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Established
1924



THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 93, NO.92

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

Monday, March 8, 2010

Monday's Notebook**BREAKING NEWS**

NORTH KOREA SAYS IT WILL NOT ABIDE BY THE ARMISTICE THAT BROUGHT A TRUCE TO THE KOREAN WAR, ACCORDING TO CNN.COM.

CAMPUS

THE HBCU SUMMIT BRIMMED WITH ATTENDEES WHO INCREASED THEIR LEADERSHIP SKILLS.

SPORTS

THE BISON BASKETBALL TEAMS PLAYED THEIR LAST GAMES OF THE SEASON AGAINST THE HAMPTON PIRATES.

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PAGE 4

Mister, Miss HU Crowned

BY AURORA ELLIS
Contributing Writer

Cramton Auditorium was packed as visitors and students alike came to cheer for their favorite contestants at the 2010 Mr. and Miss Howard University Pageant. By dancing, singing and expressing spoken-word testimonies, 12 contestants from six different schools showcased their talents and desires to win the titles of Mr. and Miss Howard University.

Sheryl Lee Ralph, accomplished actress and activist, hosted the pageant and was enthusiastically greeted by audience members with cheers and applause. In addition to dynamic performances, Ralph's vibrant and clever personality kept spectators engaged and entertained for the duration of the show.

Contestant Irvin Shannon delivered a heartfelt and passionate speech. Ashley Wooten performed an expressive dance to Sam Cooke's "A Change is Gonna Come." Nigerian-American, Theresa Onyemem, recited a poem honoring the perseverance of African-Americans and Joseph Barnes sought to engage the crowd with a rap performance titled "Dear Howard."

Emily Gillylen, a senior marketing major and second runner-up for Miss School of Business, said she saw both creativity and sincerity in all of the performances. "The concept that I have gotten thus far from the contestants is that the reason that they want to win this is because they realize that it is not about them," Gillylen said. It's more so about the people that came before [them] and the people

that are going to come after [them]," she said.

Many of the performances were inspired by the Civil Rights Movement, which represented a time when African-Americans struggled to change their future and their reality, not with elaborate ceremonies or high titles and positions, but through mass organized protests.

Despite the diverse performances, not everyone felt that all the performers were bringing their best. Don Johnson, a visiting audience member from Wisconsin and supporter of Jeffery Pugh, expressed disappointment with some of the acts. "I am enjoying myself, but the thing that I am missing is the excitement and the action. It seems like a lot of performers are not excited to be here. They just seem like they're just there. I am looking for a little bit more and their not bringing it. Some of them are and some of them are not," he said.

The most daunting part of the pageant was the question and answer segment, which relied less



Friday night, Howard University chose Mr. and Miss COAS Jeffery Pugh and Adrian Pruett as their new Mr. and Miss Howard University 2010-2011.

Photo Courtesy of Victor Montgomery

upon appearance and glamour, but required the contestants to give impromptu answers to difficult questions. Contestants responded to subjects such as how Howard can shed its bourgeois image among

the surrounding community and foster a true relationship with it. Another question asked contestants they could improve relations

> See **PAGEANT**, page 3

Cheating Students Spared

BY RILEY WILSON
Staff Writer

A cheating scandal involving several School of Business Student Council members and at least 20 other School of Business students has finally come to a close — with many of the suspected cheaters receiving less than the usual penalty of suspension.

The incident began in late December when Charles M. Ermer, Ph.D., associate professor in the Information Systems and Decision Sciences Department, received a report from Course Technology, also known as Cengage Learning, a company that provides IT learning solutions to universities. The report indicated that several students enrolled in the Quantitative Business Analysis (QBA) course had either not done their own work or had provided unauthorized assistance to other students.

In QBA, students are required to perform various assignments using Microsoft Excel. Yet Casegrader, a part of Cengage Learning, monitored their work through a separate system.

"Casegrader has software aimed at detecting abuse of the system," Ermer said. "At the end of the semester, it submits a report to the faculty indicating students who had signs of not having done their own work or supplying for other people."

Ermer said he gave the document to the School of Business' Dean Barron H. Harvey, Ph.D., who told *The Hilltop* that he takes cheating very seriously. "[Cheating] is just not really worth it," Harvey said. "We've got to keep hammering that message and making sure that students understand that the right way is hard work, perseverance and diligence."

During winter break, students in the School of Business (SOB) were notified of the cheating allegations. Since then, there have been various hearings, appeals and decisions made, but the cases are now closed.

The level of importance with the cheating allegations was evident as high-ranking university officials became involved in the decision process. Several attempts to obtain comments from the provost went unanswered.

Typically, School of Business students found guilty of cheating can have a punishment

> See **CHEAT**, page 3

Students Raise Money at Radiothon for ASB

BY RON HARRIS
HU Office of Communications

Scores of Howard University students took to the streets and local celebrities lent their support at WHUR 96.3 radio during a 12-hour radiothon to raise money to finance the students' Alternative Spring Break of helping others in cities across America.

The goal was \$50,000 and beginning at 6 a.m. Sunday, students lined Georgia Avenue and Bryant Street asking for donations so they can travel to Atlanta, Chicago, Detroit, New Orleans and Washington D.C. to help children struggling with gangs and gun violence, adults and teens who don't know how to read and a city still trying to recover from a hurricane. Two of the donors were

Prince George's County Executive Jack B. Johnson and his wife, Leslie E. Johnson, both graduates of Howard University School of Law.

"I'm here because I believe everybody should be in some way in their life serving others," said Leslie Johnson, who brought her donation to the radio station. "If I can lend a hand to their effort, then I'm happy to do that."

The Reverend Vashti Murphy McKenzie, the first female bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church and national chaplain of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, was one of many who stopped by the station to ask others to support the campaign.

