," Eugene said.

Eugene, whose professional music career spans nearly three decades, emerged as one



Pictured above, Jean-Claude Eugene is a Haitian vocalist who is known for his distinct tenor voice. He will be featured at UDC on Sunday, Oct. 28

of Haiti's strongest tenor voices during the 1980's.

To date, he has recorded five albums.

He has also performed on some of America's most prominent stages, such as Carnegie Hall.

He began his music career after studying finance and economics at Notre Dame College of Haiti, followed by Pace University and Johns Hopkins University in the United States.

"When the president of Haiti was in D.C. a few months

ago to visit President Bush, Jean was a special guest," said Julia Wilson, president of Wilson Global Communications, a marketing firm in the District that promotes Africa and the Diaspora community. "He's an undeniable talent. His music is a mix of African and Caribbean music. When he performs he really shows the positive side of Haiti — he makes you feel Haiti and the people."

In addition to singing, Eugene is also an actor and director. His biography includes parts in The Treasure of Toussaint L'Ouverture at Carnegie Hall and How Papa Noel Forgot Haiti at Lincoln Center and an appearance in acclaimed director Raoul Peck's first film, "Haitian Corner."

He currently serves as the artistic director of Theatre Mapou de Washington, a metro actors group he founded in 2000. Eugene also works as a banker.

He says his two professional lives as a performer and

as a banker are the result of his upbringing.

He says his parents raised him to be self-sufficient. Although the family was musically-inclined, Eugene says his parents took care to emphasize the importance of a steady source of income.

"The music industry is a very risky business," Eugene said. "From the time that I was in school, I have graduated with the sense that I need to have something to live off of."

In the evening, Eugene comes home to his wife of more than 30 years and the couple's three children.

Although it is unclear what Eugene did during his time off, the concert will give him the chance to demonstrate how he's matured dually as a Haitian and a vocalist.

I can't wait to show people what I've done, Eugene said.

"I think this is going to be a really good show and everyone's going to enjoy what I have to offer."



Rich History of Anacostia Lends a Hand to Community's Future

BY KRISTEN M. PRICE
Contributing Writer

Atop a scenic hilltop in southeast Washington lies a historical neighborhood that tells a story of growth and strength.

This area is referred to as Anacostia, located at the intersection of Good Hope Road and Martin Luther King Ave. and east of the Anacostia River.

The neighborhood has been the home of music legends Marvin Gaye, Peaches & Herb, former mayor Marion Barry and poet Ezra Pound.

Captain John Smith, who was responsible for establishing Jamestown, Va., explored the area in 1608 along with other European settlers. Anacostia's historical district was also once referred to as Uniontown, a wealthy suburb that was home to abolitionist Frederick Douglass.

Anthony Angelo Guatieri, a museum specialist for the Smithsonian Anacostia Museum and Center for African-American History and Culture, said "the neighborhood is vibrant and has an incredible history important to the nation."

He said that although some residents of D.C. often look down on the area, people should take a closer look into the rich history of Anacostia.

"The way fact that [Anacostia] looks now has less to do with the physical appearance, but have more to do with policies put into place," Guatieri said.

Some of the policies he mentioned deal with the period of "White Flight" beginning in the 1950s after the areas surrounding the Capitol were "improved" and living expenses increased, moving blacks into the Southeast region of the city.

"The federal government came into the area and changed zoning laws," Guatieri said. Eventually, many blacks in the Southwest area of the city were forced to move east into affordable public housing units being built by the federal government.

In the process, the white middle-class moved out of the area and the neighborhood of Anacostia became 90 percent African American.

Today, Anacostia is going through the process of gentrification and many new developments are popping up across the neighborhood. Domo Willis grew up in Anacostia and says he continues to remain in the neighborhood for years to come.

"This is home," Willis said. "Ain't nothing better than this." Willis mentioned that despite the negative image of the area due to the high crime rate, he does not view the neighborhood as "bad."

"I don't think the area is bad, it's just the people in it makes it bad," he said.

Willis says that with the new Washington Nationals baseball stadium being built close by, it will give residents something to look forward to.

"It was a good idea to put the stadium close by," Willis said. The 20-year-old says within the neighborhood, there is not much to do "except work

and have fun." He hopes that the new stadium will add more fun and excitement for those living in or around Anacostia.

Visitors and residents can take advantage of tours at Frederick Douglass' home and Old Carver Theatre.

An exhibition called "East of the River: Continuity and Change" is also going on now at the Anacostia Museum and Center for African-American History and Culture located at 1901 Fort Place in southeast D.C. The exhibition takes a deep look into the neighborhood and how it came about in D.C.

Guatieri wants people to know that residents outside of the Anacostia will make their own opinions about the neighborhood, but it is up to the residents to keep the rich legacy alive.

"The future of Anacostia is in the hands of the community," Guatieri said.



The Smithsonian Anacostia Museum and Center for African-American History and Culture is recognized for embracing black heritage and society.



The Fillmore will be built across the street from the AFI's Silver Theatre and the Round House Theatre in Silver Spring, Md. The music venue is expected to open in 2010 and will offer a wide range of entertainment.

New Fillmore Music Hall To Go Up in Silver Spring in 2010

CRYSTAL CRANMORE
Staff Writer

Montgomery County executive Isaiah Leggett teamed up with Live Nation, the largest live entertainment company in the world, to create a multi-faceted entertainment venue in downtown Silver Spring, an initiative that will attract many Howard students.

In an effort to rejuvenate the appointed arts and entertainment district of Silver Spring, Leggett partnered up with Live Nation to create a venue that would resemble the original Fillmore music hall in San Francisco, which launched the careers of Jimi Hendrix, Santana and Otis Redding of The Temptations.

"We were trying to enhance the economic development of the city," Leggett said. "We have been planning this project for the last five years, and we have looked at other companies to help us with the effort. Live Nation expressed interest and was the only one that offered its help."

The economic initiative would attract more people to downtown Silver Spring and would open cultural and entertainment opportunities for other clubs and restaurants.

The Fillmore will be housed in the Silver Spring Central Business District, a highly urban area that has a growing number of young adult and teenage residents. The music hall is set to open in early 2010 and will be located on Colesville Road and Georgia Ave., in the same facility as the old J.C. Penney Department Store.

The Fillmore will also accommodate between 500 to 2,000 audience members.

Upon joining with members of Live Na-

tion, Leggett signed a letter of intent with the company last month to recreate a Fillmore music hall.

The hall will be built on land owned by Lee Development Group, who is contributing \$3.5 million in land for the project.

Leggett strives to build a facility that can be used for various events, including live music concerts, comedy shows and plays. But when Live Nation isn't using the facility, the venue is open for public meetings, corporate functions, graduations and much more.

According to Leggett, educational institutions, including Howard University, can benefit from using the Fillmore.

"I think it would be great to have a venue like this," said sophomore theater major Jude Ti-beau. "Howard students would be interested and definitely use it, but more so the upper classmen."

As a partner in this financial project, Live Nation may prove to be very advantageous as they will be able to provide an array of musical entertainment that will attract the diversity in Silver Spring.

