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WEATHER

85
61
Tomorrow:
74
54

Established
1924

THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 93, NO.23

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

Thursday, September 24, 2009

CAREER FAIR EDITION

Committee Examines Economics of Minorities

BY ALEXIS K. BARNES
Business & Technology

The economic fate of minorities and the disparities in unemployment and education became the passionate topics of discussion at a congressional hearing held by the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee yesterday.

The heads of several leading minority organizations met at Rayburn House Office Building under the mediation of representative Edolphus Towns (D-NY), chairman of the committee.

"The current economic downturn has amplified an already burgeoning economic gap for minorities," said Towns. "The role of race in unemployment and other economic trends is something we must analyze because for minorities this is not a recession, but in fact, a depression that could potentially alter decades of economic progress."

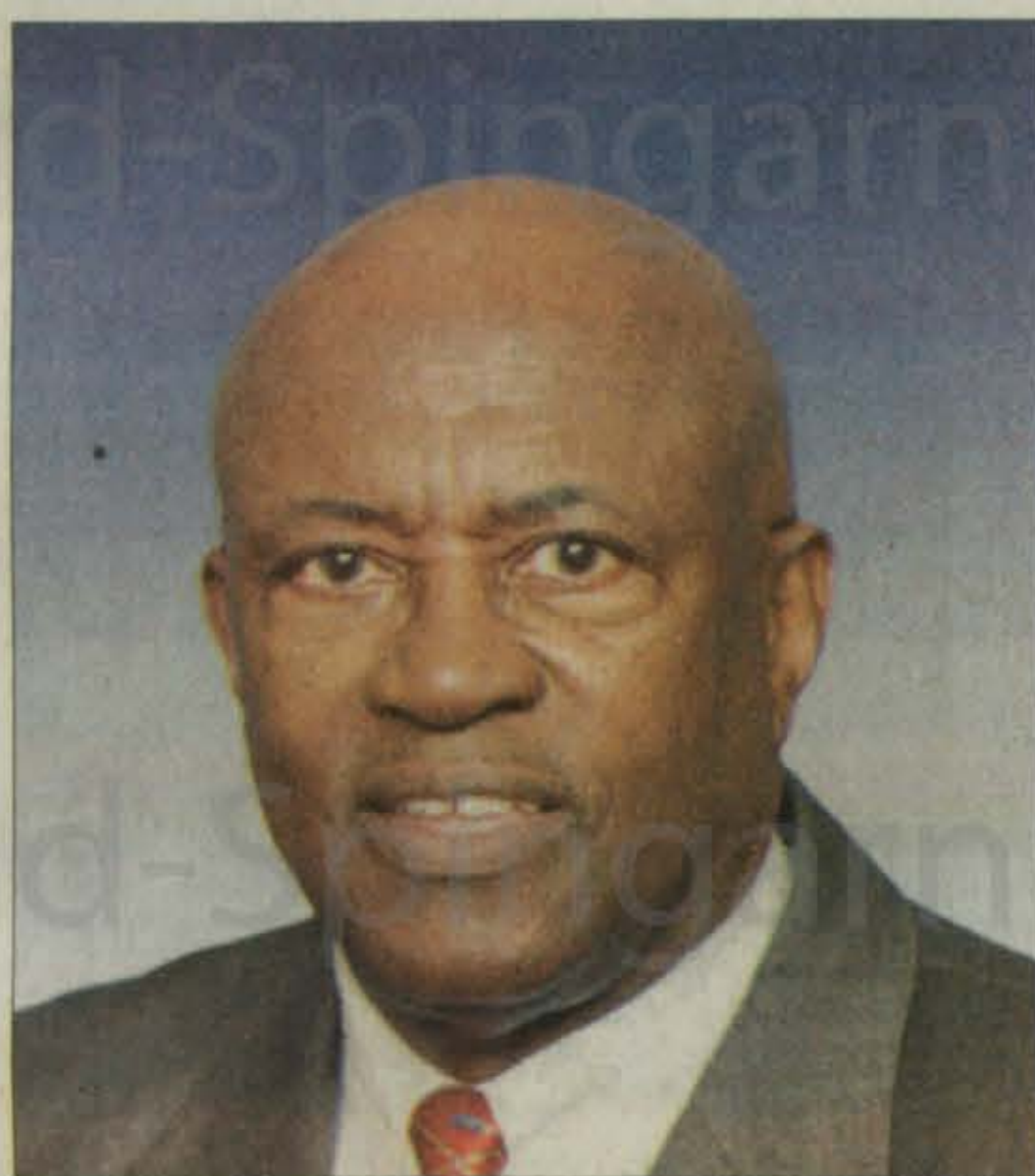
Entitled "The Silent Depression: How are Minorities Faring in the Economic Downturn?", the hearing featured two separate panels of community leaders who delivered testimonies and addressed questions from congressional representatives.

Panel members included leadership from African-American, Asian Pacific American, Latin-American and Native American groups and their recommendation on how to address the issue.

National Urban League President and Chief Executive Officer, Marc Morial said the impact of the economic downturn hits harder within the minority community.

"Our economy has a certain elasticity built into it that gives many people the room they need to survive tough times," he said.

"Unfortunately, because



Edolphus Towns, a Representative from New York was responsible for putting together a hearing for the Oversight and Government Reform Committee.

of decades of well-documented economic, educational and social disparities, many African Americans do not have the benefit of that elasticity."

Educational disparities that representative Henry Cuellar of Texas said are evident in his state and need both short and long term changes to resolve.

"State high school drop-out rates between 9th and 12th grade are at 27 percent, while African Americans are at 34 percent," said Cuellar.

"Staggeringly, Hispanics are at 49 percent- almost half of all students."

Chairman Towns said more time could be spent focusing on wealth creation and job opportunities if the economic security of minorities were improved.

"Disparities in unemployment cut across age and gender lines, particularly among African-Americans and Hispanics," said Towns.

"While the national unemployment rate is 9.7 percent, African-American unemployment is 15 percent and Hispanic unemployment is at 13 percent.

Towns' home state of New York exemplified the magnitude of the issue with the unemployment rate of African-Americans rising four times faster than the jobless Caucasian rate between the first quarter of 2008 and the first quarter of 2009.

Panelist, Honorable Raymond Skinner, secretary of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development,

> See **ECONOMICS**, page 3.

International Activist Fights to Get Death Penalty Abolished

BY JESSICA LEWIS
Co-Campus Editor

British international activist Kim Manning-Cooper calls herself an abolitionist, and she has come to the United States for eight days to fight for the end of the death penalty.

In the American historical context, the term abolitionist has been used to describe antebellum citizens fighting to end slavery. The Merriam-Webster dictionary also defines the word to mean the abolishing of slavery. However, Cooper firmly calls herself an abolitionist and stands by her journey. She is not alone.

Howard University alumna Nashay Taylor-Jones joins Cooper on her journey to push the United States to join the approximate 139 countries that have abolished the death penalty by law or practice.

Jones cited sources that indicate that the most important factor in determining whether or not a person will receive the death penalty is race.

"If you're in danger of being racially profiled, you're in danger of getting the death penalty," Jones said.

An American Bar Association study in 2007 concluded that one-third of African-American death row inmates in Philadelphia would have received sentences of life imprisonment if they had not been African-American.

Jones said that she relates the death penalty to lynching. "I would say we're having state-sanctioned lynching... We can't allow the state to commit premeditated murder."

In January 2003, a University of Maryland study concluded that race and geography are major factors in death penalty decisions. Specifically, prosecutors are more likely to seek a death sentence when the race of the victim is white and are less likely to seek a death sentence when the victim is African-American.

A statistic listed on the Amnesty International website shows that 79 percent of homicides with white victims result in the death penalty for the accused murderer. It also shows that 14 percent of homicides with African-American victims and five percent of homicides with Hispanic victims result in the death penalty for the accused.

A 2007 study of death sentences in Conn., conducted by Yale University School of Law revealed that African-American defendants receive the death penalty at three times the rate of white defendants in cases where the victims are white. In addition, killers of white victims are treated more severely than people who kill minorities, when it comes to deciding what charges to bring.

The Amnesty International USA website listed these statistics and Amnesty International representatives brought them to Howard University Wednesday evening in an event hosted by P.E.A.C. (Political Education Action Committee).

Amidst all the statistics, Jones said, "The silver lining is you all... You have the power to

> See **ACTIVISTS**, page 3.

NOISA and Kwame Toure Society Hosts 'First Comes Love'

BY CAMILLE AUGSTIN
Staff Writer

"First Comes Love" was the title of a program on relationships conducted by the Nation of Islam Student Association (NOISA) and the Kwame Toure Society at 7 p.m. in Cook Hall lounge.

"Marriage these days are beginning to whither and people look at marriage as something on a piece of paper," said Sister Nisa Muhammad, senior staff writer for the "Final Call" newspaper. "Marriage has become something that only the rich and educated can experience."

Sister Muhammad, the speaker of the event, said young people who participated in the protests of the '60s and the Civil Rights Movement forgot about what was important when colleges introduced co-ed dormitories.

"Young people like yourselves started to engage in sex without responsibility, without

consequence,"

Sister Muhammad said to a room of students.

"The Black community has the lowest rate of marriage, the highest rate of divorce and children being born out of wedlock."

Sister Muhammad discussed the importance of marriage in the black community and how it effects generations upon generations.

She said models need to be created to show young people the definition of marriage because shows like "Flavor of Love" and "Hell Date" doesn't perpetuate the "model family."

Former 1982 HUSA Executive President Brother Jamil Muhammad gave advice to students also.

He said African-American communities need to change the way we allow others to depict the "black family."

Brother Muhammad said we are a laughing stock in the media

due to the many broken families in our communities.

Sister Muhammad said to actually see a change, colleges should implement courses on how to prepare for marriage.

