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WEATHER

 **70**
50
 Tomorrow:
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42

Established
1924

**THE HILLTOP**

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 91, NO. 45

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

WEDNESDAY
Notebook**BREAKING NEWS**

A JUVENILE PLAYING WITH MATCHES STARTED A SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE THAT RESULTED IN SCORCHING MORE THAN 38,000 ACRES, ACCORDING TO CNN.COM

BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY

FOR TECHNOLOGY BUFFS, THERE MAY BE ONE MORE GADGET TO ADD TO YOUR LIST OF DEVICES. RUMORS ARE CIRCULATING ABOUT A NEW GPHONE BEING RELEASED BY GOOGLE.

LIFE & STYLE

IT'S HALLOWEEN AGAIN! WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE CANDY CHOICES? WE HAVE OUR TOP 10 LIST OF CANDY PICKS FOR THE HOLIDAY.

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PAGE 7

Drexel Hosts Nominees

Drexel University hosted Tuesday's presidential nominee debate.

BY JADA SMITH
Staff Writer

Tuesday night, Drexel University in Philadelphia hosted a debate amongst the Democratic Presidential nominees including Senator Hillary Clinton of New York, Senator Barack Obama of Illinois, Senator Joe Biden of Delaware, New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson, Representative Dennis Kucinich, and Senator John Edwards of North Carolina.

The issues addressed by the nominees included the looming energy crisis, the war in Iraq, social security and the possible invasion of Iran. With Sen. Clinton being the democratic front runner, she was openly attacked by both Senator Edwards and Senator Obama on her lack of straight forward answers and her contradictory statements.

"Senator Clinton has been inconsistent with her responses to health care, Iran, and her ideologies. She says she doesn't agree with Bush, but voted in his favor several times," says DeVaughn Ward, president of the Howard University chapter of College Democrats.

Throughout the debate Senator Edwards stood out with his honest assessment of the current state of the government and his insistent attitude

toward standing up against the Bush administration.

"We have to stand up to this administration and say no. We have no intention of letting Bush, Cheney, or their administration invade Iran," said Edwards. "We have a system that is broken, rigid and corrupt. We need to change that."

Social Security was one of the main issues addressed by the nominees, yet was dominated by Clinton's stance on governmental fiscal responsibility. "With Social Security I do have a plan; due to irresponsible spending policies we need fiscal responsibility to help the long term challenges we are facing with this issue. Start taking tax cuts away from the wealthy, instead of a trillion dollar tax increase on the elderly and working class," Senator Clinton said. She also reviewed her history with improving health care in this country. "I helped bring health care to 6 million children while in the White House. I stood up against President Bush's veto of SCHIP. My 35 year record of fighting for issues such as these should speak for itself."

Dr. Lorenzo Morris, Chair of the Political Science Department of Howard University, says that this debate should have been a good opportunity for the nominees to prove their ability to stand up for the party as opposed to just

> See **DEBATE**, Page 3**Law School Protests Sodexo**BY ALEESA MANN
Staff Writer

Yesterday members of the Student Bar Association and other student organizations in the Howard University Law School hosted the "Spirit of Howard Potluck," an event held in protest of Sodexo.

Law School students have been disappointed by the quality and price of food offered by Sodexo and refuse to keep their complaints quiet. Tensions between the student body and Sodexo have come to a boil over the past few weeks, and the potluck was a means of expressing students' discontent.

"[Concerns have] been brewing since the beginning of the year because of the way Sodexo has implemented changes about the pricing of the food, as well as the difference in the way they serve it to us," said Maximillion Booker, Vice President of the Student Bar Association (SBA), "and with the pace at which Sodexo and the administration have been dealing with the issue we just thought it was enough."

With the support of the SBA and other student organizations, Joshua Senavoe, a third year law student and president of the SBA, spearheaded efforts to put together the potluck. After being frustrated in his attempts to contact and meet with Sodexo representatives, Senavoe planned the potluck in order to catch the attention of the company without making direct contact.

"I truly believe that as a leader you have a responsibility to

the people that chose you, and so even though a stance might not be popular, because I speak for the students, it is necessary for me to put out my neck and say we're organizing this," said Senavoe.

The potluck was planned within a week. Students were asked not to eat in the cafeteria and they were provided with food from other local restaurants such as Spices, Subway, and a few students contributed their own baked goods.

For many students the potluck was a success. More than 300 of Law School's 450 students participated in the potluck, even members of the faculty and administration came in support of the students.

"We decided that this would be a great thing to do to get our message across and get everybody together around a cause. Nobody thought it would be this successful. There was a line all the way out the door," said Senavoe.

"Student participation was good, almost nobody was in the cafeteria," said second year law student, Aaron McAllister. "It was very well organized, and I think student leaders did a good job of putting it on. [The potluck] lets everyone know as students we are active and we take steps to solve our issues and problem."

Despite their dissatisfaction with Sodexo, students supporting the protest are not trying to express any hostility towards the company. The Spirit of Howard Potluck was not promoted as a boycott, but a method of expressing students'



Aleesa Mann - Staff Writer

Law school students held a potluck in hopes of a change in food quality.

concerns.

"We didn't call it a boycott," said Senavoe. "What we decided was that we, the students, were going to have a time together, and we're going to eat together, we're just not going to eat in the cafeteria. We're not doing this to boycott. Our message was more about the fact that we are unified along this idea and we're going to do things as a unified body until you listen to us"

In lieu of the recent events concerning Sodexo and the undergraduate campus, law school

students recognize their role in supporting the concerns of all Howard University students.

"We've heard the undergrad has had their own problems with the cafeteria and so we definitely stand with them in whatever their problems are that they need to get addressed. We are students too and we definitely stand with the undergrads and all the other schools in our situation. We hope that what we've done today will be a showing of what student unity can achieve,"

> See **PROTEST**, Page 3**Supreme Court to Address Fraud**BY MORGAN LYNCH & JASMIN MELVIN
Hilltop Staff

Corporate scandal has plagued the business world for years, but instances of securities fraud have been particularly noteworthy in the past few years as Enron and WorldCom made major headlines. Now, investors want added protection and are looking the U.S. Supreme Court for help.

The Supreme Court justices have been tasked with deciding whether investors should be allowed to sue banks, accountants and other third parties in fraud

cases. As of now, shareholders can sue corporations that deceive them, but they cannot touch the third parties — known as assisters — who assisted the corporation in committing fraud.

The courts have not been supportive of similar cases, insisting that the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) is the only entity with authority to bring suits against assisters. But, because of the frequency with which these fraud cases have been occurring, it has forced the courts to take a serious look at these suits.

A decision in the shareholders' favor could open up the arena for former Enron employees swim-

dled out of their retirement funds to bring suit against the banks that allegedly helped Enron in its fraudulent business practices.

"It's unfair," sophomore finance major Lawrence Mann said of the current system. "Because one part gets in trouble, all parts should get in trouble. It's all ethics."

The case, Stoneridge Investment Partners v. Scientific-Atlanta Inc., addresses scheme liability, or the issue of expanding liability from just the companies to include the third parties that helped defraud investors as well.

Advocates for the investors say that all parties should be held accountable if they were knowl-

edgeable to what was happening at the time they were working on the transactions. The plaintiffs in the case believe allowing these lawsuits would discourage any misdoings in the future.

Stanley Grossman, the attorney representing the investors, argued that expanding liability in this case was covered under U.S. securities law. "We are not asking for an expansion [of liability]," he said while outside the court after arguments were heard on Oct. 9. "The other side is asking for a cutback."

The so-called other side was represented by lawyer Stephen

> See **SUPREME COURT**, Page 3**No Trick-or-Treating on Halloween for Many**BY ALEESA MANN
Staff Writer

The Halloween season has arrived, festivities and costume shopping have begun, yet it seems the concept of Halloween has become more commercial than ever.

Halloween, which has its roots in Celtic traditions, has become integrated with commercialism and, for many religions and even schools, is no reason to celebrate.

School districts in cities like Newton, Mass. and Coppell, Texas have implemented a ban on Halloween. Puyallup School District, the ninth-largest schooling district in the state of Washington, is currently in its fourth year of banning Halloween activities from its curriculum.

"I think the growing trend [among school districts] is that we have to be mindful of having to use

every minute wisely in our instructional day," said Karen Hansen, Executive Director of Communications for the Puyallup School District. "I think districts across the country are examining how they teach, what they teach and how they can do the best job they can raising academic achievement."

Hansen, continued, "We are protecting instructional time. We have so many things we have to teach that taking a day off for a celebration like this is not something we have time for, and it is not related to any standards in our curriculum."

According to Hansen, harvest festivals or activities that can be fused into the curriculum can be incorporated into the classroom instead of Halloween activities. Hansen also attributed the banning of Halloween to its transgression on certain beliefs.

"There were families that

don't recognize Halloween and on days if their children were in a classroom they couldn't send their children to school, and in our opinion no child should ever stay home from school because of something we are doing," Hansen said.

Individuals in some religions do not recognize Halloween because it is not in agreement with their beliefs. For some followers of Christianity and Islam, the pagan foundation of Halloween deters participation.

For Dr. Dobson, founder and Chairman of the board of Focus on the Family, a Christian ministry, the "traditional emphasis upon the occult, witches, devils, death and evil sends messages to our kids that godly parents can only regard with alarm."

