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A LOOK AT 'LOVE BEHIND THE MELODY' LIFE & STYLE PAGE 7



Established

1924

Friday

Notebook

51

40

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 91, NO. 52

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM Friday, November 9, 2007

BREAKING NEWS

THE SENATE APPROVED THE NOMINATION OF FORMER FEDERAL JUDGE MICHAEL MUKASEY AS ATTORNEY GENERAL, ACCORDING TO CNN.

RAPPER MASTER P AND CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIV-IST JULIAN BOND VISIT HOWARD WITH A COM-MON GOAL. LOOK INSIDE TO FIND OUT MORE.

SPORTS SENIORS ON THE FOOTBALL TEAM WILL STEP **ON GREENE STADIUM TURF FOR THE FINAL**

TIME AS THEY FACE BETHUNE-COOKMAN.

PAGE 8

Online Job Fair Gives Seniors, Alumni an Alternative

CAMPUS

BY COLLEEN THOMAS **Contributing Writer**

Job seekers won't be wearing business suits to this career fair - probably not even business casual.

In fact, everyone could get away with wearing their pajamas to participate in a fair that's only a few clicks away.

The Howard University Alumni and Diversity Talent Network Online Career Fair, more easily stated as the eJob Fair, began this week and continues through the next. It's online, and it's all day.

The event, hosted by the Alumni Career Services Network, is open to all qualified Howard seniors and alumni. "Whether you're looking for a new job, or ready to take the next step in your career, we'll help you find the opportu-

nity that's right for you," the network's Web site said.

Kim Wells, the director of the Career Services Office, said, "This career fair is expected to be very popular. It is the first time to my knowledge that Howard has had an alumni career fair or an eJob Fair."

Having this inaugural even isn't too daunting for Wells. "I have received hundreds of e-mails from interested alumni across the country," she said.

The career fair seems to be reaching for a different level than other career fairs that Howard hosts. By taking the career fair online, many of the limitations that exist with conventional job fairs, like attire and location, don't exist.

least 30 companies participating and over 150 positions available."

Future aspirations for this first-time event are already growing.

"We still have a lot of work to do," Wells said. "We want to make it bigger and get even more participants. We have to get the information out there. We want it to be a tradition like the other annual career fairs."

Registered users can access a number of beneficial links and services, such as a resume writing system, the ability to post resumes online, career development tools and job search engines that match specific criteria to available positions.

Senior biology major Trevor Faridea. "I know my career path is not yet set in stone, and I know many graduates now," Smith said. "Things just have not ties, visit howard.edu/careerservices.

who could not find jobs after graduation regardless of how great of a student they were during their years here at Howard," he said. "They never knew which employers were looking to hire, and now here they remain jobless."

PAGE 2

Some see the job fair as an opportunity for graduates who may not have landed positions directly following graduation to showcase themselves.

"I think an alumnus elob Fair is beneficial," said Ashanti Smith, a sophomore legal communications major. "It gives those who may not have had the best luck upon graduation a second chance at success."

rell thought the eJob Fair was a good Charles, is a 2006 Howard graduate and able to current students." is struggling on her career path.

worked out, but I am sure a career fair like this could only be beneficial to her even if it just gives her an opportunity to network. You never know what good can come. I am going to tell her about it."

The career fair is open only to qualified seniors and alumni due to the level of positions the participating companies are searching for - senior or executive level positions. However, Wells said that freshmen, sophomores and juniors don't have to feel left out.

"In the spring, Howard will be hosting another eJob Fair, in addition to the number of on-campus job fairs that we have already hosted," she said. "We Smith said her cousin, Breea are also making the online job fair avail-For more information on the elob "I do not know what she is doing fair and other career services opportuni-

"By this being an online career fair,

it offers national and global job opportunities," Wells said. "Currently, we have at

Since 1974, Washington, D.C.'s

Arts a Sweet Deal in Schools

BY DANIELLE KWATENG Life & Style Editor

It's dinner time. You prepare your basic entree, maybe a side salad and a drink, nothing special. But you know your favorite part, dessert, is soon to come. Although it's seen as the extratreat at the end of the meal, deep down inside you know it's almost vital to make and their first dance instructor was Debthe whole meal worth it.

For the longest time, there has been a heated debate about the necessity of art education in public schools. Naysayers think it draws much needed funds from basic academic courses, such as mathematics and English.

"The myth is that the arts is extra, because it's just so dog-gone enjoyable," said Rory Pullens, the principal of the prestigious Duke Ellington School of the Arts in Georgetown. "It's like the dessert at the end of the meal, the extra. I don't buy into the notion that arts are extra. It's the hook to draw kids into the educational process."

noted Duke Ellington School of the Arts has been rearing some of the world's brightest talent. Established by the acclaimed artist and philanthropist Mike Malone, the school has since bred some of the finest African-American artists of the last three decades.

Alumni include Daye Chappelle, bie Allen. To this day, it's astonishing to see kids accomplish what "trained" professionals take years to achieve, but at this school, it's just another day in class. To keep the kids focused, the curriculum is intense.

"We have class from 8 to 5 p.m.," said a rambunctious student walking through the hallway. "But if you really want it, you don't mind, and most of us don't mind."

The students have 10 class periods on a block schedule. The typical high school requires 24 credits to graduate, but Duke Ellington requires 33.

"Passion runs deep with these

kids," Pullens said. "We're creating true artists and not simply performers."

Pullens' enthusiasm for the school is refreshingly unique, and he glowed as he talked about his students, as if he were talking about his own children. Although Duke Ellington is doing well, the majority of the city's public schools have been the center of attention for a while now.

According to city and school officials, 43 percent of the area's children graduate high school within five years, and in some wards, specifically seven and eight, only one third of the students graduate. Duke Ellington has seen a contrasting effect with their student body; 99 percent of the kids graduate on time, 95 percent go to college, and last year, 100 percent of the graduating class got some form of a scholarship.

Robert C. Rice, special assistant to the D.C. Superintendent of Schools, knows there is a major concern to push graduation rates up.

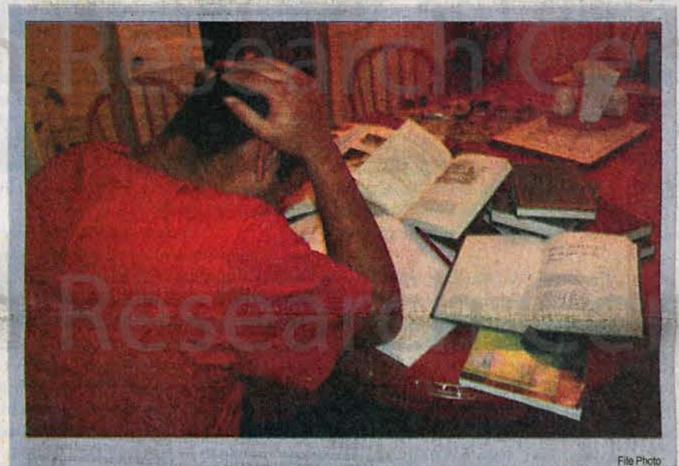
Rice told the Washington Post, "Our big focus over the last few years has been to strengthen academic programs from pre-K to grade 12."

And more recently, Mayor Adrian Fenty created an initiative to revitalize the public school system by having more student-parent interaction and in-class acceleration programs.

But one large element is missing from Fenty's plans and in many public schools throughout the nation - the arts.

"Art is basic," Pullens said. "We're making a mistake to choose one or the other."

The debate has been more heated since 2000, when a study conducted by the Harvard Graduate School of Education claimed that art programs don't improve the overall status of a



Faculty and staff have received training in how to recognize unhealthy conduct in students.

University 'Frontline' Aims to **Understand Student Behavior**

BY CHRISTINA BURTON Staff Writer

This year, Howard University is targeting the "frontline" of faculty, staff and administrative members to find ways to identify, understand and respond to maladaptive, or environmentally unstable, behavior coming from students.

In Thursday's forum, called "Managing the Frontline," the Howard University Counseling Service (HUCS) and the Office of the Dean of Special Student Services informed about 50 Howard University employees. Between the panel of clinicians and the audience of professors, deans, chairpersons and department heads, ideas were exchanged, questions were asked and comments were made regarding the procedure to properly deal with students who demonstrate depression, anxiety or other maladaptive symptoms in campus environments, and when and where to turn to HUCS for psychological intervention. Mirta L. Carruthers, a clinical psychologist at HUCS, said that faculty and staff members should remain balanced when dealing with distressed students. "If we are balanced, what we do is our negotiation with the other person," Carruthers said. "We don't get angry even if the situation is difficult. We don't get enraged. We don't get any negative emotion." Carruthers continued, "We will get a little upset, a little annoyed, so the intensity is low. That is very important, so when you look at a student and the student is very, very upset or enraged, or [there is] too much inside, or won't communicate with the outside, you need to pay attention to that because that is loss of balance." According to Dr. Ekwenzi Gray of HUCS, a high number of Howard students smoke marijuana recreationally and experimentally.

"Howard has a slightly lower rate than compared to other schools," Gray said. "Sixty percent admit they're trying, but that's still a little bit high."

Gray added, "I was actually talking with a student the other day who says that he thinks marijuana's rate of experimentation on Howard's campus is 70 [to] 80 percent. It doesn't mean that people use regularly, it just means people are experimenting. To me, the experimentation is a little too much."

Gray also talked about students who self-medicate to feel better and drink alcohol or abuse substances to get through pain or slight depression. Situations like this force Campus Police, community directors and other faculty and staff to act and help students who overdose or accidentally poison themselves.



Carey Wagner - South Florida Sun-Sentinel (MCT) Some critics argue that arts programs take up school funding that could go elsewhere. However, supporters say a student's overall education is enriched by the arts.

student's grades.

> See ARTS, Page 7

Court Considers Whether to Rule on Guns

BY MICHAEL DOYLE McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)

WASHINGTON _ The Supreme Court takes aim at gun control Friday, in a private conference that soon could explode publicly.

Behind closed doors, the high court's nine justices will consider taking a case that challenges the District of Columbia's stringent handgun ban. Their ultimate decision will shape how far other cities and states can go with their own gun restrictions.

"If the court decides to take this up, it's very likely it will end up being the most important Second Amendment case in history," said Dennis Henigan, the legal director for the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence.

臣

Henigan predicted "it's more likely than not" that the necessary four justices will vote to consider the case. The court will announce its decision Tuesday, and oral arguments could be heard next year.

Lawyers already are swarming from every angle

"The Second Amendment permits reasonable regulation of firearms to protect public safety and does not guarantee individuals the absolute right to own the weapons of their choice," New York and the three other states declared in an amicus brief.

Last March, a divided appellate court panel sided with the individualrights interpretation and threw out the D.C. handgun ban.

