

3-9-2010

## The Hilltop 3-9-2010

Hilltop Staff

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**WEATHER**

 **62**  
**46**  
Tomorrow:  
 **63**  
**45**

Established  
**1924**



# THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 93, NO.93

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

**Tuesday's Notebook**

**BREAKING NEWS**

**RAP STAR LIL WAYNE WAS SENTENCED TO SERVE ONE YEAR IN PRISON FOR PLEADING GUILTY TO FELONY GUN CHARGES.**

**CAMPUS**

**SEE WHAT TYPES OF INTERNSHIPS THE ACADEMY OF TELEVISION ARTS AND SCIENCES FOUNDATION ARE OFFERING THIS SUMMER.**

**BIZ & TECH**

**NEW SITE SHOWS THAT USERS MAY NOT BE AS SAFE ON SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES AS THEY THINK THEY ARE.**

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PAGE 4

## Federal Funding and Expenditures Threaten Howard's Operations

BY RILEY WILSON  
Staff Writer

Even though President Obama recently signed the HBCU Initiative, Howard University may still be in financial trouble.

Since 1879, Howard has received funds from the federal government to help with operations. Yet, because the government's annual appropriation remains stagnant while the university's operating budget rises, those "special funds" will cover less of Howard's costs—leaving a major gap to be filled. The next biggest contributor to the university's operating budget is tuition and fees, which has been increasing its share of the university's budget by at least 6.7 percent since 2006, according to a *Hilltop* analysis. If this trend continues, this could mean more increases in tuition and student fees.

According to Howard University's 2010 Comparative Budget Summary, in 2009, federal appropriations were approximately \$200 million, 37 percent of the university's operating revenue—which is a \$6 million decrease from the amount given in 2002. Because of inflation, that \$200 million is worth \$40 million less today.

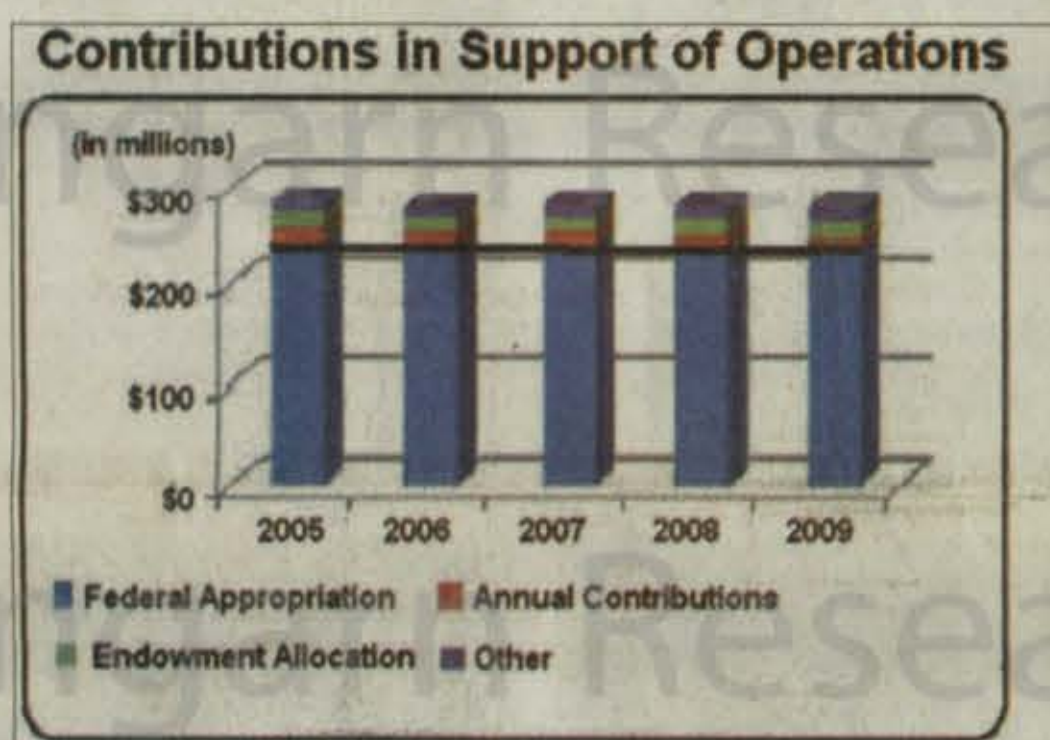
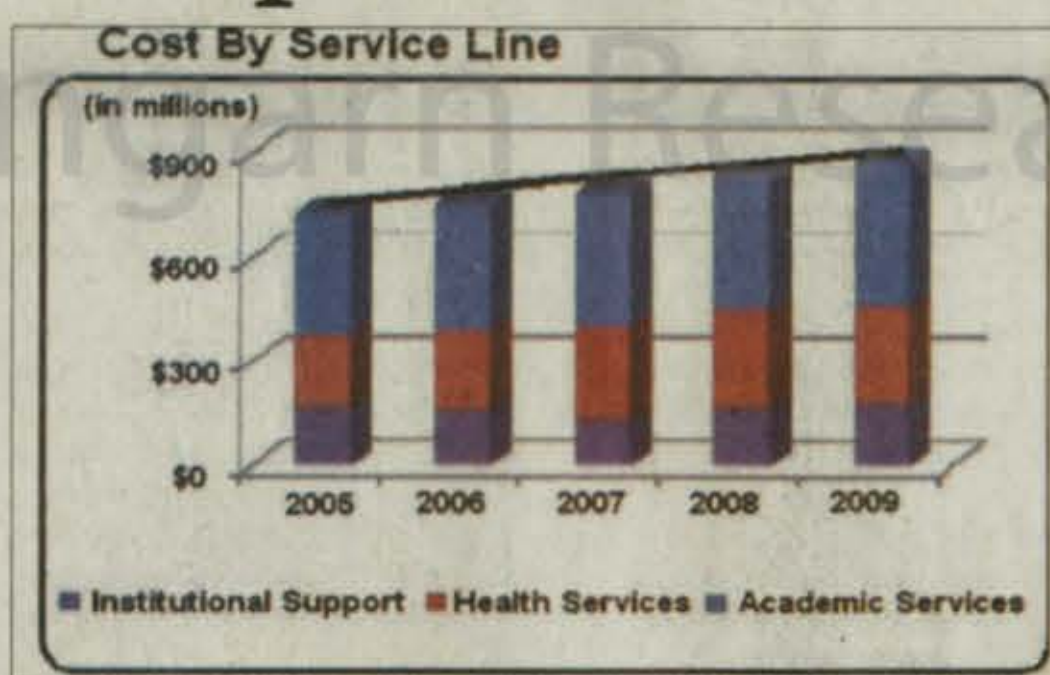
According to Carol Borgren, the Director of Financial Analysis and Budget at Howard, this situation will not improve soon. "We now expect the appropriation to decrease slightly over the next couple of years, due to President Obama's initiative to manage the growing federal deficit," she said. With the need to increase faculty salaries to stay competitive, jumps in student aid requests and "inflationary growth in costs or increased fund-

ing for programs," there has been no additional federal appropriation to help neutralize and manage expenditures. In fact, according to Howard University's Budget Advisory Committee's 2009 Budget Overview, the decline of the value in the federal contribution began even before the economic downturn and major increases in the federal deficit.

