

Howard University

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**WEATHER**Established  
**1924****THE HILLTOP**

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 93, NO. 31

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Tuesday, October 6, 2009

**Tuesday's  
Notebook****BREAKING NEWS**

ACCORDING TO CNN, NORTH KOREA'S LEADER IS WILLING TO TALK BILATERALLY WITH THE U.S. ABOUT THEIR NUCLEAR PROGRAM.

**CAMPUS**

SOME HOWARD STUDENTS FIND IT DIFFICULT TO MAINTAIN A VEGAN DIET ON CAMPUS. FIND OUT MORE.

**METRO**

LEARN ABOUT THE HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD OF LOGAN CIRCLE IN NORTHWEST D.C.

PAGE 2

PAGE 5

**Grad Student Promotes Overseas Travels***James Corey provides affordable rates for trips to Ghana*

BY TAHIRAH HAIRSTON  
Campus Editor

The Howard University student body is known for embracing its African heritage, but the amount of students that make the actually trip to the continent is not as frequent.

Howard graduate student James Corey gives students a chance to make this trip at affordable group rates through his new company GhanaGo.com.

Corey's motivation for his entrepreneurship is gained from his desire to contribute to the Ghanaian economy and enhance the daily lives of Ghanaians. He started the business in attempt to bolster the domestic tourist industry in Ghana and fill the void that other tourist companies in the West African country have left open.

Chika Ezeanya, a African Studies Graduate Teaching Associate, said the business has a lot to offer students, especially African-American students. She commends Corey for his passion in trying to

understand Africa. She said he is trying to help without imposing his own ideals and values on the matter.

In terms of Ghana, Ezeanya said the history in the country outweighs the normal tourist attractions in other places, such as beaches and malls. However, she said Ghana has those attractions as well but emphasizes the importance of contemporary Ghana for African-Americans as well.

"It is a peaceful country. You get to see the real African brotherhood in action, something that is taken for granted over there but that is not seen or experienced in the West. It's very important to experience that real Africa in Ghana" she said.

Tariqua Morrison, a senior political science major, agrees that African-Americans should hold a special place for Africa.

"Black students especially should visit Africa. We all visit other places and countries, but a lot of us don't know where we come from. I feel like Africa is a great place to

learn about our ancestry and our culture" she said.

Morrison linked this though with the idea that black people across the Diaspora can go farther than just visiting the continent.

"A business in Africa should bring a connection for blacks in America and the Caribbean and Africa. It can be the middle man between cultures," she said.

Ezeanya agrees that the African diaspora should be more active in the development of the continent. She said the fate of Africa is in the hands of Africans across the Diaspora. She said people should do more than just go over on service expeditions but have an invested interest in the success of the continent.

"It's extremely important that African-Americans start businesses in Africa. African Americans should go there and do business not because it pulls their heartstrings. I don't want the mentality that you are going there to just help," Ezeanya said. "A business should make an impact, of course it should



Photo Courtesy of www.howard.edu

The Kwame Nkrumah Memorial, pictured above, is located in Ghana and is dedicated to the Pan-Africanist leader who led Ghana to independence.

make profit, but it should also meet a need. There should be an aspect of social responsibility."

GhanaGo.com enables students to travel to Ghana at affordable group prices and allows users to plan their own trip and itinerary.

GhanaGo.com also offers a unique spring break opportunity for students who wish to enjoy themselves and learn about their heritage at the same time.

**Howard Student Seeks the Crown***Junior HU student Echoe Malone plans to participate in the Miss D.C. Pageant*

BY ALIESE POLK  
Contributing Writer

Miss Howard, Kendall Isadore, may not be the only queen to claim a crown this year: Echoe Malone will be running for the title of Miss D.C. 2010 pretty soon.

From Nov. 28-29 at the J.W. Marriott, Malone hopes to be the best representation for Washington, D.C., through demonstrating her beauty, poise and intellect at the pageant, titled "Miss District of Columbia 2010."

The winner will receive a scholarship and be given a public

forum to promote her platform, with the opportunity to compete in the Miss USA pageant.

"That would be really amazing if I won," said Malone, a junior theatre arts major.

"It would be very, very big for me," she said. "It is the stepping stone I need to go forth with my goal of helping women."

For Malone, it is more than just a crown, a sash and the title; it is an opportunity to serve as a role model by speaking for those who don't have voices.

Becoming Miss D.C. would allow her to help bring awareness

to the issue of domestic violence and sexual abuse against women. Malone, who is a survivor of assault, and is committed to sharing her triumph and knowledge with those who have been abused.

She wants to help women who have been victims of abuse develop and maintain healthy lifestyles and improve their self-esteem.

"I have experienced firsthand what the effects of physical and mental abuse could do to a person," Malone said. "There is something in me that makes me want to reach out to them and give them support so that they can heal

from their traumatic experiences."

Malone is heavily involved in community outreach. In the D.C. area, she mentors at a local group home and detention center, helping youth set and attain goals.

The 20-year-old is not only passionate about making a difference in the community, but she is also dedicated to achieving academic excellence because she is the first in her family to attend college.

Malone is on the Dean's List and is a recipient of the Fine Arts Special Talent Scholarship.

> See **MISS D.C.**, page 2**D.C. Univ  
Loses  
Accreditation,  
Cuts Semester**

BY JUSTIN AMEY  
Contributing Writer

Southeastern University (SEU), a private university in D.C., lost its accreditation on Aug. 31, after the YMCA founded SEU 130 years ago.

SEU began as a group of classes offered by the YMCA of Washington, D.C. An Act of Congress chartered the university in 1879. The student body has historically consisted of international and low-income students. But after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, a vast majority of the students attending the university were local, low-income students.

Throughout its existence, SEU received its accreditation from Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE). As a private institution, the school did not have the financial backing of public universities, who get most of their funding from the government and taxes. SEU relied on private donors.

The MSCHE took away SEU's accreditation because the institution failed to meet educational and financial standards. According to the MSCHE, SEU lacked a necessary level of academic rigor, lost faculty, and had no financial stability. This move was expected since spring 2009, when things took a turn for the worse.

For all educational institutions, whether at the basic K-12 level and beyond, accreditation is essential. It is the primary means of assuring the quality of an institution. Without it, an educational institution is not considered legitimate.

"The loss of accreditation puts pressure on administration. They are forced to reassess academic offerings," said John Parks, Ph.D., an Afro-American Studies professor at Howard University.

> See **SEU**, page 5**VIBE Returns Under New Management**

BY KARA SINGLETON  
Staff Writer

After closing down just six weeks ago, VIBE magazine will be returning to print in November 2009.

InterMedia has partnered with both Blackrock Digital and Uptown Media Group, a media sales and marketing firm, to buy the assets of VIBE magazine.

The new publication will have more emphasis on digital coverage, but will still be published quarterly next year.

Senior English major Bowie McGilligan had no idea the magazine was returning, but hopes "they maintain the same format and follow the same guidance that made it a successful magazine, previously under Quincy Jones."

McGilligan said he enjoys the magazine because it's dedicated to hip-hop, a culture that interests him.

Although the publication will take time, Vibe.com has been re-launched. The new owners of VIBE plan to bring the magazine back to its founding and keep the magazine broader than just hip-hop music.

The magazine ceased its print publication after the 2009 September issue.