"The right to keep and bear arms

was not created by the government, but rather preserved by it," Judge Laurence Silberman wrote for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. "The amendment does not protect the right of militiamen to keep and bear arms, but rather the right of the people."

The ruling clashed with other appellate courts, creating the kind of appellate-circuit split that the Supreme Court likes to resolve. The ruling stung D.C. officials, and perplexed gun-control advocates. When D.C. officials appealed to the Supreme Court, they gave the court's conservative majority a chance to undermine gun-control laws nationwide.

"There is a lot at risk," Henigan acknowledged.

Gray said that the university's challenge should be to know what to do in case "EMS doesn't get there in time."

Carruthers said that people with weaker egos and personalities are more unable to cope with difficult situations. When professors see a student who seems distressed, Carruthers said that their behavior can either be pathological, or repetitive abnormal, or that the student may be acting in normal adolescence.

"Instead of dealing with experience, the person deals with his or her own storm inside," Carruthers said. "We heard about Virginia Tech. This guy he was so damaged that he couldn't recover his balance. In order to recover his balance, he had to do what he did. And I say 'had' because I am talking from the inner experience of the person, not from the observer. From the observer, we can say he was a pervert or whatever, but from inner experience, the person couldn't tolerate what was going on around him. So, in order to restore balance, he had to [do] what he did."

The bottom line is that students

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2 CAMPUS

November 9, 2007

COAS Takes Grievances to Thought



Derell Smith - Photo Editor Ashley Reid, a freshman psychology major, takes a survey distributed at the meeting.

BY LINSEY ISAACS Staff Writer

The College of Arts and Sciences (COAS) Student Council held the school wide Grievance Day on Thursday, tipping off the night piloting the first forum to address issues regarding COAS, as well as the student council.

In Douglass Hall at 7 p.m., members of the student council paneled the front to discuss grievances with buildings, teachers, advisors and an array of problems with the school. Students were asked to give feedback on the job of the student council, as well as Grievance Day itself, through sur-

representatives of the COAS Student Council administration. The forum was initiated by a suggestion from the President and Vice President of COAS through monthly evaluations, and had been planned for a month.

"We expect to make some gain," said Charles Beavers, the grievance director for the department of social sciences. "This isn't the first event to fix these problems and isn't the last. We're going to address these issues [and progress] inch by inch."

The council was excited to hear the feedback from their fellow students, after numerous programs were prepared earlier this semester. The tutor initiative program, under the platform

students from COAS and other schools tutored their peers.

"I'm excited to see how the students' classes are going and how they've progressed since the beginning of the year," George said. "Hopefully, the next administration after me will continue with the tutor initiative."

Plans like these, as well as the mentoring program, prove to be some of the more successful ones, though changes are needed and were addressed during the forum.

"The concept for the mentoring program was great," said freshman class President Pierre Whatley, a political science and economics double major. "[But] some mentors don't take the job seriously enough. That's an issue."

Approximately 45 students were expected to show, and roughly 10 were in attendance. Some speculate schedule conflicts to be the source of the low attendance. But a closer interaction between members of the student council and these students turned the forum into a mentoring activity, allowing issues to be addressed and valuable advice pertaining to all aspects of COAS to be given to the students. The student council aimed to see whether students felt they had access to the council, and whether events were publicized enough to get student awareness, among other concerns.

"A problem that I'm having is not being able to take courses at the beginning of the school year because the biology building was closed,"

everything in. Plus, we need more lab supplies in the chemistry and biology buildings."

In addition to problems with classes, students have experienced troubles with discourteous administration, and advisors who don't provide enough information. Many political science majors expressed the lack of classes within their major and other issues.

"[Classes] should be more interactive and hands on," freshman political science major Brittany Jackson said. "My major isn't as engaging as, say, one in the School of Business."

Other questions were raised regarding classes like the freshman seminar course, which many students find futile. Students also wondered why their swimming courses were mandatory. Rumors circulated the school about a trustee whose daughter drowned. One of the stipulations of their donation to the school, according to the rumor, was that all students in COAS must learn to swim.

The next step for the council is to address the issues expressed at the meeting. Students are able to e-mail their grievances to the council or physically submit them during the remainder of the semester.

"Last year, grievance wasn't successful," George said. "The council didn't communicate well enough with the students."

The student council hopes to change the level of communication drastically this year.



What is one thing you know about **Howard history?**



veys and an open forum.

The panel included several

of COAS President Ambibola George, sophomore biology major Jockquin began during freshman week where Jones said. "Now they're trying to cram help them," Beavers said.

"We need students to help us

Howard University was founded in 1867.

> -Jahni Threate, 11, HU Middle School of Math and Science student

Stop the Violence Reaches Out to D.C.

BY ROYCE STRAHAN Staff Writer

The second annual Stop the Violence rally, titled "Live in L.O.V.E: Providing Loud Opposition to Violence Everywhere," was held to raise awareness of the violence going on in the black community and present ways to decrease the amount of violence occurring.

The event was hosted by Alpha Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc.

This year's rally featured the Howard Gospel Choir, two guest speakers from the Peaceaholics and Tabi Bonney, who performed his hit song "Put Me in the Pocket." Students from Howard and the surrounding Washington, D.C. metropolitan area were in attendance.

Justine Love from WPGC and Two Face Ya Wild Boy were the masters of ceremony for the event. Students from surrounding areas also contributed to the event by delivering spoken word poetry against violence.

One of the guest speakers was Jauhar Abraham, CEO of the Peaceaholics. Peaceaholics strives to bring the black community together for the good of society and to help bring peace through their organization.

Justine Love urged the young women in the audience to be more respectful of each other and to love one another more.

"I have never called another sister out of her name, but some of us have forgotten that we are all queens and we need to be respectful of one another," Love said.

The Stop the Violence rally and concert is a culmination of a year-long initiative to decrease violence in the Washington, D.C. community and raise awareness of the domestic and gang violence in the Howard community and surrounding areas. The goal of the conference is to promote unity, peace and resistance to violence of all forms.

"We invited different high schools and middle schools from around the area to come out," said Kertisha Dixon, the rally chair. "Basically what we're trying to do is expose D.C. youth to Howard."

Dixon noticed that sometimes people say there is a gap between the Howard community and the surrounding D.C. metro area and is trying to make this notion a belief of the past.

"We want the middle school and high school students to come out and have a good time and we also want to diminish the gap that there supposedly is between the Howard community and the surrounding area," Dixon said. "This rally and concert



Dereil Smith - Photo Editor Justine Love encouraged women to respect each other at the Second Annual Stop the Violence Rally.

is most importantly a way to attempt to decrease the violence in the D.C. area because D.C. does have one of the highest crime rates in America."



So many great people have matriculated from here, have changed laws for the betterment of our race and helped us to become a better people.

> -Laverne T. Freeman, Secretary in the Office of Student Activities

Howard University was supposed to be named after Frederick Douglass, but he declined.

-Alexandria McGaunthey, junior, public relations

Master P, Julian Bond to **Discuss Arts' Influence**

BY SHIVONNE FOSTER Staff Writer

From the days of the popular television sitcom "The Cosby Show" to BET's new reality television show "We Got to Do Better," entertainment programs have portrayed black America is various lights.

Many believe that some representations of blacks in entertainment and the arts are negative, resulting in a continued stereotype, while others see all programs as entertainment that the targeted audience may relate to. Addressing this subject, students are welcome to the NAACP and the Arts hosted discussion of the cultural impact of entertainment today in the Blackburn Digital Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Rap artist Master P and Civil Rights activist Julian Bond, who also helped found SNCC during the 1960s, will be special guests to the discussion. "I am interested in hearing the speakers' perceptions of how blacks are being depicted on TV. It's important to see how entertainment artists do have an impact culturally on the world," said Sharika Bivens, a junior television production major who plans to film the program for Spotlight TV, Howard's student broadcast news program. "The speakers may get into the stereotypical aspects of TV. Hopefully it'll produce a positive change," said Christina Brantley, a sophomore broadcast journalism major who plans to attend.

"It will be interesting to see how they tie everything together and what other speakers may come," Bivens said.

Many believe that programs like "The Cosby Show" convey a positive message.

"The speakers probably want people to produce more shows in a positive light like 'The Cosby Show'," Brantley said. "But I do think people may continue to watch what they find entertaining and what they can re-

Mental Health Calls **Faculty Attention**

Continued from FRONT, MENTAL

need to get help when they need it, according to Dr. Barbara W. Williams, dean of the Office of Special Student Services. Williams said that there are indicators for when faculty and staff should get involved with Judicial Affairs and Disabled Student Services, for the students' sake.

"Our office usually gets involved when there is a crisis situation." said Williams.

There are times when students could possibly hurt themselves or someone in their surroundings. At that point, a possible method of defusing the situation is to suspend the student, a process which takes about five days to complete, said Williams.

The event will include a range of topics, like the film "Birth of A Nation," the Harlem Renaissance, "The Cosby Show" and "We Got to Do Better."

late to."

Bivens said that programs that quiz guests like "We Got to Do Better," often show the viewers not knowing commonly known historical facts.

"It's sad to see people not know history," Bivens said. "So it may be good to point attention to this. People could look up and find information they don't know."

Others see programs like "We Got to Do Better" as a poor representation of blacks.

"We Got to Do Better' is embarrassing, and people in other countries who haven't met blacks may have the perceptions the we are buffoons and make fools of ourselves," said Brandi Williams, a junior television production major.

"I prefer to see more shows like Cosby," Williams said. "We could use more shows like that than 'Flava of Love.'"

Some see the attention brought to this topic as an opportunity for blacks to resolve what, to many, is an issue.

"I'm hoping people wise up and take from it that if collectively we as an audience push for better TV programs," Williams said, "they will be forced to change show content."

"We can't have RA's [resident assistants] staying up all night watching them," Williams added.

The forum also featured a segment on what barriers and obstacles face staff, faculty and students when it is time to seek help. Dr. Nickole Scott Conerly said that it is common for students to excuse seeking counsel because they feel counseling. is equated with craziness.

"Counseling is a sign of strength," Concrly said.

Stereotypical student validations for not seeing a counselor are that they can solve their issues on their own, their issues are not serious enough, fear of revealing their "dirty laundry" to strangers, fear of having to take medication, their faith will solve their problems, affordability or that counseling is for suicidal people or those who are having mental breakdowns.

Williams said they want to challenge the faculty, staff and administration to reach out to students. She added that employees in Special Student Services try to get out of their offices to make students feel comfortable with their presence.

They also have orientation programs, meet all the new incoming students every year and partner with other university departments like HUCS and Residence Life to promote awareness of Special Student Services.

The forums, sponsored by the Office of the Vice Provost for Student Affairs, were started in light of the tragedies that happened at Virginia Tech in the spring and are not the only university adaptations to those events.

