

Howard University

Digital Howard @ Howard University

The Hilltop: 2000 - 2010

The Hilltop Digital Archive

11-4-2009

The Hilltop 11-4-2009

Hilltop Staff

Follow this and additional works at: https://dh.howard.edu/hilltop_0010

Recommended Citation

Staff, Hilltop, "The Hilltop 11-4-2009" (2009). *The Hilltop: 2000 - 2010*. 668.
https://dh.howard.edu/hilltop_0010/668

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

WEATHER

55
44
Tomorrow:
56
39

Established
1924

Wednesday's Notebook

CAMPUS

STUDENTS CONSIDER HOW DORM LIFE AFFECTS THEIR OVERALL HOWARD EXPERIENCE.

NATION & WORLD

TODAY'S SECTION IS DEDICATED TO BARACK OBAMA'S FIRST YEAR AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

SPORTS

BLACK ATHLETES DOMINATE A LARGE PORTION OF THE NFL, BUT THERE'S ONE POSITION THEY'VE YET TO RULE.

PAGE 2

PAGE 4

PAGE 7

Howard Alumnus Runs for Mayor of Atlanta

BY TAHIRAH HAIRSTON
Campus Editor

Yesterday, election season came to a close with the announcement that Howard alumnus and Trustee Kaseem Reed garnered enough votes to force a mayoral runoff in Atlanta on Dec. 1 against Mary Norwood.

More than 30 members of Howard University's Georgia Club accompanied by three Howard University faculty members took a 12-hour bus ride to Atlanta to campaign for Reed.

With Howard alumna Shirley Franklin already the current mayor, junior economics major Pierre Whatley said they came to help in any way to get another Howard alumni in office.

"We are going to be 'leaders for America and the global community' and we are starting that by putting another Bison in a leadership position for America," Whatley said.

The group of students and faculty left at 7 p.m. on Sunday night and arrived in Atlanta at 6 a.m. on Monday morning.

"They got off the bus at 6 a.m. and went straight to work, and then got up the next day to

do the same thing," said Interim Vice Provost of Student Affairs, Dean Charles Gibbs. The students returned this morning at 3 a.m.

The trip was funded by the Office of the Secretary Carrie Cowan, and included taking a charter bus to Atlanta, where students stayed at their places of residence.

"It was a great opportunity that we got a chance to go back home and help him [Kasim Reed] campaign," said Carolyn Smith, Georgia Club vice president and sophomore public relations major.

Whatley said their job was basically grassroots campaigning, which included talking to people and getting them to vote.

"We made our school look very well; people from the community commended us," Whatley said.

The students who chose to participate had to be from Georgia, particularly from the Atlanta area. Whatley said that the students who were registered in the metro Atlanta area got out and voted while they were there, including Whatley.

The polls opened on Tuesday at 7 a.m. and closed at 7 p.m.

Reed, the youngest member



Kasim Reed, a Howard University alumnus and trustee ran for mayor in Atlanta. Members of HU faculty and students in the Georgia Club travelled down to Atlanta to help with campaigning.

on the Board of Trustees, was a political science major and served as the undergraduate trustee and was even classmates with Gibbs during his tenure at Howard as a student.

"He has always been active on Howard's campus; he got two degrees from here," Gibbs said.

"He's always been into politics and very focused on his business."

Since Reed served Howard in various capacities, Whatley said this was a way for us to help him through public leadership and service. "Serving is what it's all about," he said.

The best experience for

Whatley was when he got to speak at Reed's campaign rally on Monday night.

"Overall, this experience was phenomenal, would not have traded it for anything. I got people's e-mails and contacts for internships," Smith said.



The "Young, Black, Uninsured" panelists spoke about the lack of health care that black youth are receiving.

'Young, Black, Uninsured' Discusses Lack of Health Care

BY LEEANDRIA WILLIAMS
Contributing Writer

Today, students from Howard and concerned citizens from across the nation will gather at 10 a.m. in front of the U.S. Capitol under the direction of the Children's Defense Fund (CDF) to rally for justice for the millions of youth without health care.

Howard's involvement in the campaign began Tuesday evening with a three-person panel entitled, "Young, Black and Uninsured."

"When 8.1 million children are uninsured, America is in a state of distress," said panel moderator Melech Thomas, a senior speech and applied communications major.

Panelist Dr. Michal Young, a graduate of Howard University School of Medicine, stressed the importance of a solid health care plan.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the

percentage of children without health care in 2008 was 6.6 percent.

Since 1997, the percentage has been 7 percent on average. CDF reports that 9,000 children in the District of Columbia, or 7.6 percent, are uninsured. 77,529 of D.C. children are on Medicaid.

According to handouts distributed at the program by the CDF, the current health care reform proposals in Congress directly affect younger generations. The expansion of Medicaid alone will cover 9.2 million more young adults, according to the handout.

"All you need to do is really get sick, and you'll discover you do not have the coverage you think you have," Young said.

Panelists urged the audience to get involved in lobbying for the youth by contacting government representatives through calls, e-mails and even personal visits.

Every Wednesday, "Students for Health Care" tries to push this

initiative by making trips to Capitol Hill to speak with representatives.

"We have people in the Shaw Howard area who look to Howard University students to advocate for them," said Giona Jefferson, a senior communication and culture major and member of the college committee for the Champions for Children's Health Stroller Brigade.

CDF reports that in Maryland, 129,000 children, 9 percent, are uninsured and 359,376 children are enrolled in Medicaid. 188,000 children in Virginia, 9.7 percent, have no insurance and 463,221 children have Medicaid, according to the CDF. The statistics in the community surrounding Howard, the DMV area, are higher than the nation's average.

"I don't know if we are trying to reform something, but rather build something," said panelist Gregory Carr, chairman of Afro-American Studies Department.

Recycling Program Seeks Awareness

BY CAMILLE AUGUSTIN
Staff Writer

Today marks the first of five training sessions this semester aimed at increasing awareness of the Howard University Bison Recycling Program, which was launched on Sept. 18.

"The underlying larger goal is to help students and staff understand the importance of making a personal commitment to support this important recycling program," said Alfonzye Chisholm, director of capital planning at Howard University. "Without that commitment, the program will not succeed. It is important to help save our world and its resources."

Although students pushed for the change for more than a year, Chisholm said the sessions are important because the discussion needs to move to how to properly use the bins.

According to Chisholm, students and faculty will be able to

engage in a discussion about the location and strategic use of the recycling program. Topics that will be discussed are how to recycle, what to recycle, why to recycle and where to recycle.

Chisholm said attendees will be exposed to eye-opening statistics about the affects of recycling on the world's economy.

"These programs are really important because we as students are part of the 'change,'" said Candace Douglass, first year medical student.

According to Chisholm, these sessions are a part of the contract the university has with the recycling company.

Along those lines, students and staff will be able to give feedback on the availability of the program or ask questions.

"This program comes with a cost," Chisholm said. "It is the responsibility for the whole University community to make this investment a success."

Troubled Economy Welcomes Ford Profits

BY RILEY WILSON
Staff Writer

Detroit's very own Ford Motor Co. posted earnings of approximately \$997 million in the third quarter. Shares were up 9.3 percent in pre-open trade after the company announced the news. The company said it has made some significant improvements and is on track to achieving its 2009 financial goals.

Ford was not the only company with sales increases in the United States. General Motors (GM), a U.S. based company, also reported a sales increase for the

month of October. According to Bloomberg.com, this is GM's first monthly gain since January 2008. Nissan Motor Co., a Japan-based company, and Hyundai, a Korea-based company, reported sales increases of 5.6 percent and 49 percent, respectively.

Many are correlating the "Cash For Clunkers" law to motor companies' increase in sales. Obama signed the Cash For Clunkers bill in August of this year, which allowed people the opportunity to trade their vehicles in and receive a voucher worth \$3,500 to \$4,500 towards the purchase of a new vehicle.

> See FORD, page 3

Under Grad Transition

Homecoming Review



BY VICTORIA KIRBY
Contributing Columnist

Homecoming this year was an interesting transition for me. My first "official" Homecoming as an alumna and graduate student gave me an interesting perspective. Homecoming at Howard is pretty segregated.

The Howard Homecoming Steering Committee (HSC) delivered what I consider to be the best Homecoming since my freshman year. It had diverse programming and talents that catered to different audiences. However, most events were filled with current students. Many graduate students were not in attendance, and most alumni attended their own separate events.

