

Howard University

## Digital Howard @ Howard University

---

The Hilltop: 2000 - 2010

The Hilltop Digital Archive

---

4-16-2009

### The Hilltop 4-16-2009

Hilltop Staff

Follow this and additional works at: [https://dh.howard.edu/hilltop\\_0010](https://dh.howard.edu/hilltop_0010)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Staff, Hilltop, "The Hilltop 4-16-2009" (2009). *The Hilltop: 2000 - 2010*. 611.  
[https://dh.howard.edu/hilltop\\_0010/611](https://dh.howard.edu/hilltop_0010/611)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the The Hilltop Digital Archive at Digital Howard @ Howard University. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Hilltop: 2000 - 2010 by an authorized administrator of Digital Howard @ Howard University. For more information, please contact [digitalservices@howard.edu](mailto:digitalservices@howard.edu).



## WEATHER

 **61**  
**43**  
Tomorrow:  
 **70**  
**46**

Established  
**1924**

# THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 92, NO. 130

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

Thursday, April 16, 2009

## Thursday's Notebook

### CAMPUS

LEARN ABOUT WHY MALES IN COLLEGE, ESPECIALLY AT HBCUS, ARE BECOMING A SCARCE POPULATION.

### METRO

READ ABOUT A LOCAL BAR THAT OFFERS CHEAP, FUN-FILLED NIGHTS FULL OF 'KOSTUME KARAOKE.'

### MECCANISMS

IS POSTING YOUR RELATIONSHIP STATUS ON FACEBOOK A GOOD DECISION? READ THE PERSPECTIVE FROM BOTH GENDERS.

PAGE 2

PAGE 5

PAGE 8

## A Lilly By Any Other Name...

*After more than 40 years at Howard, Javenia Lilly died, left behind great memories*

BY JESSICA LEWIS  
Staff Writer

On April 15, 2009, Javenia Lilly was taken from our midst after serving the Howard community for 42 years. "Ms. Lilly was a beautiful person. Here I mean on the issue of charac-

ter, which is the ultimate measure of who we are. A gentle, kind, calm, considerate, and humble person, she was always careful to present herself in a stately and regal manner," said Department of Political Science Chairman Daryl Harris, Ph.D. Lilly worked as an administrative assistant in the department for 38

years handling all of its fiscal operations. She was at the university to witness the department emerge as a doctoral degree granting unit and one of the University's largest academic units, according to a press release issued by the Howard University Office of Communications. Interim Provost and Chief Aca-

demic Officer Alvin Thornton, PhD, said that Lilly was part of the committed, professional staff that helped define Howard University and the Political Science Department during the formative years of doctoral level education. Harris describes Lilly as a respectful woman never tiring of helping

her fellow "sisters and brothers" and always doing it in a most gracious way. Political Science major and Howard University Student Association vice president Kellen Moore said one of the reasons people come to Howard is > See **LILLY**, page 3



Jabari Douglas, an upcoming rapper, performs alongside The Rising Suns, who are set to perform at the Apollo Theatre in New York City.

Travis White - Photo Editor

## Moguls Give Insight on Music Industry

*Students interested in entertainment turned out to learn the 'business of the music business'*

BY MORGAN MAHONE  
Contributing Writer

Music moguls stopped by Howard University Wednesday night to help aspiring artists to find their way. "The Business of the Music Business" was a panel discussion where industry professionals gave advice on how to earn and maintain success within the field. The event, sponsored by the Entertainment Power Players, Interscope Records and Radio One, attracted about 40 students in the Blackburn Center. Ernie Singleton, former president of MCA Records, moderated the discussion. Chris Hines, a senior marketing major and producer and CEO of Mastermind Ent., is trying to break into

the music industry as a producer and artist. "You should not be afraid to let your music get out there," he said after the panel. "Your connects are within Howard. It's all about teamwork." Panelists gave insight on networking and the importance of building relationships. Elliot Breece, co-creator of an indie music Web site, talked about the types of jobs that the music industry is looking for. "Half of my staff is engineers and web developers," said Breece, who started the Web site, Amie Street, in his senior year of college. The site lets listeners set the price for the music they want to hear. Another panelist was Sean

*"HBCUs teach you how to eat forever,"*

*- Sean Glove, director of royalties for Sound Exchange*

Glove, director of royalties for Sound Exchange, who collects royalty money for artists from various places. "HBCUs teach you how to eat forever," the Southern University alumnus said while stressing the importance of networking.

> See **MUSIC**, page 3

## The Future is Bright For Three Students Awarded Fulbrights

BY TAHIRAH HAIRSTON  
Staff Writer

Three Howard University seniors will take their studies to Jamaica, Thailand and Germany as this year's Fulbright Scholars. Through the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, graduate school students, college seniors and young professionals are chosen to study abroad and given grant money for living and research based upon their interest. The youngest of five sisters Kelly McCray hopes to become more independent on her journey to Thailand.

"I don't know how to cook; I don't know how to do my hair," said McCray, a senior Greek and English major. "I am an independent person, but I have been babied all of my life and I hope to grow from this through making my own decisions and being on my own." She said that becoming part of the Fulbright program is a way for her to emerge in another culture, visit new places and learn a new language.

Looking at her strengths, McCray said that her ability to get along with almost anybody would help her to get adjusted to life in Thailand. McCray's choice of going to Thailand reaches back to her beginnings of southern hospitality as a native of Decatur, Ga. "It's so far away but it still has cultural aspects from home such the people and their hospitality and willingness to welcome you," she said. While in Thailand, McCray will be doing an English teaching assistantship where she will be teaching English to middle school and high

> See **FULBRIGHT**, page 3



Justin D. Knight - Office of University Communications

Fulbright program selects three Howard students this year.

## First Black Sitting D.C. Judge Deployed to Iraq

BY CHRISTINA COLEMAN  
Contributing Writer

Last week, friends, colleagues and family stood in a line of about 200 people at the D.C. Superior Court to bid farewell to Superior Court Judge Robert R. Rigsby as he trades his courtroom for the combat zone. Rigsby, who was appointed associate judge for the court in 2002, will be deployed to Iraq on April 25 for six months, being the first sitting D.C. judge to be sent to war. In the time that he is there, he will take on the task of charging soldiers who have disobeyed military orders and who have incorrectly managed conflict with the enemy. At the reception held in the court atrium, the guests listened as chief judge of the Superior Court, Lee Satterfield, said that Judge Rigsby was not only serving D.C., but he was serving the entire country.

The ceremony, which started at 4:30 p.m., was scheduled to last until 7:00 p.m. However, the event ended much later, due to the number of guests waiting to send their good wishes to the judge and his family. Guests included military members, judges, lawyers, children the judge has mentored and longtime friends. "He's the right man at the right time," said Maj. Gen. John Hawkins, director of human resources for the U.S. Army. "It feels very good getting the love and support of the community," Rigsby said as he greeted each guest in line. "But the hardest part won't be the war; it's just going to be difficult being away from home." Humble and grateful, Rigsby and his wife, Associate Judge Anna Blackburn-Rigsby for the D.C. Court > See **JUDGE**, page 3

## Afghan Women Assaulted While Protesting New Law

A group of Afghan women were attacked for protesting outside of a Shiite university in Kabul, Afghanistan to opposition of legislation that would allow husbands to demand sex from their wives and to place travel restrictions on them. The women believe the law is supporting legalized rape robbing them of their right to choose. Counter protesters attacked the women with stones and chanted inciting words throughout the demonstration. Female Afghan police officers locked arms and created a boundary protecting the women from the crowd of hostile challengers. While Shites make up only 20 percent of the total population, the protesters fear that this law could be evidence that a Taliban form of subjugation is making a comeback. Under the Taliban, women faced controlling practices that restricted them from basic freedoms. One practice was that women were required to wear burqas that cover the majority of the body leaving only the eyes exposed. President Barack Obama expressed strong objection against the law saying that it was "abhorrent."



Tom O'Neill - Bradenton Herald (MCTE)

- compiled by Macy L. Freeman, Editorial Assistant





Sophomore Nicholas Sneed helps with freshman move-in. Despite the numbers of male students who attend college their freshman year, recent data has suggested that these students take longer to finish college, mirroring the same struggles to enter college.

Photo Courtesy of www.howard.edu

## Men Struggle to Stay Enrolled at Universities, Especially HBCUs

BY BRITNEY BREWINGTON  
Contributing Writer

Men are not only struggling to enter colleges, but now they are struggling to finish, according to a recent Department of Education report.

