



SGA: From JC to CJ

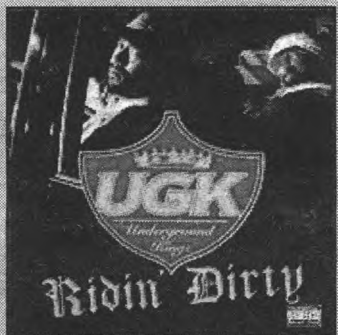


Anthony Jewett
Staff Writer

IN CAMPUS NEWS

The Queen that will represent Morehouse during the 2001-2002 school year has been chosen.

Page 3



IN FEATURES

This is it. Absolutely the very last Joe Carlos list. Frame this one. It will be a collector's item for sure.

Page 10



IN A & E

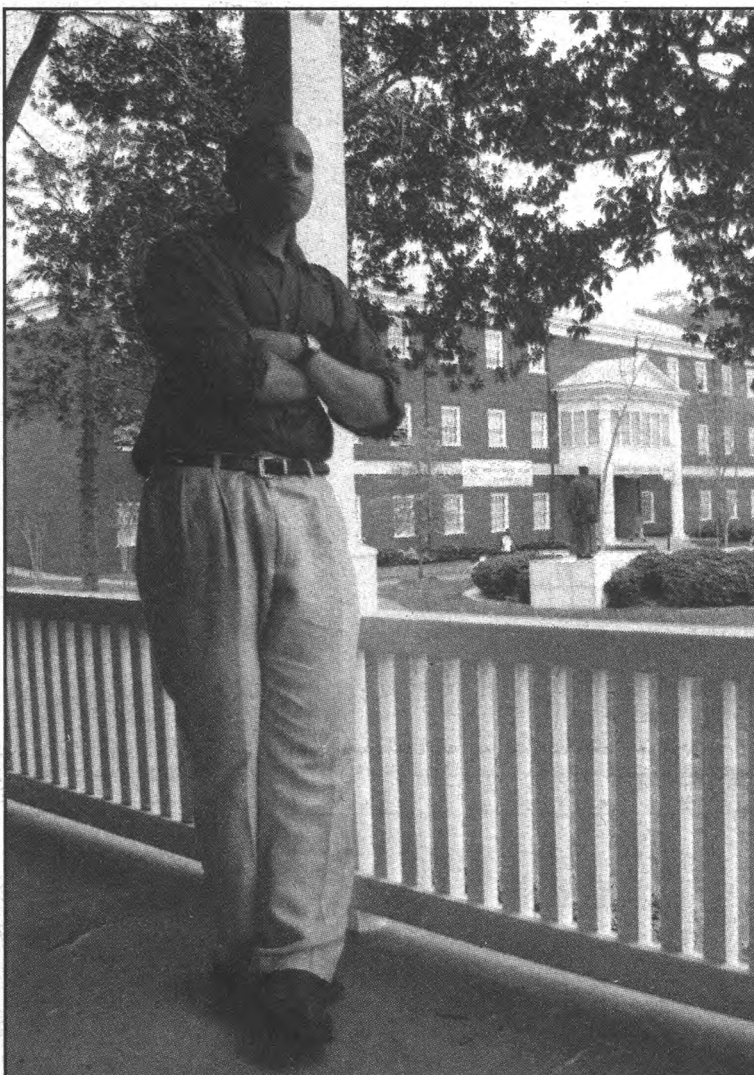
She's not the average girl on the video. Her worth is not determined by the price of her clothes. She's India Arie, and she's great.

Page 16

Seated comfortably behind his future desk in the SGA Triplex residence hall, President-Elect Christopher Graves exudes composure. "It's been a long haul," he says. "And now we have to roll up our sleeves and get about the business of Morehouse College."

Graves, more affectionately known as CJ, is a 20 year-old junior political science/pre-law major from Maryland and no stranger to school politics. His recent ascension to the status of President of the SGA comes after a three-year tenure as a student justice, two years of which he has served as Chief Justice, appointed by both President Emeritus Shaun King and current president JC Love.

Remarkably well rounded, Graves has interests, involvement and honors as diverse and varied as he plans to make his administration. He came to Morehouse after a distinguished high school career that included being president of the National Honor



Geoffrey Bennet/Staff

Newly elected SGA president C.J. Graves looks ahead to next year's activities.

Society chapter, a varsity football player, a school

choir member and a National Merit Scholar.

As for his collegiate ca-

reer, he adds a Morehouse academic scholarship, the Dean's List, glee club, Golden Key National Honor Society and an initiation to the recently returned Pi chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. to an increasingly impressive curriculum vita.

"I aspire to be a servant," he says. "Public service and politics is what I love and what I'll do."

Graves' career and interests bare striking similarity to the beginnings of US Congressman Samford Bishop '68, a notable politician and Morehouse man who, while at Morehouse, sang in the glee club, became SGA president and was a member of Pi Chapter.