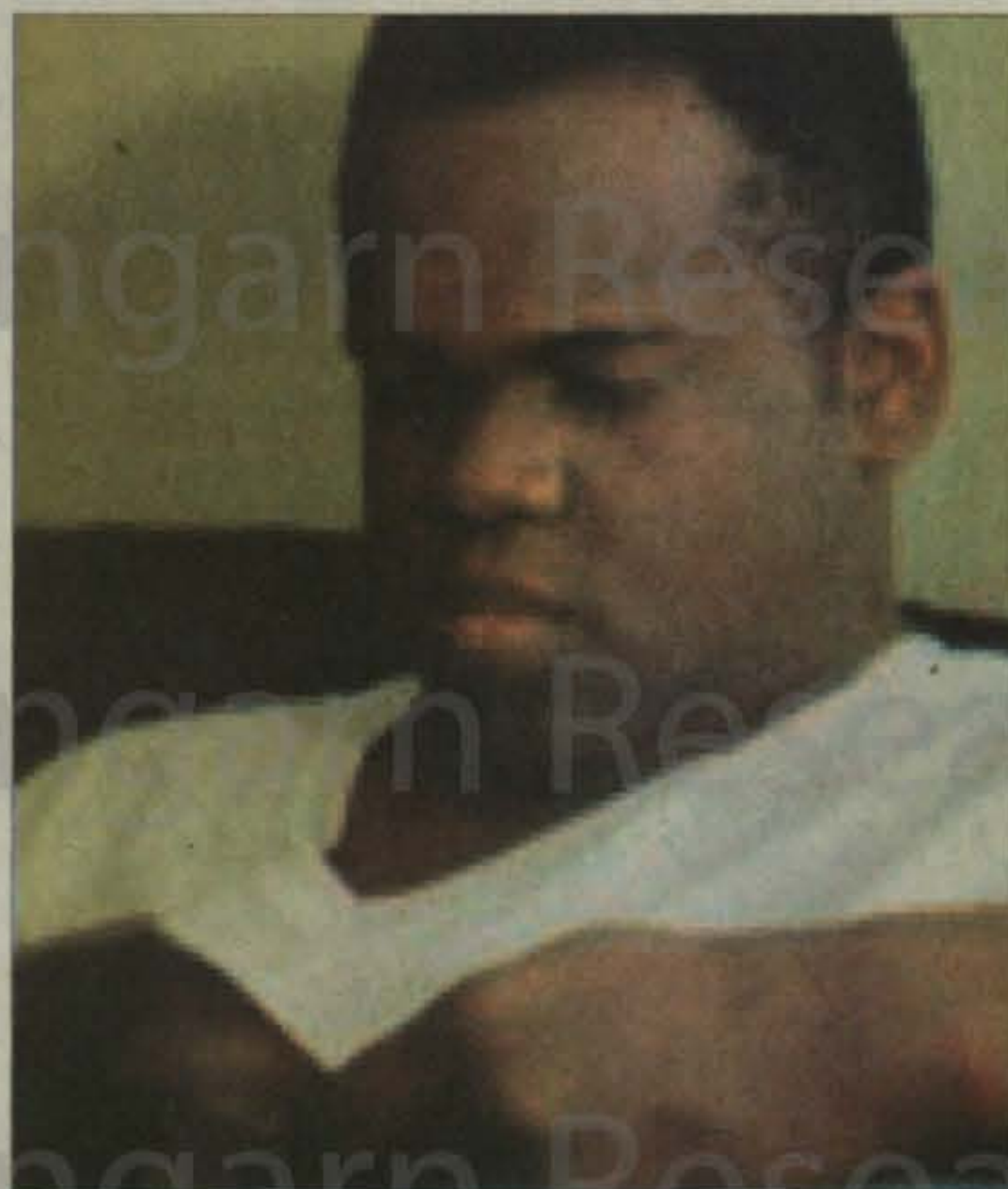
VIBE, known for its deep foundation in urban culture, was designed to give people an inside view into the dynamics of not only hip-hop music, but urban entertainers, designers and issues in urban communities.

"VIBE offers valuable insight and in-depth information on so many Hip-Hop music artists that are relevant to me as a young, avid consumer of hip-hop culture."

VIBE has contributed to the success of many artists waiting to emerge as popular urban artists.

Senior economics major Amber Mayes said she used to read the publication because it promoted up-and-coming artists.

"Vibe let us, as readers, into the lives of our favorite musicians and rappers and singers," Mayes said. "Vibe helped put a lot of people on the map. Reading articles about who is up-and-coming and people we had never heard of broadened our views of

> See **VIBE**, page 6

Faraday Okoro - Photo Editor

Like other Howard students, graduate student Vincent Williams is an avid magazine reader. The magazine is returning under new ownership this November.





Oluyomi Sodunke - Staff Photographer

## CEACS Sees New Royalty

Monday night brought in a new reigning king and queen for the College of Engineering, Architecture and Computer Sciences (CEACS), Kamaria Hakeem and Devon Hogan. The former king and queen, junior computer science major Jonathan Murphy and junior chemical engineering major Blanca Bailey, pictured far left and far right, passed down the crown to the new winners.

Hakeem, a sophomore chemical engineering major, performed an African stick dance for the talent portion. Her platform, "Bringing Humility Back to Howard's Campus," focused on the student body and the culture of Howard University.

Hogan, a sophomore architecture major, performed a spoken word piece titled "Little Brother." While Hakeem's portion focused on the university, Hogan focused more on the area surrounding Howard, with the platform "An Initiative to Improve the Performance of D.C.'s Endangered Youth in Public Schools."

- Crystal J. Allen, Editor-in-Chief

## The Vegan Life

... Through the eyes of a Howard Student

BY VICTORIA FORTUNE  
Staff Writer

With the United States currently in one of the worst economic crises in history, the life of a college student can get a little difficult. From paying for tuition to the purchasing food, many are becoming less concerned with the food they consume. However, despite the recession sophomore music business major Aqumeri Amen tries to remain true to being a vegan.

Amen has been a vegan since birth. She does not eat any foods made with dairy or animal products. With everyone in her household being a vegan, she had no choice but to support that eating habit.

"Managing to still remain a vegan at the 'Mecca' is incredibly difficult. When I first arrived on campus, I stuck strictly to my previous diet. However, as time went on, eating fries, grilled cheese, salads, pasta, and pizza only becomes incredibly monotonous," Amen said. "Howard does not, in any way, support being a vegetarian. Food and diet here is very parochial. And it's a shame because there are definitely vegetarians and vegans on this campus."

According to [www.vegan.org](http://www.vegan.org), the consumption of animal fats and proteins has been linked to heart disease, colon and lung cancer, osteoporosis, diabetes, kidney disease, hypertension, obesity and a number of other debilitating conditions.

Freshman biology major Danielle Miller is an international student from Kingston, Jamaica. Although she is not a vegan, she values what her body consumes.

"Jamaican food is well seasoned. Food in the café is very oily. It seems like everything has

the same general taste. Because of this I have to order food. This past week alone I've spent a lot of money on food. I think that the cafeteria should cater to vegetarians more," Miller said.

Even though Howard University may not cater to vegetarian or vegans, Soul Vegetarian Café located on Georgia Avenue does. The café serves dishes ranging from mac-n-cheese, to yams, all made with organic ingredients.

Though Miller and Amen are very concerned with what they eat, public relations major Brittany Ireland eats what she pleases.

"Because I can not afford to eat out everyday, I eat in the café mostly. I love the fries and pizza. If Howard offered a healthier selection of food then I think the tuition would be much higher. I don't need anymore tuition increases, especially with the economy being the way that it is," Ireland said.