Andre Cooper, 21, of Fort Worth, Texas, was one of the many

> See **ASB**, page 3



Erica Lindsay, student coordinator for the five-city Howard University Alternative Spring Break, helps other students collect money along Georgia Avenue.

Photo Courtesy: HU Communications

Chocolate City, DMV Club Co-Host Howard Go-Go

BY KWABINA OFORI-ANSAH
Contributing Writer

Congos, drums, guitars and a runway with flashing lights shocked the eyes of many on Friday in Blackburn during the fashion show sponsored by the Howard University Chocolate City Club and DMV Club.

Blackburn was filled with the Washington D.C.'s own style of live music, "Go-Go." The Howard

University Chocolate City Club and DMV Club joined together to reach out to the local community via the go-go music and fashion show themed "Save Our Streets: In the City, We Live."

Local artists, New Impressionz Band, W.H.A.T? Band, Rock Mentality Band and Vizion Dance Team rocked the stage while students and Washington residents danced to Go-Go music.

Rock Mentality Band manager

and Chocolate City Club president Ify Nwabukwu, was ecstatic about the turn out this year. "When I first heard my band was playing at Howard, we were excited... as far the organization this year everything went well and it was a good party," she said.

Lead singer for New Impressionz Band, TJ said, "Our band has been together for eight years and one thing that makes us different... is the originality in our

music. We were excited to play up Howard again because they showed us love last year, and we want to continue to have shows to reach out to the community and the Howard community."

The W.H.A.T? Band reached out to the younger community with their attracting sounds and dance moves.

Usually at a Go-Go there is a picture booth where friends of friends take pictures all night and

HU's Go-Go was no different. Crystal Clear Photos took pictures all night in Blackburn during the show.

Howard put on its second annual Go-Go. According to Nwabukwu, the turnout was similar but the music improved with new bands like Rock Mentality. Both clubs plan to continue to have events uniting the local and Howard communities.

Howard Crowns New Royalty, Says Goodbye to Old

The Mr. and Miss HU Pageant takes it back to Motown



Miss COAS Adrian Pruett and Mr. COAS Jeffrey Pugh were crowned Mr. and Miss Howard University 2010 - 2011 on Friday night in Cramton Auditorium. During the show host Sheryl Lee Ralph brought her husband, state senator Vincent Hughes, on the stage and introduced him to the Howard University community.

Bree Gent - Photo Editor



The runners ups of the pageant were crowned Mr. and Miss Blue and White. Mr. Blue and White is Mr. School of Business Jamil Favors and Miss Blue and White was Miss School of Communication Miah Tyree. During the show, different organizations performed as old Motown groups. Sisters of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. imitated the Supremes.

Bree Gent - Photo Editor

First HBCU Conference gets Good Turnout

Students learn skills about leadership on campus and in their community

BY CAMILLE AUGUSTIN
Staff Writer

Some are born to serve and some are born to teach, others are born to lead. Student leaders from different Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) and from Howard University gathered at the Mecca on Saturday morning to learn how to enhance their leadership roles.

"This has been a humbling experience to be at the Mecca, Howard University," said Ryan Burke, Student Government Association (SGA) president-elect at Tuskegee University.

"I learned a lot of things from Howard that I can bring back to Tuskegee," Burke said he made wonderful connections with students at Howard as well and endured great hospitality from the Howard community.

Students and student leaders gathered in the Browning Room of Founders Library on a bright and clear sky Saturday morning to hear what they as student leaders can do to bring change to their communities.

Speaker Ray Baker, talk show host of "Real Talk with Ray Baker," gave knowledge to the stu-

dents. When Baker saw the turnout of student leaders under one roof, he said it made him want to cry.

"I am glad Howard University is taking lead on this," said Baker, graduate of Howard University with a B.A. in journalism. "I feel special that I am an alumnus of the university that spearheaded this."

Baker said part of being a good leader is to remain informed and be aware of what is going on in the world around us. Baker said leaders stand on principle of truth and the work they have accomplished puts them in a place where people recognize the greater good of their work.

Baker also said student leaders have the power to ignite change and have intellectual conversations with people on their campus.

After attending the "Motown at the Mecca: Mr. and Miss Howard University Pageant," Kirk Pressley, SGA president at Bowie State University, enjoyed the atmosphere of the Howard students and experienced camaraderie among other HBCU students.

"By being a part of this conference I have learned how to better my community and how to inform and enhance other students



Students from Howard and Tuskegee Universities gathered on Saturday for a day full of workshops for the leadership conference with one of the speakers being Ray Baker from "Real Talk with Ray Baker."

Photo courtesy of Joshua A. Moore



at Bowie State," Pressley said.

"This conference instilled motivation in me to want to continue in my walk of leadership."

Student at Tuskegee University, Dinah Wimbush, said she really enjoyed the conference, the

speakers and the intelligence that they brought to the table. "What I heard from the different events at the conference I will definitely use in my walk of life," said Wimbush. "I am more aware of the things going on in the black community."

Baker ended the insightful opening ceremony with a proverb. "If we stand tall it is because we stand on the backs of those that came before us."

Results Revealed After Lengthy Debate

continued from FRONT PAGEANT

with other historically black colleges and universities.

Other inquiries included what candidates would do to support and cater to issues such as environmental initiatives, Howard's athletic teams and contemporary issues affecting the black community. Although all contestants answered promptly and with surety, the question and answer segment distinguished between contestants who tackled the issues directly and those who chose to simply recite their platform.

During the final line-up of contestants, the crowd's enthusiasm was evident as dozens of people chanted in unison for their favorite contestant, which added to the overall momentum of who would be the next Mr. and Miss Howard University. It would not be for about 15 to 20 minutes later that

the audience discovered the results. The long wait for the tabulation of scores left many students restless.

