

THE Maroon



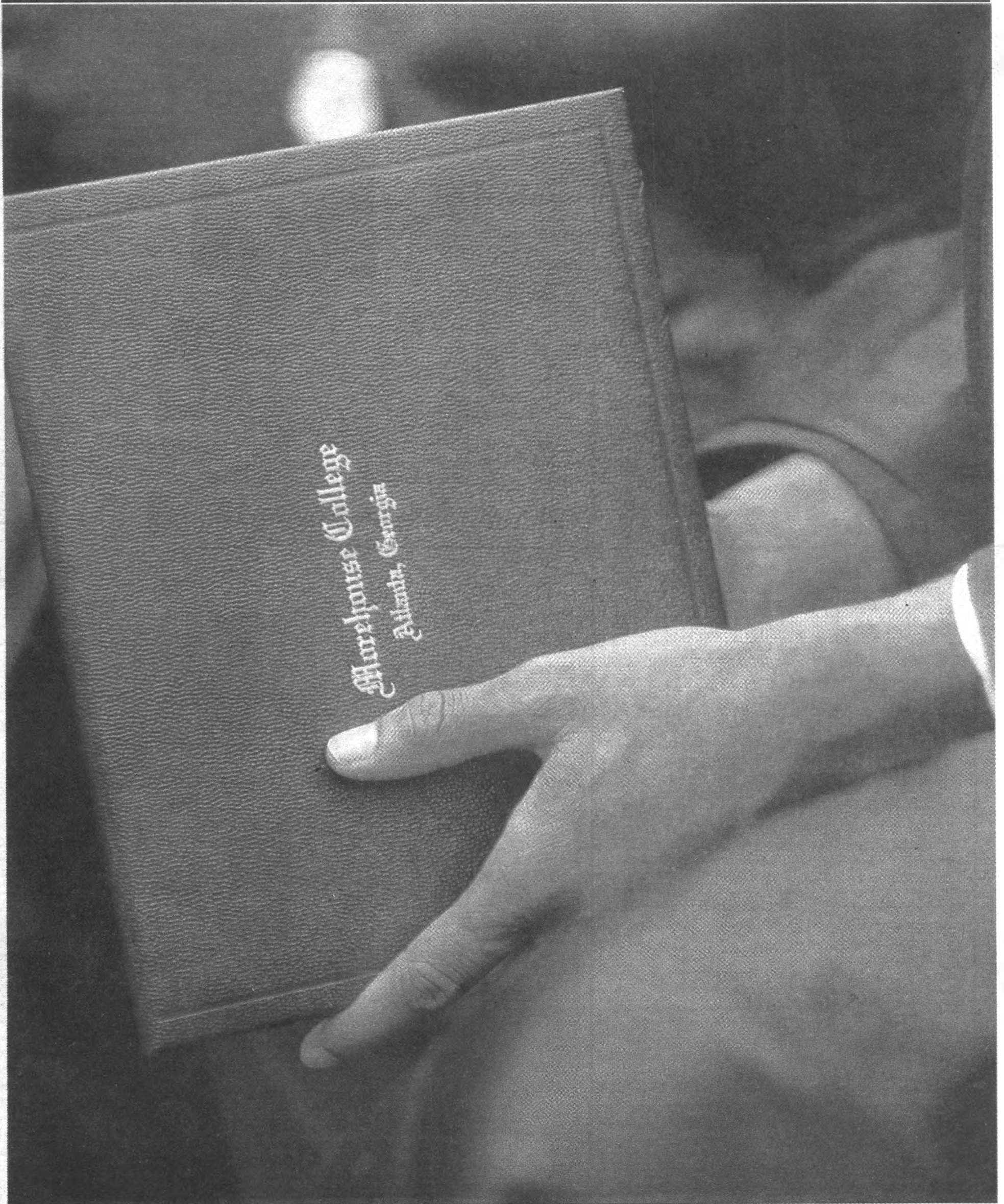
Tiger

The Organ of Student Expression
SERVING MOREHOUSE COLLEGE SINCE 1898

VOL. 71, NO. 11

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE; ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Friday May 14, 1999



ANNOUNCEMENTS

1999 Commencement Schedule of Events

Thursday, May 13

10 a.m.

REHERSAL FOR BACCALAUREATE AND COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

King Chapel

Seniors should be dressed in dark trousers, white shirt, tie, and dark dress shoes

11:30 a.m.

SENIOR CLASS PHOTO

in caps and gowns

In front of King Chapel

12:00 p.m.

SENIOR CLASS LUNCHEON

Lane Dining Hall

Saturday, May 15

1:30p.m.

JOHN HOPE AND BENJAMIN E. MAYS

MEMORIAL SERVICES

at grave sites.

2:00 p.m.

LINE-UP FOR BACCALAUREATE

Front of Hope Hall

3:00 p.m.

BACCALAUREATE SERVICE

King Chapel

Dr. Otis Moss, Chairman Board of Trustees, Speaker

Sunday, May 16, 1999

7:00 a.m.

GRADUATING SENIORS REPORT FOR LINE-

UP

King Chapel

7:30 a.m.

PROCESSIONAL BEGINS

King Chapel

8:00 a.m.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Campus Quadrangle

Dr. Lerone Bennett, Senior Editor, Ebony Magazine, Speaker

Sheftall rises to #2 position

Staff Reports

President Massey officially announced the appointment of Dr. Willis Sheftall to the position of Vice President for Academic Affairs on May 6.

Sheftall, formerly Chair of the Business and Economics department of the College, is now in charge of the Office of Academic Affairs, Information Technology, Institutional Research, and Admissions. As the second highest administrator at the College, Sheftall replaces Dr. John Hopps, who leaves the position after this semester. As senior vice president, Sheftall will also act as President in the event of Dr. Massey's absence.

When Hopps announced his resignation earlier this year Dr. Massey asked the faculty for their



Dr. Willis B. Sheftall, Jr.

Sheftall, a 1964 graduate of Morehouse College with a degree in History, earned a Master's degree in Economics from Atlanta University and a doctorate in Economics from Georgia State University. He then became the Charles E. Merill Professor of Economics and Chairman of the Department of Economics and Business Administration at Morehouse College.

Under his tenure, the school of Economics and Business Administration recently received national accreditation. Both Sheftall and his administrative associates are very excited about the position change.

advice on whether the individual filling the position should come from current faculty or outside the College. The choice of Dr. Sheftall is based on the belief that an "insider" would best help lead the College at this time.