Yet, in a press release, Dobson maintained that Halloween allows for harmless fun. "If the Halloween experience is focused on

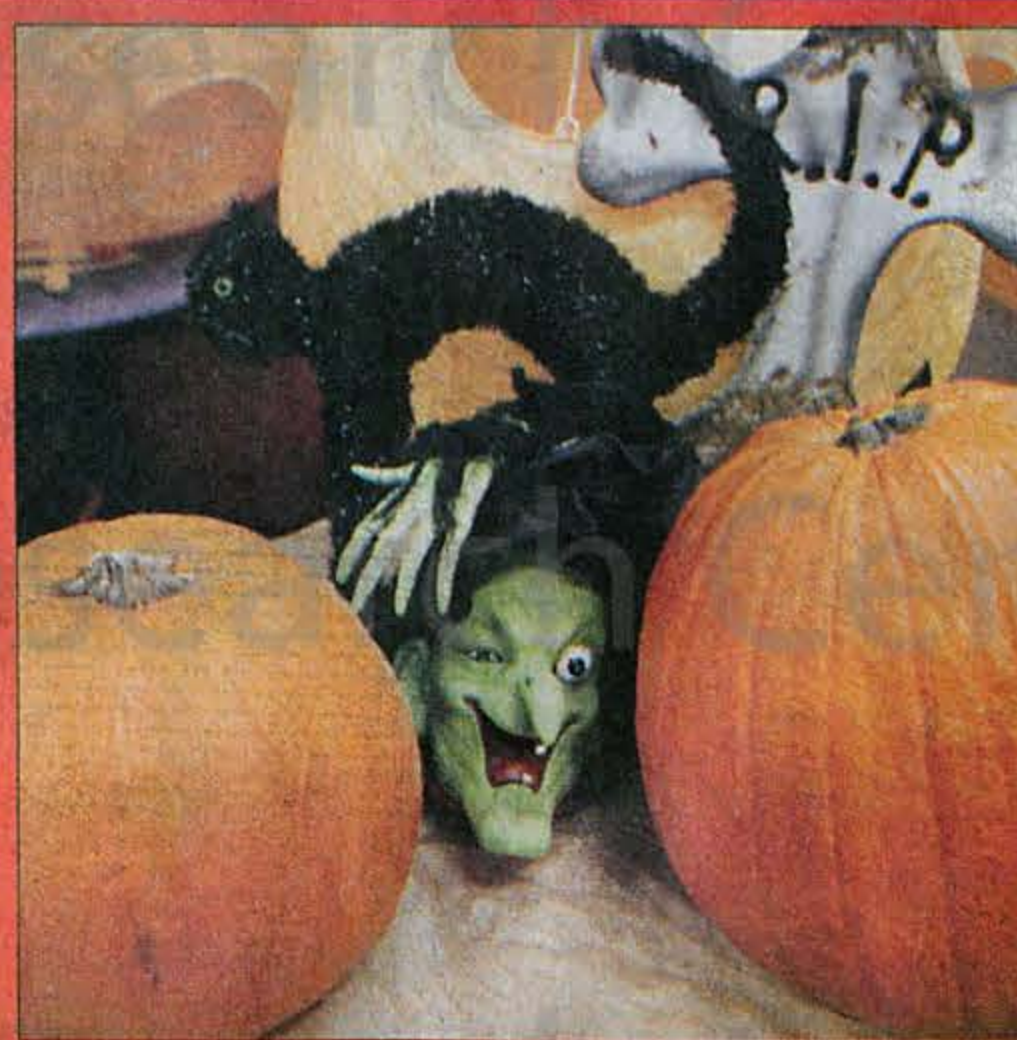
fantasy rather than the occult, I see no harm in it," he said.

Halloween originated from the Celtic celebration of Samhain (pronounced Sow-In). More than 2,000 years ago, Celts in Ireland celebrated their New Year on Nov. 1, which marked the end of summer and of the harvest period. The Celts would then begin to transition for winter, a darker season associated with the dead.

October 31 was the day the dead would roam among the living world and Celts would leave out gifts to appease the souls to ensure they would have a plentiful crop in the next season.

Over time, Halloween evolved from the pagan holiday Samhain as Christianity was introduced to the Celts. In present times, for the pagan community, Halloween is less about pagan rituals than fun and foolery.

"Modern Halloween is part



Mary Schröder - Detroit Free Press (MCT)

Many religions choose not to participate in the "trick-or-treat" festivities.

of commercialism," said Amethyst Moonwater, Communications Director for the Pagan Alliance. "We do celebrate and we do have fun."

For the pagan community, the major celebration is called

> See **HALLOWEEN**, Page 3**INDEX****Campus 2****Business & Technology 5****Life & Style 7****Sports 8****Editorials & Perspectives 9**

Fallen Students Given Tribute

BY ROYCE STRAHAN
Staff Writer

Those who were lost in two tragic events were paid tribute to yesterday at the flagpole on the Yard. Howard students remembered Shalita Middleton and the seven students who were killed in a North Carolina fire yesterday during a prayer vigil.

Melech Thomas, a sophomore legal communications major, organized the prayer vigil. "I had tremendous help from Marcus Ware and Dean Guillory," Thomas said.

In addition to Howard University Student Association (HUSA) President Marcus Ware and Dean Tanya Guillory, Vice Provost for Student Affairs Dr. Franklin Chambers was also in attendance, along with a small number of Howard students.

Shalita Middleton, a Delaware State University (DSU) freshman and honor student, died last week as a result of her injuries from a dispute over a month ago. Middleton was a 17-year-old biology major from Washington, D.C. and also a cheerleader for DSU.

According to Thomas, the tragedy was a result of a spades game in which Middleton tried to dissipate an argument between two individuals. Middleton ended up being the only casualty after one of the young males fired a gun multiple times.

"There's a lot of tragedies and negative things going on at colleges around the country,"

Thomas said. "The sad thing about the situation is that she wasn't even involved in the altercation. She was actually trying to keep the peace in the situation."

The seven students killed in the tragic fire this weekend were also a topic of discussion at the prayer vigil. The students, six from the University of South Carolina and one from Clemson University, were enjoying their fall break at a beach house last weekend when a fire allegedly started on the deck and left the seven students unaccounted for. The names of the students have yet to be released.

"There's an attack on our college students, whether they're white, black, Hispanic or Asian," Thomas said. "We just need to come together and show support for other college students around the country and across the globe."

Chambers gave his take on the tragic events that have occurred across college campuses.

"I think it's unfortunate that our college campuses have been marked by these sudden tragedies," he said. "What's encouraging though is that there is a ground-swell among the students to support their colleagues and that's always encouraging."

He continued, "I think in any moment of adversity, we should always look for opportunity, and this has been a teaching opportunity for us. It's teaching us



Students gathered on the Yard to pay homage to the seven students killed in a tragic beach house fire and the Delaware State student who passed last week.

that we need to be more compassionate, more understanding and more forgiving."

Ware also gave his opinion on the recent tragedies to the small crowd gathered on the Yard. "Every year, President Swygert gives the same speech to every HUSA president and he gave it to me not too long ago," Ware said. "He told me that every year something is going to happen on our campus that we're not going to expect and I just thank God that nothing very serious has happened on our campus. We've been blessed."

Chambers believes that when tragedies like these occur, people have to show their support for the victims and those close to them. "I think it's difficult to prevent tragedies from occurring

because they are so unplanned for," he said. "What we can do is to be better prepared to address the tragedy when it does occur and minimize the residual effects of those tragedies, and that just comes with preparation, execution and communication."

Ware also called for prayers for many of the other events that have occurred as a result of the California fires, which HUSA is trying to organize a means of support for, and the tragedies occurring at other college campuses around the country.

"There are a lot of things going on at college campuses around the world, but at Howard, we're blessed this year to not have experienced anything like this," Ware said.

Campus Briefs

Delaware State University

According to Black College Wire, Shalita Middleton, one of the victims of last month's Delaware State University shooting, died last Tuesday, Oct. 23. She had been in Christiana Hospital in Delaware since the shooting on Sept. 21. Middleton was a freshman at Delaware State and a native of Washington, D.C.

In a statement, Middleton's family said, "She struggled valiantly over the last several weeks... Ultimately, however, the internal injuries that she suffered were in the end too critical to overcome." The other victim, Nathaniel Pugh, was shot in the ankle but has been released from the hospital.

University of South Carolina

According to the Associated Press, a student who was inside the house that caught fire and killed six University of South Carolina students and one Clemson University student said jumping was his "only option."

The student, Tripp Wylie, survived, but seven of his friends in the beach house did not. Officials said the fire was accidental, but the specific cause remains unknown.

Yale University

The Yale School of Public Health, according to contact.com, is launching a project that will improve public health services across the country. A \$400,000 grant will go toward increasing staff and improve organization in public health agencies.

Dean Paul Cleary and the Public Health Services and Systems Research program will be working together with government officials and practitioners to develop an efficient agenda for research.

Galludet University

According to *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Galludet University was on the list of colleges and universities that produced the most U.S. Fulbright Fellows this year, leading other peer institutions. The success of the top producing schools was highlighted in the Oct. 26 printed edition of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

Four of seven Galludet students who applied won Fulbright awards for 2007-2008, making Galludet third in the Master's Institutions category with a 57 percent success rate.

Georgetown University

According to *The Hoya*, Georgetown University formally announced this weekend that it will expand a university college-preparatory program for District of Columbia public school students after receiving a \$10 million gift for the program.

The donation, from the Meyers Foundation, will allow an additional 500 public school students to participate in the program — renamed the Meyers Institute for College Preparation — over the next 10 years, more than doubling the present enrollment.

The MICP, part of the Center for Multicultural Equity and Access, provides academic, psychosocial and family support to low-income public school students in grades seven through 12. Most of the students live in Ward 7, a Southeast Washington, D.C. ward that is among the city's poorest.

Image of Black Men Put on Table

BY CHRISTINA BURTON
Staff Writer

Two older generation advocates for educating young black males faced an auditorium filled with students, both women and men, speaking on how to effectively teach and work with black males in today's society in a program titled "A Man's World" put on by the School of Education Student Council.

Panelists Sanders Shiver, program coordinator of Prince George's County Public Schools and David Steven Spruill, the headmaster at Emery L. Fear Boys Academy in Washington, D.C. both agree that exposure to a network and

the right people are key for the success of young black males.