The analysis found that males at historically black colleges and universities, HBCUs, are more likely to take more than four years to finish their degree. The government released data that said that only 29 percent of HBCU males complete a degree within six years. However, Annette Francis, who has a doctorate in

psychology and is over the College and Arts and Sciences Educational Advisory Center said she feels this information can be slightly skewed.

"Nationwide, students are having a problem graduating, not just at HBCUs," Francis said. "I believe only 50 percent of students that enter as freshmen graduate

on time, and that's nationally, not just at HBCUs."

Francis counsels students in the College of Arts and Sciences pertaining to their education. She makes sure all students in her orientation class visit with her to ensure that they are matriculating through Howard smoothly. At times, she speaks to students who stay longer than four years to finish a double major.

The United States Department of Education released data that revealed that the graduation rates for males who attend HBCUs are considerably lower than their female counterparts.

However, women at most HBCUs outnumber men. According to Howard's enrollment management, the ratio of women to men is 68:32, which could be examined when looking at graduation rates.

Who is to blame?

Graduating senior and business management major, Lawrence Robinson, said some of his male counterparts have just become lazy.

"I know a lot of my class members who aren't graduating this year, and they do not seem to be worried," Robinson said. "I wish males in general could be a little more responsible and take their classes seriously to get out of here on time."

Francis said she does not feel that the analysis is making a fair assumption.

"Many males are athletes and are not on a four-year plan; instead they are sometimes on a five-year plan," she said. "This would alter the data, because they are not graduating in four years due to athletics, but if they did not play, these same males could possibly graduate in four years."

Francis also mentioned the architecture's five-year program, and said

that most men in that discipline will be at Howard for five years due to their course of study.

"So it's not fair to say that males are struggling at HBCUs when there are many factors that we have to take in to account," Francis said.

HBCUs are thought to provide a nurturing and supportive environment for many African-Americans, but this environment is now being questioned. Out of the 83 four-year HBCUs, only 37 percent of their black students graduate within six years. This percentage is four points under the national college graduation rates for black students.

Marcus Johns, a fourth-year architecture major, said he can see both sides of the argument.

"The general notion among black males is that they're here to get their degree and get out of school, but you do have your random people who enjoy being in school," Jones said. "I think that's where it comes from, because they deliberately want to play around; they just don't want to leave."

A few HBCUs, including Howard and Spelman College, have higher graduation rates that even exceed the national average for both black and white students. Others like Texas Southern, Edward Waters College and Miles College, though, have some of the lowest rates in the country.

Robinson said it's all about time management and making the necessary arrangements when faced with the trials that many college students endure.

"I know sometimes classes can get overwhelming, and at times you have to drop that class, but once you do that, you need to take summer school," he said. "There are no excuses. If I can do it, then you can do it."

## Students Tackle Relationship Issues on Campus

*Campus Pals Host 'Obsessed' Dating Game*

BY ASHLEY STONEY  
Contributing Writer

On Wednesday, students gathered in the Reading Room of the Blackburn Center to discuss the issues of dating, relationships and abuse at the Campus Pal and "Obsessed" sponsored forum "Are You Obsessed?" Dating Game.

The event consisted of two dating games, followed by a panel discussion led by current Campus Pals and alumni, as one of the events showcased during their Campus Pal Week.

"We wanted to do a fun event to get the crowd moving," said Campus Pal Erica Johnson, a freshman political science major.

The event linked current events of domestic violence, shown between pop stars Rihanna and Chris Brown, to the theme of the new movie "Obsessed" starring Idris Elba and Beyonce Knowles. "Obsessed" tells the story of a married couple dealing with a stalker who is obsessed with the husband.

"Using obsession is never an excuse for abuse," Johnson said.

The dating games were led by Chase Benjamin, a freshman. In both games, six random audience members competed in four rounds of games to win a date with one of three Campus Pal members of the opposite sex.

The identity of the dates were not revealed to one another until the end of the game, where the winning couples received gift certificates to



Ashley Stoney - Contributing Photographer

Students discussed relationships on campus and domestic violence in a dating game related to mainstream media and current events.

Cream on U Street.

The games had different themes, including: "Love Song," in which a contestant had to make up song lyrics using three randomly chosen words; "Crazy Talk," where contestants had to describe a time where he or she used a crazy tactic to win the heart of an admired one; and "Dance Off," in which the contestants danced against each other.

Following a brief intermission, the panel discussion invited audience members to ask Campus Pals about their experiences and opinions about dating abuse, relationships on campus and long-distance relationships.

When referring to obsession, some Campus Pals on the panel said that one should be flattered to be stalked. The tone turned serious, however, as the conversation touched on topics such as abuse.

"Real men don't abuse women, but ladies don't put your hands on a man either," Darren Smith, a senior psychology major and panelist. "It's wrong to put your hands on anybody."

Several audience members then asked about relationships on Howard University's campus, with respect to how to maintain them and make them

last.

"I feel like you can find love on Howard's campus. I found love on Howard's campus," said Kimberly Williams, a senior advertising major.

She further suggested that students take advantage of being young and become self-aware before they pursue relationships.

Smith followed William's lead and said, "People come to college looking for love on HU's campus. Let love find you. You only go to college once; enjoy yourself."

Another issue addressed was age difference in relationships.

Johnson shared her experiences on dating an older male. She said that her life experiences made her mature and gave her the ability to relate to someone older, although someone her same age may not be able to handle the dynamics of a relationship with age differences.

Williams closed the forum with advice to students.

"Live and learn, get your heart broken, and have your flings," she said. "It will help you build to what you're looking for. Know your age, know who you are and address that."

*Counseling Center Aims to Publicize Services for Students, Domestic Abuse*

BY LAUREN GASPARD  
Contributing Writer

The National Organization for Women (N.O.W.) and The Howard University Counseling Center attracted an intimate group of female students for the program "For Sistas Only: No He Didn't Just Hit Me," discussing how to spread awareness for domestic violence.

Brittney Fitzpatrick, a senior public relations major, decided to have the program to instill more awareness in Howard University students about the acts of domestic violence, within the 18-24 age bracket.

Yale University conducted a study about domestic violence among college students. The results read that students 18-24 years old have the highest rate of intimate partner violence.

"It's important to know how to create an environment to make women feel comfortable enough to come forward," said Fitzpatrick. "That is why we must become aware of our resources and options here on campus, and what we can do as women to fight against domestic violence."

Rashika Renti, a representative from the Howard University Counseling Center, provided the group of young women with various materials and options on how to cope with domestic violence through counseling on campus. Renti discussed the importance of seeking help in these situations and taking a different approach when having to conquer them.

"It is extremely helpful to have a proactive instead of a reactive stance to dating violence," she said.

Renti offered information regarding hotlines, facts and obvious signs to detect whether or not someone is being abused.

The group discussed that al-

though the counseling center offers great services, the word needs to get out and be publicized regarding the services offered.

"We offer a number of different programs throughout the year, but we advise everyone to stop by the office to take a further look into all of the many services we offer," Renti said.

The office is located in the C.B. Powell building on the corner of 6th and Bryant Streets.

Alli Rodway, the field organizer and vice president of the N.O.W. Chapter of Washington, D.C., said she feels very passionate about the effects of domestic violence, and that something immediate should be done to take action.

"We should stop and address the problem and stop letting the past circumstance address future actions," Rodway said.

Rodway's position requires her to go into communities that seek a need to help a problem, prevent a problem and tackle any issue that involves women. Although the programs are of quality, Rodway said she wants to see action.

"We need to do something," she said. "Take action. It would be such a waste if we walk out of here tonight and do nothing, what's next?"

Fitzpatrick plans to build a network on campus upon graduation, and hopefully come back in the near future to run a detailed campaign or event regarding domestic violence.

"If Howard University had an uprising, and every Howard University female student stood up and said 'no more,' it would be huge," Rodway said.

Fitzpatrick is currently working closely with Rodway to plan events to take place during the summer and fall in the greater D.C. area, and encourages all of the Howard community to get involved.

\*\*\*2009-2010 Hilltop Applications are Available NOW!\*\*\*

Pick up your application from the  
Office of Student Activities  
OR

Visit us online to download your application.

www.  
thehilltoponline.com



## Students Head to Germany, Thailand, Jamaica as Fulbrights

continued from FRONT, FULBRIGHT

school children. She said her double major in English and Greek gives her knowledge in the beginnings of language.

With the political turmoil in Thailand, McCray hopes to make an impact, whether large or minimal.