THE HILLTOP

My frat brother Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X met at the top of the stairs leading to Rankin Chapel from the Valley. -Christopher Caldwell,

junior, finance

Oliver Otis Howard was missing an arm after the Civil War.

> -Trey Brown, sophomore, Marketing

-Compiled by Derell Smith, **Photo Editor**



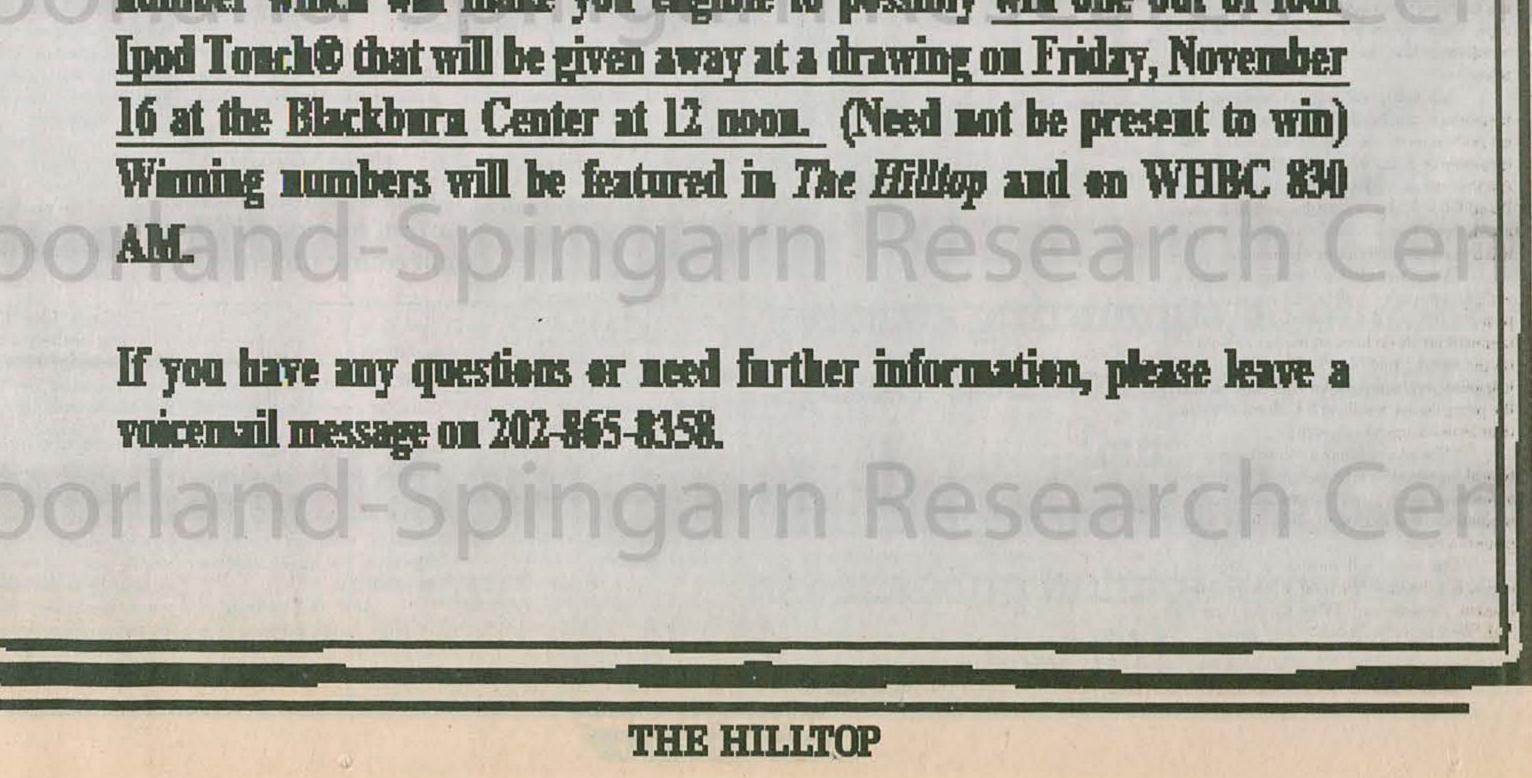


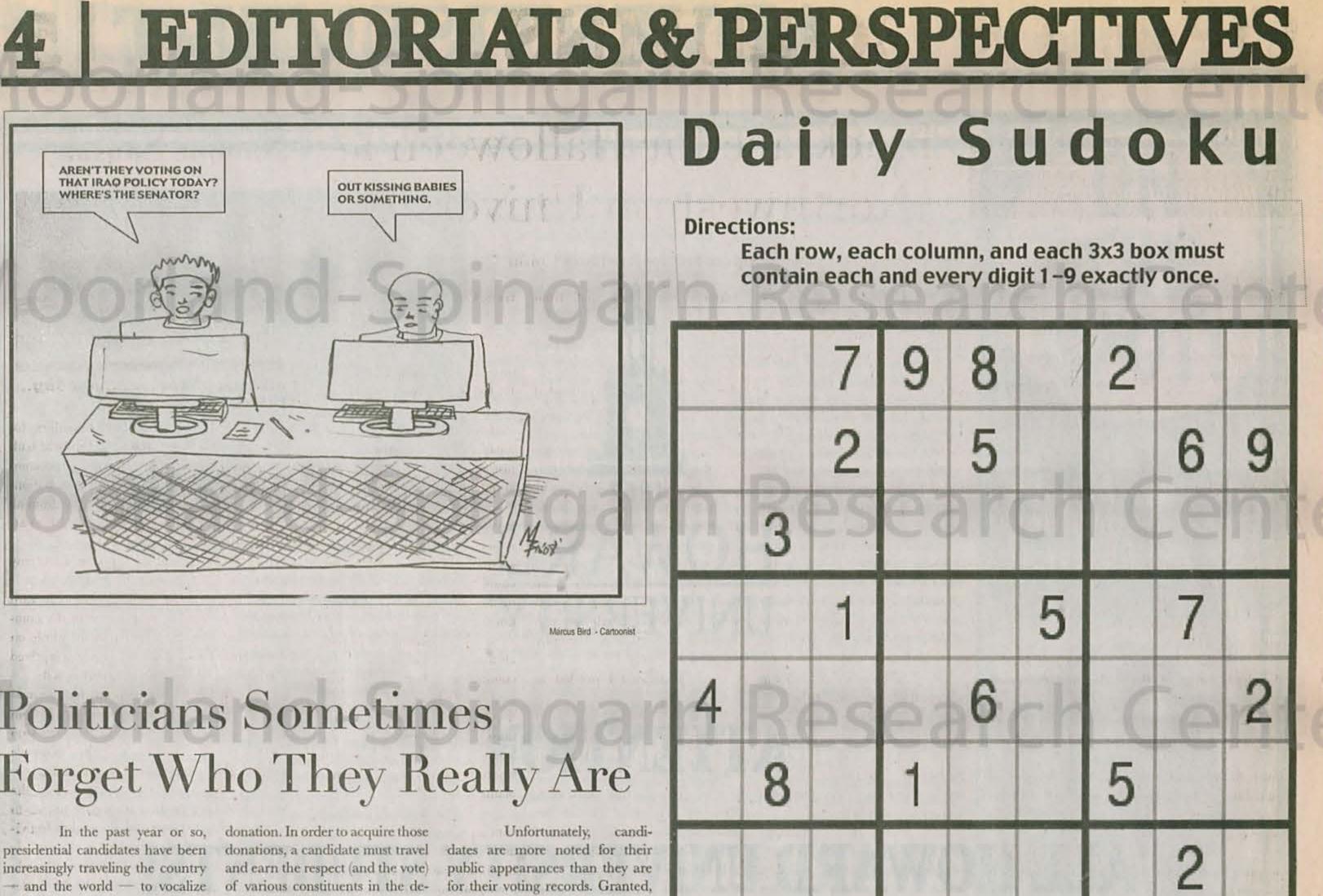
MAKE YOUR VOICES HEARD AND ENTER A CHANCE TO WIN AN IPOD TOUCH @

The Presidential Search Committee is conducting a confidential online survey of the entire student body, which will provide an opportunity for you, the students of Howard, to be heard regarding the future direction and leadership of Howard University. All current students please log on to the survey Web site at the following address:

www.howardstudentsurvey.com

Once you have completed the survey you will automatically receive a number which will make you eligible to possibly win one out of four





Politicians Sometimes Forget Who They Really Are

increasingly traveling the country and earn the respect (and the vote) their platforms for the 2008 presi- mographics across the country. voting records are somewhat diffi-

AREN'T THEY VOTING ON THAT IRAQ POLICY TODAY?

WHERE'S THE SENATOR?

In the past year or so, donation. In order to acquire those

dential election.

candidates have responsibilities closer to home, as in, on the Senate and House floors. Out of the notable primary contenders for president, four of the Democratic candidates, as well as one Republican, are current senators.

There are one

governor, one Democratic House member, and three Republican House members running. The race for the presidency began relatively early, so early in fact, that once the president is elected, it will have been deemed the longest-running presidential race in the history of the country.

What does that mean for us, the constituents? It means we're left in the dust...sort of.

To run for president, it's obvious that you need to raise massive amounts of money. Tens of millions of dollars are needed in order to sustain the race.

Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton have both raised more than \$20 million from supporters'

To travel, the candidate

However, many of the must be absent from their respective Senate or House seat, where their vote is sometimes needed. In the long run, the candidate has to choose where their presence is most needed. There are several different situations.

Thursday evening, the

Our View: Politicians have to prioritize and do whatever will make them look the best.

> confirmation of the nomination of Michael Mukasey as the new Attorney General took place. This confirmation can make Mukasey the most important and influential lawyer in the United States.

Because of this, the elected officials, whom we as constituents have elected into office, should be present to vote on his nomination.

Got An Issue? Good! Submit Perspectives at:

www.thehilltoponline.com

cult to locate online, and this opens another door for controversy.

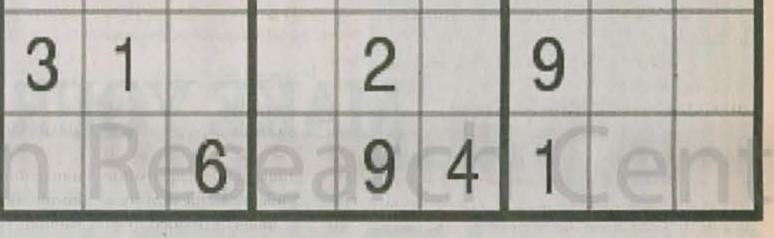
We as voters and constituents should be able to "check up" on our elected officials, and make sure they are continuing to vote in favor of the needs of the people they were elected by.