"A sense of urgency is missing for many," Spruill said. "A lot of schools are failing our boys, and when your school fails you, you've lost your purpose."

Spruill said his students, who are all black, ranging from second graders to ninth graders, are always on Howard's campus using the facilities and researching the institution.

He recalled when his students came to Charter Day and met two Howard students.

"A simple interactive moment that stuck with them for a while," Spruill said. "That is key."

The panel and the au-

dience communicated back and forth with insight from Spruill and Shiver.

Comments on the labels that black men receive from a social standpoint and how hip-hop and the media influence these labels sparked fierce discussion.

"Individually, you have to understand that they are going to put labels on you," said Shiver, who thinks that early intervention with black men is the most effective method of teaching.

"What drives you is a network of people or a network of situations that gives you information, that constantly stimulates you to a point where you say, 'Well, there is another way, there is a better way. Let me try this,'" he said.

Spruill said, "I constantly remind my students to think for yourself. Don't believe everything you see or hear. And we unfortunately live in a society where media is actually raising many of our young brothers and sisters and they get into believing the big screen and what's on television."

Spruill said his youngest students have learned that news reports are told from an angle, such as when an ethnic group

or a gender is not mentioned by news broadcasters, the person being described is not likely to be like them.

"Media is a strong temptation," Spruill said. "Some students have dropped their dreams completely to be what they see on TV or in the movies or hear rappers say."

Spruill continued, "Education is not a big issue in the hip-hop world. All that is doing is telling these kids, 'don't worry about the sheepskin and the college degree. Let's get the woman and the bling-bling.' All that is vain and such."

Senior political science major Runako Gulstone said the black community should be responsible for raising black people.

"We can't expect children to raise children," Gulstone said, also agreeing with Nichols in the argument that labels will always be put on the black community.

Gulstone added, "We can't continue to be 'the good negro' for the rest of white America, but if we continue to do that, we will meet our demise."



The image of black men portrayed in the media and society was at the forefront of the issues discussed at the panel discussion "A Man's World."

HAPPY HALLOWEEN !!!



Pumpkins on display in the West Towers were carved by students in celebration of Halloween.

From The Hilltop Campus Section

Corporate Investors Appeal to Courts in Fraud Cases

Continued from FRONT, SUPREME COURT

Shapiro, who argued that matters involving investors seeking to sue corporations should be left up to the SEC.

"Congress wanted cases like this one to be handled by an expert and disinterested administrative agency," Shapiro said as he spoke before the justices.

The justices' decision is likely to come either by the end of the year or in early 2008.

"They [third parties] deserve some kind of substantial punishment," Mann said.

But, there are some downfalls associated with expanding liability to third parties. It could open up a tidal wave of unnecessary lawsuits and litigation. Mak-

ing third parties vulnerable could also discourage foreign investment and hurt the U.S. economy and its competitiveness.

Justice Stephen Breyer did not hear arguments for the case, so there is a chance that the justices could come to a 4-4 deadlock. But, the hour of arguments heard earlier this month seemed to go against the investors, according to WTOPnews.com.

Chief Justice John Roberts expressed concerns over expanding liability as he thought it a role better suited for Congress. He also questioned if the justices should take auspices from past high court rulings that involved such cases.

Justice Antonin Scalia suggested that third parties might be liable, but the right to sue should be limited to the SEC, not investors.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg looks as if she will side with the investors. She mentioned trying to find a middle ground between discounting the suits completely and bringing the third parties to the level of primary corporate defrauders.

Candidates Debate

Continued from FRONT, DEBATE

self praise. "These debates are supposed to represent the party agenda. They need to show us that they can fit and compromise with everyone else in the White House, unity is important. They need to say how their differences will align with the rest of the party. Republicans do that very well, they gather support for each other and make things happen," says Morris, "democrats need to do the same."

Other issues important to students across the country, such as the rising cost of college tuition and governmental funding for natural disasters, were touched upon lightly. "I

would have liked to see more about education costs and the trillion dollar deficit that this country is facing. Also, the issues about minimum mandatory sentencing, domestic issues, and student loans—that was barely touched," says Ward.

Despite the candidates' inability to give thorough answers due to time constraints, the debate as a whole could prove to be a major turning point for some of the underdogs in the campaign. "All in all, I thought Senators Obama and Edwards gained a lot of ground on Hillary, which was the objective. Even though there are more debates left, this one could make a significant difference in the polls," says Ward.

Halloween Festivities Lack Appeal for Many

Continued from FRONT, HALLOWEEN

Samhain. The Spiral Dance is a major event that marks the celebration of Samhain in which pagans honor their religious powers through spiritual dancing.

"It [Samhain] is like Halloween in terms of a celebration, but it's our high holy day," Moonwater said. "It's a ritual where we're honoring things that happened before, honoring our present and preparing to be involved in creating the world of the future that is sacred."

For many students, the religious context of Halloween has become outdat-

ed, and Halloween is simply a time to get dressed up and party.

"I think Halloween is just another Hallmark holiday, an excuse for eating lots of candy, having fun and partying," said Bree Gant, a freshman international business major. "This Halloween, I think I'm going to move on from trick-or-treating and hit up a party or two."

While some students are making plans to celebrate the day, there is still a prominent faction of students on campus who do not recognize Halloween.

"Basically, the holiday makes no sense to me, I never really understood why we celebrated it and if I don't understand why we're celebrating it I don't celebrate,"

Carlton Uko, a sophomore business major, said.

Uko continued, "It's a day where we go out and get candy and wear masks and costumes and I never understood what the holiday stood for or meant, and, in addition, I was brought up to see Halloween as a pagan holiday, so my family and I never celebrated it."

Uko does not feel compelled to celebrate Halloween just because others do.

"I can't really go out because the party is promoting Halloween, which I don't stand for," he said. "I kind of feel like the oddball out, but at the same time it's not my holiday, and I've always been someone to go against the grain."

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Schedule of Events

Friday, November 30, 2007:

Spencer Reception

Saturday, December 1, 2007:

Step show Competition
 Drumline Competition
 HBCU College Fair
 An Awesome Pre-Game Show
 Live Jazz & vendors on the MSG Concourse and a Half-Time Show not to be missed!!!
 First game: VA Union vs. Bowie State 7:00 pm
 The main event game: Hampton vs. Howard 9:00 pm
 (All in Madison Square Garden - doors open at 2:30 pm)

One Ticket ... All Inclusive

The Hilltop is hiring... Pick up applications in Blackburn suite 117.

Get Your Tickets to the

Howard vs. South Carolina State U
Football Game on November 3, 2007

and

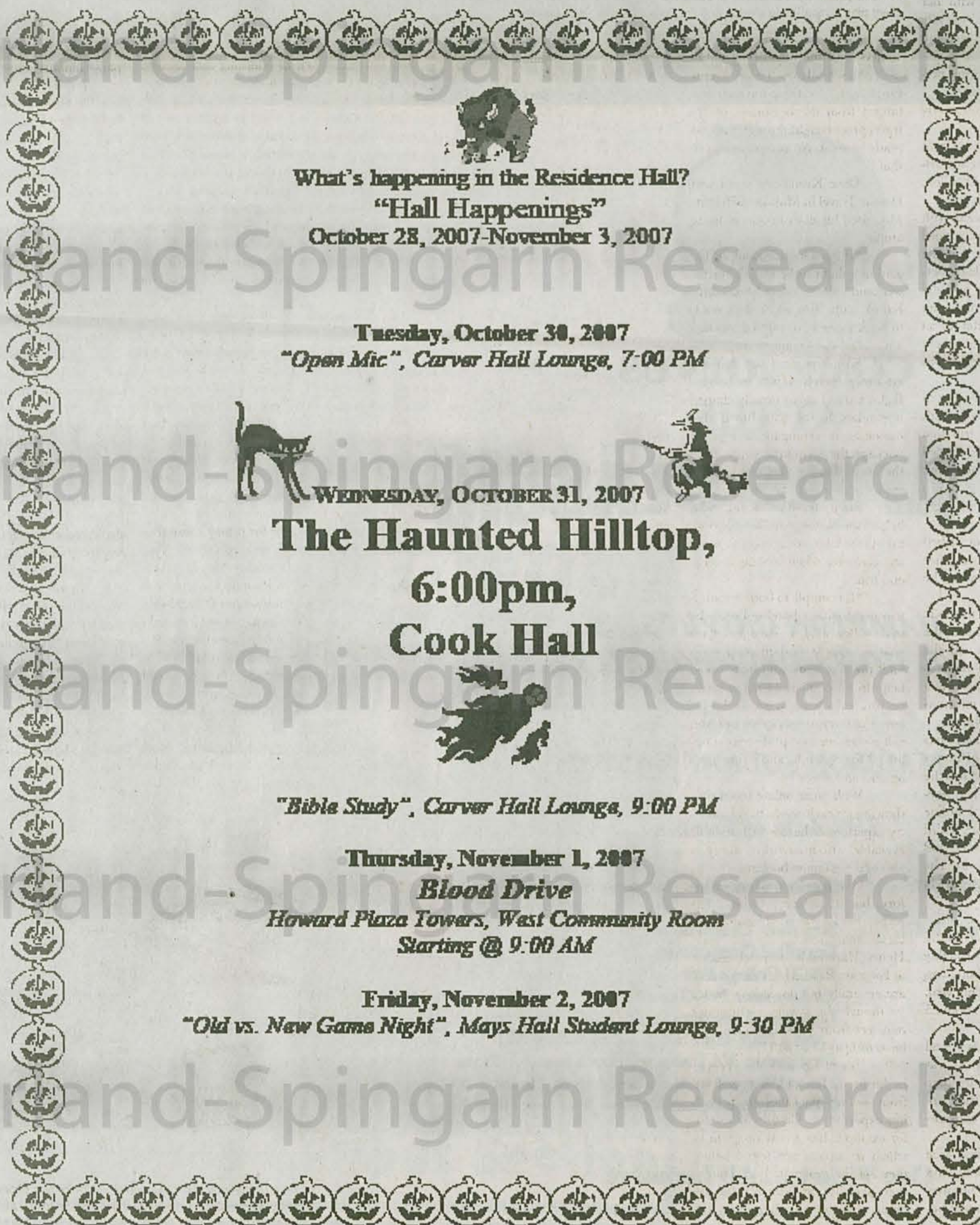
Howard vs. Bethune Cookman U
Football Game on November 10, 2007