"I hope to get involved with a non-governmental organization, I'm interested in human rights and land rights," she said. "In Thailand, they have a lot of immigrants from neighboring countries such as Malaysia."

For senior political science and economics double major, Florence Maher, her opportunity as a Fulbright Scholar will also be an opportunity for her to get reacquainted with a place she used to call home - Germany.

When she was younger, she lived in Germany for two years then returned as an Au Pair later visiting Poland for internships at the American Chamber of Commerce and the Embassy of Warsaw.

Maher said that her language skills, international experience and studies in international relations combine all of the aspects of her undergraduate career.

"I think that because I have had previous international experience, I have gotten over the initial stages of culture shock but this could also be a weakness because it is not new and exciting anymore," she said.

"Some people who have already had experience get jaded and I hope to get that same sense of wonder still excited about the small changes and large differences."

Maher said that her knowledge about Germany's integration with Poland through the European Union and going to a border region is what set her apart from other candidates.

dictates.

In Germany, she will attend classes at Viadrina European University and conduct research on the social integration on the German-Polish border.

Hoping to bring change to the community, Maher also plans to volunteer as an English teacher in an elementary school.

"This is not only an experience for personal gain but to be an ambassador to that country and make a change in that community," she said. "I'm hoping to immerse myself fully in the language; I hope to be thinking in German and looking at the world differently."

Senior history and anthropology major, Justin Dunnivant, said that he sees the Fulbright program as a study-abroad scholarship.

Like the other two candidates, Dunnivant has had experience studying abroad also. While at Howard University, he has traveled to Belize, Egypt, Senegal, the United Arab Emirates, Tanzania, Kenya and Turkey.

"I am not sure that I will have an impact on the people I come into contact with, but I do hope that I will be able to learn from their experiences and share a few of my own," he said.

Dunnivant chose to venture to Jamaica because it is the Caribbean nation with the most developed resources for African Diaspora archeology.

While in Jamaica, he will take courses at the University of West Indies and get a better understanding of the African experience in America through researching the cultural retentions of enslaved Africans in Jamaica.

"Although it [the Fulbright program] is competitive, a solid group of dedicated faculty and peers can really make a difference," he said.



Justin D. Knight - Office of University Communications  
Florence Maher, a senior political science and economics double major, is going to Germany as a Fulbright Scholar.



Justin D. Knight - Office of University Communications  
Justin Dunnivant, a senior history and anthropology double major, is going to Jamaica as a Fulbright Scholar.



Justin D. Knight - Office of University Communications  
Kelly McCray, a senior Greek and English double major, is going to Thailand as a Fulbright Scholar.

## Students, Staff Mourn Another Faculty Loss

continued from FRONT, LILLY

because of the supportive faculty and staff; Lilly was one of those staff members.

She was one of those people that make up those little gems in the different departments that make the university experience special, he said.

"Lastly, let me say that I came on as chair of the department in January of this year, and it was Ms. Lilly who made it possible for me to meet some of the initial, difficult challenges. Her knowledge of the department was unmatched. I am grateful and happy to have known and worked with her," Harris said.

Thornton echoes Harris's sentiments describing Lilly's commitment to serving the undergraduate and graduate population and her

fellow faculty and staff to deliver the curriculum for more than three decades as inspiring.

Harris describes her as the "cornerstone" of the department in terms of its functions. Moore describes Lilly as "nice, cordial, welcoming, nurturing, and supportive."

"She was one of the nice ones," Moore said.

Funeral services, to be held Friday, April 17, are private and the family asks that flowers not be sent according to the communications release.

Thornton said, "She was a reflective, caring and committed member of our university. She now joins the list of beloved members of our university family that passed this academic year. We wish her family peace and strength during this time of transition."

## Panel Uncovers the Business of Music

continued from FRONT, MUSIC

"Relationships are everything," he said. "Don't burn any bridges."

Sherri Warren, founder of T.L.P.P.Y Inc., said that women in the business should especially set their standards high and "seek to be well rounded".

Warren, who also acts as a consultant for Interscope Records, has worked with popular artists such as John Legend, Robin Thicke, 50 Cent and Keri Hilson. "As a woman, you will be challenged and tested," she said.

Darius Evans, founder of GTM, stressed the importance of branding. His company nets about \$5 million a year using what they call lifestyle marketing. Evans, a Hamp-

ton University graduate, helped to launch the career of India.Arie. Also, Evans ran a successful campaign with Nissan Altima to market the vehicle to a younger audience.

"It showed me that we really have to think about the business side of things," said Isaac "Izzy" Bell, a freshman music business major.

After the panel discussion, there was a showcase featuring Howard talent.

The groups then received critique sheets that gave them advice on how to establish themselves and to further their careers.

The Rising Suns, Zsumayah Carr, Ashaya Robinson and Jabari Douglas performed.

The Rising Suns will soon appear on Apollo.

## Winner of 4 Helen Hayes Awards! Including Outstanding Musical!

"★★★★★"  
The Washington Times



By Regina Taylor • Adapted from the book by Michael Cunningham and Craig Matbey, directed by Kenneth Lee Robinson

March 27-April 26 at the Lincoln Theatre

Starring E. Faye Butler (Ain't Misbehavin'), Mervia Hicks (The Women of Brewster Place), NaTasha Yvette Williams (Broadway's The Color Purple),

And introducing Howard University student Zurin Villanueva

arena stage

Tickets for 30 and under only \$10!  
All other tickets start at \$25

www.arenastage.org or (202) 488-3300

Groups of 15+ save 30 to 50%

Arena Stage at the Lincoln Theatre | 1211 U Street, NW Washington, DC

U STREET

Arena Stage is an American Theatre Lives.

## Courtroom Traded for Combat Zone

continued from FRONT, JUDGE

of Appeals, waited to speak to every one of their supporters.

"It will be difficult," Blackburn-Rigsby said about the couple's son, Julian Rigsby, 11, and herself. "But we just have to keep a routine and stay connected."

Although Rigsby remained humble about his accomplishments as associate judge and lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserves, his brother Rick Rigsby, who has a Doctorate and is an ordained minister, could not contain his pride

for his brother.

"It's one thing to see the pride of the family, but it's another thing to see the judicial system and the city embrace him," Rick Rigsby said about his brother.

Rigsby, who in addition to being a minister worked for CBS for 20 years, said he understands how important it is to succeed as a black man.

"Our parents set high expectations so we knew we were going to make it. We didn't have a lot of role models being black, but we knew we were going to make an impact. We knew," Rigsby said.

Although this journey is bittersweet for both the family and the judicial system, Rigsby made sure to give his brother these lasting words as he embraced him, an embrace that is symbolic to how the city and legal system have accepted the judge.

"Travel with the confidence of our great mother and the courage of our father," Rick Rigsby said before the crowd erupted in a wave of applause, once again thanking his soon-to-be deployed brother for his sacrifice and service.

ONLY 5  
ISSUES OF  
THE HILLTOP  
TO GO...



# Music Industry Facing Changes

BY DEVON C. MILLER  
Contributing Writer

As the CD age has now given way to the digital age in music, many record companies are admitting that CD sales are quickly losing their ground to digital downloads.

Atlantic Records has officially announced that they are the first recording company to have 50 percent of their sales in the United States come from digital downloads.

This announcement comes after record companies have been trying to reshuffle how they will distribute their artists' music. Music experts believe while the MP3 age has dampened the sales of CDs, record companies are wondering how to sell music through downloads.

Atlantic Records is not the only record company to have an increase in digital sales. Twenty-seven percent of 2007 sales at Warner Records came from digital downloads, while Atlantic Records has reported 51 percent of its sales has come from digital downloads.

Due to the rise in digital sales, record companies are realizing that their CD sales losses will never be compensated for. At the peak of the CD age in 1999, the music sale revenue was \$14.6 billion. According to Analysts at Forrester Research, that number will fall to \$9.2 billion this year, despite the exponential rise in digital sales.

Even major artists such as Keri Hilson felt the sting of the digital age as her record company began to cut back on the number of CDs distributed across the United States.

With this new cutback in the amount of CDs distributed to various music stores, the question remains: how will record companies be able to market full albums worth of music without having to sell individual songs?

With his American Gangster album, rapper Jay-Z announced that digital companies that only allow the download of single songs would not be able to sell his songs without purchasing the full album. To respect Jay-Z's creative vision of American Gangster being experienced as a complete story, the album was not sold on iTunes, where songs can be purchased individually.