Mr. and Miss Howard University 2008-2010, Melech Thomas and Kendall Isadore, took the stage to give their farewells and pass on the title to another couple. The first runner-up for Mr. Howard was Jamil Favors, Mr. School of Business, and the first runner-up for Miss Howard was Miah Tyree, Miss School of Communications. Both Mr. and Miss College of Arts and Sciences, Jeffery Pugh and Adrian Pruett, walked away the winners of the pageant and were crowned Mr. and Miss Howard University.

"The hard work was definitely well worth it in the end," said Kalea Selmon, a junior psychology major and a member of the pageant staff. "I am very happy Adrian and Jeffery [won], but I definitely think that everybody gave it their best effort," she said.

Cheating not so Rare on Campuses Across the Nation

continued from FRONT CHEAT

ranging from a semester of suspension to expulsion. In this case, however, most of those found to have cheated were given an "F" in the course.

The SOB is not the only school dealing with cheating. Rochelle Larkin Ford, Ph.D., associate dean of research and academic affairs in the School of Communications (SOC), said all universities deal with cheating.

"Plagiarism is a bigger problem in the (SOC) - people copying peoples' work. The professors need to be on top of it," Ford said.

During her three years as associate dean, Ford said she has never suspended, nor expelled anyone in the SOC for cheating or plagiarism. Ford said teachers are often given the responsibility of handling the situation.

Because of its apparent ta-

boo, the perception of cheating is oftentimes considered to be a means of diminishing the value of a degree - hence why schools rarely publicize it.

According to Education-Portal.com, a scholastic and career research site supported by the American Library Association, between 75 and 98 percent of college students admit to cheating during their academic careers. The organization says that business and engineering majors are the most likely to cheat.

"It's because of the rigorous coursework and it's harder for us to matriculate," said Jennee Simmons, a junior actuarial science major. "All of our classes depend on another class - it's the same in engineering. It's more pressure. More colleges are trying to hide that fact."

Even top schools such as New York University and Morehouse College have their share

of cheating. Morehouse College's Academic Oversight Committee is currently reviewing their own policies and procedures regarding academic integrity.

"There's been some concern about plagiarism on campus, which prompted the faculty to develop this integrity policy," said Ronald Sheehy, assistant vice president of Academic Affairs at Morehouse College, in an interview with *The Hilltop*. "The faculty was concerned enough about it that this matter was discussed in the faculty meeting."

Ermer said he is unsure whether the punishment handed down to the SOB students found guilty of cheating will deter future outbreaks of academic misbehavior.

"I would assume that students will be more cautious about what they do," Ermer said. "Whether it changes attitudes overall, I have no idea."

ASB Participants see the Importance of Service

continued from FRONT ASB

students who collected money.

"I was getting a lot of support," he said. "It was nice. It's a nice feeling to be able to help others, and it felt good to see the people's willingness to help."

Vogue Lee-McWilliams, 19, of Atlanta, collected money on Bryant and 4th streets.

"I was only there for a few minutes before people started giving me money," said Lee-McWilliams, a marketing major. "The weather is nice, and everybody has their windows down. That makes it easier. As soon as people find out what it's for, they want to donate."

This year, nearly 300 Howard students will be working from March 14 to March 19 on youth development in Atlanta

and Washington, on gun violence in Chicago, on literacy in Detroit and on the environment and other issues in New Orleans.

Monique Rochon is the site coordinator for New Orleans this year. She volunteered in New Orleans last year, but this year wanted to do more.

"For me, ASB epitomizes striving to make a difference," said Rochon, whose job it is to plan every aspect of the trip to the Big Easy. "It is a week of service where concepts of social welfare and community outreach are explored through various work projects."

This year, the more than 80 students going to New Orleans will concentrate on securing the environment. They will plant trees, secure the coastline and clean up the city park. Another 40 students

from the School of Law will help the city with its backlog of criminal and civil cases.

San Diego native Christina Smith will be in Chicago. She remembers vividly when it struck her how important it was that she be involved in Spring Break rather than on a beach back home.

She was in Chicago last year working with children.

"One of the students told me how his aunt owned a store in his neighborhood, but it was too dangerous for him to walk to the store and visit her," Smith recalled.

"Other kids told us how they had to walk the long way back and forth to school because some areas on the way were too dangerous. And everybody could tell you a story about a friend or someone

from their family who had been killed."

Sheena Hall, 20, of Richmond, Ind., is the site coordinator for Chicago. The former high school prom queen and cheerleader is responsible for housing, feeding the students, providing transportation to Chicago and back and planning the week's worth of activities.

"It's a lot of work, but it's worth it," she said. "Last year, 33 public school children were murdered. That's crazy. We all want to help."

Hall will be working with Father Michael Louis, an activist Chicago Catholic priest who is known for working a number of causes, including drugs, economic disparities and gun violence.

In Detroit, Denys Symonette is coordinating a week tackling

literacy.

"For me, this is part of my spiritual journey, part of my faith as a Christian," Symonette said. "If you're a Christian, you help people."

Overseeing all of the operations is Erica Jai Lindsay, a Chicago native who also will be site coordinator in Atlanta this year. The nearly 100 students there will be working with the new mayor, Howard alumnus Kasim Reed, to help clean up the city and to work with youth.

"For all of us, this is personal," Lindsay, 20, said. "It's because we care. But it's also part of the tradition of service at Howard."