When: Wednesday & Thursday,
October 31, and November 1, 2007

Where: Lower Level,
Cramton Auditorium.
Time 10:00 am to 3:00pm



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Free Student
MOVIE SCREENING TICKETS
with Student Football Tickets for the
Special Viewing Party
Matt Williams
"America Hustle"
Movie Date: Fri. Nov. 9 @ 9:00pm Cramton Auditorium



What's happening in the Residence Hall?
"Hall Happenings"
October 28, 2007-November 3, 2007

Tuesday, October 30, 2007
"Open Mic", Carver Hall Lounge, 7:00 PM

 **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2007** 
The Haunted Hilltop,
6:00pm,
Cook Hall


"Bible Study", Carver Hall Lounge, 9:00 PM

Thursday, November 1, 2007
Blood Drive
Howard Plaza Towers, West Community Room
Starting @ 9:00 AM

Friday, November 2, 2007
"Old vs. New Game Night", Mays Hall Student Lounge, 9:30 PM

AT&T Fourth to Sue Vonage over Patents

BY JANELLE DOBY
Contributing Writer

Vonage, the Internet phone service provider that has yet to turn a profit, has been hit with yet another lawsuit from a competing communications company, marking the fourth patent infringement suit against the company in two years.

AT&T, the largest U.S. phone company, joined the ranks of Verizon, Sprint Nextel and Klausner Technologies when it filed suit against Vonage two weeks ago in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin. The suit accuses Vonage of patent infringement for "selling packet-based telephony products that use technology covered by AT&T's patent," according to several media outlets.

Packet telephony is also known as voice over Internet protocol (VoIP) and allows conversations to transpire over the Internet. According to AT&T, the company has tried to amicably settle the lawsuit since 2005 to no

avail.

Sophomore political science major Kendra Hill expressed skepticism about the lawsuit. "AT&T has been hit with suits about monopoly issues, and now they are suing a company because they are using their ideas. To be in that business, it would seem as though all the companies would use similar technology," she said.

Hill continued, "I'm not in engineering, but the litigation seems somewhat ambiguous. How is it possible to really patent a procedure like packet telephony?"

Many students around Howard University's campus look at the suit as one of greed on AT&T's part. It seems difficult to find sympathy for a company that has dominated the communications industry for decades.

Sophomore broadcast journalism major Curtis McCloud said, "AT&T should know that there is enough phone, Internet and satellite television business to go around. If they invented this packet deal, that's one thing. But if they simply took technology



The Vonage V-Phone turns any computer into a phone without any installation. Though innovative, Vonage is again in court over patent infringement.

that was already out there and made it better, why wouldn't they think that other companies would soon follow?"

McCloud added, "One thing competition in an industry does is cause lower rates of ser-

vice or product for the consumer. It seems to me as though AT&T is at its old tricks again by trying to hold a monopoly on a service so that they can regulate the price — big business at its finest."

However, the take on the

suit from those in the business world is somewhat different.

Joe West, associate counsel for a major corporation, said, "Suits of this type are going to be more and more common. Technology evolves much faster than the law does. I would not dismiss it as meritless."

It is apparent that AT&T is seeking to recoup revenue already gone as a direct result of Vonage's business practice. For a company to have just gone public a little more than a year ago, Vonage is destroying the competition, and has catapulted into the forefront of the communications industry. The frenzy over patent infringement seems to stem from Vonage studying other major phone companies, taking what worked, eliminating what didn't and introducing a phone company that posed a major threat, both financially and technologically, to make a major dent in the communications field.

"It is hard to say whether AT&T will actually prevail," West said. "AT&T's goal is two-fold.

First, they are attempting to set a precedent for any other company that attempts to follow Vonage's lead; and second, they are trying to gain some sort of recovery of lost revenue based on Vonage's invasion into the market."

For the most part, Vonage has been unsuccessful in winning any of the cases brought against it. On Oct. 8, the company agreed to pay Sprint Nextel \$80 million for infringing on six of its patents. Three days later, it settled with Klausner Technologies, a private company that specializes in voice messaging technology, by licensing patents for voice mail services. The financial terms of the settlement were not disclosed.

Last week, Vonage was ordered to pay \$117.5 million to Verizon and \$2.5 million to charity as part of a suit it lost in March. But, the company hopes a U.S. appeals court will reconsider a jury verdict made in Verizon's favor. If Vonage wins the appeal, its payment to Verizon will be cut to \$80 million.

Travel Agents Down, But Not Out

BY TOM UHLENBROCK
St. Louis Post-Dispatch (MCT)

ST. LOUIS — Jenny Nord and Tom Steinberg took different avenues in planning their perfect vacations. She consulted a travel agent. He did it himself online.

Although more than two-thirds of leisure travelers use the Internet these days to book the flights, hotels and cars they need on their vacations, traditional travel agents are fighting back by emphasizing their personal touch and hands-on expertise that no computer can match.

Nord, a social worker from Florissant, Mo., was headed to Disneyworld in Orlando with her 4-year-old son, Davin, and initially went online to look at packages and prices.

"I'm not a big Internet person, and I found it pretty confusing," she said. "There were too many choices."

Nord, 29, sought advice from Jan Stanczak, a travel agent at Carlson Wagonlit Travel in O'Fallon, Mo., who arranged her trip.

"Jan was very familiar with all the Disney packages," Nord said. "She said September was the best time. Prices were a little bit better, there were less crowds and the weather was beautiful. We're staying at the Caribbean Beach Resort on site. Jan said shuttles take us where we need to go on the property. It was just so simple."

Steinberg, 55, a physician in St. Louis, was going to Europe with a friend for a nine-night trip that started in Amsterdam and ended in Paris. He used Travelocity.com to book the flights, Booking.com to find hotels and Michelin.com to get maps.

Steinberg, who described himself as "moderately computer savvy," praised the hotel reviews he found on Booking.com.

"The reviews were precisely what I found when I got there," he said. "I could communicate with the hotels online, I made the reservations and asked the one in Paris a question. I could get all the information I wanted over the Internet."

The travel agent industry has survived a triple whammy of events in the last decade or so. First was the boom in online booking sites. Second was the elimination of airline commissions to travel agents. Third was 9/11, when travel slowed and many agencies shut their doors. The industry reported 32,238 agencies in 1999, and 20,492 this year.

Michael Cannizzaro, director of research at PhoCusWright, a travel research firm, said roughly half of all leisure travel in 2001 was booked by travel agents. This year, that figure is expected to be about 25 percent.

"The offline channels are all shrinking," he said. "So while traditional travel agencies are in some cases doing well, overall they are continuing to shrink in the consumer area."

Roger Block, executive vice president of Carlson Wagonlit, says the agents that remained in business are staging a comeback largely be-



Paulette Potter, a consultant with Jan's Travel and Cruise in Missouri, helped a client plan a vacation to Mexico and the Dominican Republic last month.

cause of the dissatisfaction of customers with the impersonal nature of online booking. Those agents, Block said, "are there for their customers from the beginning of the travel process right through the end, ready to assist. No computer can do that."

Dave Kronk, an agent with Damar Travel in Maryland Heights, Mo., used his sister-in-law as an example.

"If it's something simple, like getting a flight to Scottsdale for the weekend, she'll use Orbitz.com," Kronk said. "But when she's ready to book a cruise, or putting together a package, she'll come to me."

Kronk pointed out that if a customer merely wants to book a flight, a travel agent usually charges a standard fee of \$30. But if that customer is arranging a tour or package, the agent's pay comes from the cruise line or tour company in the form of a commission.

Stanczak, the agent who helped the Nord go to Disneyworld, said there were advantages to using an agent even when booking a weekend trip.

"It is simple to book a round-trip flight with a hotel online," she said. "But flights change, plans change. People find themselves in bad predicaments and they need help. In times of problems or crisis, do you really want to get on the Internet and try to find someone? You call a number and push 1 for English, 2 for Spanish, and it just goes on and on forever."

With more online travel sites showing up each week, travel industry experts said there were hundreds available, with many travel agencies also offering online booking.

"We haven't done an inventory, but Travelocity, Orbitz, Expedia, Priceline.com, Hotwire and Hotels.com are the 'big six,'" said Henry Harteveldt, a travel analyst at Forrester Research. "Prices online are generally, but not always, better — though the savings a consumer may get from booking online may be as little as \$5 or \$10."

Travel agencies are keeping in business, he said, but evolving from selling packages to providing expertise — Carlson Wagonlit, for example, has a new program in which its agents are tested before they can be designated a "destination specialist" on certain locations. Some agencies are charging a flat

fee from clients seeking advice from specialists, especially about high-end travel to exotic places.

"Agencies' values have shifted from transaction to research," Harteveldt said. "As such, they are more like media companies, and must therefore do a better job of making their money from people who use them to research trips. That will mean a big change in how they do business."

Cannizzaro, the research director for PhoCusWright, said the traditional agents who will succeed are those who focus on "longer-haul traveling."

"The driver is, people are going to the Web and trying to book more complicated travel, and they can't do that very well," he said. "Five destinations in a week is very difficult, and travel agencies can do that in a snap. It's a big world and there are a lot of destinations, and many of those have not been very heavily traveled. Expedia is not going to have a lot of information on certain exotic locales."

