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**WEATHER**

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Tomorrow:  
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# THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 93, NO. 6 WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

Friday, August 28, 2009

Established  
**1924**

**BREAKING NEWS**

**FOUND AFTER 18 YEARS, 29-YEAR-OLD JAYCEE LEE WAS FOUND ALIVE IN SAN FRANCISCO.**

**NATION & WORLD**

**READ ABOUT THE TROUBLES CERTAIN BLACK-OWNED BUSINESSES ARE FACING IN TODAY'S ECONOMY.**

**SPORTS**

**STUDENTS WHO CHOOSE TO PURSUE PROFESSIONAL ATHLETIC CAREERS GARNER MIXED OPINIONS.**

**Friday's Notebook**

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## Interim Dean Introduced at First Townhall

*CEACS student council introduces interim Dean Grant to students after Johnson retires*

BY CAMILLE AUGUSTIN  
Staff Writer

Thursday evening, the College of Engineering, Architecture and Computer Sciences (CEACS) held their first town hall meeting of the academic year in the Howard E. Mackey auditorium, otherwise known as the architecture building.

Students came together to voice their concerns about the school's physical structure and academic courses.

CEACS student council coordinated this meeting, and students felt it was a productive idea. Freshman civil engineering major, Lyndsay Mitchell, said the meeting was very well organized.

According to senior architecture major and vice-president of architecture, Tiffany Smith, the student council used grassroots campaigning methods to get the word

out about the town hall meeting to as many students as possible.

"We sent out text messages, invited student government leaders and *The Hilltop*, and posted flyers," Smith said.

The meeting also introduced the new interim dean, Bradford Grant. He also serves as the director for the School of Architecture and spent the last two years as associate dean of CEACS, primarily in the Department of Architecture and Design. The former dean, James Johnson, Ph.D, stepped down on June 30 under the Voluntary Separation Incentive Retirement Program (VSIRP) leaving a space open for Grant's position.

Grant completed his undergraduate studies at California Polytechnic Institution and later completed graduate studies at the University of California.

Grant said that as interim

dean he is not able to make permanent changes but will still put the message out to the university for much needed changes.

Some of those changes include are the water fountains in the building. Some are functioning and others are not.

The water is also hazardous, and by law, the building is required to have edible drinking water. In other words all the fountains, working or not, must be replaced.

*"This is going to be a challenging year, but we can't just sit still."*

-Interim Dean Bradford Grant

According to Grant, part of the tuition increase is supposed



The College of Engineering, Architecture and Computer Sciences held a town-hall meeting to address concerns for the building.

to come back to the students in CEACS in terms of helping to remodel the school. However, Grant said that he has yet to see the improvement money in their budget.

> See **CEACS**, page 3

## Google Seeks, Finds Howard University Team

*School of B president pushes for new proposal*

BY TAHIRAH HAIRSTON  
Campus Editor

Howard University's School of Business has added a new sponsor to the 21 CAP program this year.

After interning with Google this summer, School of Business Executive President Jewel Burks decided she would ask them to become sponsors of one of the 21 CAP teams for this fall semester.

"Usually banks and companies on Wall Street sponsor our teams, but Google brings a variety and exposes School of Business students to a different industry," Burks said. "It's a great way for students to understand that Google does so much more than just search."

The proposal for Google to be a sponsor has been previously done and the answer was no, but she used her voice as a Howard University student to speak to them about why they should sponsor a team.

Google agreed to sponsor a team for one year, giving \$5,000 to the program, putting on events, providing the team with memorabilia, and hosting site visits to the headquarters or local offices.

According to Burks, depending on the progress of the team and how receptive Howard University is to the company, Google will continue to sponsor 21 CAP teams.

"They want to find talent in the realm of business and engi-

neering, if they feel like it's here then they will stay," she said.

Another goal that Burks had for the summer was to get Howard to adopt the Google application for the students.

She said that through this adoption, students would have access to "Gmail" from their student email accounts as well as Google documents and excel. Students could also upload documents online to share with others and save files for future use.

"With the problems that students have with the Howard email accounts, Gmail is a lot more user friendly and Google offers this program for free to universities," Burks said. "For us to be in 2009 with a system that's dependent on paper is ridiculous."

According to Burks, Howard needs to jump on the bandwagon with Google because it won't be free forever.

She has been contacting Howard University President Sidney Ribeau to consider the new addition to Howard and is waiting for an answer.

Undergraduate Trustee Nnamdi Anozie said by adopting this program, the university could have eliminated some of the technology issues students are currently facing. In an e-mail sent to Ribeau on Thursday, Anozie addressed the importance of the program and the urgency of the proposal.

## Swygert Returns to Alma Mater, Speaks on Leadership



Bree Gant - Staff Photographer

Entering Howard as an undergraduate, former Howard University President H. Patrick Swygert believed that the experiences he had at Howard mirrored the experiences of his friends at other institutions. Sights of Malcolm X, Martin Luther King Jr. and his classmate, Stokely Carmichael, were just common occurrences for him.

"I don't think Howard students are shakable," Swygert said. He said Howard students are built on intellectual grounds. He saw hundreds of Howard students give up their spring breaks to travel 21 hours on a bus to help the citizens of New Orleans in an "Alternative Spring Break."

Protests, marches and people exercising free speech are what Swygert has come to equate with Howard University.

"Sometimes you just have to lead, even if you're leading yourself," he said.

Swygert spoke to a group of students in the Blackburn Gallery Lounge on Thursday, August 27, 2009, at an event hosted by Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity, Zeta Phi Chapter, Omega Psi Phi, Fraternity Inc., Alpha Chapter, the Campus Pals and the National Society of Collegiate Black Men.

- Jessica Lewis, Campus Editor

## Gun Violence Continues, Claims One of Our Own

BY VICTORIA FORTUNE  
Staff Writer

No longer can he dream of ever having a family to love. His future aspirations will never be a reality. Why? Because he is gone.

He is a victim of gun violence. More than 1,000 men are killed each year due to the cycle plaguing the black community.