"As movies are not sold scene-by-scene, this collection will not be sold as individual singles," Jay-Z stated in a press release.

With continual increases in digital downloads, it will only be a matter of time when artists' music will solely be available through online music stores, rather than the traditional compact disc.



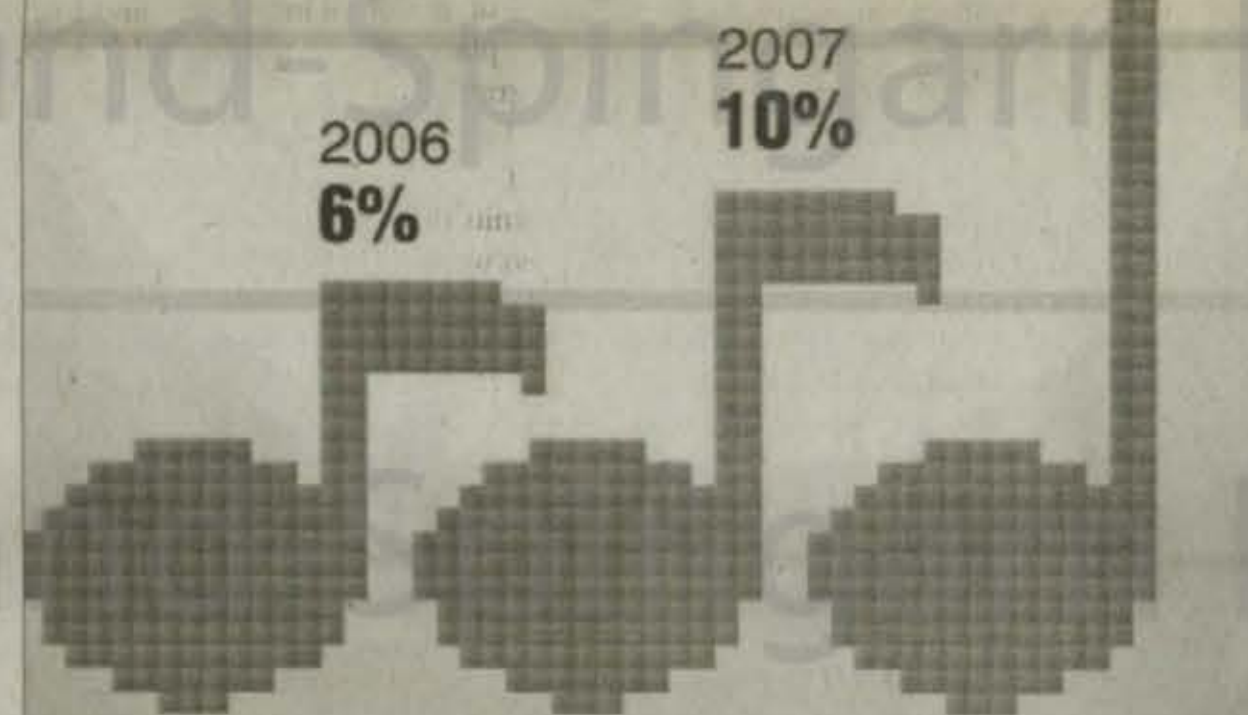
Owner Mike Phillips, left, and General Manager Ric Culross ready Schoolkids Records' new store in Raleigh. Phillips closed his old music store location in order to reduce rent and increase traffic in hopes of staying open. Compact disc and album sales have dropped for all genres of music with rap leading the list in declining store sales.

## BizFact

### New music media

Digital music sales as a percentage of total music sales worldwide:

Source: In-Stat  
Graphic: Pat Carr, Paul Trap  
© 2008 MCT



Billy Tomanski, 29, a music store clerk and a fan of rap, buys only one rap CD a month, compared with 10 to 15 a month five years ago.

## Student Hustle: Taking Management to Another Level

BY ALEX MCGAUGHEY  
Contributing Writer

A hustle can often be mistaken for a quick way to make money in a tight situation, but the true definition of a hustle, according to the *Merriam-Webster Dictionary*, is "to make strenuous efforts to obtain business."

This definition holds true to Rona Matthew.

"My hustle is not to fund school," Matthew said. "It's what I do for experience and my career."

As a senior business major, Rona has had her foot in all different aspects of entertainment events, from working at WPGC radio as a street team coordinator to assisting in marketing and sales at Universal Music Group.

Her proudest accomplishments, however, were achieved when she interned for Compound Entertainment and Jam Sports and Entertainment. With Compound Entertainment, Matthew coordinated a week-long talent search for

Ne-Yo in D.C. She said her most memorable event was when she helped plan and produce the 10th Annual Gridiron Celebrity Hoops basketball charity event for the 2008 Super Bowl.

The event, which is the official Super Bowl celebrity basketball game for the NFL, features NFL players, prospective NFL draft picks, world-renowned street ballers and celebrities like Jamie Foxx and BET host Roc-A.

Her drive to become the best at her hustle isn't just for money, but to foster great relationships, she said.

"I believe in investing in people," Matthew said. "Relationship management is what gets you money."

Matthew has her everyday hustle under control as well, being an assistant manager at BCBG where she has been



Nearing graduation, senior Rona Matthew may dance her way into professional business management or dabble in celebrity business.

working for the past four years.

As any student with a hustle, Rona has accomplished a lot on campus. Matthew is a member of the business hon-

ors fraternity Delta Sigma Pi, holding her most recent event through her organization, The Dre Entrepreneur Summit, which helped young black professionals in the entertainment industry.

She also became a member of the Bisonette dance ensemble, and most recently, the Vizion performance team.

Although Rona's first love is dance, she's a self-proclaimed capitalist saying entrepreneurship is more lucrative than pursuing a career in dance.

She keeps her passion in retrospect by having an ultimate goal of opening her own dance company along with a production company. She has been able to travel to her native Las Vegas for a hospitality convention as a business trip with Jam Sports. In August, she will be attending Magic, the fashion in-

dustry's largest convention, to help a new celebrity product. Still, Matthew's travels won't be ending there. She plans to move to Johannesburg, South Africa for two years to work in the marketing/promotions and entertainment industry. She has also made plans to participate in the National Family Fostering Festivals in D.C.

She said she owes her ambition and drive to the many mentors she's had throughout her life.

"I've had the most amazing mentors," Matthew said. She carries on her belief in giving back by mentoring young boys at a local public school.

"I believe it's an obligation for educated people to invest in those who come after them," she said.

From working VIP sections at clubs, to selling designer clothing, to flying to Los Angeles to consult with music executives about signing artists, Matthew has accomplished more than some students thus far.

The Business & Technology section wishes all Howard University students the best of luck with studies and final examinations.

Underclassmen: 2 weeks.  
Seniors: 5 days.



## Grocers To Charge Fee for Plastic Bags

BY GABRIELLE MONROE  
Contributing Writer

Legislation is looking to start charging consumers for plastic bags in major supermarkets to save the polluted Anacostia River.

D.C. stores would have to charge 5 cents per plastic bag for all shoppers.

The law has yet to be passed, but managers of stores such as Shaw-Howard's Giant and the new Safeway located on 5th and K St. N.W. are ready to confide.

John Ignacio, store manager of the new Safeway said he doesn't feel any certain way about the law.

"If they pass the law, we have to abide by it," Ignacio said. "At Safeway, we follow the rules."

Ignacio said they have not started charging yet but will be ready once the law is passed.

He said, like anything else in the store, bags will be put in the system and accounted for to keep track of the money collected.

But for students, charging for bags can raise other issues.

For Dante Collins, the issue isn't just affordability, but also the fact that this may create other problems the city doesn't need.

"Five cents can add up to a lot, especially if every store is going to charge," Collins said. "But, what if the money doesn't all go to the proposed cause?"

The reason to charge for the bags is an attempt to save the city's Anacostia River, which runs from Bladensburg, Md. to Washington, D.C. and is extremely contaminated.

"It's just something that has to happen," Ignacio said.

"If we want to make sure we're eco-friendly, then this is what we have to do."

Collins agreed, saying if it's needed for the betterment of the river, then everyone should be in support of the proposed change, but officials must keep track of the money.

Not too far from campus is Giant, where a lot of students shop. Store manager, Mike Posse, commented on the upcoming law, saying he understands many of his shoppers may not be able to afford another expense, but there isn't many ways around it.

"If it is a law, we have to abide by it," Posse said.

"I can relate to students and the people in the neighborhood when they say they won't be able to afford it, but [there] is nothing the store itself can do."