According to Brother Muhammad, music plays a role in the marriage discussion. Muhammad said old school music depicted love and what it means to be faithful to your spouse or companion.

"Marriage makes a difference, it matters and has its benefits that can not be met in any other relationship," said Brother Muhammad.

Students were in agreement with their assessment.

"I think it was a useful event, it was a start," said Olympia Ekine, sophomore public relations major. "I believe the black community needs stronger and more substantial relationships."

Obama Aims to Improve America's Global Relations



Chuck Kennedy - (MCT)

World relations is an issue that President Barack Obama vowed to revamp during his campaign, and he is attempting to follow through with that in the eight months of his presidency.

On Wednesday Sept. 23, the president released a statement in his first address to the United Nations as President of the United States. In the speech, he called for the all nations to stand up and unite to fight global terrorism.

Junior political science major Vincent Kelley, Jr. has been following President Obama since before his presidential campaign and supports the president's mission to reach out to world leaders.

"It's a great thing; mostly because of the task before him. America has been put in such a negative light with the rest of the world," Kelley said.

- Marquis Barnett,
Nation & World
Editor

Life Lessons from Dr. P...

BY PAULA WHETSEL-RIBEAU
Contributing Columnist

Greetings Students of Howard University.

As the First Lady of Howard University (FLOHU), I take very seriously my role and relationship with you. I am proud to be a member of the HU family and hope we can have mutual respect and appreciation for our experiential differences as we get to know each other better.

One thing that I learned this past year and truly believe is that Howard is a special place where we talk passionately about "ideas and beliefs" and explore the possibilities of what can be. We accomplish this through the unspoken understanding that ideas are deliberated and dialogue is required.

More importantly, I have learned that Howard has been a place where thoughtful students, faculty, and staff have worked to transform our society into a more just and humane place for all. As such, I am reaching out to you, not as a parent or guardian telling you right from wrong or what to do as you navigate your higher education experience, but rather as one who shares the values embedded in this Howard legacy. I am committed to working with you to realize what this could mean in your lives today as you make decisions.

My intention, as I dialogue with you via this column, is to address some of the factors that influence college students' learning and personal development by posing questions that will challenge you to think beyond the obvious or the easy, to something that will actually make a positive difference in your lives.

Some of the topics will speak to my passions,

while others will be areas I wish I knew more about when I was in college. For instance, when I look back at my college life, I remember, distinctly, being thrust into making countless decisions on a daily basis about male/female relationships, gender issues, roommate concerns, racism, partying, sex, managing the very little money that I had and the list goes on and on. These decisions were overwhelming considering that they occurred in the midst of social pressures and academic stresses that surrounded me. I found myself making decisions mindlessly, at times with little prior experience and almost no direction from others.

From this, I learned that there are short- and long-term consequences for the decisions we make as well as positive and negative implications. Our thoughtfulness in our decision-making and the responsibility for the choices we make matters. I trust that Howard provides an accommodating arena for learning to make good decisions as well as buffering against the consequences of bad choices.

As you reflect upon your decision-making processes, I challenge you with the following questions:

Who most influences your decision-making? (e.g., individual conviction, family influence, peer pressure, mentor, etc.) Who should?

Do the choices/decisions you make reflect who you really are?

If a potential employer had access to one of the social networks in which you might appear, would they hire you?

Until next time...

Dr. P

Students Choose to Push Public Option



In what is to become a weekly excursion, Students for Health Care traveled to Capitol Hill today to lobby their representatives in favor of the health care reform and the public option. A NAACP representative was present to help the students.

This Week on Campus

Congressional Black Caucus Author's Pavilion:

Thursday & Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Howard University Bookstore, "The HUB of the African American Cultural Experience", has been selected as the exclusive bookseller for the 2009 Congressional Black Caucus Author's Pavilion.

History of Activism: Thurs 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Historical Perspectives on HU Student Activism

Congressional Black Caucus HU Alumni Reception: Thursday 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

The Howard University Alumni Club of Greater Washington hosts its Annual Alumni Reception to raise scholarship funds for deserving Howard University students.

142nd Convocation: Friday 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Bermuda Prime Minister and Alumni to Deliver Convocation Address, The Honorable Ewart Frederick Brown, M.D., Receives Honorary Doctor of Laws

HUSA Colors US Black

BY JESSICA LEWIS
Campus Editor

Since its founding, Howard University has been the scene of many progressive movements aimed at increasing the awareness of the Black Diaspora and eliminating conditions of oppression ever-present on and off campus.

This semester, the return to the spirit of progression and reform has possessed the souls of Howard students sparking protests, rallies, lobby and letter writing campaigns and marches. Students have asked "Do You Care?" and there will be "Any Other Options?" and will you "Take a Stand" in a matter of five weeks.

These weeks, combined with the fervor of our past, have defined the essence of Howard University, according to HUSA President, Bryan Smart. Smart has taken this definition and decided it is time to "Color US Black".

According to an e-mail disseminated by HUSA, throughout this academic year, HUSA will celebrate student activism

through a series of events. The series will be entitled "Color US Black" to reiterate the importance of activism and the uniqueness of the African Diaspora.

Smart said the event is a commemoration of the 1969 protest, which brought the Afro-American Studies Department to Howard; and coincidentally, this is the 40th year anniversary of the department. It will also commemorate the Students Against Apartheid movement in the 80s and other reform movements.

To preserve the legacy, HUSA plans to do a series of interviews with the people that have contributed over the years and create an anthology and documentary.

"We're honoring the spirit of Howard University students by telling their stories," Smart said.



Zelena Williams - Photo Editor

Following in the footsteps of the leaders that preceded them, HUSA will honor activism.

On Thursday, Sept. 24, HUSA will be unveiling the eras of student activism in the Howard University Museum located in Founders Library. The display in the museum will consist of yearbooks, manuscripts and other mementos of the past. The event will begin at 5 p.m.

Friday after Convocation, there will be a march to the "historic" flagpole, according to Smart.

Students Push Healthcare Reform



Bree Gant - Staff Photographer

For the second Wednesday, students met to go lobby their representatives to endorse the public option.

Alumni Look for Ways to Connect After Graduation

BY LAUREN GASPARD
Staff Writer

Entering Howard University as a freshmen, each student embarks on a journey of four years of studying, stress, fun, and an outlook of optimism that ends with a certificate that declares your commencement into the world.

Life after Howard University continues on, but recent graduates still want to keep a connection to the place that they once called home.

The Department of Alumni Affairs and the Howard University Alumni Association was founded in 1964 in order to maintain a closer and more beneficial relationship with graduates of Howard University, and University Relations.

Any recent graduate, or individual that withdrew after one full year of attendance at the University, is eligible to enroll in the Howard University Alumni Association.

El Hadji Diagne, alumni associate in the Department of Alumni Affairs, explained that the process starts once cap and gown distribution begins. From this point, students are eligible to sign up for free membership for an extended period of time, before they will eventually owe monthly dues.

"We are continuously working toward making alumni relations better," Diagne said. "Some may have their own views on our progress, but we encourage everyone to get involved in their state alumni chapters, and visit the alumni relations web site for more information."

There are separate networks set up all across the country in each city and state, to cater to the various Howard alumni in each respected area. From Connecticut to California, alumni all across the country and abroad can stay connected to the Mecca.

School of Business Class of 2009 Graduate Baker Blanding says that the Alumni Association reached out immediately preceding graduation. Blanding is currently in Atlanta, Ga., but will soon be moving to Miami, Fl. to take a new position in his field of International Business.

"We can't stay in contact with one another in between classes, or catch each other on The Yard anymore," Blanding said. "Seeing that everyone has a job or should have a job soon, alumni have helped out a great deal."

Once Blanding relocates to Florida, he plans to stay connected through the greater Florida chapter.

Alumni are also eligible for hosts of discounts such as 10 percent off from purchases at the bookstore, hotel and rental car discounts, as well as voting privileges for Howard University Student Association elections.

There is also an annual newsletter that is released with various advertising opportunities for alumni who choose to post jobs, and opportunities for alumni that are seeking jobs.

Abimbola Fawehinmi, a graduate of the class of 1978, said that she is proud of the progress that the Alumni Association has made within the last 15 years.

"I think that whatever any Howardite can offer to one another is beneficial," Fawehinmi said. "We should always use one another to build each other up, especially as Howard University Alumni."

The Department of Alumni Relations also sponsors a project called CONNEX. The program searches for successful Howard University alumni in professional fields that are willing to come and conduct networking sessions for current Howard students.

Diagne said, this creates opportunities for current students to network and connect with fellow Howardites, which is the overall goal.



Government Investigates Minority Plight

continued from FRONT, ECONOMICS

deemed transportation an important factor in increasing employment; current access to suitable employment and opportunities is limited, he said.

Dr. Christian Weller, senior fellow at the Center for American Progress Action Fund, believed stable housing with lower costs and sustainable mortgage improves the outlook for minorities.

In agreement, Ohio Representative and former Mayor of Cleveland, Dennis Kucinich, experienced the lending discrimination firsthand when his large family of seven could not receive loans due to their size.

"I understand what the dream of home ownership is about," he said. "I didn't live in an owned home until I bought my own; we lived in 21 different rental

properties and even a car by the time I was 17."

Kucinich stated that too many minority families and businesses had this dream pulled out from under them and were thrown back into the rental market where they ended up paying more for substandard living.

By the time the foreclosure crisis hit national media, said Morial, the sub prime housing crisis had long been front page news in the black community.

"We saw it coming and warned about it well before the issue started to trigger shockwaves in international credit markets and sending hedge fund analysts to the unemployment line," said Morial.

Morial called for the government to create clear rules in order to help manage both public and private risk.

Morial suggested the

enactment of the "Community Reinvestment Modernization Act of 2009" which, with financial regulatory reform, aims at strengthening black economy and local urban communities.