Sodexo is the Howard University food service. Though many students may believe that the food provided is unhealthy, Sodexo's "residential dining programs provide fresh, chef-prepared selections customized to meet the individual needs of your students, staff and visitors."

With on- and off-campus meal plan solutions, block plans, and flex dollar programs, we offer the right combination of "all-you-care-to-eat" custom-prepared stations and retail services to satisfy any lifestyle."

A great deal of money is spent on tuition every semester. As Amen continues her journey at the Mecca, she hopes to see Howard make efforts to create a healthier selection of foods to eat.

## Howard Student Vies to Capture Chocolate City's Crown

Continued from FRONT, MISS D.C.

With another dream to obtain her Screen Actor's Guild card, Malone has been cast in three Howard University student films.

At the age of 17, Malone competed in the Miss Colorado Teen USA 2007 pageant. Out of the 51 contestants, Malone stood out because of her hard work and won the award for most dedicated.

"I was just staying focused. Even though I wasn't the winner, they definitely saw that I was dedicated and that I took it seriously and wanted to have fun," she said.

Malone is bringing that same attitude to this year's competition for Miss D.C. She said that her previous experience and her mentor, former Miss D.C. USA 2008 Chelsea Rodgers, are helping her through the process.

Rodgers, a graduate of Howard University's Law School, said, "She is a stunningly beautiful young lady who will grab the judges' eyes." Rodgers continued, "She is well spoken and has a unique personality."

With her bright blue-green eyes,

5-foot-6-inch stature and 122 pound frame, Malone is able to capture the attention of anyone who is in her presence. Rodgers said that Echoe has a good sense of self, and advises her to stay true to her personality and know that she is deserving of the opportunity.

"She has everything inside of her to do well," Rodgers said.

Rodgers is not the only one that believes in Echoe. Echoe's Facebook group, "Echoe Malone for Miss D.C. USA" already has 142 members. Malone hopes she will be successful like some of her predecessors. Howard University alumna Shauntay Hinton won the title of Miss D.C. USA and Miss USA in 2002.

In addition, six African-American women have been crowned Miss USA; the most recent was Crystle Stewart in 2008. Malone says the most challenging part about the preparation is obtaining sponsors to help defray the tremendous cost. The several expenses include the pageant fee, a gown, swimsuit, interview attire, shoes, a hair and makeup stylist, a physical trainer, and transportation totaling \$2,300.

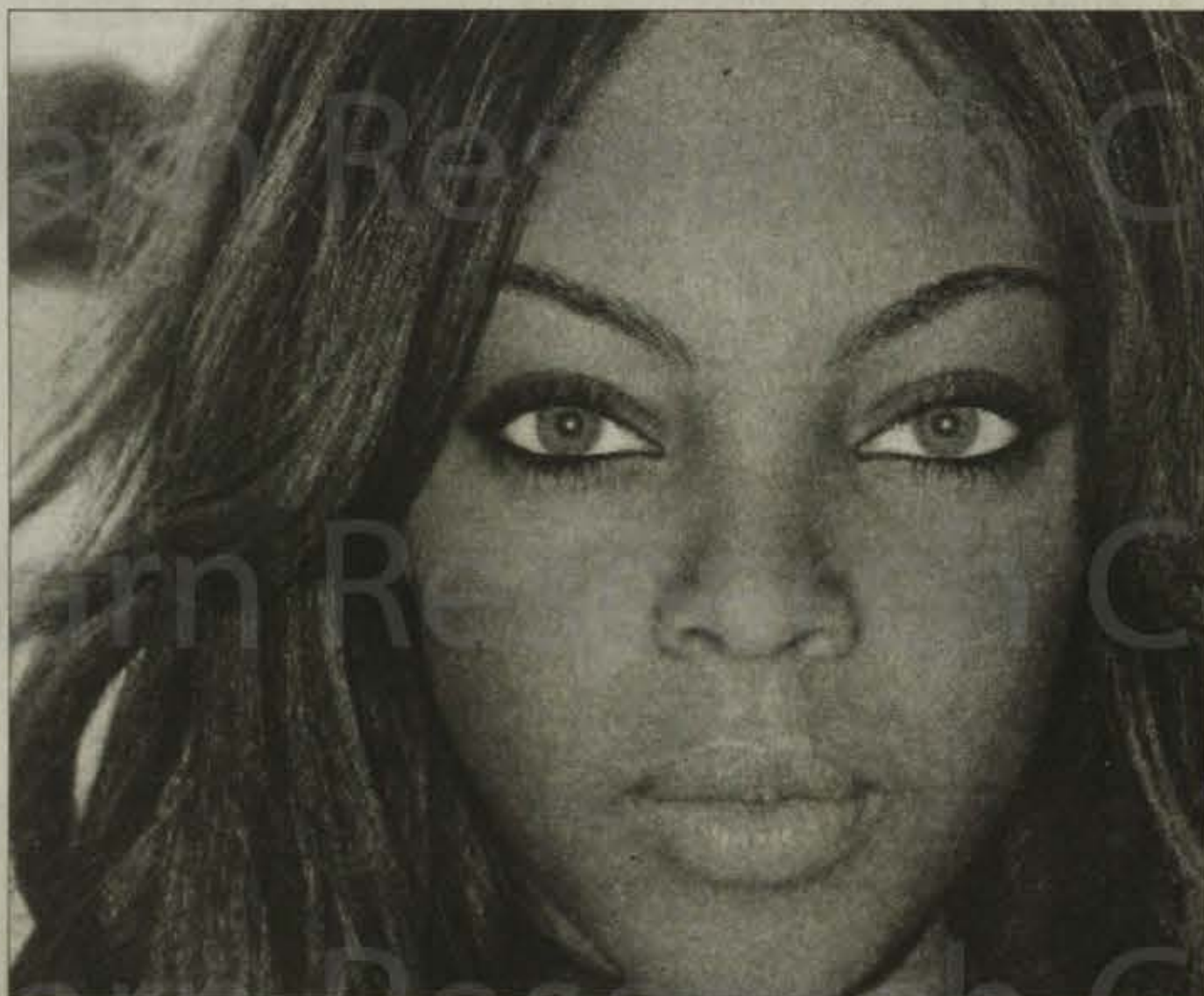


Photo: Courtesy of Echoe Malone

Howard University junior theater arts major Echoe Malone hopes to win the title Miss D.C. to advocate for the community.