According to the Committee, "Over the past 10 years, the university's expenditure budget has increased by a total of \$188 million, growing at a compound annual growth rate of 4.4 percent." With inflation at a combined 20 percent throughout the past eight years, the condition under which the university must manage its funds is expected to get worse. To date, tuition and fees accounted for 31 percent of the university's budget in 2009.

Junior accounting major Nicholas Mitchell said that even though the allocation may not be enough, he's still grateful that Howard is getting anything. "When you're getting a set amount, the value of that amount does decrease along with the dollar. In all honesty, we should be getting an increase, but I'm still grateful that we have that—however much they decide to give us."

In its 2010 Budget Request, the Department of Education measured the efficiency of Howard University by dividing the total funds appropriated to the university by the number of students successfully completing degree or certificate programs. In 2006 and 2007, Howard did not meet its target. The report also documented concerns regarding internal con-



As university costs increase, federal appropriations remain stagnant. The above graphic was posted in the Howard University Advisory Committee's December Financial Presentation.

trols during years 2001-2005, the time in which there was an interim chief financial officer. "Concerns have arisen regarding the efficacy of internal controls in place at Howard University. Findings in the university's annual Management Audit and annual A-133 Audit of Federal awards grew steady more

serious in the areas of oversight, compliance and internal financial controls." Their primary concerns were regarding "lack of sufficiently skilled staff and technical capacity," pinpointing tax compliance and grant compliance as the main areas of inefficiency for the school.

## Run-Off to Settle Voting Discrepancies

BY CAMILLE AUGUSTIN  
Staff Writer

The General Assembly Elections Committee gathered in the Armour J. Blackburn Center to review the status of the "Redefine" and "Excel" campaigns for the School of Communications Executive Council.

The General Elections Commissioner told *The Hilltop* that the voting percentages of election night were neither exact nor correct. The wrong percentages were published which stated that the "Redefine" slates of executive president and vice-president won with a 51.3 percent advantage over the "Excel" executive president and vice-president candidates with a 48.6 percentage result. The General Elections Commission did not announce or tally the percentages of the election results the night they announced the winners.

The "Redefine" slate initially received 228 votes and the "Excel" slate initially received 215 votes. After calculating, it was realized that Odunjo Copeland, candidate for executive president on the "Excel" slate, was a write-in candidate for the position of executive president five times. Copeland's slate mate, Briana Mosley, was a write-in candidate for the position of executive vice president receiving two votes. This gave them a total of 222 votes resulting in a percentage of 49.2 percent.

De'Rell Bonner, "Redefine's" candidate for execu-

> See **RUN-OFF**, page 3

## Howard Professor Makes History with Appointment

BY LAUREN GASPARD  
Staff Writer

Many Howard University professors have made great strides in their careers away from HU. After being appointed as the newest Chairman of the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT), James H. Johnson, Ph.D., can now be added to a continued legacy. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lisa P. Jackson, who selected Johnson for this honor, has made history in her own capacity as the first African American to ever serve as an EPA Administrator.

NACEPT is an independent federal advisory committee that provides recommendations to the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on a broad range of environmental issues.

Johnson will be responsible for a team of approximately 30 people who will provide recommendations to the Administrator, Jackson, on a host of different environmental issues that take place across the country.

The position with the EPA is voluntary and will allow him to be connected to Howard as a professor emeritus. Currently, he serves as Howard's principal investigator

for three projects and is preparing final reports for two other projects that were recently completed.

Johnson said that the mission of NACEPT is different considering that their recommendations can actually be considered for future policy.

"Policy consideration is an area many scientists and engineers tend to want to shy away from because there are no mappings of the science into policy," Johnson said.

"However, it is often where decisions are made that impact our everyday lives."

In Johnson's new position, he will be the first African American to serve as the chair of an independent committee advising the EPA on a number of issues dealing with environmental policy, technology and management.

Prior to his appointment,

> See **HISTORY**, page 3



HU CEACS professor is the newest chairman of the National Advisory Council for Environment Policy and Technology (NACEPT).



## First Lady Donates Gown to Smithsonian

Following in the footsteps of past first ladies, Michelle Obama will donate her inaugural gown to the Smithsonian Institution.

Today, Obama will give her white inaugural ball gown to the National Museum of American History. As part of the tradition, all first ladies since 1912 have given items as part of the museum's First Ladies Collection — whether it be a dress, a piece of White House china or other personal items that represent them.

Obama wore the dress to 10 different balls to celebrate the night Barack Obama was sworn in as president. New York designer Jason Wu designed the beaded, one-shoulder dress.

Obama's inaugural gown will join the museum's new exhibit opening Wednesday that will showcase first lady inaugural gowns and dresses. Inaugural gowns from Laura Bush, Eleanor Roosevelt and Mamie Eisenhower are among those that will be featured.

-Compiled by Genet Lakru, Metro Editor

# Howard Looks to Expand Research Journals When Funding Is Available

BY CAMILLE AUGUSTIN  
Staff Writer

Howard University libraries are continuing their expansion and improvement of research materials as the administration looks to expand the online journals.

"Howard's journal collection should satisfy the information needs of most undergraduate students; however, library collections should be dynamic," said Arthuree Wright, Ph.D., interim director of libraries. "When funds become available, we would like to expand the full-text databases so that all disciplines and sub-disciplines represented in the curriculum at Howard are supported through the library web portal or interface."

Wright said the library needs to purchase and install soft-

ware to increase and enhance accessibility, such as a link resolver and an integrated search product. In response to monetary funding of these online journals, Wright said every year libraries have to contend with the inflationary increases in the cost of journals. As a result, the response to these increases has been to cut subscriptions that can at times jeopardize academic productivity.

"While tuition is a major revenue source for the university budget as a whole, I am not aware of any plans to raise tuition in order to purchase more library materials," Wright said. "In an earlier day, the Howard library collection was the beneficiary of government reserve funds. It would be wonderful if we received such funds once again."

Wright said the libraries

use a variety of funding strategies when they need to expand the journal holdings such as reducing the number of service hours to the physical buildings and encouraging the use of online resources, eliminating duplicate formats and subscribing to an electronic version of a journal as opposed to getting print, microfilm and online access. There are currently 958 individual online journal titles. Through the 38 databases, students and faculty have access to thousands more titles, Wright said.

"We have attempted to maintain the core journals in each discipline represented in the curriculum, and we've attempted to acquire titles that reflect diverse perspectives and incorporate various methodologies," Wright said. "When new academic programs are added,

faculty and students request new or different journals."

Although Brittany Thompson is in her first year of anatomy graduate studies, she has not used the online journals and has been focusing on her lab rotations. But, as she progresses through her studies, she will need these online journals to be readily accessible.

"By the time I get into my second year of study, I hope the online journals or research materials in general will be convenient to me," Thompson said. "If I am paying tuition, I shouldn't have to go somewhere else to conduct my graduate studies."

# Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Foundation Gives Students Experience

BY CHELSEA BATTLE  
Staff Writer

Whether many Howard students are burning the midnight oil studying for midterms or tackling heavy work loads, it is important not to lose sight of the fact that the end of the school year is quickly approaching, and so are deadlines for internships. While pacing the halls of Blackburn or even the School of Communications, it is not uncommon to overhear students discussing whether or not they've landed internships or have even applied.

The Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Foundation is a major communications internship whose application deadline is March 15. This timely Los Angeles based internship would be a major opportunity for any students looking to branch out into the communications world. It is designed to provide in depth exposure to professional television production over an eight-week period during the summer. This internship program is full-time and the applica-

tion process is very competitive. A stipend of \$4,000 dollars will be allocated every two weeks for each student that is accepted.

"We are looking for students who show passion and ambition," said Nancy Robinson, Manager of Education Programs for The Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Foundation.

Students will be able to intern in a wide range of departments including, but not limited to, costume design, casting, public relations, business affairs, commercials, live event production, editing, entertainment news and more.

"The charitable arm of the academy seeks to educate and enrich the future generation of television professionals," Robinson said. "We want to allow students to enhance their learning."

In addition to gaining hands on experience in a plethora of different departments, students may be given the opportunity to work with major production companies such as NBC Universal, Sony, Warner Bros., HBO and more.

"I personally would be interested in applying for the internship," said Alvin Cauty, a fashion merchandising major. "I'm very interested in fashion design, so the costume design department seems like a good way to get my feet wet in that industry."

Britany Rickett, a film major, also voiced her interest in the program. "I've heard about this internship before and it's a really big deal. I'm definitely going to try and apply for it."

In order to apply for the program, it is recommended that students have some experience in the fields for which they are applying for. Students must also submit two letters of recommendation, a copy of their transcripts, resumé, a detailed cover page and a strong personal statement.

"Do a powerful professional statement. Because we are not meeting you in advance, let yourself show through your written work as much as possible," Robinson said.

The importance of taking advantage of summer internships

is being stressed more frequently by career advisors.

"It is as important as any career goal that students may be actively engaged in," said Carol Dudley, the Coordinator for the Office of Career Development in the John H. Johnson School of Communications. "They will get the opportunity to meet professionals in the industry. Many participants in that particular program go on to work on major features."

The Academy of Television Arts and Sciences is an opportunity for any students looking to work in the productions field. The application deadline is approaching quickly, so interested students should make sure to have all materials ready by March 15.

## ResLife Offers Students New Way To Fix Problems

If there is a problem in the dormitories, students can now get on the Web to request a fix.

Last semester, the Office of Residence Life launched an on-line way for students to request help if they were having problems in the dormitories called ResLife Quick Fix. Students can report problems directly to the supervisor or environmental management.

Residence Life Interim Dean Marc Lee said this is a multi-purpose function. He said not only are they helping students get a speedy reply but they are also looking at the sustainability issue.

"We eventually want to phase out all paper request forms," he said. "This information is processed more quickly."

The Office of Residence Life encourages students to take part in this new form of communication.

- Compiled by Tahirah Hairston, Campus Editor

## CEACS WEEK

Tuesday:

"Solving The Security Situation"  
Town Hall Meeting, Architecture Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday:

"Cafe For The Grown and Sexy"  
Engineering Building, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday:

"I <3 CEACS Day"  
Punch Out, 3-4 p.m., Blackburn Cafe, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

## Campus Briefs

Update of what's going on at Howard.

- The Environmental Protection Agency named former Dean of College of Engineering, Architecture and Computer Sciences James H. Johnson, Ph.D., the chair of National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology.

- College of Dentistry Dean Dr. Leo E. Rouse named President-elect of the American Dental Education Association. He will officially become president in March 2011.

- Today, Howard University School of Law will host a panel with California Supreme Court Justice Carlos Moreno on Same Sex Marriage in D.C. at noon.

- Senior Vice President and Executive Dean for Health Sciences at Howard University, Dr. Eve J. Higginbotham, was appointed to the National Board of Medical Examiners

- On Wednesday, World-renowned Thai and Vietnamese chef, restaurateur and cookbook author Mai Pham will come to Blackburn Center Cafe from 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

- The August Wilson Society, together with the Humanities Department, will be hosting events this spring for Common Text Project on August Wilson's Pulitzer-winning play, "The Piano Lesson."

- On Friday, Howard University celebrates its 143rd Charter Day Convocation at 11 a.m. in Cramton Auditorium with keynote speaker Howard Alumnus Dr. LaSalle D. Leffall.

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# School of 'C' Re-counts Votes

*continued from FRONT, RUN-OFF*

tive vice-president, was written-in two times, resulting in "Redefine" having 230 total votes and 50.8 percentage points. In the elections code, a candidate needs 51 percent or more to be labeled the winner. Thus, a run-off is necessary due to the fact that no slate received over 51 percent.

As a result of the confusion and dented spirits given the outcome of the election results, the "Excel" campaign decided to withdraw from the run-off before this meeting was held. The Gen-

eral Elections Committee accepted "Excel's" withdrawal and "Redefine" will run unopposed in the run-off election that will be held March 10 via Bison Web.

"The slate decided collectively that we wanted to withdraw," Copeland said. "If they tallied the percentages [election night], then this could have been avoided."

The run-off elections will also include the School of Dentistry for the position of treasurer. The Committee also said that they would review the election results for all the schools and colleges.

# CEACS Professor Appointed to NACEPT

*continued from FRONT, HISTORY*

Johnson was known for his impact on Howard's campus within the College of Engineering, Architecture and Computer Sciences as the former dean of the college, and former chairman and professor emeritus of the Department of Civil Engineering.

Though to some this may appear as a brilliant opportunity, some students feel as though the decline of some of the departments is a result of positions like these becoming available, and the minimal pay that professors receive for their efforts in maintaining the status of Howard as a research institution.

"Although it's a great honor, I am not surprised that he is leav-

ing," said Rykiel Robinson, senior civil engineering major. "The department is losing faculty left and right. It's all about money really. Some are choosing to leave because they aren't paid enough or Howard is not granting them tenure for bringing in the kind of money they are looking for from a research institution."

Johnson is humbled by the opportunity and plans not to boast in his honor, but make a difference. "I consider it an honor and a privilege," Johnson said. "The real history is to make contributions that will not be footnoted with the statement that I was the first but I was among the best."

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Code to The Hilltop Budget Meetings Sundays at 6 p.m.  
 Moorland-Springarn Research Center

**I'm in MIAMI.....**

Howard University Counseling Center  
**Notorious**  
**Bacon Breakfast Party (BBF)**

Tuesday March 9, 2010  
 10am to 3pm at Blackburn Center

Free Food, Mocktails  
 Depression Screenings, HIV Testing, Alcohol Screenings  
 LIVE: DJ Phantastic

**Hilltop Tip #45**

**It's Women's History Month...**

**Give her your seat on the shuttle!**

*The Business of*  
**MUSIC BUSINESS**

*Presented by Office of Student Activities  
 Alpha Kappa Psi Professional Business Fraternity,  
 Bison Yearbook and Industry Power Players*

**MARCH 11, 2010**  
 7:00PM, BLACKBURN DIGITAL AUDITORIUM

*PANEL ABOUT MUSIC BUSINESS AND A  
 Student Showcase  
 Featuring the industry's most influential  
 label Executives, and recording artist,  
 producer and songwriter.*

*Featuring  
 The Singleton Entertainment Group*

# Census Reaches Out to Students on Campuses

BY GERRON JORDAN  
Staff Writer

The beginning of the new decade means it is now time to count exactly how many people reside in the United States.