Alumni-sponsored events can run anywhere from \$30 for a party to \$165 for a scholarship fund-raiser. As an early career alumna and graduate student, I wanted to get the most "bang" for my buck so I went to the events that were the least expensive: the Steering Committee sponsored events. Maybe next year I will step my game up and attend more of the "grown and sophisticated" events, if I can afford them or can volunteer.

I was told that some alumni come with \$1,500 to spend Homecoming weekend. I can only dream of that luxury. How many students could have stayed in school after the purge date if that money was spent on scholarships? How many buildings could become wireless or air conditioned?

In terms of the graduate and professional school population, I believe that Homecoming just kind of snuck up on some of them. I think it is taken for granted that "everyone" knows when Howard's Homecoming takes place. I overheard one freshman say he has known since August and has been preparing since then.

I wonder how many of my colleagues knew since August or even knew when tickets were available. Most of my cohorts don't read *The Hilltop*. Due to the hectic nature of the graduate schedule, I simply don't recall many posters hung announcing ticket sales. Most of us go to class and then leave. If the poster is not in our classroom, the chances that we will see it are slim.

Howard's Homecoming is always grand. It seems like black America comes home to pay homage to the Mecca. To see generations of Bison gathered in one place makes me hold my head up even higher and be even more honored to be called a Howardite.

I didn't mind standing in the rain until the end of the Homecoming game just to sing the Alma Mater and say proudly "When from thee we've gone away, may we strive for thee each day... O Howard We Sing of Thee!" Because that line to me is what Homecoming is all about. Continuing to strive for leadership, excellence, service, and truth and being dedicated to not only renew our legacy, but to provide visionary leadership for America and the Global Community!—The Howard Way.

Graduate student Victoria Kirby's columns are available through the hilltoponline.com. Just click on "The Voices on Campus" tab.

Residents Question Effect Of Dorms on Howard Experience

BY GYNN POGUE
Staff Writer

Every year the waiting list for housing gets longer with more students accepted to the university, while the list of problems students face in dorms grow.

This year alone, residents in the Harriet Tubman Quadrangle, Slowe Hall and the Howard Plaza Towers have complained about problems such as flooding, no heat on cold days, no hot water, no Internet service, nasty common bathrooms, roach infestation, lack of security and faulty elevators. This doesn't include expected dorm-life complaints such as beds being too small, rooms being too cramped, lack of privacy and having to share a room with a roommate who's a nightmare.

There are some undeniable positives to living on campus. The proximity to classrooms allows you to sleep to the last possible moment before running to an early morning class. There's no need for a car, which would cost you \$240 a year to park on a Howard lot. Lifelong friends are made in the dormitories and the dorms cost less than off-campus housing. The least expensive room and board is \$1,935 a semester for triple accommodations in Drew Hall, compared to about \$2,200 a semester (four months worth of rent each) if three students were to share a furnished, two-bedroom house within walking distance of the campus.

On the Howard.edu Web site, the university describes the West Towers as "a spacious, co-ed luxury living complex for 840 juniors and seniors. Shared efficiencies, double/triple studios and 3-bedroom units. Cable TV, high-speed Internet, and phone connections. All units have shared common area and well-equipped

modern kitchens and bathrooms. Security system, underground parking, computer labs, study rooms, laundry rooms, and mail facility. Front desk service 24/7."

Senior biology major Jerome Joseph wouldn't use "luxury" as an adjective for a description of the Plaza Towers, which he calls home. "The Towers are a place to live, at best. All units have hot water—sometimes. Toilets flush—every once in a while. Sinks drain—about twice a week," Joseph said.

Kaori LiBurd, a sophomore radio, television and film major, said her current housing assignment in Meridian Hill Hall is "not up to par." Although she said the maintenance service is satisfactory, LiBurd complains that "the kitchens need to be better equipped and the fire alarms go off on the daily, which is a big inconvenience."

LiBurd contends that her current housing definitely trumps her previous accommodations as a freshman in the Quad.

"I have my own single, rather than being squished with two other people in what should have been a single in the Quad," she said.

Freshman biology major Nia Henry said she knows the "squishiness" LiBurd describes from living in a triple in the Quad's Truth Hall. She said if she had to rate the average condition of a Howard dorm on a scale of 1-10 with 10 being the best, she'd score it a 3.

"The Quad is way too mediocre for it to cost as much as it does. It lacks cachet, and it feels like I'm living in a closet. Howard is a prestigious school, and it needs to invest money in creating a nicer living space for its students," Henry said. "When I toured various campuses looking to make my college selection, many of the other school's dorms had really cool student lounges, game rooms, on-site

coffeehouses, fully equipped gyms and so on. Add the fact that in my dorm, most of the time the water in the shower is cold, I just got heat, and there's an insect issue, it's clear why these are just not good living conditions."

Some students are a lot more forgiving, chalking up less than optimal residence hall conditions as a sort of rite of passage. Drew Hall resident Geoffrey Allison, a freshman information systems major, said the Internet in Drew is always down and the "unattractive building has the presence of a jail," but Drew's legacy outweighs its downsides.

"A lot of people have come through Drew. You can feel the legacy. The building is full of history, and you're surrounded and motivated by people all the time. If you're bored, there are always people to chill with. It's more about the brotherhood than it is about the building."

Allison said that while he's enjoying his Drew experience, he probably will move off campus in his junior year. "I mean, I like it, but four years would be way too much," he said. "I'll need my own space and my freedom, where visitation doesn't end at 2 a.m. and where there's less noise."

Freshman biology major Mitaire Erhieyovwe fully planned on experiencing the dorm-life rite of passage when she left her Brooklyn

home bound for Howard last August. "I was excited about living in the dorms. It would have given me the chance to meet new people and be close to all of the events happening on campus. I didn't end up getting housing," she said. "I sent all of my paperwork in on time, actually I sent it in early, but they told me they hadn't received it in time. I was really disappointed."

Erhieyovwe now lives with family in Prince George's County, Md., and contributes to the household financially when necessary.

"There are some positives to living off campus. I get to have my own space, and I can pretty much do what I want. But I'm so far away from the life on campus," Erhieyovwe said. "If I want to go to a Howard event at night, I have to leave my house extra early, and since the transportation to Maryland from D.C. closes down so early, I have to make sure I have enough money to pay for a cab home."

She said, "I do sometimes feel like I'm missing out on a piece of the college experience by not living in the dorms. But given all I'm hearing about the current conditions, if a room became available tomorrow, I'd have to think long and hard about taking it."

The Hilltop attempted to contact Residence Life but no one was available to comment at the time of press.

Student Ready to Run



Photo Courtesy of Nastassja Spencer
If crowned Miss D.C., Nastassja Spencer plans to use her distinction to give back.

BY DIONNE L. VAUGHN
Contributing Writer

Running late to what could be a monumental moment in her life, Nastassja Spencer rushed to the Miss District of Columbia USA pageant meeting.

"I was running about five minutes late and that made me nervous," said Spencer, a senior psychology major who was concerned about leaving a bad first impression and appearing unprofessional.

Spencer mentally prepared herself to meet the other contestants. As she walked into the conference room feeling no intimidation from the other contestants or the new atmosphere, she exuded confidence.

Miss D.C. USA is designed to reinforce pride and awareness among young women in the communities of D.C. and the 50 states. The pageant is designed to provide young women the opportunity to be saluted for intelligence, communication ability, poise, beauty and patriotism, according to Pageant Director Althea Smith.

Spencer strives to be Miss D.C. USA as well as an aspiring civil rights attorney. As a

Howard student, she has committed her time to Capitol Hill, where she served as an intern for Congresswoman Corrine Brown as well as for Congressman Elijah E. Cummings.

"I would like to use my political pursuits to one-day serve the public," Spencer said. "If crowned Miss D.C. 2010, I would use this prestigious distinction as a platform to further serve my community."

Her inspiration comes from the many places she lived over her 21 years of life. Spencer, a Florida native, said it "has made me eclectic and easy to relate to different types of people."

During her matriculation at the Mecca, Spencer has served the university in many capacities. She has been involved in the Caribbean Student Association and Howard Players since her freshman year.

Lisa Reeves, associate director of Student Activities, said, "Competing is not about the prize, but rather the purpose."

As an advisor to the Howard University Royal Court, Reeves believes it is important to have a clear understanding of what the position of Miss D.C. USA entails.

"It is more than just running for Miss D.C. USA; it is an opportunity to leave a lasting legacy for the Howard University community, but more importantly for those who follow behind," Reeves said.