Brooke Ferencsik of TripAdvisor.com, the largest travel network in the world, said the site got more than 25 million monthly visitors, many of them contributing reviews and opinions. The information is free for others doing research on a trip.

"We get real advice from real travelers, the levels of details are amazing," Ferencsik said. "We offer the collective wisdom of millions of travelers who are looking to share their opinions so other travelers can benefit from their experience. It's not just the good elements. We offer the good, the bad and the ugly."

Ferencsik suggested that travelers at ease with the Internet could plan a trip using information collected online. If they then wanted personalized service in booking the trip, they could turn to a travel agent.

"Some travel agents actually do their research on TripAdvisor," he said.

Steinberg, the computer-savvy doctor, agreed there might be times when he, too, would turn to a travel agent.

"If I was going somewhere fairly exotic, where the information would be more difficult to come by over the Internet, I would rely on a travel agent," he said.



gPhone Coming Soon...Maybe

BY LINSEY ISAACS
Staff Writer

Dominating the advertising world and pioneering the search engines, Google now secretly has plans to embark on the cellular turf, by possibly releasing a phone under its own service by the end of next year.

Rumors have circulated about the advertisement giant, linking Google to cellular phone manufacturers such as Samsung and telecom giants like Orange, a mobile network operator. Although Google has admitted to working with other companies to expand its applications to mobile devices, it refused to disclose any more information about creating a phone. But, the company has allegedly shown prototypes of a new cell phone to various manufacturers.

Samsung phones are already enabled with Google services, which enhance mobile web browsing and other services similar to Microsoft products on smart phones. These Google-compatible phones were released in January.

"We are very thrilled to introduce Samsung mobiles with one-click access to Google services," Kitae Lee, the president of Samsung's Telecommunication Network Business, said in a statement. "Samsung and Google will enhance users' mobile experience with a powerful, yet easy-to-use handset with simple access to information and personal management."

With Google applications already on some Samsung phones, creating a new phone would be a huge upgrade. The design of the Google phone is said to be similar to the style of the iPhone, but plans for it may cause friction with leading cell phone companies.

Google recently revealed its eagerness to spend \$4.6 billion on a wireless spectrum at the U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) auction, and said its phone service would be ad-supported. While other companies rake in profits from phones and high monthly bills, a potential service provided by Google would base its profits almost solely on advertisements, which would be determined by phone users in exchange for free minutes.

"I think that's stupid," freshman computer systems analyst major Blaire Barlow said. "I'm pretty sure people will get the phone be-

cause of the free service [initially], but the ads are too much."

Other companies such as Virgin Mobile have attempted to follow the same path. With a service called Suga Mama, users can request ads texted to their phones in forms of quizzes and games, and, in exchange, they acquire more minutes for their individual plans.

Additionally, a cellular company based in Britain called Blyk was the first mobile company supported by advertisements. Its users receive ads from prominent companies such as L'Oreal, McDonald's and Coca Cola, in exchange for 43 minutes per month and 217 text messages. Extra minutes are based on a pay-as-you-go plan.

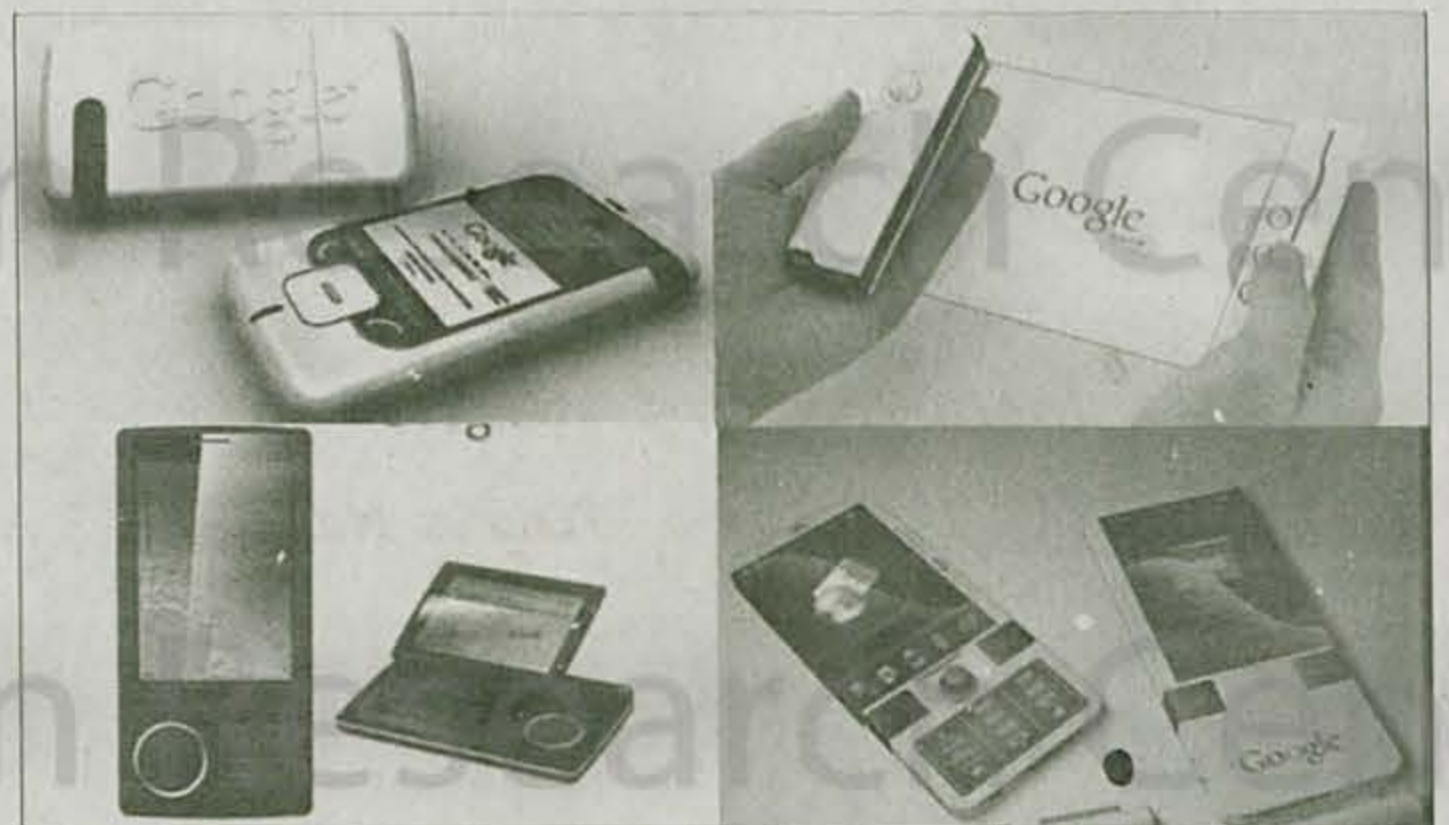
With an ad-supported network, Google may encounter problems getting support from mobile customers. The service, if developed, would most likely target college students and teenagers who may not have the money to afford expensive phones and plans.

Entering the wireless world will be a big and costly gamble for Google as it attempts to incorporate advertisements into phone calls and messages.

"[The service] might be good, [and] it's good [for companies] to try new things," sophomore mathematics major Lamont Walker said. "I don't know how people will respond to it, though. I'm satisfied with my service, but others would probably like it."

Google's ambitions to enter the mobile world are high, and it seems as though the company will stop at nothing to expand its business holdings and enhance service for its dedicated customers, which was evidenced by the company's push to include applications on Samsung phones.

"Google is dedicated to providing users around the world with easier access [to] information and services when they are mobile," said Deep Nishar, director of wireless products and strategy for Google. "Improving the mobile user experience is of paramount importance to both Samsung and Google, and by working together we'll be able to bring the power, functionality and convenience of Google search, Google Maps for mobile and Gmail for mobile devices to millions of Samsung users across the globe."



Though Google is remaining tight-lipped about design plans for its new phone, that has not stopped rumors from spreading or designers from posting their own design ideas. Above are a few of the "prototypes" developed by dedicated Google users anticipating the release of the rPhone.

DESIGN BY: LUCHEECHALA@AOL.COM

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Danger Makes Gluttony the Second Deadly Sin



Obesity, which is often associated with gluttony but can be attributed to other conditions, can lead to various health problems. Many believe the United States breeds a culture of gluttony and overeating that is detrimental.

BY BRITNEY BREWINGTON
Contributing Writer

This past summer at the annual Nathan's Hotdog Eating Contest, Joey Chesnut consumed 66 hotdogs with the buns in 12 minutes flat. This same summer, more than 2.6 million people died from malnutrition and starvation in Africa.

Next summer, Chesnut is expected to beat his record, consuming more hotdogs than he had

the previous time. That's 66 hot dogs to one person while children in Africa do not have clean drinking water.

According to a John Hopkins University study, "66 percent of U.S. adults were overweight or obese in 2003 and 2004. An alarming 80 percent of black women aged 40 or over are overweight and 50 percent are obese."

"It's a crying shame," said Christina Coleman, a junior print journalism major. "It makes no sense why Americans take food

for granted while others go for days without a decent meal."

It's no secret that the United States is one of the richest countries in the world. And it is plain to see that Americans like to spend money on food.

"It's like our favorite pastime," Coleman said. "I mean, we are like the only country that has devoted a whole television network to food and cooking. We live in a country where Rachael Ray is an icon bigger than Nancy Pelosi. I see why people think we

are greedy."

While several other countries use food as a substance to keep them alive, many think Americans use food for hobbies and fun.

Other countries call it "gluttony," but Caressee Spencer, a first-year medical student at Boston University, calls it "consumer's digest."