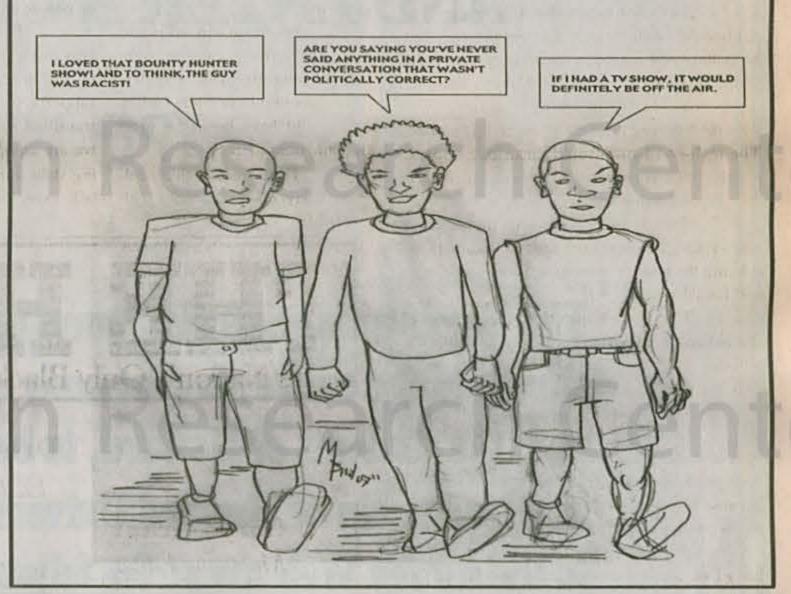
> We are often forced to favor the candidates who attend the events that we attend or support. Since this is the case, perhaps it makes sense for candida. to spend more effort on traveling the country, kissing babies, taking pictures and signing autographs.

In reality, if Barack Obama, for whatever reason, was unable to make

it to the opening Convocation ceremony which took place at the beginning of the semester, the entire Howard University community would be up in arms.

However, if the senator misses a yote on the Senate floor, very few people would understand (or even care about) the repercussions that absence could have.





Marcus Bird - Cartoonist

Another Old 'Dog' up to the Same Old Racist Tricks

It seems like "Dog the Bounty Hunter" (Duane Chapman) went barking up the wrong tree when racial slurs that he used in private conversation with his son were sold to the National Enquirer.

Dog, best known for his A&E reality show "Dog the Bounty Hunter," where he and his team of "do-gooders" pursue and capture convicts who have violated the terms of their bail agreements, is no stranger to the other side of the law. It was a private conver-Sentenced in 1977 sation, but we still don't to five years in prison on first degree murder charges, appreciate the comment. Dog was released after only serving 18 months in jail. Shortly after, he joined forces with the law and became a bounty hunter. During a March 2007 phone conversation, Dog used the "N-word" and other racist remarks in an attempt to convince his son to break up with his black girlfriend. The son later sold the tapes for a profit. As a result, "Dog the Bounty Hunter" was pulled off the air. It seems that in this post-Imus age, everyone from African Americans to white Americans are extremely sensitive about the use of racially insensitive jargon.

Don Imus, as many people know, lost his morning radio show, "Imus in the Morning" when NBC decided to pull the plug on the 30-year radio veteran, who made the mistake of calling the Rutgers University women's

this time it will be on another station.

As Americans, we see that our nation has not come that far from the days of Martin Luther King, Jr. or Malcolm X. Blacks are still being marginalized, targeted and abused by the very people and policies that claim to protect us. The Jena "6" case has shown the nation that the justice system is no friend to the black man.

Look for the letter to the editor link under the options tab.

For info on submitting an essay in Friday's extended E&P page, email

Simone.Stephenson@gmail.com and get your opinion published in The Hilltop.

basketball team "nappy-headed ho's."

But many question whether losing his show is a fitting punishment for Dog. Unlike Imus,

Our View:

Dog made his racist remarks in

private and with that knowledge,

should be excused from any con-

"N-word" whether you say it in

private or not. Dog deserves to

lose his show, which was a poor

choice of television content to

begin with, but he also deserves

anti-racist groups subsides, Dog,

like Imus, will have the chance to

continue his TV career. However,

But the "N-word" is the

After the backlash of

sequence.

more than that.

Dog, who has said that he thought he was "down" enough to use the word because he has black friends, is now apologizing for his remarks.

On Wednes-

day's "Larry King Live" Dog apologized by saying, "I referenced it, the only word I know, that would hurt his feelings or catch his attention very fast never as a prejudicial or racial

slur."

It's too late now for saying sorry. What's done is done. Let's just hope that the trend of bigotry and racial commentary is over for now. Dog should serve as an example to the nation that if you say racist things, you can suffer serious consequences. While Dog probably won't, he will learn to be more politically correct.

AN STREET BUILDING P

OP-ED & COLUMNS

Genuinely Jolley

The Ombudsman Speaks...

I don't know if you all have been paying attention, but I thought it would be a good idea to let you know that the U.S.A. is having the worst week ever.



There

are so many things going on in the news right now that could mean disaster for this country, not that I'm panicking since I know people who look like me will end up getting screwed regardless.

I have created a list of four issues out of the laundry list that are plaguing the United States.

First and probably foremost, things are wilin' on Wall Street.

Aside from stock indexes plummeting, the depreciation of the dollar and the credit market crisis - there's the price of oil.

Oil is getting uncomfortably close to being \$100 a barrel.

I cringe to think about what that will mean for me and my off-campus living situation. But on the bright side, now we don't have to worry about preserving a cold habitat for the polar bears.

They can move in and freeze with poor people who won't be able to afford to heat their

Blackface for Halloween at Northwestern University

Submitted by Kristiana Colón

I suppose Halloween is as good a time as any to be reminded how scary America can be. The tradition of costume parties opens doors for ample controversy.

In Chicago's nightclubs, I saw more than a few Britney Spears costumes, French maids, vampires and abstract concepts ("I'm the endangered mid-American prairie..."). I made it through the holiday relatively unscathed.

But sure enough, before the week was over, I was seeing exactly what I was afraid of: a blond-haired, blued eyed white student wearing a kente print shirt, in black hair dye and fullbody blackface.

In October 2005, I was a second-year student at the University of Chicago. Some white first-year girls in my dorm had taken up throwing weekly themed parties in their rooms, and one week, the theme was "Straight Thuggin."

When taking pictures in their "costumes" for the party plugger, they were told by a black a Ph.D. student at Northwestern resident assistant that what they were doing was offensive. They

administration, hate mail from other white students, and an overwhelming response from white students on campus that this was "no big deal," that the black students who were hurt and offended by these images were being "hypersensitive."

and the University's reluctance to publicly renounce this behavior as inappropriate, let me know that white upper-class homogeneity and privilege are far more pervasive than I had ever imagined and that even in my own home town, even on Chicago's South side, I would not be viewed as a thinking, feeling human being by many of my peers.

I decided I needed to get out of U of C, but transferring would cost too much and dropping out would make me a statistic, so instead I graduated in three years.

Exactly two years after "Straight Thuggin," I am assailed with these familiar images. I find pictures on the Internet of University in blackface. For Halloween, he dressed up as black.

reers. College years are formative years, and are critical for shaping the future of a generation.

Perhaps these mockminstrels only mean to have some Friday night fun. When confronted on these behaviors, these students often claim they do not The hostility on campus, mean to hurt anyone; they were just playing around, they didn't know.

> But I find it hard to believe that students at two of the nation's top universities, students even at the post-graduate level could be completely unconscious to the ramifications of these actions.

At some point, individuals and institutions must have accountability. Ignorance cannot continue to be an excuse. Institutions of higher learning cannot mass-produce insensitive, privileged bigots. And no, no matter what Don Imus says, you cannot blame hip-hop.

The men and women coming out of America's colleges and entering the workforce are the future judges that will make life-changing decisions for people of color, are the future politicians that will create policies that affect poor black communities, are the future businessmen and power elite whose global dealings will affect the black work force. If these people think it is okay to wear blackface as a joke or pose with a 40 oz. and handcuffs, what kinds of decisions might they make in the real world? The answers are much scarier than any Halloween costume. Don Imus returns to the radio on Dec. 3. Barack Obama continues to forge ahead on the campaign trail. Race in America is not a textbook concern. It is, however, something we must continue to study.

Simone Says...



... Think about what you buy. By Simone Stephenson

I was thinking about something today. This is a little throwback, but bear with me. I was thinking about Howard Homecoming. I was thinking about why it is so nationally-renowned, and why people come from all corners of the country (and the world) to attend the weekends festivities.

Then I started thinking about my homecoming experience this year.

I remember walking across the Yard during Yardfest last year, enjoying the company of my friends, listening to the music on the stage and eating the extremely overpriced fried chicken and catfish the vendors sell.

Yardfest is always pretty fun, because you end up running into long-lost friends from . high school, or some Hampton buddies who wanted to come visit because they know we weren't going to go to their homecoming.

Anyway, as the crowd vacated the Yard, returning to their respective homes to shower and get dressed for the night's festivities, I began to notice a trend.

It started as I walked down Georgia Avenue. I was noticing the flashy Mercedes

homes this winter.

Sometimes I impress myself with how brilliant I am.

Then we found out that this year has been the deadliest year for U.S. troops in Iraq despite the "success" of the troop surge.

As of Tuesday, Nov. 6 852 U.S. troops had died so far this year.

According to the Associated Press, that brings the total number of U.S. armed forces deaths to 3,858 since the beginning of the war in March 2003.

(Let's not forget that U.S. troops have not been the only ones to die over there. A British polling and market research company called Opinion Research Business claims that anywhere from 733,158 to 1,446,063 Iraqi civilians have died during the four years of this conflict. The high-end figure would mean that approximately 900 Iraqi citizens have been killed every day. Chew on that.).

This isn't good news if you're in the army risking life and limb for this country, considering the study released this week on veterans and homelessness.

The study found that one quarter of the nation's homeless are war veterans, and war veterans are more likely to become homeless than the general population.

What a disgrace.

Even more disgraceful is the fact that even if a war veteran makes it back home alive, they probably would end up freezing to death because oil prices are so high and a heated house has become an expensive luxury.

Then there's this new obesity study. Just what America needed, an excuse for fat people to stay fat.

The study found that being overweight or obese doesn't increase the risk for cancer or heart disease, and having some extra pounds appears to protect against a host of other causes of death...like, oh, I don't know, hypothermia maybe?

I think this study is complete hooey. If you believe for one second that being overweight or obese doesn't increase your risk for heart discase or other heart related problems, I've got a bridge to sell you.

Better yet, just ask Gerald Levert or Big Pun. Oops! You can't, they're dead! So let's recap shall we.

went ahead with the party anyway. They donned sagging jeans, oversized jerseys, fake chains, backward caps, bandanas, exposed thongs. Curious as to how a group of privileged white college students might portray a "thuggin" image, I decided to go to the party, with six other black

When we arrived it had dispersed already, but we were told by some drunken stragglers "You guys should've come earlier. You would have been the most thuggin' ones there." The weeks that fol-

students.