Other recommendations included increasing funding for proven and successful models of workforce training and job placement for under-skilled workers between the ages of 16 and 30 and strengthening federal minority business opportunities in government contracting.

Harry C. Alford, president and CEO of the National Black Chamber of Commerce said increased employment would increase the minority community's ability to pay their mortgages assuming an absence of "renegade investors and sub-prime mortgages".

"We should manage the

Community Reinvestment Act a lot better," said Alford. "We shouldn't let it be used to gentrify Black communities; greed investors and institutions use the CRA credit process to quickly move and renovate a stable community."

Chairman Towns was appalled after learning of affidavits filed by former Wells Fargo employees whom called high-priced mortgages loans for "mud people" or "ghetto loans." Chief operating officer of the National Community Reinvestment Coalition, James Carr, said laws allow financial institutions to legally exploit the public.

"This is bad behavior of the companies," Carr said. "It is not, at all times, illegal; the regulatory system is allowing them to do it."

Between the National Council of La Raza, the largest national Hispanic civil rights and

advocacy organization in the U.S., the National Urban League, and the National Congress of American Indians, federal programs, accountability and job training are recommended for the betterment of the minority community in the economic recovery. Janet Murguia, president and CEO of the National Council of La Raza, said each minority group needs equal attention.

"Together, Latino, Black, Asian, and Native communities make up a significant portion of the economy and are among the hardest-hit," she said. "Congress and the administration must work together to establish tailored strategies that will help communities of color realize financial security and long-term sustainability."

Activist Seeks to Eliminate the Death Penalty in America

continued from FRONT, ACTIVISTS

abolish the death sentence... and it's through activism."

Jones said that Howard carries the torch in terms of producing activists that have had the power to affect change across the world. She said, "Now it's the time for you."

She pointed to the Sept. 4

protest as an indication of the power that Howard University students possess. "It's the time to organize and protest the broken system of the United States."

Amnesty International representative Laura Moya quoted someone else and said, "Those without the capital get the punishment."

The conversation about the

death penalty centered on the Troy Davis case to which Moya asked should a worldwide campaign be needed for an individual to receive justice?

Cooper brandished a shirt to the meeting that read, "I am Troy Davis."

On JanTroy.com, the NAACP has listed that "Troy Anthony Davis is an African

American man who has been on death row for the past 18 years for a murder that the evidence indicates he did not commit. There is no physical evidence that ties him to the crime and seven out of nine witnesses recanted."

On August 17, 2009, the U.S. Supreme Court ordered a federal judge to review the evidence in the case.

Moya said, "This is the moment we need the public to express outrage and say how many people do you wrongfully have to kill... There is no guarantee that he will not be executed."

She said that the U.S. is usually presented as a "do-gooder" country, but in this case, there are people overseas mobilizing to help our human rights policies.

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A Moment in Black Business & Technology

BY ALEXIS K. BARNES
Business & Technology Editor

Imagine traveling down Georgia Ave., without having to stop at a light on every block.

Although off-campus students rushing to their 9:40 a.m. class dream of such a scenario, traffic lights protect drivers and pedestrians alike. Safe, but late, Howard students can thank an innovative African-American for the safety technology.

Garrett Augustus Morgan Sr. was born in Paris, Kentucky on March 4, 1877 to former slaves and spent most of his childhood as a handyman for a wealthy Cincinnati land-owner.

Morgan moved to Cleveland in 1895, and it soon became common knowledge in the area that the man was skilled in fixing things.

The entrepreneur opened several businesses beginning with his sewing machine repair shop in 1907.

When Morgan expanded the company to a tailoring shop, the company's 32 employees sewed on several machines that Morgan invented himself.

Ford Motor Company was



Photo Courtesy of www.wikipedia.org

founded in 1903, and by the mid-20th century, automobiles were prevalent on American roads.

In the nation's early history of transportation, bicycles, cars and animal-powered carts shared the same road, and safety quickly became an issue.

After witnessing a collision between a car and a horse-drawn

carriage, Morgan invented the three-position stoplight, which allowed motorists resting time between stopping and going. Previous stoplights did not offer this function.

Morgan was the first man to apply and receive a patent for the invention in 1923.

Milk Strike in Europe

BY ALEXIS K. BARNES
Business & Technology Editor

With the economic downturn affecting every aspect of global businesses, many corporations from the auto industry to banking institutes have suffered.

Europeans are crying over spilled milk, literally, after more than 90,000 dairy farmers collectively dumped millions of liters of milk and refused to deliver products to conglomerates in protest of plunging milk prices, according to "Time" magazine.

Fields in Germany, Belgium, France and other European countries were soaked with the commodity on Monday in the hopes of raising awareness.

The revolt caused by catastrophic milk prices is growing day by day throughout Europe," said the Hamm, Germany-based European Milk Board in a statement.

The European Union (EU), the largest milk producer, have dropped the price of milk by 40 percent in the last six months.

At 36 cents per liter, the cost of production exceeds the value of the liquid.

"We're desperate," Erwin Schöpges, president of the Belgium Milk Producer Lobby told CNN. "We can't make a living. If politicians don't help us, we won't have a European dairy sector anymore."

The European Union will produce 134.3 million tons of cows' milk this year, which translates into 30 percent of world output, with Germany at the helm of the largest producer. France and the U.K. are following respectively.

Dairy farmers want the EU to implement new, more stringent production methods in order to reduce the supply of milk in order for the price to increase.

To assist farmers, Mariann Fisher Boel, EU Agriculture Commissioner, proposed to enact some special one-time payment subsidies of up to \$22,000.

Although Fisher Boel claims the situations are improving and prices are increasing, farmers promise to continue striking until they see their demands met.

Celebrate your heritage.

Submit a 'Moment in Black Biz & Tech' subject to Biz & Tech!
Email: hilttopbt@gmail.com



Get Skype!
Skype-to-Skype is free!
It can cut back on cell phone bills.

Make a list before going shopping.
It will help cut down on unnecessary spending.

Instead of buying books, borrow them or similar one's from the library or eCampus.com

Use Coupons!
On the back of every Giant receipt are tons of them.

THE NATIONAL PAN-ETHNIC COUNCIL AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

GREEKS IN THE DARK

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2009

9PM TO 12:30 A.M.

BLACKBURN CENTER BALLROOM

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT
THE CRAMTON AUDITORIUM BOX OFFICE

\$10.00

HOWARDS FIRST "GLOW IN THE DARK" PARTY

THE HILLTOP

WEEKEND GUIDE

National Book Festival

Saturday
10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

National Mall -
between 7th and
14th Streets

Celebration of
books and reading,
book discussions,
more than 70 dis-
tinguished author
appearances, auto-
graph sessions

Live! On Woodrow Wilson Plaza

Saturday
5 - 7 p.m.

Ronald Reagan
Building and In-
ternational Trade
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1300 Pennsylvania
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Chuck Brown per-
formance, poets,
dancers, acrobats,

Free

Congressional Black Caucus- 39th Annual Legislative Conference

Thursday through
Saturday

Walter E. Wash-
ington Convention
Center

African American
individuals and or-
ganizations gather
for job fair, book
signing, exhibit
showcase, work-
shops, policy fo-
rums, seminars

Prices vary; some
events free

The Cornel West Theory

Friday - 7 p.m.

Bohemian Caverns
2003 11th St. NW

A hip-hop band
that's releasing a
new album, with as-
sistance from pro-
fessor and author
Cornel West

\$10

Compiled by
Genet Lake, Metro
Editor



Joseph Blackmon - Contributing Photographer

A Hip Hop Story: Celebrating the Art

BY AISHA JOHNSON
Contributing Writer

The sound of the base pul-
sated throughout the stadium as
thousands of hands bopped in the
air to the beat of the music and the
smooth flow of the emcee. His
words traveled through the crowd
engulfing their minds and spirits
with a feeling only real Hip-Hop
music could compose. Flash! The
camera saves this moment forever.

Along a dimly lit red brick
wall in a tiny Ethiopian eatery on
D.C.'s colorful U Street hangs this
image. It is rested beside other
snapshots featuring Hip-Hop and
street culture in a more artistic
light. "Can't Stop Won't F-Stop" is
the first of its kind—bringing this
culture to the people in the form of
photography. For an entire month,
Dahlak Restaurant will host images
of D.C. hip-hop artists, DJs, pro-
ducers and more.

"Can't Stop, Won't F-Stop"
showcases the raw and real side of
the hip-hop game, through the eyes
of, who Inner Loop refers to as,
Lens Warriors.

This month marks the 2nd
year anniversary of Inner Loop Re-
cords, the company that put on the
exhibition. According to Chapi D,
one of the coordinators and a mem-
ber of Inner Loop Records, hip-hop
is their passion.

"Hip-hop is all about the cul-
ture, the clothing, the emcees and
the DJ, which Inner Loop Records
has been good about capturing,"
Chapi D said. "But there is another
side of it—the art and the photogra-
phers who don't get the exposure."

Chapi D found inspiration in
the restaurant when he came there
four months ago and it was filled
with photos of Rock and Roll art-

ists. In his eyes, he could put up four
times as many images featuring a
scene that had yet to be explored
through the lens of many photog-
raphers.

"D.C., as far as the emcees
and the artists—we're on that plat-
eau of breaking through," Chapi
said. "And this is my way of cap-
turing this really strong moment in
time for our city."

"The emcees that are part
of this label are the purest emcees,
they're real lyricists" Chapi said.
"They have DJs, they use the real
beats."

Equipped with his Nikon
D200 camera, Q Ledbetter, a fea-
tured photographer in the event,
found himself shooting for hip-hop
artists when he, as a musician, re-
alized it wasn't easy to get a photog-
rapher. Since then, he has developed
his craft and was invited to have his
work displayed in the exhibit.

"I don't hear too much of
photographers coming together,
especially hip-hop [photogra-
phers]" Ledbetter said.