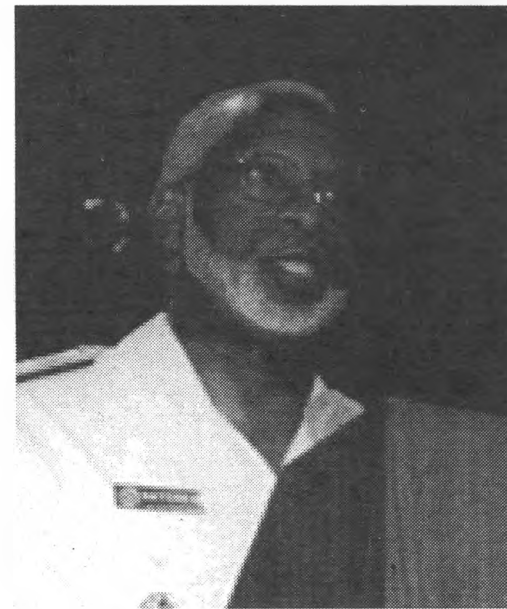
Atlanta Colleges hosting notable speakers

Staff Reports

The tradition of students collecting pearls of wisdom from the mouths of noted individuals before being propelled into the "real world" takes place annually at graduations across the country. As commencement dates approach in Atlanta, area colleges are snaring an interesting and varied list of speakers to cap their graduation activities. This

year's group includes a United States representative, a critically acclaimed author, and two Morehouse College graduates.

While Morehouse graduate Lerone Bennett, class of '49, is delivering the commencement address here (see page 3), Clark-Atlanta



David Satcher will deliver the graduation speech at Clark Atlanta University May 16.

University managed to nab U.S. Surgeon General and Morehouse graduate David Satcher, class of '63. The ceremony will be CAU's first-ever on-campus commencement. Another Washington D.C. import, U.S. Congresswoman Maxine Waters, will deliver words of wisdom to the women of Spelman College on May 16th.

Outside of the AUC, Emory University, which in the past has secured Bishop Desmond Tutu and His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama, this year tapped

Robert Reich for its May 10th ceremony. The former Secretary of Labor during President Bill Clinton's first administration is currently a professor at Brandeis University. Author Kurt Vonnegut, Jr. will address the students of Agnes Scott on the 15th. Another homecoming of sorts will take place on Georgia Tech's campus when William J. Todd, president of the Georgia Research Alliance and graduate of the class of '71 returns to deliver the commencement address.



Maxine Waters will deliver the graduation speech at Spelman College, May 16.

Lerone Bennett to address the class of '99

Staff Reports

For this year's spring commencement, Morehouse has recruited one of her own, *Ebony* Magazine Executive Editor and Board of Trustee member Lerone Bennett, to deliver words of wisdom to the graduating class of 1999.

Bennett, a native of Clarksdale, MS, graduated from Morehouse in 1949. His journalistic career began while at Morehouse as a writer and editor for the *Maroon Tiger*.

After Morehouse, he worked as a reporter and editor for the *Atlanta Daily World*, an associate editor with *Jet* magazine and *Ebony*, and later, an Executive Editor at *Ebony*.

While holding editorships with the various publications, Bennett acquired numerous doctorates. He has an honorary doctorate in Law from Dillard University (1980), Humanities from Wilberforce University (1977), and Literature from Marquette University (1979) and Tuskegee (1980).

Bennett has also had many books published, including the groundbreaking "Before the Mayflower", which is still used extensively in college classes around America. Other notable publications include What Manner of Man: A Biography of MLK, Jr. (Patron Saint Award Winner), and Shaping of Black America.

Bennett has

also contributed poems, short stories and articles to many periodicals and books, and has won awards from the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the National Association of Black Journalists.

"Lerone has exemplified the Morehouse tradition and is a nationally respected journalist and historian who remains a role model for African-Americans across the country," College President Walter E. Massey said.

As previously mentioned, he is a Board of Trustees member at Morehouse College, Columbia College and the Chicago Historical Society. A member of Kappa Alpha Psi, Sigma Delta Chi & Phi Beta Kappa, Bennett also served as a delegate to the sixth Pan African Congress in 1974.

Also participating in the commencement exercises is world-renowned entertainer and philanthropist Oprah Winfrey. No stranger to Morehouse, in recent years, Ms. Winfrey has contributed millions of dollars to Morehouse's scholarship fund. Winfrey

Scholarships have provided several students the opportunity of full matriculation through the college.

"I look forward to hearing what Lerone and

Oprah share with graduates, who are beginning the next phase of their lives." Massey added.



Oprah Winfrey to participate in commencement exercises.



Author and *Ebony* Magazine Executive Editor Lerone Bennett Jr. '49 will deliver the Commencement Address.

A look back and forward

Joe Carlos Sports Editor

This time of the year, there are many things on the minds of seniors. Most of them are worried about the tests they just took, their credits adding up correctly and basically making that graduation list that goes up on the 14th. Despite all this, many of them are waxing nostalgic about their time at Morehouse, and are interested in the future of their soon to be alma mater.

Several times this school year, I have heard seniors like class president Reggie Prepetit, Student Government Association president Chris Jones and Elections Committee chair Marcus Downs all speak about the future of the college. These men, like many other seniors have a vision for the school and have a belief of what the future should be like.

Recently I sat down with graduating senior LeVar Burke. Burke is a history major from

New York. In the fall he aspires to be employed by the Center for Disease Control, teaching at a private school in the area, or pursuing graduate studies at either the Morehouse School of Medicine or Harvard University.

I asked him about his experience at Morehouse, and things that he learned.

"I learned about self, and how to be self reliant. I learned about all things that are obstacles, and trying to get around them." Burke said.

Many seniors face the problem of having things come up missing in certain offices, primarily the registrar's office, prior to graduation. To alleviate such a situation, Burke offered advice.

"Document everything. I

learned that here at Morehouse people cover themselves to feign things. I mean everybody from students to teachers to



LeVar Burke '99

Vin/Special

administrators." Burke added. Like many seniors, Burke has

a vision for the future of Morehouse, and when asked, said he would send his children to schools in the AUC. I asked him what he thought Morehouse would be like twenty years from now.

"I hope Morehouse will reorganize itself to provide better services for students. In upcoming years, black men will need a place like this, but if Morehouse stays on its current course, it won't be around."

Burke went on to say, "Morehouse needs to do its best to attract students who will be a viable asset to the college. We need to look for those who will contribute to the college, not just those who pay the bills."

Like many other seniors, Burke also offered other advice. To incoming freshman, he said, "Never mix business and friendship." To rising seniors he commented, "Always make sure that what you're doing is for your happiness. Not anyone else's."

Seniors like LeVar Burke are

the pacesetters and trailblazers for the new millennium. The great names that we as Morehouse students have heard over and over again like King, Thurman, Mays, Gloster, Maynard Jackson and others will soon be joined by the likes of men like LeVar Burke, Chris Jones, Jarvone Dolby, Jason Worth, Reggie Prepetit, and Marcus Downs. These contemporary alums will soon be the names that our sons, and our son's sons will look up to and admire, and they will help to sustain the prominent position that the college has achieved.

