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Established
1924

THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

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Tuesday, March 30, 2010

Tuesday's Notebook**BREAKING NEWS**

ACCORDING TO CNN, THE RESIDENTS LIVING IN TRAILERS AFTER HURRICANE IKE ARE BEING CHARGED RENT BY FEMA.

BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY

A RECENT SUICIDE VICTIM WAS TARGETED ON SOCIAL NETWORKING SITE FORMSPRING. READ BIZ & TECH FOR MORE INFORMATION.

LIFE & STYLE

FINDING JOBS AFTER COLLEGE MAY BE DIFFICULT FOR NEW GRADUATES. READ LIFE & STYLE FOR THE LATEST IN EMPLOYMENT TRENDS.

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HU Attempts to Make New Dorm a Reality

BY LAUREN GASPARD
Staff Writer

For the past year, discussion has arisen about the groundbreaking Howard University Town Center project, which is set to be a

new property behind the Towers, across from Howard University Hospital. Though it seems to be a promising contribution to the Howard University community, some are concerned about when it will be available, and where is the benefit

for students.

The idea for the project was proposed June 24, 2008 during the presidential term of H. Patrick Swygert. The proposed \$150 million project will include 400 to 450 apartments, underground parking, and up to 100,000 square feet of retail space.

At the time of the proposal, Howard had partial ownership of the area north of V Street between Eighth Street and Georgia Avenue in Northwest D.C.

Castlerock Partners LLC, a private real estate development and management company based in McLean, Va., notified over 100 members of the Howard University community that the company was preparing to sign a 99-year lease to break ground on the proposed center in the fall of this year.

Maybelle Taylor Bennett, director of the Howard University Community Association, told the Washington Business Journal in an

article dated September 4, 2009, that the university plans to deliver a better mix of retail, more parking, and a way to retain small businesses in the Georgia Avenue area.

Bennett mentioned that these were goals that residents of the area repeatedly expressed when the area was assessed. "We hope to address the issues that have come up over the course of 30 years," said Bennett.

The property presents essentials that the community has voiced a clear need for in the area. The 400-450 apartments present new living space for students, but will be leased at market price. Students are concerned that although it creates more housing, the living areas have potential to be unaffordable depending on the rate of the pending area.

Jerome Joseph, vice-president of the Howard University Student Association feels that the property will generate extreme revenue

for the University, but must find a way to work with students in terms of housing.

"The only way I can see the building directly benefitting students is if there is a way to lower the cost of the units," said Joseph. "If the city uses a potential residential clause, then it will work."

Marcus Ware, newly elected Graduate Trustee, feels the new project will have a positive impact on the surrounding community and students in addition to all of the new developments that are in the works for future years.

"The area will become much nicer with the new condos and the town center," said Ware. "The grocery store close to campus is definitely more convenient for on-campus students, but it will be less of an impact for students due to the housing. However, it could be useful for grad students that want to be closer to campus."



Howard University is planning to build a new living complex on campus.

File Photo

CASCADE Gives Students Hope

BY CAMILLE AUGUSTIN
Staff Writer

The Coalition of Activist Students Celebrating the Acceptance of Diversity and Equality (CASCADE) kicked off their CASCADE week with a panel discussion titled, "Who do you say that I am?" in the Browsing Room of Founders Library.

The event sought to answer the questions of what role does spirituality play in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community. Panelists ranged from Catholics to Buddhist to Quakers, all bringing different perspectives and a sense of diversity to the discussion.

"The boy next door was a lot more interesting than the girl next door," said Gregory Berger, member of the group Dignity, a Catholic LGBT group in Washington, D.C. Berger said he wants the students who are LGBT to "have courage to be who you are and accept yourselves and accept others." Berger was raised in the Roman Catholic Church and said some people interpret the scripture from a narrow view.

Some panelists shared their struggle with breaking free from their religions or churches that made them feel unwelcome. Donna Payne, associate director of diversity for the Human Rights Campaign, said life took her on a 10-year journey from breaking with the A.M.E. church. "After leaving I did not go to church for a long period of time," said Payne. "You feel a loss of spirituality and it took me 10 years to become open to another church." Payne described this obstacle as "10 years in the wilderness."

Payne said some people in the LGBT community have become anti-religious because of the hurt they have experienced in the church of which they were once a part. But Payne said they should seek spiritual guidance and not endure the pain she did when she broke from the A.M.E. church, such as having a sense of the loss of family. Victoria Kirby, first year masters student in administration of justice, said some LGBT students at Howard University are afraid to go to the chapel service on campus because they think the

speakers will say something that may break their spirits. But Kirby said over the years she has learned to love herself and who she is and at the end of the day God comes before everything.

"You can't worship the god of your oppressors and be free because that god has given them permission to oppress you," said Bishop Kwabena Rainier Cheeks at Inner Light Ministries. Cheeks told his mother that he was gay at the age of 16. He was raised in the Catholic Church and said to himself "Why would I sit in a place that is condemning me and embrace it?"

Cheeks described religion as something that guides you then it should set you free. "When you are finished with this body you then have a spiritually body. Now a new journey begins."

The panel also included Cole Ruff, alumnus of Howard University and member of the D.C. Rainbow Buddhist, Jackie DeCarlo, member of the Friends Meeting of Washington, D.C., Willie Thompson, second-year Ph.D. student at Howard University School of Divinity, and Tom Bower, member of Dignity, a Catholic LGBT group in Washington, D.C.

Peer minister for the Anglican/Episcopalian and Lutheran Chaplaincy, Caleb Nelson Amaker, was the moderator for the event. The junior English major said he thought the event really addressed a lot of the thoughts of the LGBT community from a lot of different religious perspectives. Amaker said he wanted students to leave the event with a greater understanding that they are important as spiritual beings both regardless of and including their sexual identity.

One of the many students in the Browsing Room, LaShay Cherry, sophomore film production major, said the event was "a very necessary discussion for the affirmation and uplifting of Howard's LGBT community." Confidence in their existence and connection to God is what Cherry hopes students gained from attending the event.



Photos courtesy of dckaleidoscope.com

The small pink flowers that bloomed around the National Mall ushered in the spring season on the Capitol. The National Cherry Blossom Festival will last for two weeks.

Two Week Cherry Blossom Festival Officially Starts

BY DILANE MITCHELL
Copy Editor

The opening night of the National Cherry Blossom Festival marked the beginning of two weeks of events to celebrate the start of spring and the blending of Japanese and American culture. The festival showcases the blooming of the hundreds of cherry blossom trees that were donated to the United States by Japan in 1912 as a symbol of mutual respect between the two nations.

According to a press release from the National Cherry Blossom Festival, Inc., this year's festival is expected to attract more than one million visitors and endless ways to view the pink blossoms.