Overrock, another member
of the Inner Loop team, and host
of the event, described Inner Loop
Records as promotion and record
label, which will likely end up go-
ing in the direction of an urban
marketing firm. Their goal for the
event was to be a networking tool
for the company, to connect the
people and the artists in the Hip-
Hop community.

The event was a way to build
on a brand that promotes quality
Hip-Hop music and other people's
love for it.

"There are not too many
people doing Hip-Hop based
events in this area where artists
[and] DJs, can come speak to each
other," Overrock said. "It's a way
to build."



BY TRACY KING
Contributing Writer

When exiting the Judiciary
Square metro stop on F Street
N.W., you are greeted by the Na-
tional Building Museum. When
you turn around, the beauty of the
white arcs that stand in the center
with a waiting pool behind them,
and the tree lined walkway greet
you. At each entrance of the walk-
way are statues of lions protecting
their cubs. In between the several
court buildings lay the National
Law Enforcement Officers Memo-
rial. The outside memorial, located
between the F and 4th Street and E
and 5th street N.W. exits hold the
names of 18,661 names of police
officers that were killed on duty
throughout the country.

Any day of the week, it's
likely to find friends and family, as
well as fellow officers visiting the
memorial. One man that visits the
memorial often is David Mathew,
an honorary Chaplin for the po-

lice and fire departments in Prince
George's County. Mathew has
been coming to the memorial ev-
ery year for five years. "I think that
anyone that comes to D.C. should
come and visit the memorial to pay
respect. They [people] don't know
what police officers go through to
protect our lives."

Mathew, who has worked
many years with police officers,
has even made a banner with 102
patches on it, representing fall-
en police officers. "It took three
months to complete, but it's about
leaving there legacy behind, not my
own," he said.

Another person familiar to
the memorial is Mike Geldreich,
a police officer from Washing-
ton County in Wisconsin. It was
Geldreich's first time in ten years
coming back to the memorial. This
time he brought his father, brother,
and a family friend with him to see
the name of a close colleague and
friend. Geldreich said, "While on a
motorcycle trip and so close to DC,
my father wanted to go see the me-
morial, and John's name.

The last time I was here
was in 1999 when it was
first added. John was my
best friend and best man
at my wedding."

Every year on
May 13th, there is a can-
dle light vigil in honor
of the officers who died
while on duty during the
year. The most recent
ceremony the memo-
rial hosted took place on
Friday, September 11th,
to honor those police of-
ficers who died on that
day eight years ago.

As for the future
of the memorial it will
become the forefront of
a National Law Enforce-
ment Officers Memorial
Museum in five years.



Photo Courtesy of wikipedia.org

September Promotes Sickle Cell Awareness

BY ALIESE POLK
Contributing Writer

Nearly 350 people walked
through the streets of LeDroit
Park and Michigan Park in North-
west Washington Saturday as part
of Washington's 3rd "Stomp Out
Sickle Cell Walk".

Twenty-three-year-old Elise
Holgate participated in the walk.
She suffers from sickle cell and said
it was imperative that she come
and support others. She can relate
to what many are going through,
as she has experienced pain and
hardships as a result of the disease.
No treatment, medicine or physi-
cal therapy seems to work; she has
tried everything from acupuncture
to blood transfusions. She would
like to have a bone marrow trans-
plant, but because of her fragile
state and the difficulty of finding a
match, the procedure will have to
wait. She continues to fight and
stay strong.

"At the end of the day it all
comes down to really good sup-
port," Holgate said. "I would not
be able to get through it without
the support of family and close
friends."

September is national Sickle
Cell Awareness month. The walk
was organized to raise awareness
and support members of the com-
munity who are affected by the dis-
ease. Barbra Harrison, the assistant
director for community outreach at
the Howard Sickle Cell Center said
that the walk was a success. This
year, there were about 100 more
participants than there were in pre-
vious years.

"We definitely had a good
turnout," Harrison said. "We suc-
ceeded in providing an event that
the community could be proud of."

Walkers quietly talked to one
another as they paraded the streets,
carrying signs and wearing white
and red T-shirts that displayed the
walk's logo, SOS. There were vol-

unteers at different spots along the
route passing out water bottles to
the walkers and holding signs that
stated facts about sickle cell.

It was important for How-
ard University student Rodricka
Elliott, a psychology major to walk
because she has two nephews, ages
8 and 5, who suffer from the dis-
ease. She said it is difficult to watch
them endure frequent hospitaliza-
tions, and from what she has wit-
nessed, believes that it can be just
as debilitating as HIV/AIDS and
other chronic diseases.

"People don't realize how
serious it is," Elliott said. "We all
need to be more active in promot-
ing it."

Sickle cell is an inherited
disease in which the red blood cells
are abnormally shaped, or sickle
shaped and block the flow of blood
in the vessels. The lack of blood
results in severe pain and in some
cases leads to organ damage.

Millions of people worldwide
are affected by the disease. In the
United States, about 70,000 people
have sickle cell and nearly 2 million
people carry the trait, according to
the National Institutes of Health
(NIH). The disease is most com-
mon in decedents from Africa, the
Mediterranean, South and Central
America, the Caribbean Islands,
India and Saudi Arabia. In the
United States, African-Americans
and Hispanics are primarily af-
fected. The disease occurs in
approximately 1 of every 500 Afri-
can-American births. However,
Harrison said that the face of the
disease is rapidly changing due to
the increase of interracial mar-
riages.

Children can only inherit
the disease if both parents are car-
riers, and if that is the case, there is
a 25 percent chance they will suffer
from the disease, and a 50 percent
chance that they will be carrier.

There is no apparent cure
for sickle cell. So far, bone marrow
transplants only cure a small num-

ber of people, but the procedure is
risky. Harrison said that the Uni-
versity's Center and other organi-
zations are working to find a cure.
There is optimism that stem cell
research will contribute to battling
the disease, Harrison said.

Sickle cell disease is under-
funded. In the year 2008, \$80 mil-
lion was spent on sickle cell, while
\$938 million was spent on stem cell
research.

Patients undergo blood
transfusions and use the drug hy-
droxyurea to alleviate the intense
pain and prevent complications
such as infections, strokes and eye
damage.

"Many people rely on blood
transfusions," Harrison said. "We
are strong advocates with the Red
Cross. We encourage people to
donate blood in addition to signing
up for the bone marrow registry."

"Stomp Out Sickle Cell"
walks have been organized by
community organizations and in-
stitutions in cities across the nation
to increase awareness and sup-
port. Participating cities include
New York City, Memphis, Norfolk,
Va., Bridgeport, Conn., Oklahoma
City, Seattle and Columbus, Ohio.
New York participated in its 11th
annual walk, while Oklahoma City
held its second walk. Walks will be
staged in Philadelphia and Jackson,
Miss. this weekend.

In Washington, the Howard
University Sickle Cell Center col-
laborated with Children's National
Medical Center, Georgetown Uni-
versity Hospital, Sickle Cell As-
sociation of the National Capital
Area Inc., Lauren D. Beck Sickle
Cell Foundation and Faces of Our
Children Inc. The nearly one and
a half mile walk began at 8:30 a.m.
at Howard University Hospital,
looped around McMillan Reser-
voir and finished back at the Hos-
pital. The midpoint was Children's
National Medical Center.

After the walk, stations were
set up so that participants could

test their blood pressure and have
blood samples drawn to see if they
are a carrier.

All states are required to test
babies as part of their newborn
screening program.

Gemma Calliste, mother
of Holgate, believes that everyone
should get tested. She said that
before deciding to have children,
partners should consult a doctor
and speak to individuals who suf-
fer from mild to severe forms of the
disease.

"It's a devastating effect
when you see a loved one suffer
and there is nothing you can do,"
Calliste said.

Dr. Scott Myers from
Georgetown University Hospital
was at the walk to support those
who have been affected and help
educate walkers on the disease. He
wants people to know that while
the disease is grave, it can be man-
aged with proper health care. In-
novative treatments have resulted
in an improved quality of life. Life
expectancy has risen from the mid
20's to the mid 40's span with some
people even living to their 80's.

"You can still have a produc-
tive life," Myers said. "It's not the
death sentence it once was, espe-
cially with services and medica-
tions."

Harrison emphasized edu-
cating the public so that more sup-
port for the community could be
provided and more research could
be possible.

"It's important that people
with sickle cell stand up and speak
up, and feel empowered to advo-
cate for research, for scholars and
for better care," Harrison said.
"Know that there is a whole com-
munity out there willing to support
you if you choose to become more
active." While support is needed,
money is as well.

She advises anyone who
wish to make donations to contact
specific organizations who provide
direct services to the community.

List Of The Career Fair Companies

Abercrombie & Fitch
 Academy for Urban School Leadership
 AETNA Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.
 Allstate Insurance Company
 American Electric Power (AEP)
 Analytical Graphics, Inc.
 Apple
 Axiom Link, a division of Bilinguals Inc.
 Bloomberg LP
 Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
 Bristol-Myers Squibb
 BROWN SHOE CO.
 Brunswick School
 Bureau of Economic Analysis
 Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
 Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
 CGI
 Citizen Schools
 CNA
 ConocoPhillips
 COOPER INDUSTRIES
 Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency
 DAI
 Deloitte Department of Homeland Security (APCP)
 Dept of Homeland Security-OIG
 DMG Securities, Inc.
 EMC ENERGY BBDO
 Enterprise Rent-A-Car
 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
 Environmental Protection Agency-OCFO
 Ernst & Young
 ExxonMobil
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)
 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
 Ford Motor Company
 FREDDIE MAC
 Goldman, Sachs & Co.
 GRANT THORNTON
 Hess Corporation
 Internal Revenue Service
 Johnson & Johnson
 KPMG, LLP
 Kraft Foods Inc.
 Liberty Mutual
 LOCKHEED MARTIN CORPORATION (University Relations)
 Marketing Werks
 McBee Associates, Inc.
 McGraw Hill Companies
 Medtronic
 Microsoft Corporation
 MIT Lincoln Laboratory
 Morgan Stanley
 NASA/Goddard & NASA/Marshall Space Flight Centers
 National Nuclear Security Administration
 National Security Agency
 NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
 Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division
 NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
 NORTHERN TRUST COMPANY
 Northrop Grumman Corporation
 Office of Naval Intelligence
 Oracle Corporation
 Peace Corps
 Pepco Holdings, Inc.
 Platinum Solutions
 PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.
 PPL Corporation
 RAYTHEON COMPANY
 SAIC-Frederick, Inc.
 Savannah River Remediation, LLC
 Sears Holdings Corporation
 Sponsors for Educational Opportunity (SEO)
 SRA International, Inc.
 State Auto Insurance companies
 State Farm Insurance Companies-Bloomington, IL
 Stryker Medical Systems
 Planning and Analysis, Inc.
 TD Bank
 The Federal Aviation Administration
 The MATCH School
 The MITRE Corporation
 The Nielsen Company
 The TJX Companies, Inc.