Blackface and minstrelsy have a long, hurtful history in America. They embody some of the most despicable stereotypes about black people.

Allowing them to be mutated into a festive novelty, allowing them to become new-millennium comedy, is to allow for the continued to dehumanization of people of color.

This trend is particularly disturbing in our institutions of higher learning. Colleges are supposed to be a place where we transition into adulthood, where we are equipped with the thinking skills and knowledge that we lowed were filled with talks with will carry forward into our caBenzs, BMWs and Jaguars lined up on the street. I noticed the men and women in their flashy Versace, Chanel and Gucci sunglasses, the women with their matching handbags.

I began to wonder if these people really were as rich as they pretended to be. I wondered if some of these women debated as to whether or not they should pay their rent that month, or if they should buy those new sunglasses and matching purse for homecoming.

I wondered if some of the men who were driving in their fancy Range Rovers and Porsche trucks could really, comfortably afford those cars, or if they were really even theirs. I've heard about people who rent luxury cars to "stunt" for Howard Homecoming.

Some time after that, I happened to stumble across a statistical Web site that analyzed the spending power of the African-American community as a whole. It broke down spending into 25 categories, and listed how much money was spent in each category.

It stated that of the \$656 billion in earned income that the African-American community holds, the vast majority of the expenditure was focused on three main categories: housing and related charges, food and cars, trucks and motorcycles.

Not too surprising. What's surprising is the next thing I noticed.

African Americans spend \$32.6 billion on cars, trucks, and motorcycles. Funny how the amount of money we spend on education is not even half of that amount. On the subject of education, we spent \$326 million on books in 2003.

Do you know how much we spent on alcohol? Nearly \$3 billion.

Yep. BILLION

I don't know about you, reader, but I think something needs to be done about that. We need to get our priorities in order. Go look up some statistics on black spending, and think about how you spend your money.

I'm guilty of it. We all are. I'm guilty of wanting a Mercedes Benz when a Honda Civic will serve the same purpose.

This isn't to say that we shouldn't

FIF The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper **Drew Costley** Editor-In-Chief **Caryn Grant** Joshua Thomas Managing Editor Managing Editor Janeile Jolley Ombudsman **Traver Riggins Derell Smith** Simone Stephenson Photo Editor Campus Editor Editorial & Perspectives Editor **Eboni Farmer Erin Evans Jasmin Melvin** Copy Chief Deputy Campus Editor Business & Technology Editor Mercia Williams-Murray **RaShawn Mitchner** Winnie Clark-Jenkins Assistant Campus Editor Assistant Copy Chief Sports Editor Vanessa Rozier **Jessica Littles** Matthew Cooper Nation & World Editor Lauren Belcher Deputy Sports Editor **Danielle Kwateng**

Crystal J. Allen

Soon, it will be cheaper to feed a raging cocaine habit than to get a tank of gas.

Meanwhile, veterans are just worried about making it out of Iraq alive and not ending up homeless after serving their country.

And fat people are A-OK after all, so don't be bashful about getting fourths at the buffet - you're just helping to prolong your life.

This country is getting to be a bit much to handle.

Canada anyone?

The opinions expressed in the columns on the extended **Op-Ed page reflect those of** each individual author, not those of The Hilltop **Editorial Board.**

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Now in its 84th year, The Hilltop is published Monday through Friday by Howard University students. With a readership of 7,000, The Hilltop is the largest black collegiate newspaper in the nation. The opinions expressed on the Editorials & 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.

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THE HILLTOP

have fun, that we shouldn't party, that we shouldn't drink (if we're over 21, of course). This is just to say that maybe we shouldn't be spending our money on expensive luxury cars, clothes and other trivial things that really don't matter in the long run.

The president doesn't seem to care about our youths' education, but maybe our spending power can be the ticket to their education outside of school.

We have a responsibility as Howard University, and as educated African Americans as a whole, and we need to accept that, and act on it.

Don't like what we said? Submit your own essay or perspective at www.thehilltoponline.com! Click on the "Letters to the Editor" link.

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THE HILLTOP

LIFE & STYLE

Raheem Devaughn Brings the Love Back With Second Album

BY DANIELLE KWATENG Senior Life & Style Editor

Lights dim. Soothing bass plays. Back silhouette of a city drops. Going to a Raheem DeVaughn show, it's more than a concert; it's a "Love Experience."

From handing out a crown to his "queen" in the audience, to dropping to the floor at the thought of an amazing woman, DeVaughn makes sure to make every moment worth it.

This R&B artist and Maryland native offers more than your run of the mill singer.

His beautiful arrangement of stories and poetry wrapped up into soulful melodies makes him stand out in the realm of performers.

After his first major debut

album, "The Love Experience," things have been looking up for DeVaughn.

You may have spotted him fans. on his promotional tour, and now he has a nationwide single out called "Woman" from his second album, "Love Behind the Melody." due Nov. 27.

DeVaughn has been in the music business for quite a while now. As a child, he listened to all the great classics, such as Marvin Gaye and the Isley Brothers.

"Music was just always around me," DeVaughn said of his childhood. While attending Coppin State, he joined a singing group, which was the catalyst for him becoming the man he is today.

After years of hard work and finally getting a contract with Jive Records, he's excited to have enough creative freedom to make his shows a full experience for his

Not only does his live performance take fans through the journey of his past, but DeVaughn also incorporates art into his shows. He works with Demont Peekaso, a rising Washington, D.C.-based painter and childhood friend of his.

Peekasopainted De Vaughn's elaborate album cover and also paints on stage during DeVaughn's concerts.

"Me and Ra' pretty much grew up together," Peekaso said, "We've known each other for fourteen years. That's just another brother of mine. He proposed the idea to me, he was like 'Yo, we need you traveling with me' Ra' would say my work 'brings color to

the stage.""

Along with his fall tour, DeVaughn is looking forward to his album's release.

"It's just gonna be beautiful music," he said. "The sound is big and authentic, creative - all those good things. [I] definitely messed around with some harmony arrangements...and find new ways to tell my story."

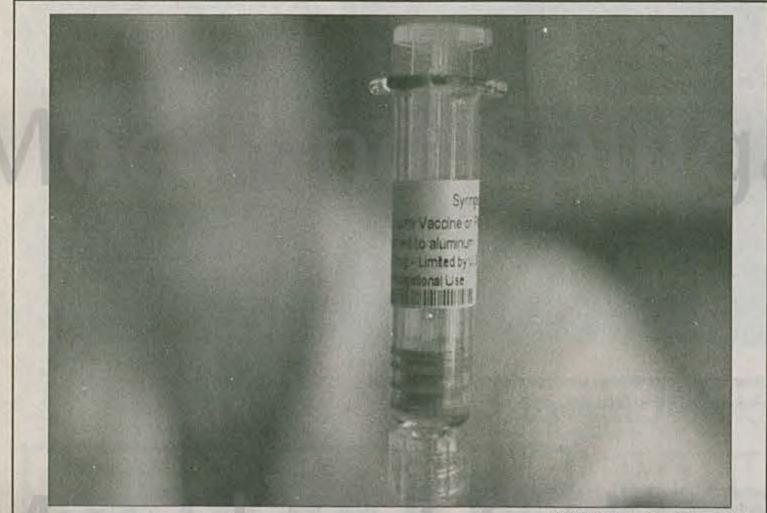
DeVaughn said he pretty much got to work with all the artists he wanted to on this project. From well-known producers like Scott Storch and Brian Michael Cox to talented artists like Big Boi and Floetry, the sound on this next album is sure to be a treat.

"I like to mix it up, and I spent a lot of time out West," DeVaughn said of the other influences on the album.



Photo courtesy of www.vibe.com

Raheem DeVaughn churns out more soul on his second album, "Love Behind the Melody," with help from Brian Michael Cox and Big Boi.



Area School Pushes the Arts as a Part of Education ·

Continued from FRONT, ARTS

But strolling down the aged halls of Duke Ellington High, one gets a sense it's a place where true talent is crafted. Each wing is decorated with murals that depict the concentration of study. Students were anywhere from in classes, intently focusing on their assignments to out in the hallways, finding inspiration for their next master craft. Dancers plied, musicians blew, artists crafted and singers belted at the drop of a hat with an unmistakable confidence. Whole song compositions that seemed so intricate they would take months to master, were being preformed after a couple of weeks of rehearsal.

room for us to fail, because they expected it."

She believes the arts in education saved her, being her only coping method from losing her father at a young age. "It was my former therapy. It wasn't just something I liked to do, it was my passion. I was able to express myself, which I didn't do at home," she said.

When asked what would happen if arts

Alen Brisson-Smith - Chicago Tribune (MCT)

The HIV vaccine, which still fails to work, is like many other major vaccines that may take years to perfect. Its failure may be a clear way for other researchers to get funding and try other possible cures.

Failure of AIDS Vaccine **Punctures Soaring Hopes**

BY KYUNG M. SONG & CAROL M. SONG The Seattle Times (MCT)

SEATTLE — The resounding failure of an AIDS vaccine that was tested with great fanfare in Seattle and around the world has left researchers with plenty of theories, but as far as ever from the long-sought holy grail in the fight against the pandemic.

Researchers gathered in Seattle on Wednesday for a three-day conference admitted they were both startled and disheartened by the revelation that the much-hailed "STEP Study" vaccine may actually have put volunteers at an even greater risk of developing HIV than reported last month.

HIV-negative men who received the test vaccine actually ended up with more cases of infections than men who got placebo injections.

The vaccine had been only the second ever to reach wide testing in humans, and early phases had shown so much promise that scientists spoke excitedly as recently as last winter of finally finding an elusive vaccine.

This latest blow has prompted some even to question whether any vaccine will ever be successful against HIV, a virus that has killed 25 million people worldwide.

What went wrong?

The STEP study, launched in early 2005, was halted in September, more than a year early, because the vaccine simply did not work. It neither prevented HIV infection nor reduced the virus levels of those who got infected. Now researchers are trying to determine whether the vaccine itself actually made men more susceptible to acquiring HIV.

In an initial review, they found 24 HIV infections among 741 men who received at least one dose of the vaccine. That compared to 21 HIV cases among 762 men in the placebo group.

A smaller sample, limited to those who had received at least two vaccinations, found 19 infections in the vaccine group and 11 in the placebo group.

That was enough to pull the plug on the trials Sept. 21.

After further analysis of the full research data in October, researchers discovered that the gap in infection rates was even wider. And a pattern was spotted: Especially vulnerable were volunteers who had more immunity to the particular cold virus used in the vaccine because of earlier exposure to it.