On Saturday, the National Building Museum, draped from ceiling to floor in pink cherry blossom décor, was filled with spectators anxious to take in all the festivities and performances. There were two separate events: the Family Day and the Opening Ceremony. Both were filled with thousands of attendees.

Family Day began at 10 a.m. Free Japanese inspired family day activities were offered by several vendors for guests to enjoy. The National Children's Museum

set up an area where children could try on traditional Japanese clothing and make spring picture frames. Families were able to decorate an actual tree with pink, red and white tissue paper. Participants also made koi or goldfish from paper and fabric to hang from their ceilings at home.

This is the fifth consecutive year that Family Day has been a part of the festival's events.

The opening ceremony began right after Family Day at 4 p.m. Several performers were present to share their talents, among them was Jennifer Corey, Miss District of Columbia 2010. Corey is a trained vocalist and sang the American National Anthem.

Iori Koyate, a soprano originally from Tokyo, sang the Japanese National Anthem. Other performers included Japanese pianist and composer, Tempei, and The Washington Ballet.

The festival will continue over the next two weeks and will include a host of other events including a lantern lighting, a fireworks show and a musical concert titled "Cherry Blast: A Night of Contemporary Art and Music," which will be held on April 2.

Sophomore advertising major and member of the Japanese culture club Charda Stallings found out about the festival from the club president and is planning to attend the concert.

"I'm really looking forward to it. I'm hoping that the artists are people I know, someone I can recognize," she said.

Stallings was introduced to "j-pop," or Japanese pop music, through a friend.

"She was just really passionate about it, so I started to like it. They're really famous in Japan though so I doubt they'll be able to fly all the way here," said Stallings.

Other popular events are the National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade and Sakura Matsuri, or the Japanese Street Festival. The Parade begins at 10 a.m. on April 10. Sakura Matsuri is from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the same day.

The market includes hours of performances on five stages. There will be food and beverage vendors as well as activities for kids. The Japanese-American Society will be giving out a free trip to Japan.

HU Student Designs Clothes To Pay For College

BY CHELSEA BATTLE
Staff Writer

He sits with a calm, poised confidence in a little café wearing a black T-shirt with intricate white graphics, and bold letters that read "Dreamers and Believers." His name is Alvin Canty, and he is the founder and designer of Dreamers and Believers clothing line.

According to Canty, a junior fashion merchandising major at Howard, there are two types of people in the world. There are those who are dreamers and those who are believers.

"There are a lot of people who sit around and do nothing — those are the dreamers — and then there are those who actually make things happen — those are the believers," said Canty.

An aspiring fashion mogul and visionary, this Pittsburgh native serves as one of Howard

University's hidden treasures. Drawing inspiration from art, literature, museums and life, Canty considers his clothing to be a contemporary line which seeks to inspire the masses. Currently, his line consists mainly of T-shirts encapsulating religious figures such as Buddha, nature and sheer creativity. Canty hopes to diversify his line with blazers, button-up shirts, couture pieces and other looks in the future.

"I like the quotes on some of his shirts and how each design is about a real aspect of life," said Alex Smith, a psychology major.

Jason White, a fashion merchandising major, shared similar feelings. "I like the way his shirts fit and the designs are cool too."

He began his fashion venture as a means of supporting himself to fund his tuition. Prior to this, he paid for school by throwing parties, but after throwing a bad party about two

years ago, he was unable to afford Howard and had to take off a semester. It was at that point that he decided to pursue his passion, graphic design, and produce his own authentic clothing line.

Dreamers And Believers is becoming increasingly popular. His line can currently be seen in retail stores such as Time Bomb and 412 clothing stores in Pittsburgh, selling at \$40 a piece. He sells them to Howard students for \$20.

Dreamers and Believers has also basked in the limelight, being spotted on celebrities such as Redman, Rich Boy, MIMS, Lil Scrappy, and the Premier of Bermuda Dr. Ewart Brown. He has six upcoming fashion shows approaching, one of which is at the University of Maryland, and he has designed Meridian's Res-Fest shirts.

Canty maintains that the motto of his clothing line is "turning dreamers into believers



Photo Courtesy of Alvin Canty

Canty currently sells his T-shirts at several retail stores such as Time Bomb and 412 Clothing located in Pittsburgh, and also at Howard University.

daily," and with his line he seeks to do just that; one design at a time.

"In five years I hope to be nationwide. In 20, I'm going

for global domination; turning dreamers into believers," said Canty.

Three Juris Doctors Honored, Four HU Students Awarded



Photo Courtesy of Ron Harris

Arthur Scandrett, founder of the Scandrett Disabilities Scholarship Fund, is joined by the four Howard students to whom he gave scholarships. From left: Emeke John Eni, Keri Ann Douglass, Ivy Jean Pierce and Leighton E. Francis

BY RON HARRIS
University Communications

Three of the nation's top juris doctors were honored and four students with disabilities were awarded scholarships Saturday, March 27, during the 18th Annual Scandrett Fund-raising Brunch and Scholarship Awards Ceremony at Howard University.

Howard students Emeke John Eni, who is pursuing a law degree; Ivy Jean Pierce, who is majoring in psychology; Leighton E. Francis, a graduate student in civil engineering; and Keri Ann Douglass, a film major, each received \$1,200 to continue their studies.

The scholarships were awarded by Arthur Scandrett, who founded the Scandrett Disabilities Scholarship Fund in

1992 at Howard University.

"I am thankful to be able to help these worthy, courageous students pursue their dreams despite their challenges," Scandrett said. "But I could not do it without the help of all of those who give to the fund. That is why we honor our three guests for their gracious contribution."

Judge Leon Kendall, who recently retired from the Superior Court of the U.S. Virgin Islands; Judge Carolyn Inez Wright, chief justice of Texas' 5th District Court of Appeals; and Judge Craig S. Strong, a member of Michigan's 3rd District Court, were honored for their longtime support of the fund and for their achievements in law and public service. All three are Howard graduates.

Since Scandrett began the fund, he has given scholar-

ships to more than 70 students. Scandrett was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1969, the year he graduated from Howard.

He worked at the U.S. Department of Labor and worked as a real estate agent until the disease forced his retirement in 1984. Scandrett said he established the fund to help the financially needy students with disabilities.

The fundraiser also doubles as Scandrett's birthday celebration.

"What better way to celebrate another year of being on earth, than by doing something to help others," he said.

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"It's no use of talking unless people understand what you say."

~Zora Neale Hurston~



*The Hilltop Newspaper celebrates 85
years of continuous news to Howard
Students and the community,
and remaining
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Suicide Victim Targeted on Formspring

BY RILEY WILSON
Staff Writer

When social networking site developers created the online forums that would allow users to connect with friends, family and colleagues, none could foresee the dangers that the potentially harmless sites could breed.