Interested in the career or knowing more about these companies, register with hawaii.com.cymplcity.com.

The Career Ready State Of Mind

BY TAHIRAH HAIRSTON
 Campus Editor

First impressions are key for opening the door for opportunities, but the wrong impression can quickly close the door. With the various career fairs coming up this semester, Howard University students need to make the right first impression to get the right opportunities.

Howard University School of Business Student Council along with The Ladies of Alpha Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated hosted "Crème de la Crème: Exuding Proper Etiquette in the Realm of Academia," a program to show Howard students the right way to be successful in professional settings from attire and conversation topics to proper dinner etiquette.

"I think this was important because we are college students and we are working toward careers, it's important to know like she [the speaker] said first impressions are lasting impressions," said junior broadcast journalism major and program moderator Brittany Jacob.

The program was apart of the School of Business Student Council Week and Delta Week 2009. School of Business professor and founder of Charm School, Inc., Cheryl Higgins served as the speaker.

Charm School, Inc. is an "image enhancement training" program based in Bowie, Md. that teaches etiquette and career readiness.

Higgins said that people form judgmental opinions of others within the first seven seconds of meeting them, 55% body language and visual perception, 38% tone of voice, and 7% actual words spoken.

"These are soft skills that people don't know and they won't know unless someone tells them," said Jewel Burks, School of Business executive president. "They don't know that some of the smallest things will not get you the job."

Preparing for the interview is just as important as what happens during the interview from the attire to the pre-based knowledge of the company.

"Coming in at least looking the part will help you in the long run," Burks said.

For women, she said a black or navy skirt or pants suit, a white or cream blouse, flesh tone pantyhose, and two-inch pumps are necessities for any job interview. For men, School of Business executive vice president Christopher Bryant said a good blue tie, a solid colored suit, white collared shirt, and standard business shoes with laces are necessities.

"I always tell people not to wear red ties in an interview, a good

blue tie is a good tie color," Bryant said. "Not like a Chris Brown blue, but a navy blue." He also noted that for conservative companies it is best not to have any facial hair.

In addition to the right business attire, the research done about the company before the interview is key.

A mistake that Burks made as a freshman was interviewing with a Wall Street company and not knowing enough information about them. She said that interviewees should find out about the company and the interviewer.

"Always go onto the company's website and find out about the founder, CEO, what direction the company is going in, and their strengths and weaknesses," Bryant said. "Your main goal is to make the company better by showing them how you can add to their strengths or decline or decrease their weaknesses."

He advised that interviewees talk to staff members to find out the culture of the company's workplace by visiting the company or talking to employees before.

Bryant got his knack for interviewing from winning the state championship for job interviewing for Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) in 8th grade and becoming an INROADS scholar. He said that three things to bring to an interview are your resume and references, a sewing kit and

stain remover, and some cash because you never know what's going to happen.

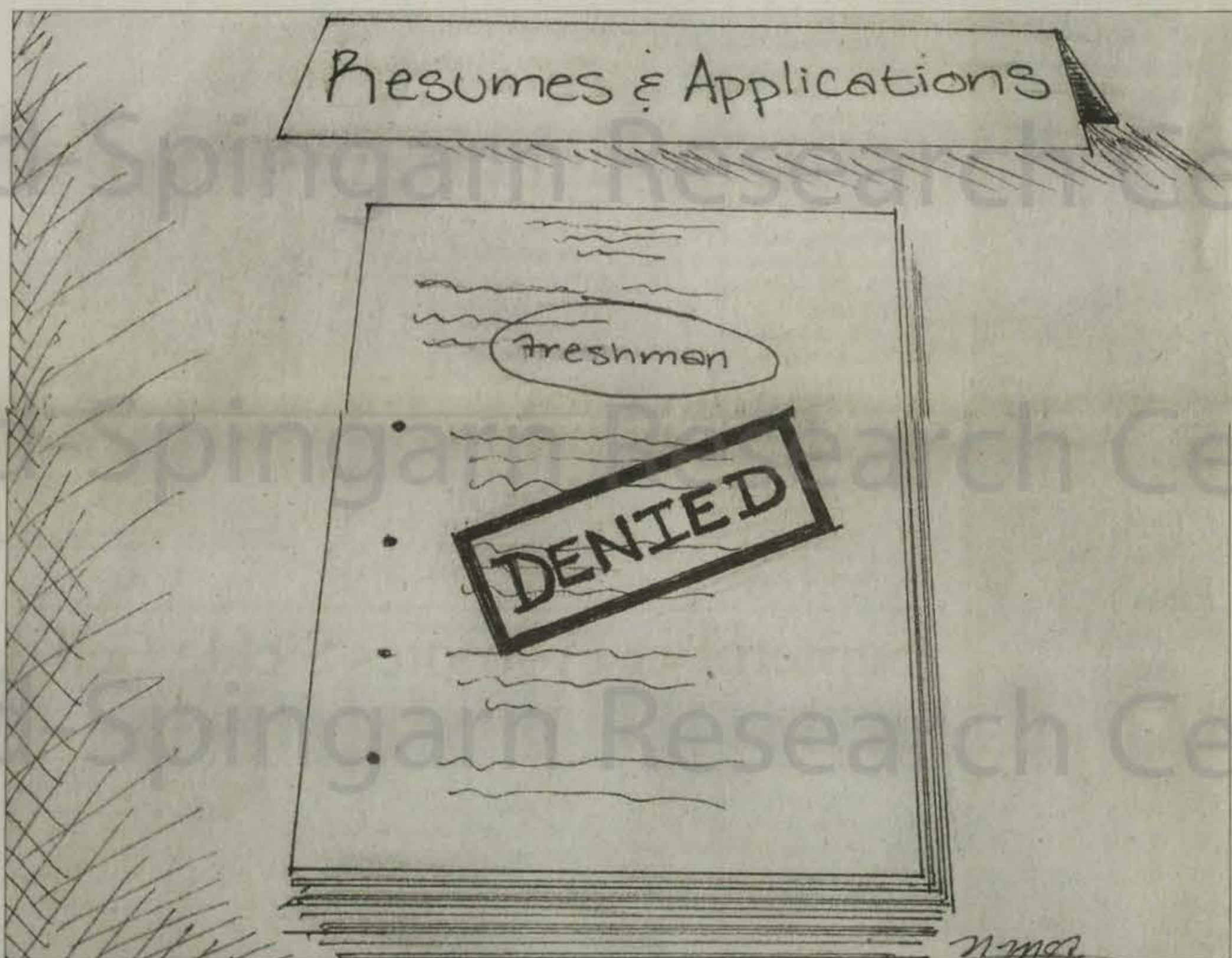
Once the interview takes place, it is important to sell. "As for interviews, it is important to listen to the buzz words," Higgins said.

From previous knowledge, Bryant said that most interviewers are trained in interviewing so they look for keywords and phrases and if students stick to what their looking for they will probably get the job.

Knowing the right words to say but not saying too much is what Jacob advises. "You want to hear what other people are saying, you need to be aware of the interviewer because you may end up not answering the question given," she said.

Bryant said to stay away from controversial topics such as religion or politics and when telling them your interest mention things that are in alignment with the company "It's not a date, you tell them about yourself as far as past achievements," he said.

"People always bring their business cards, you have to be unconventional and think outside of the box," Bryant continued. As an icing on the cake, he said to put a handwritten Thank You card in the mail the same day as your interview.



Nicole McClinton - Cartoonist

The Hottest Job Markets in the Country

While President Barack Obama, Secretary of the Treasury Timothy Geithner and other economists herald the ending of the recession and a return to growth, jobs may still be hard to come by for some time. Here is a list of the best job markets right now, to make job hunting a little easier:

1. Washington, D.C.
2. Baltimore, Md.
3. New York, N.Y.
4. Salt Lake City, Utah
5. San Jose, Calif.
6. Hartford, Conn.
7. Oklahoma City, Okla.
8. Boston, Mass.
9. New Orleans, La.
10. Austin, Texas

States with the lowest unemployment rates:

- North Dakota: 4.3%
 South Dakota: 4.9%
 Nebraska: 5.0%

- Utah: 6.0%
 Virginia: 6.5%

Best employment sectors: education and healthcare

These are the sectors with the most job offers available and are also projected to be major areas of potential employment well into the next decade. The worst employment sectors to enter are transportation and manufacturing.

All data and statistics were compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, a Division of the United States Department of Labor and reflect data from August 2009.

Data for September 2009 has yet to be released.

By Ollie Montgomery, Staff Writer

Chris Rock Sits Down to Talk About Black Hair

BY KARA SINGLETON
Staff Writer

Abroad Minded

BY ALEESA MANN
Contributing Columnist

The first day I got to my homestay, I shared the usual small talk with my *senora* - host mom, and my roommate. You know...where do you go to school? Do you have any siblings? Do you have any pets? Totally easy questions, with totally easy answers, I thought.

