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WEATHER**88****71****Tomorrow:****77****69**

Established

1924

THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 93, NO. 5

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

Thursday, August 27, 2009

Thursday's Notebook**CAMPUS**

FIND OUT HOW SAFE HOWARD STUDENTS FELT ON CAMPUS IN THE 1990S, COMPARED TO NOW.

METRO

D.C. LEGISLATORS HAVE DECIDED TO REMOVE THE LIMIT ON TAXI FARES. READ FOR MORE INFORMATION.

LIFE & STYLE

HAS CELEBRITY "BEEF" GOTTEN OUT OF HAND? FIND OUT WHAT STUDENTS THINK ABOUT RECENT "DISS TRACKS."

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Rental Textbooks Offer Cheap Alternatives to Pricey Supplies

BY ANASTACIA MEBANE
Copy Chief

With the rising cost of text books, some students are turning to online resources, such as eBay and Amazon.com, for affordable books.

The beginning of a semester is a hectic time for Terien Hardy. Each semester, the biology major files into the Howard University Bookstore, scrambling with fellow students to find the books he needs for class. The line to the register usually wraps around the entire store, but Hardy patiently waits for his turn. When it finally comes, he places one book after another on the counter for the cashier to ring up. The bill? Nearly \$1,000.

"My experience buying books has been extremely difficult because science books are always more expensive and it's harder to find used books," Hardy said.

At Catholic University, Amanda Kohut believes that her college's bookstore is a "rip off," not only because books are too expensive for her taste, but because the store doesn't stock the books professors order for class.

"I have never gone a semester without the bookstore not stocking a book that a professor ordered for class," the politics major said. "We inevitably spend several sessions of class relying on the books on reserve in the library for photocopies until the store can finally get the books for the class."

Kohut's book bill falls anywhere between \$500 and \$1,000. Like other frugal students, Hardy and Kohut use digital book stores like eBay, Amazon and Barnes & Noble to take a bite out of their textbook bills. They also look to peers who sell their books from past classes.

"Other students are always looking to unload their books," Kohut said. "You can get fantastic deals. When I am done with my books, I sell them back to Barnes & Noble and I can actually get a nice chunk of change for my book."

Things are likely to get even better for cash-strapped students. eCampus.com, which describes itself as "the nation's leading full service discount textbook store," is introducing a "Rent and Return" program as a new outlet for college

students who want to save on expensive textbooks.

Students can now go to the eCampus.com Web site and select books to rent at prices 50 percent cheaper than brand new books.

They choose books from a comprehensive book list with thousands of textbook titles. Rental periods are flexible, starting with 130 days, about the length of a semester.

If students need additional time with the textbook, they can rent their books for an additional 15 or 30 days for an additional fee. If the book is still in good condition at the end of the rental period, students incur no additional charges. Students do not even have to pay to ship the book back; through the partnership with UPS, students can go to the "Return My Rental" page on the site and print the free UPS return label.

"Rent and Return" is the best way to save a bundle on textbooks you'll never open again after the semester's end," said Matt Montgomery, president and CEO of eCampus.com. Matt Montgomery in a press release.

Antwan Clinton, director of the Howard University Bookstore, is aware that book rental has become available at some colleges and universities in more recent years

and acknowledges that it could be a good alternative if utilized correctly.

But he isn't troubled by how a program like "Rent and Return" will affect sales at the university bookstore he manages.

"College stores are often in a better position to manage rental programs, but they require a long term commitment by faculty to adopt textbooks for an extended period," he said.

Clinton is keeping a watchful eye on other universities piloting programs similar to those of eCampus.com, to see if their business models are successful and if a similar rental program can be implemented at his bookstore. Still, Kohut is excited about a program that will keep more money in student pockets.

"I would participate in 'Rent and Return,'" Kohut said. "Books are far too expensive. I think that it is a great idea."

Hardy said would participate in the rental program, as long as he can get his books for a significantly lower price.

"I would participate in the 'Rent and Return,' but only if it was substantially cheaper," he said. "It would help me not hold on to books I don't need."



Zelena Williams - Co-Photo Editor

Since classes have begun, students have been waiting in long lines in the Administration Building to talk with financial aid officers.

Financial Aid Office To Undergo Changes

BY TAHIRAH HAIRSTON
Campus Editor

Freshman biology major Shirlicia Richardson had one simple question, but she didn't know it would take numerous steps to get her answer.

Howard University's financial aid office has made some changes from last semester, with less staff due to the Voluntary Separation Incentive Retirement Program (VSIRP) and a new ticketing system, but students still make the same complaints.

"It's [the financial aid office] hectic," Richardson said. "Being an incoming student, I don't understand why it's so hard to get one questions answered. How do you get validated?"

Richardson said she had gotten to the financial aid office at about 7:45 a.m., among many other students waiting in line to get their appointment time for the day through the new ticketing system.

Wednesday afternoon, a Howard University faculty member told the masses of students waiting on the second floor

of the Administration building, "If you want to wait until it dies down, you should probably come back in a couple of weeks."

According to interim provost and chief academic officer Alvin Thornton, Ph.D., the process to give students aid is not as simple as it used to be, so they are working on plans to restructure the office.

"One of the things we are trying to do is equip the office with document process capabilities to cutback on the thousands of paperwork received a week," he said. Thornton is aware that the financial aid office needs more staff. In fact, he brought temporary staff in the office to help provide assistance.

In the upcoming weeks, there are plans for an online system, where students can go online to register for an appointment time for the financial aid office.

"I think its [the new ticketing system] a cosmetic change, because at the end of the day they just need more staff," said Corey Briscoe, the director of student advocacy for the Howard University Student Association (HUSA). "They are still down 40 percent."

Life of Late Sen. Edward 'Ted' Kennedy Remembered



Sen. Edward "Ted" Kennedy died late Tuesday evening after a battle with brain cancer. He was diagnosed with a malignant tumor in May 2008.

BY MARQUIS H. BARNETT
Nation & World Editor

Often referred to as the "Jewel of the Democratic Party," and the "Lion of the Senate," Senator Edward "Ted" Moore Kennedy of Massachusetts died late Tuesday from brain cancer.

A native of Boston, Mass., Kennedy was originally elected to his seat in the Senate in 1962, making him the third longest-serving Senator in United States history.

In 1965, Kennedy went head to head with President Lyndon B. Johnson and his administration on the issue of poll tax; taking the stance that it was illegal to make taxation a legal prerequisite for voting.

Though unsuccessful in his pursuit, this tough battle gained Kennedy notoriety for being a skilled litigator on the Senate floor. In that same year, Kennedy was one of the heaviest supporters of the Immigration and Nationality Act, which overturned the 1924 act, placing a quota of 170,000 visas is-

sued per year for citizenship in the United States.

In 1971, Kennedy decided to help Americans battling cancer. Kennedy's role in the 1971 Cancer Act strengthened the legislation's chances. The law passed in December of that year and made the National Cancer Institute a staple in the treatment of Cancer in the United States.

Kennedy also sponsored and saw through the Federal Election Campaign Act Amendments of 1974, which set regulations on the financing of political campaigns.

In 1980, Kennedy made an unsuccessful bid for President, which led to other great accomplishments back on the floor of the Senate.

Junior history Major Yosef Wise and aspiring politician admired Kennedy's political prowess.

"It is a tragedy that the world has lost a great leader like Ted Kennedy," Wise said. "He was a phenomenal community organizer and one of the best senators this government has ever seen and

he will be greatly missed."

While in the Senate, Kennedy served as Chairman for the Judiciary Committee, Labor and Human Resource Committee and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions as well as being named the Senate Majority Whip.

On Jan. 20, 2008, Kennedy ended his silence on who he would endorse in the 2008 presidential election by publicly announcing his support for then-senator Barack Obama. In May of that same year, he was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor, which severely limited his appearances in the Senate up to his death.

In a statement to the Kennedy family yesterday, President Obama referred to Senator Kennedy as "one of the most accomplished Americans ever to serve our democracy."

He continued, "I can think of no one who engendered greater respect or affection from members of both sides of the aisle."

IS HU STILL A WAR ZONE?

1991: Student Robbed In Midday Behind Towers

BY ERICA LITTLEJOHN
Former Staff Writer
(Written in 1991)

On the afternoon of Saturday, Feb. 17, 1990, at approximately 4:49 p.m., two female students were robbed at gunpoint behind the West Howard Plaza Tower.

At 4:45 p.m. that day, former Howard student Demetra Smith and her roommate walked out to their car parked behind the West Towers. Once inside the car, the students noticed someone in the rearview mirror.

Smith said she first thought "it was a friend of ours coming to speak, but my roommate turned around and saw him knock on the car window with a gun." Smith's roommate immediately tossed her purse out of the car and said, "Please don't hurt us!"