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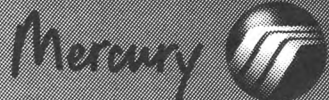
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The Spring the frats came back

Joe Carlos
Sports Editor

All year long, the *Maroon Tiger* has looked at the ever-changing Greek landscape here on campus. It has been rather interesting to watch, chart, sit back and marvel at the changes or lack of changes the presence of Greek life on campus has made.

In the fall, Iota Phi Theta and Alpha Phi Alpha burst back on to the Greek scene on campus after a long hiatus. Prior to their re-emergence, Greek life had been

the same colors, but there are things that each organization does that are unique and interesting.

"Each of us made a choice. We chose the organization that we felt best represented was in us. Each of us do different things, and there is a mutual respect there (among the fraternities)," said Mike Smith, a junior from Miami and a member of Phi Beta Sigma.

The Sigma's probate show for their line, "3 Shades of Blue Terror" occurred on April 6th on the plaza adjacent to the Kilgore student center. Nearly 300 people packed

and the installation of the new line, Associate Dean of Student Activities and member of Omega Psi Phi, Johnny Nimes was excited.

"It's great. I'm glad to see so many Greeks on campus. I'm also looking forward to the fall and seeing how they will help to improve campus life." Nimes said.

Psi chapter's line, "K.E.T.C.H. 22", was unveiled on April 28th to nearly 1,000 onlookers outside of the Thomas Kilgore Center and Chivers Dining Hall. Senior Frantz Jacques from Port au Prince, Haiti, is a member of the line and was amazed.

"It feels overwhelming. You can't understand how deep and how great the feeling is until you cross the sands. It hits you when you cross the sands, how deep and how beautiful the frat is." Jacques said.

During Psi chapter's show many alumni, who are members of Psi chapter came back to participate in the process. This also happened this spring with Phi Beta Sigma and Alpha Phi Alpha and is quite common at Morehouse.

"I guess it's because of the tradition. That's what makes Psi so special. Brothers from the '83 line and the '74 line are still active in the chapter. They come back for homecoming and other events throughout the year to check on the brothers and the chapter. Once you grow that love for Psi, you can't let go." Jacques added.

On April 15th, the Alpha Rho chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha had their probate show on the plaza in front of the Martin Luther King, Jr. International Chapel. The line, dubbed the "Intrepid 25," performed steps, chants and other rituals to crowds of nearly 1600 according to Campus Police.

Kyle Anders, a junior from San Jose and member of the "Intrepid 25," was overwhelmed by the experience.

"It was exuberating. I was filled with true, true brotherhood. The show was tight, strong and emotional," said Anders. "Alpha Rho's role is to uplift the spirits of the people and men at Morehouse as well as the surrounding campuses." Anders added.

With the recent addition



Daniel Pelham/Special

The Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Spring 99 line-Intrepid 25

of Alpha Rho's line of 25, the number of Alphas on campus swelled to fifty. The Omegas have nearly 30 members on campus, and the other fraternities are also making their presence known with increasing numbers.

It should be noted that this recent resurgence of Greeks on campus is positive and, in moderation, can help to revive the day to day happenings on campus. It is incumbent upon Greeks to realize that they have a grave responsibility. The challenge is for the fraternities to be proactive. Instead of resting on their laurels and simply enjoying their new status, they should do

something to promote good on campus and in the surrounding area.

Frats should serve, which, technically, is their major purpose. There should also be an understanding of the importance of such organizations and the powerful impact and ramifications that they can make on the campus as a whole. The influence they wield is remarkable, and if channeled correctly, can help to make drastic and major improvements in campus life and raise the conduct and standards of Morehouse as a whole.



Alfred Record/Staff

Omega Psi Phi Spring 99 line- K.E.T.C.H. 22

basically non-existent.

Now, though, things are different.

Phi Beta Sigma, Omega Psi Phi and Alpha Phi Alpha all had spring lines that brought many of our classmates into Greek life. However, it's not just about the lines, or the probate shows. The programs and the secrecy surrounding induction into such organizations fuels the

the area while watching the wildly entertaining event.

Sophomore Brian Stewart, also known as "Steel," said of the experience, "It feels great. I mean it really feels great. Our role as Chi chapter will be, being positive. We want to help out the community, and we definitely promote peace among the fraternities."

Peace among the fraternities on campus seems to be a common theme. With the re-installation of a campus Pan Hellenic council, hopefully any concerns that would cause rifts could be worked out. Other campuses in the AUC, and all over the country, have Pan Hellenic Councils that work hard to uplift the race and promote peace among brothers and sisters.

"We (fraternities) should all strive to uplift the campus community and ourselves. There is too much stuff oppressing us. The Council will unite us. Keeping the peace needs to be seen, by doing things together, and helping out the life and spirit of the campus." Mike Smith commented.

This spring, the Psi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi also had a new line. Of the revival of the chapter



Special

Phi Beta Sigma Spring 99 line-3 Shades of Blue Terror

competitive nature in those seeking membership.

Granted, it's not like in years past when young men carried stones or bricks and had to wear

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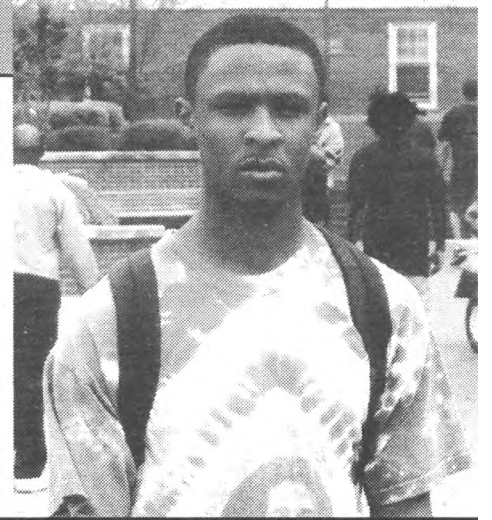
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REMEMBERANCES

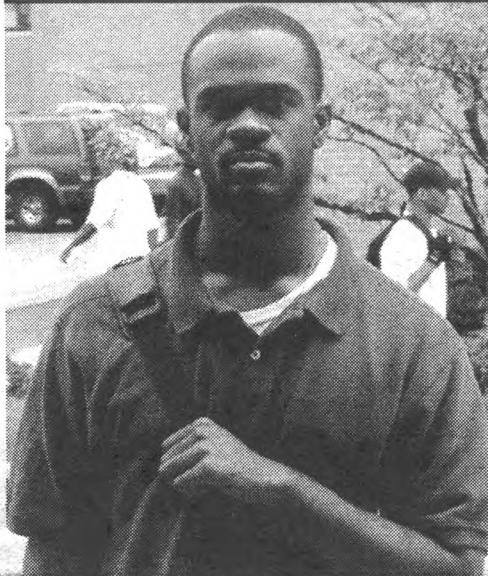
“What’s your fondest memory at Morehouse?”

Melvin Raines
Macon, GA
English

“The night SGA sponsored the Outkast/Noreaga concert.”