I told her about going to school in Washington, my younger brother, Evan, and my overweight dog, Petie.

"Mi perro is muy bolso," I said shaking my head, proud.

Proud and totally wrong. I've taken a Spanish class every year of my life since the fifth grade, which, by definition, should make me a Spanish pro.

But in retrospect, it seems like every year I learned the same thing, and every year it seemed like something new.

Now I'm kicking myself for not really trying to learn anything. I think as a native English speaker I've been pretty spoiled. Taking a secondary language class may have been mandatory, but I've always had this attitude that as long as my grades were good, it didn't matter if I actually learned anything.

At least it didn't matter until now. Now my Spanish skills are limited to ordering food and shopping, and even then it's hard.

I've met many a waiter who've stopped me mid-Spanish-sentence to say, "In English, in English."

The sound of my *finagustarias* give me away the second I try to order something off the menu. I'm an American. I speak English.

A lot of times when I attempt to ask a question in Spanish, someone responds to me in English and I give up my seemingly hopeless attempt to develop a second tongue. But, from here on out I refuse to oblige them.

Sure I may describe my dog as an oversized purse, but I try. And for the most part Spaniards and Barceloneans appreciate the attempt. I'm like Tiny Tim at Christmas, minus the crutches; it's just my Spanish that's crippled.

The really messed up part was when someone made fun of my English, as I was ordering "Waaaaaater," or at least that's how he mocked me.

I think that situation inspired within me the most patriotic feelings I've ever had in my life. I'm surprised I didn't sprout American flags out of my ears and start singing the "Star Spangled Banner" while square-dancing.

That's my English and my accent, I thought to myself.

In spite of it all, all the Spanglish that is, I have seen my Spanish skills improve.

Every weeknight my *senora*, roommate and I sit down to dinner for what has become, lively conversation.

Initially our conversations were built on a lot of pointing and hand gestures, but now we use actual words in actual Spanish (after we deduced sending smoke signals wasn't an option).

We've even started joking about hypothetical boyfriends and Barcelonean paramours, which is great because, in trying to learn a new language, it's often hard to get your point across, and a joke can be impossible.

But you know what? Laughter doesn't need any translation.

Inspired by a comment from his five-year old daughter, Chris Rock pioneered a documentary on "Good Hair." This hilarious expose brings out the truth behind a million dollar business.

Hair has not only become an industry for salons, beauty supply stores and hair shows, but a source of international trade. On the adventure to find out the meaning of good hair, Rock receives insight from hair care professionals, beauty shop and barbershop patrons, as well as owners. Also celebrities like Ice-T, Nia Long, Paul Mooney, Dr. Maya Angelou and Rev. Al Sharpton all offer their personal stories and opinions on the subject of "Good Hair."

TH: Why did you feel the need to create this film documentary style?

CR: That was the only way to really get it honest. You needed a documentary of this topic. There's no other way to do it.

TH: Did you intend for it to hit the Big Screen?

CR: Early on I thought we'll just put it on HBO. I was very modest. Then I saw it in a theatre and saw how much people were enjoying it and I thought to myself this here is a movie.

TH: Who did you make this movie for?

CR: Everything I make is for my kids even the stuff that I make that is inappropriate for children. It's who I am. It's my legacy.

TH: What surprised you most about women and their hair/weaves?

CR: What surprised me most was just the money. The money aspect of it was like, Wow!

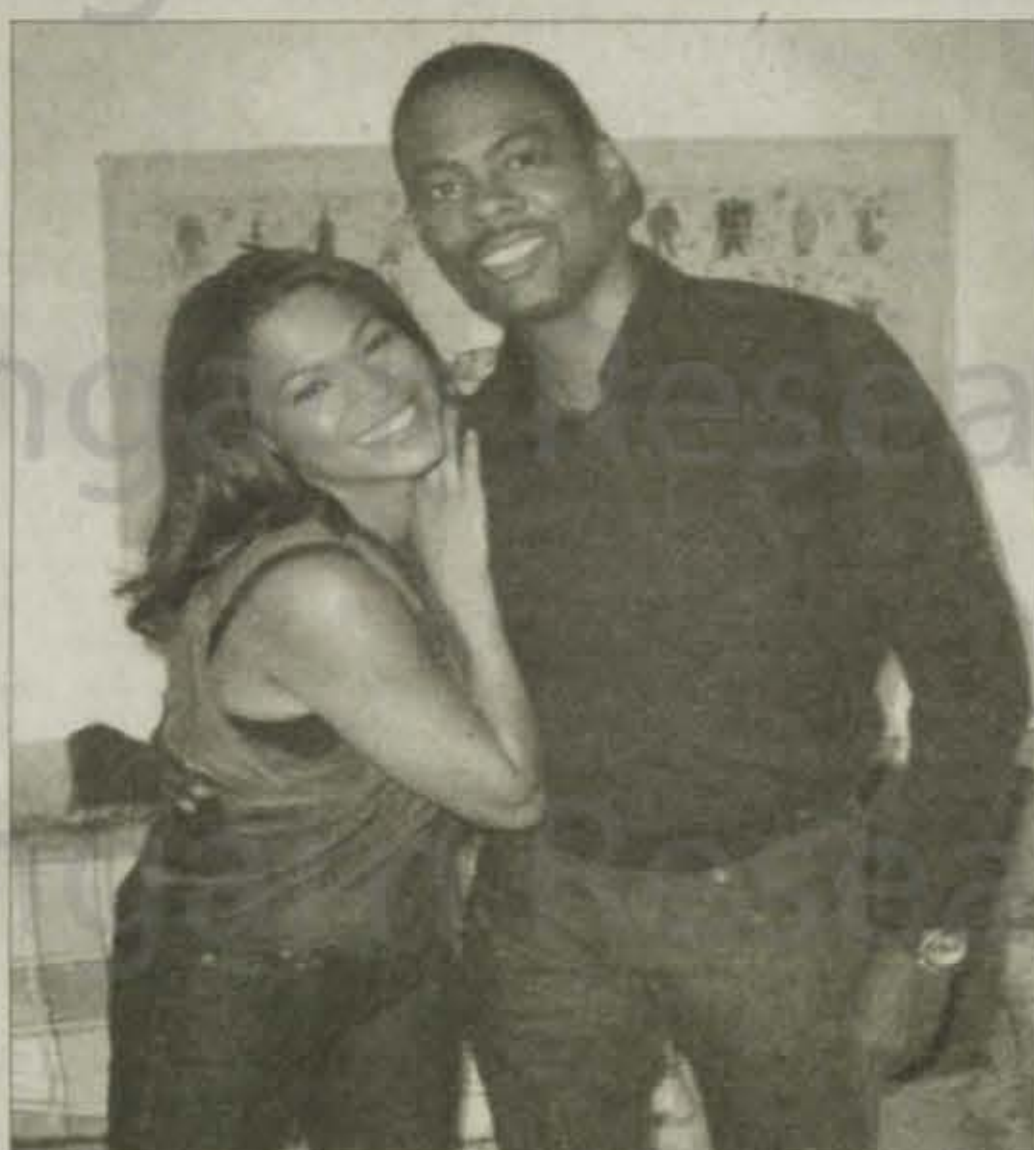
TH: Are you opposed to relaxers for young girls?

CR: I am actually. I will go out on a limb and say yes. It's just dangerous and it locks the child into a hairstyle before they're ready to even choose to be who they want to be.

TH: Watching the film, it seemed like you were promoting natural hair over relaxed hair, do you?

CR: I'm fine with whatever makes the women happy.

TH: You had a wonderful line up of black celebrity women to share their opinions about black hair. Was there any particular reason you chose who you did?



Nia Long, and other black female celebrities, lends their voice to Chris Rock's new documentary "Good Hair" about black hair care.

CR: Everyone I chose I knew would be entertaining. I chose off of personality. Like I know Nia and I know she has no shame. She'll give it to you straight forward. I wanted people to be entertaining.

TH: After making this film what would you say is a black man's view on a black woman's hair?

CR: Black men don't really care one way or the other. Black men like [expletive]. It's all about waist to [expletive] ratio.

Nia Long says: So we black women waste a whole lot of time on something that black men don't even notice.

TH: Paul Mooney had one of the funniest lines in the film "If your hair is relaxed white people are relaxed. If your hair is nappy they're not happy," which seemed to be the only line he had. Did you want another comedian making everyone laugh?

CR: Paul Mooney. That's a funny dude. When he came in with that big afro I thought to myself, I'm not going to be able to use any of this footage. But once I looked it over I knew he would make everyone laugh.

TH: How was your experience in India?

CR: India has the worst poverty ever, even the worst parts of Africa cannot compete with the poverty there. It was amazing that they gave up their hair. It was liberating to see people not to be so vain. They know that they're beautiful regardless.

TH: Did you tell any of the Indian women what was happening to their hair, or were they already aware that it was being sold?

CR: They know but not to the full extent. I don't think they know that women will pay five thousand dollars for their hair. They don't even make five thousand dollars in salary a year.

TH: Do you think that the issues black people face with good hair and bad hair start at the roots of our people, both figuratively and literally?

CR: Good hair was basically hair mixed with white. I think what women are doing now is a fashion choice. Women get bored easily.

TH: Did the women who paid thousands of dollars for weaves and hairstyles look thousands of dollars better?

No. To me you're what's beautiful. You're beauty comes from inside. I hate when people say you look nice because you got your hair done. That's all wrong. You

look nice because you're a great person not because you have a nice weave.

TH: To Nia Long, When was the first time you received a relaxer?

NL: I remember my mother told me absolutely not until you turn thirteen. I did it and I hated it. I was the girl who wore two puffs and two cornrows forever. Yeah, I hated it and then for a long time I didn't have a relaxer then I cut my hair short and relaxed it. I have been back and forth. I think because I'm an actress having a relaxer is much easier.