In this case, "he" is Daniel

Jones, former Howard University student who was on the verge of greatness but now buried at the tender age of 21. Jones was shot in Fort Worth, Texas.

A native of Chicago, Jones enrolled at the Mecca in the fall of 2004. He was often made fun of because he was just 16 when he enrolled, the youngest of his friends. Whether it was dealing with law enforcement or mixed martial arts,

Daniel did not hesitate to get involved. His love for business and ambitious drive led him into joining Delta Sigma Pi, an international business fraternity.

Alicia Hannon is a brother in Delta Sigma Pi. She and Jones had a very close relationship. She recalls the first time she met Jones.

"I met Daniel through Adam Cooper freshman year, and got to know him a little better once

I joined Delta Sigma Pi. I looked up to him as a positive role model. His answer to everything was always 'it's not even that serious G.' He always saw the big picture and truly valued life. We became very close over the years. I will truly miss him."

After growing tired of dormitory life, Jones, along with

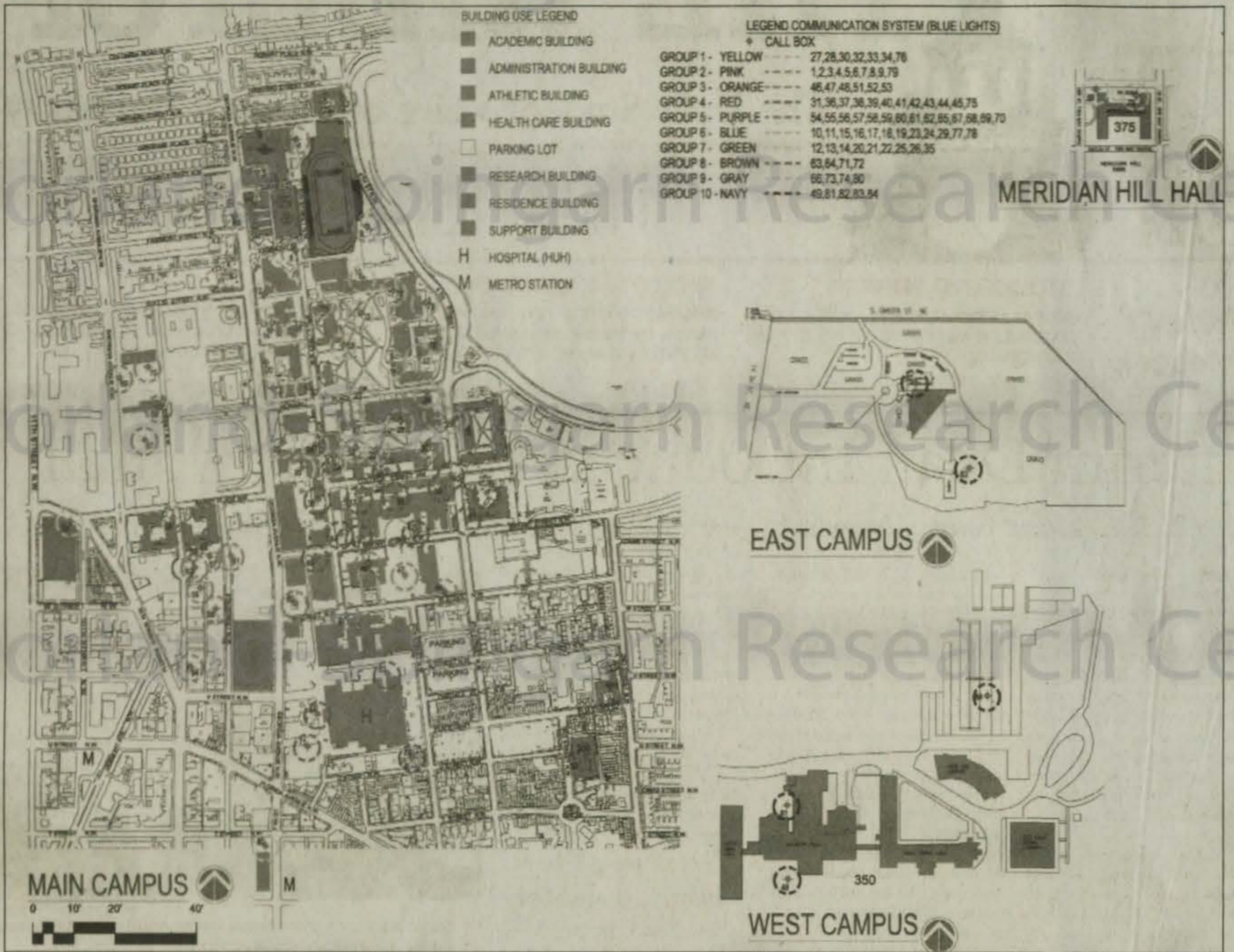


Jessica Lewis - Staff Writer

Students created a memorial shrine for Jones in the School of Business.

> See **JONES**, page 3

# Blue Lights System Update: 66 Down, 17 More to Go



BY JESSICA LEWIS  
Co-Campus Editor

More lights mean safe nights. In spring semester 2009, an installation began that would transform the way Howard views safety. The university received the blue light after 10 years of the light being out. "I think most people are aware the old units that we had that really didn't work, so they

didn't put a lot of stock into them," said Chief Leroy K. James of the Howard University Police Department. "[They] really didn't serve as a deterrent, but I think that the new blue lights really serve as a deterrent; they are very visible." Due to the amount of work needed to install the lights, there are still 17 more systems left to be installed. Five of the lights, under the navy category, will be placed on the east and west campuses. Two of the lights will be installed

around the Meridian Hill Hall dormitory and one will be at the east campus; both fall under the gray category on the map above. So far, 66 systems have been strategically placed in areas considered heavily traveled and other areas considered out of the way. "The installation process is not just buy it; plug it in. That's not the way it works," James said. "My team has been working throughout the summer to get them in, along with vendors, ISAS and PFM (Physical Facilities

Managements). We are shooting for the middle of September to have them all installed by then." While James aims for completion, the Howard community has been filled with fascination. At least four people everyday aim their fingers and press the red alert button on the systems to see if they work. According to James, only about two have actually been emergencies. Beyond the lights, James urges the students to be aware, pay attention and above all, be

safe. Last year at this time, *The Hilltop* reported that at least 14 crimes took place in a matter of two weeks. "Now that we are at the beginning of the year again, I think what students need to do is pay-attention, [and] really focusing on their environment: where you are, what's going on around you, especially when they are off-campus," he said. "To me, that's the most important part. Above all, I really urge people to walk in twos or threes or fours; walk in groups."