Rodney Singleton
Itta Bena, MS
Finance

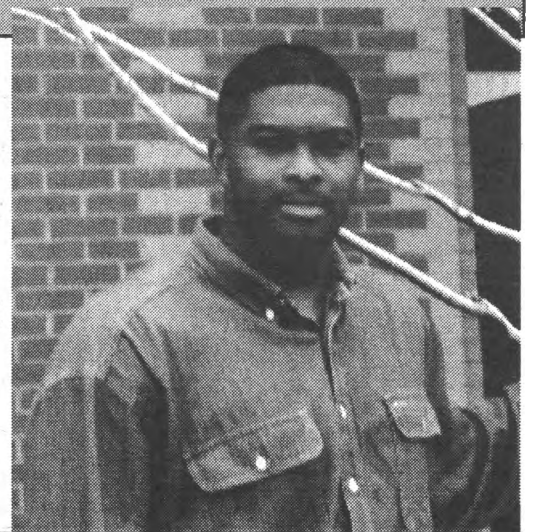


“Far and away, my time in the Glee Club. I’ve been places I’ve never been and probably will never go again; coast to coast and around the world.”

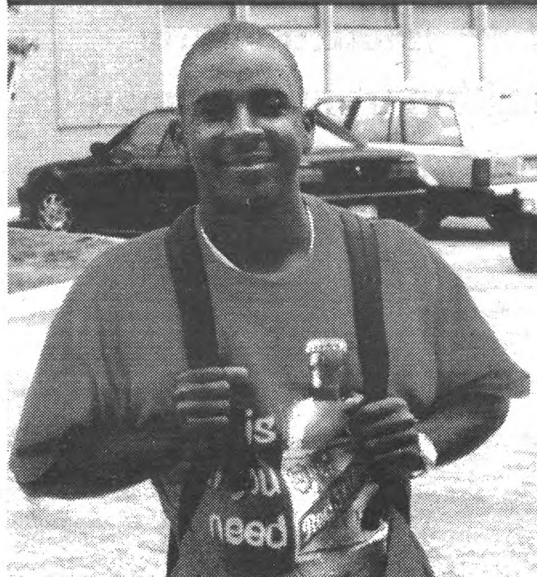
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Stephen Samuel
Rome, GA
African American Studies

“When we beat CAU my freshman year. CAU was ranked in the country. They came in thinking they were gonna stomp us. At halftime at the buzzer, Mike Harris did a dunk and the gym went crazy. It really showed Morhouse solidarity”



Theodis Pace
Kankakee, IL
Psychology

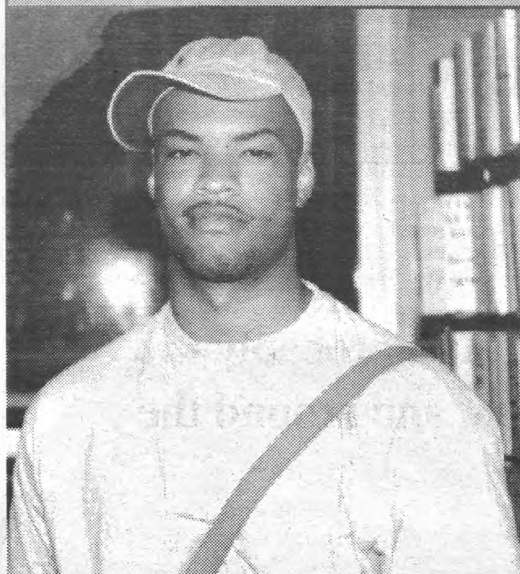


“The Delta party sophomore year. It was our homecoming and FAMU and Tenn. St. played at the dome. It was a lotta love there.”

“Meeting real cool guys that’ll probably be life-long friends”



Todd Meadows
Atlanta, GA
Psychology



“One of the most memorable aspects of being at Morehouse was meeting up with my boys and sitting in the same row for Crown Forum - every Thursday for four years.”

Andrew McCaskill
Sandy Hook, MS
English/Pre-Law

“Freshman week because the housing department threw me in Fair St., which was the projects back then. Freshman week I got marched around and got the stew beat out of me. It taught me brotherhood.”



Robert Lee Best, III
Waycross, GA
English



“I think it’s yet to come ‘cause graduation’s on the 16th. I remember graduation from Freshman year. I was like, ‘this is how I want to go

Rashawn Gardner
Columbus, OH
Physics

“What’s your fondest memory at Morehouse?”

REMEMBERANCES

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Nubira™ CDX 4-door Sedan

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Manufacturer's Equipment			
3-Year Scheduled Maintenance Covered	Yes	No	No
Leather Seating Surfaces	Yes	No	\$1,100
In-Dash CD Player	Yes	No	\$190
Automatic Temperature Control	Yes	Manual	Manual
Traction Control System	Yes	No	No
Power Tilt & Slide Moonroof	Yes	No	\$1,000
Car Alarm w/Remote Keyless Entry	Yes	No	\$399
Front Fog Lights	Yes	No	\$399
Alloy Wheels	Yes	No	\$365
Comparably-Equipped Price^{††}	\$18,928	\$20,223	\$23,689

Nubira vs. Civic/Corolla	Daewoo Nubira CDX	Honda Civic LX	Toyota Corolla LE
Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price [†]	\$14,628	\$16,063	\$16,106
Manufacturer's Equipment			
3-Year Scheduled Maintenance Covered	Yes	No	No
In-dash CD Player	Yes	No	\$100
AM/FM Stereo w/Cassette	Yes	No Cassette	Yes
Anti-Lock Braking System	Yes	No	\$550
Front Fog Lights	Yes	No	No
Car Alarm w/Remote Keyless Entry	Yes	No	\$399
Air Conditioning	Yes	Yes	Yes
Power Windows	Yes	Yes	Yes
Comparably-Equipped Price^{††}	\$14,628	\$16,063	\$17,155

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^{||} 1999 model year MSRP includes destination and doc fees and exclude taxes, tag, title, license, WRA fees and options; prices reflect models with automatic transmission.

^{|||} Includes options. Product comparisons are based on published manufacturers data as of Feb. 1999. Source: Kelley Blue Book website Feb. 1999.

^{||||} Preferred Equipment Group 2 adds \$1,665.

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^{|||||||} For instance, \$66 per month for Lanos S-3DR for up to 24 months for juniors and up to 12 months for seniors at 9.75% APR through interest only financing available with a qualified co-signer and 10% down payment, then \$207 per month for 48 months at 9.75% APR. Base Lanos S price of \$9,017 is 1999 MSRP, including \$250 destination charge as of 9/98. Excluding taxes, tag, and title. Subject to availability.