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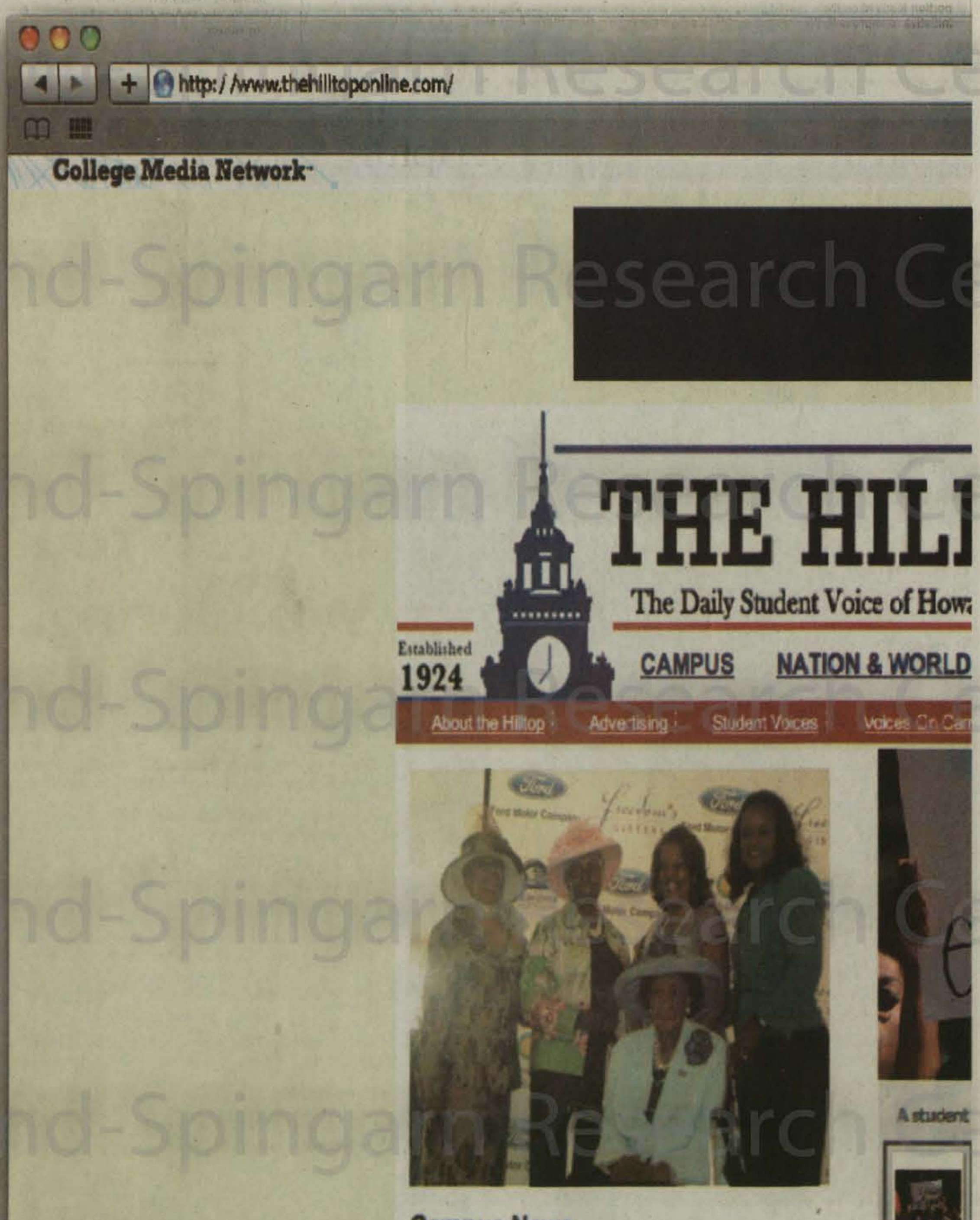
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# iTunes Argues for Price Increase for Music

BY SHANNON WHITE  
Contributing Writer

Have you ever downloaded your favorite movie or an episode of a popular TV show? And who hasn't listened to a 30-second music sample to decide if they want a song or not? For college students, these are everyday occurrences. Now, every time that happens, a group called the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) and similar groups are trying to get paid for it.

ASCAP and Broadcast Music Inc. (BMI) are arguing that those downloaded TV shows and movies contain music. iTunes recently introduced a price increase for songs, and while users are angry about it, there are likely to be more price increases if ASCAP and BMI's demands are met.

Composers, however, will have a hard time selling their case to the public.

"We make 9.1 cents off a song sale and that means a whole lot of pennies have to add up be-

fore it becomes a bunch of money," Rick Carnes, president of the Songwriters' Guild of America, told CNET.

"Yesterday, I received a check for 2 cents. I'm not kidding. People think we're making a fortune off the Web, but it's a tiny amount. We need multiple revenue streams or this isn't going to work."

An Apple Inc. representative did not comment on this subject.

The debate is really about performance fees, however.

Performance fees are collected when a song is played on television shows on cable, broadcast and satellite.

When the TV show is downloaded, there are no performance fees collected by companies like ASCAP.

To obtain these performance fees, the companies have to lobby Congress to pass legislation according to David Israelite, the president and CEO of the National Music Publishers Association.

According to Israelite, they are trying to get the law clarified. Regardless of what method the TV show with the song is watched, music publishing companies are still seeking performance rights.

Jonathan Potter, the executive director of the Digital Media Association (DiMA), represents media companies like Apple Inc., RealNetworks and Pandora.

He points out that those publishing associations do get paid for TV shows and movies inserting their songs in shows through synchronization fees.

When the TV show or movie actually airs, the publishing and song writing associations receive a performance fee also.

Israelite confirms this but argues that as more and more people begin to watch shows and movies over the Internet, they will quickly lose their performance income rights.

Potter, though expressing his remorse to CNET, also stresses that their troubles are not the fault of iTunes, Amazon, or consumers.



Oluyomi Sodunke - Staff Photographer

Senior chemical engineering major Yohan Bobcombe is one iTunes customer who, like many others, uses the program to upload songs to his iPod.

"I don't think they should pay for people downloading the TV shows and movies. I believe they already get their share of money

when it airs on television," junior television production major Kindsey Young said. "They are just being greedy."

## New Trojan Virus Causes Trouble for Bankers

*Virus steals money, log-in information for online bankers, under fraud detection software*

BY ALEXIS K. BARNES  
Business & Technology Editor

Overdraft fees are the least of consumers' worries according to researchers who discovered recent hijacking software that holds features able to bypass fraud detection systems.

Security firm, Finjan, found a new type of banking Trojan virus that is able to not only steal bank log-in information but actual money from your account.

Dubbed URLZone, the Trojan, is able to stay under the radar of fraud detection software. The software operates while a consumer is logged in and displays a fake balance to deceive users.

Finjan's Chief Technology Officer, Yuval Ben-Itzhak, said URLZone is different from previous Trojans in that it manipulates its way through Firefox, Internet Explorer 6, IE7, IE8 and Opera.

Kimberly Jacobs, senior print journalism major, uses Internet Explorer 6 and thinks the po-

tential harm of this newly discovered computer virus is scary.

"I am about to enter the real world and hopefully make big money," she said. "It scares me that my future salary could be at risk for something like this."

Available only on the Windows systems, the virus can come through JavaScript or Adobe PDF files. Created by a command-and-control server in the Ukraine, fraud criminals targeted and analyzed German bankers, according to a Finjan report.

The criminals stole the equivalent of \$438,000 during a span of 22 days in August.

Senior print journalism major, Nicole Austin, is wary of the new threat.


"It makes me not want to do online banking at all anymore," Austin said. "I would just use ATMs or enter the bank."

According to CBSNews.com, a tool kit called LuckySploit maneuvers its way through a known security hole in bankers' browsers and when the banker logs onto a

bank site, it activates, configuring the maximum range of money it can withdraw illegally. The range lies below the amount that triggers antifraud systems.

