

## VOL. 71, NO. 2

#### MOREHOUSE COLLEGE; ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Thursday, September 17, 1998

## **IN CAMPUS NEWS**

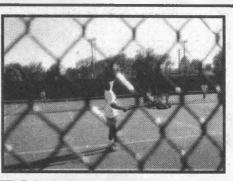
An initiative to reduce teacher course load is slowly taking effect at Morehouse.

Page 3



**IN FEATURES** A former editor in chief reflects on his enlightening trip to Israel and Poland.

Page 5



**IN SPORTS** Will they do it? The Morehouse tennis team is

going for their sixth

consecutive SIAC title.

Page 8

## Hundreds at March vow to combat ills interest groups, including the but couldn't," said Ati

Movement's

president.

Muhammed, a member

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By Alavini Lata Staff Writer

It's Labor Day in Atlanta, and the weather is in the high 90's as hundreds gather on historic Auburn Avenue to rally against drugs, violence, police brutality, and economic and social depression.

Master of ceremonies Prince D'Jour, host of BET's Youth Summit, pumps the ralliers up as the crowd of youths, parents and community leaders sings "We shall overcome."

This cross-generational congregation in the cradle of the nation's civil rights movement capped a four-day gathering on September 7 led by a group of young, littleknown activists.

Known as the Million Youth Movement, the event captured the endorsement of an unusual mix of Black-

NAACP and the Nation of Cashmere-Muhammed, the Islam.

More importantly, the Atlanta gathering w a s unmarred the by kind of violence that ended a similar event in New York City two days earlier. Both events failed to attract the o n e million

Cedric Dark/STAF

youths that were anticipated. "We know there are a lot of people who wanted to come

Among the guest speakers and presenters at the Atlanta rally were the Rev. Jesse Jackson Jr.



Cedric Dark/STAFF

(Left): Nationalism on display at the weekend rally that capped the Million Youth Movement events. (Above): Activists hand out informational pamphlets on police brutality at the rally site.

and Kweisi Mfume, president of the NAACP. Other events that took place during this three-day gathering included a series of workshops held at Morehouse College, a hip-hop

party, and a worship service. Youths traveled from places as far away as Boston,

**Continued on page 3** SEE RELATED STORY PAGE 2



Shaun Spearmon/STAFF

Freshman quarterback Derek Howard receives a dose of encouragement during the Maroon Tigers' disappointing home debut loss against Lane College, September 5. Morehouse is 0-3 this season with two losses already in conference play. Saturday, the Maroon Tigers lost to Miles College, 28-15, and with their next game against Albany State, which has beat the team the last 2 years, another win seems unlikely.

## HOMECOMING '98 Director's resignation derails plans

#### By Faraji Whalen Staff Writer

With a second resignation barely a month into the the Student semester, Government Association appears to be barreling headfirst into a year of political chaos.

Chief of staff and homecoming director, Scott Davis, resigned August 27, leaving a huge dent in the homecoming plans. His departure comes a week after the resignation of president pro tempore Ike Ummanah.

In a letter to SGA President Chris Jones, Davis attributed his decision to "a breakdown in critical communication and organizational skills."

Davis accused Jones of excluding him from homecoming planning meetings, ignoring his calls and pages, and effectively blackballing him from involvement in planning the event.

"It was more like being in the Masons than in the SGA," said Davis. "I'm surprised they didn't have a secret anti-Scott handshake."

Davis said this forced isolation led to his decision.

"I couldn't work with children in a childlike atmosphere. Chris' actions were highly unprofessional and inappropriate," he said.

Jones disagreed with Davis' contention.

"There miscommunication, certainly, but there was no intentional attempt to somehow isolate Scott," he said. "He's a great guy and we're going to miss his expertise."

Davis claimed that the catalyst for the fallout was his reluctance to approve Jones' choice for homecoming promoter — a former Morehouse student, and Jones' personal friend.

According to Davis, the promoter did not pass a background check given by Morehouse's legal department, and his refusal to endorse the candidate led to his alienation.