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Lanos™ SE 4-door Sedan

Lanos vs. Chevy Metro	Daewoo Lanos SE 4DR	Chevy Metro LSi 4DR
Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price [†]	\$11,718	\$11,445
Manufacturer's Equipment		
3-Year Scheduled Maintenance Covered	Yes	No
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Power Windows	Yes	No
Power Door Locks	Yes	\$220
Car Alarm w/Remote Keyless Entry	Yes	No
Air Conditioning	\$700	Pkg. ⁺
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Comparably-Equipped Price [‡]	\$12,418	\$13,330

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e-mail: mtigers@morehouse.edu

ASK RAJ

Dear Raj,

I am a graduating senior at Spelman, and I don't have a boyfriend, but I date a few people. I am particularly dating this one guy who's very sexually liberated. He has suggested that as a graduation celebration, we have a threesome with my best friend, who's also my roommate. I've never had an intimate relationship with another girl, but I would be lying if I said I hadn't thought about it, and my roommate is built like a brick house. I've never done anything like this before, but I really would like to go ahead and get my feet wet. How do I approach my roommate about this?

Sincerely,

Curious Cat

P.S. I would also like to videotape the event!

Dear Curious Cat,

You seem quite eager to go ahead with this idea your friend has. Before you approach your roommate, you do have to think about a few things. Since you're going to be graduating, you don't have to worry about dealing with the sometimes nasty after-effects of group sex: jealousy, confusion, awkward feelings toward one another etc. Despite the fact that you and your male friend are into the idea, your roommate might not be as open-minded as the two of you. As you guys are best friends, having sex with each other can open up a whole can of worms. Adding a third person can present even more problems. They might not be attracted to each other, or they might be too attracted to each other for your comfort. Approach the situation delicately, and ask her what she thinks of the idea. Be frank and honest but don't be overly serious. A little humor can probably defuse any tension that might surface. If she goes along with it, you're set, but if she isn't interested, don't pressure her. As far as videotaping the event is concerned, understand that nine times out of ten, these things come back to haunt you, and since I'm sure you're interested in a professional career, I suggest you not leave any evidence around. If you insist on having a camera present, make sure you have the only tape, and that it's stored away somewhere safe. (Remember Pamela and Tommy Lee.) If your fantasy goes through, have fun, and remember to be safe.

Dear Raj,

I am a graduating senior and I am having a serious problem. My girlfriend of three years is also graduating and she wants to take our relationship to the next level (that being getting engaged). I love my girlfriend very much, but I don't really know that I'm ready to be married. While I could see raising a family with this woman (She's beautiful, talented and intelligent), I'm going to be working at an investment firm in New York, and I would like to see the world (and some other women) before I settle down. On the other hand, I don't know if I'll ever find someone better than my girl, and I don't want to risk losing her, which she has made it clear is going to happen if I don't get down with the plan. What do I do?

Sincerely,

Ball and Chain

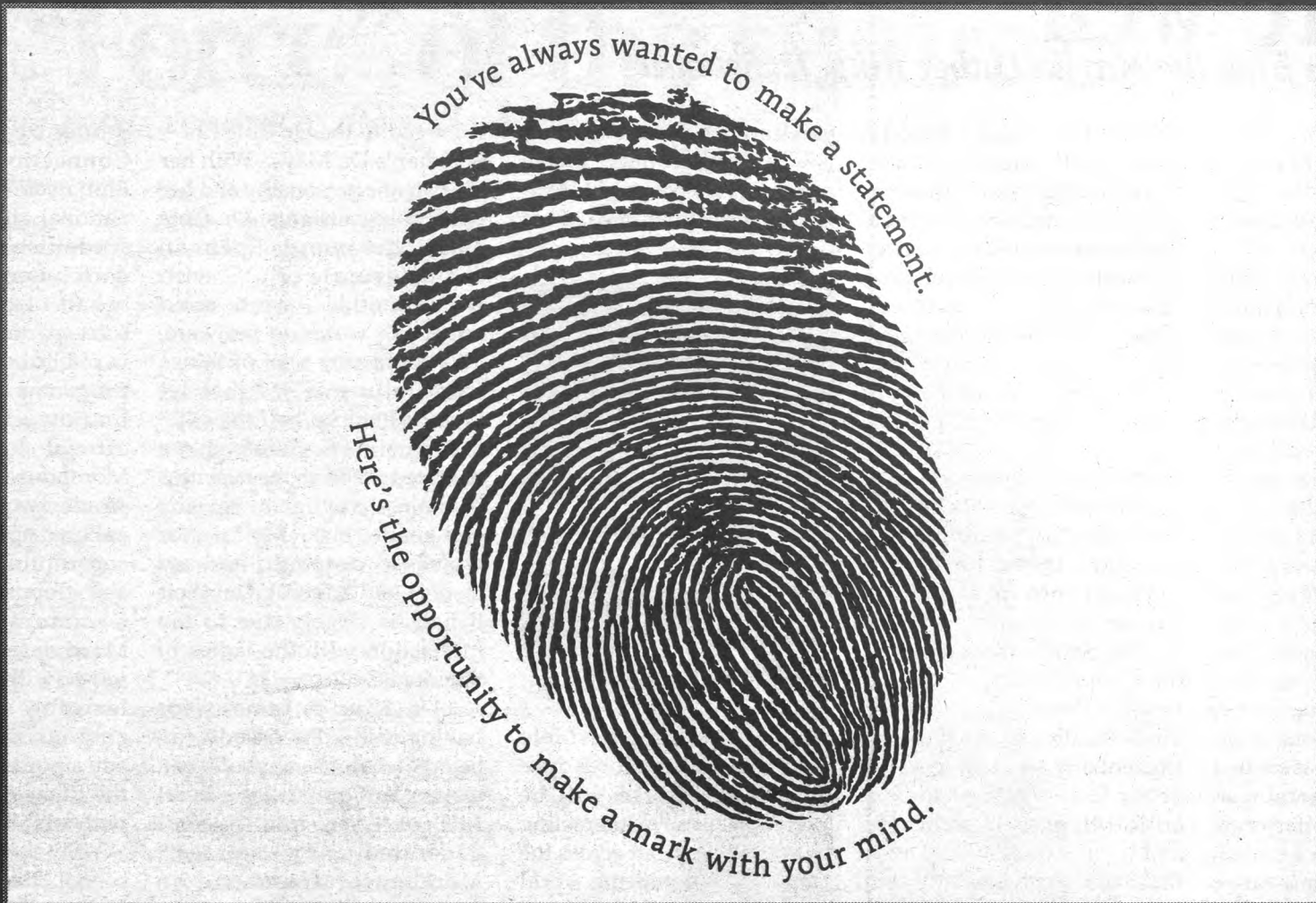
Dear Ball and Chain,

I felt your pain all the way up to the last sentence. You face a dilemma everyone faces at some point in their life: whether to keep looking or to settle. It sounds to me like you've got a great girl and all, but son, you're young. You haven't even graduated from college yet and you're thinking about marriage. Relationships in college and in the "real world" are different. You probably haven't lived with this woman, had to file your taxes together, and you certainly haven't raised any crumb-snatchers together. I don't see what the rush is. Get settled into your new job and new environment before you make a decision like this. The fact that she is threatening you if you don't "get with the plan" disturbs me. Explain to her that you do need to get out and experience different things before you settle down. If you really are meant for each other, you'll be together. Just remember, you have the rest of your lives to make this decision, don't rush it.