## Howard Opens Student Clinic

BY TAHIRAH HAIRSTON  
Co-Campus Editor

This summer, a dream came true for third-year Howard University medical student Raolat Adulai with the launch of Howard University's Freedman's Clinic. While a dream came true for her, she will change the lives for many low-income uninsured patients in the District of Columbia. The free clinic, which has been running for more than a month, is ran by student volunteers in the College of Medicine every Monday from 6 to 9 p.m., in The Towers, suite 1700. The students tend to medical issues as well as non-medical issues such as social services, nutrition counseling, and health education.

Patients can get medical care by phone or through the Freedman clinic's Web site, where they can make an appointment. According to Dr. Charles Mouton, chair of Department of Community and Family Medicine at the College of Medicine, D.C. is one of the only places where people have 90 percent health coverage but there is still a portion that is not. "With the state of the economy, people wind up losing their employment and with that they lose health insurance," Mouton said. "We stand as the period where they may lack health insurance until they find a new job." Through a \$30,000 grant from the Association of American Medical Colleges and alumni support used for supplies, the clinic is run,

serving, at times, five or six people per week. Mouton said the numbers are kept down purposely so that the students won't be overwhelmed. "The students are really the backbone of the program," he said. "They are the ones who implement and plan it. The clinic helps the students in several different ways and they are learning much more than I did during medical school." According to Mouton, "They learn invaluable things to use in their future medical careers like how to set up a practice." Mouton noted that the students have plans for the future of the clinic, but right now they are just trying to work out the kinks and build a foundation for the structure, creating a sustainable enterprise.

## Howard University Made Some Improvements Over the Summer 2009

- Drew Hall received a heating system replacement.
- College of Arts and Science Summer Impact Classrooms Renovations:
  - Douglas Hall Classrooms Refurbishing Room (125, 223, 239, 240, 301 and 325) Painting / General Classroom Repairs
  - Rooms (103,105,126,133,136,137,203,204 and 216)
  - Locke Hall Refurbishing Rooms (253, 257, 323, 359, and 325) Painting / General Repairs: Rooms (200,202,208,236,242 and 244)
  - C B Powell (Department of Psychology) Refurbishing: Room (N295, N289A, N291 and N295))

- Courtesy of Michael Harris, Associate Vice President for Administrative Services

## You Know You Go to Howard When...



You Know You Go to Howard When... you go hard for hip-hop dance practice like you're dancing in a troupe seen on MTV's America's Best Dance Crew.

You Know You Go to Howard When... its time to take a photo with your friends and some random person wants to jump in and take the spotlight.

Captions under the photos in the "You Know You Go To Howard When..." weekly segment are written by Zanaba Hudson, creator of the Facebook group bearing the same name.

## CEACS Students Get Acquainted

Students think Grant will be a good fit

Continued from FRONT, CEACS

He also wants to increase the interaction between all the disciplines of the college and is calling on the students to help out by pointing out things that need to be done in the school.

"This is going to be a challenging year, but we can not just sit still," Grant said.

Nyekah Washington, chief of staff in the CEACS student council and junior chemical engineering major, said that security for CEACS is a big concern for him.

Many architecture and engineering students are in these buildings late at night working on projects. Under Johnson, the school received new doors and a door lock system requiring Capstone card access to enhance the school's safety.

This year, Grant has spoken with Chief Leroy K. James of the Howard University Police Depart-

ment. One of the new safety measures to be put into place this year is a daily routine surveillance of the building.

Some students feel change will be brought to CEACS.

UGSA representative for CEACS and member of the search committee for a permanent dean, Kyle Spence, said, "CEACS as a whole has not received a fair look because we are a small school. But with Dean Grant as interim, it is like a breath of fresh air to see a new face."

Mechanical engineering major and UGSA representative Adam Flores said that last year he didn't attend town hall meetings because he had other activities but this year is different.

"I think that Dean Grant is productive in to get his point across and trying to get to know the students of CEACS," he said.

## HU Remembers Daniel Jones

Former Howard student killed, leaves behind memories

Continued from FRONT, JONES

Adam Cooper moved into a house on Kenyon Street. Cooper recalls that it was at that house many great conversations and parties took place.

"Daniel was an amazing person. He had all types of energy for all types of things. He could single-handedly start a party by himself, engage everyone and anyone in a conversation about the meaning of life, get all A's with no effort, or make your girlfriend fall in love with him (girls loved this dude)," Cooper states. "Everyone that came in contact with Daniel has a story. A good one too. Good and genuine people gravitated to him, and that is why his passing struck so hard."

Looking for a new beginning, Jones moved to Texas. He sought to explore possibilities unavailable in both Washington, D.C. and Chicago. Not even a year after moving to Texas, Jones was fatally shot in the head and killed.

Not only was his loss a shock to Cooper, but a shock to the Howard University family as well. Days after Jones' funeral, Howard

University student Melech Thomas held a meeting urging the community to ask themselves whether or not they care that every day someone dies as a result of gun violence. Thomas' passion for justice and liberty led him to starting the "Do You Care Campaign?" on the campus of Howard University. This campaign challenges the moral conscience of a country that has been desensitized to gun violence.

Dominique DaCruz, a junior finance major who attended the meeting shared his thoughts on Jones' death.