"We are a culture that buys because of quantity, not quality," Spencer said. "Yes, we might only need one loaf of bread, but when we see 'three for five,' it makes it seem like we are getting more for less, and 'more' is always better in America." In other words, more means eating more.

"If you buy a McDonald's sweet tea because it's a dollar cheaper than a small soft drink, we end up drinking more than we need just because it's cheaper," Spencer said. "So unconsciously we are indulging in a certain type of gluttony. It's not necessarily a bad thing."

Chiara Cooper, a junior fashion merchandising major, sees it differently. "It doesn't matter if we do it consciously or unconsciously," she said. "It's still gluttony, and that's still one of the seven deadly sins."

Stemming from the Bible, gluttony, usually referred to as a deadly sin, comes with other con-

sequences in religion.

According to Thomas Aquinas, the Father of Roman Catholic Theology associates the over-consumption of food, or gluttony, with damnation in hell, being force-fed rats and snakes and having no self-discipline.

Cooper, a Christian, understands that American culture is "over-indulgent and obese," but doesn't agree with Spencer.

"You know when you're full, and when you're full then you need to stop eating. Point blank," she said.

Simply put, in either case, "gluttony" is "habitual eating to excess." According to Webster's dictionary, gluttony is "an excess of eating or drinking, greedy or excess indulgence."

In most situations, our bodies let us know when too much food has been consumed by several responses, whether it be vomiting, feeling nauseous or the obvious gaining of weight.

However, this does not seem to stop the majority of Americans. Long-time nurse Vilma Davis, who specializes in caring for children, believes gluttony needs to be looked at from the root of the problem.

"Most people become obese and eat excessively due to other psychological problems going on in their lives," Davis said.

"Depression causes people to overeat as well as a recent change in a person's lifestyle."

She continued, "When we see a person that is overweight and has become a gluttonist, our main goal is to find the root of the problem and possible solutions to what prompted them to overeat."

Obesity, which can stem from gluttony, is a major medical issue in the United States. Along with numerous infectious diseases, it plays a major role in the population's poor health.

It is also associated with diabetes, heart disease and difficulty breathing. Some forms of obesity can be genetic, but others are found in people classified as "gluttonists."

Although gluttony is a major issue in the United States, it is not something that is taught in colleges or even most medical schools.

"It was never mentioned in any of my classes, Davis said. "However, we learned about obesity and the many different causes of people being overweight. I learned about gluttony from my mother as a child, coming from a religious background."

Spencer said, "As long as Americans keep using food as a social tool, eating contests, food competitions etc., there will be forms of gluttony."

Holiday Food Quiz

Halloween is here, followed by Thanksgiving. From then on, it's non-stop party season straight through Super Bowl weekend. What's your typical weight gain during the holidays? Here's a quiz to see if you know how to avoid those extra pounds.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Most people gain one extra pound during the holiday season.
True or false? | 6. It's silly to have a diet soda with a high-calorie dessert.
True or false? |
| 2. Those who are less active than usual during the holidays gained as much as 10 pounds.
True or false? | 7. Alcohol will dull your appetite, so having a drink or glass of wine will help you eat less.
True or false? |
| 3. Fewer than 10 percent of adults gain more than five pounds over the holiday season. Overweight and obese people are less likely to be in the high-weight-gain group.
True or false? | 8. Eat light the day of a party to save calories for the main event.
True or false? |
| 4. It's only a pound or two gained, which is easily taken off after the holiday season.
True or false? | 9. It helps to keep your hands full of anything but food. Take pictures or hold a glass of club soda.
True or false? |
| 5. The attitude, "I've blown it and may as well enjoy myself now," usually leads people to really overdo it and eat more.
True or false? | |

Answers: 1) True; 2) True; 3) False; 4) False; 5) True; 6) False; 7) False; 8) False. If you starve yourself before a party you will be more likely to overeat. 9) True.

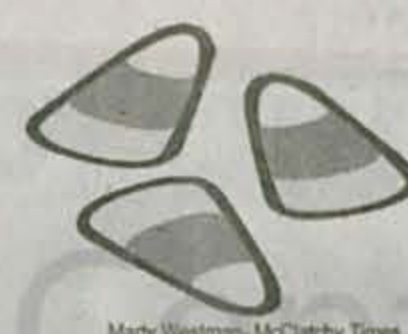
- By Gwen Schoen, Bee Food Writer
Source: American Institute for Cancer Research and Weight Watchers

Top Ten Halloween Candy Picks

1. Twix
2. Candy Corn
3. Snickers
4. Reese's
5. Kit Kat
6. Skittles
7. Now and Laters
8. Starburst
9. Butterfinger
10. Laffy Taffy



Jack Orton-Missouri Daily Stribel (MCT)



Mary Westman-McClatchy Times

America's Worst Nightmare: Wealthy, Black, Powerful



Photo courtesy of www.investors.about.com

Madame CJ Walker created her own hair care empire in the late 1800s. There are now many black men and women, like media mogul Oprah Winfrey, making their fortunes.



Photo courtesy of www.nps.gov



Photo courtesy of www.people.com

BY EBONIQUE ELLIS
Contributing Writer

The "elite" are often described as people who lunch instead of work, are spread among the society pages and live a life of opulence and decadence unaware of the normalcy of the middle class.

A'Leila Bundles, the great granddaughter of the late Madame CJ Walker, has a definition of wealth that is more broad and has to do with the wealth of the soul rather than of the bank account.

"The people I know who are truly wealthy are living lives where they are trying to have some sort of purpose," Bundles said.

Bundles' own wealthy grandmother and namesake A'Leila Walker was ridden with the inherited wealth syndrome, and scandals followed her.

George Chauncey, a professor at the University of Chicago, said Walker's lavish parties were frequented by the gay community, and that she preferred the company of

light-skinned women, despite being dark-skinned herself.

"She was never really accepted among the black elite for this, and a variety of other reasons, although she spent almost her entire fortune chasing that dream through her lavish parties," Chauncey said.

Kyndal Wilson, a junior political science major, said, "I'm sure they lived comfortably but still had to deal with issues of race."

The black elite have a different set of hurdles in society.

The Sociological Inquiry suggested that African-Americans with inter-generational wealth were rejected and steered into lower value appreciating houses much more than their white counterparts.

According to the study, this greatly reduces the passing of wealth through the generations.

In the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, Prince George's County can be seen as a prime example of blacks being steered to lower value

appreciating houses.

"There's not a lot of black elite in my area, but I think the number is increasing," said Brianna Hurt, a junior accounting major from Fairfax County, Va. one of the wealthiest counties in America.

Today, the black elite are becoming interested in promoting inter-generational wealth.

"I spoke to people in financial institutions, and there now are a number [of] financial institutions who have quite a few wealthy black clients," Bundles said.

New York Life has been tracking the African-American elite and has been a part of stabilizing their wealth through an initiative to raise awareness about long-term investing and savings.

"I've been going to conferences, golf tournaments, and there are a lot of black people under the radar screen who are quite wealthy, and they are now grappling with how they raise their children and keep their money for the next

generation," Bundles said.

While Bundles' family has been unable to hold onto their wealth (a fact she blames on the Great Depression), New York Life shows that many African-Americans sell their shares when the market goes down rather than waiting it out.

Between 1990 and 2002, spending by African Americans increased by 104 percent. As a result, financial institutions are shaping this group of new black elite and finally seeing the benefits of catering to them.

The expectation is that they will be able to stay at the top echelons despite the history of other failed black millionaires.

"One day I hope to be wealthy enough to provide for my family and future family members," Hurt said.

The future black elite are learning to how to keep their wealth and spend with discretion.

- Additional Reporting by Danielle Kwateng

Howard Athletes Upset About Cafe



The Blackburn cafeteria is not a popular eating option for athletes living on campus, and athletes criticize the poor selection of healthy foods.

BY KILLIAN LEWIS
Contributing Writer

For many athletes like Julius Hearn, the cafeteria food just does not cut it. Although many athletes have meal plans, they choose to opt out of eating in the cafeteria for different health-related or personal reasons.

"I came from home and I was so used to home cooked meals," Hearn said. "The café just does not compare."

Hearn, who is a sophomore guard on the men's basketball team, lives in Cook Hall and has to have a meal plan, but does not necessarily take full advantage of it.

"As a team, we go to the cafeteria every day before and after practice, but it all depends," he said. "The only thing I really eat out of there is a salad or maybe some baked chicken."

Sophomore cornerback Brandon Bufford has a love and hate relationship with the cafeteria.

"Because of the whole

rodent incident in the café, and because the food is suspect sometimes, I don't really eat in the cafeteria," Bufford said.

Bufford said one thing that the café cannot mess up is breakfast, which he eats that on a daily basis.

Hearn said that sometimes it's just easier and tastier to pick up something quick like Subway instead of being disappointed by the cafeteria.

Because many Howard athletes are not using the cafeteria to their advantage, there are some other healthier options available. Should athletes get special treatment in terms of food services to keep them healthy?

"The café should not just have one choice of fried food and an entree," Bufford said. "They need more variety, but not just for athletes — for everybody."

Sophomore defense soccer player Aliyah Glenn thinks that most of the food in the café is unhealthy, and said it's hard because during the season, she tries her best to eat healthy.

"We should be responsible enough to know what we can and can't eat during our seasons, so I don't think the café should necessarily be responsible for that," Glenn said.

Senior tennis player Laura Marin lives in the Towers and like most other athletes, has a meal plan.

"Even though I have a meal plan, it is inconvenient for me because I live in the Towers," Marin said. "I usually only eat in the cafeteria maybe once a month."

Marin, like many other Howard students, chooses to go grocery shopping and eat meals in her room.

"Since I live in the Towers, I buy my groceries," she said. "I try to stay healthy, especially during season so I buy foods like pasta, chicken breast and salad."

Head Athletic Trainer Carlos Parry said food and health options are mainly up to the athletes.