Straying away from their original purposes, popular sites like Facebook, Twitter and the most recent, Formspring, are quickly becoming more hazardous than helpful as more crimes are committed with the assistance of these social networking mediums.

After 17-year-old, Alexis Pilkington of West Islip, N.Y. committed suicide last Sunday, the West Islip community has become outraged and angered by comments left via these social media sites that prove to be derogatory, demeaning and hurtful, especially given the recent tragedy.

"I think it's horrible. It's vicious. It's cruel," said parent Lorraine Kolar to *The Associated Press* as she left a memorial service on Thursday for Pilkington. "It upsets me as a parent," she said.

In the case of West Islip and Pilkington, a tribute site that was created for Pilkington became the target of insulting messages after her death.

Classmates describe the messages as being creepy and insensi-

tive.

Anne Collier is the co-director of the Salt Lake City-based connectsafely.org, a forum about safety issues on the Internet. She says that while the comments may appear to be from someone who knew Pilkington well, such as a schoolmate, it is not necessarily in any relation to school.

According to specialists, the term "trolling" has been given to the action of leaving anonymous, hurtful messages directed at a person on social networking sites.

"Trolling is part of the dark side of cyberspace," Collier said. "It's not necessarily tied to any school activity."

Collier added, "It's quite anonymous and random and is usually seen as aggressive, egregious cruelty on the Internet. The people who sit behind computers and do this are known as trolls."

Pilkington received the same types of harassing comments on her memorial site just a week before her suicide on Formspring.

"Formspring.me is a site where you can send and receive anonymous questions, and learn more about people you find interesting by following their answers," according to the Web site.

Nicole Austin, a senior print journalism major, had a Formspring account, but deleted it when questions got too intrusive.

"People do get out of hand

formspring

With the tagline, "Ask me anything," Formspring, a popular social networking medium, allows users to anonymously post comments and ask questions on other users' pages. The site has also become a breeding ground for cruel cyberbullying.

on the site, but you can easily opt out," said the student.

However, young adults like those targeting Pilkington have used this anonymity to cause hurt and pain to people, some they know and others they don't.

"It's a disgrace," said Cathi Musmeci, a close family friend. "Let the girl die in peace," she said.

Musmeci says that the family does not believe that the messages were a major factor in Pilkington's death, however many classmates speculate that it was.

"We just want it off the

Internet," said Billy Crawford, a classmate of Pilkington's and a senior at West Islip High. "If you have anything to say to somebody, there's no reason you shouldn't say it to their face."

According to Formspring Spokeswoman Margit Wennmachers, the company changed its service in response.

Users can now decide whether to decline anonymous questions or allow them; they can also opt to allow them only from a user who is logged into the system.

Cases like this are not rare. In fact, more and more social net-

working sites are being related to teen deaths. "I think sites like Facebook and Twitter are okay with the right dosage, but Formspring is pushing it," said sophomore marketing major Candace Cowan. "A lot of things I've seen on the site are just inappropriate," she said.

While there is not much legal action that can occur, federal legislation has been proposed that would give prosecutors the ability to punish people who use electronic means to engage in severe cyberbullying — defined as repeated, hostile and severe communication made with an intent to harm.

Anti-Texting While Driving Technology in the Works

BY EVAN HOLLINS
Staff Writer

In an attempt to discourage texting or talking on the phone while driving, phone applications are being designed to curb the temptation of using the phone while driving.

Neglecting to wear a seat belt or signal before changing a lane are just a few of the numerous bad habits while driving.

There are laws and car technologies that influence drivers to not practice such habits, however, the task of getting drivers to not use their phones while driving has proven to be more difficult.

According to a study by SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) and Liberty Mutual Insurance Group, instant and text messaging while driving leads the list as the biggest distraction while driving.

Though many states banned drivers from talking on their phones without hands-free devices such as Bluetooth sets, studies have found that such laws are not reducing accidents.

Software companies have produced phone applications designed to curb the temptation to use the phone while driving, but such companies face major issues.

One of the issues is that some software is not very advanced. Some applications have difficulty recognizing if a driver is driving, what kind of vehicle a person is in, and if the person is just a passenger or driver.

"Technology without a clear vision for how it's going to actually help drivers could end up doing more harm than good," said John Lee, professor of industrial and systems engineering at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, in an interview with *The Associated Press*.

Important players such as wireless carriers, cell phone makers, car manufacturers and the federal government have not done enough to help fix the issue.

Ford Motor Company's optional Sync system already links cell phones to the car's controls, reads out text messages and understands spoken commands.

"I think it's [the use of phones] important, because a lot of times people are on the phone for important situations, such as handling business for a job or in case of emergency. But it is something that can be taken advantage of. If applications that prohibit phone usage while driving are done in the right way it can be very beneficial to drivers," said Angelica Hutchins, a political science major.

Because most of the applications use GPS or Bluetooth technologies, the applications only work for certain phones.

For example, Apple's iPhone does not allow third-party software to run while the phone is not in use.

Also, GPS and Bluetooth technologies drain battery life quicker.

Most of these companies lack the reach or financial stability

of wireless carriers or car manufacturers, making it difficult for such companies to make applications for a wide range of phones.

In an interview with *The Associated Press*, Joe Brennan of Trinity-Noble, which has a GPS-based app called Guardian Angel MP, said, "It's going to be expensive for companies like our own to continually try to catch up with the multitude of phones."

In comparison to most phone applications, applications made to discourage phone use while driving are expensive with some costing up to \$40 in addition to recurring monthly fees.

Some drivers believe that such applications have the potential to successfully make the usage of phones while driving less dangerous and hindering.

"I don't think it will be very helpful, because if people need to communicate while they drive, they are going to find ways to do so whether they are going to break the law or not. They should incorporate driving, texting and calling all together in such a way that will not hinder driving performance," said Terrell Williams, an economics major.