"I met Daniel Jones my freshman year, he was a good friend of mine," said DaCruz. "Daniel was a great human being, very charismatic. He encouraged a lot of people to think outside the box. He supported business, African American youth. Learning was a part of the push coalition in Chicago. He was very active as well, but he was in a few words, a very deep thinker."

Dealing with death is never easy, and although Daniel is no longer here physically it is quite evident that his legacy will never be forgotten. A man who made a

difference on the campus of Howard University. A man who made efforts to make each and every day better. A man who will truly be missed.

"I can go on for a long time about Daniel, but like I said at his funeral: I would follow Daniel off a cliff—most of his friends would. And if I felt weird or scared about the situation he'd make you feel like everything would be ok, and guess what? Everything would be ok and everything still is ok. He was my best friend and he changed my life. I will miss him."



Photo Courtesy of Adam Cooper  
Peers describe former student Daniel Jones as a "great human being."

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# Black-owned Businesses Facing Tough Times

BY RILEY WILSON  
Staff Writer

In a report published by the United States Census Bureau in 2008, the population of the U.S. is said to be approximately 304 million, an 8 percent increase from 2000.

The report provides data on the current demographics of the United States by ethnicity. Caucasians make up 79.8 percent of the population, while the Hispanic population increased to approximately 15 percent. The black population has decreased to 12.8 percent, a 2 percentage drop from 2000.

With an unemployment rate of 8 percent, blacks only own 28 percent of minority-owned businesses according to the Small Business Association (SBA). Hispanic and Asian entrepreneurs own 40 percent and 28.1 percent of minority-owned businesses, respectively.

There has been some atten-

tion directed to the incarceration and unemployment rate of black citizens. Yet, there is another rate people should pay attention to: the minority business survival rate.

According to the SBA, in a 2005 report on the Survival Rates of Minority-Owned Businesses, there is a 60 percent chance that a black-owned business will be successful.

This happens to be the lowest survival rate out of all minorities profiled within the report. Many believe the lack of attention to "detail" is the pitfall many black-owned businesses tend to have.

Sonya A. Lowery, president of Solaris-House of Fine Graphics, a marketing firm, offers her opinion of why many minority-owned businesses tend to fall short. In an interview done by BlackNews.com, Lowery said that businesses should start paying more attention to detail.

"Few businesses are as scru-

tinized as those owned by blacks. It's these businesses that need to pay the most attention to how they look, sound and feel." Lowery is a resident of the DMV area, having consulted for companies such as ConAgra Foods and PoerNetworking Allergan (Botox).

Lowery said that the look and feel of the business is just as important as the product and/or service that is offered. She also said that black businesses don't usually put together an effective marketing and graphic design budget.

Eldridge Allen of the ELI Institute, Institute for Entrepreneurship, Leadership and Innovation, says that he believes there are two reasons why this rate has become so low.

"Many of those [black-owned] businesses that are established, lack the initial capital needed for the first two years," says Allen. "Also, business owners tend not to have the skills for basic business de-

velopment, proper marketing, and financial handling."

Allen said he is certain that once business owners utilize Small Business Development Centers like the District of Columbia Small Business Development Center (DC SBDC), their businesses will have a much greater chance of making it through the first two years, which statistically are the most difficult for small businesses.

The Washington, D.C. SBDC is located on the first floor of the Howard University School of Business and is utilized by not only the undergraduate and graduate students, but business owners in the DMV area.

Lowery and Allen both seemed to agree that the success of minority-owned businesses is totally dependent on the amount of investment the business owner is willing to dedicate.

According to statistics, the amount of Hispanic and Asian busi-

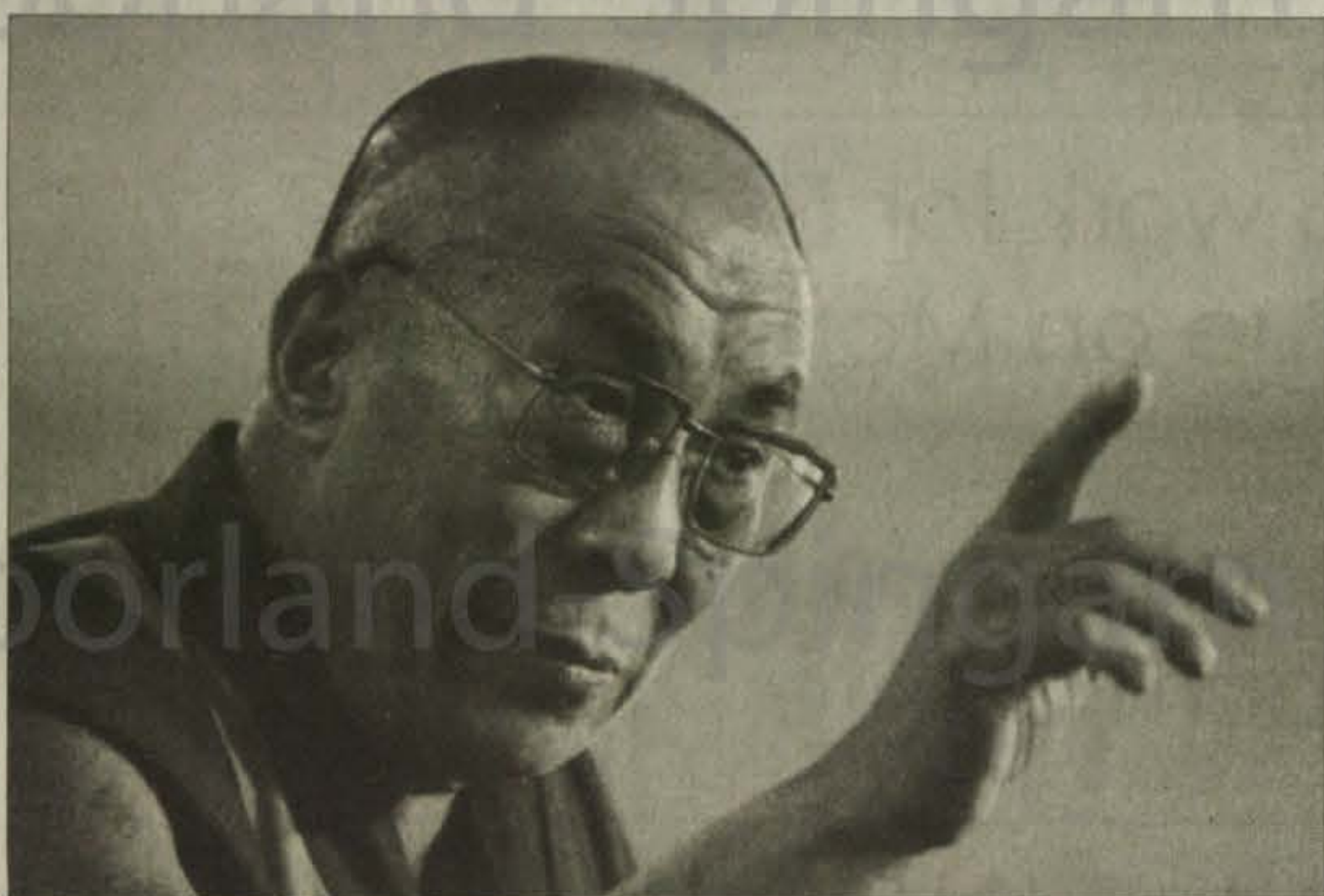
ness owners seems to be increasing, while, for black-owned businesses, the amount of businesses and likelihood of success is diminishing each year.