The Fillmore music hall in Silver Spring will reflect musical history from San Francisco's Fillmore back in the 1960's and will make an attempt to represent local history.

"We want to recognize those stars that come from the D.C. area," said John Vlautin, vice president of communications at Live Nation. "Fans walk in and see their favorite bands and walk out with knowledge about some of their favorite artists. It is a positive experience."

"The county has been trying to attract this kind of venue for several years now," said Gary Stiph, director of the Silver Spring Regional Center. "It has finally gotten its chance."

The community needs you. Play your part and write for Metro. Attend a meeting and grab a story.

ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT RECORDS

General Registration

Spring 2008

Bison Web, 9am to Midnight

Monday, October 29 – Friday, November 9

*If you are not sure of your official classification, please refer to HU BISON Web.

- ◆ Students are required to meet with their academic advisors for discussion and approval of proposed course selections before using BISON Web.
- ◆ Alternate PINs may be required for some students. Please check BISON Web.

DAY	DATE	CLASSIFICATION*
Monday	October 29	Senior, 3rd Year Law, LLM
Tuesday	October 30	Junior, 1st Year Law, 2nd Year Law
Wednesday	October 31	Sophomore Unclassified
Thursday	November 1	Freshman
Friday	November 2	Graduate
Saturday	November 3	All Students
Sunday	November 4	All Students
Monday	November 5	All Students
Tuesday	November 6	All Students
Wednesday	November 7	All Students
Thursday	November 8	All Students
Friday	November 9	All Students

- ◆ Alternate PINs are required for all students in the College of Arts & Sciences with 75 or more credit hours.
- ◆ Alternate PINs are required for all students in the Division of Fine Arts regardless of classification.
- ◆ Students should print their schedules from the Web in a campus computer center.
- ◆ December 2007 Prospective Graduates are not eligible to register during General Registration.
- ◆ First deferred payment for Spring 2008 is due Monday, December 17, 2007.

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Alcohol Consumption a Deadly Link to Cancer

BY JUDY PERES
Chicago Tribune (MCT)

You eat your veggies, you exercise at least a few times a week, you gave up cigarettes and hormone-replacement pills, and you have a glass of red wine every day, all because you care about your health.

But one of these things is not like the others. While your attention has been elsewhere, scientists have amassed persuasive evidence that drinking alcohol, any form of alcohol, even in moderate amounts, can pose a serious threat to your health.

Researchers have known for nearly 20 years that drinking alcoholic beverages can cause cancer of the mouth, throat, esophagus and liver.

But those diseases don't get much publicity. This year, the International Agency for Research on Cancer added breast and colon cancer, two of the four major killer cancers, to the list of malignancies known to be fostered by alcohol.

The risk is "dose dependent," meaning the more you drink the higher the risk.

According to comprehensive reviews of the scientific evidence, people who average just over one drink a day (100

grams of alcohol in a week's time) increase their chances of developing colon cancer by about 15 percent. For those who consume about four drinks daily, the risk is 40 percent higher.

Women who have one to two drinks a day increase their breast cancer risk by 13 percent. With four drinks, the risk is 50 percent higher.

That's twice the increase in relative risk attributed to Prempro, the hormone pill tested in the Women's Health Initiative, the well-known study that found the risks of hormone replacement outweigh the benefits.

Last month, another study reinforced the fact that even a glass or two of wine a day increases breast cancer risk. Yes, even red wine.

Drinking small amounts of alcohol - a shot of hard liquor or a glass of beer or wine - on a consistent daily basis does have a few proven health benefits.

Specifically, it reduces the risk of heart attacks and strokes caused by blocked arteries by 10 to 15 percent.

That's probably because alcohol increases good cholesterol and prevents blood platelets from clumping together.

"On the other hand, alcohol is detrimental for more

than 60 diagnoses," said Juergen Rehm, head of public health and regulatory policies at the Ontario Center for Addiction and Mental Health.

"That red wine stuff-how it was supposed to be protective-was hyped completely out of whack by the media," Rehm said. "And whatever protective effect there is, is not about the red wine-it's about the alcohol."

According to data compiled by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, alcohol consumption is the third-biggest cause of preventable death in the U.S., after smoking and obesity. The centers estimate that in 2001, the most recent year for which data is available, drinking caused nearly 93,000 deaths.

That includes more than 12,000 cancer deaths, comparable to the 13,674 killed in alcohol-related traffic accidents.

The same data show that about 30,000 fatal heart attacks were prevented by moderate alcohol consumption, which is defined as fewer than two drinks a day for men and less than one drink a day for women.

But Dr. Robert Brewer, head of the CDC alcohol team, said the evidence for alcohol preventing heart attacks is less reliable.



David Zvitz - Chicago Tribune (MCT)

Drinking alcohol contributes to breast cancer and colon cancer in addition to cancers of the mouth and throat.

"We need to be cautious about interpreting the studies that suggest a benefit," said Brewer. "People who drink moderately are different from people who don't drink, they exercise more, they have better medical insurance, their body-mass index is lower."

In other words, they might have had fewer heart attacks because of factors other than alcohol intake.

Scientists don't know exactly how alcohol changes the cancer picture. Some researchers are analyzing the influence of alcohol on estrogen levels, which can affect the risk of breast cancer.

But alcohol also affects liver function, which could impair the body's ability to get rid of potential cancer-causing agents.

The good news for worried drinkers, Rehm said, is that quitting seems to eventually reverse the added risk.

In a study published last month in the International Journal of Cancer, Rehm and his colleagues showed that the risk of head-and-neck and esophageal cancer decreased significantly within 10 years of giving up booze and was the same as that for non-drinkers after 20 years.

Some experts say soci-

ety should take the public health risks of alcohol much more seriously and limit consumption. Traci Toomey, an epidemiologist at the University of Minnesota, said several strategies have been shown to work, including restricting happy-hour and two-for-one promotions, training wait staff to make sure drinkers aren't overserved, and increasing taxes.

"Taxes on alcohol haven't kept up with inflation, so the real price is much lower than it used to be," she said. "Excise taxes should be indexed to inflation."

Pro-Choice, Pro-Life Nations Maintain Close Abortion Rates

BY ALEESA MANN
Staff Writer

The World Health Organization (WHO) said that a study released by the Guttmacher Institute, an organization that researches sexual and reproductive health issues, proves abortions are less prevalent in nations where abortion is legal as compared to nations where abortion is illegal.

According to the study, Induced Abortion: Estimated Rates and Trends Worldwide, "The observed decline [in induced abortions] was greater in developed regions than in developing countries."

The results of the study have renewed discourse among pro-life and pro-choice organizations and raise many questions on how to handle the issue of abortion.

The study reported that 42 million abortions were induced worldwide in 2003 compared to the 46 million in 1995.

The Guttmacher Institute also reported that the in 2003 the rate of abortions in developed countries was 26 abortions per every 1,000 women of childbearing age (15-44). This figure was compared to 29 per 1,000 abortions in developing countries. These figures become especially devastating as the institute found that 55 percent of abortions that occur in developing countries are unsafe.