TH: What do you think is the best way to deal with coarse hair?

NL: The best way is to press because it doesn't mess with the integrity of our hair.

TH: I know you made a comment in the movie about the better your hair the prettier you are. Do you think this is true in your own life?

NL: I was always in the middle and so was my hair. I didn't really fit in with the really light-skinned girls and I wasn't dark-skinned so I was stuck in the middle and still am. That makes me unique.

TH: Being an African-American actress, do you feel pressured to assimilate to what may be seen as Eurocentric beauty?

NL: I don't really feel pressure to assimilate, but I know I can't walk into a casting call with an afro and get the role as leading lady. That's just the way Hollywood works.

TH: Is good hair and bad hair just another aspect of African-American culture that has separated us as a race?

NL: Historically yes, but after watching the movie you'll see that all hair is good hair, even if you buy it.

TH: Is there anything interesting you have to say about the making of the documentary or about the documentary in general?

NL: Chris Rock is a genius.

His work is a comedian's special. He can get away with saying certain things. This is a movie for men and women. This movie will show me where their women go for four and a half hours while he's watching the game.

CR: Only four and a half hours?

'Good Hair' Gets To The Root of Black Hair

Chris Rock's new film may tell a familiar story to some viewers but dispel several questions of others

BY COURTNEY MIMS
Contributing Writer

Ever gone to a movie expecting one thing and got something different than what you expected. Well I don't want that to happen to you when you go see Chris Rock's new film "Good Hair."

Trust me when I tell you it's not a typical movie; it's a documentary. A documentary by Chris Rock nonetheless, so you will laugh.

Chris Rock takes the audience on a trip around the world to discover how weaves are created, how perms are applied, and how black women care for their hair whether it be natural or subject to the so-called "creamy crack." Rock also explores the expense and time spent to keep up appearance as well as the infamous Barnum and Brothers hair show and competition.

Stars like Nia Long, Ice-T, Maya Angelou, Raven-Symone, Lauren London and Rev. Al Sharpton all lend a helping hand,

giving their personal opinions of what good hair is and how they manage their hair.

There were points of the film where all I could do was laugh and shake my head at the things that black women do to preserve our beauty. It was a good watch but, as a black woman, I wouldn't spend my money on it.

I have sat for hours in hair salons, seen women get weaves, get their hair relaxed, braided, treated, curled and anything else that could possibly be done. For the most part, the things said in the documentary were things that, as a black woman, I already knew.

Now men, this may help you understand black women and their hair a bit more so you may want to look into it. It will give you some insight into what we go through to look so good, and then maybe you'll appreciate it more.

Through the movie, people of other racial backgrounds, will now have answers when wondering about black hair. If they ask you how you got your hair that way simply respond, watch the documentary "Good Hair" and walk away.



The film is rated PG-13 for some language, including sex and drug references, and brief partial nudity. The theatrical release date is Oct. 9.

Are you on Twitter?

The Hilltop is!

Follow us: www.twitter.com/thehilltop!

You may even get "Tweet of the Week!"

Take It From The Top



BY CRYSTAL J. ALLEN
Editor-in-Chief

Yesterday was hump day.

You know, Wednesday. Hehe.

No seriously, we got over the hump. Now, all we have to do is make it to Friday. Then we can do it all again. One of the main keys to maintaining happiness and success is to maintain optimism. If we all do this, next week, and the weeks thereafter, should be a breeze.

I took a trip to Financial Aid yesterday and I saw so many sad faces. The tension in the hallway was so thick. It was as if everyone already knew they wouldn't have their problems solved by the end of the day. There was no sense of hope, lol. I don't want to sound cliché and corny, but I'm being so serious.

I understand the frustration surrounding issues with validation, refund checks and the like. Trust me, I'm not validated (my paperwork with my father's personal – and very vital – information was somehow misplaced). However, I find that when you approach situations with a positive attitude and a SMILE, you may receive positive results.

I watched a girl roll her neck and eyes and she broke down her situation to the woman standing in the hallway of the Administration building. She had the same problem I did. Naturally, the employee became slightly defensive. Bottom line: the situation got nowhere. Shortly thereafter, it was my turn to see an employee in the Office of Financial Aid. The first thing I did was smile and ask her, "How was your day?"

She gave me all the information I needed and told me to come directly back to her the following day, promising to handle all my paperwork right then and there.

My point here is that we all have to give in order to receive. The changes taking place within the Administration building at this prestigious university will not happen overnight. We can count the amount of employees assisting students in the Office of Financial Aid on our fingers – imagine how they feel.

Try to work with people, even outside the realms of this university. You never know what issues someone may have had to face this morning, or what that person will have to face when that person goes home.

We are all human; we all have struggles and challenges that we face. Often times, we keep these things to ourselves, but, nevertheless, they are still existent.

Keep someone else's struggle in mind the next time you approach them with YOUR issues. Granted, it may seem as though some people are here to simply make our lives difficult, but everyone has a story.

So be optimistic. Know that everything will be OK, and if you find yourself in a position where you continue to get the same results, change your approach. You will be surprised at the results.

TWEET OF THE WEEK

tweets from some of MU's funniest twits

I've been and seen a lot of ghetto things, but how in D.C. they have a photo booth outside of the CVS and it was jumping?

11:22 PM Sep 20th from UberTwitter - Comedian Lil Duval, (@LilDuval)

These basic broads betta step their game up...how you gon' be on #TwerkTeam with That's So Raven braids?? #Lmao

11:37 PM Sep 19th from UberTwitter Jimmy Obama, (@Joanne)

Submit your favorite tweet to meccanisms@gmail.com!

He Said...She Said Viewpoints from Both Sides of the Gender Divide This week's issue: Hair Weave

By Jada F. Smith

Because I love you all so much, I'm going to let you in on a little secret that may get me kicked out of the proverbial girl's club. Women – especially young, college-aged women – make most of their appearance decisions based on what they think men find attractive.

Some will disagree, many will not admit it, but it's true. Not in all cases, of course, but a lot of women decide what they will wear, the amount of make-up they will apply, the height of their heels and the way they style their hair based on what they think male beauty standards dictate.

As if it's not bad enough that many women let men control their aesthetic choices, most men have a screwed up definition of beauty that makes women go to extreme, expensive, and sometimes painful lengths to please them.

This brings me to weave. If you've ever had a conversation with a guy about weave, it probably went something like this:

Boy: "Why do y'all girls wear weave? I hate weave. Y'all need to stop tricking people!"

Girl: "Weren't you the one just talking about how fine Beyoncé, Gabrielle Union and Cassie are? How come they can wear weave and we can't?"

Boy: "....."

Exactly. I think it's proper that we first establish that men are walking contradictions.

Men are praised for having multiple sexual partners, women who do the same are called trollops. When men cheat it's blamed on being "young and in college," when women do the same, they are called trollops. Men drool over celebrities who can single-handedly keep the weave industry in business, but when a regular woman wears weave, it's not ok. See, walking contradictions.

So, to answer all of you hypocritical guys' question: women wear weave because we want you to get just as excited over us as you do over Beyoncé and Gabrielle Union.

You clearly don't mind them wearing weave, so why would you mind us wearing weave? Answer that question for yourself, then maybe we can make some progress.

I'm not even going to touch on the deeper, self-loathing issues I think the black community's insatiable desire for weave represents, because there simply isn't enough space in this humble little column of mine. But I will say this: men, before you go about bashing your beautiful black sisters about their choice to wear weave, think about WHY they're wearing it. It's probably for you.

So next time, how about you tell her that she looks nice in whatever style she chooses, but you think she looks best au naturel.

Have you ever wondered what guys think about weaves? Here's your answer, finally!

I do not care if you have a weave, ONLY if I cannot tell it is a weave. Guys are not the hair police; we do not typically know who has a weave and who doesn't. The only time we can tell if you have a weave is if it's a REALLY bad weave.

What are the benefits of having a weave? It's not like they are free, right?

Don't go from having hair like Amber Rose to hair down your back. You're not fooling anybody!

Also if you bought the hair it doesn't make it yours. That is the silliest and the most hood answer anybody can give.

We know that most celebrities wear weaves, but news flash: you aren't a celebrity! You cannot do the same things that Beyoncé, Gabrielle Union and Cassie do.

Since I've been at Howard, I have begun to like and become a strong advocate of natural hair.

To see a woman with natural hair such as dreads or curly hair looks very good on a lot of girls. For too long, we as a people have let popular culture define our beauty.

Our women are nothing like Madonna or Kim Kardashian, so I don't understand why we hold them to similar standards of beauty.

Also it takes someone who is extremely knowledgeable to understand that celebrities look the way they do because of strict exercise, diets and unlimited monetary resources.

Ultimately no matter what topic Jada and I discuss, it all boils down to being comfortable in your own skin.

I know some girls with beautiful hair who don't have any confidence, which is the ultimate turn-off. I've seen some girls who make short hair styles make me call them Halle Berry!

You should create your own definition of beauty and not attempt to live up to someone else's.

Submit your topics for discussion to meccanisms@gmail.com!

Overheard @ The Mecca

Overheard in the Financial Aid office...

Girl on the phone in the Financial Aid hallway: He sucked my big toe. I ain't even ask him to.

Everyone else in the Financial Aid hallway: *blank stares*

Overheard in Blackburn...

Spoiled Girl: I can't believe my daddy isn't gonna pay for my gas anymore. It's just unfair!

Logical Friend: Doesn't he pay your car note? And your insurance? And your rent? And tuition? He even told you that you don't have to work.

Spoiled Girl: Well...yes, but still. I'll show him! I'll get a job at Hooters.

Logical Friend looks down at her obviously flat chest

Spoiled Girl: Well obviously he'll have to give me the money to get a boob job.