**Continued on page 3** 

## CAMPUS

# Lack of AUC support for March draws ire

#### By Alavini Lata Staff Writer

The Million Youth Movement kicked off September 5, with a series of workshops and forums at Morehouse College.

Shira Batalion, a junior political science major at Guilford College in Greeensboro, North Carolina, attended the event with a dozen minority children from her community.

She was furious at the conspicuous absence of AUC participants at the workshops, and the overall apathy toward the Movement among Morehouse students.

This is the conversation she had with Isaiah Pettiway, a sophomore political science major at Morehouse, demanding answers:

Batalion: "Where is the support from all four of Atlanta's HBCUs? Thousands of people are here from all over the country and the most

## "Where is the support from all four of Atlanta's HBCUs?"

powerful and influential youths of Atlanta aren't even here."

Pettiway: "I saw something outside my window but I didn't know that it was [part of] the Million Youth March." Batalion: "We brought a whole lot of Black kids from our community who needs y'all. Morehouse doesn't seem to care or know of what the community needs."

Pettiway: "Morehouse doesn't take the effort to keep us informed."

Batalion: "They shouldn't always have to keep you informed. As a Black male in higher education you should find out. At my predominantly white school, a Black girl went around putting up

## flyers about the march and now we're here." Pettiway: "I haven't seen

any around here." Batalion: "What are you doing to help your community? Every time I

come to a conference here,



On the steps of Sale Hall, Shira Batalion (right) demands an explanation from Isaiah Pettaway for the apathy surrounding the Million Youth Movement among Morehouse students.

there aren't that many AUC students. For example, the National Seminar on Africa. I thought that was big enough but when we got here, only a handful of AUC students showed up.

"Why do I know more politically about a Black movement than most of the guys at Morehouse, and I'm a white Jewish girl?"

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## When it comes right down to it, who really creates the excitement?



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#### Thursday, September 17, 1998 THE MAROON TIGER PAGE 3

College reduces teacher course load

By Cary Jordan Contributing Writer

After twenty years, faculty members are finally getting what they've been asking for. Instead of having professors take on four to five courses a semester, a

comprehensive plan is now underway to reduce course loads to a maximum of three classes by semester's end.

The initiative, which was first floated two decades ago, will allow instructors more time for scholarship, research, and student-teacher interaction.

However, not all departments are joining the course-reduction bandwagon just yet.

While seven of the fifteen departments have adopted the policy, six are still pending inclusion, and two — math and English — are in the early stages of progress.

For these eight departments, certain demands need to be met before a smooth transition to load reduction can be made.

The department of English alone would need ten additional full-time professors, because of the number of required English classes students have to take as part of the school's core curriculum.

But the lack of office space to house new hires poses a challenge, and with no definite plans by the college to create new office space in the near future, implementation of the policy is not feasible.

"It's high on the priority list and the administration is working like mad to resolve the problem," said Provost John Hopps, acknowledging the need for new infrastructures.

Till then, department chairs, like Dr. Robert Bozeman of the mathematics department, express little optimism of effecting load reductions.

"It's an excellent idea and we're trying to cooperate, but with core requirements of 6 hours of math [that students need to graduate], the department will have to phase in, particularly over several years," Bozeman said.

One of the few departments that has been able to take advantage of the new initiative has been political science.

"It enables us to have more time to go into greater depth in lectures and to use

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CAMPUS

time to carry out research for teaching than in the past," said Dr. Hamid Taqi, a professor in the department.

Dr. George Kieh, who headed the four-member "Teacher Load Reduction Task Force" that worked on the policy change, thinks the load reduction is an idea whose time has come.

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> "It helps faculty members to become better teachers, better advisors, better mentors, better citizens of the college and wider communities," he said.

Provost Hopps, another

proponent for the change, added: "It all has to do with the quality of education. If you're overloading faculty you don't get the quality performance that you want."

Marines

SEE IF YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO CARRY THIS.