"I think that the study is very reliable. The Guttmacher Institute and WHO are both widely recognized in the field," said Jessi-

ca Arons, director of the Women's Health and Rights Program at the Center for American Progress (CAP), which advocates on behalf of a woman's right to choose.

"In terms of its effect here [in the States], what I would hope would come from this report is that people start to understand that we are having the wrong debate. We've been debating whether abortion should be legal but really the question is whether we want abortion to be safe or unsafe," she said. Arons went on to say that approximately 67,000 women die each year from illegal and unsafe abortion and an additional 5 million suffer from permanent or temporary disability.

Many pro-life organizations are somewhat ambivalent to the results of the study and question its validity.

"The biggest problem [in the study] is that it's making estimates based on estimates and I really don't consider the study all that reliable for that reason," said John Jansen, co-director of Generations for Life, the youth outreach division of the Pro-Life Action League.

Jansen also questioned the integrity of the report issued by the Guttmacher Institute, a Planned Parenthood affiliate.

The Guttmacher Institute was named after Alan F. Guttmacher, who served as president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America from 1962 until his death in 1974.

Planned Parenthood is now the nation's leading sexual and reproductive health care ad-

vocate and provider.

"It seems like a conflict of interest for them [the Guttmacher Institute] to publish a study like that. They are not a non-biased source, they are a biased source, and they have an interest in making it seem like [Planned Parenthood's] services are needed in a particular area," Jansen said.

Proponents of the study explain the disparities in the rates of abortion are due to the availability of contraceptives.

"The countries where abortion is legal are the places where abortion happens the least frequently, usually because they are countries where there also is wider access to contraception," Arons said. "In places where abortion is illegal, there are often more restrictions on access to contraception. Women aren't as likely to be able to get contraception and understand how to use it properly."

The decision of Roe v. Wade brought about the legalization of abortion in the United States in 1973. According to the Guttmacher Institute, the rate of abortion in the U.S. was 21 abortions per 1,000 women of childbearing age.

In countries like Peru and Uganda, where abortion is illegal, the rate of abortion is 56 and 54, respectively, per 1,000 women of childbearing age.

"Abortion is illegal in most of Latin America and I think there it's because of a strong influence from the Catholic church, which has put a lot of pressure on these countries to keep abortion illegal, but it's not just the church. It's also illegal in much of sub-Saharan Africa," Arons said.

"Countries that would make abortion illegal are generally more conservative, and in such countries it would be more socially unacceptable to be pregnant out of wedlock, causing women to seek abortion," said freshman major Kennedy Turner.

It is uncertain what effect the study will have on the worldwide perception of abortion, but it has certainly aroused concern in the States.

It is projected that one in three American women will have an abortion by the time they turn 45.

"The perception of sex in the states is largely accepted, but not too many people want to be pregnant," said Sevrana Stewart, a sophomore pre-physical therapy major. "Contraception doesn't play as big a role in the U.S. compared to other places, so abortions tend to be the method of stopping pregnancy."



Photo Courtesy of tawagoo.com

Not all companies selling pink ribbon products really contribute to Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Some Efforts to Raise Funds for Breast Cancer Not Truthful

BY JADA SMITH
Staff Writer

Breast Cancer Awareness Month, recognized during October, is dedicated to enhancing the public's awareness about the importance of early detection of breast cancer.

Because many people who have been affected by breast cancer directly or indirectly choose to donate to the cause, many companies sponsor "pink ribbon products and promotions" campaigns claiming to support research centers and supportive organizations.

But the Breast Cancer Action (BCA) center is trying to inform consumers that the profits raised from these campaigns may be doing very little to fund breast cancer research.

Katrina Kahl, a communications associate for BCA, said that the Think Before You Pink campaign hopes to encourage people to make more informed decisions about the pink products they buy this month.

"The campaign is essentially a consumer education campaign," Kahl said. "We're asking people to think more critically about buying the products on the market and making sure these people aren't contributing to breast cancer themselves."

The BCA said that companies who manufacture goods that produce synthetic chemicals contradict themselves when supporting breast cancer health awareness.

A recent study done by the Breast Cancer Fund reported that exposure to synthetic chemicals has contributed to the risk of developing breast cancer than assumed.

"Companies such as

Ford, BMW and Mercedes urge customers to buy or drive cars in the name of breast cancer, when they are contributing to the disease," Kahl said. "They should go a step further if they really want to support the cause. They just need to step it up."

Ford, BMW and Mercedes are among the car companies that are donating a percentage of their profits to breast cancer research if the customer either purchases or test drives a car.

The BCA refers to October as Breast Cancer Industry Month because of the notion that companies are promoting the cause only to boost their image and their profits.

Many of the companies sponsoring campaigns report unclear statements as to where exactly the money from the pink products goes.

"We want people to ask questions," Kahl said. "If they feel satisfied with the answers, by all means, purchase the product. If not, just donate directly to the organization doing the research."

Kahl also cited the instance of the jewelry company, Cartier who, 10 years ago, put

a \$3,900 "pink watch" on the market where a percentage of proceeds would go to Breast Cancer research.

The company neglected to tell customers that after the first \$30,000 was made from the sale of watches, the money would no longer be going to cancer research.

Keri Thomas, a sophomore pre-pharmacy major, said that hidden information or untruthful tactics used to make money in the name of breast cancer is deplorable.

"If you say you're raising money for breast cancer, you should donate your money to breast cancer and nowhere else," she said. "It's bogus to try and use a serious illness to make money for yourself. That's just real dirty."