The competition preliminaries will take place on Nov. 28. The pageant will air nationally on NBC on the following day.

The Divinity School Begins Convocation

BY RON HARRIS
Office of Communications

Sex, HIV/AIDS, the imprisonment of African-American males and churches' financial stability in a stumbling economy will be among the issues that clergy and lay people will wrestle with Nov. 4 through Nov. 6 as the Howard University School of Divinity celebrates its 93rd annual Convocation.

The three-day event features some of the nation's most important religious leaders, including Joshua Dubois, the 26-year-old that President Barack Obama picked to be execu-

tive director of the Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships, and the Rev. Delman Coates, leader of the highly-publicized "Enough Is Enough Campaign for Corporate Responsibility in Entertainment."

The theme for this year is "Our New Day Begun: A Theological Call to Action in a Time of Change." Through sermons, lectures and panel discussions, participants will seek theological solutions to HIV/AIDS in the Washington metro area, the high incarceration rate of the nation's black males and the impact of the nation's current economic crises on churches.

HU History Corner Carter G. Woodson

Almost every influential African-American leader has graced the soil of Howard University. Carter G. Woodson is no exception.

Although he left Howard due to a difference of opinion about the role of African-American history in education with the then Howard President J. Stanley Durkee, Woodson was the dean of the School of Liberal Arts.

Woodson once said, "Even schools for Negroes, then, are places where they must be convinced of their inferiority."

Though he was only at Howard for two years, his impact on black history is timeless.

The National Park Services of the U.S. Department of the Interior names Woodson the "Father of African-American history."

"Before Dr. Carter Goodwin Woodson (1875-



Photo Courtesy of U.S. Department of Agriculture
Woodson was a Howard dean.

1950) began his work, there was very little information, and much of that stereotypical misinformation, about the lives and history of Americans of African descent."

Woodson, the second black person to receive his Ph.D from Harvard, did not receive any formal education until the age of 20 making his achievement even more remarkable.

Compiled by Jessica Lewis, Campus Editor

Accreditation Site Visit Continues
Today. Engage in the Process.

Sports Trivia Answer:

Lisa Leslie

Ford Improves in Troubled Economy

continued from FRONT, DRD

According to reports, compact cars and hybrids have been the top sellers, which automatically brings Toyota, who manufactures the top hybrid car and currently the largest automaker in sales, into the situation.

Coupled with the efforts of companies to reduce costs, an increase in sales was something many were expecting.

Earlier this year, Ford reported that they decreased overall salary and hourly payroll from 140,000 workers in 2007 to approximately 75,000 at the end of 2008. Even though these numbers do not include dealership personnel, U.S. salaried personnel costs were cut again by 10 percent at the beginning of 2009.

Ford is however, able to prove that they have been devoting more manpower towards the improvement of vehicle safety and performance.

In the 2009 Consumer Reports

Car Reliability Survey, Ford Motor Co. performed well, proving that domestic manufacturers are capable of producing reliable vehicles also. "Ford has secured its position as the only Detroit automaker with world-class reliability," with General Motors and Chrysler being among the "Big Three" in Detroit.

Rachel Newton, senior marketing major, was surprised by the reports.

"I didn't expect that, especially with the current state of the economy," Newton said. "They may not be No. 1, but it proves their durability." Newton owns a Ford Taurus and attested to its consistency.

She said that her Ford car has been a reliable car for her. "It's not my car of choice, but it is efficient. I don't really have that many problems with it," she said.

In an interview with CNBC, Mark Fields, president of the Americas for Ford Co., commented



Photo Courtesy of Associated Press

In the third quarter Ford Motor Co. brought in \$997 million dollars. Toyota however is still the world leader in sales.

on the great reviews and what this meant for Ford and its consumers.

"I think this does a lot for sending a message out to consumers that our brand and our quality is just as good as our Asian competitors," Fields said.

He said that they are not only producing vehicles with improved initial quality but producing vehicles with long-term quality as well.

Japan-based automaker, Toyota, is still the world leader

when it comes to sales volume but with more vehicle improvements, cost-cuts and government "boosts," companies such as Ford have a better chance of improving their sales.

Feed your future

See how more than 29,000 people are working together to help inspire change.

Begin at www.pwc.tv



WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS

MISSION MADE POSSIBLE.



Photo Courtesy of the Associated Press

The Obama family is comprised of President Barack Obama, his wife Michelle and their two daughters Sasha and Malia. The Obama's have been commonly referred to as "America's Favorite Family."

Barack Obama in Contrast to Former Presidents

BY OLLIE MONTGOMERY
Staff Writer

Exactly a year after what is arguably the most historic election in United States history, President Barack Obama is again being measured against his predecessors, those who have led to the nation's greatest victories and unfortunate failures. Many in the media are beginning to compare Obama to both his Democratic and Republican predecessors, ultimately dividing into two camps.

On one hand, he is being compared to former President Jimmy Carter, a likeable person, but an ineffective leader, while others are comparing him to former President Ronald Reagan, who had a rough start but had a very productive and impacting presidency. Some even compare him to time-honored American favorite, Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Political Science professor John Cotman thinks comparisons of presidents to their predecessors is typical and are actually quite common at this stage in their careers.

"It's fair because at this stage you should have a general sense of the trends of where a presidency is

heading, what the issues are, what the president is going to have to face and what's going to define his presidency is normally revealed by this time," he said.

Cotman, and many other socioeconomic and political theorists, say current events indicate major defining aspects of the Obama presidency will be the economy, health care reform, preservation of democratic rights, immigration and a few hot button issues such as Guantánamo Bay. However, they believe that these will be crucial to Obama's legacy with or without major action on these problems.

The president campaigned on change, hope and his ability to foster bipartisan agreements and pass a broad agenda with strong consensus and transparency. So far, whether Mr. Obama has done so depends on whom you talk to.

Some comparisons liken Barack Obama to Jimmy Carter. Carter, a southern religious Democrat was, as Obama, well regarded personally. However, despite providing a change to eight years of Republican rule, and after severe national dislike of President Nixon, his agenda was not believed to be successful, nor did it have any real impact nationally or internationally.

Other comparisons highlight his similarity to Ronald Reagan. Barack Obama was compared to the Republican political idol during the campaign as another "great communicator," and some say his presidency will play out in a similar way. Reagan came into office amid economic uncertainty and faced new geopolitical challenges and despite some early setbacks, was able to have what is held to be a highly successful presidency.

Lorenzo Morris, also a political science professor, says he wouldn't want Obama to be compared to either Reagan or Carter. Morris says that Reagan, rather than Obama, came into office with an ideological constituency who was very committed to him, therefore allowing his major early failures to be largely ignored by the media, which Reagan's voters had a lot of influence over. He says this makes Obama somewhat like Carter because they both have limited party control, but a party that was powerful nonetheless. In terms of the agenda and the problems they face, Morris said the two cannot be compared to Obama.

"I think Obama, unlike Reagan, is faced with a huge economic crisis, war and social crisis, yet Reagan was faced with very little,"

he said. Morris said Reagan faced inflationary problems, which were temporary and resolved quickly and his main international issues, such as the Iranian hostage crisis, were solved the day he assumed office, thereby making his tasks relatively simple. The political science professor cited the lack of party unity around Carter as the main source of his political failures, such as the challenge of fellow Democrat Edward Kennedy for the Democratic Presidential Nomination of 1980. Meanwhile, according to a Gallup poll, President Obama currently enjoys an 87 percent approval rating among Democrats and is a prominent asset at fund-raisers.

"I don't think the comparisons to either of them are particularly helpful or useful except to say look at their links to the party," Morris said.