## Interesting Fact

Thirty-six percent of black-owned businesses founded in 2006 in Washington, D.C. failed before the end of 2008.

- Marquis Barnett, Nation & World Editor

# Chinese Leaders Contest Dalai Lama Visit



Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama, has been Tibet's chief spiritual leader since 1950, seeing 11 United States presidents come into office. He is set to make a visit to Taiwan in the near future.

BY MARQUIS H. BARNETT  
Nation & World Editor

Leaders from across the world make it a point to visit other countries to stress the importance of foreign affairs.

According to official and public records from the White House, in his first six months in office, President Obama has made five foreign trips to 14 different countries for a total of 48,620 miles around the world, the equivalent of traveling twice around the whole globe.

Thursday, officials announced Tibet's Dalai Lama's visit to Taiwan in the near future. According to the announcement released by the Tibetan leader's spokesperson, "[Dalai Lama] was accepted for the sole purpose (of expressing) his condolences and to share his sorrow for Taiwan's people," he said, adding that the religious leader's visit was completely "non-political."

It was said that the Dalai Lama had accepted the Taiwan

government's invitation to the island to pray for the victims of Typhoon Marakot, which left approximately 400 dead.

The announcement of approval for the visit to pray for the victims of the early August typhoon came early Thursday from Taiwan president, Ma Ying-jeou.

Tensions arose when news of the announcement reached China's mainland. Chinese officials in Beijing are still angry with the Dalai Lama for the part he played in Tibet's separation from China.

Taiwan, which has been under the government of the Republic of China since 1945, has had strained tensions with the China's mainland government for many years. Now, however, under the rule of President Ma, relations are becoming increasingly better as they begin to embrace "One China."

It is now unknown if the Dalai Lama will carry through with his planned visit to the small island off the coast of China.

## FRIDAY FOLLIES

Microsoft apologized Tuesday for altering a photo on its Polish marketing Web site to replace a black man's head with that of a Caucasian man.

The photo on the company's U.S. Web site shows two men — one Asian and one black — and a Caucasian woman seated at a conference table. In the same photo on Microsoft's Polish business unit Web site, a Caucasian face had been cropped onto the black man's body, although the hands remained unchanged.

"We are looking into the details of this situation," said Microsoft spokesperson Lou Gellos. "We apologize and are in the process of pulling down the image."

A statement was also made on its corporate Twitter feed which read, "Marketing site photo mistake - sincere apologies - we're in the process of taking down the image."

- Le'Dia J. Smith, Staff Writer



Photo Courtesy of the Microsoft Corporation

# U.N. Requests \$230 Million to Feed Hungry Kenyans

BY AMIRAH BEY  
Contributing Writer

Every year, thousands of commercials run on television for efforts to help feed the children of Africa. The despair on the children's young faces is seared into the viewer's memories while a toll-free number remains at the bottom of the screen. The ads end with the narrator informing people that for just 40 cents a day, a starving child can be fed. However, the United Nations World Food Programme has put a much larger price tag - \$230 million - on the cost of feeding Kenyans affected by the drought.

For many, the hunger and hopelessness depicted in these commercials isn't something they can relate to; however, for 3.8 million Kenyans it is an all too dismal reality.

Drought has plagued the Ke-

nyans resulting in the halted growth of produce. The stymied agricultural growth has led to the death of cattle all over Kenya.

"The smell of rotting carcasses hangs in the air," said Gabrielle Menezes, a public information officer for the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) on their Web site.

The drought has also affected many of the country's hydro-electric plants, putting Kenyans out of work and leaving them with no means to support or feed



The drought has caused famine and starvation in most areas of Kenya.

their families, read a WFP report. These conditions have led the WFP to sound the alarm and embark on their \$230 million fundraising venture. The UN called for similar

donations in 2000 when a drought affected the country then as well. Gatorade pledged \$240 million in Gatorade to drought victims under the campaign of "Gatorade is thirst aid."

Kenya's heavy dependence on agriculture paired with their fickle "short" and "long" rainy seasons, make them extremely susceptible to fam-

ine. "This is normal. Everyday people struggle to eat and find food," said Fantahun T. Shube, an Ethiopian-born, junior, Chemistry major. "I have family in Kenya who can't grow crops because the rain was late. Ethiopia is Kenya's neighbor, and the drought affects us too."

Eighty to 90 percent of Kenya's economy is agricultural, added Shube, to put the magnitude of the drought into perspective. Unfortunately, the condition in Kenya is only expected to worsen.

"People are already going hungry, malnutrition is preying on more and more young children; cattle are dying. We face a huge challenge and are urging the international community to provide us with the resources we need to get the job done," said Burkard Oberle, WFP Kenya Country director in a press release.