The United States 2010 Census is right around the corner and according to the Census on Campus Initiative, college students have much to offer.

The Census on Campus Initiative seeks to educate, engage and mobilize college and university students, administration, faculty and parents so that in the 2010 Census, every individual is counted—once, and in the right place.

"The Census on Campus Initiative has been really visible on campus," said sophomore biology major Kristian Knight. "I think they are really trying to stress the importance of the Census and they're doing an excellent job."

Historically, the highly mobile college student population living on and off campus has been hard to count—in part, because many people believe that college students are counted on their parents' questionnaires.

"This is one of the first civic activities students can participate in—this and voting are two very important activities students can participate in that have important results," said Rachel Camann for Weber Shandwick, the company that manages press for the U.S. Census Bureau.

According to the Census Bureau, college students are among some of the hardest to count populations, because they live in group quarters.

There is confusion around where students should be counted—at their parent's home or at their college address, and this is likely the

first Census that ever caught their attention.

However, students living away from home will receive their own questionnaires. To prevent students from being counted twice, or not at all in the Census, they and their parents need to know this.

"I honestly don't remember the Census in 2000. Mostly because it was something my parents took care of. Now it becomes my responsibility," Knight said.

This is the first time students will be able to participate separately from their parents.

College students should be counted at their school where they live and sleep the majority of the year.

The Bureau is serious about helping college students realize the importance of their participation in the Census. "Filling out the form takes about 10 minutes—less time than finding on-campus parking."

For the month of March, students living in houses and apartments will be mailed forms with instructions on how to send the form back.

From April through May, students living in social communities, more commonly known as dormitories, will be counted by official Census takers with assistance from faculty.

As powerful grassroots organizers, students and other educational leaders can have an influential voice in reaching others with the message of the 2010 Census.

Taken every 10 years and mandated by the Constitution, the Census affects political representation and directs the allocation of more than \$400 billion in government funding every year.

The Census counts everyone living in the country, including international students who are studying here on April 1.

## CENSUS EFFECTS:

-College tuition grant and loan programs

-Funding for community services including transportation, road repairs, public safety and medical care

-States' representation in Congress, which equals your political voice

-Important research facilitated by college faculty, students, librarians and community leaders

-Job training programs

Visit <http://2010.census.gov/2010censusjobs/> for more information

## Common Job-Seeking Mistakes

Diploma-clutching graduates have a lot on their plates following commencement in May.

After the fanfare and congratulatory parties, these new Howard alumni will need employment.

In a struggling economy slowly regaining its strength, many companies and corporations are placing potential employees under tight scrutiny, analyzing each applicant closely.

Resume fabrications and interview faux pas could easily keep Howard grads from their dream jobs.

Rosemary Haefner, CareerBuilder Vice President of Human Resources used her company's Web site, [careerbuilder.com](http://careerbuilder.com), to survey hiring managers of the most common interview mistakes.

Although some of the mistakes seem obvious, most of the surveyed employers reported that the majority of applicants fall prey to these interview blunders:

### Arriving Late

Get directions from the interviewer or a map. Before the interview day, travel to your destination in order to track distance and time, and leave home on the day of the interview at least an hour early. If the worst happens, and you cannot make it on time, call the interviewer, and arrange to reschedule.

### Dressing Inappropriately

A good rule of thumb is to dress in business attire to an interview no matter the job type. It shows professionalism and shows your interviewer that you take the appointment seriously. When you land the job at the relaxed new public relations firm, then you can gauge the attire limits of your workplace.

### Asking Overly Personal Questions

Asking questions in an interview is a good thing as long as they are appropriate and work-related. It shows employers that you are interested in the company and did your research. Employers surveyed said they heard a spectrum of questions from "What religion do you practice?" to "Would you like to go out for a drink?" Try these suggested questions instead, "Where do you see the biggest growth opportunities and challenges for your organization over the next five years?"

### Speaking Negatively About Previous Employers

Even if your previous employer was, in fact, terrible, stressing the negative makes an applicant look like a "trouble-maker" or "someone who isn't a team player," according to surveyed managers. Focus on the positive of how previous employment helped your character or how you plan to grow professionally and make a difference if hired.

### Using Cell Phones

A definite turn-off. All managers surveyed agreed that technology should be turned off before entering an interview. If you do forget, apologize and turn it off immediately.

### Lying

Employers would prefer applicants admit when they do not have the information at that time but would be happy to follow up over the phone or via e-mail. Honesty is a testament to your character as a possible future employee and also lends the opportunity to interact with the hiring manager again.

-Compiled by Alexis K. Barnes, information from CBS News

**PLEASE ROB ME**

Listing all those empty homes out there

Photo Courtesy of PleaseRobMe.com

Sites like PleaseRobMe.com take advantage of the power and influence of online social networking.

## Web site Exposes Dangers of Social Networking Sites

BY TIPHANIE L. CERTAIN  
Contributing Writer

Social networking safety should be a priority among Howard students considering millions of people can gain access to others' personal information online.

By using blogs, chat rooms, e-mail or instant messaging, students can communicate through providing their personal information either within a limited community, or with the world at large.

Certain sites can increase vital networking contacts, but also can increase exposure to negative entities.

A new Web site, PleaseRobMe.com, re-posts people's messages, and uses a location-sharing Web site to post where users are when they're not at home.

At the top of the Please Rob Me Web site, the words read, "Listing all those empty homes out there." Those who plan to leave their homes might want to take caution in publishing certain information online for strangers to see.

Hattie Kauffman, national correspondent for "The Early Show," tested out the site.

Kauffman used the Web site to locate a man at the Heartland Brewery in Manhattan. By the time he arrived at the restaurant, "The Early Show" was there to meet him.

"I didn't know it was going to go to anything beyond my Twitter and Facebook networks," the man said. "I really didn't know who was paying attention. This is a shock."

The site is not intended for people to get robbed, and it states its purpose is to raise awareness on this issue and force people to think about how they use social networks.

"I tweeted about getting off from work one day," said senior film production major Drew Moten. "As I approached my house I noticed a girl in all black standing on my door step."

Assuming the female was a guest of one of his two male roommates, Moten was not apprehensive until he reached his porch.

"Once I got up closer she said, 'You get off' at 8 o'clock, what

took you so long?" Moten said. "I realized she was one of my Howard Twitter followers. I deleted my Twitter page after that."

Students should be cautious about posting and sharing personal information, especially information that could be used to identify current locations, or information such as your address or telephone number.

"People should value what little privacy they have and keep certain things off topic," said senior advertising major Dave McClain. "I stay away from anyone I don't know."