Some Howard University students agree that comparisons to other presidents at this stage in Barack Obama's presidency are just, but they said they wouldn't necessarily use Carter or Reagan as examples. Austin Edwards, a sophomore political science major, likened Mr. Obama to renowned President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who presided over the country during the Great Depres-

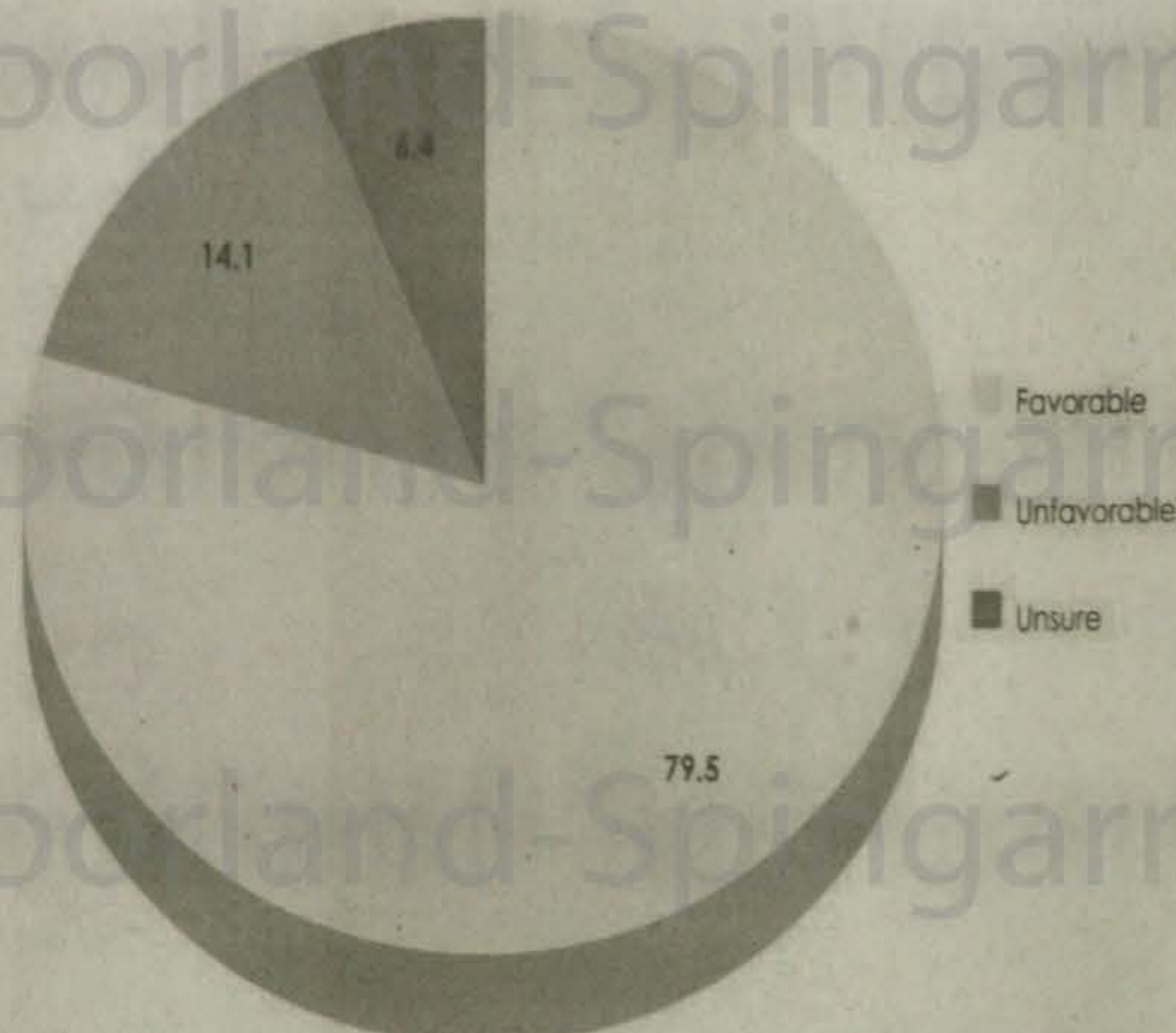
sion and World War II.

"When he inherited the ship, it was generally sinking and he had to do a lot of work to get us out of it," Edwards said. "Just like FDR was able to reach into the hearts of the American people and inspire them to do as much as they could for their country, Obama is doing the same," he said. Edwards compared the significant actions of President Roosevelt to bring the nation out of the Great Depression to the bailout and stimulus packages of President Obama which were designed to lift the nation out of its current recession.

Ultimately, Cotman offered students a guide to future comparisons between current and previous presidencies. "The comparisons really need to be driven by the issues in dispute," Cotman said. Whether it's particular policy positions, a question of style, or ideological similarity, the professor believes comparisons should instead be focused on particular issues.

"I think it's fair at this stage to start making some comparisons and making a list of what one expects President Obama to do and see how well he lives up to his expectations," he said.

Are you in favor of, opposed to or unsure of the president's work?



- Total: 517
- Seniors: 76
- Juniors: 178
- Sophomores: 88
- Freshmen: 79
- Graduate/Professional: 96
- Male: 219
- Female: 298

- Compiled by
Marquis H. Barnett,
Nation & World Editor

THE OBAMA ELECTION

HOWARD CELEBRATES OBAMA WIN

BY TAHIRAH HAIRSTON
Campus Editor

"Yes we can and indeed we did." History was made last night as Barack Obama was elected as the first African-American president of the United States of America. The Blackburn Center ballroom was filled with excitement and anticipation as students gathered for the Election Viewing Party.

"It showed me that a black man can hold the highest position and that I can do anything I put my mind to," said Reggie Dozier, a freshman business management major.

Senior hospitality management major Cordell Nelson said, "I feel like this is going to change my life, my children's lives and my grandchildren's lives. I feel like this historic moment is going to change not only America but the world."

This year's election was a historical moment for people of all ages and races. Years ago, people fought for the right to vote when voting was denied based on skin color and gender.

Four-year-old Deja Jackson tagged along with her mom to the polling booths and let her voice be heard without even being old enough to vote. When asked who she thought would be the next president, she answered, "Barack Obama."

For freshman English Major Tiana Montague, this election was not only her first time voting, but also the first time for her 62-year-old grandfather to exercise his right to vote.

"My grandpa registered to vote this year and he stood in a long line in the rain in Virginia to make history with his voice," Montague said.

"Someone can look at their children and tell them that they can be anything they want to be and mean it."



Following the announcement of Obama's historic election, students celebrated outside the Blackburn Student Center.

However, due to age restrictions, some students were not able to vote but still participated in the night's celebrations.

"I didn't vote," said Jerez Giles, a freshman marketing major. Giles will be 18 on Dec. 23, but still celebrated with his peers.

"I'm upset at the fact that I couldn't take part in the biggest event in U.S. history," Giles said. "But, I am happy that I was able to witness this historic moment."

There was music, food and two large projectors along with periodic moments of excitement when announcing which state each presidential candidate had won.

"There was no way that McCain could win," said Gregory Carr, Ph.D., associate professor of the Afro-American Studies Department. "He needed to win Ohio and Pennsylvania to win the election," Carr said. "I feel like for most of the people in this room, you will

never know a day when this isn't normal."

Along with it being historic, for many Howard University students this was their first time voting in a presidential election. There were students who cast absentee ballots, while those who were registered in Virginia, Maryland and District of Columbia voted in person.

"Well, besides it being my first time voting, I'm so inspired to think that someone not only of color but from such humble beginnings can work their way to greatness," said Ashley Anderson, a freshman history major.

"It was invigorating to vote for the first time and in person," said freshman civil engineering major Maurice Dukes. "I want to be a better black man."

Tears of joy ran down the faces of both men and women as Barack Obama was elected to next

president. Students were screaming at the top of their lungs when the news was broke that "their president was Black."

"I believe again," said freshman biochemistry major Afia Wilson, in tears. "He did it; I'm so proud."

Tressa Blockett, a freshman sports management major, said, "I'm happy that people in America can look past our past generation's ignorance and we can vote for a candidate not because of his skin color, but because of what he can do for us."

"Anything is achievable, never say never," said Alan Henderson, a senior architecture major. "Obama exemplifies what Ghandi said - to be the change you want to see in the world."

**Editor's Note: This article was originally published on Nov. 5, 2008.*



Worldly Wisdom: The Night the World Changed

BY MARQUIS H. BARNETT
Nation & Word Editor

The evening of Nov. 4, 2008, brought about a major change in the make-up of modern America. A day that many remember as "phenomenal" and "emotional," has also gone down as, perhaps, the most historic moment in not only recent history, but in the extensive nature of this country.

For those at Howard that night, there was a vast array of emotions floating on campus.

My friends and I were playing Spades in Meridian that night, watching election coverage on CNN, when all of a sudden, "Barack Obama Elected President - CNN Projection" flashed across the screen.

We dropped our cards on the table and ran out of the room, just to see other residents also running about the halls yelling and screaming.

Just moments later, we heard "My President Is Black" blasting from at least five rooms simultaneously. Everyone was happy! So happy that we decided to do something that Howard students seldom do.

We ran from Meridian all the way to main campus to join the festivities going on in the Blackburn Center. As we run down Euclid Street, we see a multitude of D.C. residents running up and down the streets, parking and jumping out of their cars, music blasting from cars... It was a glorious sight to behold.