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# Athletes Skip College to Head Straight to the Pros

BY TERRICKA JOHNSON  
Staff Writer

At 16 years old, Bryce Harper's decision to speed up his journey to Major League Baseball (MLB) is one that is turning many heads in the sports world.

After appearing on the cover of the June issue of *Sports Illustrated*, Harper quickly elevated from a great, local high school baseball player, to a player who many are predicting to be the newest star of MLB.

With the news of Harper's decision spreading, the age-old topic of whether student-athletes should go professional before or after they graduate arises.

"I feel if they do not go to college, they don't have anything to fall back on. Nothing is guaranteed," said sophomore business management major Sidney Cross. You could get hurt, and then what could you do? You do not have a plan for afterwards."

Famous and heralded athletes such as Jack Nicklaus, LeBron James and Kobe Bryant did not graduate from college before pursuing their career goals. Some think students-athletes

may be thinking of pursuing their professional sports career pre-maturely.

"I think that some athletes do give a false sense of hope. Not everyone can be a Kobe or a LeBron," Cross said.

Charles Bryce, sophomore psychology major also believes that students look to veteran players too much sometimes.

"I would not say that those athletes are setting bad examples or anything like that, but they obviously exceeded the boundaries [of] what most student athletes want to do," Bryce said. "They give everyone a sense of hope for something that may not necessarily happen."

While Bryce believes that most student-athletes want to go pro, he also believes the thought of an impending injury during their college career also pushes some students to strive for the chances to go pro.

"Student-athletes always want to go pro and get their money first," he said. "Everyone's initial fear is that they may get hurt while playing in college and not be able to go pro, but even if that injury does happen, you can always get your degree."

While there are some who be-

lieve waiting until after a college graduation is the best decision for athletes, there are some who oppose.

"The main reason you go to college is to get more of an education so that you could make more money ... than you would in high school," said Carey Bailey, head coach of the Bison football team. "Now if you have the opportunity to make the same, or if not more money than you would be going to college, go ahead and make that choice."

Remembering the history of different professional athletes who have gone professional before graduating, Bailey also noted the different reactions African-American athletes seem to get when they go pro early in comparison to other races.

"When Jack Nicklaus left college to become a PGA pro, it was no biggie. Historically, it seems as if African-Americans get criticized. If a Kobe or Kevin Garnett does it, they question it."

Harper, who bypassed his last years of high school to attend the College of Southern Nevada will receive his GED this fall, making him eligible for the 2010 MLB draft.

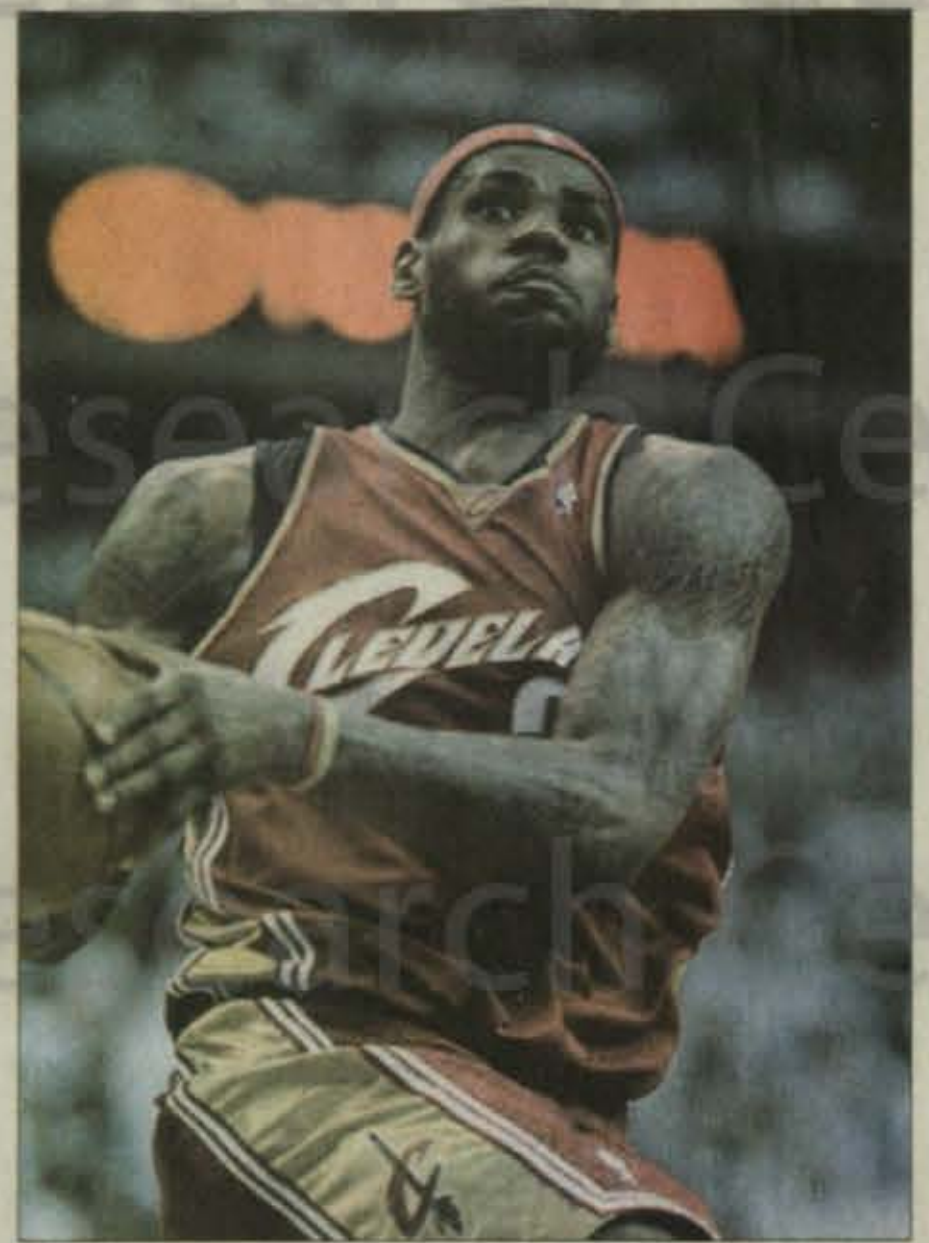


Photo Courtesy of Howard University Sports Information Office  
Cleveland Cavaliers star LeBron James is one of many athletes who made the transition from high-school to the professional stage.