Freshman English major Jewel Jones keeps her profiles blocked so she can filter and screen who can access her information and makes sure she logs off of each online session.

Social networking is popular on Howard's campus and can be utilized for entertainment and productivity as long as students are conscious of their online activity. Be sure to log off of your online sessions when using computer labs around campus and keep all pertinent information off of Web sites.



Sean Robinson - Photo Editor

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## Yinka Shonibare MBE Exhibit



Released in 2003, "Scramble for Africa" (left) depicts 14 European leaders gathered around a map of Africa during the Berlin Conference of 1884-1885. The figures shown arguing and negotiating are life-sized and headless. The 2001 "Leisure Lady (with ocelots)" (right) shows a fashionably dressed woman walking three ocelot cats. Dutch wax costumes are signature in Shonibare's works.

## National Museum of African Art Features Nigerian Artist

BY JESSICA HARPER  
Contributing Writer

Nigerian artist Yinka Shonibare MBE's exhibition closed Sunday, completing his four-month run at the National Museum of African Art.

Since November, visitors have trekked across the Smithsonian to view 14 years worth of the British-born artist's most celebrated works. These pieces include a colorful mixture of photography, film, sculpture, paintings and large-scale mixed media.

Shonibare's artworks explore the themes of retaining African identity in light of British colonialism and the Enlightenment era's debate over rationality versus irrationality. They also reflect his ancestry, which includes Nigerian and British roots. The MBE in his name stands for Member of the Order of the British Empire.

Viewers of Shonibare's exhibit have spanned the globe, attracting visitors as far away as Europe.

"I enjoy the way he conceptualizes his art," said Suzanne

from Germany. "It's both beautiful and political."

District resident Muhammad Salaam agreed.

"He's depicting what's actually happening in the world," said Salaam. "That includes colonialism and of course, the rape and murder of a whole nation of people."

The 48-year-old artist's paintings include Dutch wax print fabric. Since the mid-1990s, Shonibare has blended politics and aestheticism with his use of this material. Manufactured in Europe for the West African market between the early 19th and 20th centuries, the wax fabric represents both mercenary and racial relationships between Europe, Asia and Africa.

As far as sculpture, Shonibare usually creates headless figures and drapes them in ornately designed clothing reminiscent of the period preceding the French Revolution. He references art history for his sculptures, drawing inspiration from the works of French painter Jean-Honore Fragonard.

While Shonibare's scul-

tures borrow from art history, his photography draws from past literature.

Of Shonibare's two major suites of photographs featured at the African Art museum, his depiction of Oscar Wilde's Dorian Gray drew the most attention. Gray centers on a man who forfeits his soul to prevent aging; he succumbs to moral decay as a result. Shonibare captures Gray's dilemma in a series of black and white photographs presented in a linear sequence.

Visitors crowded around the piece and shared their thoughts.

"I'm a huge fan of Oscar Wilde and of his novel, 'Dorian Gray,'" said Amy from Ohio. "This is unlike anything I've seen, though. I think it's more emotionally intensive seeing this in still photograph form as opposed to reading it or even watching the film. You're forced to ponder it. There's no background noise."

With reactions like these, it comes as little to no surprise that Shonibare's exhibition has run so long.



Genel Lakew - Metro Editor

### About the Artist

Born in 1962, Yinka Shonibare MBE is a British-born Nigerian artist. At the age of 19, a virus attacked his body and left him paralyzed on the left side of his figure.