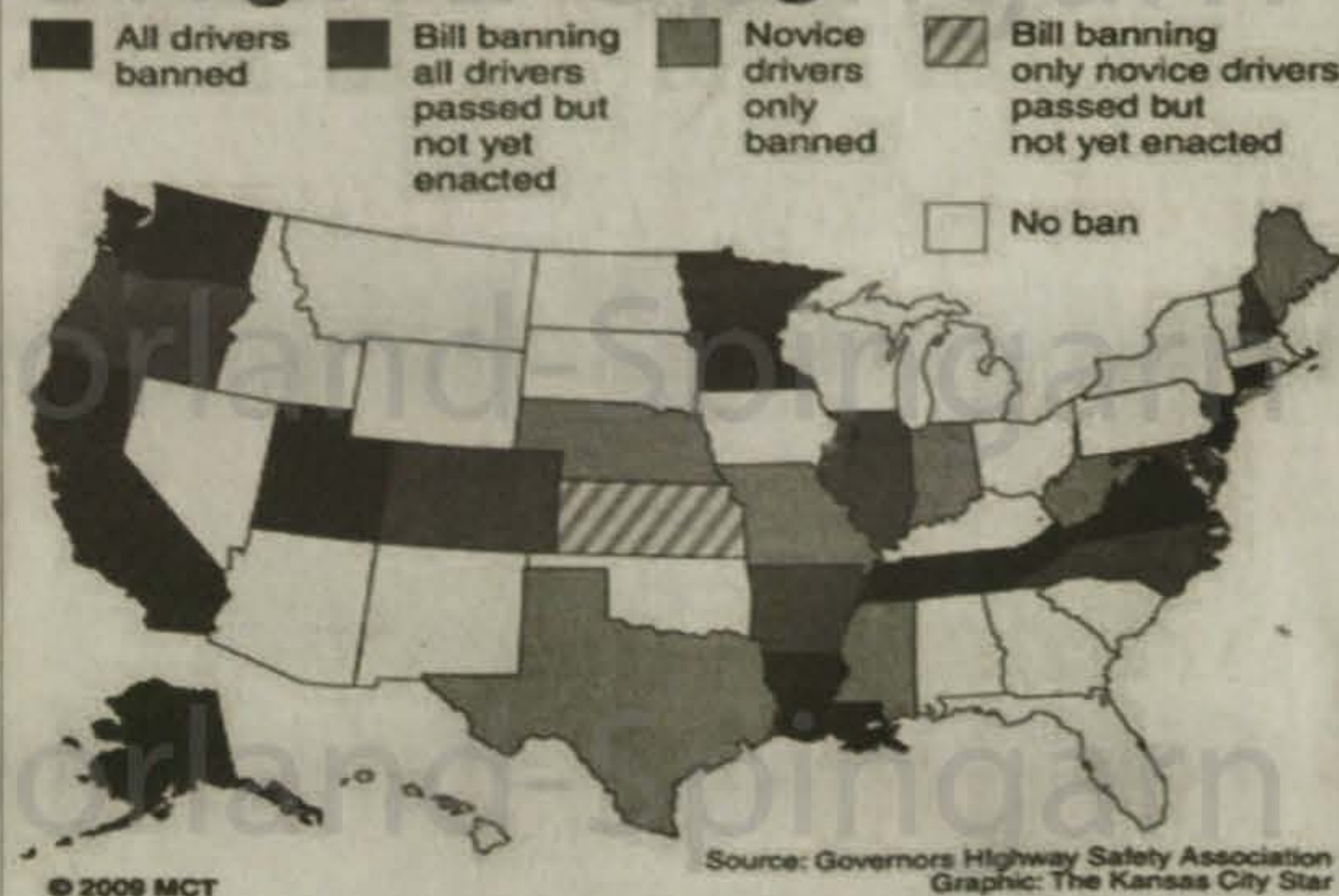
Researchers are positive that technology may be able to solve or reduce the issue and danger of driving while using mobile devices, but the main concern is making sure that technology promising better safety won't also create an additional distraction.

This Just In.....

- The Treasury Department announced Monday that it will begin to sell some of its \$7.7 billion shares of Citigroup Inc., a deal that could profit the U.S. government about \$7.5 billion. The government received these shares during the 2008 credit crisis in exchange for \$25 billion it gave to the bank. Depending on market conditions, the Treasury Department will begin selling during the course of this year.
- Robert Moffat, former IBM senior executive, pleaded guilty on Monday to federal charges stemming from a charge in what prosecutors called the "largest insider trading case in hedge fund history." The charges carry a potential 25-year imprisonment. With a plea agreement, however, Moffat may serve six months or less in prison.
- The demand for Apple's new iPad was so great that by Friday evening, it was greater than supply. By Saturday morning, the ship date for iPad pre-orders, originally set to guarantee delivery by April 3, had been pushed back to Tuesday April 12. Customers who already pre-ordered will still receive their devices on Saturday, but the option to order and pick up from an Apple store is no longer available.

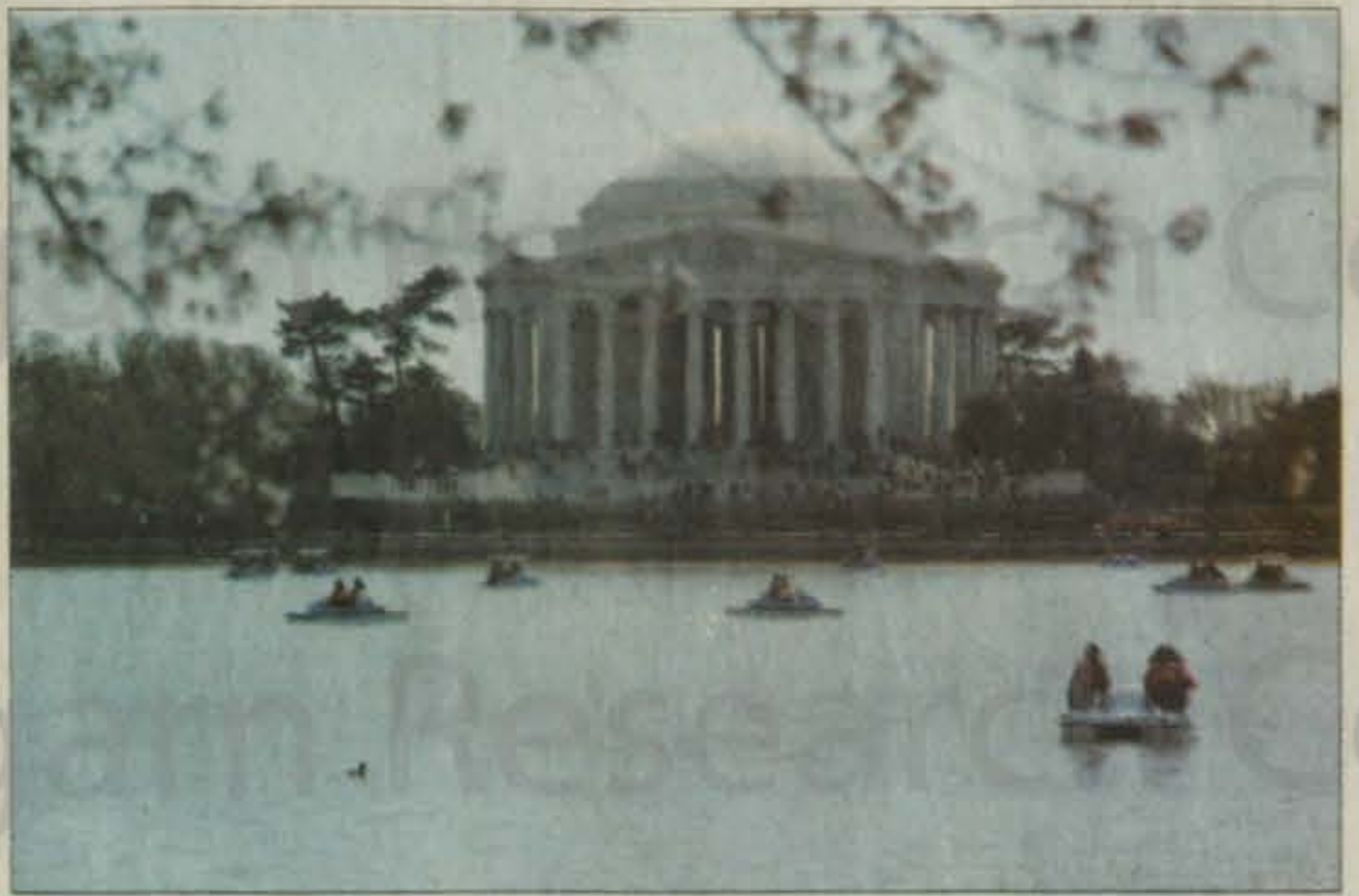
Information compiled by Alexis K. Barnes,
Business & Technology Editor