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HOWARD UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

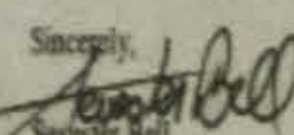
Dear Students:

As an ongoing part of our efforts to improve efficiency and streamline student enrollment processes, the University has implemented the following student service enhancements that are effective immediately:

- The First Deferred Payment Deadline will be July 1, beginning with the 2010 - 2011 academic year. All payments, installment plans, and third-party payment authorizations for the Fall 2010 semester must be received on or before this date.
- The Priority Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Deadline is February 15.
- FAFSA and Scholarship Search workshops will be sponsored from January 20 through February 15, the FAFSA filing date. Students may bring their tax documents to the workshop to receive assistance with completing the 2010-2011 FAFSA form.
- Students who complete their FAFSA form by the February 15 deadline will also receive two (2) Room Selection and Verification Program (RSVP) points for 2010 - 2011 on-campus housing (beginning this March).
- FAFSAs must be filed by February 15 (and all required documents must be submitted) to be eligible to complete the Donor Scholarship Application (made available April 1 - April 8).
- All filing and payment deadlines will be enforced. Failure to meet these critical deadlines will result in the assessment of late registration fees, late payment fees and the purge of registration schedules prior to the start of class without notification. All students are encouraged to monitor their validation status online via BisonWeb.

Beginning with the 2010-2011 semester, these processing enhancements are being made to expedite the financial aid packaging and validation processes. The Office of Student Financial Services will announce additional student service improvements in the coming months.

We wish you a successful spring semester.

Sincerely,

Sylvester Bell
Executive Director

2400 6th Street, NW, Suite 218
Washington, DC 20029



Telephone: (202) 806-2570
Facsimile: (202) 806-5279

Bison Blown out in Last Games of Season

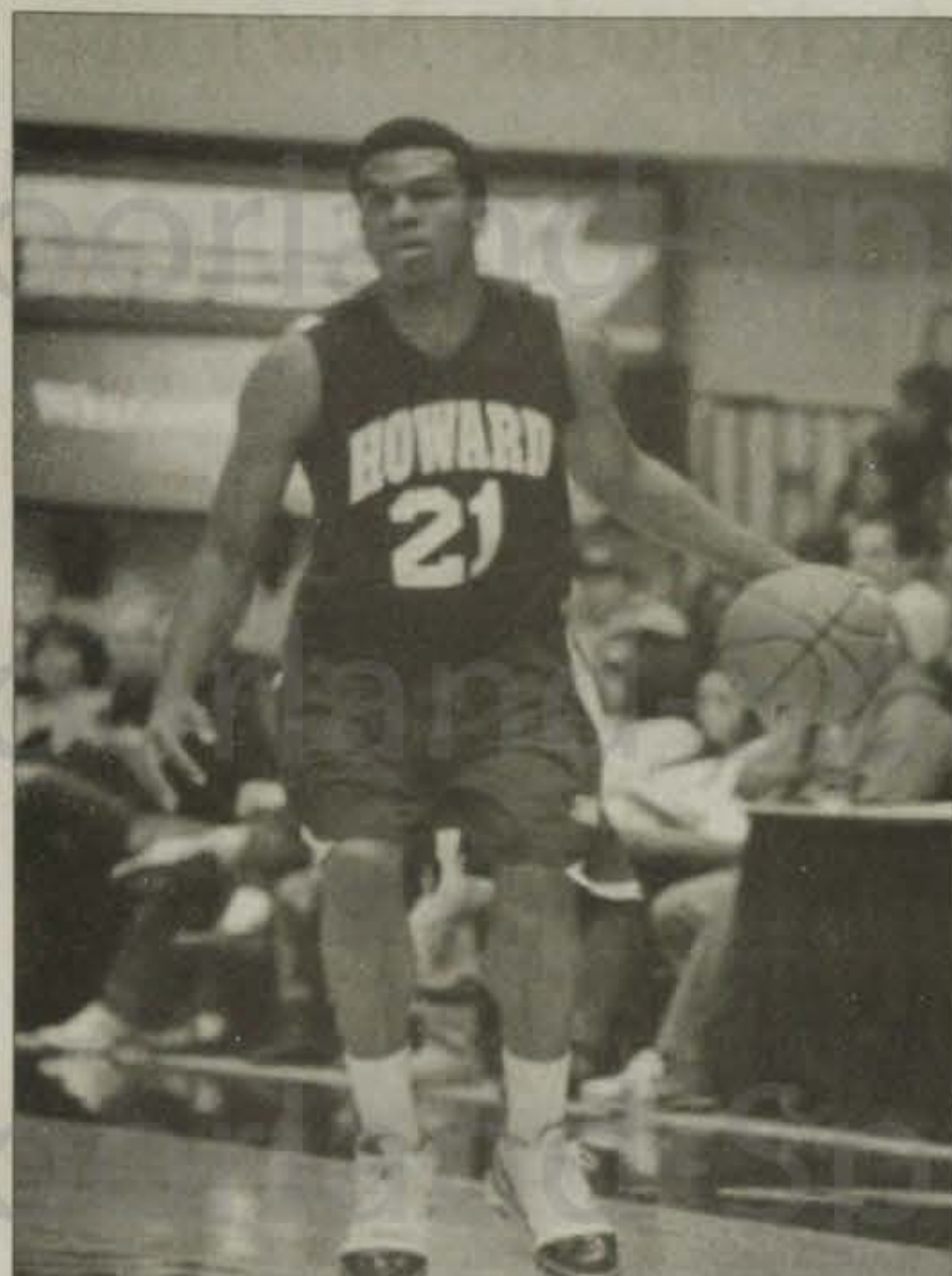


Photo Courtesy of HU Sports Information Office

The Bison lost by close to 50 points Thursday against their rival Hampton.

BY ROYCE STRAHAN
Sports Editor

The Bison men's team was crushed Thursday in a Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) game against their rival Hampton Pirates, while the women's team was also unsuccessful in their last game.

The Lady Bison (15-13 overall and 10-6 in the MEAC) fell 55-42 to their conference rivals. The Pirates' Melanie Warner scored 21 points and Jericka Jenkins added 10 to lead them to victory at the HU Convocation Center.