The assailant took the ladies' wallets and started walking toward the car wash then located behind the West Tower. Smith's roommate followed the robber because she felt she could not just let him get away. The ladies pleaded with the car wash attendants for assistance and asked them to call the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), but the attendants allegedly refused, according to Smith.

Kim Jackson, a Towers resident in 1990, witnessed the incident from her window and called the Tower's front desk at approximately 4:46 p.m. Jason Reynolds, who was on duty at the front desk Saturday afternoon, called MPD, who arrived at 4:50 p.m.

Smith alleged that the car wash attendants were affiliated with the robber. *The Hilltop* was unable to reach the attendants for comment; the attendants were uncooperative with police.

Smith said the robber took her credit card, bankcard, checkbook and all of her identification, as well as her roommate's paycheck and about \$38.

"He may not try to use my credit card, but it's to the limit," Smith said. "My aunt thinks he just wanted cash to buy drugs with. He might be able to get three rocks with that."

Smith's roommate may move out of the Towers, but Smith does not think that running away will solve anything because crime can be found anywhere. "This has been the worst experience I've ever had. You never think this mess will happen to you," Smith said. "I'm just glad it's over."

Trouble at the Towers?



Zelena Williams - Photo Editor

Safety precautions have been put into place since that period indicated as a "War Zone."

HUPD Advances Safety

BY JESSICA LEWIS
Co-Campus Editor

Crime. It is a word that strikes fear in the hearts of many, and it is an action that is all too familiar for many Howard students.

On August 19, 2009, according to crime alert emails, "The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and the Howard University Police Department (HUPD) are investigating the armed robbery of several students at two different locations..." On August 12, 2009, "MPD is investigating a shooting that occurred..." On August 5, 2009, "MPD is investigating the robbery of a student..." On August 3, 2009, "MPD and HUPD are investigating an attempted armed robbery of a male victim..."

According to HUPD, in the violent crimes category there have been five robberies and two attempted robberies, all of which occurred off campus in the past 2 and a half months, with the exception of one on the East Towers parking lot.

With the start of the academic

year, Chief Leroy K. James of HUPD plans to be proactive to deter the influx of crimes that usually occur around this time.

"I think one of the challenges that we'll always have is off-campus crime. We work with metropolitan police as much as we can and they help as much as they can, but they also have their jobs," James said. "I think the second challenge is the economy. There are a lot more people out of work and a lot more people looking for a quick buck."

While James identified two challenges facing HUPD as uncontrollable external forces, he listed theft as an additional challenge; a problem that is well within the control of the HU community. According to James, stealing is a major issue on campus and it is not always visitors that steal.

In addition to the Howard on Howard crime, James said there are a lot of vacancies within the HUPD. Approximately 50 more officers are needed.

Read the rest on thehilltoponline.com.

2009: Student Witnesses Attack, Pleads for Howard U Administration to Change

BY AMINATA SOW
Special to *The Hilltop*

Dear Howard Faculty and Students:

My name is Aminata Sow and I am a student at Howard University. On the evening of Thursday, July 9, 2009, I witnessed a Howard University student being robbed in the West Towers parking lot. I was on the third floor of the Howard University West Plaza Towers with a peer around ten o'clock when I heard deadening screams from outside my friend's window. After approaching the window, I observed a young female being dragged on the ground, by a black male, for her bag. Once the older male got a hold to the bag, he proceeded to flee the scene. I, then, proceeded to call 911, to report the robbery. While on the phone, I headed to the scene of the crime to make sure the young lady was okay. As I headed to the back of the West Towers, campus police was also heading to the scene of the crime.

Many Howard students were sitting outside the Towers when the incident occurred; therefore students were able to come to the young female's aid and chase the robber. In the robber's pursuit of fleeing the scene, he dropped the young lady's bag, which carried a MAC laptop computer. Thankfully, the young sophomore student was not harmed and all of her items were returned to her. If it were not for the Howard students outside the Towers, the situation could have played out differently because campus police did not arrive in a timely matter, according to my standard of an emergency.

I am writing this letter today, to not only make sure that Howard faculty, staff and students are well aware of the situation, but to also report the fact that the scene of the crime took place in a poorly lit area behind the Towers. I am well aware that Howard University does not own the West Towers parking lot anymore, yet the fact that the lights in that parking lot do not come on at night is unsafe for Howard University students. Many students, including myself, walk through the parking lot to head to the African American Memorial/U Street Metro station at all hours of day and night. Other than the reflection of the lights off of Florida Avenue and the lights from the East Towers parking lot, the area behind the Towers is dark, which is unsafe. To make matters worse, I have never seen campus police patrol the dim area.

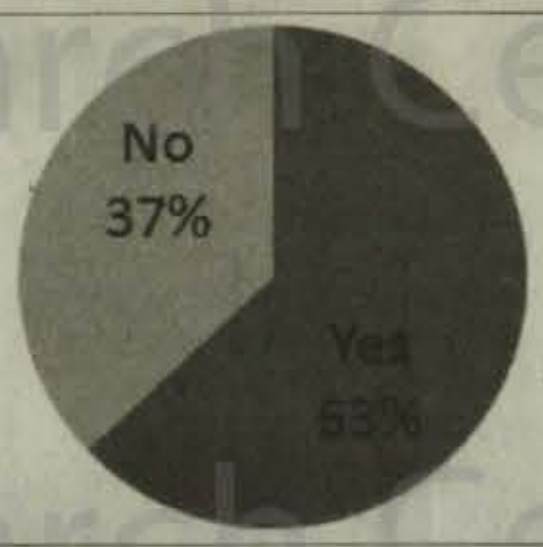
On Friday, July 10, 2009, I went to the Office of the Provost to fill out a student complaint form. Although Mr. Charles Gibbs was not in his office, I was able to speak with his Chief of Staff, Mr. Keith D. Miles, who was really receptive to my many concerns. Seeing that the majority of the students in the summer stayed in the East and West Plaza Towers, I believe that there should be increased security placed in the area. There needs to be as much monitoring of the Howard area as there is during the normal school year. Although there might be fewer students on campus during the summer months, safety of the students should not be an issue taken lightly.



Charles Melze III - Cartoonist

Poll: Do you Feel Safe on Campus?

Demographics of surveyed people chosen at random.
Male: 45 Female: 55
Seniors: 26
Juniors: 37
Sophomores: 27
Freshman: 9
Transfer: 1



REAL WAR ZONE!

TERROR AT THE TOWERS



Student robbed in midday behind Towers

By ERICA LITTLEJOHN

Hilltop Staff Reporter

Last Saturday evening at approximately 4:49 p.m., two female Howard students were robbed at gunpoint behind the West Howard Plaza Tower and, at present, the suspect remains at large.

At 4:45 p.m., Demetra Smith and her roommate walked out to their car parked behind the West Tower. Once inside the car, the students noticed someone in the rearview mirror.

Smith said she first thought "it was friend of ours coming to speak, but my roommate turned around and saw him knock on the car window with a gun." Smith's roommate immediately tossed her purse out of the car and said, "Please don't hurt us!"

The assailant took the ladies' wallets and started walking toward the car wash

This image is a replication of the February 22, 1990 front page of *The Hilltop*. The page contained two articles columned on the sides. The first article detailed the attack of a Howard student while she was exiting her Meridian Hall dorm shower. The second article is replicated above. The purpose of this replication is to assess the progress of the university after nearly two decades. This picture above was taken after two shootings occurred at the Towers in less than a one-month time span.

A Legacy Renewed

2009 Student Leadership Conference

Inspiring, Motivating & Developing Leadership for the Global Community

Saturday, August 29, 2009

9:00 AM -5:00 PM

Howard University School of Law

2900 Van Ness Street NW

Washington, DC 20008

Metro accessible via UDC/Van Ness Metro station on the Red Line

Visit www.metroopensdoors.com for schedule information

\$75.00 /Person (includes conference registration, bag & meals)

Tickets are available at Cramton Auditorium Box Office

For more information please contact the Office of Student Activities at 202-806-7000

Registration forms are available in Blackburn University Center Suite 117

HOWARD UNIVERSITY HOMECOMING 2009
VOLUNTEER INTEREST MEETING
AUGUST 27TH, 2009
6:00PM AND 7:30PM IN THE BLACKBURN FORUM

THE PULSE OF THE PEOPLE

WWW.BISONHOMECOMING.COM

THE HILLTOP

Twitter Exposes Social Injustice in Election

BY ALEXIS K. BARNES

Business & Technology Editor

Halona Jackson, a junior English major, uses Twitter to keep track of her favorite celebrities while senior communications and culture major, Lloyd Talley, feels the website is a good outlet to express his daily thoughts.

"You can get everything off your chest and maybe make someone laugh in the process," said Talley.

The online medium was used for more serious purposes in Afghanistan, during their recent election.