*Keilonne O'Brien contributed to this article.* 

## Davis says non communicationishis reason for leaving Continued from page 1

"That had nothing to do with it," countered Jones. "There were some issues of his that got in the way. We just felt that it was best that he resign." Regardless of the reasons,

Davis' resignation has added a new weight to an already burdened homecoming plan.

With this year's homecoming budget slashed over 45 percent, the total SGA budget is less than last year's homecoming allocation. And with Davis' flight from the ranks, the SGA faces serious leadership and scheduling difficulties on top of an \$83,000 budget cut.

Of that money, \$11,000 has already been set aside for the homecoming gospel concert. Furthermore, the senate has yet to approve the budget, forcing the homecoming committee to use administration funds until the senate meets next.

Jones, however, remains optimistic.

"I know [about] the budget and Scott's resignation, but we have to move on," he said. "We're still in a position to make this the best homecoming Morehouse has ever seen."

Former chief of operations, Seth Pickens, has been called in to replace Davis.

"We're behind schedule, that's one strike against us. I have a great task ahead of me," said an undaunted Pickens.

President ones undoubtedly sought to avoid such serious problems so early in his term, if only to distinguish his tenure from those of his predecessors. Antonio Johnson's administration, widely regarded as a reign of corruption, and Will Sellers' ineffectual tenure as president has already soured many on Morehouse politics.

## Rally caps weekend-long empowerment events

## Continued from page 1

Las Vegas and Seattle to the rally — the highlight of the weekend events.



With banners held high, ralliers declare their allegiance to fighting the ills that plague African American youths.

"I'm here to learn how to help and make my community a better one — to show my peers that if I can become involved, they can too," said Benjamin Aersley, a 13year-old participant from North Carolina.

Others agreed. "I wanted to

come and share ideas so that when I leave from here, I would be more knowledgeable about the issues going on," said 15year-old Faith Leach of Decatur, Georgia.

Although Mayor Bill Campbell, who was invited to the rally, did not attend, the city declared September 5 through 7 'Million Youth Movement Days.'

Organizers said they will review the outcome of the Atlanta march and plan annual summits focusing on the ills facing young Blacks.

"This was just the begining," said master of ceremonies D'Jour. "Next year will be much better."

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The following paid editorial positions are still open at The Maroon Tiger: Campus News, News/ Editorials, and Sports Editor. Come by the Tiger office, in the basement of Archer Hall, for details.

## WORLD AND LOCAL NEWS

IN SHORT

## Parade under fire for dragging death parody

NEW YORK--- A New York City neighborhood whose Labor Day parades over the years included floats poking fun at Jews, Asians and gays has come under fire for a display lampooning the dragging death of 49-year-old James Byrd in Jasper, Texas.

Amateur videotape of this year's parade shows about a dozen white men in blackface wearing Afro-style and dreadlock wigs, breakdancing, bouncing basketballs and drinking. One of the men clings to the rear bumper and is dragged slowly along the parade route. The float featured a banner reading "Black to the future 2098." The Human Rights Commission is investigating.

## Calls for good samaritan laws intensifies

LAS VEGAS -- Jeremy Strohmeyer, 19, confessed and pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting and strangling an 8-year-old Black girl in a casino restroom in Primm, Nevada, last month. But David Cash, a friend of Strohmeyer, who allegedly witnessed part of the attack but did not go for help, may be prosecuted as well.

Cash claims he attempted to dissuade Strohmeyer from attacking the girl, but then waited outside the restroom for Strohmeyer to finish. The two then resumed gambling at the casino and returned home.

Although good samaritan laws do not exist in Nevada, Cash's unremorseful attitude, including claims that his notoriety made it easier to get dates, has outraged many, and students at his school, UC Berkeley, are calling for his expulsion.

## **Right to vote does not require renewal**

WASHINGTON, DC -- African Americans will not lose voting privileges in 2007, says the Department of Justice which has received numerous inquiries about the rumor. The rights are guaranteed by the United States Constitution and are permanent, says a Department release.

The provisions that were intended to be of limited duration were the authorization of the US Attorney General to register Black voters, ensure their votes are counted, and enforce that no racially discriminatory voting changes are made.