20 Questions

1. Still ain't told your mama you ain't graduating, huh? 2. Am I the only one who found Jesus during exam time? 3. Would you describe that fashion show as a travesty, a farce, or as buffoonery embodied? 4. But bad as it was, wasn't there a whole hell of a lot of ass on stage? 5. And aren't you glad that wasn't the case at the Miss Black and Gold Pageant? 6. Speaking of which, Did anyone actually stick around to find out who won?? 7. Congratulations due and all, but didn't that Delta line look like they just came back from rock fighting in Kosovo? 8. Does AKA stand for AKAholic? 9. Aren't you glad you went to high school in the ghetto all of a sudden? 10. But to be perfectly honest, wouldn't it benefit our particular institution if some nerd took out the Morehouse football team? 11. If Master P is one of George magazine's top 25 political figures, then shouldn't Bill Clinton be on Black Tail's 25 most bout it list.? 12. Now that you think about it, there really is a lot of dirt in the south, ain't there? 13. Will this be the year someone from Texas actually graduates? 14. Or will they just round up another keg, and get to shootin'? 15. How long will it be before we get our first Naked Q sighting? 16. And how did they get fraternity of the year when they just crossed? 17. How many of us know the Star Wars release schedule better than our exam schedule? 18. And speaking of our exam schedule, whose idea was it to have eight o'clock tests? 19. Aren't we all looking forward to summer school? 20. What do you mean, Withdrawal period's over?

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Fare Ye Well

Parting words from the Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholar

A wise sage once said, "The journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step." Whether you are a Freshman, Senior, or not a student at all, we can all safely agree that there is something very special about firsts. Beginnings. Starts. Day one.

For some of us, it was our first kiss or our first day on the job, and yet others recall their first time behind the wheel of a car or receiving their first paycheck. Coming to college was my favorite first. I got to start anew, reinvent myself and become the person that I could not be in high school. As long as I remained in high school, I could only be the sum total of my achievements, popularity, and people's well-established views of me. Thus, coming to Morehouse College offered me the opportunity to be born again. There were new faces, new scenarios, new places to hang out, and new things to talk about. I was starting over and I was unafraid. I was ready for a new challenge and it was ready for me. Registration lines, the basement of Thurman residence hall (Room 001), Spirit night, cafeteria food, Chapel service,

midterms, Club Woody (Woodruff Library), the *Maroon Tiger*, study groups, and the sisters at Spelman College all awaited my arrival. My first days at Morehouse filled me with excitement and a deep sense of brotherhood that has not escaped me. Though obstacles, challenges, hurdles and every imaginable pitfall later presented themselves, I knew for sure that Morehouse College was and is the best rite of passage for the transition from boyhood into manhood for African American men.

My days in the classroom, the Chapel, and on the yard have been the most intellectually challenging and existentially stimulating days of my life. I learned to be a critical thinker, to scrutinize and to raise questions — even those that challenged my own beliefs. My mentor, The Reverend Dean Lawrence Edward Carter, Sr. taught me to be ecumenical, rather than sectional, inclusive rather than exclusive, and discerning rather than discriminating. He taught me to always hold my views with a tentative confidence. For surely, what

you learn after you know it all is what really counts. I have never met Dr. Mays but Dean Carter is the guarantor of his



Kevin Kitrell Ross '99

legacy. His incontestable contribution to Morehouse and to the world will be etched in history. Interacting with brothers from across the United States and the world opened my mind to a global way of thinking. It also reassured me that the African communities in the entire Diaspora will be in good hands. Of course, my Morehouse brothers did not teach me everything I know. I also learned a great deal from my Spelman sisters. I

belonged to the Dr. Cole Era -- Spelman's Dr. Mays. With her charismatic personality and her penetrating insights, Dr. Cole made the word Spelman commensurate with womanhood. Her most impacting words to me were, "We could stop a lot of things from falling if we just let women hold up half the sky." My Spelman sisters have liberated me from the falseness of male chauvinism, sexism, and gender bias. My love for women is deepened and my respect and advocacy on their behalf, is largely due to my interaction with the ladies of Spelman College.

Dr. King is famous for having said, "Everybody can be great, because anybody can serve. You only need a heart full of love and a soul generated by grace." Morehouse offered me an opportunity to leave my own legacy with its inception of the Office of Community Service. Under the able leadership of Mrs. Jackie-Miles Johnson, an unsung "shero" at Morehouse, I became a social-entrepreneur and a child advocate. That is, I founded my own youth outreach program called The

Student Empowerment Connection. The Student Empowerment Connection is a national affiliation of college students who organize enrichment programs on behalf of children in inner-cities; particularly those living in public housing. One of our programs, the Weekend of Empowerment is now an official offering of the Morehouse College Summer Academy. We have received national honors for our efforts and continue to be nurtured and supported by the Office of Community Service. At Morehouse service is not and never will be separate from learning. In fact, it is emphasized that our education is merely to enhance the capacity and competency with which we serve.

My social status from high school changed immensely. I was not just a student, but a brother to nearly 3000 other ambitious and talented brothers. Toby Sanders, Julius Graham, Kevin Johnson, Nicholas Bassey, and Christophe Alexander are but a few of the great men of Morehouse whose friendship

Continued on page 13

A Challenge to the Class of 1999

If you are reading this article, it must be May 16, 1999. This is a very important day because mother Morehouse is releasing a brand product called the Class of 1999. It took her four, five and even six years to prepare you, but she got it done. The dedication, the tears, and the add and drop slips that went into this process have left her exhausted. She has given you every resource she had and now she needs replenishment. There are hundreds of ways, we the Class of 1999 can help replenish Mother Morehouse, but there is one sure way and that is a constant, yearly donation. Every single graduate should donate a minimum of \$100.00 a year, no matter what your experience at Morehouse was. If you examine all the schools that were say we're in the same echelon their graduates take care of their school. It does not make sense

that Morehouse does not have the biggest endowment among Historical Black Colleges and Universities. We always complain about the lack of facilities, the shabbiness of the computer lab, and the Antichrist known as the bookstore. But I challenge you, class of 1999. I challenge you to provide the funds to buyout the current owner of the bookstore and turn it into the Morehouse owned and operated bookstore. I challenge you to raise enough money to build a computer lab that is equipped with computers that don't freeze up every time you hit the table they're sitting on. I challenge you to raise enough capital to build a football stadium that has a home team section and a visiting team section, thereby providing a real football atmosphere at the games instead of having the enemy sitting a few rows across from you. Yeah, these are some things that I think are wrong

with Morehouse College, but we, the Class of 1999, have the power to fix these problems. Although Morehouse College will never fall victim to cash flow problems, it would not hurt to have an endowment so large that we didn't know how to spend it (i.e. the University of Texas). For those of you in the class of 1999 who say you love Morehouse College, I want you to prove it by sending \$100.00 donation every year until you leave this earth. But, knowing the apathy on this campus, many of you will say, "He's %#\$@ crazy." For those of you who actually think about what I've said, I have one message for you: "Come on, prove me wrong! I dare you too."