States with laws banning texting while driving



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2010 Cherry Blossom Festival Officially Kicks Off



Saturday marked the official start of the Cherry Blossom Festival. Various music, arts and crafts and cultural events, as well as fireworks and parades, will take place until the closing date on April 11.

Summertime Treats: Where are the Best Ice Cream Spots?

BY JARONDAKIE PATRICK
Contributing Writer

As the young boy licks around the coned vanilla ice cream topped with sprinkles sitting on the edge of the seat, wobbling his head only to show his excitement through a huge smile as the day comes to a close. This is how many adults have come to love and even obsess about their favorite ice cream and shops.

D.C. has a variety of ice cream shops that surround the metro area and this spring, residents will find their favorite spots and the best costs.

John Hughes, partner of Haagen-Dazs in Chinatown, admits that the hottest item on the menu is the dazzler and hand-packed quarts \$9.25.

"The dazzler 3 scoops layers with different toppings costing \$6.99 and probably the most expensive desert on the menu," said Hughes.

The flavors range from popular names as banana split, mint and dulce.

There are an average of 32 flavors, vanilla being a top choice. Another favorite among customers is dulce de leche. This flavor is of caramel that comes naturally from South America.

When stopping in to Haagen-Dazs, customers should be looking for natural flavors which make their ice cream rich. Specially grown strawberries from Washington State that are small and red are scattered throughout some flavors.

Some ice cream lovers do not have to enjoy their favorites

from their favorite shop, but when asked, Cold Stone is highly recommended.

"The atmosphere is cute and the people are knowledgeable about what goes with what," said Seanita Scott.

Walking into the Crystal Drive Cold Stone reveals all the things Scott and others may look for in an ice cream shop. Employee Kellie Martinez explains there are others reasons for their popularity.

"We have such a variety of flavors and cake," said Martinez.

These varieties can be mixed with 17 flavors, making specialty items like Peanut Butter Cup Perfection and Birthday Cake Remix.

While the cakes draw in many customers, one large cake will cost \$77.95 before tax. A kids scoop will be the cheapest at \$2.93 with tax because scoops are charged by the ounces.

Cold Stone's ceiling fans and charming seating within the Crystal City Mall is luring for many customers just wanting to personalize their ice cream. Often scenery just makes the ice cream taste better.

Just ask customers about newly established U-Scream Ice Cream shop located on U Street. Employees hope that the ice cream and the sweet crepes will bring in more customers throughout the spring.

It can beat out some of the top competition with its bold colors, wooden bench, small tables, and friendly customer service. The U Street atmosphere and the prices are far cheaper than others. Two large scoops are no more

than \$4.50.

The chocolate lovers may want to make their way to Thomas Sweet Shop in Georgetown. It has an old time feel and the staff quickly serves you because the ice cream is pre-mixed.

There is no window area to see your favorites mixed and the scoops are small, but satisfying. The menu is written in colorful chalk, home-made yogurt, and ready to buy or order smooth chocolate.

Chocolate shavings like these are what bring Diana Valenti, 19, out for ice cream on her visit from New York to D.C.

"Belgian Chocolate ice cream from Haagen-Dazs is my favorite flavor, but they do not have it at other places like Cold Stone," said Valenti.

Though she enjoys the smooth chocolate shavings, Valenti is not willing to pay more than \$5.00 for it.

Men are not exempt from having their favorites. If you ask Reo Marshalleck, 19, of Maryland his favorite is to be Rum Raisin.

"Give me some Rum Raisin ice cream and strawberries and I am good," said Marshalleck, an ice cream he has loved for the past 18 years.

Many things change from childhood to adulthood, but favorites like ice cream flavors are lasting. If the nice weather continues to allow ice cream lovers to sit and walk along sidewalks, then shops such as Cold Stone, Haagen-Dazs, Thomas Sweet Shop, Ben and Jerry's and U-Scream I Scream will continue sales because lovers of ice cream are always willing to pay for quality.



Art and Music Mix for a Night of Culture

"Arts, Beats, + Lyrics" filled the Andrew Mellon Auditorium in downtown Washington, D.C. with emerging artists, live music and a packed crowd Friday night.

D.C. was one of several stops for this urban art exhibition tour sponsored by Jack Daniels. Other locations included Atlanta, Houston and Charlotte. Jabari Graham and Dubeyoo, founders of the show, wanted to bring quality art exhibitions and live music together with local talent to areas that do not get as much attention as the coasts.

"It's great to see art as a focus amongst a hip hop crowd. So often it gets overshadowed by the other four elements," said Charles Jean Pierre. "I'm here to support Culture District. [an artist collective almost synonymous with the urban art scene in D.C.] We got started at Howard."

Admission was complimentary, drinks were complimentary and a good time costs attendees merely an ear for good music and an eye for great art.

"I wish I'd learned about this earlier. I definitely have to come back," said Benjamin Lawrence, a junior psychology major.

- Bree Gant, Photo Editor

Check out these ice cream shops in the city:

Ben & Jerry's
In Georgetown, Dupont Circle and Union Station

Haagen-Dazs
In Pentagon City, Gallery Place, Union Street, M Street

Cold Stone Creamery
In Ballston Common Mall, Tyson's Corner, Silver Spring, College Park

Maggie Moo's
In Adams Morgan, U Street, Pennsylvania Ave

Max's Best Ice Cream and Sandwich Shop
2445 Wisconsin Ave NW

U-Scream
U Street NW

Goodies Ice Cream and Candy Shop
555 11th St. NW

Thomas Sweet
3214 P St. NW



Photo Courtesy of Bucknell.edu

Did you know?