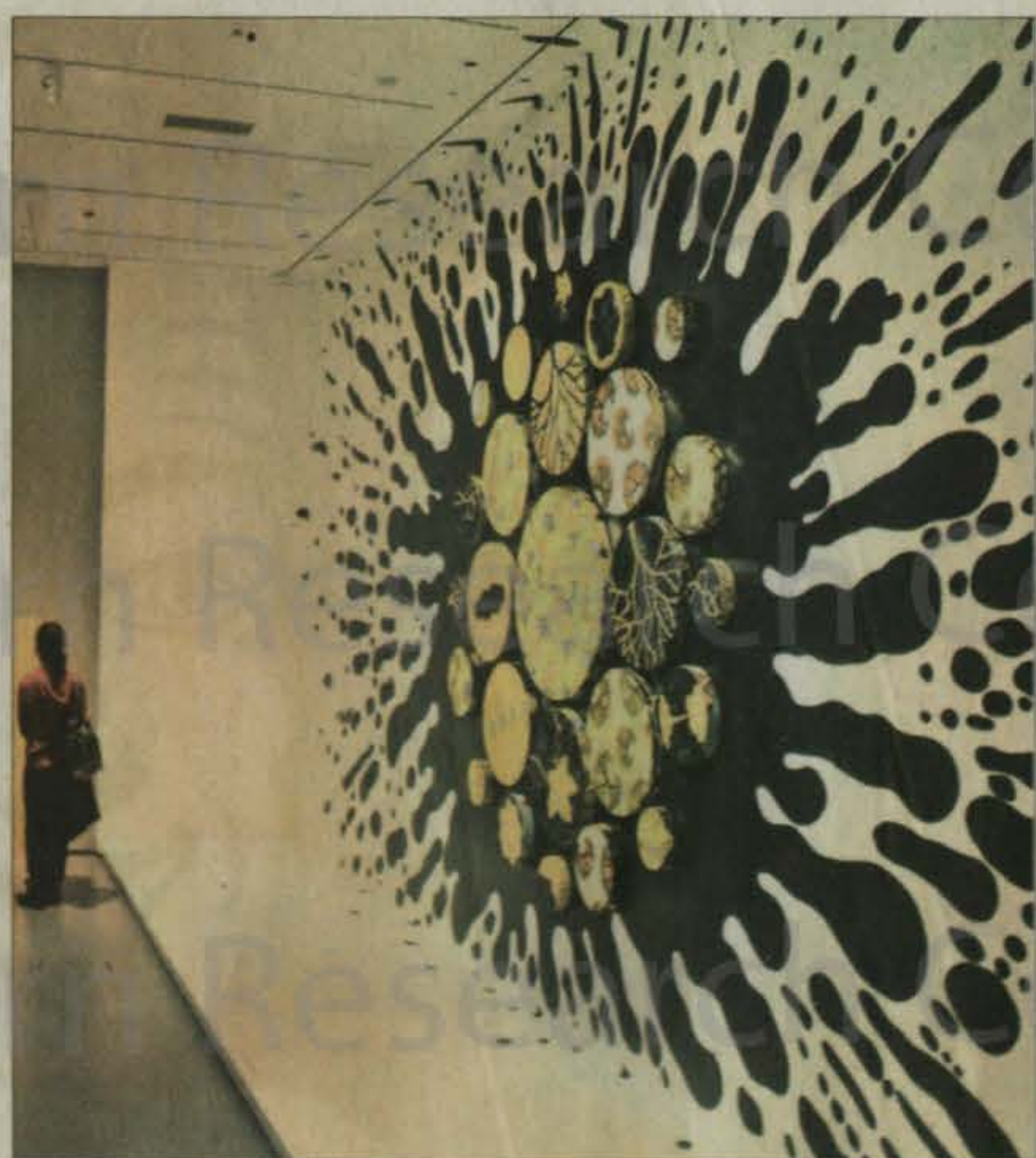
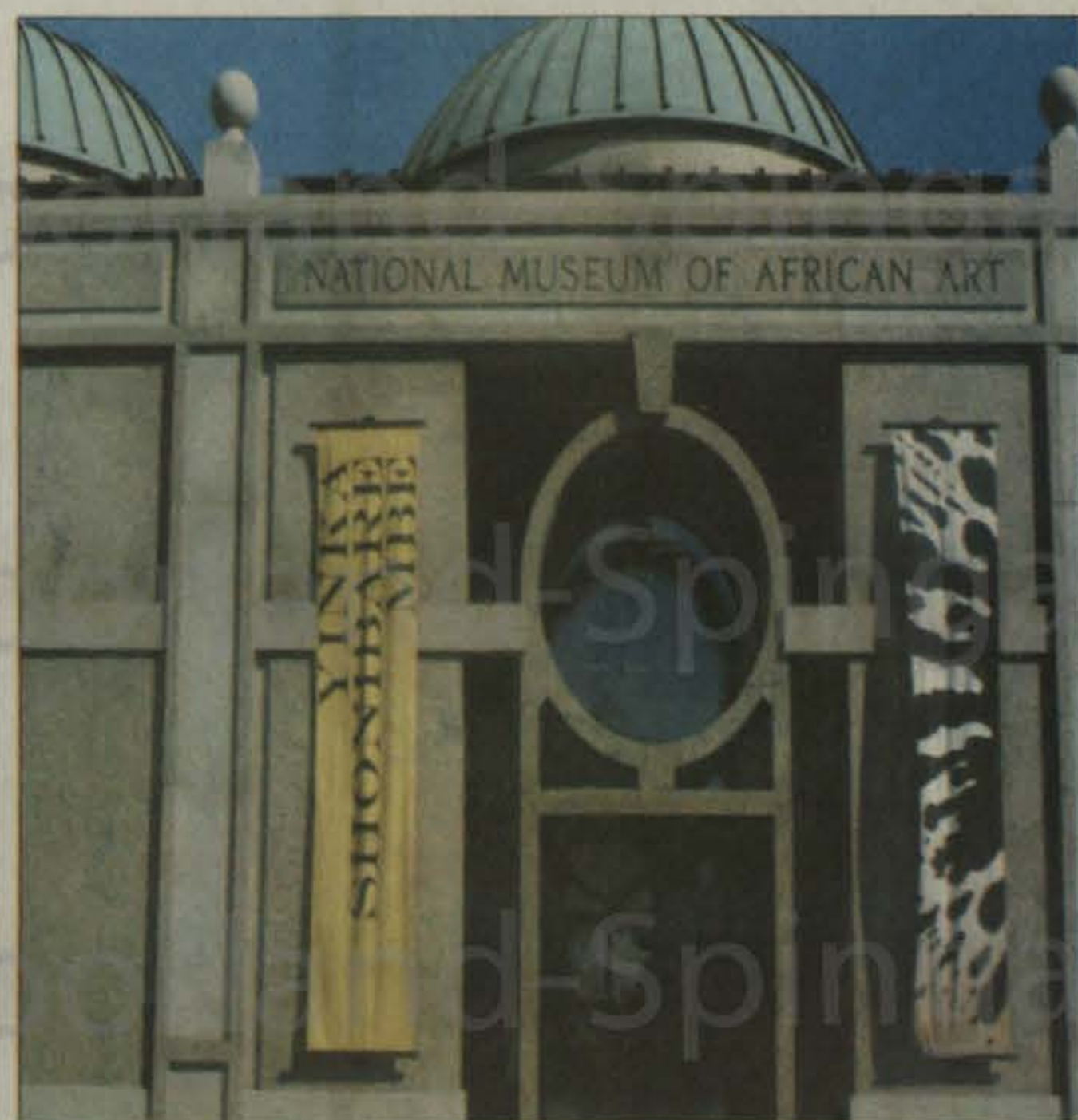
His artwork consists of sculpture, photography, painting and film. Shonibare focuses on European influence on African identity, European aristocracy, race, class, wealth and global issues, among others.

He was inducted as Member of Order of British Order

of the British Empire, hence the MBE titled in his name.

"Globe Children" is a sculpture of two children standing and playing on a world globe detailing areas of the world affected by global warming and environmental shifts. This piece represents the way people fail to care for the world they live in or acknowledge the possible dangers.

"Headless Man Trying to Drink" represents the water shortages and droughts that plague the earth.



Sean Robinson - Photo Editor

### About the National Museum of African Art

Part of the Smithsonian Institution, the museum is located at 950 Independence Ave. SW on the Blue and Orange Metro line. It is open every day from 10 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. except on Christmas and admission is free. NMAA features African art and culture as well as a gift shop that sells books, jewelry, bags, clothing, etc.

#### Upcoming Exhibits

**Sounds of Africa**  
Friday, March 12  
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

African music and instruments with Ugandan artist Daniel Ssuuna  
Free

#### Let's Read About Africa

Friday, March 19  
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Storyteller Diane Macklin introduces African children's literature  
Free; registration necessary

#### Environmental Film

**Festival: Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai**  
Saturday, March 20  
2:00 p.m.

2007 film about Kenyan environmental conditions  
Free; reservation required

#### Artist Talk: Sokari Douglas Camp

Thursday, March 25  
4:00 p.m.

Nigerian-born British artist discusses her work.  
Free

*"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 The Daily Student Voice of Howard University*



**Did you know?**

**Currently Happening in Hollywood**

- **Actress Mo'Nique won an Oscar for Best Supporting Actress for "Precious: Based on the Novel 'Push' by Sapphire."**
- **Geoffrey Fletcher made history by being the first African American to win a writing award. He got the gold statue for his adapted screenplay for "Precious: Based on the Novel 'Push' by Sapphire."**
- **Maxwell and Jill Scott released their dates for their summer tour! On June 18, they will perform at the Verizon Center. Tickets go on sale this Friday.**
- **Mo'Nique's "Spread the Love Comedy Tour" will be in D.C. on March 20 at the DAR Constitution Hall.**
- **Grammy-winning singer/songwriter D'Angelo was arrested in New York for soliciting an undercover police officer for relations Saturday.**
- **Beyonce and mother, Tina Knowles opened Beyonce Cosmology Center in Brooklyn, New York last Friday.**

- Compiled by Cierra Jones, Life & Style Editor  
Information courtesy of Vibe.com and ConcreteLoop.com



Liberal college professors everywhere may sway the opinions of students.

**Professors' Liberal Ideals Influence Students' Learning**

BY YETUNDE ALABI  
Contributing Writer

The Intercollegiate Studies Institute (ISI) released a recent report entitled "The Shaping of the American Mind: The Diverging Influences of College Degree & Civic Learning on American Beliefs" which measured the ability of colleges and universities to teach graduates basic principals in history, government, politics and economics. According to the report, less than 60 percent of college graduates can effectively identify the three branches of government or decipher the difference between passages from the Gettysburg Address and the Declaration of Independence on a multiple choice examination. The report also indicated that most college graduates cannot recall basic information concerning the Revolutionary, Civil and Vietnam wars, or even the free enterprise capitalist system practiced in America.