Created in 2006, Twitter, a social networking and mini-blogging tool, allows users to convey messages through a maximum of 140 characters.

"The ability to access information and connect with people all over the world is something that had not yet been achieved until the internet."

- Desmond Carswell,
- Junior, administrative justice

According to Nielsen.com rankings, the website was ranked the fastest growing website in February 2009 over Facebook. It has become popular among Howard students, especially with the added ability to access it through mobile web and SMS- text messaging.

Afghans used the outlet to share information on voter turnout and exposed Taliban intimidation

according to CBSNews.com.

Previously banned from television and Internet during their 2004 election, Afghans began utilizing the medium as those without electricity or a computer have gained access to Internet cafes; most citizens also have cell phones even in the most remote areas.

"In one way, I think it is great that these people are taking advantage of the technology in order to inform the masses, however, the internet isn't always used appropriately from distressed countries all of the time," Jackson said.

Contacted via Facebook message, Jackson learned of an alleged wealthy South African woman who was suffering from an illness.

"She tried to add me on Facebook and sent me a story of how she was sick and had a lot of money and if I helped her, she'd give me 20 percent of her money," said Jackson. "Clearly this was some type of a scam and abuses the power of the Internet."

Many Twitter posts came directly from Afghan residents, both within and outside the country.

News of attacks in Kandahar before the polls opened were decimated through Twitter by an independent Afghan news agency, Panjwok Afghan News.

Frequent posts documented explosions in Kandahar, a polling site that was not stocked with ballots, and ballot malfunctions.

Twitter, email and cellular text messages all became forums for Afghan cities through websites such as "Alive in Afghanistan."

Run by a non-profit group, the site housed over 100 reports the day of voting.

One post read, "Armed Taliban keep voters away from 14 polling stations in Ghormach dis-



Twitter has become a popular social networking, entertainment and professional development tool for celebrities, students and activists alike.

Photo Courtesy of MCT

trict of Faryab province."

"I think that twitter and other forms of the Internet are great tools for communication in this way," said senior broadcast major Taliah Graves.

Despite official Afghan at-

tempts to decrease negative reports, online activity went unabated.

Junior administration of justice major, Desmond Carswell, uses Twitter for entertainment and professional purposes and thinks the use of the Internet across

boundaries shows the growth of civilization.

"I think the Internet has to be considered one of the greatest achievements of the modern age," said Carswell. "The ability to access information and connect with people all over the world is something that had not yet been achieved until the Internet."

After the polls closed, Ashraf Ghani, the only presidential nominee with a Twitter account, tweeted angrily claiming that warlords forced people to vote for specific candidates at gunpoint.

These allegations cannot be confirmed, however, due to strict restrictions on communication with western journalists.

"Just as with Tehran, Iran this is the best way for the people to communicate to the outside world," she said. "I think it will pay a greater role then we have ever thought and hopefully the people will be successful using it."

TWITTER STATS:

-21% of users have never posted a Tweet
-NY has the most Twitter users, followed by LA, Toronto, San Francisco and Boston
-There are more women on Twitter (53%) than men (47%)

Statistics compiled via Sysomos Resource Library
www.sysomos.com

It's a Bu\$iness Man: Stay Phly Customs

BY ALEXIS K. BARNES

Business & Technology Editor

Managing 18 credits and an internship, Ron Branch is a busy senior dedicated to staying, and keeping you "phly."

Hailing from Chicago, Illinois, the international business major specializes in shoe customization and uses his art graphics hobby to create one-of-a-kind pieces.

"A lot of us are looking for that perfect shoe, something that nobody else has, something unique and exclusive," said Branch.

This revelation spawned the idea of transforming his works of art into art-inspired footwear.

It wasn't until the second semester of Branch's freshman year that he birthed Stay Phly Customs and turned a childhood hobby and talent into something marketable.

In as little as one week, a unique consumer idea can be materialized on your favorite shoe.

"A person comes to me with what they want done to their shoe and then I elaborate from there," he said.

Senior biology major Charles Bell owns two Stay Phly Custom pieces and is a happy customer.

"The thing that makes Ron's designs unique is that he has a great grasp of how colors compliment and designs that make distinct patterns," he said.

Complimentary colors and patterns were essential in Branch's creation during the historic election of President Barack

Obama.

The signature shoe includes an image of the 44th president.

"It was such a monumental time in history, you couldn't help but be moved," said Branch. "By Obama being the face of change, I get that it was only right to make a shoe that conveyed such a political statement."

Using word-of-mouth and social networking outlets, Branch hopes to spread the word about his business.

"By my major being international business, I'm taught to take my ideas global and that's what I plan to do in life," said the student.

Not solely in it for profit, Branch plans on using his talent to not only make a profit, but impact youth worldwide.

"I plan to one day start-up art programs across the US, Africa, and the Virgin Islands," he said.

He plans to target and offer scholarships to high school students with an interest in attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

"Art is always going to play some sort of role in what I do in the future," he said. "It will always be my passion."

Interested students can contact the entrepreneur at stayphlycustoms@gmail.com for pricing and questions.

Artwork can be viewed at www.myspace.com/stayphlycustoms and on the Facebook group titled Stay [Phly] Customs.

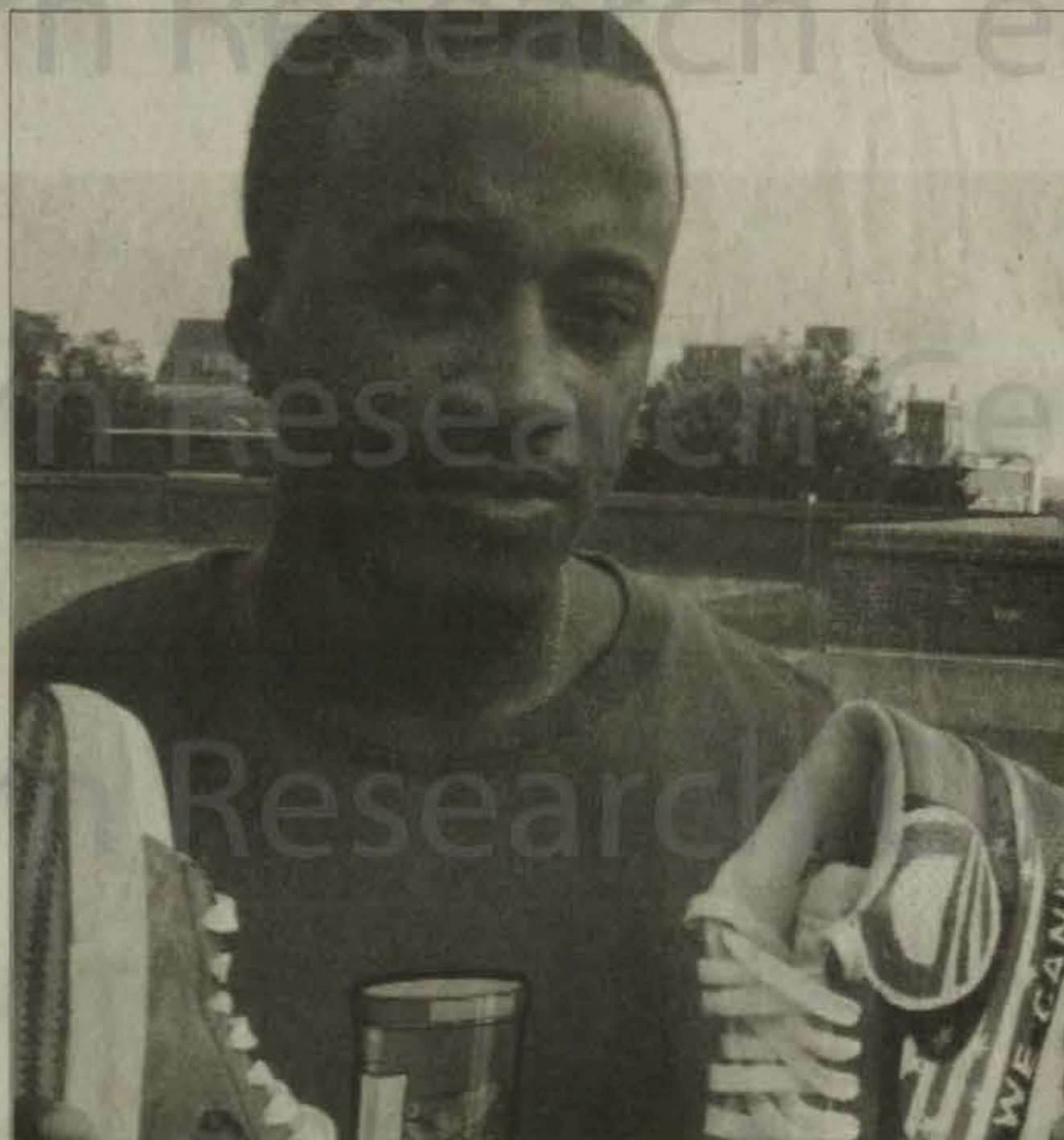


Photo Courtesy of Alexis K. Barnes

Branch used his talents during the election with his "Yes We Can" tennis shoe.