As we got to Blackburn, everyone had already started coming out of the building and just partying outside on the yard. As soon as we reached the Yard, the rain started.

The first thing I thought would happen was the immediate raising of umbrellas as shield from the rain, but, surprisingly, that is not what happened. People were still jumping around, enjoying themselves - not worried one bit about the rain or the fact that it may mess up their new hair-do or clothes.

I remember that night so vividly in my mind, and I am thankful that I now have these memories to pass on to my children and their children.

Some people may say that President Obama's election was not everything that we made it out to be. But all I know is that for one night, all of Washington, D.C. shut down in celebration of the president's election - something that I doubt I will see again.

Redefining The Office of The First Lady

BY MARQUIS H. BARNETT
Nation & Word Editor

The role of the president of the United States is a very difficult one to hold. Another office in the White House that not many people pay attention to is the Office of the First Lady of the United States.

The position of first lady has not always been one that many people took seriously. Dating back as far as Dolley Madison, wife of President James Madison, the position was that of a socialite, in charge of hosting extravagant dinner parties for some of the world's dignitaries.

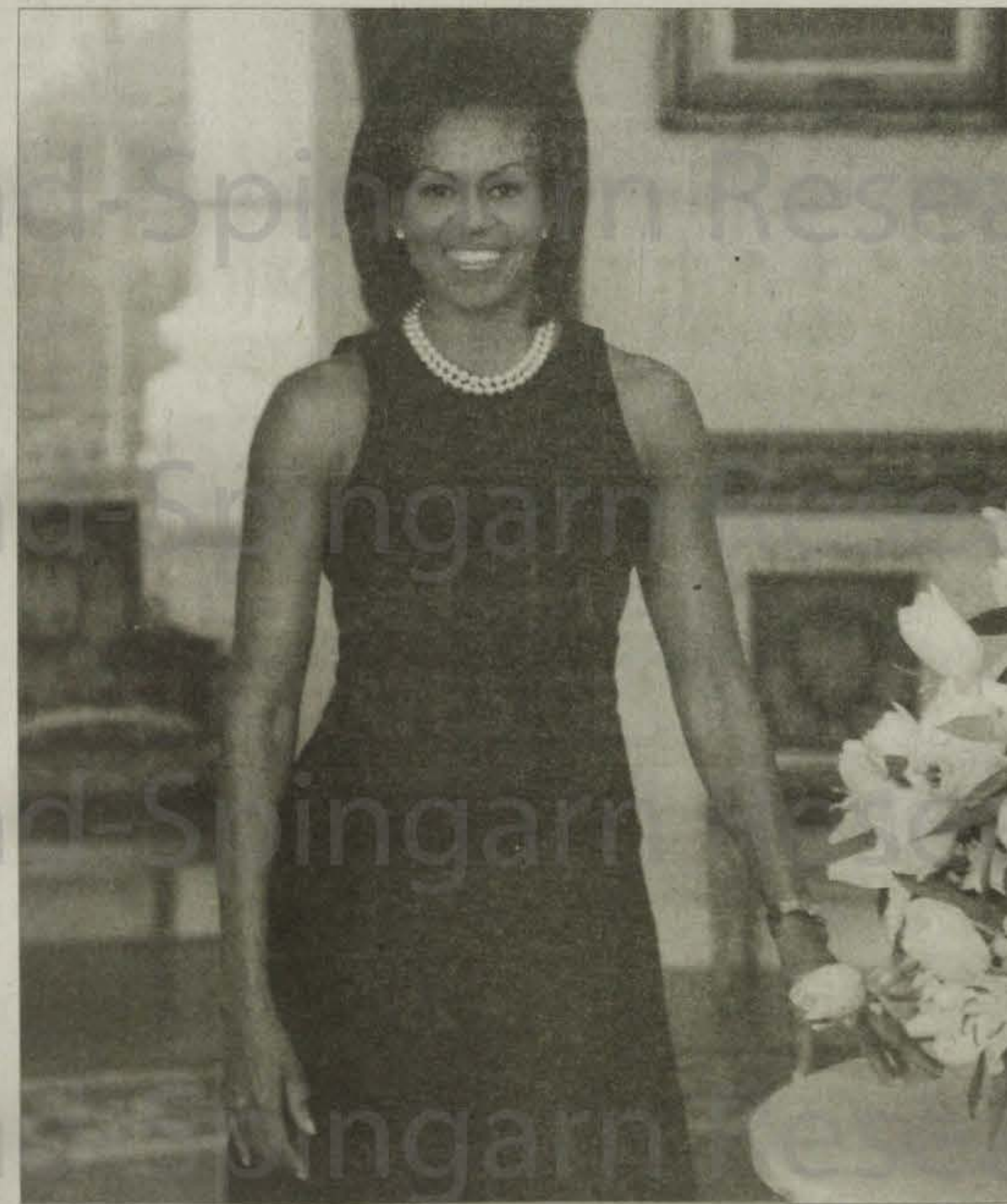
In the 1930s when her husband took ill, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt took on the president's duties: traveling around the world, making appearances and fulfilling prior obligations.

Since that time, the position of the first lady has taken a complete turn in the opposite direction. More modern first ladies have taken on specific causes in their time in office, taking their positions as seriously as their husbands.

First Lady Nancy Reagan combatted the issue of drug use and abuse in America, starting the "Just Say No" campaign. First Lady Hillary Clinton took on health care reform, while both Barbara and Laura Bush took on the issue of literacy.

The incumbent to that office is Chicago native and wife of Barack Obama, Michelle (Robinson) Obama. A graduate of Princeton University and Harvard University Law School, Obama is a mother of two. She also sits on the board of some of the nation's most prominent non-profit organizations.

In her time as first lady, she has been known for her fashion-forwardness and ability to connect with urban and inner-city citizens. Just last week, the White House announced that she has begun a mentor program that allows D.C. area youth to visit the White House and help her with various tasks, while



Michelle LaVaugh Obama is only the third first lady to have a post-graduate degree, behind Hillary Rodham Clinton and Laura Bush. She is a graduate of Harvard University Law School.

getting the chance to learn a little bit more about the Obama family.

Although she has yet to find a specific cause to devote her time to, she has been known to care a great deal about military families and the direction in which they go.

Many look to the first lady as a role model and someone who means a lot more than just being

the president's wife. Obama has broken a common mold, and many people now see her on a more personable level. People see her as a human being, thrust into the spotlight, but desperately attempting to keep life as normal as possible.

"She is truly an inspiration," said senior communication and culture major Lloyd M. Talley. "It

is very refreshing to know that my children are going to have a positive, wholesome role model to look up to."

Obama is the mother of two daughters, Sasha, 11 and Malia, 8. She is only the second first lady to have a juris doctorate degree, behind Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Caught In Style

Winter Wrap Ups — Pea coats, Furs, etc.

"I don't really embody my style after someone, I just do what I like."



Who: Cherelle Gibson, Bowie Md., senior, marketing major
Caught: Inside the Administration Building

What are you wearing?

Trench Coat, Armani Exchange
Zigzag Tights, Urban Outfitters
Boots, Jessica Simpson "Sweet Kisses" Line

Do you prefer fall/winter or summer fashion? Why?

I prefer fall fashion more. I really love sweaters, boots, jackets and how you can layer them and really just have a lot more fun.

What is your favorite accessory? Why?

It has to be 'the scarf'. The scarf is integral in most outfits. They are comfortable, I love the textures, and they just add a nice flare to whatever you're wearing.

What winter trends do you hate and wish would go away?

I really can't stand leggings as pants. A lot of girls think they can just throw on leggings and put nothing over it, but I just don't think it's very flattering, especially on bigger girls.

What are some of your style influences?

I really like Rihanna's style. I don't really embody my style after someone, I just do what I like. I really like urban, street wear type fashions. I'm not really into colors. I just really get something if I like it.

What is it that you love about the trench coat?

I really like the bell shaped bottom of this particular trench coat, as well as its military influence at the top. It's a great mixture of masculinity and femininity in one piece.

"[The winter is] a good time to really have fun with fashion; experiment and take risks."



Who: Tony Jermin, Bronx, N.Y., junior, advertising major
Caught: Outside Douglass Hall

What are you wearing?

Ralph Lauren Polo Shirt, Ralph Lauren Rugby Store
Rocco Low Rise Straight Leg Denim Jeans, Express
Sperrys, Neiman Marcus
Man Knee Length Pea Coat, Zara

Do you prefer fall/winter or summer fashion? Why?