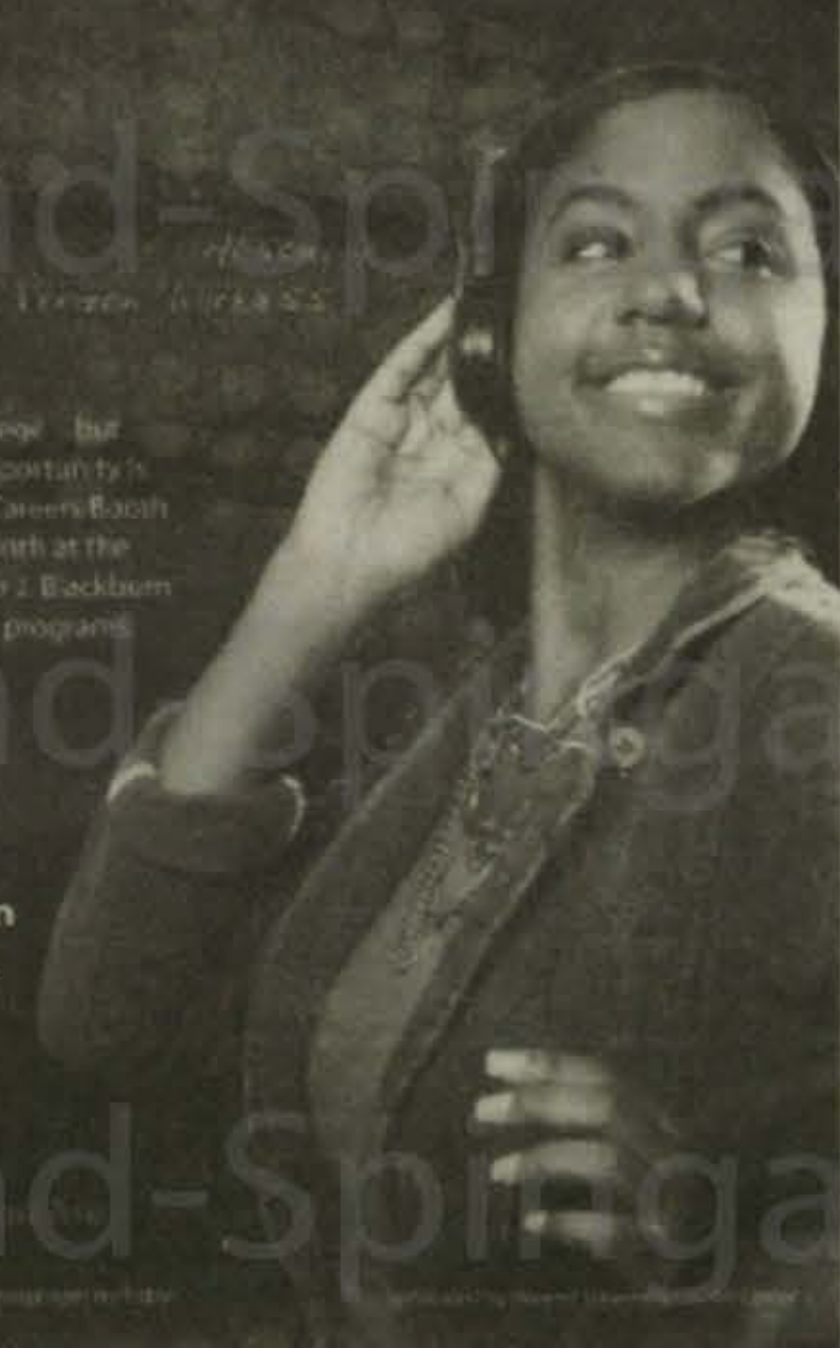
"The Trojan is sending requests to the bank and getting replies that your browser doesn't display," Ben-Itzhak said. "You are looking at your account and you don't see any of it."

Students should keep their antivirus software, operating systems and browsers up to date to protect themselves from viruses.



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Photo Courtesy of NASA

## In Case You Were Wondering...

The first clown entered space yesterday as billionaire circus tycoon, Guy Laliberte, made his way to the International Space Station - paying a reported \$35 million to become the seventh space tourist.

Founder and Chief Executive Officer of the acclaimed Cirque du Soleil (Circus of the Sun), Laliberte, began his career as an accordion player, stilt walker and fire-eater.

Reportedly worth \$2.5 billion, the entrepreneur created his unique circus by combining various circus styles from around the world.

Laliberte left for the space station last Wednesday in the Russian Soyuz capsule with Russian cosmonaut Maxim Surayev and U.S. astronaut Jeffrey Williams. The astronauts successfully arrived at the International Space Station Friday.

Family and friends crowded the Russian launch facility on the Kazakh Steppes and the nine-minute launch operated without incident, reported CBS News Space Consultant Bill Harwood.

The capsule will take two orbits to attach itself to the spacecraft, check all leaks and enter the station.

Laliberte wants his trip to be entertaining and make an impact; one reason he is taking this dangerous trip is to publicize the limited supply of clean drinking water available on Earth.

"In my life I have been doing a lot of fun, crazy and adventurous things, but this is totally the biggest adventure I have ever embarked on," Laliberte told the Associated Press.

He boarded the aircraft with a signature clown nose and brought noses for his crew mates.

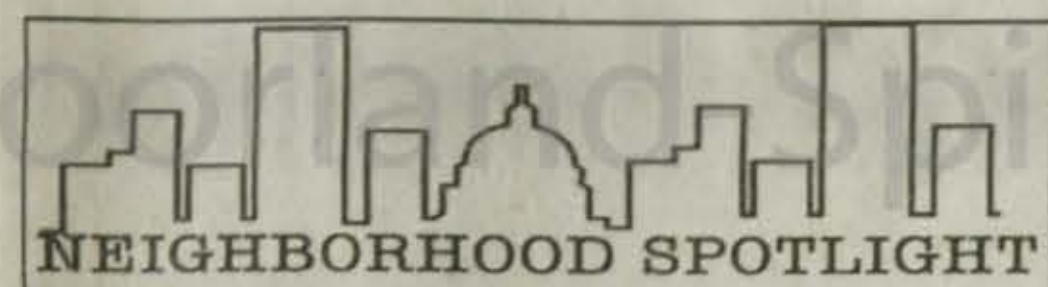
Compiled by Alexis K. Barnes  
Business & Technology Editor





Photo Courtesy of Wikipedia

In Logan Circle, a statue of Gen. John A. Logan is located in the park, which was dedicated to the neighborhood by former U.S. President William McKinley on April 9, 1901.



NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT

## Logan Circle

BY PHYLICIA SMITH  
Contributing Writer

Long time resident, Alfred Hayes, speaks with pride about his restored neighborhood, saying it's one of the few remaining residential circles left in the District's downtown. The traffic circle is the intersection of 13th Street, P Street, Rhode Island Avenue, and Vermont Avenue, with a federal park located in the middle.

Logan Circle was formerly known as Iowa Circle until the 1930s when it was renamed by Congress in memory of Civil War general and U.S. senator John A. Logan. General Logan lived in the area in 1885. Today, there is a statue of him in the center of the circle which was dedicated to the neighborhood by former U.S. President William McKinley on April 9, 1901.

Logan Circle began as a Civil War camp which was known as a site for hanging deserters and spies. After the Civil War, the circle became a premier Washington, D.C. residential area, the home of notables. Some historic, prominent residents of the Logan Circle neighborhood are Mary McLeod Bethune, founder of the National Council of Negro Women, Belford V. Lawson, a famous civil rights attorney and orator, and former U.S. President Ulysses S. Grant.

Born and raised in the Logan Circle neighborhood of the Northwest quadrant of D.C., Hayes remembers how his neighborhood drastically changed.

"As a child, growing up I remember all the prominent black owned businesses lining the

street. Everywhere you looked there were successful black people, working hard and striving to make a living for their families," Hayes said.

Beginning in the 1940s, the Logan Circle community entered into a long, critical period of social decline and dilapidation of its homes. During the past 20 years, Logan Circle has shown a tremendous growth in population and positive community involvement. It has transformed from a place of decayed houses, prostitution, and drug infestation to a unique, prominent neighborhood.