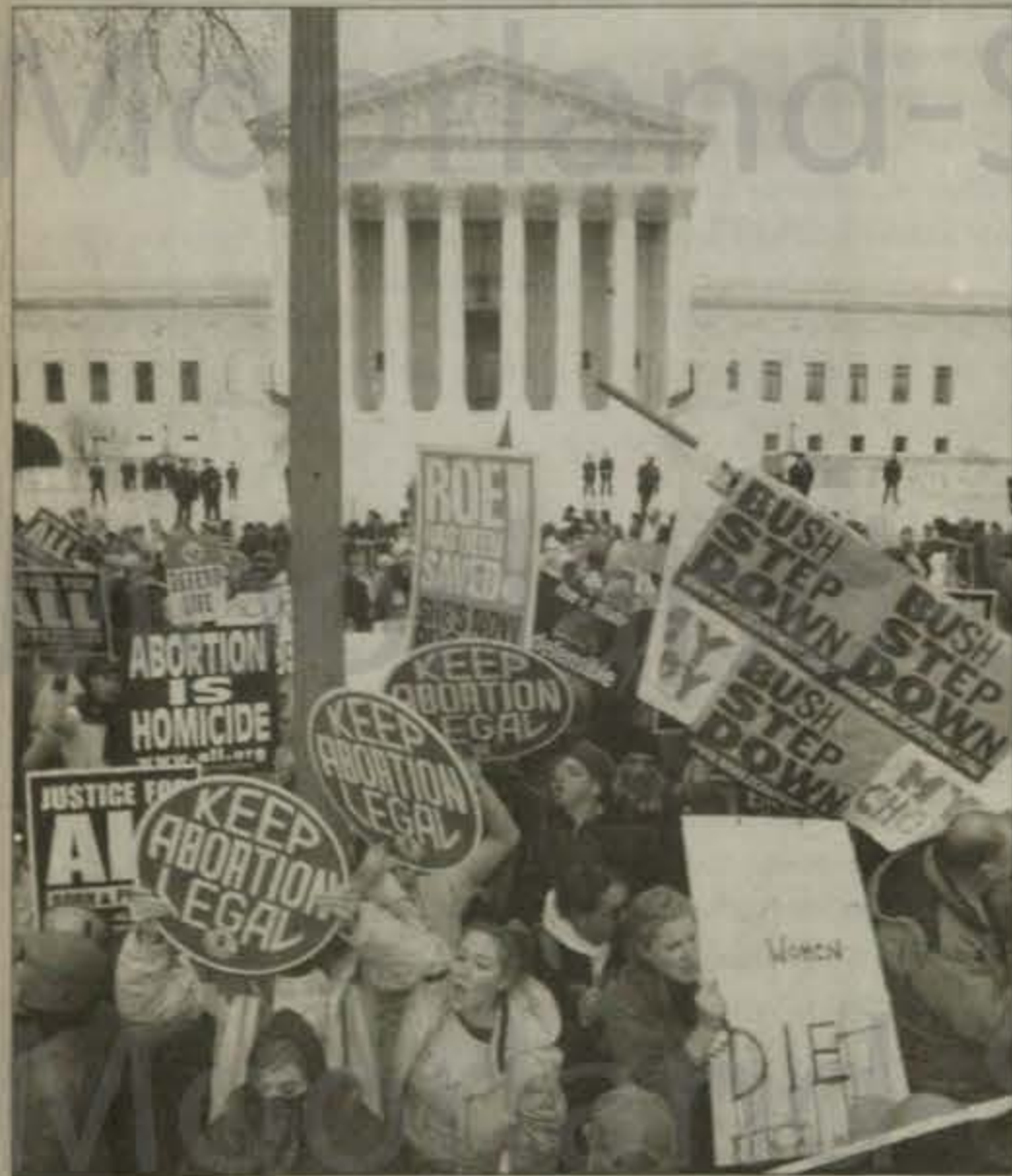
The main thing BCA wants to stress to consumers is to ask questions.

"First, what does it mean to donate? Second, going toward research doesn't mean much. What kind of breast cancer research? Who's doing it? Please, make sure your money is going somewhere worthwhile," Kahl said.

The BCA says to ask six questions before supporting a company raising money for breast cancer:

1. How much money from your purchase actually goes toward breast cancer?
2. What is the maximum amount that will be donated?
3. How much money was spent marketing the product?
4. How are the funds being raised?
5. To what breast cancer organization does the money go?
6. What types of programs does it support, and what is the company doing to assure that its products are not contributing the breast cancer epidemic?

For more information to make informed decisions, visit thinkbeforeyoupink.org



Chuck Kennedy (MCT)

The conflict between pro-life and pro-choice supporters has been around for decades, but abortion rates remain the same regardless of existing policy.

Sox Topple Indians, Head to World Series for Second Time

BY PAUL SULLIVAN
Chicago Tribune (MCT)

BOSTON--The Boston Red Sox added one more chapter to their legacy of amazing comebacks Sunday night at Fenway Park, while the Indians' stunning collapse was the latest in a long line of Cleveland's great heartbreakers.

The Red Sox finished their climb from a 3-1 deficit in the American League Championship Series, knocking off the Indians 11-2 in Game 7 to advance to the World Series for the second time in four years.

Boston will play host to Colorado in Game 1 on Wednesday night, looking for another title after ending an 86-year drought in 2004.

Starter Daisuke Matsuzaka, the \$100 million Japanese import who lost Game 3 in Cleveland, pitched five strong innings for the win, allowing two runs and redeeming himself for his previous postseason flops.

"He pitched his heart out," manager Terry Francona said. "There were some tough innings."

Said Red Sox slugger David Ortiz: "We've been down before, and we know how to come out. So all the new kids around, they're seeing the older guys, how we keep it together."

Second baseman Dustin Pedroia homered and drove in five runs, while relievers Hideki

Okajima and Jonathan Papelbon finished it off with four scoreless innings as the Red Sox broke open the game late.

"The veteran guys instilled a belief in us," Pedroia said. "The season's almost over, we're down 3-1, and you get that sense of urgency."

The comeback marked the 11th time in postseason history a team had climbed back from a 3-1 deficit to win a series. It was the third time Boston had done it, having also done so in the 1986 ALCS against California and the '04 ALCS against the Yankees.

"Games of a huge magnitude, guys don't get overwhelmed," Francona said.

Right-hander Josh Beckett, who won both of his starts, was named the most valuable player of the ALCS and will start Game 1 of the World Series.

The Red Sox celebrated on the infield late into the night, with Papelbon performing his traditional Irish step dance before the adoring crowd of 37,165.

For the luckless Indians, the collapse will go down alongside some of the city's other epic postseason failures. And third-base coach Joel Skinner's decision to hold Kenny Lofton at third base when his run would have tied the game in the seventh inning will dredge up memories of Earnest Byner's fumble against the Broncos in the '88 title game and Craig Ehlo's watching helplessly as Michael Jordan drained a series-clinching buzzer-beater



Manny Ramirez and Boston Red Sox teammates celebrate after coming back from a 3-1 series deficit to advance to the 2007 World Series this week.

over him in the first round of the 1989 NBA playoffs.

Boston held a slim 3-2 lead in the fateful seventh when Skinner prevented Lofton from scoring from second with the ty-

ing run. Lofton was rounding third on a Franklin Gutierrez single that ricocheted off the wall of a camera pit on the third-base side and into short left field, several feet from left fielder Manny

Ramirez.

But Skinner stopped Lofton. From that moment on, everything that could go wrong did for the Indians.

"I didn't know what was going on," Lofton said. "My job is to pick up the third base coach. He stopped me."

Cleveland manager Eric Wedge called it a "tough corner to read." Francona called it a "blind spot" for any third-base coach, suggesting the asymmetrical field is part of Fenway's home-field advantage.

Casey Blake promptly grounded into an inning-ending double play, and Blake's two-base error in the bottom of the inning preceded Pedroia's two-run homer, giving Boston a comfortable 5-2 lead.

After J.D. Drew's run-scoring single in the eighth, the Indians seemed lost in space. Blake and shortstop Jhonny Peralta collided on a Jason Varitek pop-up, letting it bounce into the stands for a ground-rule double. Pedroia's three-run double made it 9-2, and Kevin Youkilis, who batted .500 in the series, added a two-run shot off Jensen Lewis to finish the six-run inning.

"That's baseball," Wedge said. "There's usually so many different things that happen over the course of a season, and so many things that happen over the course of a baseball game."

And for Indians fans, so many things that happen over the course of a lifetime.