These remedial measures are scheduled to expire in 2007, unless renewed. However, the basic prohibition contained in the 15th Amendment and in the Voting Rights Act are permanent.

> -- Compiled by Aaron Chilton from wire reports.

# **The battle rages on** The war in Congo is tearing apart central Africa



**Reuters/SPECIAL** A Tutsi rebel stows a knife in his headband as he travels to the front in Congo's civil war. Although America has not officially taken sides in the war, it does give Rwanda and Uganda military aid, causing Congo's Justice Minister to denounce the conflict as a "Tutsi-American

#### By Saeed Ahmed Editor in Chief

imperialist plot."

The battle for the Democratic Republic of Congo is no ordinary civil war. At least five countries — and maybe more — have sent troops into a conflict that could split not only Africa's third largest country but also much of Africa itself.

"The whole continent's destiny is in danger," says Congo's foreign minister, Jean-Charles Okoto.

Last month, several thousand troops from Angola, Zimbabwe and Namibia came to the rescue of President Laurent Kabila, a man whose rule grew so sour that Rwanda and Uganda — both of which which helped him topple Mobutu Sese Seko 16 months ago — are now sponsoring a rebellion to destroy him.

Kabila's new allies have no love for him. But they see a fractured Congo as a worse option.

Kabila in many ways brought the war on himself. Welcomed as the man who could clean up Mobutu's mess, Kabila promptly restored Zaire's old name, Congo. Then he jailed political opponents, eliminated the positions of vice president and prime minister, and stacked the government with relatives and members of his own ethnic group.

"We thought if he was given some support and time he could turn things around, only to realize that he is not different from Mobutu," says a top Rwandan military officer.

Once that reality sunk in, Congolese began to see another problem: too many Tutsis — especially Rwandans — in senior government jobs. In late July, Kabila bowed to popular pressure and ordered them to leave; that was when --- with the help of Rwanda's Tutsi-led military — the rebellion began.

The insurrection spread rapidly, and the rebels quickly captured a large chunk of the east and several key points west of the capital city, Kinshasa. The turnaround did not come until the arrival of Kabila's allies.

Angola quickly took back the military base the rebels had been using as a staging ground. And Zimbabwean and Congolese soldiers defended the airport outside Kinshasa. The capital itself erupted in fierce fighting for days, and the government claimed it had killed or imprisoned thousands of rebels.

Suddenly, Kabila seemed not doomed but invigorated. And for now at least, it seems like Congo and its allies have the upper hand over the rebels.

The war, however, is far from over. A United Nations report released recently states Rwandan that Hutu militiamen and former government troops --- the perpetrators of the 1994 genocide of Tutsis in Rwanda have recently crossed into Congo, and have teamed up with elements of Mobutu's former army.

Kabila's most important allies are Angola and Zimbabwe, which have two of the continent's best-equppied armies. They want to keep Congo whole for economic reasons: Angola wants to build a pipeline through part of Congo, and over the last year Zimbabwe has made several investments there.

But more important, Angolan authorities believe that a balkanized Congo would provide a sanctuary for UNITA, the rebels who have fought Angola for decades.

The main voice for peace has come from South African President Nelson Mandela. But even with the moral authority he commands, a peace deal seems unlikely any time soon.

## FEATURES

## A JOURNEY OF UNDERSTANDING

R. Francis Blakeney was among 17 college newspaper editors nationwide picked by the Anti-Defamation League for a 14-day trip to Israel and Poland this summer. These are excerpts from his journal along with photos:



## Day One: August 14 I am in Warsaw at this writing. The trip over was a pleasant one

except for the length – about 12 hours from New York. I am the only African American in this group.

I listened to much of the presentations today and it's impossible not to see the similarities between what Jews and African Americans went through. Yet, there exists such tension between these two ethnic groups. I wonder whether it's because America acknowledges the tragedy of the Holocaust, but expresses little remorse for slavery.