This begs the question: who is to blame for this disparity amongst college graduates? A survey conducted by the North American Academic Study Survey (NAASS) in 1999 blames the overwhelming disproportionate amount of liberal faculty in humanities and social science fields. The study concluded that the lack of ideological balance within the humanities, social sciences and English subjects are negatively affecting students at universities across the nation. In the humanities for example, 77 percent of faculty were liberal with eight percent conservative; social sciences had 66 percent and eight percent breakdown; the English faculty exhibited an astounding 85 percent and three percent respectively.

College is meant to be a period when students explore new methods of thought, mature and begin to solidify their identity, but can they truly achieve this in an objective manner when their professors are disproportionately liberal?

Some believe that it is possible. Mamadou M'Baye, a junior sports medicine major who has faith in the integrity of Howard University's faculty stated, "The professors here have maintained a professional standard of abstract education. Although most of my curriculum consists of subjects irrelevant to politics, the faculty has been successful in masking their personal political feelings in the classroom."

Professors are vessels used to communicate knowledge in a way that is conducive to their students in the most objective way possible. While some believe one's standing on the political line cannot be blamed on indoctrination, others disagree.

Tyler Dragon, a junior political science major said, "My professors do not influence my personal choices. However, I do believe if an individual is easily influenced there are plenty of universities that will turn them into a more liberal thinker," he said. "Being a transfer from UCLA which was slightly liberal, and in some cases moderate, it is evident that Howard is leftist all the way."

The NAASS study did pinpoint that there were more liberal faculty in universities across the nation, but if the professors were conservative little would change.

Brittany Frazier, a sophomore political science major has a slightly different point of view of liberal indoctrination. "I have friends who go to schools in conservative areas and their professors do the same thing with conservative ideas. I do think a lot of the professors have a problem teaching without a little of political bias, but it depends on the campus."

Next time you find yourself regurgitating information from a lecture you heard earlier in class, or identifying with the left-winged viewpoint of a political analyst on Anderson Cooper, consider that your liberal professor may be to blame.

**A Moment With the Men Behind DURKL**

BY EBONI BLENMAN  
Contributing Writer

In 2004, with a little more than \$1,000 and a dream, Cole and Will Sharp set out to make their mark on the fashion industry. As co-founders of the innovative clothing line, Durkl, the Sharp brothers have witnessed their D.C. born brand take off from its humble beginnings. With styles that have graced numerous runways and distribution sites across the globe, Durkl has emerged as a serious contender in the industry. Reflecting on his line's success and future, Will Sharp spoke candidly with *The Hilltop*.

**What inspired you to start your own clothing line?**

Everything. My life was on a pretty stable linear path, and I knew I didn't want to do that. I wanted to do my own thing, and I thought I could do it better than anyone else. When I started, I was for lack of better words, clueless, and I liked it that way. I kind of learned as I went along. I've been on a mission to prove that I knew what I was doing. I think we just found our voice, and here I am.

**What made you choose the name "Durkl"? What does it mean to you?**

It means nothing. I wanted to make up a word that wouldn't mean anything to anybody and that could be used in no other context and in no other way. I didn't want anyone to think of anything other than what we put on our clothing and the lifestyle we put out. I didn't want anyone to infringe on that or change it in any way.

**Have you always been interested in fashion?**

Yes, but more so the culture. The clothes are one part of the whole culture. It is not so much rebellion but more so an undercurrent, a crew of people who are looking to be involved in things that aren't so mass marketed. I have always been attracted to people who are passionate about doing their own thing with no backing.

**What is the greatest obstacle you've faced in starting your line?**

There have been 10 million. We are jumping hurdles every single day. The hardest thing we've faced so far is the economy.

It isn't easy for fashion right now. You have to refresh everything and find a new way to do business. It's really challenging, and in the end made it hard.

**What do you feel has been your greatest accomplishment?**

There have been 10 million that happen every single day from finding out who's making the best hat to selling to our favorite boutique in Chicago. Small things on the outside are really big on the inside.

**Is there any artist or group that you feel truly embodies the spirit of Durkl?**

No. I think that's what sets us apart. We don't really have any person in mind when we're designing. A lot of these brands are really urban and sporty, but we kind of fit it all. We fit in with the skate culture, the urban culture and the trendy boutiques as well. The makeup of this company reflects that internally also.

**What else sets Durkl apart from other brands?**

A lot of things. For one, we do it out of D.C. A lot of people get caught up in thinking that it's not possible to do anything fashion related outside of New York City or Los Angeles or Paris. It's unique that we only want to do it here. I grew up here, and I have a place in my heart for D.C. On an aesthetic level, what sets us apart is that we're making nice high quality clothes for the street market. It's not garbage like a lot of brands put out, but not in a high class way either.

**You've clearly come a long way, but where do you see Durkl five years from now?**

Still in D.C. and hopefully in the same space. We've got this crude looking outside with a built out inside. I'd say hopefully we'll have a few retail shops, distribution all across the world and absolutely no internal mentality change. Just bigger, badder, better, dirtier and sponsoring Howard's homecoming [laughs].

**If you could describe Durkl in one word what would it be?**

Birthday cake. It's the best thing possible. You get one every year on the best day of your life. Everyone wants it and can't wait for it. Durkl is birthday cake.

**The Return of ATL Freaknik**

BY DEANNE BRADLEY  
Contributing Writer

Booty shorts and bass blaring from bubble Chevrolets was what spring in Atlanta was all about, and may possibly reappear later on this spring, with the alleged reemergence of Freaknik.

"I don't know about you, but I miss the Freaknik," said Jermaine Dupri in the remix of the popular song "Welcome to Atlanta."

Along with many others, Dupri may finally be able to rejoice as many are on edge about the return of Freaknik from April 16 through April 18. While a Web site creates buzz and promotes its return, one may notice that the Web site claiming to be the "Official Atlanta Freaknik Site" spells the event differently than the traditional Freaknik. It still promises to bring everything that the original Freaknik once brought to the city though. The Web site also makes sure to ensure strict enforcement by pledging its users to "MAKE THIS THE ABSOLUTE BEST Freaknik OF ALL TIME (by not breaking laws or lewd open conduct)!" It also created a list of things to do and not do while attending the festivities, also urging attendees to be responsible. It encourages cookouts and supporting local businesses, while discouraging irresponsibility such as drinking and driving.

The question many are asking is, "Will Freaknik be anything like the original Freaknik?"

Senior advertising major Av-

ery Green looks forward to attending Freaknik. "I first heard about it in the rap song "Welcome to Atlanta" by Jermaine Dupri and Ludacris," said Green. He also remembers hearing one of his good friends from Atlanta, former Howard University student Terico Harper, reminisce on what it was like growing up in the era of Freaknik. Green says he has no real expectations of the event and considers himself open to whatever Atlanta may offer, as he has nothing to compare it to. "I've never had a bad time in Atlanta so I just want to see what the ATLians are doing and how they're comparing it to past Freakniks."