I prefer winter fashion. It's the best time to wear your clothes in layers and a good time to really have fun with fashion, experiment and take risks.

What is your favorite winter accessory?

The scarf. You can do so much with it and make it look different every time.

What winter trends do you hate and wish would go away?

I really find it unappealing for guys to wear their jeans tucked into a pair of boots and I'd rather not see that on the yard.

What/who influences your style?

I am influenced by different fashion blogs that inspire me to change my look every now and then. I think it's fun to be unpredictable in fashion as opposed to some people who you already know what their outfit will consist of for the next day. I am also influenced by my own sense of style, and like to be creative when I put together an outfit. It's not all about labels to me; it's about putting together different pieces that compliment each other and adding your own personality to the mix.

What is it that you love about the pea coat?

The pea coat is fun, especially the style that I have because you can dress it up or down, and either way it's fashionable and looks good.

"I love the look of fur and how versatile it is."



Who: Lauren Govern, Chevy Chase, Md., freshman, nursing major
Caught: Inside Administration Building

What are you wearing?

Grey and Black zigzag Tights, Forever21
Black Boots, DSW
Mini Skirt, self made
Black Sweater and Tank, Old Navy
Brown Faux Fur Vest, Forever21
Black Sling Bag, Flea Market

Do you prefer fall/winter or summer fashion? Why?

I prefer summer fashion because it's the best time to wear my favorite outfit: a sundress and heels; they're very cute and classic. I also love wearing all the different bright colors in the summer. But don't get me wrong, I still love the winter! I love to wear my boots and faux fur.

What is your favorite winter accessory? Why?

My favorite winter accessory has to be my crazy tights. I love wearing ones with different designs and textures. They can add a different twist to any outfit.

What winter trends do you hate, and wish would go away?

The winter trend I hate the most is the leather/pleather Members Only jackets. I feel like they're played out. Everyone has one, it's not original anymore. I wish the 80s would just come and take that back forever.

What is it that you love about fur?

I just love the look of fur and how versatile it is. I like that I can wear it with jeans or with a dress and still be cute. I like that it's different.

- Compiled by Aaron Randle, Staff Writer

Students Get Second Chance

A new middle school allows inner-city youth to make up school credit

BY RONALD TOLSON
Contributing Writer

Guests gathered at the Gallery Deck and Burke Theater at the Navy Memorial Heritage Center to watch the D.C. premier of "Accelerating America."

The movie screen illuminated, portraying a startling fact. The statistic 1 out of 3 students in America will drop out of school before graduating. America, now being ranked tenth in the world in education was the next fact to appear on the screen.

"Accelerating America" is a 90-minute documentary filmed by Timothy Hotcher who tells the story of the Urban Collaborative Accelerated Program (UCAP), a progressive middle school in Providence, R.I., that gives a second chance to inner-city youth who are in jeopardy of dropping out of school by accelerating their studies.

Through acceleration, students are able to complete two grade levels in one school year. This premier school is lead by Robert DeBlois, a dedicated educator and the school's principal, who established the school in 1989. He says he chose to open UCAP as a middle school because it is the age range and educational development stage when youths are most vulnerable of becoming at risk of dropping out of school.

Hotcher's camera follows the lives of three inner-city students, America, Jason and

Yazmine, as they struggle through their make-it-or-break-it school year. The film draws upon conviction, pride and humor in hopes of accelerating into high school.

America Minaya, 14, who lent her name to the title of the film, lives with her foster parents, the Cravens. They describe living with America is like trying to "contain the wind." America comes and goes as she pleases while living with the Cravens.

One day, when returning home from school, one of her neighborhood friends told her that her parents moved. Not taking her friend seriously, she preceded home only to find an empty house. Her parents had decided to move to the Dominican Republic without her. As a result, America lacks respect for others and cares for no one but herself. This is evident in her unruly behavior at school and at home.

Jason Levesque, 15, comes from a single-parent household; his father moved to New Mexico when he was 14 without leaving the family any contact information. Unlike America, Jason likes going to school.

He dropped out of middle school as a result of kids making fun of him and taking his work. In addition, his teachers who showed little to no interest in his well-being or overall education. After stumbling across a UCAP flyer one day, he took the initiative to apply to the school.

Yazmine Lopez, 16, also comes from a single-parent home.

Unlike America and Jason's guardians who encourage them to attend and do well in school, Yazmine's mother could care less. When the school called home to inform her mother that in order for Yazmine to avoid being suspended, she needed to come in and talk with the principal, Ms. Lopez declined and says she is out of school and it's her daughter's problem, not hers. Yazmine feels that no one cares about her, which has lead her to have to highest number of suspensions of any student in the entire school, stemming from frequent tardiness, a fowl mouth and overall lack of self-control.

Throughout the film, Hotcher highlights the personal struggles that stand in way of these young teens being able to reach their full potential in life. Jason successfully accelerates and graduates from UCAP. Yazmine was also able to accelerate and graduate from UCAP.

Unfortunately, America did not fare so well. UCAP expelled America for being disrespectful to faculty members and numerous tardies. America was unable to accelerate and dropped out of school and became pregnant.

"I think what Rob DeBlois is doing is great. However, a school like this should not be an option, let alone even exist. As parents, as a community and as a country, we need to take more responsibility in our children's lives and education," Amanda Lewis, an attendee of the film.

Mints That Are Not Meant For Your Mouth

BY TIFFANY BRIGGS
Contributing Writer

Over the years, many products have been introduced to aid with feminine hygiene. These items include products like the douche, water works, wet wipes, Nirena cleanser and feminine sprays. The newest addition to this list of vagina potpourri is the vagina mint.

Sentient Products and Admints are publicizing a new product named Linger, a vaginal mint designed to make your sexual partner want to "linger" [below the belt] longer. According to Linger's web site, www.lovetolinger.com, this product is small, has naturally sweetened flavoring, free of artificial dyes and was created to flavor the secretions of a woman when she is sexually aroused.

"I've never heard of vagina mints, but it doesn't sound like a bad idea," said Brittney Williams, sophomore marketing major. "I'll try anything once."

Linger mints are packaged in a small black and silver tin, similar to an Altoids mint container. Each package of these mints cost \$7.99 and are currently only being sold via their web site. The mints are supposed to take approximately 45 minutes to dissolve and last up to an hour.

According to Linger representatives, 72 percent of women will admit they are somewhat self-conscious about either their scent

or flavor. However, many women are not enthused to try this new product.

"Women have too many questions about [Linger]; they are not giving us enough information about this product, so women are scared of it," said Anna Pulley, editor of the Sex and the Windy City section of Chicago Now.

Physicians are weary of this product as well because its primary ingredient is sugar, which is not safe for the vagina. Sugar can interfere with the pH balance and lead to a yeast infection.

"If you end up with a yeast infection from this product, no one is going to want to linger," said Pulley.

The Linger web site does display a disclaimer stating that this product is for novelty use only and it is not recommended for women prone to yeast or other types of infections.

Many women find vaginal mints to be offensive and do not believe that they will be successful for very long, if at all. Gabrielle Long, a junior nursing major, feels that the issue with women needing to be super self-conscious about their vaginas is getting old.

"If you shower on a regular basis, your vagina and its odor are completely fine. Everything down there is supposed to stay natural. I think it's about time we love our vaginas and everything that comes with them," said Long.

Athletes Bare It All For the Public To See

BY STEPHEN KNOX
Contributing Writer

Serena Williams is one of the most recognizable athletes with one of the most recognizable bodies in the world. As of Oct. 19, the world became even more familiar with her figure after she posed nude for the cover of ESPN the Magazine.

Williams, along with Dwight Howard, Adrian Peterson, Manny Pacquiao and many other athletes posed nude for what ESPN called the "Body Issue."

On ESPN's show "E:60," the editors said the purpose of the issue is to give an intimate look at athletes' key instruments, their bodies.

With some of the high-profile athletes in the magazine it has created a buzz in the media. Some have also questioned the impact it will have on the images of the athletes, especially the featured tennis star Williams.

Senior broadcast journalism major and Howard tennis player Michele Gee sees both sides of the issue.

"Some parents may not be as quick to pay for their children to see Serena play or use her products," Gee said. "However it could also be seen as liberating for women to show that women of all shapes and sizes can be considered beautiful."

People have a tendency to expect more morality out of athletes than other celebrities. This leads to some individuals harshly judging their favorite athletes when they are caught gambling, breaking the law in some way or posing nude in magazines.