2007 World Series

COLORADO ROCKIES vs. BOSTON RED SOX

Game 1
Wed 10/24 8pm

Game 2
Thurs 10/25 8pm

Game 3
Sat 10/27 8pm

Game 4
Sun 10/28 8pm

If Necessary
Game 5
Mon 10/29 TBD

Game 6
Wed 10/31 TBD

Game 7
Thurs 11/1 TBD

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W SOCCER VS UMBC @ GREENE 7PM

TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY

October 23, 1996

NY Yankees set record by coming back from 6-0 in World Series game to beat Atlanta Braves 8-6, also set record of 7th straight road win

Super Bowl I Legend Max McGee Killed in Freak Accident

BY GREG A. BENARD AND LORI NICKEL
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (MCT)

GREEN BAY, Wis.--Max McGee, a record-setting receiver who helped the Green Bay Packers win five World Championships and later was a popular color commentator on the team's radio broadcasts, died Saturday at his home in Deerpark, Minn.

McGee was 75.

Emergency crews were called to McGee's residence at approximately 5:20 p.m. CDT after a report that a man had fallen off his roof and was unconscious.

Life-saving measures were performed on McGee, but emergency personnel were unable to revive him and he was pronounced dead at the scene.

Born William "Max" McGee on July 16, 1932, in Saxton City, Nev., he played 12 seasons for the Packers. After playing high school football in White Oak, Texas, and then collegiately at Tulane University, the Packers selected McGee in the fifth round of the 1954 NFL draft.

After catching 36 passes, including nine touchdowns, as a rookie, McGee spent the next two years as a pilot in the Air Force.

Despite his service to his country, McGee ended his career with 345 receptions for 6,346 yards and an 18.4-

yard average, the second highest per-catch average in team history. He remains the 10th-highest scorer with 306 points on 51 touchdowns.

Sportswriter Bud Lea, who has covered the Packers for 53 years, said Saturday night, "There'll never be another Max McGee; just one of the guys that stands out, out of all the guys I've covered."

"He was the most uncomplicated athlete I ever covered in my whole career," Lea said. "Always approachable... What he said is what he meant."

Lea, who covered the team for many years for the Milwaukee Sentinel and now covers them for Packer Plus, also said McGee liked a good time and that the public adored him.

"He stands out as one guy that I will never forget," Lea said.

Lee Rummel, the Packers' team historian, called McGee "one of the most colorful players in our history, as well as one of the more talented."

McGee was inducted into the Packers Hall of Fame in 1975, alongside former teammates and close friends, some of whom were known to enjoy a good time together away from the field. Paul Hornung, Jerry Kramer and Fred "Fuzzy" Thurston.

Also inducted that year was Hall of Fame coach Vince Lombardi, who got a quick introduction to the always colorful McGee early in Lombardi's tenure.

Upset over a loss, Lombardi decided to start with the fundamentals, by introducing a football.

From the back of the room, McGee replied, "Uh, Coach, could you slow down a little. You're going too fast for us."

Even an angry Lombardi was forced to laugh. And McGee might have been the only player who could have gotten away with that.

By the time Super Bowl I was played on Jan. 15, 1967, McGee was a reserve who had caught just four passes all season. Figuring he wouldn't see much playing time behind starter Boyd Dowler, McGee had one of his infamous nights out on the town in Los Angeles.

McGee left the team hotel after the 11 p.m. bed-check by assistant coach Dave "Hawg" Hanner.

McGee tried to entice Hornung, his roommate, to join him and two American Airlines stewardesses at a local bar. Hornung declined, as he was getting married in three days.

"Neither of us figured to play in the game," McGee recounted in Lea's book, "Magnificent Seven." "Then Hornung backed out... the fine was something like \$15,000 if you got caught breaking curfew the night before the game. Hell, that's what we were going to get if we won the game. You know, money didn't mean much to me."

McGee returned to his room just in time for the Packers' team break-

fast and then caught an hour's nap before boarding the bus to the Los Angeles Coliseum.

The 34-year-old veteran was seated on the bench next to Hornung, discussing the upcoming wedding and bachelor party, when Lombardi ordered him into the game after Dowler was injured on the second play of the game. McGee couldn't find his helmet.

"I forgot to bring it out, and I played the first series with somebody else's helmet," McGee said in the book. "I told Dad Braisher (equipment manager) to go find my helmet, and he found it."

McGee would go on to produce one of the greatest performances in Super Bowl history: seven catches for 138 yards and two touchdowns as Green Bay beat the Kansas City Chiefs, 35-10.

In a 2002 interview, McGee said he remained proud of his playing career.

"I'm glad I got to play when I did," McGee said. "I don't even like football anymore because every time a guy gets a hand in on a tackle, he's doing a back-flip or pounding his chest."

"I played at a great time with some great guys. And even though the money wasn't close to what it's like today, we had a great time."

McGee had a second career in the NFL for two decades. In 1979, with Bart Starr as head coach, McGee teamed up with Jim Irvin as the radio

play-by-play team for the Packer Radio Network.

Broadcast on stations across the state, McGee was known for his straightforward and candid comments as well as his unique insight to the game. Just before Green Bay's Reggie White sacked New England quarterback Drew Bledsoe for the third time in Super Bowl XXXI, and it was clear the Packers would win their first Super Bowl in 29 years, McGee said: "I tell you one thing, there's nothing better than being the World's Champion."