Open 'Pedia Sets Limitations for Users, Editors

BY EVAN HOLLINS

Staff Writer

Wikipedia, the website that has gained much popularity due to the fact that it is a free encyclopedia that anyone can edit, will soon add a layer of editors to sign off on changes made to articles regarding living individuals.

The nonprofit organization that governs Wikipedia, the Wikimedia Foundation, says the new feature, which is called, "Flagged Revisions," will be available within weeks.

"Flagged Revisions," will be operated by volunteer editors. Once a change is made to an article, an editor will sign off on the change. But, until the change is approved, visitors will only be able to view the previous version of the article.

Though there has been no comment on the exact number of editors, it has been confirmed that the number will be in the thousands.

The new change is due to the growing amount of influence the website has. Wikipedia is one of the ten most visited sites on the Internet. The website recently surpassed 3 million articles and receives about 60 million visits per month.

With so much traffic, information and public freedom, it is no secret that some users include false information in articles. That is one of the primary reasons for including the new addition.

"I remember doing an independent research project on Jamaica, in high school. As a joke, one of my classmates changed the information on the Wikipedia page and made the article say that one of my other

classmates was the president of Jamaica," said Tim Cozine, a sociology major.

The idea of the "Flagged Revisions" feature was brought up earlier this year after false information was posted that stated that Senators Ted Kennedy and Robert Byrd passed away.

Though the new feature has already been implemented into the German version of Wikipedia, implementing the feature on the American version has gained much discussion because of the larger amount of popularity and information Wikipedia has in the United States.

The new feature is expected to be controversial because everyone has the equal privilege to edit information which has contributed to its popularity. Now that that privilege is being imposed upon, only time will tell how the new feature will be received.



Photo Courtesy of MCT

Wikipedia often poses a legitimacy problem, due to the ability of anyone to change information.

D.C. Taxi Drivers, Passengers Splinter Due to August's Cancelled Fare Cap

BY JESSICA HARPER
Contributing Writer

On a rainy afternoon at L'Enfant Plaza Metro station, Matthew Johnson, a D.C. resident, searches for the best route home.

Clutching a damp cup of vanilla ice cream and looking left and right, Matthew considers taking a taxi, only to dismiss the thought seconds later.

Johnson, a native of South-west, rarely hails a cab. He, like a growing number of other District residents, identifies the recent cancellation of the \$19 taxi fare cap for rides that begin and end in the city as the reason.

"It costs you at least \$1.50 before you even go anywhere," said Johnson. "That's outrageous."

Johnson said while he prefers the \$19 limit, with or without it, drivers would still find ways to overcharge their customers.

"It's really an either-or for me," he said. "The cap doesn't make a difference, because drivers take the longer route. So, they are still getting money out of your pocket."

D.C. charter school student Desmond Gant said although he understands Johnson's frustration, he supports the drivers.

"I don't mind paying a little more because they need to make their money too," he said. "Plus, I live on Benning Road. So, it's worth it for me to catch a cab from Gallery Place Chinatown to my home."

The \$19 cap is a leftover from the zoning system replaced last year with time and distance meters.



Oluyomi Sodunke - Staff Photographer

While taxi drivers rejoice, passengers are less than optimistic about the D.C. Council's decision to remove the \$19 cap on fares.

Lifted by the D.C. Council in early August, the limit was initially enforced to protect residents east of the Anacostia River who face long commutes for work, shopping and other daily needs.

Ward 1 Councilman Jim Graham decried the cap, calling it "artificial, arbitrary, and unfair."

Like Graham, many drivers find relief in the cancelled measure, saying it ensures just

compensation for their work.

"It should have never been in effect in the first place. You have a meter. Whatever the meter runs is what the people pay," said Doug Horton, a taxi driver of more than 30 years. "How do you have a meter and then a cap? That's a contradiction and just unfair."

Horton's disapproval was echoed by driver Femi Roberts.

"We're not happy. The cap took away from our liveli-

hood," Roberts said. "We're given \$1.50 per mile. In Maryland and Virginia, they're getting almost \$2.50 per mile. That's \$20 less. Gas and maintenance are expensive."

Other drivers see benefits and rewards in the new system.

"As a member of the cab driving community, I support the meter system because it's a free enterprise," said Gus Aluko. "On the other hand, not everyone in D.C. can afford to pay

Cell Phone Usage Expands On Trains, Underground

This past weekend, Metro began work on a project that will eventually allow expanded cell phone use on trains.

Currently, only Verizon Wireless customers have access to underground cell phone signals.

By Oct. 16, 2009, Metrorail riders using the three other cell phone service providers will have the full ability to place calls, text messages and use the internet on their cell phones.

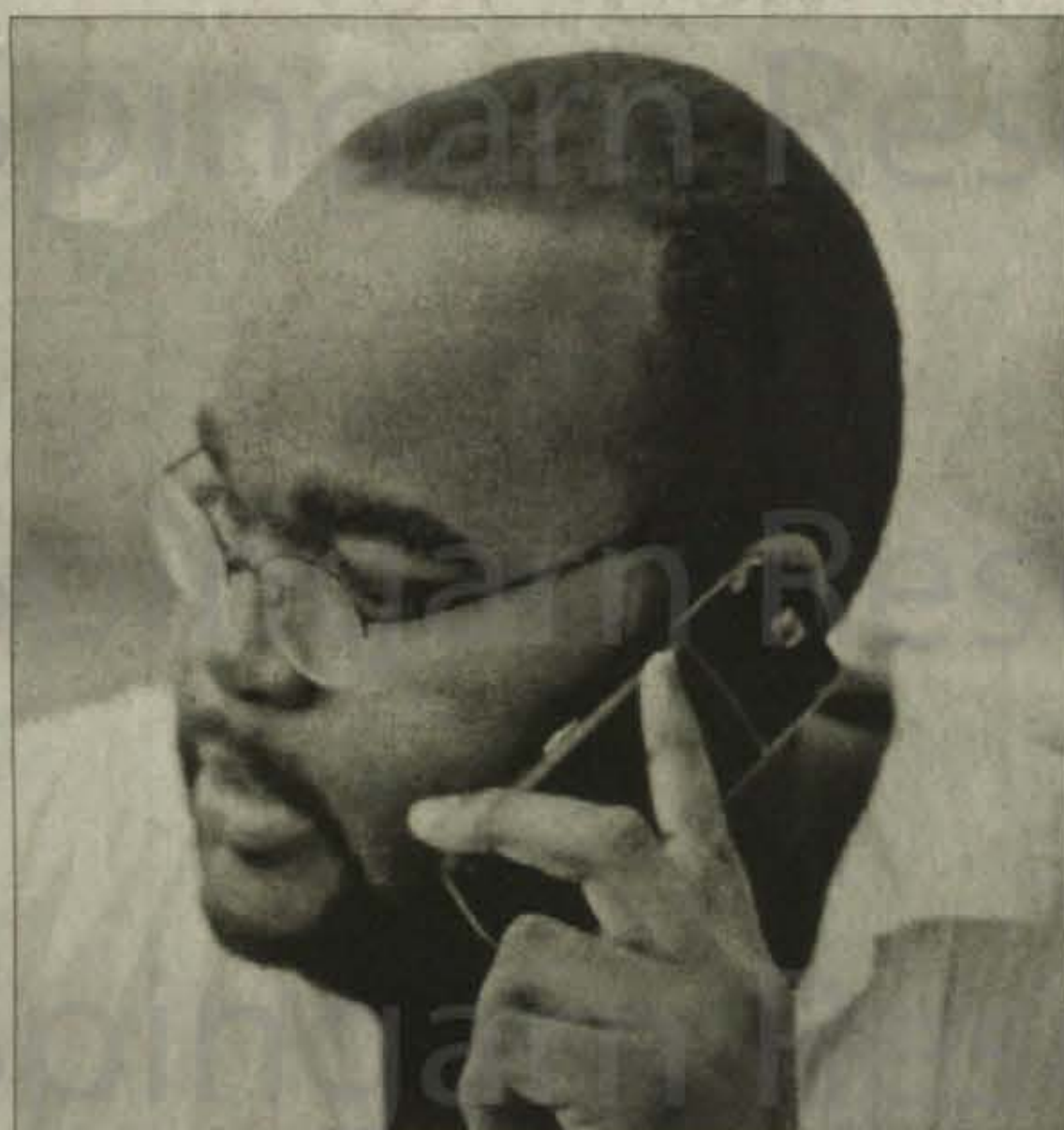
"This is the first phase of Metro's effort to bring expanded cell phone carrier service to the entire Metrorail system by 2012," said Suzanne Peck, Metro's chief information officer on a news release available on the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Web site.