"I can't say that the food in the cafeteria is that bad, but everybody knows what they

need to eat," Parry said.

Parry said that health options are different for every sport, but in general athletes need to be eating something that is high in carbohydrates and protein.

He also said each diet is specific to each sport, so it would be hard to separate them from everybody else.

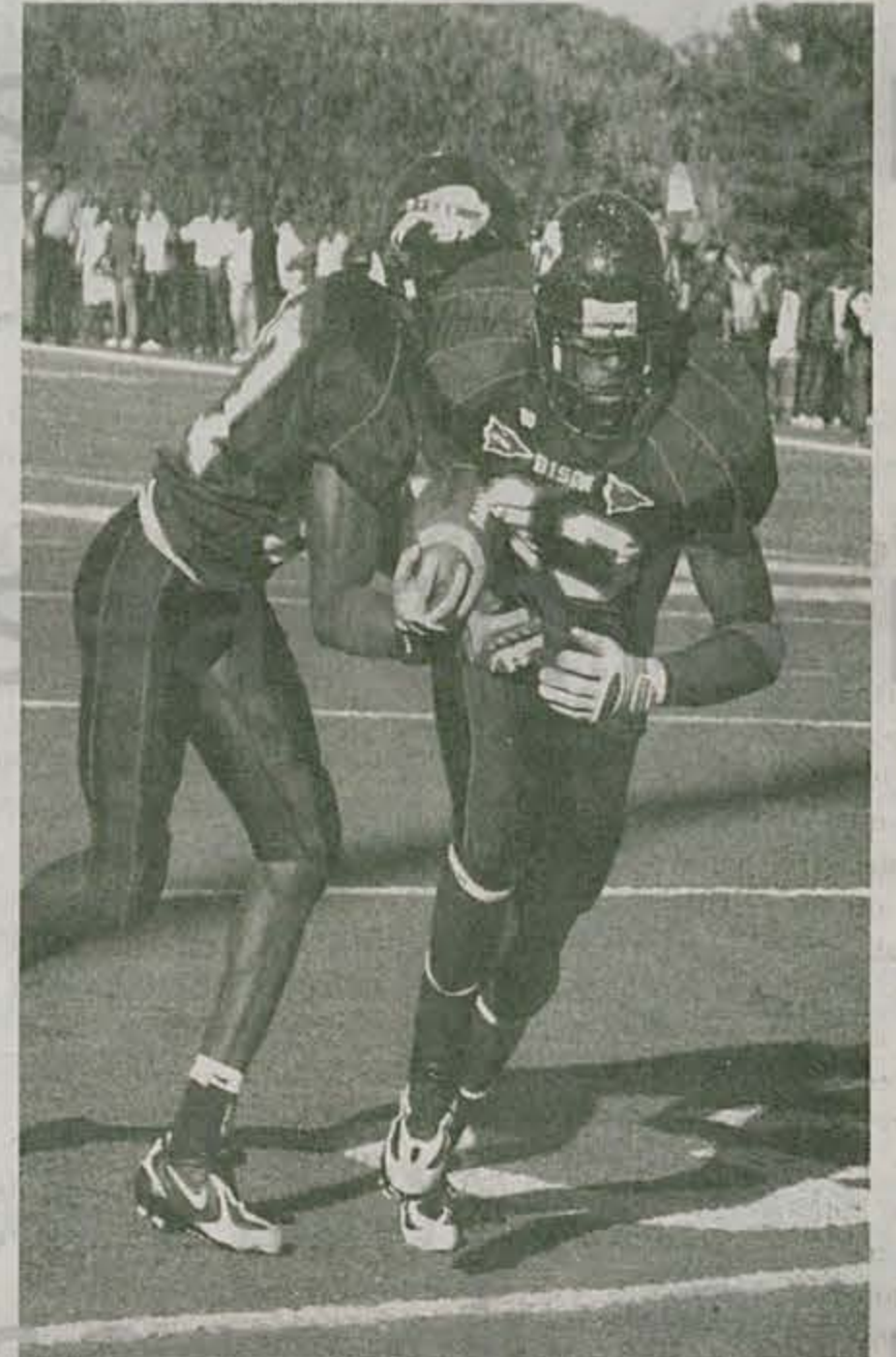
"Some schools with higher budgets have nutritionists come in and recommend different foods for the athletes to eat, but it would still be very hard to control what they ate," Parry said.

Parry further explained that with the university's budget, it would be very hard to make a separate menu in the cafeteria just for athletes.

Health options for athletes seem to be the same as for everyone else.

Like any other Howard student who does not play a sport, it is sometimes easier to go with what is tasty and convenient rather than take time and be disappointed by the cafeteria.

Bison Athlete of the Week: Robert Parker III



Linebacker Robert Parker III closed the Homecoming game against North Carolina A&T with his 30-yard interception touchdown return.

BY JAMES JACKSON
Contributing Writer

Coming into Howard as a new School of Business student, Robert Parker would have thought he was dreaming if he was referred to as an athlete of the week — let alone an athlete at all.

Now a starting outside linebacker for the Howard University Bison football team, Parker sees just how real it is.

"I knew I was going to come to Howard since the eighth grade when I went to a black college fair," Parker said. "And out of all the schools, Howard stood out to me the most."

He added, "I never planned or thought that I would be playing any sport here let alone football."

Originally from Cincinnati, Ohio, Parker didn't start playing football until his freshman year in high school, where he played center and running back.

The year after that, Parker moved to Tampa, Fla., where he continued to play football.

During his sophomore year, Parker started playing on the varsity team as a running back and linebacker. That same year, he earned all-conference honors.

For his remaining two years, Parker struggled with his inexperienced and problematic coaches who hindered him from reaching his full potential.

Entering his freshman year at Howard, Parker decided to stop playing football and fully concentrate on academics.

Attending the games, Parker still felt the same desire for the sport that he still loved.

"My love for the game took over," he said. "I really missed football and I knew I still had the ability and athletic talent to continue to play."

He added, "I couldn't continue to be a spectator anymore because I felt like I could make a difference for the team."

That spring, Parker walked on the Bison football team. He worked resiliently and earned himself a spot on the team.

Throughout his sophomore season, Parker became one of the best special teams players and saw limited action as linebacker.

After the season, Parker worked extremely hard conditioning himself for spring ball with

the new coaching staff. He took full advantage of the situation and shined during spring ball and earned himself a spot at starting outside linebacker.

"I was ready to play during the week of the first game, but when the game came I was a little nervous," Parker said.

He continued, "At first, the game speed shocked me a little, but as the game progressed, I got accustomed to it and learned to react at the right times."

From the start of the season, Parker has been producing week in and week out.

"Parker is one of the more consistent players on our defense," said Maurice Cheeks, sophomore free safety for the Bison. "It goes without saying that Parker is going to give you everything he's got while he's in the game."

During the Homecoming game against North Carolina A&T, Parker intercepted a pass and returned it 30 yards for a touchdown, which sealed the game for the Bison.

"The quarterback must not have seen me because he threw it right to me," Parker said. "It was like practice. I caught the ball, tucked it and ran."

Along with Parker's outstanding Homecoming performance, he has consistently wreaked havoc on opposing offenses by recording 39 tackles on the season.

"I have seen Parker grow as a player throughout this season," said Robert Dowdy, a senior and fellow linebacker. "At first he was lost, but he has really improved and has become a student of the game."

Dowdy continued, "Parker works hard. He is always in the weight or film room trying to make himself a better player."

Parker credits his recent success to his work ethic and his cousin Aaron. Throughout his life, Aaron has always served as an inspiration for Parker. Aaron lives with cancer, but never looks for sympathy and does not let his diagnosis stop him from doing anything he wishes to do in his life.

Parker is pleased with his success, but is more concerned about the future of the team.

The two things Parker wants out of this season are winning the rest of the games and making a name for himself within the team.