The Pirates held a double-digit lead for most of the game and held off a Bison comeback. Leading scorers for the Lady Bison were Saadia Doyle who had a double-double with 13 points and 11 rebounds, and Zykia Brown with 12 points.

The men's team (7-24 overall, 6-10 in the MEAC) lost by 48 points, being overpowered by an aggressive Pirate attack. Hampton's Darrian Pellum and Vincent Simpson each scored 22 points to lead the Pirates to an easy win.

The Pirates (13-17 overall, 8-8

in the MEAC) shot 61 percent from the field in the first 20 minutes and held a 53-21 lead at the half. High scorers for the Bison were Dadrian Collins with 11 and Kandi Mukole with seven.



Photo Courtesy of HU Sports Information Office

The Lady Bison were held off by Hampton in a conference game against division rivals.

The Sports Section is Looking For Qualified Writers to Cover Sporting Events on campus.

Email

thehilltopsports@gmail.com

Sports Throwback Photo

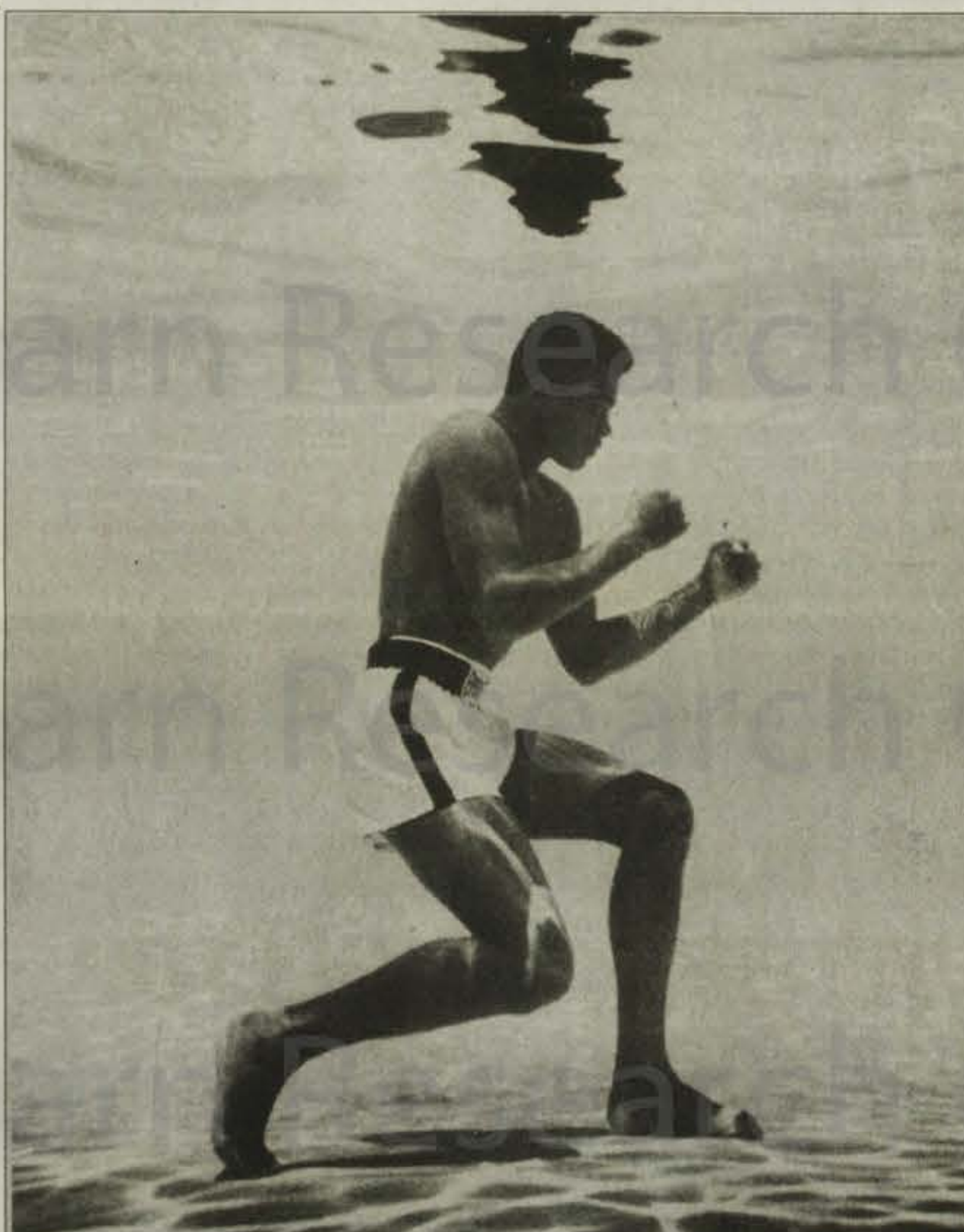


Photo Courtesy of WilliamMalcolmCollection.com

Muhammad Ali was known for perfecting his technique by exercising underwater. He became one of the greatest boxers in the history of the sport.



Men's Basketball MEAC Pct Overall Pct

Morgan St.	15-1	.938	24-9	.727
Delaware St.	11-5	.688	16-11	.593
South Carolina State	10-6	.625	16-13	.552
Norfolk St.	9-7	.562	11-18	.379
Hampton	9-8	.529	13-17	.433
Maryland-Eastern Shore	8-8	.500	10-20	.333
Bethune-Cookman	7-9	.438	16-15	.516
North Carolina A&T	6-10	.375	10-21	.323
Howard	6-10	.375	7-24	.226
Florida A&M	5-11	.312	9-21	.300
Coppin State	3-13	.188	8-21	.276

Women's Basketball MEAC Pct Overall Pct

North Carolina A&T	14-2	.875	21-9	.700
Hampton	12-4	.750	17-11	.607
Morgan St.	12-4	.750	17-12	.586
Howard	10-6	.625	15-13	.536
Florida A&M	9-7	.562	18-10	.643
Bethune-Cookman	9-7	.562	15-14	.517
Maryland-Eastern Shore	8-8	.500	11-15	.423
South Carolina State	5-11	.312	11-18	.379
Coppin State	5-11	.312	10-18	.357
Delaware St.	4-12	.250	6-23	.207
Norfolk St.	0-16	.000	4-22	.154

Sports Trivia!