T-Mobile, Sprint, Nextel, Verizon Wireless, and AT&T started installing wireless network hardware to the following 20 busiest Metro stations:

1. Ballston

2. Bethesda

3. Columbia Heights



Faraday Okoro - Photo Editor

By Oct. 16, riders on the train, such as Howard student Jarrod Reed, will have access to calling, text messaging and internet on their cell phones from 20 metro stations.

4. Crystal City

5. Dupont Circle

6. Farragut North

7. Farragut West

8. Federal Triangle

9. Foggy Bottom- GWU

10. Friendship Heights

11. Gallery Place- Chinatown

12. Judiciary Square

13. L'Enfant Plaza

14. McPherson Square

15. Metro Center

16. Pentagon

17. Pentagon City

18. Rosslyn

19. Smithsonian

20. Union Station

"Senator Ted Kennedy will be remembered for his leadership as a life-long public servant, and for his legacy of reaching across party lines to get results on some of the most important issues of our time. Senator Kennedy's presence will be sorely missed in the halls of the Capitol and throughout our capital city. Our hearts and thoughts are with the Kennedy family during this difficult loss."

-- D.C. Mayor Adrian Fenty statement on Ted Kennedy's death

WEEKEND GUIDE

D.C. Restaurant Week

Going on through Sunday, August 30

Price for three-course fixed-price meal:

\$20.09 (Lunch)
\$35.09 (Dinner)

Visit www.washington.org/restaurantwk for a complete list of participating restaurants

Columbia Heights Day Festival

Saturday, August 29, 2009
10:00 a.m. - 2 a.m.

Harriet Tubman Elementary School
3101 13th St. N.W.

6th Annual Dance D.C. Festival

Free performances and workshops of salsa, belly dancing, swing dance, etc.

August 28 - August 30, 2009

The Kennedy Center, Dance Place, the Atlas Performing Arts Center

William Eggleston: Democratic Camera

Photographs and Video 1961-2008

Through September 20, 2009
Fridays - Sundays
10:00 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Corcoran Gallery of Art
500 17th St. N.W.



HOWARD UNIVERSITY

THIS YEAR'S OPENING WEEKEND WAS MAGNIFICENT! WE WELCOMED TO THE "HOWARD UNIVERSITY FAMILY" MORE THAN 1,400 NEW STUDENTS AND 4,000 FAMILY MEMBERS ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 2009. STUDENTS ARRIVED TO A WONDERFUL OPENING IN OUR UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY WITH THE SUPPORT OF MORE THAN 900 STUDENT VOLUNTEERS, 112 STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND A HOST OF UNIVERSITY STAFF AND FACULTY MEMBERS WHO PERFORMED HERCULEAN EFFORTS TO MOVE STUDENTS INTO RESIDENCE HALLS, REGISTER THEM FOR CLASSES, IMMUNIZE THEM, PROVIDE PACKAGES FOR FINANCIAL AID AND SOLVE MANY PROBLEMS.

DURING THE PAST WEEK WE RECEIVED MANY NOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR BEHALF FROM NEW STUDENTS, PARENTS AND GRADUATES WHO SHARED HOW MUCH THEY APPRECIATED THE SMOOTH MOVE-IN PROCESS, AS WELL AS, THE RESPONSIVE STAFF WHO WELCOMED AND SUPPORTED THEM. WE, IN TURN, WANT TO RECOGNIZE THOSE OF YOU WHO MADE IT ALL HAPPEN. WE THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR HARD WORK AND COMMITMENT TO OUR NEW STUDENTS AS WE BEGIN THE START OF ANOTHER ACADEMIC YEAR!

WARM REGARDS,
PRESIDENT RIBEAU AND DR. PAULA WHETSEL-RIBEAU

Freshmen Move-In Fall 2009

Organizations
ADSA
Alpha Kappa Alpha
Sorority Inc, Alpha
Chapter
Alpha Kappa Psi
Professional Business Frater-
nity
Alpha Nu Omega Sorority, Inc.
American Humanics
Annenberg Honors
Arts and Sciences Student
Council
ASSC
Beacon
Biological Society
Bison Yearbook
BLAGOSAH
Bethune Annex (BX) Stroll
Team for Resfest
California Club
Campus Pals
CASHA
CEACS Student Council
Chapel Assistants
Cheerleading
Chicago People's Union,
COAS
College of Arts and Sciences
Student Council
CPNAHS Student Council
CSA
D.I.V.A. Inc
Delaware Club
Delaware Club vice president
Delta Sigma Pi
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
Inc.
Residence Hall Council
Drew Hall Step Team
Engineers Without
Borders
Florida Club
GA Club
G-DUB
Gentlemen of Drew Social Club
Georgia Club
Golden Key International
Honor Society
GSS
Health Professions Society
Hilltop Newspaper
Homecoming
Howard Players
Howard University
Community Choir
Howard University Transfer
Student Association
HPS
HU Chapel Assistants
HU Cheerleaders
HU Cheerleaders
HU DMV Club
HU Texas Club
Howard University
Student Association (HUSA)

International Campus Pals

Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.
Alpha Tau Chapter
Jewel's Inc.
Kappa Alpha Psi, Xi
Chapter
Kappa Delta Pi -
International Honor
Society in Education
KTS
Ladies of the Quad
Laureate Scholar
Living Stones, Howard
University Community Choir
LOQSC
Louisiana Club
MAM
Michigan Club
NCNW
National Society of Black
Engineers
National Society of
Minorities in Hospitality
New Yorkers Club
New Yorkers Unlimited
Newman Club
NJ Club
North Carolina Club
NSAA
NSCS
NY'sU club
Ohio Club
Pershing Rifles
Phi Beta Sigma
Phi Sigma Pi
Philly Club
Political Science
Progressive Black Men
PRSSA
Quad Step Team
School of Business
Student Council
Sigma Gamma Rho
School of Business Honors
School of Communications
Annenberg Honors Program
School of Communications
Student Council
Society of Collegiate Black
Men
Student Ambassadors
Target H.O.P.E.
Team Leader Organization
School Business Student Coun-
cil
Team Leader Organization/21st
Century Advantage Program
Texas Club
Thomas B. Smith Biological
Society
Vizion Dance Team
Wednesday Night Live
WNBC
WHUTV/ Spotlight
Women's Lacrosse
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.,
Alpha Chapter

Staff

Office of the President
Office of the Provost
Office of the Secretary
Office of the Vice Provost for
Student
Affairs
Sodexo Catering Services
Student Financial Services
Event Task Force Committee
Enrollment Management
Auxiliary Enterprises
Office of Residence Life - Central
Staff
Office of Residence Life
Environmental Management
Health Center
Physical Facilities Management
Burr Gymnasium Manager
Alumni Relations
Louis Stokes Library
Parking and Shuttle Services
Howard University Police
Department
Cramton Auditorium
Office of University
Communications
ISAS
WHUR

Vendors

United Rentals
Rent-A-Crate
Hargrove
Metro Golf
United Services
Capital Party Rental
Balloons Bouquet
Blanchard Communication
Unites
Cintas
DJ Services
Sodexo
Rita's Ice



Abroad Minded

BY ALEESA MANN
Contributing Columnist

I guess I started preparing to leave for Barcelona back in May. My boyfriend took me to the Currency Exchange on K Street because he wanted to give me my first euro.

Staring at the conversion chart it cost about \$7.50 for five euro and about \$15.00 for seven euro, a stark reminder that the dollar doesn't always rule supreme.

Not one to spend a lot of money, I asked for a five euro banknote. The teller looked at me kind of crazy. "You're taking five euro to Barcelona?"

"You really can't do anything with that," he added.

Wow, no crap Sherlock, I can't blow my nose with five euro.

After a really drawn out conversation about why I just wanted five euro, I had in my hand the only euro banknote I've ever seen. Sweet.

The euro bill is pretty like monopoly money, but cooler because of the shiny hologram and the pastel motif of stars and landmarks.

I think that's what attracted me to study abroad: it is pretty and foreign, an escape that seems like the next best thing to stepping out of reality into a fairy tale.

Like, maybe I'll end up dropping out of school to live in Barcelona and star in a reality series like "So You Think You Can Flamenco?" or "Who Wants to Eat a Million Tapas?" and live the rest of my life in D-list celebrity infamy. Or, maybe I'll meet my Afro-Spanish doppelganger and she'll trade places with me so I can fulfill my destiny to become a preeminent bullfighter, while she pursues her life-long dream of achieving a top-rate, post-secondary education.