The Logan Circle Historic District was recognized and designated a D.C. landmark district on March 28, 1972. On June 30, 1972, it was listed as a historic district in the National Register of Historic Places.

An unusual addition to this historic neighborhood is the "Watermelon House," a neighborhood landmark located at 1112 Q Street, NW. This end row house features a watermelon mural painted on the side of the house.

The homeowners, Wade Wilson and Robert Banaszak, hired professionals to paint the exterior of their home fire engine red. Surprisingly, the couple was unhappy with the results, describing the side's color as resembling Pepto-Bismol. They decided to use black, green, and pink to paint a large watermelon.

"It's weird but everybody seems to like it. Especially the kids. When they see it, they scream, 'Look, it's a watermelon!'" said Alisha Gibson, a resident of D.C.

## Fall Semester at Southeastern Univ. Cut After Loss of Accreditation

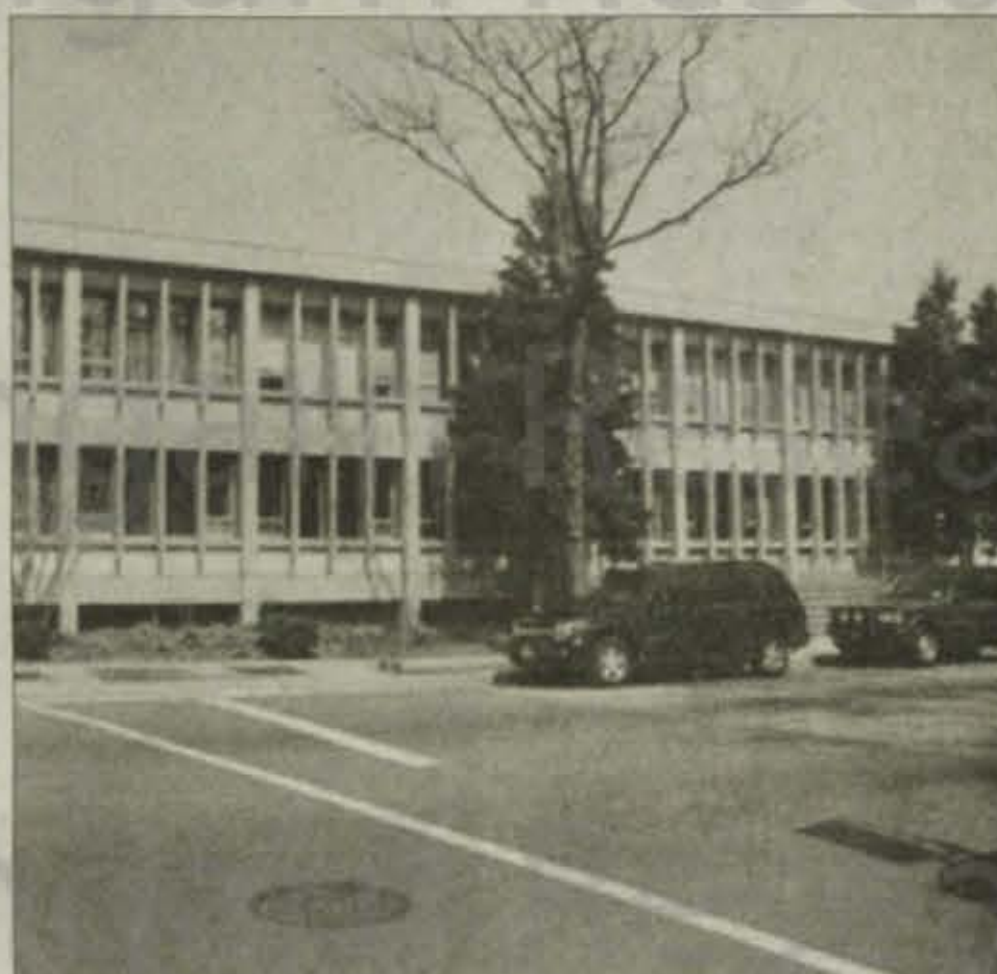


Photo Courtesy of stateuniversity.com

Southeastern University lost its accreditation on Aug. 31.

Continued from FRONT, SEU

"Whatever department is not economically feasible is first to go."

The support a private institution receives goes hand in hand with the quality of its education. Donors are more interested in supporting high caliber programs. Consequently, as SEU began to lose faculty and prestige, the school gradually received less funding.

SEU offers 30 degree programs. Only 14 percent of first-time students enrolled in a bachelor's degree program graduate within six years. The tenured faculty was reduced to 10 members at one point. The university had to employ 150 adjunct faculty members to adjust to this reduction.

The struggles of Southeastern University have put a great deal of stress on students, faculty, and administrators.

Charlene Jarvis resigned from her position as president of the university on March 31. Subsequently, Elaine Ryan took on the role as president. When Southeastern lost its accreditation, only 300 students and 19 faculty and administrators remained.

"I think it's disappointing to hear about universities losing accreditation. As a student, you attend college to further your

quality of life," said Monique Rochon, a senior administration of justice major at Howard University.

Due to the loss of its accreditation and financial difficulties, SEU is no longer accepting applications from students, and will not be offering instruction for fall 2009. The 300 former students transferred to the University of the District of Columbia, Trinity Washington University, and other colleges in the D.C. area.

"School costs money; in many cases, money that most families don't have. So to spend years at an institution that is not living up to standards is a waste of time and money," Rochon said.

At this time, the future of SEU is uncertain. SEU's days as a separate educational institution are most likely over.

The university is looking into a merger with GS Graduate School, an institution that serves 200,000 students annually in nearly 1,000 courses in programs ranging from government-based specialties and economics to foreign language. Most of GS's students are adults and government workers.

"When you lose your accreditation, it stays on your record. It's something that haunts you," Parks said.

## Metro Briefs

### Car Crashes into Georgetown Whole Foods Store Resulting in Minor Injuries

A driver failed to stop and crashed into a Georgetown Whole Foods market. The driver of the car, an elderly woman, sustained minor injuries. The collision caused minor damage to the Whole Foods store.

According to the D.C. Fire Department, the car crashed into an elevator shaft, but no one was injured in the incident.

As a result of the collision, the store was evacuated as a safety measure. A building inspector will come to examine the damages.

### Taxis Refuse to Pick Up Passengers in Adams Morgan

On Saturday night, taxi drivers in Adams Morgan refused to pick up passengers in protest. Angered by Councilmember Jim Graham's proposal to institute a medalion rating system, cab drivers went on strike from about 1 a.m. to 4 a.m.

The new system, if approved, will charge taxi drivers a monthly fee.

Adams Morgan features a lively atmosphere on the weekends with its many bars and nightclubs. Those in the neighborhood Saturday night were frustrated by the lack of easy and accessible transportation. After Metrorail stations close, a taxi is a safe alternative for getting home, a service that drivers refused to offer.

### Protests Speak Out Against Firing of 300 School Employees

As a result of a \$40 million budget deficit, a total of 388 school employees were terminated, 229 of them were teachers. This development set off a protest on Monday morning at McKinley Tech High School. Over 100 people, including teachers, parents and students, participated in a protest of the recent firings.

McKinley Tech has been affected most by the new policy. The teachers are currently on paid administrative leave until Nov. 2, when their term will officially be terminated.

The teacher's union is responding to the recent wave of firings and plans to issue lawsuits as soon as next week.

### City Officials Unveil New Columbia Heights Fountain

As part of the Columbia Heights Public Realm Project, the Columbia Heights neighborhood now has a new fountain. Named the "Resonance," the fountain is in the heart of the commercial district.