As the outcome of this proposal awaits, the issue remains that the Anacostia River needs more funding to help clean the river up.

"I'm really interested to see what's going to happen," Collins said.

"And if it's passed, I'll just have to prepare myself, whether I pay for the bags or take the plastic bags I recycle with me when I shop."



Jim Lavrakas - Anchorage Daily News (MCT) Mayor Fenty, along with Clarence Carter, director of the Department of Human Services, opened a shelter on Naylor Road as a temporary 28-unit apartment for those residing in Southeast D.C.

## New Shelter Opens on Naylor Road

BY COLLEEN CHALLENGER  
Contributing Writer

After closing the downtown Franklin School Shelter last October, D.C. mayor, Adrian Fenty, has kept his promise to the homeless community by opening a temporary shelter for destitute families in Southeast.

"We made the promise early in this administration to serve families experiencing homelessness with dignity and work as fast as humanly possible to reintegrate them back into our communities," Fenty said. "In these difficult economic times, we remain steadfast in that commitment."

The Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness, an independent non-profit organization combating homelessness in the District, reported that as of Jan. 24, 2008, approximately 6,044 persons were identified as homeless. The May e-newsletter also reported 687 adults and 1,149 children represent the District's homeless families.

Tiffany Williams and her three children are one of the District's home-

less families and currently resides at the Naylor Road temporary shelter.

"I've been here for two months now," said Williams.

Along with 27 other families, Williams' family members are tenants at the 28-unit market-rate apartment complex.

Contessa Riggs, executive director for Jobs Have Priority, believes the Naylor Road site works well because each family is provided a social worker who works to connect the family with certain services/benefits appropriate to their situation.

"The shelter was set up to be in depth to get families back on their feet... We offer stress management for both the parents and children, in order to help them move forward," said Riggs. "[Our] social workers provide mental counseling and addiction counseling."

Furnished with around-the-clock staff, eight high-speed Internet computers, a comfortably sized pantry, Williams views the apartment building as an upgrade.

"The staff is here 24 hours...[and] besides some of the rules, living here is better than where I was," said Williams.

"When I first got here, I was surprised. I came here from Park Road which was an efficiency, and before that, I was at General Hospital and that was a one-bedroom. I come here and it's a two-bedroom apartment."

In order for families to be selected to live in the shelter, they must go through an intake process.

Those seeking admission into the shelter come from such places as the District of Columbia General Hospital, central intake, or another temporary shelter.

In addition to opening the temporary shelter on Naylor Road, Fenty has established several other projects to combat homelessness.

His goals include working to place 80 families in permanent supportive housing, offering programs to shorten episodes of family homelessness and increasing placement in transitional housing programs.

"The mayor has shown great commitment with the homeless," said Riggs, who admits that for the last 10 years, she has been working in D.C.

Fenty is the first mayor she has seen

work diligently to help those of the homeless community.

"He actually worked... pushed to have this done," said Riggs. "It is a wonderful place, is it enough, no ... but at least he is not ignoring."

For the next three years, D.C. will be using a \$1.9 million grant under the Housing and Urban Development's Rapid Re-housing Initiative to aid in decreasing the number of homelessness in the city, especially for homeless families.

Clarence Carter, director of the Department of Human Services, believes that the opening at Naylor Road is a starting point in their efforts to reduce the incidences of homelessness.

"We are creating a robust continuum of services for families and single individuals. As we can see at Naylor Road ... our new approach to serving our homeless neighbors is working," said Carter.

Williams herself is currently enrolled in a job training program, and once completed, she said she hopes to attend Howard University to major in criminal justice and minor in sociology.

## Neighborhood Bar Offers Customers a Night Of Laughs, Music With 'Kostume Karaoke'

BY KAILYN HART  
Contributing Writer

Up the narrow steps of Solly's Tavern, one of U Street's neighborhood bars, cheers, laughter and Spice Girl music entices passersby to stop in for a drink or two. The costumes and inviting atmosphere persuades them to stay.

"If you guys don't sign up, I'm going to keep singing! So if you want to keep that from happening ...," a cheerful blonde shouts, as the audience cheers and laughs in response.

Libby Springfield, 30, codirector of Kostume Karaoke, had no problem getting people on the stage. In fact, she could not get performers off. People of all backgrounds would dress in the costumes that align the right portion of the stage and grab a microphone and start singing their favorite tunes.

For some people living in the D.C. metro area, Kostume Karaoke has become a place to escape from the everyday

pressures of life and laugh among family and friends.

When Springfield and a friend first started Kostume Karaoke three years ago, they didn't consider it a business but a way to bring their friends together after work. After much success at Wonderland Bar in Columbia Heights in the District, they moved the event to Solly's U Street Tavern located on the corner of 11th and U St.

"It's been great; we've had a lot of fun, and we get lots of regulars who come back every week," Springfield said. "Patrons love the costumes, and some even have a few favorites."

Almost everyone in the room performed on stage at least twice within the three-hour event. Aubri O'Connor, 26, international theater arts tutor, is a regular at Kostume Karaoke.

"I put myself in rotation and try to sing as many times as I can," said O'Connor. "I have no shame."

An all male trio, dressed as Dick

Tracy with a jumbo tie; Ganzo, the muppet; and a Roman soldier with Marge Simpson's hair, were the first group to perform. John Kardon, 25, was dressed as Dick Tracy during that performance but went on stage several times.

"We didn't come on purpose. We were just going to hang out at a bar," said Kardon. "It's fun; we can let loose. We would definitely do it again."

Bess Long, a Northwest resident, said that costumes let people be something other than themselves. "When you put it on, you transform," she said.

Many people used the costumes and beer to get the nerve to perform in front of the audience. Springfield provides the costumes, and many people mix-and-match the costumes all night.

Lily Martini, 27, who sang to mostly 80's and 90's music, said the costume allows her to escape from her busy life.

"There's lots of karaoke bars, but this is the only one I know of with costumes," Martini said. "I've been doing

this since they were in Hyattsville. We're like a family now."

John Solomon, current owner of Solly's U Street Tavern, said that karaoke at Solly's is just one aspect that attracts the attention of costumers.

"Solly's is a neighborhood bar with a diverse crowd and reasonable priced drinks," Solomon said. "We don't have any gimmicks here. We're just a bar."

Assorted objects and posters like airplanes, a United Kingdom flag and a Bon Jovi poster decorate the long walls of exposed brick. Christmas lights adorn the room, and a lamp shaped as a skirt with a woman's leg wrapped in fishnets serve as the main lights.

Kostume Karaoke has free admission, with an age requirement of 21 and older to enter. The event is every second and fourth Wednesday of the month. At this karaoke bar, there's only one rule: One must wear a costume to perform.

Be a part of the **magic**  
2009-2010 Hilltop Applications Due Tomorrow!

Applications available in the Student Activities Office





**Applications for the  
2009-2010 positions  
for The Hilltop's  
Editorial and Business  
Offices are available in  
the Office of Student  
Activities and online at  
[www.TheHilltopOnline.com](http://www.TheHilltopOnline.com)!**

Deadline for Editorial Office application is  
**Friday, April 17, 2009** in Student  
Activities by **4 p.m.**

Positions for the Editorial Office:

Copy Editor (s)	Section Editor(s)
Staff Writer (s)	Staff Photographer (s)
Layout Editor(s)	Multi-Media Editor(s)
Online Editor	Graphics Editor
Special Issue Editor	Cartoonist(s)
Photo Editor/ Asst. Phot Editor	Copy Chief

Deadline for Business Office  
application is

**Friday, April 24 2009** in Student  
Activities by **4 p.m.**

Position for the Business Office:

Assistant Business Manager  
Advertisement Layout Editor  
Local Sales Representative(s)  
Office Manager  
Office Assistant (s)

**STUDENT PARKING REGISTRATION FOR AY 2009-2010  
APRIL 15-17, 2009**

April 15, 2009

Seniors and Graduate Students.....Apply Only  
Third Year Law Students.....Apply Only

April 16, 2009

Juniors and Sophomore Students.....Apply Only  
Second Year Law Students.....Apply Only

April 17, 2009

Open to all students  
(Including second year law students)  
(Not including freshman or first year law students)

**Apply Online (BisonWeb)**

**9:00 AM until all available spaces have been taken.**

Register online: [www.howard.edu/bisonweb](http://www.howard.edu/bisonweb)

The Office of Parking & Shuttle Operations strongly encourages all students to read the  
rules and regulations form that is signed during vehicle registration.