## Information Desk Stays on Task

BY TERRICKA JOHNSON  
Staff Writer

Under the supervision of Ed Hill and with the help of Chevonne Mansfield, the sports information office has come to play a vital role in Howard athletics over the years.

Mansfield is an assistant in the sports information department. "I got started in sports information when I was an undergraduate student, not at Howard, but at St. John's University," Mansfield said. "I was a student worker for two years and that's kind of how I got my feet wet."

After starting her career at the University of Maryland at the Eastern Shore (UMES) upon her entrance into their graduate program, Mansfield has spent the last two years of her career at the Howard athletics' sports information office.

"Our main job is to promote the 19 sports at Howard, but we do a little bit more than that because we are a small school in a small conference," she said.

Serving as the liaison between the athletes and the media, the sports information office helps athletes when it comes to getting exposure and media attention. "If the press wants an interview, they have to come through our office," Mansfield continued.

Though there is not much action happening in the athletic facilities at Howard during the summer, the sports information office keeps itself busy with various tasks.

"During the summer, we prepare for the football season," she said. "We have to get bios from all of the players and coaches for the football media

guide. They have to be ready for the first regular season game."

When it comes to the most popular sport in terms of coverage, Bison football takes the crown for the office.

"Football, regardless of the type of season they have, always receives a lot of coverage," Mansfield said. "I think it's because of our area, [and] also because of the popularity of football."

While there may be one football game in the time period of a week, there can be multiple basketball games abroad and at home for which game notes must be prepared.

"From my personal opinion, basketball is harder to cover because it lasts longer and it overlaps with football," she said. "The season lasts from November to March. You have to travel so much more as well."

The sports information department also allows students to volunteer in the office, whether it's for future career purposes, or just to gain writing experience.

"The easiest thing to do to get involved is to volunteer in the office," Mansfield said. "From there, we'll give you writing assignments to start off. You have to have your writing skills on par."

The office, they also allow student volunteers to maintain the office's site. Mansfield also stated that the office is willing to take students who may need writing credits or stories for classes.

"If anyone is interested, they can just contact us, through our web site, email, or they can just call," she said. "We have some students who work with the Olympic sports too. That would be a wonderful partnership."

## MEAC Briefs

### Bowling

The University of Maryland Eastern Shore's (UMES) Maria Rodriguez and Paula Vilas recently bowled in the 2009 WTBA World Women's Championships held in Las Vegas, Nevada.

### Track & Field

North Carolina A&T State University's Loreal Smith was named the 2009 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) Woman of the Year.

### Football

FAMU sports great Robert "Bullet Bob" Hayes was inducted into the NFL Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio.

### Softball

Coppin State University announced the hiring of Bob Ullman as the school's head softball coach.

- Information courtesy of meacsports.com

**Sports Trivia!**  
What year did James Naismith create the game of basketball?  
**Answer:**  
1891

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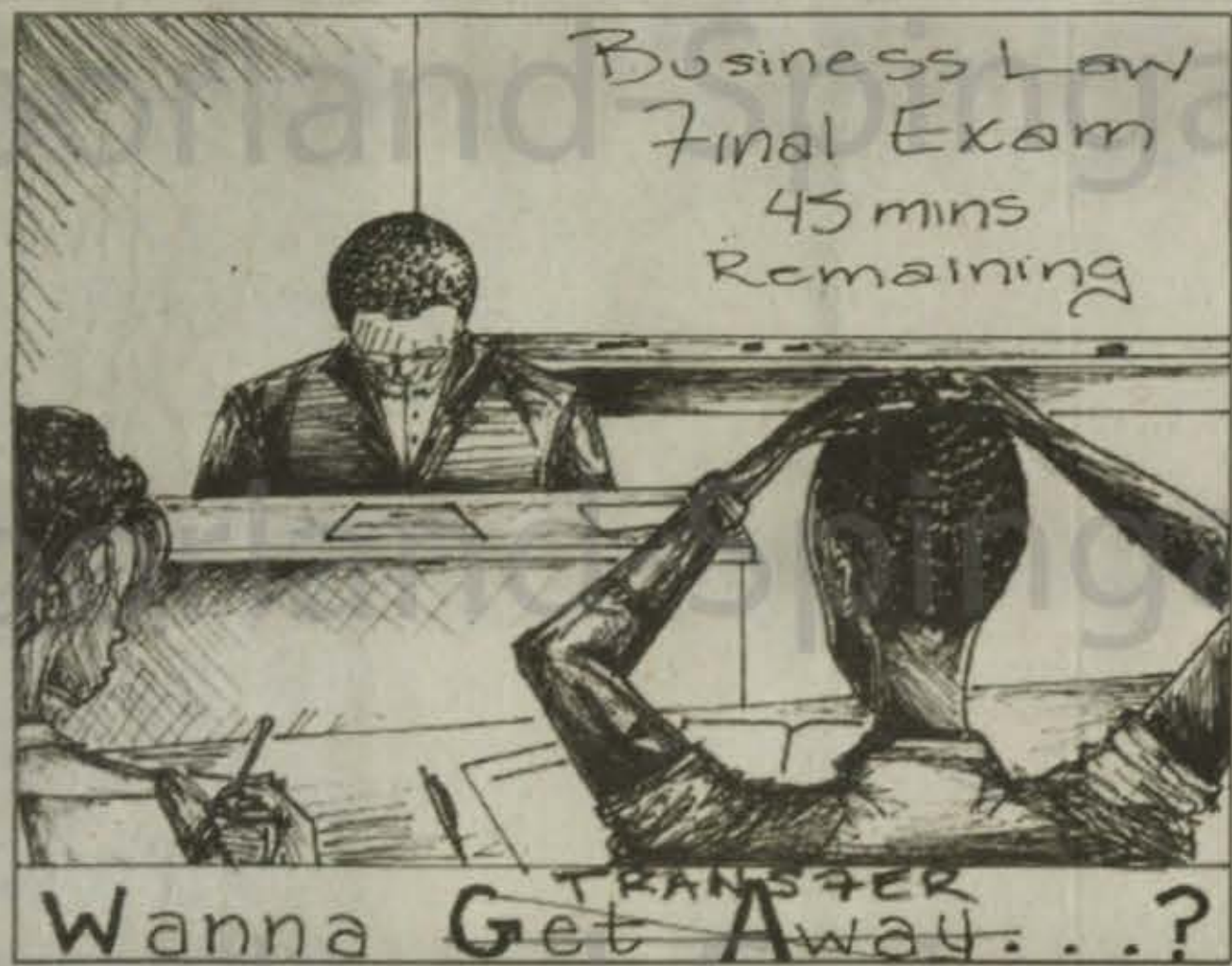
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## Choose a Major That Reflects Your Dreams