What is mostly considered an "Atlanta thing," Freaknik was originally a picnic sponsored by The DC Metro club at Spelman College in the early 80s, rumored to have taken the name of Freaknik because of the hit song "Super Freak" by Rick James. The event eventually turned into an annual weekend long celebration where hundreds of thousands of college students would travel to Atlanta to partake in festivities that included cookouts and concerts at parks around the city that continued until the late 90s.

Senior international business major Jaivon Copeland is excited about the possibility of Freaknik returning. "When I was younger, I was too little to go so it's our chance to experience what we grew up hearing so much about," said Copeland, who grew up in Atlanta. "It's legendary."

Once upon a time, one would

have been able to catch hordes of people dancing on cars that blasted sounds of popular music offering plenty of bass, such as Kilo Ali and Raheem the Dream. It wasn't rare that some would even park their car in the middle of the street or freeway to dance, according to Atlanta resident Ryan Taylor, 30, who could only describe Freaknik with one phrase: "Straight debauchery." He reminisced on riding down the street, looking at women all day. A graduate of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, Taylor didn't get to experience Freaknik as a college student. "The wildest year was when I was 14 years old, but it was over by the time I was 18," said Taylor. "I remember going to the mall and having to park in the middle of the street until everyone returned to their cars at around 4 a.m." Taylor recalled, "I remember seeing a man in boots. Nothing else on, just boots." Taylor provided an illustration of Freaknik as Atlanta's very own chance at having a source of entertainment. "Before Atlanta became the 'black Hollywood of the south,' there was no entertainment district so Freaknik provided a source for people to 'act out'," said Taylor. He compared Freaknik to a less organized version of New Orleans' version of Mardi Gras. Although he didn't remember too much about events that took place aside from a few concerts, Taylor recalled the atmosphere as "wild and full of unsupervised adolescents and college aged adults." This could be part of the reason he doesn't look

forward to taking part in the festivities if they make a return.

Taylor is not the only one who isn't an advocate for the return of Freaknik. Howard alumnus and Atlanta Mayor, Kasim Reed doesn't support Freaknik either. While the event originally dwindled due to the heightened crime and disorganization of it all, many are hoping that increased security and a better knowledge of public safety will help convince the mayor to support it.

The Web site listed Washington Park as the venue for the events; however city officials stated that no city permits were issued for any Freaknik events at that location. On March 5, Freaknik conveniently announced via twitter that due to a shooting at Washington Park, they will no longer be hosting any activities at that location. Mayor Reed worries that although the internet has stirred up a lot of commotion about the event, it is still a challenge that he isn't comfortable with.

Although the return of Freaknik seems more like wishful thinking to some, many got a dose of a different type of Freaknik Sunday night. Separate from the actual event, Cartoon Network's late-night shared network Adult Swim aired an animated revival of what T-Pain considered "Atlanta's version of the ultimate block party." In what many bloggers and tweeters said they expected more from, the special, called "Freaknik: The Musical," starred the voices of Lil' Wayne, Snoop Dogg, Charlie Murphy and executive producer T-Pain.



## Smiley to Join Forces with King of R&B

Smiley Books is the general trade book publisher that specializes in publishing what black motor-mouth Tavis Smiley deems "quality nonfiction," set to appeal to a broad spectrum of readers, both within and outside the African-American community. We're used to hearing Tavis Smiley's opinions about politics, pop cultural phenomena and whatever other range of topics he chooses to address.

Most recently and notably, Smiley has been instrumental in the publication of multiple *New York Times* best sellers. Interestingly enough, with this level of success in publishing, Smiley is digging into a new project, which has fans all across the nation shaking their heads in a confused sort of disbelief.

This year, Smiley will be adding another book to his publishing repertoire. He is joining forces with R. Kelly. Yes, R. Kelly. He is doing so in an effort to get the controversial R&B crooner's story out to the world, this time not through Court TV headlines, or comedic parodies on popular cartoons, but alternately, in book form.

Smiley is soliciting the help of famed author David Ritz, who has written biographies and autobiographies

of individuals such as Ray Charles, Etta James, Aretha Franklin and Marvin Gaye, and won the prestigious Ralph J. Gleason Award on multiple occasions for his work.

Why does Smiley feel the need to contract an award winning writer, you might ask? An interesting little known fact about the Grammy Award winner, is

**Our View:**  
*Tavis Smiley shouldn't contribute to this waste of literature.*

that he is overwhelmingly illiterate, and barely made it through grade school. But our issue, although touching, isn't with R. Kelly's illiteracy. The issue lies with Tavis Smiley backing the publication of a book that will be a serious waste of literature.

Of course the book will sell. People love tell-all celebrity books. Think back to the popularity of the confessions of a certain "video vixen," detailing her sexual experiences with an endless number of celebrity men. But regardless of whether or not the book will sell, it will serve to perpetuate stu-

pidity.

According to press materials released by Smiley's publication company, the book will detail the singer's struggle with the death of his mother, the creative genius behind his endless hits, and last but not least, his "six-year legal ordeal that nearly ruined his life, but finally ended in vindication when he was found innocent of child pornography charges in 2008."

This is so similar to OJ Simpson releasing his tell-all book, "If I Did It, Here's How It Happened," after being acquitted of the charges he faced.

According to Tavis Smiley, Robert Kelly has earned the right to tell his story, in whatever way he would like to. And according to R. Kelly, he's tired of being misunderstood, and wants to "tell it like it is."

We definitely love R. Kelly's music. He's clearly a musical genius. But what we don't love is this opportunity he's going to have to express the details of his sexual indiscretions with underage girls. At the hands of Tavis Smiley's company, R. Kelly's testimony is scheduled to be released in early 2011.

## 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
7					1
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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The Hilltop encourages its readers to share their opinions with the newspaper through letters to the editor or perspectives. All letters should include a complete address and telephone number and should be sent electronically on to hilltopedit@gmail.com.

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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.

**"I thought our community should have a deep dialogue to make black America better. I believe if we make black America better, we make all of America better."**

**- Tavis Smiley**

Hilltopics are printed everyday. The first 20 words are \$10 and .25 for each additional word. There is a 25% additional charge for small images.

All classifieds must be submitted and paid for 3 business days in advance.

We accept payment in the form of cashier's checks, money orders, business checks, and major credit cards.

**NO CASH**

Any questions? Contact The Hilltop Business Office at 202 806 4749. Email your reservations and artwork material to [classifieds@thehilltoponline.com](mailto:classifieds@thehilltoponline.com); be sure to specify your run date, background and text colors.

**Chapel Assistants Week 2010 presents**

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

**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

**State Club Day,** featuring

**Bison Ball: The Unveiling.**

**Wednesday @ 12pm in The Punchout.**

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**Christian Sister's United Women's Break-through**

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# NOTICE

## TO PURGED STUDENTS

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

# Now Hiring

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

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SUBMISSION DATE ON OR BEFORE MARCH 12, 2010 BEFORE 2:00 P.M.