**Eligibility**

Students in good standing with no outstanding citations, holds or balances  
Students must be registered for fall 2009 classes by June 30, 2009 to retain parking

Parking and Shuttle Operations

(202) 806-2000

**Join The Hilltop's**



**facebook group**

**...or register to receive  
The Hilltop in your  
inbox at  
[www.thehilltoponline.com](http://www.thehilltoponline.com)**





# Sexual Harassment Downplayed by Many

BY CURTIS McCLOUD  
Contributing Writer

A routine checkup is all Lakeia Whatley expected when she went to see her physician two years ago.

The 24-year-old D.C. resident was long overdue for a doctor's visit and decided to see the one doctor she and her family had trusted for years. Whatley had been going to him for almost 10 years.

But, this time her visit was a little different. It was in the middle of the afternoon and Whatley was hoping the appointment would be quick so she could pick her daughter up from school. She entered the examination room and waited to receive further instruction from the doctor.

"It took him a while to come in to see me," Whatley said. "When he finally came in, he asked me to undress and put on a slip cover so that he could examine me."

Whatley began to take off her clothes and noticed that the doctor had not turned around to leave.

"I gave him a look and then asked him to excuse himself while I got situ-

ated," she said. "He told me it wasn't a big deal, and it wasn't like he hadn't seen me before."

Whatley gathered her belongings and quickly left the room. The doctor followed her out of the room and grabbed her by the arm.

"He looked me in the eye and sort of whispered that if I made a big deal out of this I would just look foolish," she said.

Because of the doctor's reputation, Whatley felt no one would believe her if she reported the case, so she didn't.

According to Lorena Garcia, the lead organizer for the National Association of Working Women, Whatley's incident classified as sexual harassment and her failure to report it was a mistake.

Garcia said whenever people are subjected to sexual harassment, they should report the incidents to the Human Resources department at the work place, or contact the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

"There are several different avenues that you can use as a resource,"

Garcia said. "Contacting federal agencies or the Human Resources department are just some of the ways to report sexual harassment incidents."

The United States Equal Employ-

ment Opportunity Commission reported nearly 14,000 sexual harassment charges in 2008.

*"Hopefully someone can learn from my experience and make the right decision, so that nothing like this happens to them."*

- Lakeia Whatley, victim of sexual harassment

Garcia went on to say that students don't realize that a sexual image or picture on a person's desk can be considered sexual harassment.

Inappropriate gestures and sexual jokes also fall under the category.

"Young people entering the workforce for the first time don't understand that they are being sexually harassed and see it as a joke," Garcia said.

Sophomore television production major Christopher Coward said he hasn't had a sexual harassment experience on campus, but in the workplace it's a different story.

"It was really weird because the person was an old guy who would flirt with all the men who worked there," Coward said.

Elizabeth Joyce, a senior writer at the National Center for Victims of Crime

in the District of Columbia, said people have to be very careful when reporting sexual harassment cases.

"There are legal implications that have to be worked out and you have to make sure the specific incident being reported classifies as sexual harassment," Joyce said.

Freshman broadcast journalism major Saraya Wintersmith said she also experienced a bad encounter in the workplace.

"It wasn't a physical thing," Wintersmith said. "Someone called the store and started saying all this crazy sexual stuff to me on the phone. I believe it was a prank caller."

To this day Whatley has not made any reports against her former doctor. She refuses to go back to his office.

"I wish I would have known the proper procedure on reporting these types of incidents," Whatley said, fighting back tears.

She said, "Hopefully someone can learn from my experience and make the right decision, so that nothing like this happens to them."

## Students Capitalize On Opportunities With Investment Internships

BY RONESHA DENNIS  
Contributing Writer

Since the start of the financial crisis, many citizens have been left jobless, and more are joining the lists of unemployed Americans daily. Banks and other companies that once championed Wall Street have folded, and business students everywhere — who once were potential interns for these companies — are in turmoil, trying to find ways to gain experience over the summer.

"Opportunity: You can seize it, or you can let it pass you by," is a quote stated by late professor Harold Gray, which has lived on through the School of Business students.

One student in particular, sophomore finance major Alex Aaron, took heed to Gray's quote and said he is "blessed" to be heading into his second summer as a Wall Street intern.

Last summer, he worked in internal trade in the Financial Control Group of Morgan Stanley, a Wall Street bank that, in October, received \$10 billion in loans from the U.S. Treasury Department. There, he ran a database daily and worked to reduce intrusion of classified company information. He called the experience "intense," but said the hands-on learning provided something he probably couldn't get in the classroom.

"Because [internships] last only about a 10-week period, you have to learn things faster," said Jewel Burks, sophomore business administration major and School of Business president-elect.

Burks also interned on Wall Street at another troubled bank, Goldman Sachs. Since the start of the recession, the former investment bank has begun acting as a bank holding company.

Although Burks was offered a second internship at the company, she chose to intern elsewhere to learn new skills in the event that the market is unable to recover. Still, she called last summer's experience valuable, and said it improved her excel skills, market knowledge and her networking abilities.

In the past, Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan Chase and Bank of America have been among the top banks offering internships to School of Business students.

Tanesha Willis, Interim Director for the Center of Professional Development for the school, said.

Aaron said he was not expecting to land an internship last summer with Morgan Stanley, but that he attributes his success to his past real estate experience and determination.

"Every time [the School of Business] had an event on campus, I was there," Aaron said. "I always asked questions. [Employers] will tell you to your face, 'those who ask questions seem interested, and they are the ones we want.'"

Unlike Aaron and Burks, some students miss the opportunity to land major internships by making simple errors, such as not adequately preparing for an interview, or failing to follow-up. In times of economic hardship, making these mistakes are even more detrimental.

Willis said it would be difficult for someone who makes a mistake to have a successful comeback with the same company.

"I'd suggest they take what they learned [from their mistake] and apply it in the next interview," she said. "In the business world, you only have one chance to make a first impression."

For students still looking for internships, Willis said companies want students with high GPAs, who have analytical skills and are motivated.

"In investment banking, you may be given an assignment at five in the afternoon and be told to have it done by five the next morning," Willis said.

Interns who find themselves in this situation must have the drive to complete their work, no matter how long it takes.

Burks said she also suggests anyone interested in a banking internship read *The Wall Street Journal*, and become familiar with the stock market.

Accounting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC), selects between 5 and fifteen interns from Howard on any given year.

U.S. Diversity Recruiting Leader



Internships helped Harvard Law School graduate, Stefani Carter, gain a job with Vinson and Elkins in Dallas. Internships can be beneficial.

John F. Rhodes - MCT

at PWC Amy Van Kirk said students interested in internships with them — or any other company — should make sure they've deeply researched the company, because it counts in interviews.

"[Interested students] should know enough about the firm, so that they

can ask detailed questions, more so than just, 'I saw this on your Web site,'" said Van Kirk.

Van Kirk suggests that potential interns find articles in newspapers about the company and what they've accomplished.

"[Doing outside research] shows [that interns] are fully prepared, fully interested in the company," she said. "It also shows they've gone that extra step. When a student comes and they're prepared, and they have [researched] information, it's very impressive."

## Disney's First Black Princess Lacks Her Black Prince Charming

BY COLLEEN CHALLENGER  
Contributing Writer

Cinderella, Belle, Snow White, Jasmine, Aurora, Ariel, Mulan and Pocahontas will all be stepping aside this winter to make room for a new addition, Tiana — Princess Tiana that is, Disney's first African-American princess.

Princess Tiana will premier in "The Princess and the Frog," a Disney animated musical, set to release Dec. 12. The fairy-tale story of 19-year-old Princess Tiana is set in the French Quarter of New Orleans, during the Jazz Age. The movie features vocal acting talents of Anika Noni Rose (Princess Tiana), Bruno Campos (Prince Naveen), Terrence Howard, Oprah Winfrey, Keith David and others.

Though Disney has not yet released the plot of the film, moviegoers can be sure it will be very different from the well-known childhood favorites.

The audience can expect to be taken through the bayous of Louisiana, the streets of New Orleans and the banks of the Mississippi River. Production for the animated movie began in 2007 with an expected release date in December 2009.

The original movie, titled "The Frog Princess," told the story of Princess Maddy, a servant to an unruly white debutante during the 1920s.

Upset and insulted, the public and black media both opposed not only the title of the movie, which some felt inferred African-American women resembled frogs, the name of their first

black princess, which echoed the slavery term "Mammy," but that she was also a servant.

According to Radio, Television and Film Assistant Professor Juliana Parroni, Disney is not in the business of being politically correct, but in the business of making money.