Although 40 percent of the volunteers were women, only one woman developed an infection, so the review focused only on the men.

The September analysis had looked only at subjects with no or low immunity to the cold virus.

Among the 392 men who received the experimental HIV vaccine and had high immunity to the cold virus, 21 became HIV infected, compared to nine among the 386 men in the placebo group.

And a subset of that group showed even more contrast: Among the men with the highest levels of immunity to the cold virus, seven were infected out of 163 men who got the vaccine, compared to only two cases out of 157 men in the dummy-injection group.

In the entire study, 49 of the 914 men in the vaccine group and 33 men of 922 in the pla-

Talibah Aquil, a junior musical theater major is a product of a similar setting.

"Acting and memorizing lines has definitely helped me retain information in other classes," she said. "I think [arts in schools] is very, very important. Duke Ellington is more than an arts high school. It gives the kids something to do."

Before coming to Howard, Aquil attended LaGuardia High School of the Performing Arts, more famously known as the school depicted in the movie "Fame" in New York City. She believed her high school sufficiently prepared her for Howard's fine arts program.

"I loved LaGuardia. There wasn't anyone who I saw that wasn't talented," Aquil said. "It was competitive just being black. There were 3000 applicants and only 55 were chosen in the acting major alone. Of the 55 acting majors who were there, only ten of us were black. There wasn't

programs in public schools were cut Aquil said, "For me it'd be taking away my identity. I've always been naturally attracted to the arts. I was ordained to be in it. [The arts] is what these kids are...it's who I am."

Randall Holloway another junior musical theater major agreed with Aquil.

"It definitely built my confidence up as a performer," he said of his experience attending Milwaukee High School of the Performing Arts. "Before I went to the arts school I was at a predominantly white school. I learned, if you didn't have confidence in yourself before, no one will. The cultural shock, going from a white school to a school of arts helped me transition into college easy. Many students get culture shocked when they get here ... I got mine early."

Pullens hopes that the Board of Education will continue to fund arts in public schools, but his main concern will always be his students.

"An experience like Ellington has aided to their [the students] focus," he said. "These kids were given a talent by God. There really is no time and space when trying to get out of the hood. And when you're removed from a bad environment, you see things differently. It's important to push them to the next level. [It's] our contribution to what makes America. America,"



Circle Boutique, the Solution for Laid Back Fashion Lovers

BY BIANCA RICHARDSON Contributing Writer

Unlike a stereotypical highend "bourgeois" boutique, the Circle Boutique creates an atmosphere that is amicable and chic. With the sounds of the White Stripes, Biggie or J. Lo playing in the background, customers are sure to feel comfortable while seeing unique clothing and basking in the cozy atmosphere.

bought today and worn years from now," Simpson said.

The name Circle Boutique is meant to represent cohesiveness. clientele include Howardites whom Simpson and Vollmerhausen cite Vollmerhausen describes as "fashthe concept of the phrases "circle of ion forward." friends" and "circle of life." The boutique was originally located in Dupont Circle. Although the main focus of the boutique is fashion, these businesswomen are also humanitarians. Circle Boutique hosts quarterly special events as a part of their "Clothes with a Conscience" foundation, which supports local nonprofit organizations like Girl Scouts of America, Dress for Success, Children's Hospital and Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). Wayne Skinner joined the team in 2005. His love and expertise in denim was a great addition to the business. With a target audience of ages 18 to 40, the boutique carries designers like Valentine, Lover, Borne, L.A.M.B, Nom de Guerre, B Son and Yoko Devereaux.

The boutique has a steady clientele, but there are new customers on a daily basis. Some of their

The study included 3,000 men and women between ages 18 and 45 who were considered at high risk of HIV infection. One hundred volunteers were from Seattle. The rest were from 15 other U.S. cities and from Canada, Peru, Brazil, Australia, Jamaica, Haiti, Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic.

The pharmaceutical company Merck, which was developing the vaccine, co-sponsored the trial with the Vaccine Trials Network, an international research collaboration based at Seattle's Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. It was funded by the federal National Institutes of Health.

The vaccine used a disabled form of a common-cold virus to carry three synthetically produced HIV genes into the body. It was hoped that those genes would spur the body to unleash an HIV-targeted immune response using socalled "killer" T cells.

Neither the cold virus nor the HIV genes could reproduce, so volunteers could not catch a cold or become infected with HIV directly from the vaccine.

Researchers knew in September that men who were receiving the vaccine were catching HIV at a higher rate than the men who received the dummy shots.

cebo group tested HIV-positive.

Investigators are still analyzing the data to figure out whether the higher infection rate among the vaccine group is coincidence, said Dr. Larry Corey, the lead scientist for the HIV Vaccine Trials Network.

It would take further tests to figure out whether the vaccine somehow aided HIV infection instead of averting it, the scientists said.

It's also possible that other factors are at work, such as differences in circumcision rates, geographic variations and sexual habits, Corey said.

Regardless, the results marked an abrupt reversal of fortune for a project once regarded as one of the leading hopes in the AIDS battle. In early tests, the vaccine had triggered such vigorous immune responses that researchers in 2005 decided to double the number of volunteers.

Since the discovery, the STEP volunteers have been notified about the potential increase in infection risk, but they have not been told whether they received the vaccine or placebo during their participation in the study.

The trial's co-sponsors are deliberating whether to "unblind" the trials and divulge that information. A decision may be released this month.

The store is located on 14th Street near U Street. The owners, Rosana Vollmerhausen and Dinah Simpson, are fashion lovers who bonded while working at Fannie Mae three years ago.

After mutual exclamations of "I love those shoes," "Nice Jacket" and "That bag is to die for," they developed a relationship, which evolved into a business, Circle Boutique. Their boutique opened in the summer of 2004 and the ladies left Fannie Mae to pursue their mutual love for fashion.

Circle Boutique's clothing consists of contemporary men's and women's accessories and clothing.

"Our unique pieces can be

Vollmerhausen admires designers like Louis Cho.

"His designs are contemporary, classy but very edgy," she said.

"Howard students are less contemporary than our typical clients and seem to venture out more when it comes to fashion," Vollmerhausen said.

The entrepreneurs work according to Picasso's quote, "Everything you imagine can be real."

"This is a quote about our vision for the business as businesswomen," Vollmerhausen said. "We put our fears aside and took the opportunity."

She continued, "Regardless of the many challenges, every Lositive step is a reward for us, no matter how small. The quote also translates well for our customers walking out of the store with either a Circle purchase or just a conversation with us. We do our best to connect with each customer."

> For more information: Circle Boutique 1736 14th St. NW Washington, DC 20009 (202) 518-2212

THE HILLTOP

8 SPORTS

November 9, 2007

Seniors to Play Final Home Game Against Bethune - Cookman

BY MATTHEW COOPER Deputy Sports Editor

The Howard Bison have one more opportunity to show their strength, as they face the Bethune-Cookman Wildcats in their final game of the season at Greene Stadium on Saturday.

Howard (4-5, 2-4 MEAC) put together a pitiful performance last week at home, losing in a 59-21 wipe-out against the South Carolina State Bulldogs.

The team is keeping that loss in the back of their minds as they prepare for this weekend's game.

"We have to go out with a big bang," senior wide receiver Jarahn Williams said. "Somebody has to pay for last week.

Last week, the team struggled with injuries at key positions. The team was missing their top four running backs, their top two cornerbacks and there were injuries across both the offensive and defensive lines.

Also, the Bulldogs were provoked after a pre-game incident where a Bison player kicked over the Bulldog mascot head, and South Carolina State responded by putting up 38 unanswered points in the first half.

"It pissed me off," Bison Head Coach Carey Bailey said. "It is not indicative of the way we run our organization. Going into the game with our injuries, you cannot do something like that."

It will a be an emotional Senior Day for 20 seniors on the team. Howard football players are trying to pull out one more win in front of their friends and family members who are coming to see

"We are going to leave it all out on the field," senior defensive end Rudy Hardie said. "It is more so redemption from last Saturday."

Senior quarterback Brian Johnson said, "I don't take it any differently than any other game. It is sad, and I wish I had more time to play here.'

The seniors on the team have remembered the good and bad times playing at Howard, and have enjoyed the experience.

"It has been an honor to play for Howard," Williams said, "The teammates are what I am here for. We all have each other's backs, on and off the field."

Hardie said, "I am going to miss the times with the players. The different games, like the Morgan State comeback, just never giving up through adversity."

This game can be a landmark for Williams, who leads the MEAC conference with 12 touchdowns scored. He needs one more touchdown catch to break Jevonte Philpot's touchdown record at Howard.

"It will be on my mind, but the main thing is winning the game," he said. "The touchdown will go along with winning."

The Daytona Beach, Fla.-based Wildcats (3-6, 1-5 MEAC) bring a lineup full of quick Florida athletes and a challenging option-style offense run by head coach Alvin Wyatt and quarterback Jimmie Russell.

"We are facing a different offense," Hardie said. With their option offense, it's about pure discipline."

Johnson said, "They got a lot of team speed, similar to South Carostraight up the middle."

Howard will have to deal with a true warrior with Bethune-Cookman's middle linebacker, Ronnie McCullough.

with 122 tackles and has won MEAC's Defensive Player of the Week for three consecutive weeks.

The two teams have split the last McCullough leads the MEAC conference four match-ups between each other, both

teams winning at the away field. Last season, the Bison won in Daytona Beach 28-0, and the season before, Howard lost 45-16 at home.

"We have to establish a sound running game," Bailey said. "We have to have not good, not great, but outstanding play from our safeties."

Game time is 1 p.m. at Greene Stadium.

The game can also be viewed via Internet at www.howard-bison.com.

Games This Weekend

>Women's Soccer vs. Longwood (USC Conference Semifinal), Friday at 7 p.m. at Orem, Utah.

>Women's Basketball at Basketball Travelers Tournament (Baylor University, Waco Texas) all weekend

>Men's Basketball at Duquesne, Friday at 7 p.m., Pittsburgh, Penn.

>Men's Soccer at Longwood, Saturday at 3 p.m., Farmville, Va.