Or, maybe I'll enjoy my four months in Spain so much, that I'll bring my experiences back to Howard and reflect on them as I go throughout the rest of my life. A substantially less interesting alternative, but, I've heard, the most rewarding.

Going abroad is a chance to lose yourself in something so unfamiliar, that you're forced to take an introspective approach to navigating your way through it. As author James Baldwin once said, "Once you find yourself in another civilization, you're forced to examine your own."

In retrospect, it seems going abroad is a popular choice for people seeking some sort of profound understanding, muse or, simply, respite.

Baldwin traveled throughout Istanbul and Paris while writing "Notes of a Native Son" and "Giovanni Room." Author Langston Hughes developed a unique writing style after his travels in Africa and Europe; and more recently, comedian Dave Chappelle fled to Africa to escape the overwhelming success of his sketch comedy show.

As I see it, study abroad programs offer students the best of both worlds. They allow you to travel to a foreign country, while being coddled by an academic program and, sometimes, financial aid. I like to think of it as a paid vacation with minor work-study.

So, as I spend my last six days in America, I've been nervously thumbing my five euro bill, the only indicator I have of the things to come. I'm utterly scared, but even more anxious to explore the world beyond the divinely ordained Manifest Destiny.

In a superhuman feat, I've packed the next four months of my life into two suitcases and a duffle bag, but I know the most important thing I'll be taking along with me is right between my ears, a broad mind.

On The ComeUp

On The ComeUp is putting the spotlight on a fellow Howard Bison on the verge of doing big things! Joe Blackmon started his own T-shirt line called Project 925.

The Hilltop: When did you start Project 925?

Joe Blackmon: Around February/March 2009.

TH: What inspired Project 925?

JB: I was stressed out at the time as far as classes and work, and I made a shirt for myself.

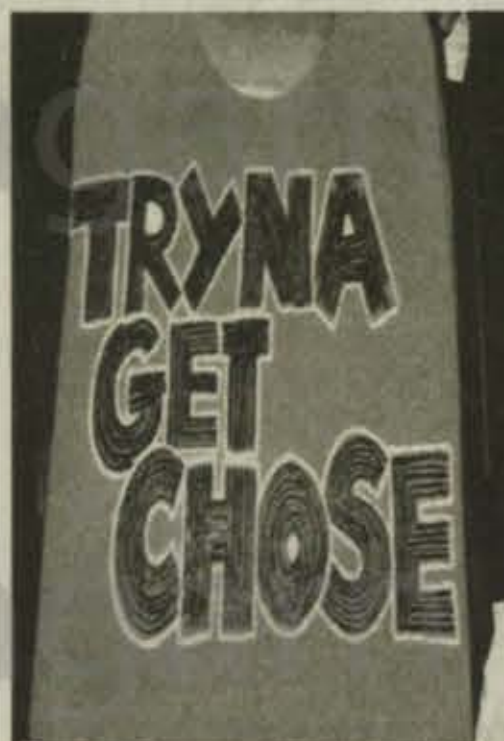
TH: What did your first shirt say?

JB: Tweaking Since 1989. After I did that first shirt I figured I use sayings from Howard and certain things people are afraid to say and put them on shirts.

TH: What are things that people are scared to say?

JB: One primary example would be "Tryna Get Chose" shirt. There's an alternative definition that was provided aside from the real definition that everyone knows. The real definition is tryna get chose to be in an organization, most [specifically] the divine nine organizations. So, I just made fun of it and made the shirt.

TH: What inspires



you?

JB: Whatever is in my head, music, [what's] being said on campus and even Twitter.

TH: What are your prices?

JB: \$15 for T-shirt, \$20 for custom orders, \$20 for sweatshirts. I'm trying to get into sweaters and cardigans and they will probably be \$25-30 and up. I actually have a new policy, which is half upfront and half later. The quality of Project 925 shirts is great I get the shirts from H&M.

TH: What is Project 925's next venture?

JB: I'm trying to figure out a way to combine paint and doing things



Photo Courtesy of Joe Blackmon

Joe Blackmon makes original "college couture" t-shirts inspired by his college experience at Howard University.

freehand. That is one thing people don't know. I do everything freehand it's no preconceived thing when it comes to my mind. I actually haven't had the time or clothes to experiment, once I figure that out I'll probably venture out.

TH: Does art inspire you?

JB: I've always been a fan of art. Even coming up I've always been in art classes, so I was always in the arts. I was in the mural program in Philadelphia, and we would go to urban areas and create beautiful murals and that got me into painting.

TH: What would you like the world to know

about Project 925?

JB: I want people to know that it's wearable art. It may not be a Picasso, but you're getting something totally yours. 925 is a custom work that I'm doing freehand. It's something that can't be reproduced for somebody else. Basically it's college couture!

TH: How can people contact you to purchase an item?

JB: I have an email project925@gmail.com and another great way to [reach] me is to send me a Facebook message.

Interviewed by Cierra Jones- Life & Style Editor

Unreasonable Doubt: Beefs Have Gone Too Far

BY AARON RANDLE
Staff Writer

It killed Biggie and Tupac, humiliated Rick Ross and Mariah Carey, and terminated friendships within Jay Z's Rocafella and Cam'Ron's Dipset. Celebrity beef, one of the most destructive forces in the music industry, is also one of its most lucrative. And while these beefs can be entertaining, some think they are getting out of control?

A notion which beckons the question: When has celebrity beef gone too far?

The list goes on and on: Jay Z vs. Nas, Ja Rule vs. 50 Cent, The Game vs. Everyone. Ever since the birth of hip-hop, there have been episodes of beef. From the infamous "Roxanne" beefs between early hip-hop group U.T.F.O., which garnered more retaliation tracks from various MC's than any record in history, to the recent track "The Warning" by Eminem aimed at Mariah Carey, beef has always been evident.

The most infamous case of celebrity beef gone too far has to be that of The Notorious B.I.G. and Tupac Shakur. Representatives of the two biggest rap powerhouses at the time, Bad Boy Records and Death Row Records, the beef between the once good friends ended gruesomely with the murders of both men. And while there have been no convictions in either case, it is widely believed that both murders were the results of the fervent rivalry.

However, murder is not the only denouement left after all cases of beef. There have also been cases

of celebrity beefs between persons that have expanded and involved their family members and details of their private life.

Beef has gone from something that at one time had boundaries and limitations on what was said, to a free-for-all where literally everyone and everything is fair game; something that has many people questioning if beef has officially gone too far.

"You know celebrity beef has gone too far when you take a hood baby mother and make her a certified celebrity for a week" says former *VIBE* magazine reporter & TV Host Shirea Carroll, recalling the current beef between rap superstar Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson and William "Rick Ross" Roberts in which Jackson not only posted a pornographic video of the mother of Roberts' children with another man, but also released video of him taking her shopping—a direct assault on Roberts' pride.

A more recent example of a celebrity involving a rival's family and personal life in beef is the recent track "The Warning" by Marshal "Eminem" Mathers, aimed at Mariah Carey. In the track Eminem alludes not only to having recorded sessions of sexual escapades with Carey ("Mariah, it ever occur to you that I still have pictures?"), but also takes jabs at her husband Nick Cannon ("You think I'm scared of you/ You gonna ruin my career, you better get one/ Like I'm a sit and fight with you over some (expletive) (expletive) (expletive) who made me put up with her psycho (expletive) over 6 months!").

Celebrity beef is as old as hip-hop itself, and while it may be



Kimberly P. Mitchell- Detroit Free Press MCT

Hip-Hop celebrity beef has advanced from causing quick, entertaining lyrical jabs into power-packed, life-threatening blows.

entertaining, people are beginning to see less of its entertaining appeal. Shawny Metcalf, a senior at Central State University in Ohio is one such person.

"Celebrity beef used to be entertaining because you knew it was harmless and just a matter of words. Of course there were instances like Biggie and Tupac, but in totality, things never got that drastic," she said. But when you threaten to release recordings of a man's wife, and call her out

of her name while simultaneously attacking him, you've gone too far."

Celebrity beef seems to have taken a turn for the worse and appears to be reaching new heights of debauchery. While we as fans are realizing things are going too far, the celebrities themselves seem to not be cognizant. Like Eminem said: "Well tell her to shut her mouth then I'll leave her alone/If she don't, then I'ma just keep goin."

Take It From The Top



BY CRYSTAL J. ALLEN
Editor-in-Chief

Allow me to introduce myself - I'm Crystal. I'm the 2009-2010 Hilltop Editor-in-Chief. I'm a sister; I'm a daughter; I'm a student; I'm a friend. You may have met me before, but if not, this column will allow you to do so.

First and foremost, let me say, this is my column. Every thought and idea published in the confines of this slim text box reflect me. In the past four years at this university, I've learned more about life than I probably ever could, and I have a lot to share.

I'm sure a lot of us feel the same way.