Currently Happening in Hollywood

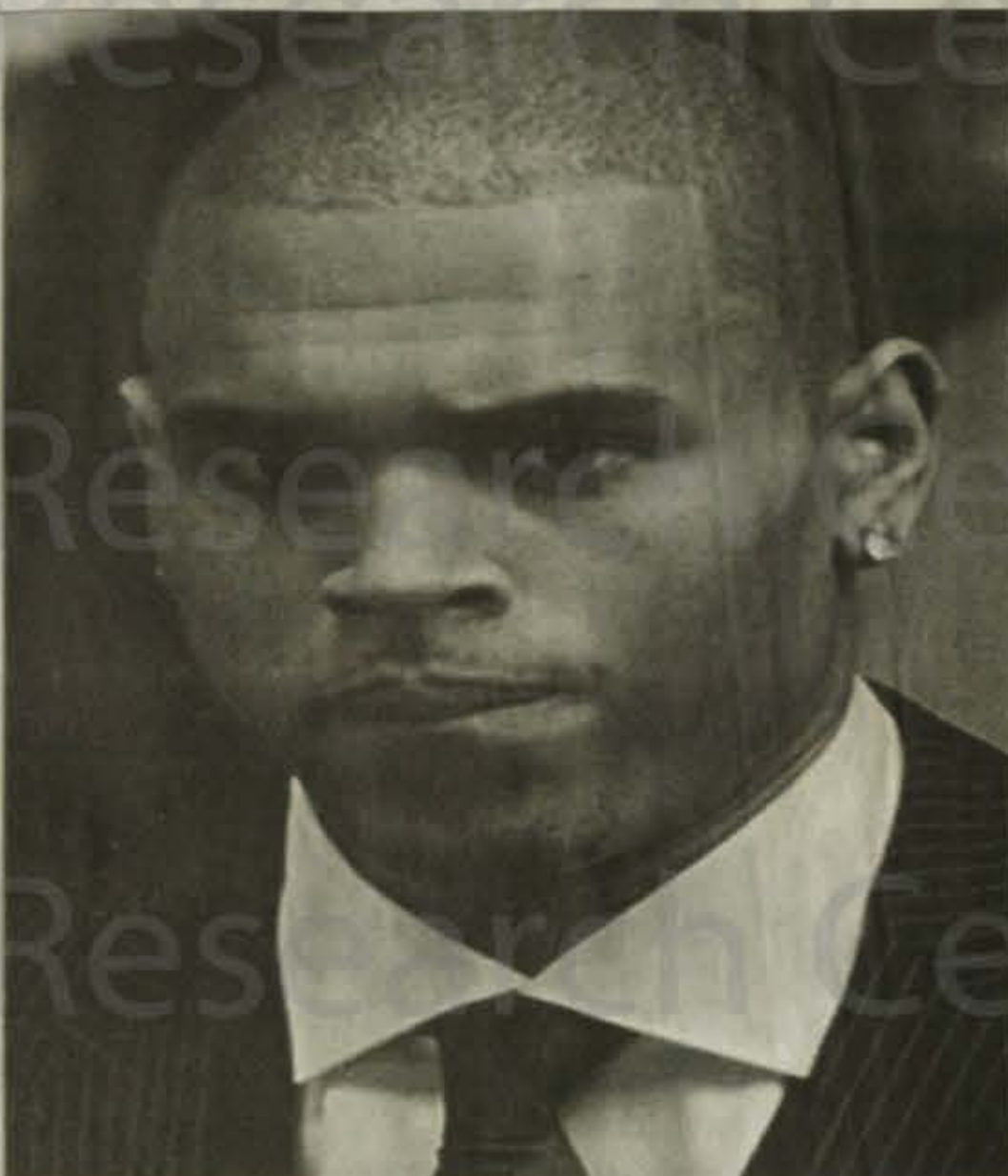
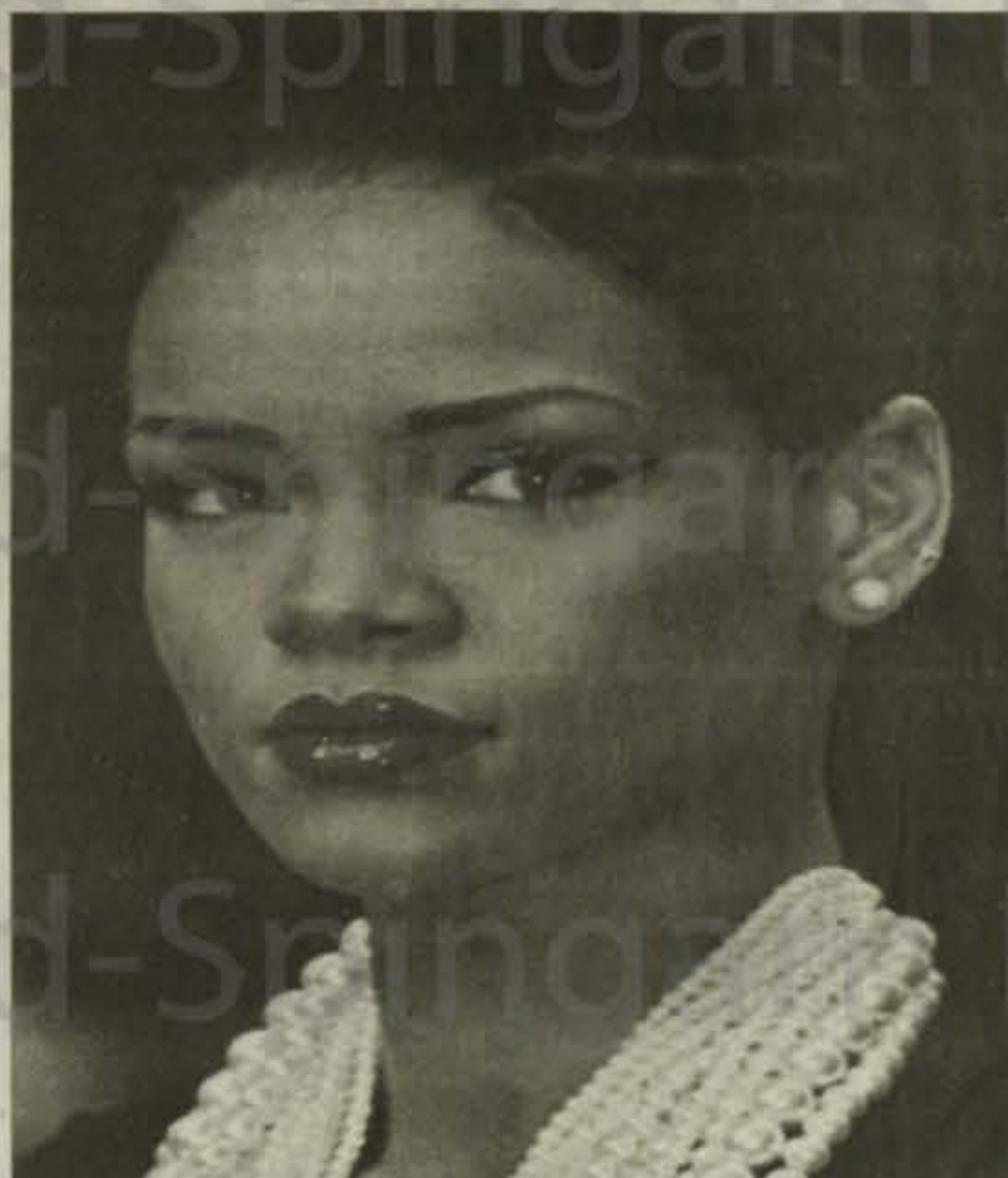
- Diddy will be performing the single "Hello, Good Morning" from his forthcoming album on *American Idol* this Wednesday. "Last Train to Paris" album release date is set for June 22, 2010.