Michael Daniel '99
Senior

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The "Force" of the summer movies

May 19 George Lucas returns to the galaxy far, far away....

Vin
Contributing Writer

A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away...well, not that long ago (22 years) and not that far away (your local theatre), the modern summer movie explosion began and changed the face of summer entertainment.

The summer months serve as the major battle ground for the so-called movie mega-companies. Billions are spent producing complex motion pictures in the strive for summer supremacy. The big hitters of 1999 cross the gamut of genres from classic drama to hardcore science fiction.

Mike Myers makes a big return with *Austin Powers - The Spy Who Shagged Me*, which is already predicted to be one of this year's "big three". Even with its comic appeal it will face stiff competition against Universal Studios' release. *The Mummy* (remake of the 60's cult classic) starring Brendan Fraser (*Encino Man*) is the second most advanced CGI motion picture of '99. Both movies will have to contend heavily with Will Smith's latest, flick: *Wild, Wild West*. a sci-fi western co-starring Kevin Kline, and *Entrapment* with Sean Connery (*Hunt For Red October*) and Catherine Zeta-

Jones (*Mask of Zorro*). A sure sleeper hit to watch for will be *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, also starring Kevin Kline and Michelle Pfeiffer (*One Fine Day*).

In a world where the next great titanic movie can cost from \$100,000 to \$200 million, the top movie of the summer can only win if it has that special magic; A type of "Force" that lifts it beyond the level of inclusion with the big three. The king of all movies will be waiting for that magic to strike in '99 as it did in '77.

On May 19, almost 22 years to the day of the first release, *Star Wars: Episode 1 - The Phantom Menace* opens on more than 2,500 screens. George Lucas returns to the ring he dominated after a seventeen-year hiatus. Like Luke's return from Dagobah, he's meaner, wiser, and the Force flows strongly from him. Skeptics believe that the down time was too great for a "come-back"; but Lucas' pre-flight stats speak for themselves: Last November millions of fans paid full price to watch Episode 1's 2-min. trailer (most leaving the theatre without

bothering to see the feature presentation). At the same time, Lucas Arts' Internet servers crashed for several days while attempting to keep up with millions of "hits".

The first chapter in the Star Wars saga is set thirty-two years prior to *A New Hope*. It heralds the return of cult favorites Frank Oz (*Yoda*),

Kenny Baker (*R2-D2*), Anthony Daniels (*C3P0*), and Ian McDiarmid (*Palpatine*); as well as introduces SW newcomers Jake Lloyd (*Anakin Skywalker*), Natalie Portman (*Queen Amidala*), Liam Neeson (*Qui-Gon Jinn*), Ray Park (*Darth Maul*), and Samuel Jackson (*Mace Windu*). The

\$120 million epic will follow venerable, even-tempered Qui-Gon Jinn and his rebellious, gifted apprentice, Obi-Wan Kenobi on a sort of interplanetary road trip. Their mission is to save 14-year-old Queen Amidala from the forceful trade federation and a vengeful Sith Order, led by Darth Sideous and Darth Maul. The heroes end up on Tatooine where they encounter a slave boy with extreme talent: Anakin Skywalker. Before the end credits roll, we'll be introduced to the gigantic city-planet of Coruscant and the Jedi Council, led by Yoda and Mace Windu.

Summer of 1999 promises to be a key moment in movie history. Fans of three generations can come together and enjoy the fruits of human imagination. You, your mother, and your grandmother can lay down and imagine the man the story-teller sitting at your bedside, lowers the lights and starts from the beginning: "A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away..." [Once upon a time, in your dreams...].



Photo illustration by Vin

Darth Maul

Singing the praises of "The Sopranos"

Joe Carlos
Sports Editor

Over the years, HBO has usually had a great line up of shows. "The Larry Sanders Show", "First and Ten" and "Dream On" are a few of the superb efforts by HBO. This season, they've added a great one to the list, "The Sopranos".

"The Sopranos" comes on Sunday nights, and gives America a weekly visit into the life of Tony Soprano and his crew of wiseguys. It quenches that seemingly unquenchable thirst that the American public has for organized crime.

"The Sopranos" centers on the life of Tony Soprano, brilliantly played by James Gandolfini. Many of the episodes deal with

involvement with organized crime, federal indictments, but also the home life that these guys try very hard to live.

At a time when it is unpopular to be in the Mafia, these guys are. In a time, when ancient codes of silence like *omerta* are broken, and the witness protection program seems to be the official retirement plan for many gangsters, the characters on the show walk a very thin line.

Tony Soprano may be a wiseguy and Mafia head by day, but at night, he's a husband and father of two. He is a middle aged Italian-American man with problems like most middle aged men. He has issues he's still dealing with from his youth, he's on medication (Prozac), he's

having an affair, and he's seeing a psychiatrist. That may sound a bit heavy and some may see it as boring, but the great thing about this show is how realistic the whole thing is. You really feel for the guy when he's dealing with his son, and at the same time problems from his own youth. You genuinely care that his neighbors have crazy stereotypes and say racist things about him and his family.

James Gandolfini's portrayals of Tony are scary, and at the same time magnetic. His moves and his presence in each of his scenes, make the viewer truly understand that he's in control.

In one episode, he and a friend are dining at a swank

Italian restaurant, when they notice a "W.A.S.P."ish man wearing a baseball cap at a nearby table. Tony, consumed by the disrespect the man is showing, walks over to the table and says, "They don't sell hot-dogs here. Take off your f@*%ing hat or I'm gonna throw you out!" The man defiantly looks at Soprano and says he can do what he wants to do. Soprano fixes a gaze on him that jumps right through the screen, and the man removes his hat. Later, Soprano sends him a bottle of wine.

Rounding out the ensemble cast is Lorraine Bracco, who plays Tony Soprano's psychiatrist. She and Gandolfini have the most "one on one" time on the show, and she is truly his most trusted

advisor. He tells her everything, which keeping in the traditions of the old La Cosa Nostra, 'Omerta' is broken.

According to "The Sopranos", modern day gangsters have psychiatrists, take Prozac and worry about their kids' soccer team.

"The Sopranos" gives its viewers a weekly dose of realistic Mafia and gangster life. More importantly it is a show with fine acting and brilliant writing that captivates its audience and suspends their belief. If Mulder and Scully aren't doing it for you like they used to on Sunday nights, slide over to HBO and check out Tony and his crew.