Gee sees the editors' point of view on the concept of the issue. "Athletes work hard on their bodies," Gee said. "Why shouldn't they

be able to show them off if they want?"

Millions of people watch the ESPN family of networks and read the magazine every day. This includes people of all ages, and nudity in America is not considered appropriate for all ages.

Senior finance major Phillip Batten thinks ESPN did a good job with the way they structured the body issue.

"The issue is pretty good. It shows the athletes in a different light," Batten said. "The pictures were very classy."

Batten also points out the old saying "sex sells" cannot be overlooked when looking at the body issue.

"Sex appeal is always going to be marketed," Batten said. "There are many people who would pay to see their favorite athletes nude."

On the "E:60" specials, the athletes, photographers and editors all commented on the quality and substance of the pictures. They all wanted to make sure the public understands this issue is not pornography, and that it is art.

Senior psychology major Armon Tate noticed certain themes in the pictures.

"The pictures were not only meant to look sexy they are also unique," Tate said. "A lot of the pictures had the athletes posing in their respective sports, the pictures were not tacky."

Not everyone in the body issue has a bikini friendly body.

"I noticed the pictures consist of athletes of different shapes and sizes," Tate said. "There was a sumo wrestler and a pregnant softball player; these are both very nice touches."

THE BODY ISSUE



SERENA WILLIAMS

Photo Courtesy of blacksporsonline.com

Serena Williams was just one of several athletes to display their bodies in the November issue of ESPN The Magazine.

D'Artois Serves the Competition in the MEAC

BY TERRICKA JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Though only in her junior year, Gazelle d'Artois has already become a leading force for the Lady Bison volleyball team despite being told in junior high that her athletic career was over after being diagnosed with cancer.

"I was actually recruited by Coach Orlando Larracuente from California while participating in a tournament in Las Vegas," d'Artois said.

d'Artois describes her time spent with the Lady Bison as not only entertaining and educational but difficult and empowering as well.

"It really tests your character. Being on a team with so many different cultures and backgrounds, so we do have communication barriers and there are blocks that hinder us," d'Artois said.

Growing up playing sports and being around those who participated in sporting activities, d'Artois described her participation in volleyball as something that taught her many things, especially teamwork.

"To me, volleyball is a way of life," she said. "I think that playing a sport teaches you everything you really need to know about working in a team environment and working against stressful situations and under pressure."

In her second year as captain of the volleyball team, d'Artois has had the chance to showcase not only her athletic abilities, which have earned her three consecutive

Player of the Week honors from the MEAC (Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference), but enhanced her leadership capabilities as well.

d'Artois said, "We have to make sure that we stay with the common goal on a common focus and we have to make sure we have open lines of communication. You also have to learn how to be diplomatic, because you can't run it as an anarchy. It has to be a democracy."

Nicole Brown, a junior political science major who plays volleyball for the Lady Bison said, "Gazelle's a key player. I would say she's one of the most important parts of our offense."

Although d'Artois made an impact not only on the court, but on her teammates as well, she states that her volleyball career will end with her graduation.

"My volleyball career after school will be strictly recreational. I don't plan on going anywhere further," she said. "I was very excited that I could continue this far, but after I graduate from Howard I do plan to get involved in my career and call it quits on volleyball."

"Usually, if I'm not in my room studying or trying to catch up on what sleep I can, I'm at a meeting, I'm going to practice or doing volunteer work and community service," she said.

D'Artois states that she specializes in making herself available to her teammates and being consistent on the court.

"I'll drop everything for them to try and help them out and figure out how to get their situation



Photo Courtesy of HU Sports Information Office

Lady Bison volleyball star Gazelle d'Artois has been a dominating force this year and continues to be recognized for her game by the MEAC, receiving honors such as Player of the Week for three consecutive weeks.

in order," she said. "That's my most valuable asset."

With the regular season ending and the post-season MEAC championships steadily approaching, d'Artois' most important goal is to not throw any surprises at her team and stick to the game plan.

"As a team, our main goal is to play aggressively and play with passion. That's really going to get us far in the championship,"

d'Artois said.

Not forgetting to mention her family as well, d'Artois cites those who told her that she couldn't accomplish her goals as her inspirations.

"When I was in junior high I had cancer," she said. "The doctors told me that I had a very good chance of surviving, but I wouldn't be able to do athletics like I used to do them. I couldn't do any strenuous [activities] and that my exercises

would have to be tapered."

Not wanting to be the student who had to get a doctor's note to participate or sit out because of health issues, d'Artois was motivated to live a normal life after her sickness.

"Gazelle's an inspiration for everybody else to make sure that they are on their game. I couldn't picture the team without her," Brown said. "It's great having a teammate like her on the court."

Sports Trivia!

Who was the first woman to dunk the ball in a WNBA game?

Search the Hilltop for the answer!

TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY

November 4, 1904

The first stadium built specifically for football, Harvard Stadium, was completed.

**THE REAL WORLD
24 OPEN CASTING CALL!**

WHEN:
SAT., NOV. 7TH, 10AM TO 5PM

WHERE:
TOWN TAVERN -
ADAMS MORGAN
2323 18TH ST. NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20009

BRING:
A VALID I.D. & RECENT PHOTO

FOR MORE INFO VISIT
WWW.BUNIM-MURRAY.COM



HOWARD UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND



College or School
Student Name
Student ID Number
Greenspace

Academic Affairs Student Affairs Residential Ed

Greenspace Director Signature _____

gsa@2070719@people.uncw.edu

Have you Had Your Daily Dose of

H T O
ill Top online?



TheHillTopOnline.com

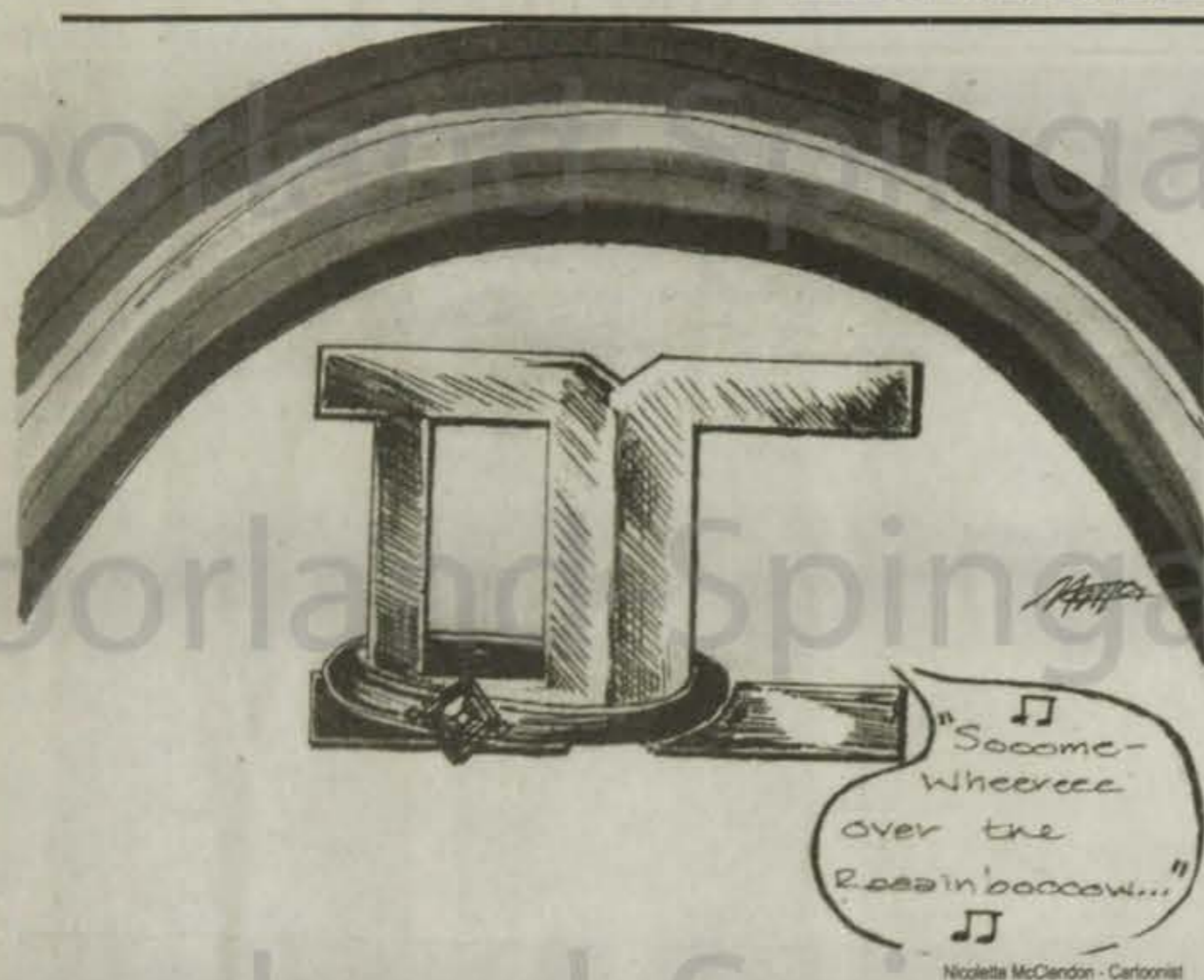
Do you know what's going on around campus?