- Grand Hustle's T.I. was re-released from the halfway house Saturday where he was serving his remaining sentence under house arrest. According to T.I.'s attorney, he will be placed under 23 days of supervised release with a curfew.

- Jill Scott was a columnist in the April issue of *Essence*. She discusses that "mosquito-bite like" sting that many black women feel when we discover a perfect specimen of a black man has married a white woman. Her column is causing controversy around the net.

Information courtesy of *Honeymag.com* and *theYB.com*.
Compiled by Cierra Jones,
Life & Style Editor

Have story requirements for class? Don't forget about budget meetings every Sunday @ 6 p.m. in The Hilltop Office! & Follow Us on Twitter @thehilltop



The domestic violence issue that occurred between singers Rihanna (left) and Chris Brown (right) has encouraged more dialogue between individuals whom are also involved in abusive relationships. More importantly, waves of people are beginning to seek help at facilities similar to the HU Counseling Service Center.

If a 'Rude Boy' Had Not Hit Rihanna, Would Domestic Abuse Be an Issue?

BY KARA SINGLETON
Staff Writer

Domestic violence cases are steadily increasing in the African-American communities. More and more people are being abused mentally, physically, sexually and emotionally. The issue of domestic violence has escalated into an intense issue.

Many African-American men and women are falling into the adverse cycle of domestic violence. People remain in these unstable relationships because of love, and sometimes fear. However, these relationships have the tendency to worsen and possibly lead to death.

Domestic violence is a serious issue that sophomore biology major Nate Alabi believes "is a highly punishable crime and is something that should not be taken lightly, but rather delved into to find out where exactly these acts of violence stem from." To him, getting to the root of the violence will help eradicate domestic violence situa-

tions.

Violence amongst couples is so commonplace that it is hard for some to envision respectful and kind relationships. Many people have dealt with domestic violence on a personal level or have been witnesses.

"Domestic violence has not affected my life, but I have seen it affect others around me," Alabi said. "I knew of relationships, some of which were very close to me, that domestic violence did affect to some degree. I actually saw firsthand someone get abused, so I am no stranger to domestic violence."

Domestic violence issues have resurfaced in the media thanks to Chris Brown and Rihanna.

Unfortunately, it took an situation between two African-American celebrities to bring this issue back to the forefront in the African-American community. It is almost alarming that the issue has been a neglected topic until the incident between these two celebri-

ties showed up in tabloids, gossip Web sites and later on news stations across the world.

Chris Brown and Rihanna are public examples of the violence taking place in the African-American community, but there are millions of incidents occurring that are going unnoticed.

In regards to the Chris Brown and Rihanna incident, people are looking at this case as means for their stories to be told. Yet, the consequence Brown faced was trivial compared to the crime committed. Freshman biology major Diamond Hanson disagrees with how the case was handled.

"His punishment was not just. There are many men that have been held responsible for domestic violence, and I'm sure their punishment was not community service," Hanson said.

While most of the mass media is stuck on the issues of the rich and famous, domestic violence is a problem that invades homes, jobs, and college campuses and deserves

immediate attention. People are starting to accept abuse and manipulate aspects of violence as a part of all relationships. As a freshman business management major, Janicia Moore is new to the college atmosphere, yet she believes domestic violence on college campuses is underreported.

"Students sometimes feel that they have limited resources to seek support, but need to be aware that there is help for them if they are victims," she said.

The issue of domestic violence goes beyond the physical. It is also mental. African Americans can be made more conscious and knowledgeable of the signs that lead to violence. For those in violent relationships, there is always a way out, and they can seek outside assistance. The Howard University Counseling Service, which is located on campus, offers a range of professional services for students wanting help with psychological issues, personal concerns, interpersonal issues and crisis.

New Graduates Should Prepare for Rejection

With the current state of the economy, careers straight out of college are becoming limited

BY MAYA RHODAN
Staff Writer

Sitting by the phone, waiting patiently for the call back from what felt like the perfect interview, can be nerve racking.

All of your business is in order, your GPA has been consistently high all throughout college and you have interned at some of the top companies in your field. You would be the perfect candidate for any job.

The phone rings. They loved you, but they gave the job to someone else.

It's that time of year again. Students all across the country are preparing to put the four and five years of education to good use in the job world, but are instead meeting a lot of empty opportunities mixed with the thought of spending the next year sleeping in their parent's basement.

In 2009, according to a survey conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers, 19.7 percent of college graduates in 2009 who applied for jobs actually got them. With increasing unemployment rates and an uncertain future for the business world, students have to become more and more comfortable with dealing with rejection.

"Not getting hired isn't like getting broken up with—usually then you know what went wrong," said Courtney Williams, a junior biology major. "But I feel like a lot of the time, people who are overqualified are intimidating to the people who work at the company already. Too much experience can be seen as a threat."

Williams said her mother, an experienced nurse, has been a victim of her over-qualification cost-



Students seeking jobs immediately after college should brace themselves for the harsh realities of job market rejection.

ing her a job.

"My mom said the HR people told her straight up that she had too much experience and if they hired her, they would feel obligated to let people with less experience, who they still had to train, go," Williams said.

The thought of a person above the age bracket of the typical student getting turned down for a job could be disheartening for most students, but when paired with the fact that at the start of the recession there was a peak in workers 55 and older and a rapid decline in persons younger than 24, that fact is probably considered in a different way.

An article in the *Miami Herald* on what the gloomy job market means for students presented research that has shown only 55 percent of young people 16-24 are either working or looking for work

now. The scary part about that figure is it only takes 6 months of unemployment to depress yearly earnings by 2 percent throughout the course of 10 years. Meaning the 45 percent of unemployed young people ages 16-24 will continue to be hurt by their joblessness and will be more susceptible to termination and rejection in the future.