#### Day Two: August 15

Today, I saw quite a few Poles with a significant amount of melanin in their skin. I am quite pleased that in almost every Catholic church there is a Black Madonna and Child. The tour guide attributes this to two factors: the paintings came from the East and eastern art is darker; and the soot from the candle makes the paintings look "black"!!

Day Three: August 16 We visited Auschwitz today -by far the most emotionally challenging part of the journey till now. What a heart-wrenching experience. Auschwitz took a toll on the group as a collective, as we wept for the thousands who bore the pain and suffering during those dark days. It is painful that while we all

acknowledge that the persecution of the Jews was a crime against humanity, the same unity and sharing eludes us when we talk about slavery. We Blacks deserve a monument to our pain.

After lunch, we headed for Israel, the second

leg of the trip. Racism has a way of creeping in throughout the journey. At the airport in Israel, I am the only one stopped and questioned over and over again. I was released only after the travel agency official came to my rescue.

## Day Four: August 17

At the Diaspora Museum in Tel Aviv, our guide, Mike,

mentions Sephardic Jews - a group with origins in Spain. I know two African Americans who trace their lineage to Sephardic Jews. Mike says they do not have a significant amount of melanin in their skin. I am not a historian so I did not debate the issue, but I

am quite sure he's wrong.

#### **Day Five: August 18** After climbing the Evin Adat

canyon, I saw the sun set over



Egypt. The sight reminded me of

KRAKOWSKIE ZAKLADY ELEKTRONICZNE rel.

> a post card a friend once sent me. She simply said, "We are the gift of the Nile."

### Day Seven: August 20

I went to the Holy Land today. We toured the Wailing Wall, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, and walked

part of the Via Del Rosa. Later, we met with Professor Yehuda Bauer, and it was one of the few times I heard an adknowledgment of slavery when discussing

human tragedies. We also met with officials from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office.

Day Eight: August 21 Last night, the US bombed Afghanistan and Sudan. Tensions are running high here. This morning we are meeting with Eve Harrow, a Jew, and Salah Tamri, a council member of the Palestinian Authority. found Harrow's

presentation to be really one-sided. She made a statement which interpreted as a call for the assassination of PLO leader

> Yasser Arafat. Evervone in my group was quick to point out that I W a overanalyzing. I beg to differ. Salah Tamri was much more willing to compromise and work for peace. Tamri is much older than Harrow and I believe he knows firsthand the horrors of war. Nonetheless, he was adamant the PLO will declare statehood in 1999.

#### Day Ten: August 23 This afternoon, I

met Christine Pilon. Pilon is a Christian who, along with her husband, has committed her life to improving Jewish-Christian relationships.

Day Eleven: August 24 We stop by Yemin Orde to see Dr. Chaim Perim, who is working toward solving some of the racial

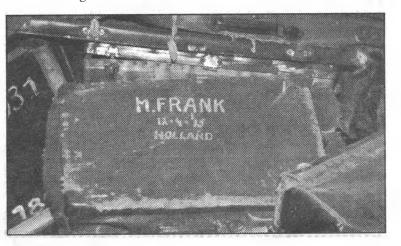


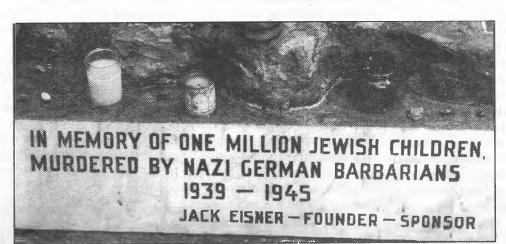
tension arising from the return of Ethiopian Jews to Israel.

#### Day Twelve: August 25

After 11 hours of flying, I am in New York. I am glad to be home. We say goodbye and hug for the last time, and I rush to catch my plane to Atlanta. I am reminded of David's declaration in the Psalms, "Oh how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

(Clockwise from left): Portrait of Black Madonna and Child at Krakow, Poland; marker for tree planted in memory of Oskar Schindler; the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem, where thousands flock each day; memorial to Jewish children slaughtered during the Holocaust (center); luggage reportedly belonging to Anne Frank's sister, on display at Auschwitz; entrance to Oskar Schindler's first factory, where Jews made pots and pans.