SCOREBOARD

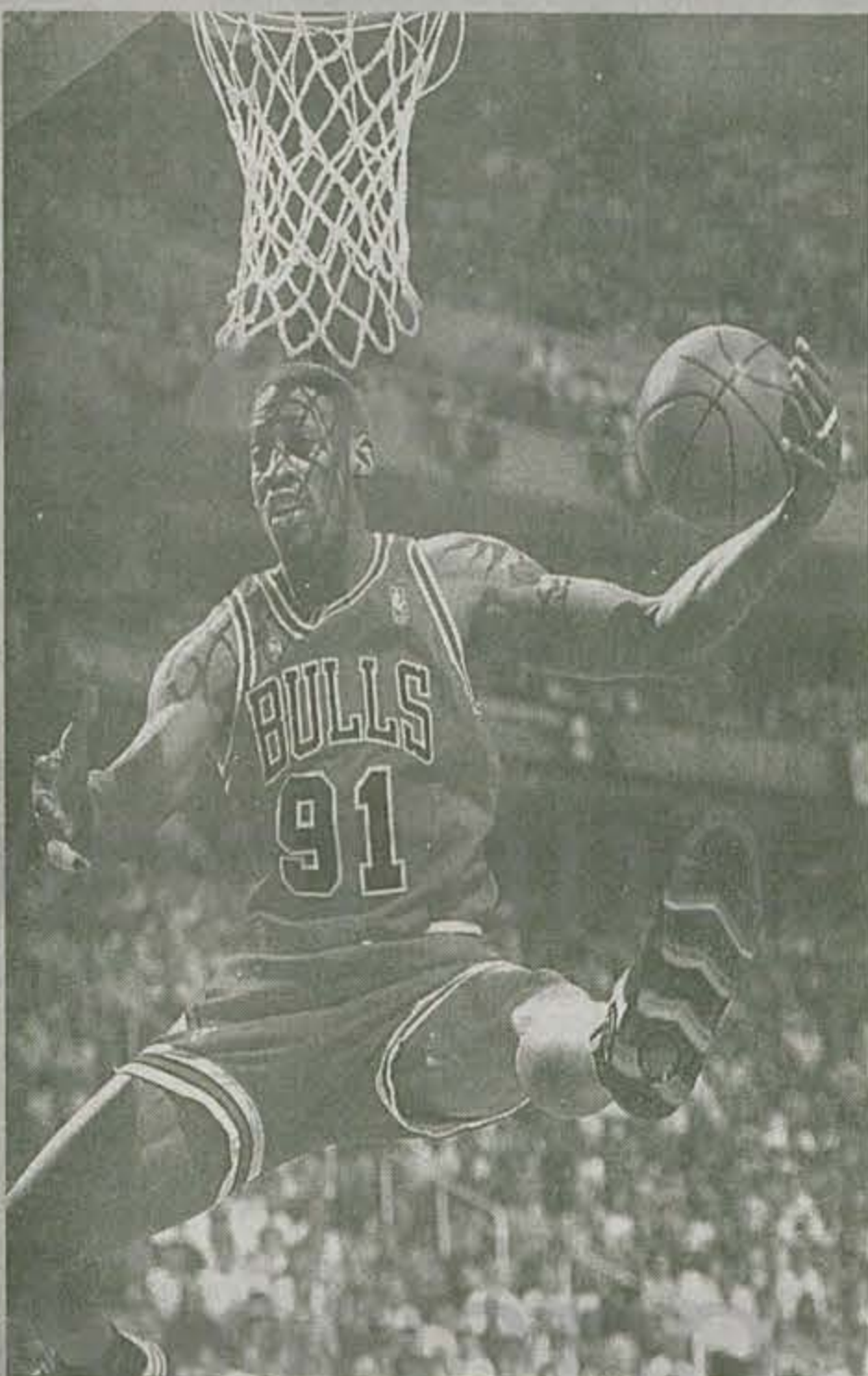
Women's Soccer

Howard	1
Navy	8

UPCOMING GAMES

Thurs 11/1 Volleyball @ Delaware State 7 p.m.

HILLTOP SPORTS PICKS FOR MOST FRIGHTENING ATHLETES



Nancy Stone - Chicago Tribune (PRT)

NBA legend Dennis Rodman was a dominant defender who sported dyed hairdos and disturbed and pestered his opponents.

1. Dennis Rodman - Ultra-eccentric rebounding expert represents true definition of a weirdo.
 2. Mike Tyson - Former heavyweight champion eats ears off fighters and threatens to eat their children.
 3. Shawne Merriman - Chargers linebacker, a menace in opposing offense backfield, gives us the chills with his lights out dance.
 4. Albert Belle - Former major league slugger, a real hothead, could knock the ball out of the park with his bat, but punch infielders on his way to second base.
 5. Tyrone Hill and Popeye Jones - Room can be made for the not only the ugliest players in NBA history, but arguably mankind's ugliest men.
- Dishonorable mentions - Ron Artest, Bernard Hopkins, Bill Romanowski

Compiled by Matthew Cooper, Deputy Sports Editor

Daily Sudoku

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

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



Marcus Bird - Cartoonist

Do You Know What You're Saying?

We all hear about degrading hip-hop lyrics. We all hear about the lyrics that promote violence and illegal acts. But what about the songs that we think are totally innocent? A Hilltop staffer spoke about her church choir doing the "Crank Dat (Soulja Boy)" dance, during a service in hopes of intriguing their younger attendees of the service. Perhaps a less degrading song would have been more appropriate to encourage children to want to come to church every Sunday.

Another Hilltop staffer confessed that he did not even know the Soulja Boy song was saying "Superman that ho." He just heard "Superman" and would do the dance. Furthermore, does anyone know what "Superman that ho" really means? It's gruesome.

Simply Google "Superman that ho" and when the Urban Dictionary link pops up, click it. Same goes for the Spiderman—which is almost just as gruesome. Girls especially, will probably be disgustingly surprised at what they are singing and dancing to.

Our View:
Don't model your ideal life off of hip-hop lyrics.

Doing "the Heisman on that ho" is another example of a lyric that may not have a well-known meaning. It's pretty funny how girls find themselves doing the Heisman on that ho all the time, probably without realizing that the intent of the song was to degrade them. Which came

first—the lyrics or the meanings? To carry on about degrading lyrics in hip-hop music is unnecessary here because everyone has heard that tale before.

Maybe it's the beat that gets us. Maybe it's those catchy synthesized beats that entrap us, and make us immediately dance as soon as the song is played in the club.

But it's those same beats and lyrics that make people act on those vulgarities, and then you get the predicament that T.I. is currently in.

You think you're cool because you have guns and drugs, but you rap about it, then question how in the world you got caught? How did that happen? Lets just start thinking a little bit more people, and we won't end up like T.I.

Perspective

Blinded by Crime Right in Front of Our Eyes

As I reflect on the Jena "6" rally and the recent public outrage against nooses, I am proud that black people are rallying against racism.

As we sit in class and discuss mobilizing forces against hatred, our neighbors are dying. We go to Howard University and often naysayers will ask us if we feel safe walking around our campus. As proud Bison, we often reply yes despite the daily incidents that cause us to question our safety.

I say all this to discuss an incident that occurred Sunday night in the West Towers. At approximately 10 p.m., two 16-year-old black men ran into the lobby of the towers and asked someone to call an ambulance. One of the young men had been stabbed and

was bleeding profusely, convulsing and losing consciousness. Finally, an ambulance arrived and paramedics tried to help the young man.

Because of our music, television, and the senseless acts of violence that we witness every day, we have become immune to the violence within our community. Sadly, I wrote it off when someone was stabbed in front of Meridian Hill Hall last year. Sadly, I tried to forget the fact that someone was shot behind the towers on the Friday of Homecoming festivities. I told myself it was ignorance when a teenager threatened my life in the McDonalds on Georgia Avenue.

As I watched this young man bleed, listened to him scream

in pain and I listened to his friend talk of retaliation, I began to blame myself and everyone else who walked past these constant scenes of violence.

I'm proud that we have political awareness and that we are rallying against injustice, but where is the justice for my 17-year-old brother who was murdered or this young man who was stabbed on our campus? Who should we blame?

Many people blame the perpetrator of the crimes, but maybe we should begin by blaming ourselves and hold a rally for the injustices occurring right before our eyes.

Contributed by Jahaan Shaheed

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

THE HILLTOP

"The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper"

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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.

The Hilltop

Survey Says...

A copy of The Hilltop and \$1.35 will get you on the Metro.*

CLASSIFIEDS

The Hilltop prints Hilltopics every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The first 20 words are \$10 and .25 for each additional word. ALL CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE PAID FOR AND SUBMITTED SEVEN DAYS IN ADVANCE.

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Blue & White Week 2007

10/28/07
Call to Chapel
Cramton Auditorium
11:00am

10/29/07
Movie on Darfur
Locke Hall 105
7:20pm

10/30/07
State of our Community Forum
Founders Browsing Rm
7:14pm

10/31/07
Trick or Treat for UNICEF
Meet @ Towers
6pm

11/1/07
Diabetes Awareness
Founders Browsing rm
7:14pm

11/2/07
Night Out
Blackburn Rec Room
7pm

11/3/07
Community Service
Meet on Yard
10am

*The Ladies of Alpha Chapter,
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Presents
Jabberwock 2007*

"Paining the town

RED: "Rhythmic

Expressions of Distinction" Nov.

2007 @ 7pm

Medical School Auditorium, \$8 in

advance.

Please see any

Chapter member for tickets

International Pals presents

*"Flavor of the Week"
Date Auction*

Friday Nov. 2nd 2007

*Blackburn Reading Lounge
7pm - 9pm*

*What will your legacy be?
www.teachforamerica.org*

Application Deadline

*November 2nd!
Join the HU*

*Chapter Teach for America
Facebook Group*

The Ladies of Alpha Chapter,

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc,

The Gentlemen of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc, Alpha Chapter,

and the Howard University College Democrats of America Presents.....

"From the HBCU to the Hill"

Congressman Kendrick Meeks (D- Miami) 17th

District of Florida November 5, 2007

Blackburn Digital Auditorium

8:00pm - 10:00pm

light reception following in the Hilltop Lounge

The Ladies of Alpha Chapter,

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc.

Invite you to: ENOUGH: Breaking the Silence on Domestic Violence

*Thursday November 1, 2007
7:08 pm*

College of Dentistry Auditorium

Student Parent Support Group

Are you a student that has a child and interested in being active on campus with other student parents?

Join us : Nov 2, 2007 at 6:30pm in Locke Hall Room 265
Contact 202-806-9736 or msncrowelle@yahoo.com

Caribbean Studies Minor

Interest Meeting and Info-Social.

Thursday, November 1st 5-6:30 pm. Locke Hall

Room 100 or call 806-4221

HUASA Model Call! COME OUT AND STRUT YOUR STUFF.

Tuesday and Wednesday November 6th and 7th Blackburn 7-9pm.

HEADSHOTS REQUIRED. \$1 TO AUDITION. BRING STILETTOS.

LIFE'S AN ADVENTURE COME EXPLORE THE WORLD...

SBSC PRESENTS.. DIVERSITY WEEK 2007 10/28-11/2

CALL TO CHAPEL

SUNDAY 10/28 11 AM CRAMTON AUDITORIUM

GLOBAL EXPLOSION

MONDAY 10/29 11 AM- 1 PM FROM YARD TO SB LOBBY

"THE WORLD THROUGH OUR EYES" DIVERSITY PANEL

TUESDAY 10/30 9:40 AM- 12:30 PM SB AUDITORIUM

GAME QUEST

THURSDAY 11/1 7-9 PM BLACKBURN GAME ROOM

LA FETE: CULTURAL FESTIVAL

FRIDAY 11/2 TBA