Everyone at Howard has something to represent. First it's a hometown, then a dorm, then a school or college, then a major. Because of this, many people feel pressured to pick a major. Let's face it. If you don't have a major, you don't belong.

The problem is too often students pick majors they don't really want to major in, later causing them to switch.

Often, we know or have an idea of what we want to do with our lives before we even get to college. As we grow older, we get discouraged, and come to college with a major we don't truly care about.

Now there are also many students who know what they want to do. They come to college and hit the ground running, following the goal they have had since early childhood.

But for those of us that didn't, it can take a while until we find a major that we love.

Problems arise when

we start to pick majors based on our current hobbies. Sure, you may really enjoy dancing, but are you interested in all forms of dance? Or, maybe you decide that you kind of like to draw; that doesn't necessarily mean that you should major in art.

There are other ways to explore your hobbies and

**Our View:**  
*Don't let your hobbies determine your major; that's what electives and minors are for.*

interests that don't include you changing your major every week. There are clubs you can join that allow you to express yourself and even display your talents; you can take a class in an area of interest as an elective, or if you're even more serious than that, you can make your hobby your minor.

When it comes to choosing your major, you should really choose something you truly love. It's something that you'll have to study for at least four years, and possibly, do for a living for the rest of your life.

Like a career, you should choose a major that you would get out of bed and study for free. Yes, you should love it that much. You should go to class and be enthralled in the knowledge that your professors are feeding you.

Changing a major can prevent people from graduating on time, which can add to college costs, so it's better to change early in a college career rather than late. What's most important though, is studying something you love and graduating with the skills you need to be successful in your chosen career path. If you find that you are unhappy with your major, then changing it may be the best option, but do it early and try to keep the changes to a minimum.

### Perspective

#### Response to 'Distraught Student'

Reading *The Hilltop* the other morning, I noticed a Special Edition Column written by a "former hilltopper" described as a past, distraught student of HU. Problems with the way administration was, and still is structured, led her to transfer to another school.

First and foremost, this is nothing disrespectful to the sister who constructed that piece; it is simply my opinion. After all, that is what perspective pieces are for.

Comparable to that sister and many of my fellow Bison, I put great effort into maintaining my position at HU. I did not know exactly what I was getting into when I enrolled, but I had some indication. Indeed, it requires great perseverance and patience to continue the daily trials and tribulations of college life.

The experience is definitely one of those things you do not truly understand until you experience it firsthand. Overall, what you endure will no doubt prepare you for life beyond The Yard. Similar to all

that occurred as a child and adolescent, our time at the Mecca holds its intended purpose and unfolds before us in spite of even our own disagreement.

I cannot help but think back just a year ago when I was welcomed into what I like to call this family. Since then, we have most definitely experienced both good and bad times. I recall going through similar situations with my family back home. However, I could never imagine abandoning them during even the worst times. How do you go about doing that? Is it a gradual process or might it be simpler to abruptly desert them? The point that I am dancing so gracefully around is that the quality of loyalty being displayed is not the answer to our problems, not during college or any other time. So far, I have never been able to run away from obstacles presented and do not intend to start now.

One may feel they have gotten all they believe they need from this institution. What then if the place you first called home

has not gotten all it deserves from you? Has it ever been acceptable to not try your best in all that you do?

Stumble, that we are sure to do, but to give up or accept failure is a concept we cannot allow our minds to fathom. If we give up on ourselves and the institutions created with our best intentions at heart, disregarding those that strove before us to create these moments, do we deserve them to begin with?

Life is teaching me to be humble, and I am doing my best to spread the message. I plan to stick around and play a major part in the reconstruction of an apparently unsystematic administration setup. Indeed, that may not be the path laid for all those around me, and every extended hand is not an ally. However, I cannot help but wonder if we abandon our own, who will replace us?

-Jalisa R. Goodwin, sophomore English major

## Daily Sudoku

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

Medium

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

Want to be a part of *The Hilltop*?

The Hilltop is now accepting applications for the following positions:

- Staff Writers
- Staff Photographers
- 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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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.

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

The opinions expressed on the Editorial & Perspectives page are the views of the Hilltop Editorial Board and those of the authors and do not necessarily represent Howard University or its administration.

The Hilltop reserves the right to edit letters for space and grammatical errors and any inappropriate, libelous or defamatory content. All letters must be submitted a week prior to publication.

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**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 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 Today!

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

Ladies of The Quad Social Club Presents: "I Have a Crush On You" Cupcake This Sunday Social 3:00 P.M. at the top of UGL.

**The Hilltop Editorial Office is accepting applications for the following positions:**

- Copy Editor**
- Staff Writer**
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- Graphic Editor**
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Applications are available in **Blackburn Suite 117**



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