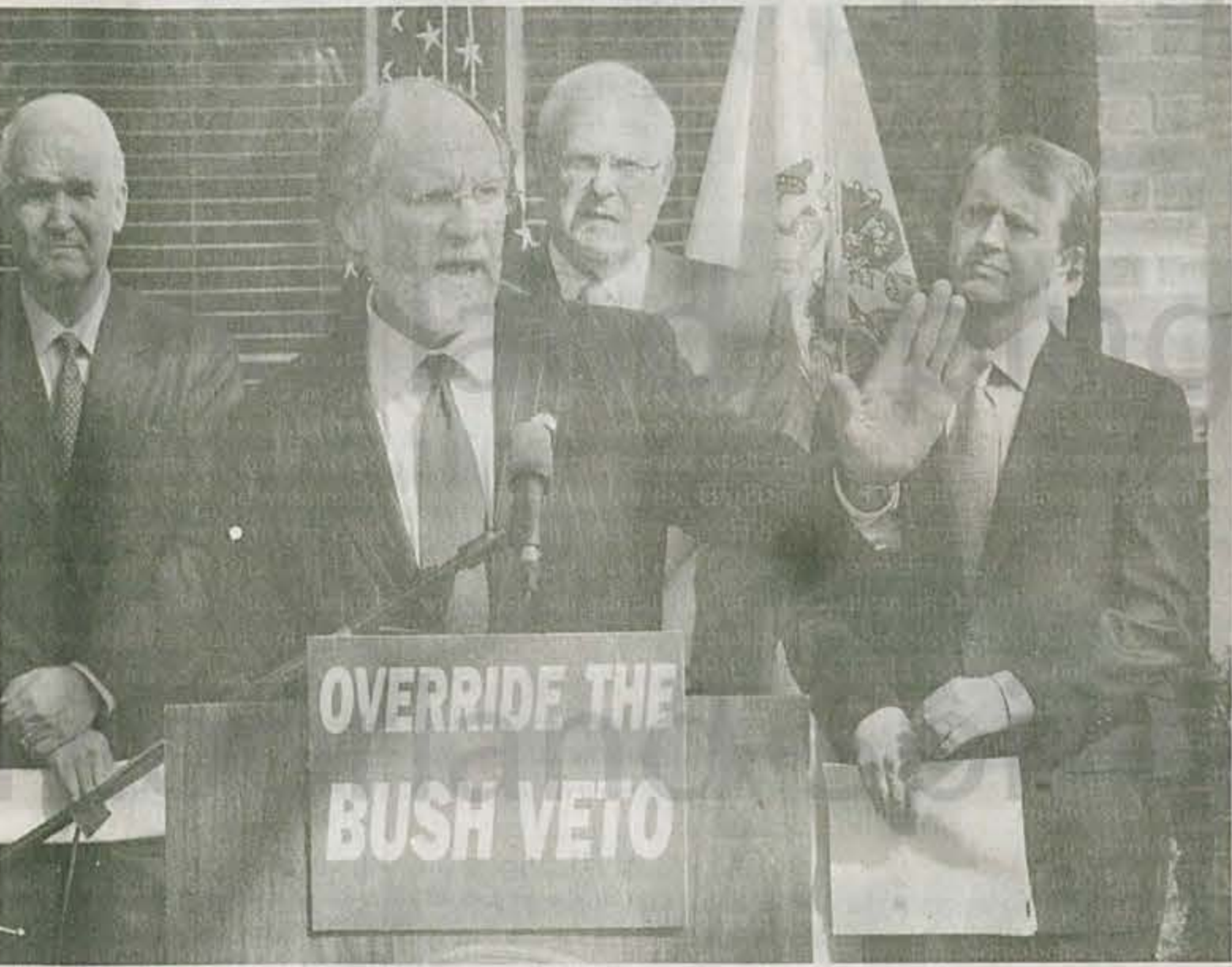
McGee retired from the radio booth at the end of the 1998 season.

"After being here for so many years and being with the Packers organization since 1954, some way or another I've been involved for so long," McGee said in announcing his retirement.

McGee was also a successful businessman after his playing days. A year after he retired, he became the co-founder of the Mexican chain restaurant Chi Chi's, during the late 1970s and '80s.

According to an article in Time magazine in 1982, McGee owned "some 150,000 Chi-Chi's shares, worth about \$4 million, and is a director of the company."

By 1998 McGee had sold his interests in the chain. Time reported in 2005 that McGee's worth "now is measured in the tens of millions of dollars." Chi Chi's folded in 2004.



New Jersey Governor Jon Corzine (center) speaks at a press conference asking congressional leaders to vote to override President George W. Bush's veto of the State Children's Health Insurance Program in Cherry Hill, N.J.

Bush Needs to Avoid a Case of Senioritis, Stay Focused

Last Thursday the House of Representatives failed to amass the two-thirds majority vote needed to override President Bush's veto of the State Children's Health Insurance Program, also known as SCHIP. The bill renewed funding for SCHIP, ensuring an increase in its budget by \$35 million over the next five years.

With this increased funding, child enrollment in the program could increase from 6.6 million to 10 million. Federal tax on tobacco products would rise from 39 cents to \$1 in order to pay for the budget renewal.

Does it seem weird that Bush vetoed this bill? Perhaps it is not weird for Bush to veto something that would help the lower class families. Families that live just too "rich" in Bush's eyes to receive Medicaid don't need this bill anyway...right Mr. President?

Furthermore, does it seem weird that Bush is seeming to go legitimately power crazy in his last year of office? It seems to be a bad and detrimental case of "Senioritis" in my opinion. You know Senioritis... when seniors, entering their final year of high school or college, go

Our View: Bush's last year and a half will be unproductive.

just a little (and sometimes a lot) crazy. No, the president doesn't seem to be drinking and partying all nights of the week, nor does he seem to be cutting class, as some seniors do, but he seems to not give a care about anything that doesn't help him or his "equals" just as seniors tend to not care about school, professors or anything else that is

outside of their circle of friends. Ever notice how, often times, senior year can lead to a lack of productivity? Mainly, the intention is to graduate. Passing with C's doesn't really matter to some, because as long as you pass, your GPA no longer matters! You're out of there! President Bush is guilty of Senioritis yet again. Not much seems to be going on in the White House... unless you consider the ever so common VETO slapped on the face of a bill promising.

It seems that as President of the United States, you would make an effort to try and enhance the lives of children in the country that you vowed to serve and protect. Perhaps you're a senior now, Mr. President. And it doesn't matter what your schoolyard looks like, because next year someone else will take your place, and they will have to clean up the mess you've made.

Correction: In the Oct. 22 issue of The Hilltop, the page 3 advertisement regarding two Homecoming parties to take place at LOVE nightclub ran mistakenly. The events were advertised for this past weekend.

Perspective Comedy Show Review Was No Joke to Mr. D+

As I reflect back on last week's events, I remember sitting in amazement and watching as every coordinator's vision came into fruition. Fast forward to this week and I see the Hilltop of all people, bashing a show that I worked hard for. Sure you can say there was no Steve Harvey, but did you really think you were going to see Katt Williams for \$15? LOL! Come on now, before last year Howard had not seen a so called A-list celebrity at a Comedy Show since the early 90's. The whole point of a COMEDY SHOW is to laugh, not to see a celebrity. Can you say that the show wasn't funny? Can you say that it wasn't unique? Can you say that students walked away feeling like it was a waste of time and money? No you can't.

So, I ask you, HILLTOP, how was it a disappointment to students? Furthermore, whose opinions were these? It couldn't have been your own, or wait--was it? Were students polled about how they felt after each event? Was there some type of rubric for "grading" the shows? If not, what is the basis or rationale behind your report card? At this juncture in my

life I sit back and laugh at how the Hilltop could even find the unmitigated gall to give my show a D+ LOL. This, coming from a group of people who can't even use a simple spell check before stories go out. To make matters worse they misspelled several words while being overly critical of the HUHSC. The very same Hilltop staff, who neglected to touch basis with every coordinator after their shows and give us proper coverage. The same Hilltop that's running an ad for a party at LOVE that took place over the weekend. Be for real, and when you attack something that someone has been working on for months on end, make sure you are legit. You seem to speak a lot about what you don't know, so let me break it down for everyone. A rumor is defined as a story or statement in general circulation without confirmation or certainty of facts. Katt Williams was a RUMOR. If you bought tickets on the sole basis of a RUMOR, what does that say about you? Never once did I, the coordinator, nor the HUHSC staff say Katt Williams would be in attendance, hence a rumor. License to Laugh: A Night of Comedic

Euphoria was a complete and utter success despite all of the controversy and rumors surrounding it. I stand before you proud of everything the HUHSC has accomplished. WE worked hard over the past five months to give YOU all an Amazing Experience and overall we did a great job. You don't know what we had to go through in order for you all to be able to enjoy these festivities and if I told you, you wouldn't even believe the half of it. I just can't understand for the life of me who gave the Hilltop the ultimate authority to discern what is considered to be a great show or not, but that's a whole different issue on its own. Nonetheless, everyone is entitled to his/her own opinion and we appreciate the feedback but please come correct before you attempt to grade a show. As I finish this article, I just want to leave a challenge with the Hilltop. If you can do better, submit your proposal in January and then we'll be the judge of that.