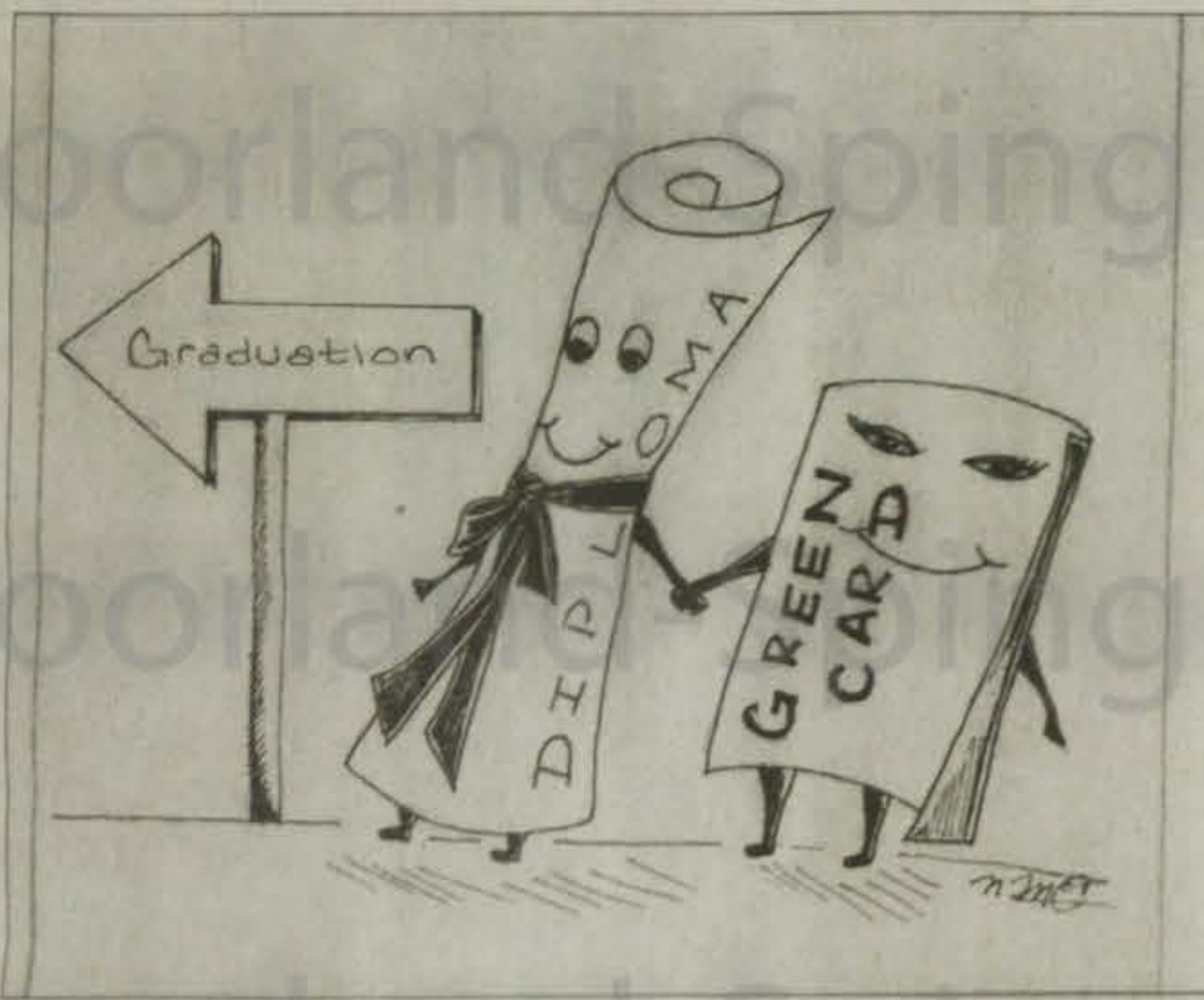
Overheard one of your fellow Bison say something crazy? Send it to meccanisms@gmail.com!

20 Questions

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

1. How many people still aren't validated?
2. Why is the purge date the same day as Convocation?
3. How many classes have you dropped already?
4. Girl, why are you wearing Uggs in 80 degree weather?
5. Why is D.C. weather so skit?
6. You have your black business suit on...why are you trying to act like we don't know where you're going?
7. Have you been to Moorland-Spingarn yet?
8. Why did we lose so badly to FAMU on ESPN Thursday?
9. We're still better than them though, right?
10. Why are so many people holding hands on campus now?
11. It's not even cold yet, has "cuffing" season started early this year?
12. When did, "I see you tryna' get chose" replace a real compliment?
13. So why didn't we get any happy hour recommendations in our inbox?
14. We'll ask again: Where are the best happy hours in D.C.?
15. Aren't the underclassmen spoiled since they don't have to stand in lines for Homecoming tickets?
16. Seniors, you know what we're talking about, right?
17. So Homecoming Steering Committee, who's coming to Yardfest?
18. But for real, who's coming?
19. Did you get your invitation for the Twerk Team auditions?
20. Why exactly is there a photo booth outside of the CVS on Georgia Ave.? Shout out to Lil Duval.

Compiled by Hilltop Staff



Nicolette McClendon - Cartoonist

Community Colleges to Admit Illegal Immigrants

Late last week, in a nearly unanimous vote, the North Carolina Board of Community Colleges voted to allow illegal immigrants to enroll in two-year colleges, marking the fifth time the board has changed its policy since 2000. Latin Americans throughout the area are thrilled, while the rest of us scratch our heads in bewilderment.

If it's against the law for illegal immigrants to even be in the United States, isn't it a no-brainer that they shouldn't be allowed to attend public colleges here? Although it initially seems backwards, officials of the North Carolina Community College Board seem to have logically justified their controversial decision.

The new policy is for students who are in the country illegally but graduated from U.S. high schools. These students are to pay out-of-state tuition rates of about \$7,000 a

year, whether they live in the state of North Carolina or not. Undocumented students will not be eligible to receive financial aid, and lawful U.S. citizens will have definite priority in crowded classroom settings.

Regardless of the stipulations, there are those who still oppose the decision, including Beverly

Our View:
Allowing illegal immigrants to receive education will be beneficial in the long run.

Perdue, North Carolina's Democratic governor. She has been recently quoted by a North Carolina news station posing the awkward, yet understandable question, "...they can't work here anyway, so why do it?"

In defense of the board's decision, the "undocumented citizens"

in question would have been minors when they came to the country, and really didn't have much say-so in their decision to become illegal immigrants.

Also, a common misconception many people have is that all undocumented immigrants are sneaking across the border; eager to "steal" American jobs and evade paying taxes. In reality, illegal immigrants are often here in search of a better quality of life, and the opportunity to work to support themselves and their families.

An education is one of the greatest assets any citizen, whether documented or undocumented can have; and although this decision is highly debatable, affording these individuals the opportunity to receive an education will prove beneficial in the long run by helping them to eventually become productive, and hopefully legal, members of society.

Daily Sudoku

Directions:

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

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



CORRECTION: Yesterday a photo credit on the front page was given to Bree Grant, it was taken by Zelena Williams, Co-Photo Editor.

Want to write for *The Hilltop*?

Come grab a story at our next budget meeting.

Sunday at 6 p.m. in the Howard Plaza Towers West P-Level

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 to hilltopedit@gmail.com.

Any inquiries for advertisements should be sent directly to The Hilltop Business Office at campusadvertising@thehilltoponline.com

THE HILLTOP

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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.

Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity.

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Send your perspectives to
HilltopEditorials@gmail.com

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 Ladies of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Chapter Presents

Zeta Week 2009: Regeneration Thursday September 24, 2009 Informational 7:20p Truth Hall Lounge Attire: Business

Sitters Wanted
\$12 or more per hour.

Register free for jobs near campus or home.

www.student-sitters.com

"Ubiquity, Inc presents: The Black Love Renaissance September 24 - Real talk: Discussion 7 - 9:30 pm September 25 - Escape: Open Mic 8 - 10:00 pm @ Meridian Hill Hall Come speak your mind to the opposite sex & Share you talent with fellow Bison"

The Ladies of the National Society of Pershing Angels Sorority Inc. Co G-8-5 Presents: P/A Week "Dynamics of a Dove" September 21-26, 2009 Meet P/A's - Thursday in Crandall Hall Game Night- Friday in Truth Hall Campus Clean-up- Saturday meet yard side of DGH All events begin at 7pm

The Ladies of Alpha Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. Present Delta Week 2009

The Bridge: Leveraging Obstacles and Visioning our Entitlement

September 24, 2009

"Defense Mechanisms: Strengthening Our Minds and Protecting Our Bodies"

Burr Gym 7:00 p.m. Attire: Athletic Wear

September 25, 2009

"In the Shadows: Abducted, Alone and Unaware"

Blackburn Digital Auditorium 7:00 p.m.

HAPPY B'DAY TO OUR BEST FRIEND, KIRSTEN ALLEN, WE LOVE YOU!!



FROM KAYLA, JASMINE, KRISTEN, AND JAZMINE.

ATTENTION:
THE HILLTOP BUSINESS OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY. IF YOUR ORGANIZATION WANTS A HILLTOPIC FOR TUESDAY PLEASE COME INTO THE OFFICE TODAY. WE APOLOGIZE FOR THE INCONVENIENCE.

Show your bff, fraternity brother, sorority sister, favorite professor, your advisor, H'U co-worker, or roommate how much you really love them by purchasing a "Birthday Announcement" for only \$50.00

The ad is 3.23" by 10.14." We accept JPEG, PDF, TIFF, and GIF. An example is on the left.

CHICAGO PEOPLE'S UNION THE OFFICIAL ILLINOIS STATE CLUB PRESENTS: WELCOME TO CHICAGO: THE CPU MIXER THURS. SEPT 24TH DREW HALL LOUNGE 7PM