We go through things with the administration; we hustle for everything from a financial aid package to a prerequisite class. And throughout my matriculation here, I've realized that if you are not a hustler, Howard is not the place for you. Only the strong survive here - we don't wait for lines to open; we create them. We don't wait for administrators to call us back; we line up outside their doors. And there's nothing wrong with that.

So, if you're a freshman, I'll say - rather bluntly - get with the program. This is a one-of-a-kind experience. If you're dying from the heat in your room in the Quad, you'll be fine. Come senior year, you'll wish you were back in that hot room without a care in the world. Appreciate your experiences now. If you're not from the District, go out and see new things. Take initiative and get involved, not only with the Howard community, but the D.C. community as well.

Please take heed to the advisement of your peers when they say to "watch your back around these parts," but do not let them keep you from enjoying yourself. Like any other major city in America, there are rough parts. It's probably no worse than where you're from - just different. Treat people how you want to be treated, and you SHOULD be OK. Still, you should always be aware of your surroundings.

Freshmen, please know that you are a part of something great. We say it all the time, but allow me to reiterate - you are at the Mecca. This university has acted as an integral part of several movements in history. You're following the footsteps of some of the best. Howard University is synonymous with "success." It's synonymous with words such as "grind" and "trendsetter." Most of all, you are among leaders.

The one thing I love about Howard University is that I can be swag surfin' one night at Love with a group of people, and see them at the Student Leadership Conference bright and early the next morning. We party hard, but we work even harder. I wouldn't rather be anywhere else.

So, I charge you all - both freshmen and continuing students - to do what you have to do, not only for yourself, but this university. Leave your mark and make your contribution.

Hustle real hard. Hustle, hustle real hard. Hehe.

TWEET OF THE WEEK

tweets from some of HU's funniest twits

Excuse me sir with the Gucci shades and Louis laptop bag just a hilla' on the yard, we don't believe you, now go back to your dorm...

8:10 PM Aug 24 from Uber Twitter - Andrew Jones, senior legal communications major (@aAndrewBJones)

If HBCU's were department stores, Howard = Neiman Marcus
Morehouse = Macy's
Spelman = JC Penney
Hampton = K-Mart
5:20 PM Aug 17 from TweetDeck - Adiyali Rainey, senior film major (@aAdiyaliDRainey)

Submit your favorite tweet to meccanisms@gmail.com!

He Said...She Said Viewpoints from Both Sides of the Gender Divide This week's issue: Freshman Year Relationships

By Traver Riggins

I didn't have any older cousins, siblings or friends who could give me advice before I started school.

Picking up a college prep book never even crossed my mind. And the only "talk" I got from my parents before college was the three-sentence exchange between my father and I in which he told me not to be an Alpha Angel or any equivalent.

"I wasn't planning on it," I said to the man whose thoughts, from the blank look on his face, had apparently flashed back to his ape days at Ohio State University.

I wasn't worried about the lack of outside pointers. I figured my 18 years had adequately prepared me for whatever was to come down the collegiate pipeline. PSYCHE!

Well, kinda.

I was rather well prepared: great study skills, some common sense and the drive of 27 horses. But if there was one thing I could go back and tell Little Me it would be to BE AWARE OF THE TINGLE!

You know, that feeling you get when you're just head over heels for someone. They fit you like a glove and you want to spend all of your time with them. They are the last thing you think about at night and the first thing on your mind when you wake up.

Ah, that tingle. Such a great feeling. I hate it.

I had it. Most of us have had it. The way we respond to

it is key. My advice, don't let it make decisions for you.

The guys at this school are charming and there is something extremely flattering about being singled out in this unforgiving gender ratio at this so-called co-ed school. It's nice to be wined and dine and doted upon, no doubt about it.

It's hard to realize that college relationships are nothing like the ones from high school. Here, you're on your own. You can end up spending all of your time with a significant other.

This is the time to really uncover who you are. It's impossible to do that with another person constantly influencing you. Lots of alone time is key. Waking up one day and realizing you're not becoming the person you hoped to be is SUPER disappointing. Trust me.

And you know those girlfriends you imagine yourself having decades after taking your degree? The ones they show in all the cool movies. The ones you can call when you need anything. Well, you won't meet them if you're caught up with a boo.

Speaking of "boos," assuming you believe that there is that one special person out there for you, spending too much time with one person could keep you from meeting the one. Don't worry. He'll find you - if he's supposed to.

There is too much out there to lock yourself down for a tingle. There are plenty of tingles out there.

Howard is a microcosm of the larger black community in America. This is very apparent by the female to male ratio that exists on campus.

According to collegeboard.com Howard is 68% female and 32% male. This ratio isn't desirable but it is our reality. With that being said the dating scene is definitely in favor of the males.

So why would you want to get a girlfriend??? It doesn't make much sense. For all the freshman males I strongly advise you NOT TO DO IT!

I am saying don't do it because of one thing you cannot account for: how much you will change.

The person you are today will not be the person you will be next semester or next year. It is extremely hard to be with someone when both of you are changing.

I know you are probably reading this like how much will I really change? But if you don't believe what I'm saying just think about the person you were two years ago. You will look back at your freshman year and say I can't believe I used to dress like that!

My advice is to be friends and as your Howard career progresses, then decide to think about when you want to start settling down later. Something else to remember

is that every relationship that you enter from now on could potentially lead to marriage. That is kind of scary to read. That is not something to be taken lightly.

In case you haven't noticed, Howard is also not very relationship friendly. HU has a lot of students, but a lot of circles intertwine which can cause some awkward or bad situations. A relationship is already difficult, and when you add HU to the mix it amplifies problems.

I am not saying this as a typical Howard male. I am speaking from experience. I was in a relationship my freshman year at Howard. I do not regret it. I grew a great deal as a person from my experience.

However, in retrospect I do wish I would've taken things slower instead of rushing into it. A lot of my friends that were in relationships freshman year now are separated from their significant others.

Life is a constant learning experience and what I've learned is that you have the rest of your life to date, but you only have four (maybe five) years to figure out who you are and what your purpose is in life.

I'd rather spend that time hanging out with my friends or grinding in school, rather than spending it in a relationship.

Overheard @ The Mecca

Overheard in The Student Health Center...

Guy 1: [Referring to Hepatitis shot] Yeah, if yo' skin don't go down in two days that mean you got it.

Guy 2: What happens if you got it? Do they still take the hold off yo' account?

Overheard in The School of C...

Girl 1: Marvin Gaye was the man.

Guy 2: You don't even understand. I told my mom plenty of times I should have been around back then. I would have been with him and we'd be on that stuff together. He would be writing songs about me and my name would have been Shirley.

Girl 3: What?

Girl 2: Yep, my name would have been Shirley. And I'd be in my green silk pajamas, a fur coat and scarf walking down the street to go get my man stuff.

Girl 3: Well, alright then Shirley.

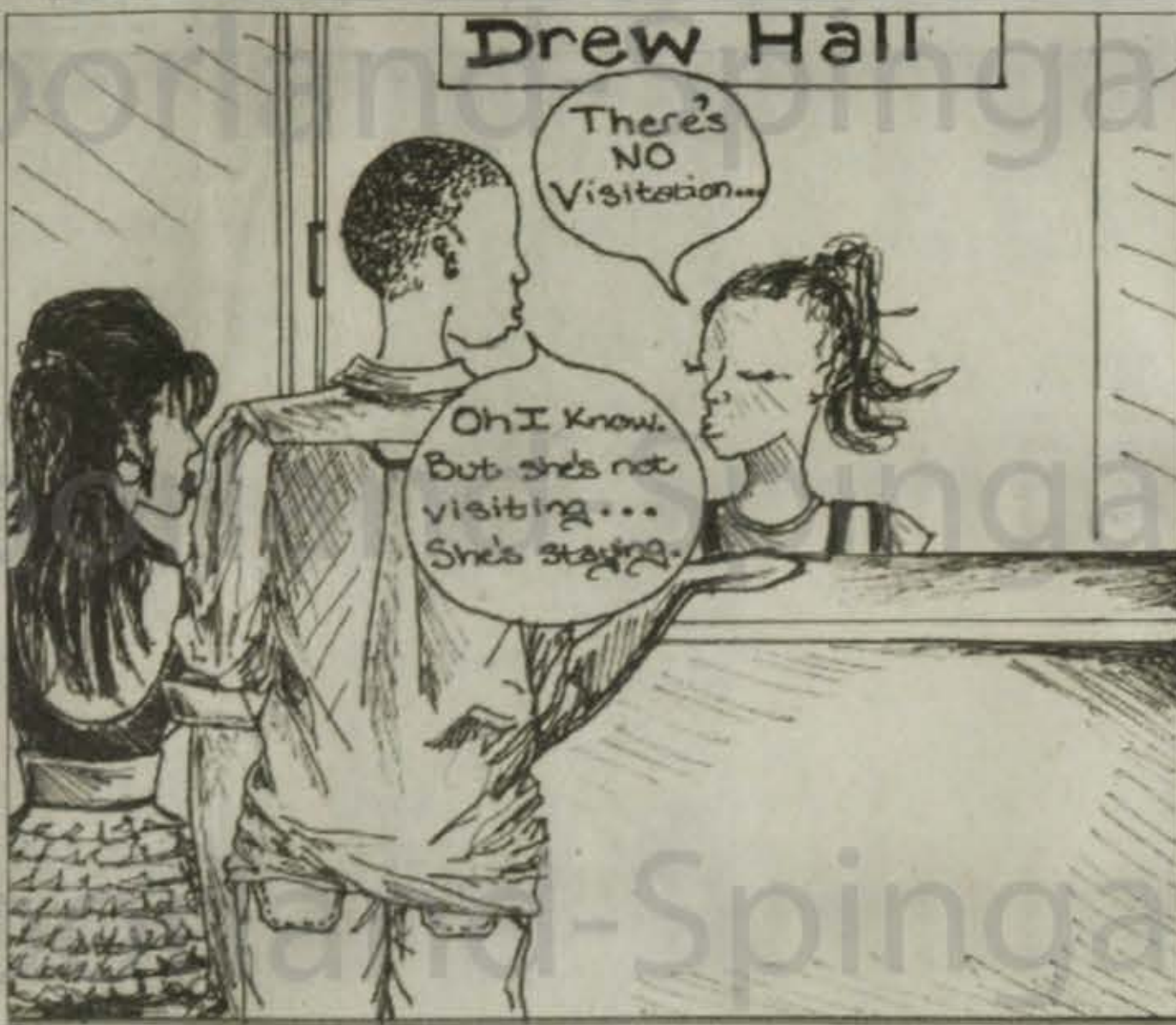
Overheard one of your fellow Bison say something crazy? Send it to meccanisms@gmail.com!