Atlanta's apathetic fans

Joe Carlos
Sports Editor

Well, I'll tell you. I'm tired of Atlanta's fans. They don't realize a good thing when they have it. Atlanta's sports fans are more finicky than the fans we have in Dallas. Not until the 'Dirty Birds' were winning, was there an interest in anything that went on in the Dome other than Monster Truck Motorcross or WCW wrestling. So, they won some games, won their division, their conference and didn't even score a touchdown in the Super Bowl, and now they're everyone's favorite team?

Before the Falcons recent success, all we ever heard about was the Braves. The Braves have won eight consecutive pennants this decade, and have been to three World Series, but have only won once. However, they are the most beloved team in this spoiled, single minded city.

The Braves are owned by master of the universe, Ted Turner, and they have a beautiful, state of the art park to play in, but late October seems to have their number.

Turner also owns another hometown team, the NBA's Hawks. The Hawks are a perennial playoff team, and the real reason I wrote this story. No one ever talks about their success and their consistency.

I come from a place that would lay down and die for a perennial playoff spot. Citizens of Atlanta constantly berate the

Year, and key, team players who will be considered for post season honors.

The Hawks are a winning team, with a tradition of excellence, but they are neglected. They are overlooked because they haven't won their division since the 80s. They are overlooked because in the past, they usually had to meet up



Hawks, but this season, they have proven to be one of the top three teams in the league and the number two team in the East.

The Hawks are the number two seed in the playoffs, but no songs are written about these 'Dirty Birds'. They have a coach who could easily be considered for the Coach of the

with Larry's Celtics or most recently, Michael and his Bulls.

But this year, Mike's gone, and my Mavs have a better record than the Bulls. This year, the sky is the limit for these Atlanta Hawks. And despite the extremely high winning percentage, the high seed in the playoffs, and the general success, it still goes seemingly

unmentioned and unnoticed. They can't even sell out the damn Dome for the playoffs. Why is that? Why the apathy here in Atlanta towards the Hawks?

It seems inconceivable that a team this good would go this long without some type of recognition. Last week, when the Hawks were in key matchups at the Dome and Mark McGwire was at Turner Field, guess who got more press? The Hawks are getting more press in other cities across the country because they are for real.

When will the sports fans of Atlanta realize that they have it so good? When will they realize that they are fortunate enough to have visionary owners, talented head coaches, smart general managers, and players who perform at the top of their game in all of their sports?

If history repeats itself, and the Hawks go deep in the playoffs, perhaps the Mayor will make a sighting at a game, and maybe, just maybe there might be a song about these Hawks. But for some reason, I just don't see a changeable billboard for Lenny Wilkens,

like the one that's up right now on Peachtree for Dan Reeves. And unlike Dan, Lenny's won a championship before as a player and a coach. You can call it like you see it, but man, that's just plain wrong.

And what do you say to these Hawks, who can't sell out their home arena, but have the second best record in the Eastern conference? What do you tell them when it comes to fan support and winning it for the city of Atlanta? An apathetic Atlanta who is more interested in Seeger's the latest posh restaurant in Buckhead, or the new exhibit at the High, than their hometown team who has a very realistic chance of bringing the NBA Finals to the 404 area code.

I say, thanks fellas. Thanks for bringing a little excitement to us in the May and June months. Hey, I know an Atlanta-Portland final may sound boring, but imagine what it would do for this city? And fellas, if you're lucky, the Commish, Dave Stern might be making more than one flight to Hartsfield this summer.

Continued from page 11

has been invaluable and whose bonds will last a lifetime. Not to mention, being a man of Morehouse (the Harvard of the South) spoke volumes to sisters in the Atlanta University Center and those back home in Chicago and gained me favor of those who may have otherwise paid me little attention.

Beginning for me was easy, but completing was rocky. Commencement actually beings the day that you enter college and I did not know it. Financing Morehouse became so difficult that I had to leave school, raise money and return. Some days I just wanted to throw in the towel. However, my mother wrote me the most inspiring letters that drove me to persist anyhow. It has taken prayer, borrowed money, late night study sessions, visits to the infirmary, breaking up with my former fiancée, resilient professors, knowing the Truth, a joint act of congress and God to make my commencement from Morehouse College a reality. It feels as if it took the

whole village to raise this child. And it is to the village that I am most deeply grateful.

Dr. Peter Gomes, Dean of Chapel at Harvard University, in his book, *Yet More Sundays at Harvard*, reminds us that: "the end is to have done that which we are meant to do. Perhaps that is what our text (Ecclesiastes 7:8) means when it says, better is the end of a thing than its beginning..." Not that it is better to conclude than to start, but rather that the objective is to achieve what we intend rather than simply to conclude" (Gomes 228).

Therefore, beloved, whether you are at the beginning, middle or approaching graduation, I challenge you to study, to serve, and to search. Seize the day! Press forward and only consult the past to inform your future. Take every step of your journey with great anticipation and with wise optimism. Persist until you are counted among those who can with great enthusiasm declare, *Mission Accomplished!* Until then, fare ye well.

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The Maroon Tiger

Congratulates

The Class of 1999



And Yet She Shines...

By Kevin Ross

Born of ex slaves
In the darkest of times
In the womb of Springfield
An idea whose very time
Had arrived all been denied
Whose mission seemed impossible
And yet she shines...

Red clay is her classroom's earth
Where many sojourned to teach
And likewise pubescent Sunday school boys
Would one day come to preach
In a world of black and white
That to us has been unkind
Even in Racism's harshest windstorm
Yet she shines...

Businessmen and physicists
Preachers and dentists
Lawyers and scientists
Make Alma mater proud
Boasting black face and heritage
With courage to speak out loud
In the face of critics
Skeptics and cynics
Spewing viscous venom and lies
Uncrushed reputation and men on the rise
Thought insignificant
And yet she shines...

Mays, Thurman and Martin
Triumphant trinity
The beginning, the Word and Word made flesh
For generations to see
Flatfooted intellect
Bravery and Integrity
The Morehouse Triune gives life to legacy
Of truth, and justice for the world around
Challenging her pupils to stretch and wear the crown
Of excellence in adversity
And honesty you cannot find
Her eyes saw days not so Holy, Holy, Holy...
And yet she shines...

Dear Old Morehouse, Dear Old Morehouse
A century, score, ten and two
Your vision and your valor
Has called God's favor on you
With genius unaware and a dream in your heart
Your destiny has been a success, from the very start
And we your noble citizens
Through your open gates we march
Forward into a new Century
With greatness as our art
To serve and save and be a light
In nighttimes yet unknown
We bid our God to go with us
The path to trod unshown
And so we will, as you have done
Withstand the test of time
With service, and with integrity
Our very pulse shall rhyme
With the lyrics of the blueprint
"Ex facta est lux"
We will dance rejoicing victories in honor of you...
So forth we go from this red clay hill
And dedicate our minds...
That even in life's darkest hour

Our Morehouse yet will shine!