Who is the NBA leader in three point field goals attempted and made?

Search The Hilltop for the answer!

TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY

March 8, 1971

Joe Frazier beats Muhammad Ali in 15, retains heavyweight boxing title.

Come grab an article from the Sports Section Sunday at the budget meeting or email
TheHilltopSports@Gmail.com

HOWARD UNIVERSITY DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF RESIDENCE LIFE

Resident 2010-2011 Assistant *in university residence halls* Positions

Qualifications: Undergraduate - Sophomore, Junior, Senior - 2.5 (GPA) average at the time of application submission. Residence Hall occupant for a minimum of one academic year, a record of active participation and positive leadership in hall programs and activities.

Responsibilities: R.A.s. work under the supervision of a Community Director, working a minimum of fifteen (15) hours per week, assisting with hall openings and closings, working with 40 to 60 students occupying a floor, assisting with hall programs and activities, attending all meetings called by the Community Director, and assisting with administrative responsibilities.

Employment: Is for one year and includes a taxable stipend of \$1,250.00, plus free room rent for the academic year. Reappointment for second year is possible and contingent on a successful evaluation, but requires a new application.

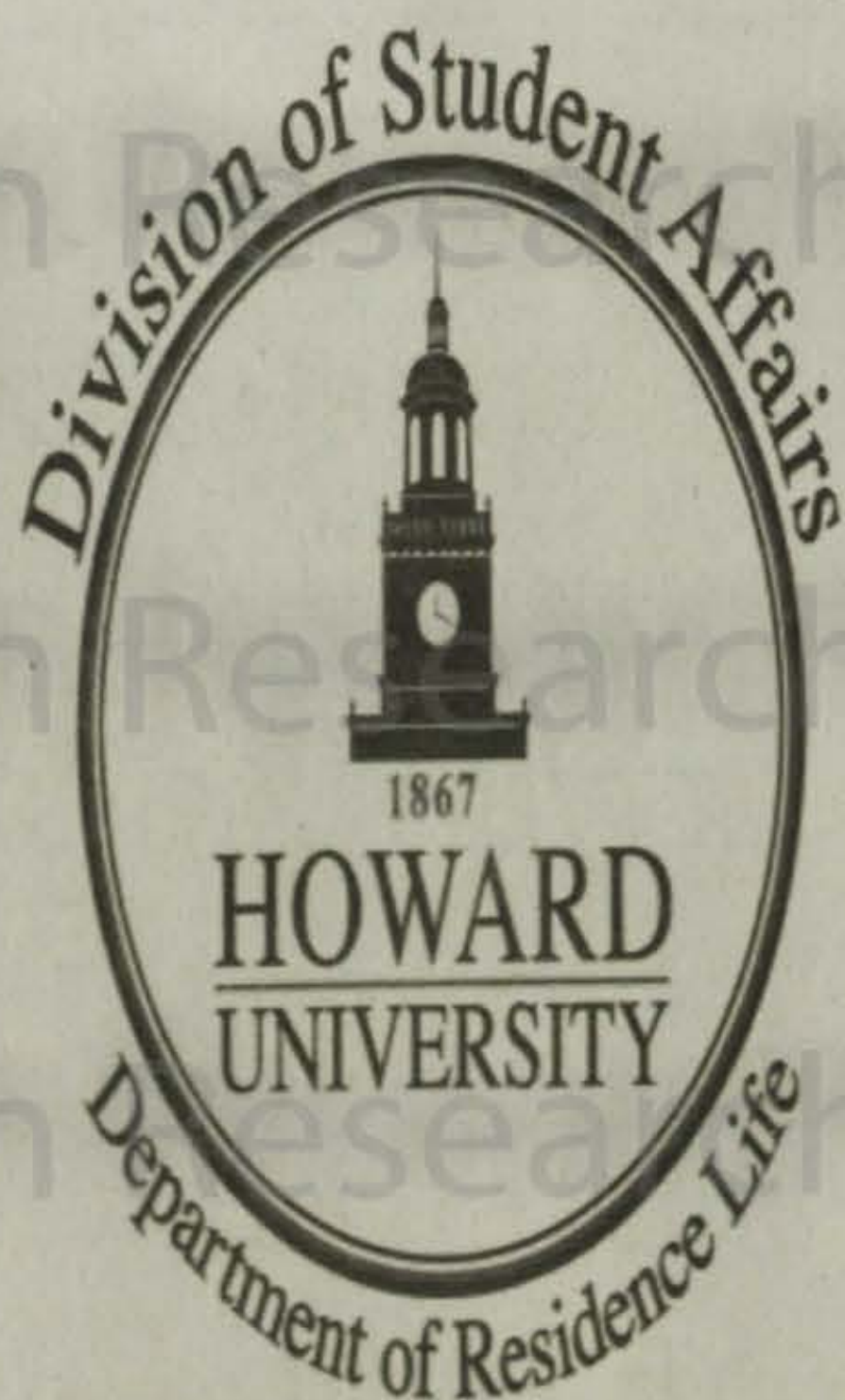
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Due March 12, 2010

Before 5pm Close Of Business!!!



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MOTHERLAND MONDAYS

Landslide Kills Over 100 in Uganda

At least 100 people have been killed by a landslide after heavy rains in Eastern Uganda.

The landslide, which rocked three villages near Mount Elgon, has also displaced an estimated 2,000 people.