>Football vs. Bethune-Cookman, Saturday at I p.m., Greene Stadium

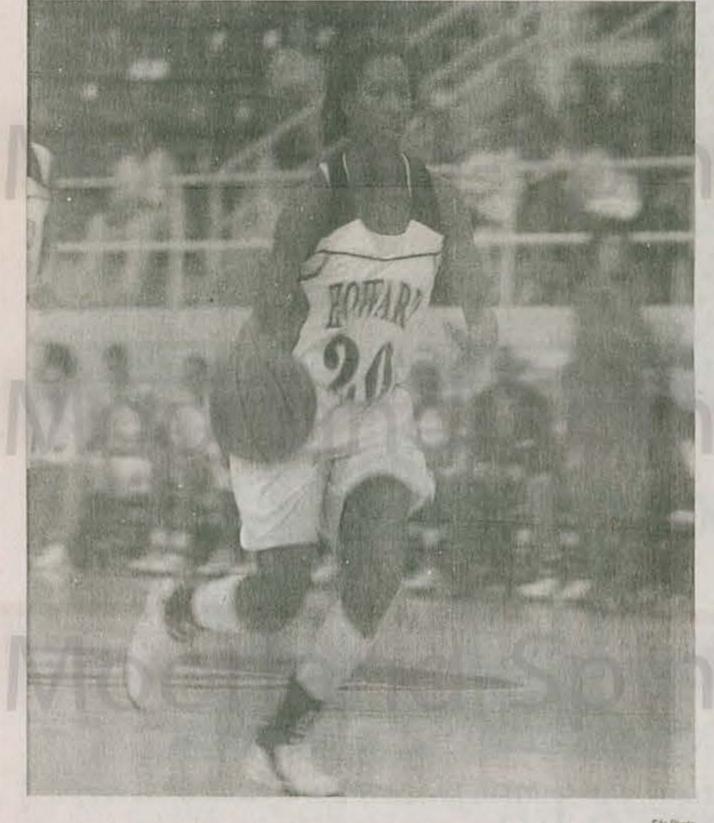


Brian Johnson (left), Jarahn Williams (right) and 18 other senior football players will play their.

them play for the last time.

lina. You have to attack that by going up final game at Greene Stadium on Saturday against Bethune-Cookman.

Lady Bison Adjust to Lineup Changes, Gear Up for Upcoming Season



Senior guard Shannon Carlisle, the 2006-2007 MEAC Defensive Player of the Year, will lead the Lady Bison this year. The team opens the season today against Baylor.

BY ED HILL, JR. Special to the Hilltop

Howard women's basketball head coach Cathy Parson enters her eighth season at the helm of a Lady Bison program that is set to shake things up in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC). Despite several key injuries, Howard accumulated an 8-22 record last season and finished seventh in conference with a 7-11 mark. The Bison wrapped up the 2006-2007 season at the MEAC Tournament with a 77-74 win over the Lady Bulldogs of South Carolina State and a semifinal loss to No.1 ranked Coppin State. Howard had a tough start to the 2006-2007 season and lost 15 straight decisions before defeating Bethune-Cookman at home on January 20. With a solid win under their belts, the Bison went on to win seven of its final 13 games. The Bison also hosted GAA member George Mason and nearly knocked off the Patriots, but fell by three points in their first home game on November 28.

"Their attention to instruction is better and they are developing a hunger to be successful."

The team will have to offset the

Evelena Cousin Peterson and Carlisle, along with newcomers Zykia Brown and Amanda Edwards, are expected to strengthen Howard's perimeter play, while freshman Jalisa Pullins and returnees Lonice Kenley, Gross and Santee will anchor a deep Bison backcourt.

Frontcourt

Howard returns a solid core of players to the frontcourt, including experienced post players in juniors Tamaya Daniels and Jasmine Lipford. Terease Thornton and Charae Baulkman also add depth to the Bison frontcourt. Baulkman, along with freshmen Ashley Marshall and Jauna Phillips, will provide the competition for the Lady Bison at the power forward position while Josephine Young and Nicole Martin will compete for time at center.

Daniels returns to the forward position after starting 13 of 30 games last year. She started in place of the injured Benson and grabbed a career-high 20 rebounds against Bethune-Cookman on February 17.

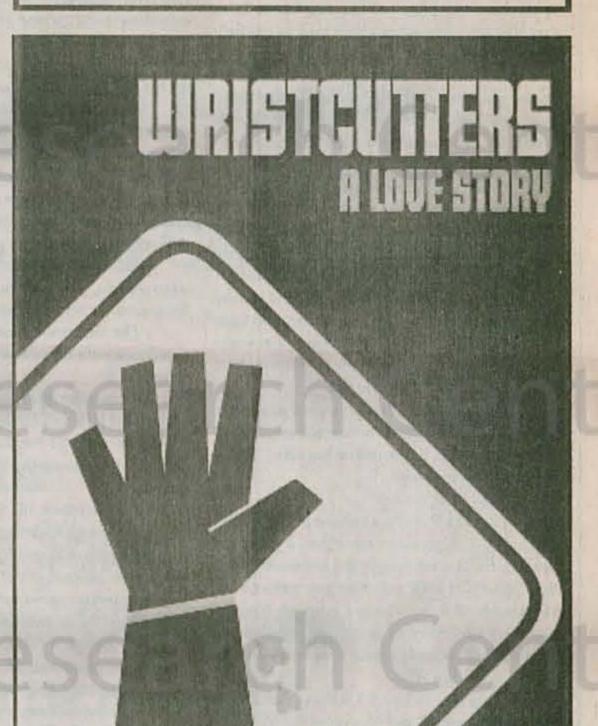
Marshall, a 5-foot-10-inch post player, averaged 11 points and 11 rebounds during her senior season and served as team captain at Joppatown High School in Joppa, Md. Marin, 6-foot-3-inch center from Southaven High School in Southaven, Miss., and Phillips, a 6-foot forward from Charlotte, N.C., also join the Lady Bison in the paint this season. Young is another addition to the team this year.

Backcourt

The reigning MEAC Defensive Player of the Year, Carlisle was the team's leading scorer a year ago at 16 points per game, while she was first in assists per game (3.3) and steals per game (3.7). Carlisle holds several school records in steals and is already a member of the 1,000-point club. Her 3.7 steals ranked her second in the nation in that



NOVEMBER 9, 1997 BRET HART LOSES TO SHAWN MICHAELS IN THE MONTREAL SCREWJOB (WWF).



Parson enters this season with a young but exciting team, a team that knows it takes hard work for any team to be successful. After last season, the Lady Bison now have tangible proof of what hard work can do. "We are a different team," Parson said.

graduation losses of several key players. Gone from last year's team is Christina Aden, who averaged 10.2 points per game as the team's second leading scorer in 2006-2007. The Lady Bison will also have to deal with the losses of Melloni Benson (8.9 ppg, 5.1 rpg) and Courtney Smiley (7.2 ppg, 4.5 rpg).

"You're talking about losing key players from the starting lineup," Parson said. "We will miss their leadership more than the other things they bring to the court, but we have people who will step up and meet the challenge."

Howard may be a bit young this year, but with two starters returning and four seniors, HU will have a great deal of experience, not to mention a very good recruiting class.

"This is the strongest class we have yct," Parson said. "I expect them to make a big impact and I am excited about what they will be able to contribute."

Senior Shannon Carlisle, the 2006-2007 MEAC Defensive Player of the Year, and Asha Santee are among the team's returning letterwinners. Howard also returns senior guard Reyna Gross. Morgan Neal,

category.

"She has developed into a player that has the vision to make people around her better," Parson said of her floor general. "She always puts us in a position to win."

Santee was one of four players to play in all 30 games for Howard last season. She averaged 6 points and 2.6 rebounds per game and connected on 78 percent of her free-throws, tops on the team.

Kenley started five decisions for Howard last season and averaged 4.6 points per game in 379 minutes. Neal played in 16 contests last year with four starts and averaged 4.1 points and 2.4 rebounds per game, while Cousin-Peterson played in eight contests and averaged 2.6 minutes per game.

A 5-foot-8-inch guard from Parkdale High School, Brown averaged 19 points and four assists per game during her senior campaign while being named first team all Prince George's County. The Riverdale, Md., native was team captain and team MVP for both her junior and senior scasons.

Pullins, a 5-foot-5-inch guard from Decatur, Ga., averaged 12 points, 7 assists and 4 steals per game at Southwest Dekalb High School. She helped her team reach the

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CONSULT THEATRE DIRECTORIES AND LISTINGS FOR SHOWTIMES



MECCANISMS 9

All The News FEMA Wants You to Have

BY LEONARD PITTS JR. McClatchy Newspapers

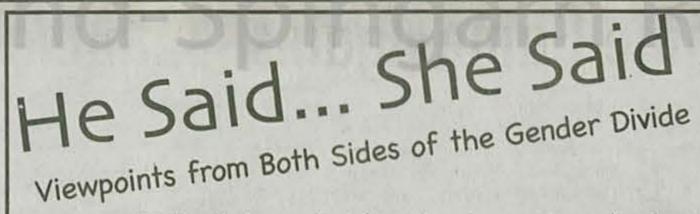
Maybe if I had been drinking heavily. Maybe if I was suffering amnesia.

Maybe if Fd had a lobotomy.

Maybe, in other words, if my memory was impaired, I could accept the apologi s for last week's FEMA-brand bovine excreta at face value. Problem is, my memory is more or less intact, the routine ravages of age notwithstanding. So you'll forgive me if my response to FEMA's latest oops for its latest blunder is less than charitable.

For those who missed it: last week, the Federal Emergency Management Agency called a news conference on 15 minutes' notice to discuss its response to the wildfires in California. The short notice guaranteed that no reporters could get there in time, though they were given a phone number that allowed them to listen—not pose questions, mind you, but "listen"—to a briefing from Vice Adm. Harvey Johnson, FEMA's deputy chief, after which, he took questions.

But wait a minute, you say: If no reporters were there, who asked the questions? It turns out that FEMA staffers, posing as reporters, did the honors. That's right, FEMA questioned FEMA. Or, to put it another way, a group of worker bees interviewed their boss.



First things first, I am no advocate for rape in any form – statutory or otherwise. Statutory rape can be simply defined as a sexual act, consensual or otherwise, that includes one partner who is younger than the age of consent. This concept of an "age of consent" is where the true controversy comes into play.

Here in the District of Columbia the age of consent is 16 years of age. This is to say that every 16-year-old in the District has the mental capacity to make an intelligent decision about his or her sexual endeavors and that degree of discernment was magically bestowed upon him or her on their 16th birthday and not a day sooner or later.

The age of consent makes perfect sense when one party is say a manipulative 23year-old-predator and the other is an impressionable 15-year-old searching for acceptance. However, many cases are far from this scenario. A difference of as little as a few months or a couple years may be enough to make someone a rapist if the two ages lie on separate sides of that magical age of consent.

In the instance of Genarlow Wilson, who was recently released after years in prison, there were two teens—peers, who engaged in a consensual sex act. Yet, somehow this is a crime.

It's meant to be a law to protect the young and impressionable from predators and pedophiles, not to attack kids who make less-than-educated decisions instead of labeling these kids criminals and throwing them in the company of rapist and sex offenders.

Perhaps, the most unjust facet is that if both partners are below the age of consent then they can both be prosecuted. In this example two individuals are labeled rapists by the justice system...so where's the victim?