By Tre'Von O. Elam (Mr. D+)

Daily Sudoku

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

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

Do you want to write for The Hilltop? Come to our budget meeting MONDAY @ 7P.M. WEST TOWERS (PLAZA LEVEL)

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Now in its 84th 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 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.

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Confessions of an L&S Editor

BY DANIELLE KWATENG
Life & Style Editor

Dear Howard,

So, I've officially concluded that the majority of the celebrities in the world are going crazy and/or are failing us. No, I'm not bitter about Homecoming. It was actually kind of amusing to hear all the rumors about people showing up....Beyonce, Katt Williams, Kanye, Soulja Boy and unfortunately Lil' Wayne.

Not coming through is something to be expected with celebrities. They usually have busy schedules, booked back to back, always running late for something. But not showing up at all or showing out is the newest trend.

Case in point, my darling T.I. or should I say, TIP, for the purpose of this example. I think we're all trying to figure out what was going on in his passive-aggressive, slightly paranoid mind. Unless someone threatened a small terrorist attack at the BET Hip Hop Awards, there was no need for three machine guns and two silencers. Seriously... it looked like he was restocking inventory for the U.S. ARMY.

Need another sad example? My three-year-old niece is obsessed with "High School Musical," but when Vanessa Hutchinson was exposed literally and figuratively, in nude pictures, it crushed my heart. If she can't be a good role model who can be?

I remember back in the day, when girls (and I'm embarrassed to say myself) loved Britney Spears. Now, no words are necessary for me to break down that train wreck.

In a *Newsweek* Poll, they found that 77 percent of Americans believe that Britney, Paris and Lindsay have too much influence on young girls. Now we can go ahead and question the race of the people polled, but our community has larger issues with female role models and misogyny in the media. But that's a whole different subject.

The worst part is when we defend them. Like we personally know them or understand what they may have been going through. Yes, some people live high profile lives and need to be protected, but if a random passive-aggressive teen from a small town was arrested for packing all the ammunition T.I. bought, we'd be relieved.

The saddest part is deep down you kind of expected bad things to happen to certain celebrities. I mean who was surprised this summer to find out prissy Paris Hilton was on her way to jail. Or yesterday, when Kid Rock was arrested for fighting outside a Georgia Waffle House.

Maybe that has something to do with why they continue to act up. We subscribe to the craziness, not because we want it, but because it makes our lives seem so much more sane.

I have to admit I do appreciate certain levels of extraness. Instead of creating a "Free T.I." shirt, what do I do? Whenever I'm in the mood to see an over-dramatic animated celebrity, I watch "The Tyra Banks Show." Clearly, her extraness is safe within the confines of her studio and that's something we should all appreciate about Ms. Banks.

-Dani K.

Has a celebrity failed you lately? Or, if you just feel like venting about the current celebrity obsessed world we live in send us a message at lifeandstyle2007@gmail.com. Don't worry we all can relate.

Proper Technique a Must When Exercising

BY CYNTHIA BILLHARTZ GREGORIAN
St. Louis Post-Dispatch (MCT)

Mark Reinking is an assistant professor of physical therapy at St. Louis University, so he knows a thing or two about exercise. But even he's baffled by some of the things he sees people do at the gym. Not only are they putting themselves at risk for injury but Reinking can't figure out the intended purpose of some of the exercises.

Listed below are six of the most common risky exercises that he and Heidi Prather, associate professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation at Washington University, see people doing all the time. They and Jason Barbour, personal training director at St. Louis Fitness Factory in downtown St. Louis, have also provided safe alternatives. Some of these moves can be done safely under the guidance of an expert, but they pose risks for those who haven't been properly trained.

TOE TOUCHES

The goal: Stretch the hamstrings. Why it's bad: It stresses the lower back and lumbar spine. It also doesn't effectively stretch the hamstring, and if you have short hamstrings, you're using other joints that you shouldn't be using to accomplish the motion. Rotating the torso toward one leg or the other is even more risky.

Safe alternatives: Try standing

near a flight of stairs or other sturdy object and put the foot of the leg you want stretched on a step. Keeping the spine neutral, bend at the hip rather than the lower back, lowering your chest slowly



Certified personal trainer Keith Hunter demonstrates the plank exercise, a safe alternative to leg lifts. Using proper techniques ensures safety while working out.

toward your knee.

DOUBLE LEG LIFTS

The goal: To strengthen abdominal muscles. Why it's bad: Reinking says you can do this exercise correctly if you have really strong abdominal muscles that allow you to press your lower back into the floor. But most people don't, which causes them to arch their lower back, putting it in a hyper-extended position.

Safe alternative: Lie on your

belly, lift yourself up on your toes and forearms and hold that position for several seconds. Make sure your spine is in the neutral position, so that your belly isn't swayed and your back and rear end

aren't arched and sticking up.

LAT PULLDOWN BEHIND NECK

The goal: To build up your shoulder and back muscles. Why it's bad: It puts a heavy load on the discs and muscles in the neck and upper back. Do it long enough, and Reinking says you'll develop neck pain. Safe alternative: Pull the bar down in front of your chest.

THE PLOW

The goal: It's a yoga move de-

Birth Control Link to Cancer Dissolved

BY JUDY PERES
Chicago Tribune (MCT)

Out of the mishmash of hormone studies researchers have been serving up lately comes some good news: Birth control pills do not cause cancer.

According to a 36-year survey of some 46,000 British women, the use of oral contraceptives may actually reduce a woman's risk of developing cancer unless she takes them for more than eight years.

The findings should be comforting to the hundreds of millions of women who have taken the Pill, which was developed in the 1960s and is considered the most effective method of preventing pregnancy.

"Many women, especially those who used the first generation of oral contraceptives (which contained higher doses of hormones), are likely to be reassured by our results," the study concluded. "The cancer benefits of oral contraception outweigh the risks."

Conducted by a research team from the University of Aberdeen, in Scotland, the study appeared in the Sept. 11 issue of the *British Medical Journal*.

The researchers used data collected by the Royal College of General Practitioners between 1968 and 2004. Family doctors provided information on 23,000 women who were taking birth control pills and a matched group of women who were not.

The women's average age at the beginning of the study was 29.

Those who took oral contraceptives did so for an average of a little less than four years.

The doctors provided baseline information for each patient, including their medical history, socioeconomic status and whether they smoked cigarettes.

Updates were filed every six months on their prescriptions, pregnancies, surgeries and illnesses, including cancer.

More than half the women left the area of the doctors who recruited them, but most were followed through the central registries of the National Health Service in England and Scotland.