Authorities have extracted 80 bodies from the area and 300 other people are reported missing and feared dead. Only eight survivors have so far been found; the Ugandan army has been deployed to conduct the search.

Fear of further landslides abound as the heavy rains continue pounding the region with no sign of easing.

Togo Votes in Presidential Poll

Over three million voters in the West African nation of Togo started casting their ballots in the presidential election Thursday.

Incumbent President, Faure Gnassingbe, is seeking re-election against six opposition candidates. Gnassingbe, son of Togo's long-ruling leader Gnassingbe Eyadema, has been in power since his father's death in 2005.

Eyadema had ruled Togo for 38 years, from 1967 until his death in 2005. When he died, the country's military immediately installed Faure as president before public protests forced him to step down and organize an election, which he won amid claims of fraud.

President Gnassingbe's main challenger is Jean-Pierre Fabre, who agreed to run after long-term opposition leader Gilchrist Olympio's candidacy was rejected.

Information from www.NewsFromAfrica.org

Nigeria: Still No Word On Yar'Adua's Health

Nigerians are still unsure about the state of President Umaru Yar'Adua's health more than three months since he was last seen in public.

Vice President Goodluck Jonathan chaired a cabinet meeting Wednesday in his capacity as acting president, but the cabinet did not provide any briefing about the president's condition afterwards.

President Yar'Adua returned to Nigeria last week after spending three months in Saudi Arabia on treatment for a serious heart ailment.

On Feb. 9, Nigeria's parliament empowered Jonathan to exercise presidential duties in an acting capacity to ease national tension surrounding Yar'Adua's prolonged absence.

The president's unannounced return before dawn last Wednesday has reignited uncertainty, and there have been reports of a squabbling between the Yar'Adua and Jonathan camps. Since then, President Yar'Adua has not appeared in public and not even the vice president has gained access to him.

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

"The Oscars Revealed: A Look Beyond the Red

Many students watched the Academy Awards last night, but how many know how they got their start more than 70 years ago?

BY MARQUIS H. BARNETT
Nation & World Editor

Every year, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS), brings all the A-List celebrities to the red carpet for the presentation of the Academy Awards; more popularly known as the Oscars.

The first Academy Awards were held in 1929, to acknowledge excellence in the film industry for actors, directors and producers. First awarded at a private brunch at the Roosevelt Hotel in Hollywood, the debut ceremony was hosted by actor Douglas Fairbanks and director William C. deMille, according to the Academy's Web site, www.oscars.org.

In order for a film, or its ac-

tors, to be nominated, it must have been released between midnight January 1 of the following year to midnight of January 31 of that same year. Because of the difference in time zones, the rules call for the film to have been released by that time in Los Angeles, CA, home of AMPAS.

The Oscar season officially opens in February with the releasing of the nominations. From then, members of The Academy are charged with the naming of the winners.

The Academy is a professional, honorary organization with a sustaining membership of nearly 6,000. The largest voting group in the organization is constituted of actors, which accounts for over 1,300 members; a total of 22 per-

cent of the organization's membership.

For the past 73 years, the votes have been cast to and counted by the auditing firm PricewaterhouseCoppers. Official representatives can be seen strolling the red carpet in black suits with black briefcases, bearing the certified results for the ceremony.

Although there have been many locations for the ceremony, in 2002, The Academy announced that Hollywood's Kodak Theatre would be the permanent home of the awards ceremony.

The design of the Academy Award is gold-plated britannium and sits on a black metal base. It stands 13.5 inches tall and weighs approximately 8.5 pounds.

Although there has been

much confusion as to the statue's design, it has been discovered that it is a knight, with a crusader's sword, standing atop a reel of film. The reel of film has five spokes, representing the original branches of the Academy; Actors, Writers, Directors, Producers, and Technicians.

Since 1950, the statue has been legally bound to only change possession between the Academy and the awardee. The requirement was introduced that neither winners nor their heirs may sell the statue without first offering to sell it back to the Academy for \$1 US Dollar. If the winner refuses to agree to said stipulation, the

Academy keeps the statuette itself, but the winner retains the win.

And SOME of the Winners Are...

>Best Actress: Sandra Bullock, *The Blind Side*
>Best Actor: Jeff Bridges, *Crazy Heart*
Best Supporting Actress: Mo'Nique, *Precious - Based on the Novel "Push" by Sapphire*
>Best Supporting Actor: Christoph Waltz, *Inglourious Basterds*
Best Director: Kathryn Bigelow, *The Hurt Locker*
>Best Original Screenplay: Mark Boal, *The Hurt Locker*
Best Adapted Screenplay: Geoffrey Fletcher, *Precious - Based on the Novel "Push" by Sapphire*
>Best Animated Feature: Peter Dinklage, *Up*
>Best Foreign Language Film: *El Secreto de Sus Ojos (Spanish)* - Juan José Campanella
**The most popular categories, according to www.oscars.org.

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March is National Women's History Month. In honor of the women who strived for women's rights, The Hilltop will chronicle some of the women that you hear about very seldom.



Photo Courtesy of www.negroerlist.com

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune was born in South Carolina, the daughter of liberated slaves, and lived her life for the education of women. In 1904, she started a school specifically for the education of young Black girls.

The school, which later went on to become Bethune-Cookman University, is listed as a Historically Black University and continues to be one of the more competitive HBCU's today.

Before her death in 1955, she started the National Council of Negro Women, which has become one of the largest women's organizations in the United States.

The Hilltop honors Mrs. Bethune for her accomplishments.



Candidates

...candidates you have selected. You may make a change you wish to modify. When you are satisfied with your selection, you may log out instead and start over.

Student Association Positions

Lamont Russell (write-in)

Brandon Crump (write-in)

Photo Courtesy of Brandon Crump

Election Day Shows Unexpected Response

As we anticipated, election season this year was a little different. An apparent surge in student apathy resulted in not only an unusually low number of students running for student government and other leadership roles, but also campaign season getting a bit out of control.