Rather than prosecuting sexually active teens authorities should opt to educate. The District has set a shining example of how strong initiatives can positively affect change. According to the Washington Post, the city's pregnancy rate for teens 15 to 19 who 164.5 per 1,000 in 1996. Since then several initiatives by non-profits, communities and city agencies have brought that statistic down to 64.4 per 1,000 as of 2005.

Let me be clear, the law is the law and those who commit crimes, by definition, are criminals. But we have to examine whether the laws that govern our actions are truly just.

This week's issue:

Age of Consent

by Joshua Thomas & Jessica Littles

I'm glad Genarlow Wilson was released. Really, I am. I don't think by any account that this is a malicious young man, debauching young girls from sexual purity. I am sure 17-year-old Wilson never considered that taping himself receiving oral sex from a 15-year-old peer would change the course of the rest of his life. But it did. And unlike others in my community, I am not on the "poor Genarlow" bandwagon.

Yes, the justice system can be unjust. Prosecutors are especially assertive with cases concerning black youth, and often times laws that were meant for our protection are misconstrued and administered unfairly. But the law is the law.

I won't continue to blame the justice system, and I don't think the law should be changed. The law was created to prevent grown men and women from molecting children. Yes, let's think about the children. Even if it is consensual, the law views minors as being incapable of making responsible choices regarding sex, especially when approached by an older and perhaps more formidable figure. Of course, many of us assume that a 15-year-old is capable of deciding whether he or she wants to have oral sex, but the law has to have a limitation, and 16 is the age in Georgia.

This is not the first time this has happened. Marcus Dixon was another All-American black student athlete who was arrested and charged with aggravated child molestation for having sex with a 15-year-old white girl. He was pardoned by the Georgia Supreme Court, the same court that released Wilson.

How about we let these young men be examples. Recidivism is a major problem in the black community, and although the law goes for both sexes and all races, we know who will be targeted.

My advice: young black men, watch yourselves! Don't continue to rely on the NAACP to get you out of jail sentences. Get on a little thing called Google and look up the sex laws for your respective state. It may seem silly, but it's necessary. Prosecutors ain't playing, and I don't want to see anymore promising black men slip in and out of prison cells.

Ignorance of the law is not an adequate defense. We have to take responsibility for ourselves. I know I will. One day, if I am fortunate enough to have a son, I am going to tell him to look for a girl who is smart, pretty, and has common sense, but before you do all of that, make sure you check ID!

Submit your topics for discussion at meccanisms@gmail.com.

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It will not surprise you to hear that this format failed to produce tough questions. Instead, Johnson fielded slow rollers like, "Are you happy with FEMA's response so far?" Thankfully, the session ended before anyone could ask him what sort of tree he would like to be in the next life.

When news broke of what FEMA had done, confessions and condemnations fell like rain. The agency apologized. A spokeswoman for the Department of Homeland Security called the episode "offensive." DHS chief Michael Chertoff called it one of the "dumbest" stunts he has seen in government. The White House called it an "error in judgment."

I'd be happy to take the apologies and the you-a-culpas at face value and move on. Maybe I could do that if I were suffering some mental lapse that erased the accumulated experience of the last six years. Maybe I could do it if this was just an isolated instance of bad judgment. Maybe I could do it if this was not but the latest of many examples of the Bush administration manipulating news and information.

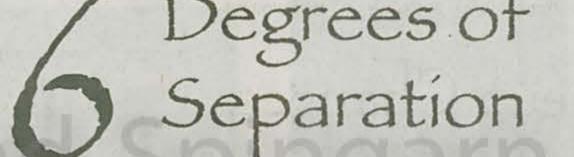
Maybe if a GOP shill and sometime porn entrepreneur had never been allowed to play reporter in the White House press room.

Maybe if the administration had never paid public funds to a supposed journalist for him to say good things about its No Child Left Behind law.

Maybe if the government had never put out promotional videos disguised as news, complete with Bush underlings pretending to be reporters.

Maybe if they were not in the habit of censoring science.Maybe if Donald Rumsfeld had never proposed an office of disinformation.Maybe if all 300 million of us were drinking heavily.

But there is not enough



Anyone can be connected to anyone else through only "Six Degrees of Separation." Can you figure out the missing links between these two newsmakers? Submit your answers to meccanisms@gmail.com.





David P. Gikey - Detroit Free Press Rudolph Giuliani

-T.I. was in "ATL" with actress Lauren London.

T.I.

Getty Images

- Lauren London is in the show "Entourage" with Jeremy Piven. - Jeremy Piven starred in "Smokin' Aces" with Alicia Keys.

- Alicia Keys was on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show."

- Ellen DeGeneres' show recently had Senator Barack Obama as a guest.

- Barack Obama is running for president in 2008 as well as Rudolph Giuliani.

For next week, connect Genarlow Wilson and Kevin Durant. Submit your answers to meccanisms@gmail.com.

THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY...

Nov. 5. 1968

Shirley Chisholm became the first black woman elected to Congress, representing Bedford-Stuyvesant in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Nov. 6, 1900

James Weldon Johnson and J. Rosamond Johnson composed "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing."

Nov. 6, 1900

Sharon Pratt Dixon (now Kelly) was elected mayor of Washington, D.C., making this a first for a woman of any race.

Nov. 7, 1938

First black woman legislator, Crystal Bird Fauset of Philadelphia, elected to Pennsylvania legislature.

Nov. 8, 1966

John H. Johnson, publisher of Ebony and Jet magazines, awarded Spingarn Medal "for his productive imagination...in the perilous field of publishing" and "for his contributions to the enhancement of the Negro's self-image through his publications."

Nov. 2, 1930

Edward Brooke became the first African-American U.S. senator since Reconstruction.

Nov. 9, 1922

Dorothy Dandridge was born in Cleveland, Ohio. She became the first black woman to be nominated for an Oscar for the role of Carmen in "Carmen Jones."

News courtesy of www.blackfacts.com

GIPPY By Johnnie Walker I HATE THIS JOB. ALL WE DO IS SIT HERE FOR HOURS. HOURS. WHAT? AND ACTUALLY HAVE TO WORK? NAH SON YOU CRAZY

alcohol in existence and the administration's aversion to the whole truth and nothing but is all too well documented.

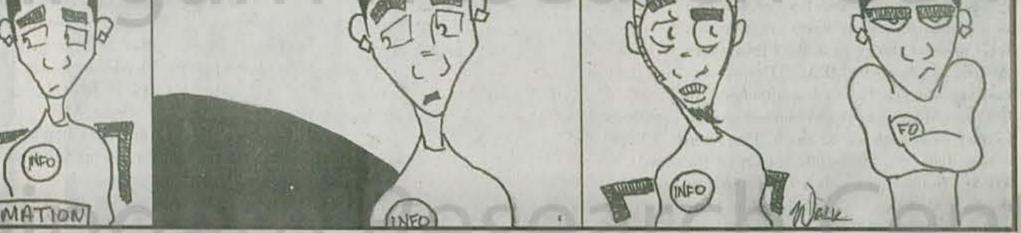
There is more at stake here than the credibility of a president or a presidency. What is at stake is the ability of people to trust that those in positions of trust are worthy of trust. To play fast and loose with fact as the Bush administration has habitually done, is to put truth itself into play and risk rendering government's word worthless. Not this government, but "government," period.

And for what? For shortterm political gain? The prize seems hardly worth the price. Yet they keep on doing it just the same. They refuse to learn from their mistakes.

Which only makes this show of contrition feel all the more cynical and disingenuous. They should save the apologies for people with short memories. Maybe some of us don't see the pattern here.

But rest assured, some of us do.





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HILTOPICS 10

November 9, 2007

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 FIVE DAYS IN ADVANCE. **Payment** acceptable Cashier's check or money order . Any questions please contact

The Hilltop Business Office (202) 806-4749 or by e-mail Hilltopbusiness@gmail. com

Alpha Chapter,

All Hilltopics must be submitted through email. Late Hilltopics are no longer accepted. Hilltopics must be submitted 5 days in advance. Payment must be received no later than one day after submission. If Payment is not received by the deadline, the Hilltopic WILL NOT RUN. I MARY BEATTER LIEGERGE

NEW HILLTOPIC POLICY

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"Iced Out" 2008 Black College Ski Weekend MLK Jr. Weekend

Jan. 18-20th Nevele Grand Resort, NY

ALL-INCLUSIVE TRIP Skiing, Parties, Luxury Travel, Comedy Show, Karaoke, Succulent Buffet, Fun and More!!!

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Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated

> will be hosting a Manicure Drive as part of PROJECT HOPE

Please donate nail polish, emery boards, polish remover and cotton balls.

> Friday from 12-3 in Blackburn

TEZ New 11th - 17th Rock Part 2

The Ladies of Alpha Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

J. The Men of Xi Chapter, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

"Literary Circle: A Book Discussion on on the Measure of Black Men in America' By Scott Poulson-Bryant'

be purchased Nov. 13-16 Douglass Hall 6:00pm

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Alpha Chapter, Delta Signa Theta Sorority

Auditions for Male Talent Show

Douglass Room 240

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Blackburn

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November 15, 2007 Auditorium Please bring a laptop

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For more info: UGSASkiTrip2008@gmail.com UGSA Office Blackburn #108

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Conference

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Tuesday "One Me. I'm a Winner State Club Pageant Mig LIGH Auditorium 7PM

Wednesday "Guannest Sax" Battle of the Sexes Game Night Anner Loungs 7PM

Thursday Texas Club Farty Admission: Nonpershable food items Dow Hall Lounge 9 PM

Friday "I Wish" Community Service Thunksowne Dinner Texas Club Only

Sitters Wanted. \$10 or more per hour.

Register free for jobs near campus or home.

At Howard for Thanksgiving?

Impact Movement and Noonday Prayer Fellowship invite you to the 3rd Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Thursday Nov. 22, 2007 **Bethune Annex Dining** Hall 1-6PM

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Alpha Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Presents,

Founders Week 2007 Nov. 11th- 17th 2007

Sunday November 11, 2007 Call to Chapel **Cramton** Auditorium

> Monday Nov. 12, 2007 Jounder's Day

Tuesday Nov. 13, 2007 "Welcome to the Good Life. Divine Nine & HU Sorority Forum 7:22 pm @ Locke Auditorium

Wednesday Nov. 14, 2007 'I Get Money ... And Keet It' with the NABA, HU Jinance & Marketing Club 7:22 pm @ Locke Auditorium

Thursday Nov. 15, 2007 Bluety Night: Calling All Divas!!! Runway & MAC Specialist 7:22 pm @ 103 Douglass

Friday Nov. 16, 2007 **Poodle Parlé** 7:22 pm @ Douglass Hall

Saturday Nov. 17, 2002 **Community** Service City Year for A Day Meet on the yard @ 8:22am

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BLUE NOTE: The Late

7PM-9PM

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Saturday November 17, 2007 5:45pm - 7:45pm

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