D.C. Mayor Adrian Fenty, with Councilmember Jim Graham and Department of Transportation Director Gabe Klein all joined for the inaugural unveiling of the neighborhood's new addition. It is designed to be a "cultural kaleidoscope" which will piece together the various elements of the neighborhood.

"Resonance is a beautiful representation of the diversity in Columbia Heights," said Gloria Nauden, Director of the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

- Compiled by  
Genet Lakew, Metro Editor

## What's Your Favorite Thing About Living in D.C.?



"Compared to New York, I guess the culture. I wanted something that was just like New York and what D.C. had for me was the culture."

- Krystalyn Azikiwe  
Junior,  
Business Management



"I surprisingly found it so small. It's packed with stuff to do. Sometimes I want to go to a baseball game, Eastern Market, etc. So many places to go and it's so quick."

- Brandon Griffin  
Sophomore,  
Psychology



"I like that there's so many different things right here. Nowhere will you live with so many different socioeconomic statuses. There's just a lot of culture, a lot of diversity. I don't think a lot of cities have that."

- Ashlee Hamilton  
Senior,  
Physical Therapy



"Good culture."

- Hubert Smith  
Senior,  
Business Management

- Compiled by  
Genet Lakew, Metro Editor





## Making Healthy Choices in Unhealthy Places

BY TIFFANY BRIGGS  
Contributing Writer

While many blame the escalating rates of obesity to the popularity of fast food, the fact is, there are many healthy menu choices at almost every major fast food franchise.

There are various places around Howard's campus to get a quick bite to eat in between and after classes. We have McDonald's, Negril, Subway, and even The Punch-Out and The Cafe. With a variety of food places accessible to campus, what are some healthy options that students get when they go to these places?

Senior broadcast journalism major Candice Dillard doesn't really count calories or fat content when she goes to fast food restaurants.

"I try not to eat fast food, but if I do, I will order a salad or chicken as opposed to beef or pork, but there are some times when I just want a burger with all the fat fixings on it."

A number of popular fast food chains have items on the menu with less calories that are still appealing to the consumer.

McDonald's has several selections like the snack wrap and the grilled chicken salad. Wendy's serves side caesar salads, side chef salads, and even the small chili that is only 190 calories.

Senior nutritional science major Brittany Thomas uses a different tactic if she eats at a fast food restaurant.

"If I choose to eat fast food I will get smaller portions like sandwich and no fries, or get smaller portions like a kids meal."

Askmen.com Nutrition Correspondent Sabrina Rogers named some things to keep in mind when trying to pick healthy fast food options. The include getting:

1. the smallest size of burger
2. grilled chicken sand wiches or salads
3. low-fat dressings and sauces (or none at all)
4. diet soft drinks or water

Some things she said to avoid are:

1. super-size of anything
2. fried or breaded chicken or fish
3. chicken nuggets
4. high-fat sauces and dressings
5. onion rings
6. extra cheese

Senior, television production major Rhea Shannon carries snacks around with her so she doesn't have to go near fast food.

"I think its better to carry a fruit cup or a piece of fruit around with me, one because it saves me money, and two so I don't have to eat unhealthy fast food."

Since fast food restaurants now have healthier foods on their menus, consumer should have no problems choosing healthier options.

## Don't Call it a Comeback...

*After closing because of financial difficulties, Vibe is relaunching and focusing on digital media*

Continued from FRONT, VIBE

"It was crushing, especially to be in the Vibe offices when it happened," Randle said. It was a surreal feeling, almost unbelievable. I almost laughed because I thought it was a joke the editorial staff was playing on the interns."

The loss of advertisements and lack of investment opportunities were just some factors that ultimately led to the publication's closing just six weeks ago.

Although all publication has stopped, there was a fight to keep this Vibe in print. Vibe staff took pay cuts and tried to maneuver around funds long enough for the media decline to lighten.

Aaron Randle, junior print journalism major and *Hilltop* staff writer interned at VIBE magazine throughout the summer.

Randle believes "Vibe has impacted the Hip-Hop community simply in being its voice, and its liaison to the rest of the world. Without Vibe, Hip-Hop would not be as universally respected as it is now."

The new management has a detailed plan for the magazine and high expectations for the re-launch. The passion for Hip-Hop and R&B has not left the urban community; it is still very much alive and thriving.



Photo Courtesy of ThisIs50.com

After months of struggling to keep afloat, Vibe magazine closed its doors after this year's Sept. issue. Now measures are being taken to keep Vibe a relevant magazine in urban culture.

## Cougars on the Hunt: Is He Prey?



Photo Courtesy of ConcreteLoop.com

More women are opting to date, and even marry, younger men. Being a "Cougar" is becoming a new trend. Even superstar singer Mariah Carey is a Cougar, marrying actor Nick Cannon, who's 11 years younger.

BY RONALD TOLSON  
Contributing Writer

With famous couples like Mariah Carey and Nick Cannon in the limelight, older women and younger men pairings are becoming more popular and trendy. The stereotypical views of older women/younger men relations are slowly being thrown away.

As women age and have more choices available to them, dating younger men can be more appealing than dating men of their same age. Older women are finding it easier to date younger men because they have less baggage in comparison to older men that have been divorced, have ex-wives, and kids.

With this trend becoming more and more popular, the term "Cougar" is being used to describe the once unlikely pairing. Even though it is becoming more acceptable, there is still an element of taboo surrounding these age-spanning relationships.

Names like "Cougar" are being used in a derogatory way which has some of the women who date younger men outraged.

"I do not identify with this because I do not hunt men like they are prey", says 49 year-old Alexandra Homes. "Younger men approach me. They seem to be more confident than men my age and that attracts me to them."

While many people are defining the term "Cougar" as older women, usually in her late 30's and older who specifically go

after men who are at least 10 to 15 years younger, these women say they are doing what men have done throughout history. They are going after a mate that they find most attractive, regardless of age or convention.

Sex and relationships columnist and author of "Cougar: A Guide for Older Women Dating Younger Men," Valerie Gibson, says that the term "Cougar" originated in Vancouver, British Columbia, as a put-down for older women who would go to bars and go home with whoever was left at the end of the night.

Gibson wants to express to the world that a "Cougar" is not a bad person.

Gabrielle Harris, senior marketing major, agrees with Gibson. "Since the beginning of

time, women have been valued for their youth and their beauty, and men have been valued for their ability to provide for a family. But now so many women have great, successful careers which makes them not need men in the way that they used to."

Women are becoming more prominent in the work force today and are building financial stability on their own. Thus, women are no longer having to evaluate a man based off of whether or not they are going to be a good provider, and that opens up a much wider man pool to choose from.

Celebrities are at the forefront of this trend and are helping it progress, with women such as Halle Berry, 40, who is dating a 31-year old model and Linda Bollea, Hulk Hogan's ex-wife, who is dating a 19 year-old male.

"When it becomes celebrity driven, it becomes acceptable to everybody. People are now saying, 'Well, if they do then it's OK,' said relationship writer Amy Kean.

The National Association of Retired Persons released a survey revealing that one-third of single women between the ages 40 and 60 are dating younger men, and 67 percent of women say they have dated a younger man. The study also revealed that 49 percent of men admit to dating an older woman.

Men are beginning to drive this trend as well. They are starting web sites devoted to finding "Cougars". These men are calling themselves "cougar hunters." These web sites give men information on how to find cougars and what to do with them when they find them.

Kean says, "The trend shows no signs of stopping because women are not 'going back to the kitchen' and they will only continue to grow stronger and more confident."