The scariest fact of it all is that the cycle of termination and rejection for students, onset by the recession, will most likely continue at a significant rate even after students get hired.

According to an *About.com* post on how to handle termination, the hardest part about getting fired is moving on. Termination and rejection, however, aren't things that people, especially not students take lightly.

Sophomore criminal justice

major Tahir Alberga said that after getting over his fear of being rejected, he started to use it as a chance to do something different rather than a realization that nothing can be done.

"It affects your ego at first," Alberga said. "But I use it as motivation. I can't let one person telling me 'no' restrict me from doing what I desire to do. I try to get over it quickly so I can continue."

Senior legal communications major Andrew Jones feels similarly.

"Rejection means that you were not as good a fit for the position as you thought or hoped. I look at it as a positive sign that you have avoided something that may not be best for you," Jones said. "There will be a better opportunity in the future."



Athletes' Punishments Do Not Fit Their Crimes

The locker room is where players convene before and after games, receive pep talks from their coaches, interact with teammates, and in Washington Wizards point guard Gilbert Arenas' case, brandish weapons at their peers.

According to Arenas, pulling a weapon on teammate Javaris Crittenton in the heat of an argument was a pitiful excuse for a prank, but whether or not it really was an ill-conceived prank or not doesn't seem to matter.

Arenas has been charged with felony possession of a firearm, sentenced to 30 days in a halfway house, two years of probation, community service and steeply fined. There seems to be a strong possibility that once he's through with the initial stages of his punishments, he will return to his lucrative contract with the Wizards.

Of course Gilbert Arenas isn't the first professional athlete to get into serious trouble with the law.

After a drunk driving incident in Miami that claimed the life of an innocent pedestrian, Cleveland Browns wide receiver Donte Stallworth received 30 days

in jail. New York Giants wide receiver Plaxico Burress was sentenced to two years in jail after mistakenly shooting himself in the thigh with an unregistered gun, and Michael Vick was alternately sentenced to roughly two years in jail for his involvement in a dog-fighting operation.

Our View:

It's not fair when athletes' punishments often don't fit their crime.

Even though these athletes all received some type of punishment for their actions, there are obvious discrepancies between their levels of punishments.

It's all relative.

Are the crimes of pulling a gun on a teammate and participating in a dog-fighting ring both equivalent to the same sentence of two years behind bars? Alternately, does murdering someone (even if it was accidental) in a drunk driving incident only necessitate a measly 30 days in jail, while Michael Vick

was sentenced to two years of prison essentially for gambling and animal cruelty?

What do these punishments say about our judicial system?

As athletes and figures of public interest, these individuals' fates are decided by judges with personal biases, whether positive or negative, which undoubtedly has something to do with sentencing.

It seems as though some sentences are doled out as means of setting an example for the rest of society (that no one is safe from the law), while others can be classified as mere slaps on the wrist.

Whether the punishments are comparable to the crimes is definitely debatable.

Arenas will probably return to basketball, and continue to make millions. Who knows, he might even get a reality show out of the deal.

But if an average guy playing basketball in a D.C. neighborhood pulls an unregistered gun on a teammate as a joke, what kind of punishment will he receive?

Daily Sudoku

Directions:

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

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

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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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.

"You can't arrest me. I'm a basketball player!"

- Gilbert Arenas

Something on your mind? Speak up!

Send your perspectives to hilltopeditorials@gmail.com

The Ladies of
Alpha
Chapter, Delta
Sigma Theta
Sorority, Inc.
Present:
**THE
INITIATIVE :**
Accessibility
for OUR
Howard
A Discussion
on Handicap
Accessibility
Founders
Browsing
Room
Tuesday,
March 30
7:30pm

Alpha Kappa
Psi, Professional
Business
Fraternity,
Psi Tau
Chapter
Presents:
Alpha Kappa
Psi Week:
Ocean's 11

Tuesday 3/30
"Dress Like
Tess"
Fashion Tutorial
6:04 pm
Cook Hall
Lounge

Wednesday 3/31
"Lunch With
Alpha Kappa
Psi"
12pm-4pm
Panda Express,
Columbia
Heights
7:04 pm UNOs,
Union Station

Thursday 4/1
"Someone's
Always
Watching"
Campus
Celebrity Panel
Discussion
7:04 pm
Founder's
Browsing Room

Friday 4/2
"Headliners"
Open Mic Night
7:04 pm
Meridian Hill
Hall

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Managing Editor, Layout Editor, Assistant Layout Editor,
Photo Editor, Assistant Photo Editor, Copy Editor,
Assistant Copy Editor, Office Manager, Office Assistant,
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tion of
HUSA is in
the process of
building their
leadership
team.
Applications
for all cabinet
and staff level
positions
consisting of
all
department
directors,
the Financial
Advisor, and
Executive
Secretary
will be
available via
online at
<http://www.husaonline.org>
Cabinet
applications
are due
March 31st at
5:00pm, and
all staff
applications
are due
April 2nd at
4:00pm and
can be turned
in to the
Office of
student
activities.

The
Undergraduate
Student
Assembly
Presents:

*Le Nouveau
Noir Spring
Black Arts
Festival
and the events
are as follows*

* Friday, April
2 "Jungle Alley"
Fashion Show
7pm UGL

* Saturday,
April 3 Six
Flags 2- 7 pm

* Ticketed
events

FASTER, HIGHER, STRONGER: THE RACE FOR THE GOLD
2010 RESFEST

ResRally
Friday April 2, 2010
12pm
Punch Out
Game Day, "Ready, Set, Gold"
Friday, April 2, 2010
5:00pm
Armour J. Blackburn University Center

"Flag Football: The Gold Rush"
Saturday, April 3, 2010
11:00am
Greene Football Stadium

Family Feud, "Howard Feud"
Monday, April 5, 2010
5:30pm
Armour J. Blackburn University Center

Academic Debate, "One World, One Voice, One Winner"
Tuesday, April 6, 2010
7:30pm
School of Business Auditorium

Dance Competition, "Gold, Silver, Bronze: The Dance Showdown"
Wednesday, April 7, 2010
7:00pm
Bur Gymnasium

Street Exhibition
Wednesday, April 7, 2010
(During Dance Competition)
Bur Gymnasium

Burr Night, "All-Star Night"
Thursday, April 8, 2010
7:00pm
Bur Gymnasium

Street Exhibition
Saturday, April 10, 2010
7:00pm
Canton Auditorium

You must have an HUID to attend all ResFest events

The 2010
Homecoming
Steering
Commit-
tee is hiring
staff positions.
Come to the
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Student
Activities and
pick up your
applications.
All
applications
are due on or
before
April 7, 2010
by 2:00 p.m.