It seemed as though this year, the people who were involved in running and campaigning efforts couldn't quite seem to get it together, down to the day of elections.

A huge topic of discussion around campus was the unopposed slate running for the 50th Howard University Student Association administration. The slate, which included a sophomore for position of executive president (Brandon Harris), and second-year law student and former HUSA executive vice president (Will Roberts) for position of executive vice president, was criticized for their laid-back approach to campaigning and what seemed like a half-hearted attempt at a platform.

Regardless of any hang-ups students had with the slate's enthusiasm (or lack thereof), there wasn't much they could do. Harris and Roberts were the only available candidates. That was until the morning on which voting began.

Jokingly, random students began announcing via Twitter feeds that they were also running for HUSA and asked friends to write them

into the online ballots as candidates. After several hours retweets, mass text messages, and word of mouth, the informal campaigning landed several candidates in the running for the position of HUSA. Mind you, these candidates has little serious interest in actually obtaining positions in student government until that morning.

What started off as a joke soon turned into a movement, as numerous students wrote-in their friends and acquaintances for the very serious positions of executive president and vice president.

Our View:

Election day was a bit ridiculous - and should've been taken more seriously.

Although this phenomenon stole less than one percent of the vote from Harris and Roberts, it was interesting to see just how many students decided to vote for their unqualified friends and acquaintances instead of a registered slate.

It seemed as if the majority of the student body found the situation humorous, doing their part in spreading the word, and telling their friends to likewise write in these new and unexpected candidates for HUSA. Others found the joke disappointing, confused about why students would take such a serious decision

so lightly. HUSA Executive President Bryan Smart even broadcasted his feelings about the mockery via Twitter.

He attacked the issue head on with tweets saying, "Next year, when you are having real issues with the university, remember this mockery that we're making of student government!" He expressed his bewilderment at student behavior, claiming it was "ridiculous," and imploring the student body as to why we were "taking something so important as a joke."

It's a little ridiculous that students would knowingly choose to nominate unqualified candidates to a position that so severely impacts the well-being of the student body. Maybe the "unexpected candidates" really meant well, and were interested in trading in their election day jokes for a serious face if elected.

Regardless of their motives, the fact that some students were so willing to choose them over real candidates says something about the state of the student body, as well as the strength of Harris and Robert's slate. If the real slate had made a stronger impression on the student body, or if the majority of students took student government as seriously as they should, students would not have taken the time to write-in random candidates (or do any of their last minute campaigning).

Corrections:

Bone Marrow Story, 3/2:

The College of Pharmacy was also included in planning the Bone Marrow Drive.

Election Victory Story, 3/3:

Adam Flores will serve as the College of Engineering, Architecture and Computer Sciences (CEACS) executive vice-president of engineering, not executive president.

Drew Hall Story, 3/4:

According to Dean Marc Lee, the Dean's Night Out was a meeting that was already planned before the problems and work on improvement began.

Sports Trivia Answer:
Reggie Miller

Daily Sudoku

Directions:

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

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

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@thehilltoponline.com.

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

THE HILLTOP

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Now in its 85th year, The Hilltop is published Monday through Friday by Howard University students. With a readership of 7,000, The Hilltop is the largest black collegiate newspaper in the nation.

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

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

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.

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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.

Student days 20% OFF ALL services on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.
Call to make appointments 202 986 8685.
Www.souldayspa.com ask for Lanisha or Katrina.

Looking for Math tutor for my 16-year old daughter on a 4th grade level, also needs help on paragraph development. Hourly rate \$20/hr. Contact Ray Fowler (202) 607-3232

Are you ready for your break-through? Christian Sister's United Women's Break-through Conference. Register now! Blackburn March 8-11. 10-6pm.

Chapel Assistants Week 2010 presents

The Elephant In the Room: God's Place in the Secular World

March 8th
Hollywood Jesus: Talent Showcase

Gallery Lounge, 6:30pm

March 9th

God's Way Up the Corporate Ladder: Panel Discussion
Carnegie Building, 6:30pm

March 10th
Didn't Jesus turn water into Wine?: Round Table Discussion

Gallery Lounge, 6:30pm

March 11th
Bloodmobile Drive

Blackburn Center, 10am - 3pm

March 12th
CA Pageant 2010
Rankin Chapel, 6:30pm

Dear Students:

This year, extraordinary efforts were made to contact those students whose class schedules were in jeopardy of being purged. Students with difficulty satisfying their outstanding balance were strongly encouraged to visit the Office of Student Accounts to discuss extended payment options and alternative financing.

Due to this effort, the University provided significant financial assistance to support registered students in achieving matriculation. However, we recognize the financial difficulties of many of our students during this time of economic challenges.

All purged students are again encouraged to visit our Office of Student Accounts, located in Suite 115 of the Administration building, on or before Friday, March 12, 2010 between the hours of 8:30am - 3:00pm.

Our representatives will be assisting these students in exploring extended payment options and alternative financing to achieve financial validation.

Sincerely,

Sevester Bell,
Executive Director
Office of Student Financial Services

Howard University
Bison Yearbook
EIC
Applications now available in the Office of Student Activities.

•Must be a current validated Howard University student

•2.7 Cumulative GPA

Completed Applications Due March 23, 2010 by 5:00pm in the Office of Student Activities.

NOTICE

TO PURGED STUDENTS

Now Hiring

THE HILLTOP POLICY BOARD IS NOW HIRING FOR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AND BUSINESS MANAGER

QUALIFICATIONS

CURRENT VALIDATED HOWARD UNIVERSITY STUDENT

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MINIMUM OF 60 CREDIT HOURS

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PICK-UP APPLICATION FROM
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SUBMISSION DATE ON OR BEFORE
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