*Come to The Hilltop's budget meeting next MONDAY  
after the holiday.*

*Same time, same place, different day.*

*6 p.m. in the West Tower, P-Level*

**Do You Like Tanya Morgan & Hip-Hop legends Black Sheep?**  
**E-mail hilltopls@gmail.com your favorite song from**  
**either group for FREE TICKETS!**





## Recent Thefts Strike a Nerve With HU Students

Glaring evidence of the break-in was all around the School of Business office. Tile hanging loosely from the ceiling with a chair placed strategically below the opening, proving perfect for the intruder's landing after coming through the ceiling. Tread marks indicated where the intruder slid down the wall, and, worst of all, two missing computers.

This is just one account of the pilfering of campus buildings and offices that have recently plagued Howard University.

Unfortunately, in past weeks, several incidents of theft have occurred on and around Howard's campus, including the computers from the School of Business Student Council office, projectors that have been snatched from both the School of Communications and the Architecture Buildings and even a student's personal laptop lifted during a Sunday chapel service. It's becoming a pretty depressing trend.

These recent inci-

dents of campus plundering have been met with disdain, frustration, and sadness from students and faculty alike.

Not only have campus resources such as computers and projectors been stolen, but personal belongings from both students and faculty have been lifted as well, including the aforementioned student laptop during a recent chapel service, as

graduation.

So why would someone feel it's acceptable to disrespect both Howard University or our fellow students by *stealing*? In many cases, these are resources that are supposed to serve and benefit the learning and growth of Howard students. These thieves aren't simply robbing the university. They're robbing us.

As often as we hear complaints about Howard's lack of technological equipment and other useful resources, it's completely baffling that there is someone around campus going through campus buildings, pirating both the resources meant to benefit all students and individuals' personal belongings.

Howard is our home, and it's our job to care for it by respecting Howard University, its student's and faculty's property. Making a quick buck isn't worth disrespecting Howard University's campus.

### Our View:

*Stealing is disrespectful to both Howard University, its students and faculty.*

well as a faculty member's personal computer, wallet, credit cards and money.

As students of Howard University, we all have a stake in the campus-- it's our home. It's where we learn, where we socialize, where we work to prepare for successful and fulfilling lives after

## Perspective

### "It's a Family Affair"

On the behalf of myself, Jameelah Malik-Carr, and my son Jhalil North, I would like to express my deep concern and address the Oct. 2, 2009 *Hilltop* article, "You Know You Go to Howard When... The Bison Album."

The article displayed myself and my son, with the caption reading "You Know You Go to Howard When... It's a Family Affair."

My initial response was one of complete shock; I was distraught, angry and hurt to see that my son and I were being made a mockery of.

Also, I did not give my consent to have my son and I photographed let alone be placed in *The Hilltop*, with a negative connotation of all things.

I've spoken with the faculty advisor, Editor-in-Chief and several members on *The Hilltop* staff and they have all offered personal apologies.

I am appreciative of their apologies; however, the purpose of this letter is to explain why I am offended.

I would like for *The Hilltop* to think about their

actions before they make such rash decisions.

My number one priority is my son and secondly that I am a student. I am a single mother and everything I do is centered on those two things.

Everyday of my life is a struggle, yet I continue to provide for my son and me. This is not a cry for pity, but an opportunity to educate the Howard community about being sensitive to individuals and their situations.

I live in Mitchellville, Md.; I do not have a car, no campus housing, no meal-plan and no daycare. Rain, sleet or snow, I wake up every morning at 6:00 am to get me and MY SON ready for school. I take a 50-minute train, then walk to campus from the Metro just to attend classes which are Monday-Friday.

I do not complain I do it because this is the decision that I made when I decided to keep my child and come back to school. I should not be insulted for my decision, I should however be commended.

I was told that on Monday, Oct. 5, 2009 *The*

*Hilltop* would issue an apology and a retraction of this article. I understand that this is supposed to rectify the situation, nonetheless this WILL NOT and cannot "fix" the way that I feel, it only resolves the errors of those who were insensitive to the beginning.

My life has been made into a joke, as if I were a jester in your courts and not as if I am a mother who is trying to do her absolute best.

I am providing a respectable life for my son as stand-up citizen and not as another statistic.

In closing, I would like to thank you for your efforts in trying to justify the actions of *The Hilltop*. I hope that you all take this as a learning experience and turn this negative experience into one that all of you can learn from. I am not the first single mother to be on campus with her child and I will not be the last.

Sincerely,

Jameelah Malik-Carr and Jhalil North

## Daily Sudoku

Directions:

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

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

## 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 hilltop@hmu.edu.*

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.

Send your perspectives to  
[HilltopEditorials@gmail.com](mailto:HilltopEditorials@gmail.com)  
Speak up.



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](mailto:classifieds@thehilltoponline.com); be sure to specify your run date, background and text colors.

**ARE YOU FUNNY? Improv and sketch comedy group The Team is holding auditions for new members!** For info, email [HuTheTeam@gmail.com](mailto:HuTheTeam@gmail.com)

**HUSA & Ubiquity, Inc. Presents...**  
**"Thankstaking: Exposing the Truth about Columbus Day"**  
**Thursday, Oct. 8, 2009**  
**7:00pm**  
**Blackburn Digital Auditorium**  
**You dont want to miss this panel discussion!**

**National Council of Negro Women invites you to our 2nd Annual Health Week:**

**Tuesday:**  
**Dental Care/ General Body Meeting , 7pm, Engineering Aud.**

**Wed.:**  
**Drug and Alcohol Abuse, 7 pm**  
**Location TBA**

**Thurs.:**  
**Obesity, 7pm, Founders Browsing Room**

**All are welcome!!!**  
**Membership dues and applications accepted all week!!!**

**18th Annual Woman to Woman Conference**  
**Entitled Sisters Lets Talk...**  
**Unveiling Our Destiny, Pursuing a Path of Purpose**  
**requests your assistance.**  
**If you are interested in volunteering, please email**  
**chair@womanto-womanconference.org**

**Political Science Society meets in DGH B21 Tues 6 pm. Ask Ms. Taylor in Poli Sci Department for more info.**

**The School of Communications Student Council needs volunteers for the Mid-Atlantic Pre-Law Conference. If interested, please attend the meeting on Wednesday, October 7, 2009 in C.B. Powell Room 213**

*The Ladies of Alpha Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Presents*  
**27th Annual Walk A Thon Collection Date #3**  
**Wednesday October 7th 6pm**  
**Engineering Auditorium**

**Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc, Alpha Chapter presents... Sigma Week 2009: "I Got The Blues" Oct 4th-10th**

**Tuesday Oct 6th: "True Blues" Music Appreciation program Location: Blackburn Forum Attire: Business casual Time: 7:14pm**

**Wednesday Oct 7th : Meet the Brothers Location: Blackburn Digital Auditorium Attire: Business Time: 7:14pm**

**Thursday Oct 8th: "Speak Your Mind Pt. 2" Location: TBA Attire: Casual Time: 7:14pm**

**Friday Oct 9th: "BLU Cheese and Wings with the MAB" Location: Meet at the Tree/ ESPN Zone Attire: Casual Time: 6:30pm**

**Sat Oct 10th: Community Service Location: Meet at the Tree/Soup Kitchen Attire: Casual Time: 10am**

*The Ladies of Alpha Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc Present:*  
**A Woman's Demarcation: The Dividing Line Between Pro-Life and Pro-Choice**  
**October 7, 2009**  
**Engineering Auditorium 7:00pm**

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