## EDITORIALS

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# Remove the hood, be a man

This editorial is in response to the flyers circulating around campus calling for the firing of certain administrators. The Maroon Tiger has opted not to cover the incident as a news story to avoid providing the perpetrators of the deed a larger forum for their baseless charges.

It appears that there is a hooded syndrome at Morehouse. The ugly face of the Old South is attempting to reappear on this campus, with all of its cowardice intact. But this time the face underneath the hood is more likely that of a Black man.

This spineless hood has the gall to attack people's character and work ethic by disseminating flyers in the dead of night. The face under the hood has the audacity to attempt to air our laundry out in the streets. The coward's hood has no place at this institution.

Many students have had registration problems due to the registrar's and financial aid offices. That is a fact, and the administration should be applauded for coming forth and saying they did not meet the mark.

Many students have questions that they would like answered. But to distribute an anonymous flyer in the dark of night is an unacceptable manner to achieve those goals. Morehouse is a place for men. And men stand on the wall, and declare the news.

So, if discussion is the true issue, remove the hood. If you believe there is incompetence in a certain department, state your case. If you feel someone is not qualified, gather the facts and present them to the appropriate parties.

In this institution, discussion is always welcomed. There is no substitution for the intellectual act of discourse. If you believe in it strongly enough, be willing to accept the consequences. After all, King did say "A man who stands for nothing, will fall for anything."

Come out of hiding. Darkness will eventually give way to light. We no longer need to wear the mask. Are you really concerned about Morehouse or are you just a coward lurking in the shadows? Do you really want your voice heard? Are you scared to be seen? Have you no integrity? If you are bold and brave enough to speak the truth as you see it, remove the hood and be a

man.

-- R. Francis Blakeney

## Afrocentricity perspective misplaced

By Aaron Chilton **Guest Commentary** 

Afrocentricity resulted from the lack of recognition by the prevailing white maledominated establishment of the contributions made by African Americans to western civilization.

Apparently, a group of Blacks decided

that a major instrument used in the oppression and marginalization of Blacks in western culture and society is the "eurocentric"

perspective with which all aspects

western of society is evaluated.

afrocentric The perspective attempts to deny the superiority of the eurocentric in the evaluation of knowledge. Subsequently, afrocentricity adopts perspective centered in the "African world view."

The controversy surrounding afrocentricity centers around two ideas: first, whether westernized African Americans can adopt an African worldview; second, whether or not by employing afrocentricity, the Black intellectual falls into the same

paradigm of ethnocentrism that they criticize whites for radiating.

When evaluated as a critique of western culture, the afrocentric perspective is at its best. However, its goal should not be to replace one narrowminded perspective (eurocentrism) with another (afrocentricity). And, hence, as

a normative assertion of supremacy other over perspectives.

addition, In afrocentricity's ability to adequately and accurately depict the diversity of African cultures through a western Afro-American perspective is suspect at best.

As much as some of us may forlorn for

our

African roots,

the truth is

that we are all

As much as some of us may forlorn for our African roots, the truth is that we are all as western as any other race or ethnic group in America.

> a model for the prevailing paradigm of African American scholarship it fails due, in part, to its narrow scope in emphasizing the African perspective only.

criticisms of eurocentrism is that it marginalizes those who are not European, then the same criticism can be made of afrocentricity. It attempts to redefine the parameters of intellectual inquiry by approaching issues from the so-called African worldview. Not only is such a thing as an African worldview nonexistent, but it also implies

probably more Americanized because of the disconnection between contemporary Black Americans and our West African ancestors.

Numerous attempts have If one of afrocentricity's been made to connect us to every African that ever lived, from the great kings and queens of the Nile Valley, to Ethiopian feudal monarch Haile Selassie, to South African president Nelson Mandela. As Black Americans, we make every desperate attempt to connect ourselves to some great history.