In fact, Disney's Princesses franchise sold \$4 billion in global retail sales last year.

"They are making money ... they don't care about civil rights," says Parroni.

In response to the public's disgust, Disney returned to the drawing board and made certain corrections for the upcoming release.

However, there remains a certain aspect of the movie that many are

thrown by—Disney's first black princess living happily ever after with a non-black prince, Prince Naveen.

"Can't she get a black prince?" responded Candice Iloh, a senior public relations major.

"All the white princesses had white princes ... this is the one time a whole black cast is needed," said Iloh.

Simone Joseph, a senior public relations major and Disney enthusiast, believes that it is pertinent for Disney to be introducing their first black princess this year — despite her being with a white prince.

"Disney is very diverse and it shouldn't be an issue, we should be embracing change," said Joseph.

"It teams up with the idea of Michelle Obama. Kids are now for the first

time seeing a powerful, African-American woman in the White House and her presidential family, who are like royalty. Why not have an African-American princess ... race shouldn't be an issue," continued Joseph.

It, however, is not the first time Disney has played with the notion of interracial couples. In the 1995 Disney movie release "Pocahontas," a white settler by the name of John Smith fell for the Native-American woman, Pocahontas. Though they did not live happily ever after, Disney took a step outside of the box by exploring interracial relationships.

"I think they are playing it safe," said Parroni. "Why not make the prince black and have him fall for a white princess ... that would be radical."



## It's Personal...



## Shoulda' Known Better

BY MERCIA WILLIAMS-MURRAY  
Deputy Managing Editor

Now what made me think that getting out of Howard would be that easy? I admit, I've had my share of heavy course loads, difficult professors and strenuous assignments, but THIS is ridiculous!

I spent my first seven-and-a-half semesters thinking that I was one of the luckiest students on campus because I was blessed to have a scholarship that paid for most of my board and all of my tuition for my entire stint.

I thought it was great that being in the honor's program practically assured I would have housing every year -- in the East Towers.

I just knew I dodged a bullet by deciding to follow my heart and become a journalism major instead of chasing the seemingly guaranteed big bucks by going pre-med or the School of 'B' route.

The validity of my choice was reinforced every time a friend missed a party or had a nervous breakdown because of their science or calculus classes.

Even some of my friends in my major or with similar majors seemed to have to miss much more sleep and spend much more time on schoolwork to get the same, or only slightly better, grades as me.

Life has been sweet, indeed. Until this week. Suddenly, everything has started coming at me with lightning speed. The days zoom by, and no matter how much I do, I feel as if little is getting accomplished.

Between keeping up with deadlines for my upcoming job, deadlines to be cleared for graduation and deadlines for final projects, I barely have time to eat a well-balanced meal or get a good night's rest.

Add in trying to attend all of the dinners, parties and other social gatherings that will undoubtedly produce fond memories and great pictures.

On top of that, I'm trying to coordinate a weekend's worth of graduation festivities for family and friends.

Relatives are calling, texting and Facebook-ing me daily. I don't have the heart to tell them if they don't back off, I will have a meltdown and they will be coming to D.C. to visit me in the psych ward, not to see me walk across the stage donning a blue cap and gown.

I am trying to take everything in stride, but I am much perkier when my room is clean and my stomach is full. Unfortunately, these two scenarios are becoming rarer by the day.

My saving grace through the madness is that I can always call home and vent. Frankly, no one here wants to hear it. When I tell most potential grads my problems, I get the feeling that they think I'm bragging.

I guess the cliché that nothing worth having is easily won is true. (My) life dictates that before anything so big as a degree is reached, there has to be some type of struggle.

A lot of the things on my "to-do" list wouldn't usually rub me the wrong way, but the struggle within has been slowing me down. Having to move on from Howard has filled me with so many emotions and thoughts. It's hard to focus on the here-and-now.

Nonetheless, with a little perseverance and a lot of prayer, I know I'll make it through. The late nights, fast food and hours on end spent staring at my laptop screen will make graduation even sweeter.

I would further engage you all, but I have some tweaking to do on my thesis and a final project -- both of which will be due by the time you read this.

## He Said...She Said Viewpoints from Both Sides of the Gender Divide

This week's issue:  
**Facebook Relationships**  
By Jada F. Smith & Deontay Morris

As stated earlier in this week's installment of "True Life," written by Life & Style editor, Aleesa Mann, every Tuesday (shameless plug), Facebook certainly has the potential to ruin or severely damage a relationship.

God forbid a girl get a hold of her boyfriend's password and browse through his inbox, because it is very likely she will find whatever she's looking for.

Though we all love Facebook, it would be disastrous for some if their boyfriend/girlfriend were to see what scandalous little secrets lie buried in their inbox.

However, this week's "He said, She said" isn't about what you keep in your private Facebook account, it's about the all-important information you decide to make public -- your relationship status.

I think it's safe to say that whenever you add a new friend or when your boredom drives you to Facebook stalk someone, one of the first things people look for is the relationship status.

And, if you're surprised by other people's interest in your love life, then what school have you been attending all this time? Howard University? The same Howard University where everybody wants to know everybody else's business, especially when it comes to relationships?

Yeah, if that's the Howard University you go to, then I don't know why that would surprise you. You know if given the chance, lots of people would gladly browse through all of your personal info -- especially the info you voluntarily give people on Facebook.

And admit it; relationship

statuses are big news to most college students. Anyway, for those bold enough to change their status to "John Doe is in a relationship with Jane Doe," all I have to say is congratulations.

That is quite a testament to how dedicated the two people are to the relationship, and in an atmosphere that is hardly conducive to being "Facebook serious" with anyone, that indeed deserves some congrats. Maybe a "Woo Hoo!" even.

I think Facebook relationships are great. Because it shows that there are some people in college who actually want to be in committed relationships and not just sneak around with random people at all hours of the night.

A Facebook relationship is a pretty big commitment. It tells the entire Facebook community, which could also be considered the entire Howard community, "I care about this person, and I'm serious," or "Don't send me any messages about how cute you think I am or how you want to kick it later, because I'm making it known to the world that I'm off the market."

It's a beautiful thing, I'm sure if given the chance, most girls would jump at the opportunity to stake their claim on a lucky guy with a "Facebook official" relationship.

It's like peeing on the proverbial fire hydrant, telling every other girl to back off. And at a school like HU, where there are 90 percent more girls in a classroom than guys (by my own estimation), then that may be a necessary step to take.

Now who can be mad at that?

Every student on Howard's campus is on Facebook. It's easier to use than text messaging. There are literally thousands of people at your disposal, so it was only a matter of time before it trickled into relationships.

Now we all know it's annoying when a girl changes her last name to her boyfriend's last name. Or when a couple makes a new photo album every week! What is poking somebody?!! I know you have been poked and thought to yourself, "How should I take this?"

Also, another annoying thing about Facebook is the fact that some people only pick the best pictures of them for everyone to see. You never catch some girls without looking "glamorous." And we all know those people who are Facebook celebrities but socially awkward in person.

Facebook is destroying dating and relationships as we know them. It is destroying the art of communication and non-verbal communication. Can you really get to know someone through Facebook? The answer is no.

You can find out their major and their favorite music artists, but you can't pick up on little nuances such as how a person likes to dress,

sarcasm and non-verbal communication.

Another thing that Facebook does is amplify old relationships. It's a lot easier to move on when you don't have to look at pictures of good times you guys had together in that photo album or see status updates about their new boo.

Or even worse is when somebody flirts with them on their wall!

Also, I think posting your relationship status and who it's with is very silly and serves no purpose. Letting the whole world know your business is never what's up, especially if you are not married and just dating. You may burn bridges just by who you are dating and not know it.

That is why most guys don't want their relationship status on the Internet for everybody and their mama to see.

I know you want to flaunt your man, but go to Pentagon City if you want to do that, not Facebook!

Before you get off Facebook chat ask her out on a real date. You in person like they used to do in 2003, I guarantee you it'll be a lot better.

Disagree with something you've read here? Got Something to say? Send it to [meccanisms@gmail.com](mailto:meccanisms@gmail.com)! We would love to hear from you!

## Overheard @ The Mecca

Overheard on the bleachers of Burr Gymnasium, lower basketball court, during a men's intramural basketball game...