20 Questions

...because we know you were wondering the same thing.

- How many overrides did you have to beg for?
- Are you still on the waiting to get housing?
- Did you know there are FRESHMEN without housing?
- Were there more upperclassmen at The Taste of Howard than freshmen?
- Where were you when Michael Jackson died?
- Can we all agree that Joe Jackson was wrong for promoting his new record label on Larry King the next day?
- Have you jumped on the Twitter bandwagon yet?
- Why not?
- Why aren't you following us @hilltopcampus?
- How many paris of high heels did you count in your 8:10 am class?
- Why is Spelman ranked higher than us again in the annual HBCU rankings?
- Why is half of Howard from the "metro" Atlanta area?
- When will a new artist pop that's not from the south?
- What's a synonym for swag?
- Was your freshman week fun?
- Were the Campus Pals helpful?
- Did your parents give you the "talk" before they left your dorm room?
- Are the Howard guys/girls as cute as you thought they would be?
- How many times did you have to give bone marrow to pay for tuition?
- Did these questions make you laugh? If not, send your questions to Meccanisms@gmail.com!

Compiled by Jada F. Smith and Deontay Morris



Daily Sudoku

Directions:

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

Medium

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

Strict Visitation Imposes on Students' Adulthood

Yes! You move out of your parents' home and step out on your own. Yeah, your dorm is a little cramped, but it's big enough for you to have guests over. So you pick out a nice color scheme, set up your room, try out some dorm room Feng Shui that you found online, and then realize that you don't have visitation privileges. But, you're grown, right?

So, why don't you have visitation yet?

We know that rape, theft, and excessive noise can all occur more frequently when visitors are present, but they can, and do, happen without visitors.

For freshmen, this can be a safety precaution. Freshmen are more likely, than upperclassmen, away from home for the first time and, generally, don't know what it's like to share a room with (at least) one person they have never met. It can take a while for ground rules to be set in stone and for roommates to grow com-

fortable with each other. If they aren't comfortable with one another, then adding guests to the picture would be a bad situation, especially if one roommate isn't present. With that said, it's easy to see why freshman visitation privileges would be rather strict. What isn't clear is why upperclassmen

freshmen dorms to wait a while for visitation privileges, but by sophomore and junior year, it's just silly.

People are still going to have sex whether there is visitation or not. People are still going to have things stolen from them if they do not lock their doors whether there is visitation or not.

People are still going to get into dorms they do not belong in whether there is visitation or not. Also, many of the dorms that upperclassmen occupy, contain mostly single occupancy rooms or suites with private, lockable bedrooms.

So, really, how much is not having visitation privileges helping upperclassmen?

Yes, it may help upperclassmen focus on their schoolwork, but at this point, we are adults and adults make their own decisions.

Our View:
"Upperclassmen and freshmen shouldn't have the same visitation privileges."

dorms end up with the same strict rules and regulations.

Generally, upperclassmen dorms, such as the Howard Plaza Towers West, receive visitation privileges before most other dorms, but the visitation hours are the same as the visitation hours in freshman dorms.

It makes sense for

Correction: In the August 24, 2009 edition of *The Hilltop*, photo credits on the story "Pinning Ceremony Replaced With Rally" were not attributed properly. The top photo was taken by Sean Robinson and the lower photo was taken by Bree Gant, both staff photographers.

"Everyone is a genius at least once a year. A real genius has his original ideas closer together."

-George C. Lichtenberg

**Have an opinion?
Share it with us!**

hilltopeditorials@gmail.com

Wrong Side of the Crib

Charles Metze III



Want to be a part of *The Hilltop*?

The Hilltop is now accepting applications for the following positions:

staff writers
multimedia editor
graphics editor

Pick up your application this week in Room 117 in The Blackburn Center!

THE HILLTOP

The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper

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Editor-In-Chief

Jada F. Smith

Managing Editor

Traver Riggins

Managing Editor

Jessica Lewis

Tahirah Hairston

Co-Campus Editors

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Ryan Hamilton

Advertising Layout 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.

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)

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Now in its 85th 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.

Hilltopics are printed everyday. The first 20 words are \$10 and .25 for each additional word. There is a 25% additional charge for small images. All classifieds must be submitted and paid for 3 business days in advance.

We accept payment in the form of cashier's checks, money orders, business checks, and major credit cards.

NO CASH
Any questions?
Contact The Hilltop Business Office at 202 806 4749. Email your reservations and artwork material to classifieds@thehilltoponline.com; be sure to specify your run date, background and text colors.

The School of Business Student Council cordially invites all business students and faculty to our "SBSC Family Reunion." Join us for delicious barbecue and fellowship on the SB patio from 12-3pm Friday, August 28.

Come to "Husa on your plate" The Howard University Student Association invites you to lunch in the Blackburn Cafeteria Friday, August 28, 2009 12pm - 2pm There will be food, fun & music for all! Text HUSA49 to 41411 for more information!

UGSA Presents THE ENLIGHTENMENT: An All White Affair August 30 6-10 PM in the Valley Must have HU ID for Entry, All White Attire Required

The Ladies of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Alpha Chapter would like to congratulate and welcome the Class of 2013. We wish you the best of luck on your journey at the Mecca.

"Cultivating the Legacy, Living the Legacy... Presenting H. Patrick Swygert" Blackburn Gallery Lounge 7:25 p.m. Sponsored by Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity, Zeta Phi Chapter, Alpha Chapter, Omega Psi Phi, Fraternity, Inc. The Campus Pals, and National Society of Collegiate Black Men.

Want to be the next Mr. or Miss School of Communications?

SOC Pageant Contestant Interest Meeting

Tuesday, September 1, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

Screening Room West (3rd floor of the School of Communications)

Pageant applications available in the Student Council office (C118-D) starting Wednesday, September 2, 2009

Applications are due Friday September 4, 2009 at 5:00pm in the SOC Council office.

THE HILLTOP BUSINESS OFFICE IS SEEKING DRIVEN INDIVIDUALS TO WORK WITH THE HILLTOP. WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR LOCAL ADVERTISEMENT SALES REPS AND OFFICE ASSISTANTS. TO INQUIRE EMAIL CCOLA@THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM (LOCAL ADVERTISEMENT SALES REPS) OR JALBERT@THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM (OFFICE ASSISTANTS) Work Study students are strongly encouraged to apply to work as an Office Assistant!

For Your Information

If today is ...	We are only accepting advertisements for...	Advertisers have the option of paying our late reservation fee if they want there advertisement to run on...
Monday	Thursday and after	Wednesday
Tuesday	Friday and after	Thursday
Wednesday	Monday and after	Friday
Thursday	Tuesday and after	Monday
Friday	Wednesday and after	Tuesday

Late Registration is an extra \$5 for Classifieds and \$50 for Print Display Advertisement. -Business Office-

Searching for the LATEST SCOOP?

Visit... www.TheHilltopOnline.com