But considering the dynamics of the western slave

## The Maroon Tiger Staff

The Maroon Tiger is published fifteen times during the academic year of Morchouse College. Our goal is to maintain an independent editorial policy. Opinions on the Editorial Page of The Maroon Tiger are solely the views of the Editorial Board, and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Morehouse College, its administration, or The Maroon Tiger advisors. Commentaries solely represent the views of the anthor, not the opinion of The Maroon Tiger. We believe all advertising to be correct, but cannot guarantee its accuracy or be responsible for its outcome.

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## **Contributing Writers**

Gary Jordan, Aaron Chilton, Kellonne O'Brien, Stefan Chase

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All commentaries and letters to the editor must be mailed to:

The Maroon Tiger Letter to the Editor **Morehouse College** 830 Westview Drive, Southwest Unit # 140040 Atlanta, Georgia 30314 Phone: (404) 614-6041 Fax: (404) 614-8546 e-mail: mtigers@morehouse.edu

trade, it is most likely that we come from captives of war and other oppressed classes. It is highly unlikely that any kings or queens were involved in the slave trade except entrepreneurs selling our ancestors to greedy western mongrels.

Afrocentricity makes the error of romanticizing our past and doctoring tunnel-vision for our future. The truth is that few, if any, of us can actually trace our lineage to Egypt, Ethiopia, or South Africa. It is one of the many tragedies of

slavery that we lost our cultural history and were coerced into adopting eurocentric culture. However, that does not give us free license to romantically construct one picking and choosing the highlights of every period of every culture on a continent more diverse than the whole of the world outside of it and attaching to it the normative claim of superiority.

as western as any other race ethnic or group in America. In fact, we are

## ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

# "Rush Hour": A lesson in deja vu Another Chris Tucker laughfest ... Another Chris Tucker laughfest

By Jonathan Howard A&E Editor

Chris Tucker's new action/comedy, "Rush Hour,"

(his first being the lead in "Money Talks"), reunites him with music video/movie director Brett Ratner (who

Tucker's second star turn held for ransom. The consul wants to bring in his own help (Chan) to solve the case. The FBI, who are in charge of the case, don't want an



their pants from laughter ... you know. But something was wrong. Even though Chan was great as ever (plenty of kicks and punches and tumbling), the movie just never takes off from "B" / "B-" status.

Don't get me wrong. I could watch Chris Tucker adlib his way through "Citizen Kane," if neccessary. It's just that if you saw "Money Talks," then you've already seen this character from Tucker - wise ass with gun, boastful, bust-agut funny ... There's no new ground covered here.

Maybe I'm just personally dissappointed. I know that Tucker has this great actor inside of him. Just look at his spot in "Dead Presidents." And, unfortunately, there's just not that much more Jackie Chan can do with two pool sticks and a swinging lamp to impress me.

Of course, mv disappointment may be your pot of gold. Go see the movie, laugh, enjoy, eat your popcorn --- just don't blame me when you can't remember it a week later.

"Rush Hour" opens Friday at area theaters.



1. Exactly what (or who) is that gate around the Executive Center trying to keep out? (Attica, Attica!!) 2. Where did they get the Miss Maroon & White MC from? Rent-A-Center? 3. What if the homecoming concert is an "open mic night?" 4. Did Jay-Z really sample "Annie" on "Hard Knock Life?" 5. ... And did Cam'ron sample "Night Court?" 6. If Dr. Anderson's paintings were seen on the "Cosby" show, isn't it a conflict of interest since he's teaching "Rudy" art? 7. Looks like another perfect season for the Tigers, huh? 8. Are we still arguing? 9. Morehouse has a \$37,000 copying machine? Why? 10. Who did Holyfield fight? 11. Why aren't we playing Howard this year? 12. Did they get tired of kicking our butt? 13. How many dents are y'all gonna put in my driver's side door? 14. Why is an office in the English Department really just a glorified broom closet? 15. Is this a congressional report or the Penthouse Forum? 16. If we won a football game, and no one was there to see it, would it still count?? 17. Who is the brother walking around here sounding like "Jingle Bells?" 18. Who keeps stealing stuff from the Maroon Tiger office? 19. Can someone please secure eligibility for the football team? 20. Do you think this is easy? the statement of the state

Chris Tucker(left) and Jackie Chan star in New Line Cinema's action-comedy, "Rush Hour."

gave me what I expected, I guess: lots of laughs (courtesy of Mr. Tucker, himself) and plenty of action (care of the heir to Bruce Lee's throne, Jackie Chan), but nothing to tell the grandkids about.