Women who took the Pill at any time during the study had a 12 percent lower risk of developing cancer of any kind compared with what the study called "never-users." (A 12 percent reduction translated into one less case of cancer for every 2,200 women who took the Pill for one year.)

When the researchers looked at specific types of cancer separately, they found that "ever-users" had significantly lower risks for uterine, ovarian and colorectal cancers.

Pill takers had a slightly higher risk of developing lung, cervical and brain cancer, but those increases were not statistically significant, meaning they could have occurred by chance.

There was no difference between the two groups in their risk of

developing breast cancer, a major concern for many since the federally funded Women's Health Initiative in 2002 said post-menopausal hormone-replacement therapy caused breast cancer.

U.S. experts say they get as many anxious calls from younger women as from older ones, since birth control pills contain essentially the same ingredients — estrogen and progesterone — as hormone-replacement therapy.

The only bad news in the British study was for women who used oral contraceptives for more than eight years — less than one-quarter of the pill takers.

Those long-term users had a greater chance of being diagnosed with cancer, especially brain and cervical cancer.

But their odds of getting ovarian cancer were much lower, and that protective effect lasted for at least 15 years after they stopped taking the Pill.

U.S. experts said the British study's results, though not surprising, were reassuring.

"The findings are not way out of line with what we already knew," said Dr. Russell Harris of the University of North Carolina.

The National Cancer Institute's panel of experts, of which Harris is a member, has concluded the effect of birth control pills on breast cancer risk is minimal, "but there might be a small effect over a long time," he said.

The British study found a 22 percent increased risk of breast cancer for long-term users, but it was not statis-

signed to stretch the lower back. Why it's bad: It puts the neck under a lot of stress. Safe alternative: Barbour recommends lying on your back and curling your knees up to your chest instead.

SIT-UPS WITH HANDS BEHIND HEAD

The goal: Strengthen abdominal muscles. Why it's bad: Claspings your hands behind your head puts stress on the neck. Doing sit-ups with your legs flat on the floor and sitting all the way up until your chest touches your legs is also bad because it puts stress on the lower back. Safe alternative: Try a crunch: Cross your arms over your chest, bend your knees and keep your head and shoulders in the neutral position. Lift your upper body until it's just off the ground.

DEAD LIFTS

The goal: It's a total body lift that strengthens all muscle groups.

Why it's bad: It's often done by picking the barbell up from the floor with the back rounded, the legs straight and too much weight on the barbell, which can cause your lumbar spine to buckle, leading to disk injury.

Safe alternative: Starting out with a manageable amount of weight, lift the barbell by bending your knees, keeping your back straight and looking straight ahead at a wall. Barbour strongly recommends doing this under the tutelage of a trained exercise professional who can tweak your form to perfection.

tically significant.

"We've also known we're probably decreasing the risk of ovarian and uterine cancer (with the Pill), which is what they found," Harris said.

The bottom line?

"This is not something you need to worry about," Harris said.

Dr. Peter Ravdin, of the University of Texas, agreed.

"The good news is that there do not seem to be big negative effects; in fact, on the whole, there is a trend toward slightly better outcomes," he said. "That is reassuring, because oral contraceptives are widely used."



Bill Hogan - Chicago Tribune (MCT)

Manners Coach Breaks Down Restaurant Etiquette

BY SIMONE PRINGLE
Staff Writer

In today's society, men will still hold doors open, pull out chairs, follow other rules of proper chivalry protocol, especially in formal social settings.

But many etiquette rules have been modernized or all together discarded.

Founder of Life Skills of Etiquette School in Lanham, Md., Lachelle Johnson said, "A lot of [etiquette] rules have fallen by the wayside. You will not find men standing when young ladies enter and exit the table, as much you would [in the past]. Among people who know that's appropriate, people still do it. It enhances the image of the gentleman. It also makes the woman feel respected."

Johnson also said, "Gentlemen walking on the curbside [when walking with a woman doesn't happen as frequently as it should.] Other instances when it's appropriate to stand, like when a young woman walks into a room at a dinner party, they should stand. [At these events] gentlemen should remain standing until all ladies are seated. A gentleman giving up their seat to women on the bus seems to be falling off the radar. But there are always some gentlemen who still follow etiquette rules."

The school's Web site hosts the quote, "Good manners will open doors that the best education cannot."

Johnson said she stands by that motto.

"Not only are manners impressive when you're out in social environments, they're looked highly upon," Johnson said. "It looks like the person had received some home training, or they have been through a formal training on how to eat, which is very impressive. A lot of companies are starting to interview over lunch, to make a hiring decision and if you don't appear to have good manners, it says a lot about you as a person, about your abilities."

Sophomore broadcast journalism major Alexandria Hines was in a cotillion in high school.

"Everything [we learned] had to do with being appropriate. We learned how to dress," Hines said. "We had a lot of different clinics on things like table setting, how to properly cross your legs, which forks to eat with. We learned how to sip, and not to reach across the table. The fork isn't supposed to touch your teeth. We also learned how to hold wineglasses."

Hines also said to think before reaching for the salt.

She said, "You're supposed to taste your food first and then add seasoning if necessary because it's disrespectful to whoever cooked the food."

Johnson said, "There's a right

and wrong way to do everything. You never know who's watching."

Junior psychology major Shanna Miles, who attended the same cotillion with Hines, said etiquette is very useful.

"Depending on who I'm at the restaurant with determines the skills I'm gonna portray," she said. "When I'm studying abroad, eating with prime ministers, I will act accordingly."

"Know what is inappropriate dinner discussion; i.e., things that are debatable like religion, politics, etc.," she said.

Etiquette coach Lachelle Johnson also said one of the biggest mistakes people make in formal dinner settings is eating bread the wrong way.

She said, "You use your fingers to pinch off a bite size piece of bread and you butter each piece before it goes into your mouth."

There are many rules that seem like tiny details to the untrained table guest.

"Most people don't know you're supposed to enter your chair from the right and exit to the right," Johnson said. "If you have other people who are trying to enter the table, there's no risk of colliding with that person. Gentlemen are supposed to help the lady to their right with their chair."

Because most college students are not at a point where business din-

ners are an everyday occurrence, many believe they can get by with knowing the basics of table and restaurant etiquette. Johnson disagrees.

"There are a lot of little things that most people don't know. If you don't know how to hold your utensil, or the proper cutting position, it won't matter if you're using the right utensil," Johnson said. "When resting, are your utensils in resting position? Many times, a skilled waiter will come around wanting to clear a table and they might not want to interrupt conversation so they will look at your utensils to tell whether you're finished or not."

As before mentioned, many rules have been modernized.

"With regards to putting elbows on the table, while people are eating or the food is being served, your elbows should be off the table," Johnson said. "Once everyone is finished eating and the table has been cleared, elbows on the table are fine during conversation."

She said, "Etiquette is being pushed to the radar because we have so many people who are socially inappropriate that it has caused our society to think about manners. Manners are a part of a full package. I think a lot of people get it twisted. It helps to have that full complete professional image that is needed in our society to be the best you can be."