**Loverboy:** Nice shorts man!

...20 minutes later

**Loverboy:** Go [female dog]!

**Confused Girl:** What?!!

**Loverboy:** He's my [female dog]. I loves my man. He's ill in the game yo!

...15 minutes later

**Loverboy:** Ayo, call me son!

**Confused Girl:** What?!! Your buggin'!

**Loverboy:** Chill chill, yo! We gay.

Overheard one of your fellow Bison say something crazy? Send it to [meccanisms@gmail.com](mailto:meccanisms@gmail.com)!

## MECCA WISDOM

Words of Advice from Howardites of Yesteryear



Jeff Tait - Anthony Anderson (MCT)  
Anthony Anderson is an actor and comedian.

"Be ready for when your time comes, you will have that window of opportunity, so seize the moment and capitalize on it." -- Anthony Anderson, actor, HU grad

"In every fight, I'm going to take all of my opponents seriously."  
-- Adrian Fenty, D.C. mayor, HU Law School grad



Chuck Kennedy (MCT)  
D.C. mayor, Adrian Fenty, graduated from HU Law School.



U.S. Institute of Peace (MCT)  
Jordan is a member of the United Institute of Peace's Iraq Study Group.

"I'm here because I stand on many, many shoulders, and that's true of every black person I know who has achieved."  
-- Vernon Jordan, former advisor to President Clinton, lawyer, former National Negro College Fund executive director and former president of the National Urban League; HU Law School grad.

"All the strength and all the courage and all the peace we're ever going to need starts right here with me loving you, just like this. And you loving me, just like this." -- Pearl Cleage, poet, essayist and journalist; attended HU.



Photo Courtesy of Spelman.edu  
Before transferring to Spelman, poet Pearl Cleage attended Howard.

You're running out of time!

Hurry and pick up your application to work for The Hilltop 2009-2010!

Applications are available online at [www.thehilltoponline.com](http://www.thehilltoponline.com)



**Fact: Tinfoil hats dont increase  
your wireless signal**



Charles Metze/ Cartoonist

## Howard's Internet Problems Pose a Barrier to Progress

Howard University is a prestigious, research university with several colleges. The university offers more than 100 majors and employs excellent professors who are educated and experienced to the highest degree. From the outside, Howard looks like a dream, but when it comes to Howard's facilities, students have a lot of complaints.

Some of the classrooms look like they could be a part of the set of "Dangerous Minds" instead of a venue for young scholars. Many of the dorms have roaches, moldy ceilings and dangerous elevators. All of those things are easy to overlook when students are getting a first-class education.

However, when students are being prevented from getting their work done because of a university shortcoming, these shortcomings become glaringly obvious and a little hard to forget.

Such is the case with the re-

cent loss of Internet in Meridian and even in the I-Lab. Last week, none of the rooms in Meridian had Internet service for days at a time, and following that, there was a brief loss of service in the I-Lab.

### Our View:

*There is no excuse for the  
constant Internet problems at  
the "Mecca" in 2009*

In addition to the dorm rooms and computer labs, access to the Internet seems to be a gamble in almost any building on any given day. Even *The Hilltop* office struggles with this inconvenience.

Students who had assignments due were severely inconvenienced, as they were forced to relocate, sometimes off campus in order to finish their work.

Unfortunately, this type of occurrence always happens at Howard. Last year, students in Meridian were without cable for a week. It is not acceptable for students to be satisfied with subpar services like the Internet situation, but still hold high expectations for themselves and the renowned teachers who want their assignments in on time and accurate.

How can Howard have high expectations, but not provide the resources that are needed to meet them? Furthermore, it is unfair to students who expect the amenities that they are paying for with very expensive lab fees, room and board and tuition. This is inexcusable, and students should be able to expect more from the "Mecca."

Basic student resources are not too much to ask for. So, when are we going to get them?

## Daily Sudoku

Directions:

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

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

There are no more budget meetings this year, but...

**You have one day left to APPLY for  
The Hilltop 2009-2010.**

**Pick up your application in the Office of Student Activities TODAY.**

If you have any questions, e-mail  
[HilltopManager@gmail.com](mailto:HilltopManager@gmail.com)

## THE HILLTOP

The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper

**Vanessa Rozier**

*Editor-In-Chief*

**Danielle Kwateng**

*Managing Editor*

**Traver Riggins**

*Managing Editor*

**Mercia Williams-Murray**

*Deputy Managing Editor*

**Shivonne Foster**

*Campus Editor*

**Linsey Isaacs**

*Asst. Campus Editor*

**Crystal J. Allen**

*Copy Chief*

**Jenise Cameron**

*Asst. Copy Chief*

**Afiya Hosten**

**Cierra Jones**

**Jasmine Carpenter**

*Copy Editors*

**Jessica Littles**

*Editorials & Perspectives Editor*

**Christina L. Burton**

*Business & Technology Editor*

**Aleesa Mann**

*Life & Style Editor*

**Charles Metze III**

*Cartoonist*

**Eboni Farmer**

*Online Editor*

**Jeremy Williams**

*Layout Editor*

**Jada F. Smith**

*Nation & World Editor*

**Deontay Morris**

*Sports Editor*

**Natalie Thompson**

*Metro Editor*

**Travis White**

*Photo Editor*

**Faraday Okoro**

**Jazelle Hunt**

**Zelena Williams**

*Photographers*

**India Clark**

*Asst. Business Manager*

**Kandace Barker**

*Business Manager*

**Johnson W. Sattiewhite**

*Graphic Design Manager*

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

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

### THE HILLTOP

2251 Sherman Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20001

(202) 806-4724 (Editorial)

(202) 806-4749 (Business)

[hilltopeic@gmail.com](mailto:hilltopeic@gmail.com)

[hilltopbusiness@gmail.com](http://hilltopbusiness@gmail.com)

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 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.



## Speak Out!

**SPEAK OUT about  
what's on your mind**

Send us a perspective no longer than  
500 words and include your name,  
classification and major.

**[HilltopEditorials@gmail.com](mailto:HilltopEditorials@gmail.com)**



The Hilltop prints every day. The first 20 words are \$10 and .25 for each additional word.

All classifieds must be submitted and paid for 5 business days in advance. We accept payment in the form of cashier's checks, money orders, and company checks. **NO CASH**

Any questions? Contact The Hilltop Business Office at 202 806 4749 or email us at hilltopbusiness@gmail.com.

**Open your arms to change, but don't let go of your values.**

*The Lovely Ladies of Alpha Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.*

Present...

*The Annual King of the Ivy Pageant 2009:*

*"The King Next Door"*

*Saturday April 18, 2009 5-7pm*

*Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel.*

**ARE YOU UP TO THE AMERICORPS CHALLENGE? HEADS UP IS SEEKING HOWARD UNIVERSITY STUDENTS**

Co-lead your own elementary school class  
\$4,500 living stipend (may apply FWS)  
\$2,362 educational award

Leadership skills and teaching experience

Immerse yourself in an urban school system

Mentor youth and bond with children grades K-8

Have a summer and year like no other!

**SERVE-LEARN-LEAD**

Join Today

Application priority deadline is March 13, 2009; apply online:

<http://www.headsup-dc.org/involved/AmeriCorps.html>

For more info contact: [mney@headsup-dc.org](mailto:mney@headsup-dc.org)

**Need a summer job? The Prince George's County Department of Parks & Recreation Aquatics team has something for everyone! Now hiring lifeguards, swim instructors, pool managers, customer service representatives and more.**

Lifeguards start at \$9.30/hour.

E-mail [PG-Aquatics@pgparks.com](mailto:PG-Aquatics@pgparks.com) or call 301-249-8880.

**Make Your Opinion Count.**

Attend a Department of Journalism Town Hall 7:00 PM,

Wednesday, April, 22, Room G-10 in the C.B. Powell Bldg. Sponsored by ADVANCE, Student Council.

HOWARD UNIVERSITY 16TH PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

# Ledroit Park Community Day

"A LEGACY RENEWED"

## CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

for SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2009

EARN 2 RSVP pts. **REGISTRATION**  
**COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP**  
**ARTS & CRAFTS**

**STREET CAPTAINS**

★ Summer Housing Raffle for Volunteers ★

**ENJOY A BARBECUE & LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

SIGN UP IN THE OFFICE OF RESIDENCE LIFE OR IN YOUR RESIDENCE HALL!!!



**THE TRAIN IS COMING...**

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**63 P.R.O.D.I.G.Y.**

**WE LOVE YOU!**

**92 R.E.F.I.N.E.D.**

*When The Road Gets Rocky, Remember to "See It Through".*



*Always Alpha,  
03-A-07, 63-A-07, 90-A-07  
...You Have Made It!!!*