In fact, the greatest impression I got was a bigger sense of deja vu than a recovering amnesiac. ("Haven't I been here before??")

directed "Money Talks") and places him alongside the inimitable Chan. There is an obvious chemistry between the three, as Tucker and Chan are allowed to bring their comedic and physical talents, respectively, to the fore.

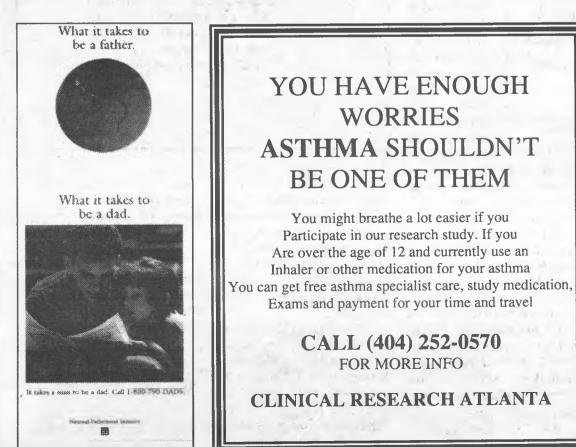
Much like "Money Talks," the movie's plot is credible, but not very stimulating.

A Chinese consul's daughter is kidnapped and

international incident. So they call in a free-wheeling detective from the LAPD (Tucker) to babysit Chan until the whole thing blows over.

Do you really think Tucker and Chan won't find their way into trouble??

Tucker does his usual thing — singing in the car, doing his best Michael Jackson impersonation, causing many audience members to pee in



## SPORTS

# Tennis team plans to serve up another title

By Michael Moss Staff Writer

No doubt about it. Morehouse College tennis is one of the best kept secrets on campus. And with 5 consecutive SIAC championships and 18 out of the last 19 conference titles, it's also one of the winningest programs here.

Last year the team finished with a 20-6 record, placing them first in the conference. They made it to the nationals, but lost in the first round to the number 3 team in the nation.

"It was the first time the entire team had made it to the national tournament," said Coach Willie Shaw. "In the past, we've had some individuals who advanced to the national tournament, but this was the first time the team made that accomplishment."

This year's team sports four returning lettermen: Robert Williams, Jason Blake, Michael Roberts, and Joshua Knight. All four achieved all conference honors last year, and are expected to do the same this go around.

Juniors Robert Williams and Jason Blake will be carrying much of the load this year.

"They are my number one doubles team," Shaw said. "They play 1 and 4 in singles."

Despite the individual accomplishments of Blake and Williams, a very strong team emphasis is being placed this year.

"We have a strong team," said Williams, who has been on the team for two years, and was conference MVP both his freshman and sophomore

Have an idea? Got a hot tip? Want to see your work in print? Tell us your story, send us your submissions. Come work for your "Organ of Student Expression." Stop by The Maroon Tiger office for details, or e-mail us at: mtigers@morehouse.edu year. "It's a team effort. It's not just two people. Everybody works hard on the team, so I am sure we will do even better; we will make it and win a few rounds at regionals this year."

The team is very excited about this year's season, and

about how the team looks. Freshmen Jessie Melton and Max Murphy are expected to fill in holes left from last year's team.

Shaw knows that Morehouse is the team to beat in the SIAC this year, but wants them to stay humble.

"I think we have to prove ourselves on the court. I don't

like to make predictions," he

said. "Sometimes they come

back to haunt you." But Shaw is not ruling out a championship. "Our goals are to get back into the national tournament, and to move to the next level which is getting into the finals," Shaw said. "That is our goal for this year, and we are going to be working hard for that."

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