We do.

Follow The Hilltop on Twitter.

www.twitter.com/thehilltop

THE HILLTOP



Same Sex Marriage Soon To Become Legal in D.C.

In early spring, the D.C. Council decided, in a unanimous vote, to recognize same-sex unions conducted in other states.

Early in the month of October, legislation to approve same-sex marriage in Washington, D.C. was introduced. This week, D.C. Council members are slated to vote on the issue, which will be the first step of many, to officially make same-sex marriage legal in the nation's capital, a pretty big step, not only for gays and lesbians, but for the rest of the nation as well.

If Washington, D.C. approves same-sex marriage, it will be the first city below the Mason Dixon line to do so, and with the way things are looking, there's a pretty big chance that the legislation will officially be passed.

Opponents of same-sex marriage have become visibly more flustered in the eminent approach of such legislation, while supporters have seemingly become more passionate about the issue, if that is at all possible.

A spokesman for the

Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance of Washington was one of such supporters of the legislation, who spoke at this weekend's hearing in the nation's capital.

He acknowledged the opponent's view that gays and lesbians serve as only a "small minority" of the nation, and compared the situation to the biblical tale

Our View:
Whether we like it or not, legalized gay marriage is a definite possibility in the nation's capital.

of Sodom and Gomorrah, pegging it as religiously unacceptable. Amidst cheers of like-minded followers, he, in turn, firmly presented his own arguments, citing the presence of gays and lesbians in D.C. for countless years and specifically how they've contributed to the community and history of the District.

This conversation is merely the tip of the

iceberg when it comes to the argument over whether or not homosexual couples should be allowed to not only tie the knot, but have their union recognized by the state. Republicans and Democrats alike have their different reasons and explanations for why it should be illegal or not, but in the end, it isn't up to us to decide.

Average American citizens don't produce or enact legislation, our elected officials do.

Whether we agree that same-sex couples should have the right to marry, or staunchly reject the idea as blasphemy, the issue is gaining an outstanding amount of media attention.

Not only is it a hot-button topic in the news, but it's presumed that, at this rate, in the direction the D.C. council is leaning, gays and lesbians will most likely soon be allowed to legally marry in Washington.

Both Mayor Adrian M. Fenty and President Barack Obama have also expressed agreement with the topic, in favor of making the controversial legislation a reality for citizens of the District.

Daily Sudoku

Directions:

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

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

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

Crystal J. Allen

Editor-In-Chief

Jada F. Smith

Managing Editor

Jessica Lewis

Co-Campus Editors

Marquis H. Barnett

Nation & World Editor

Anastacia Mebane

Copy Chief

Jenise Cameron

Asst. Copy Chief

Jasmine Carpenter

Brittany Clifton

Macy Freeman

Michele Steele

Ronesha Dennis

Dilane Mitchell

Copy Editors

Deontay Morris

Deputy Managing Editor

Eboni Farmer

Online Editor

Ryan Foster

Editorials & Perspectives Editor

Alexis K. Barnes

Business & Technology Editor

Charles Metze III

Cartoonists

Nicolette McClendon

Cartoonists

Erica Hawkins

Graphics Editor

Izanna Enyinnah

Multimedia Editor

Traver Riggins

Managing Editor

Cierra Jones

Life & Style Editor

Royce Strahan

Sports Editor

Genet Lakew

Metro Editor

Faraday Okoro

Zelena Williams

Co-Photo Editors

Bree Gant

Sean Robinson

Oluyomi Sodunke

Photographers

Brittany Harris

Asst. Business Manager

India Clark

Business Manager

Courtney Cola

Local Advertising Manager

Jenerra Albert

Operations Manager

Ryan Hamilton

Advertising Layout Manager

The Hilltop encourages its readers to share their opinions with the newspaper through letters to the editor or perspectives. All letters should include a complete address and telephone number and should be sent electronically on to hilltopedit@gmail.com.

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

THE HILLTOP

2251 Sherman Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20001

(202) 806-4724 (Editorial)

(202) 806-4749 (Business)

businessoffice@thehilltoponline.com

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.

Luck is when an opportunity comes along, and you're prepared for it.

- Denzel Washington

Something to say?

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.

First Friday: Labor of Love 1,000 Hour Service Challenge "Don't Be Tardy For The Party" November 6, 2009 12:00pm-2:00pm PunchOut

Show your love for Howard and the community we live in by signing up to give back this holiday! Bring yourself, your crew, and your entire organization. Fun, Music, Prizes & Special Guests!

Text HUSA49 to 41411 for more info!

Street Bid'naz Presents "Def Ears: Words for the People" Talent Showcase Thursday, November 5 Drew Hall Lounge 7pm-9pm Please bring used/new books to donate to Highschool Students

Support the HUSA Holiday Ornament Sale! November 4-10, 2009 11am- 4pm Lower level of Blackburn Come purchase an ornament for your organization, office or as a student so that you can be included on the HU Holiday Tree!

Text HUSA49 to 41411 for more info.

Bison Yearbook wants all Undergraduate and Seniors to come out Nov 2-Dec 6 between 8am-5pm to the Music Listening room in the Lower Level of Blackburn for Yearbook photos. All UNDERGRADUATE students are "FREE" Seniors \$20 CASH ONLY!!!

Join the Ladies of Alpha Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., on Thursday November 5, 2009 for Fuddrucker's Benefit Night (DuPont Circle Location) 5:00- 8:00pm. All proceeds are donated to the 18th Annual Woman to Woman Conference.

HUSA REMINDER: HUSA Leadership Academy Applications DUE TODAY! 5pm in the HUSA Office. If you want to be a Howard leader then this is something you won't want to miss! Text HUSA49 to 41411 for more info.

The School of Education and The Journal of Negro Education invite you to a special lecture by Dr. Margaret Beale Spencer at the 30th Annual Charles Thompson Lecture. "Truth and Facts about Urban Youths' Achievement Patterns" Nov. 4th 5:00pm Blackburn West Ballroom

ALPHA PHI OMEGA NATIONAL SERVICE FRATERNITY, ZETA PHI CHAPTER PRESENTS "THE FIFTH FIELD OF SERVICE: SERVICE TO THE EARTH" NATIONAL SERVICE WEEK 2009 WEDNESDAY 11/4 SANKOFA 5:25 P.M. THURSDAY 11/5 GREEN TABLE IN BLACKBURN LOWER LEVEL 12-3 P.M.

Alpha Nu Omega Inc., Lambda Chapter Founder's Week 2009 11/4/09 Hangin with the Brothers: ANQ Fraternity Informal Interest Mtg. 7:29 pm Locke Rm. 257 11/5/09 ANQ Sorority Formal Interest Mtg. 7:29pm TBA 11/6/09 Prayer Walk 12:29pm (meet at flagpole) Prayer 1pm @ Flagpole

*The Ladies of Alpha Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated Present: "Sketches of A Man: The Art of Male Expression" All Male Talent Show Auditions November 2, 2009 from 6:30 pm-9:30 and November 4, 2009 6:30-8:30pm Lulu Vere Fine Arts Building Room 3001 All interested Males can contact: luncheon@womanto woman.conference.org *Only Males can audition**

JOYA TOTAL IMAGING SALON \$45 Relaxers and style Press N Curl Cut n Style Color n Style Rodsets \$35 Basic Service \$25 Roller Wraps Only \$110 Full Weaves Eyebrows and eyelash available Appointments needed Princess 202-758-9435

The Ladies of Alpha Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated and Street Bid'naz present "Turning The Page For Tomorrow" Book Drive For D.C. HighSchool Students Tuesday, November 3rd - Friday, November 6th in Lower Level Blackburn