Graves decided and announced his bid for the presidency when he realized, "there were still things about the Morehouse I see that were not consistent with the Morehouse I dreamed... my Morehouse. If anybody was going to help get it right, I figured it had to be me."

Graves campaigned on a platform of improved cus-

Continued on page 4

Quizbowl team wins top prize

Kasi David
Campus News Editor

On Friday, April 6, 2001, the Morehouse College quiz bowl team won first place in the twelfth national Honda Campus All Stars challenge in Orlando, Florida, becoming the first undergraduate team to ever win the competition along with setting two other tournament records.

The first record was set in the preliminary round made up of a series of eight games played round-robin style. The Morehouse team earned the highest aggregate score ever recorded in the tournament's prelimi-

nary round, while the second record was set by attaining the highest score made in an individual game.

Throughout the competition, Morehouse remained undefeated and beat Howard University in the finals.

This win also constitutes the first time Morehouse has ever won the tournament.

Accompanied by their advisor and coach Dr. Anderson Williams, professor in the department of Economics and Business, the team was made up of five students, including

Continued on page 18



Jabulani Barber/Staff

Pi Chapter continues odyssey

The "Grand" Pi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. recently marked their return to campus after a nine year absence. The 25 initiates, known as "A Pi Odyssey Z.L.F.," held a probate show on Thursday, April 5th in front of Frank L. Forbes Arena.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The twelfth annual Mays Lecture, featuring Dr. Donald Hopkins '62, will be held April 17, 2001 at 7 p.m. in Sale Hall Chapel. Hopkins' lecture is titled "Africa and its Development." A dialogue and reception will follow the lecture.

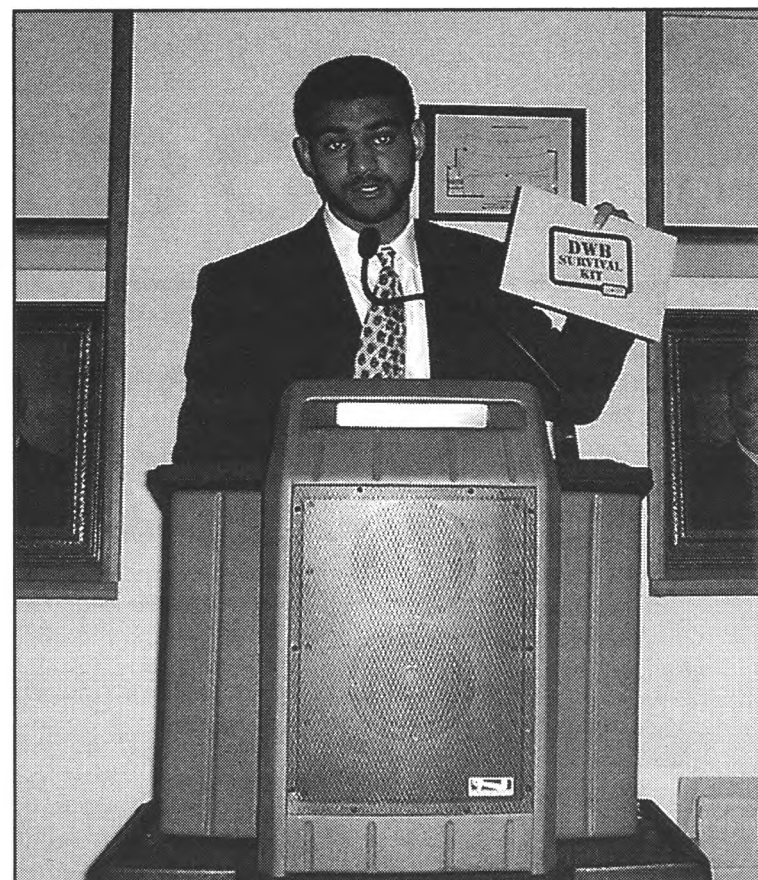
SENIORS! It's not too late to purchase an individual or group senior Ad. Email torch@morehouse.edu for an order form.

SENIORS AGAIN! Those seniors who have not received an order form for their senior photos may need to submit their permanent and local address information. Call 404.681.2800 x-2982 or email torch@morehouse.edu for information.

2000 Yearbooks are available for pick up Monday - Friday 4-6PM in Archer Hall Room 117. Must have valid ID.

Freshman, Sophomores, & Juniors interested in joining the 2001-2002 yearbook staff should pick up an application in Archer Hall Room 117.

Correction: Tauheedah Muhammad wrote the article entitled "MSM receives grant" in the March 29 edition of *The Maroon Tiger* (Vol. 73, no. 11).



Jabulani Barber/Staff

History Club hosts racial profiling forum

During a recent racial profiling forum sponsored by the History Majors Club, junior history major and forum moderator, Joe Edelin holds an ACLU "Driving While Black" packet which details the correct plan of action for a racially motivated encounter with the police. The forum featured student presenters and guest speakers Fulton County Sheriff Jackie Barret and ACLU of Georgia staff attorney Robert Tsai.

4.24.01

ALPHA WEEK 2001

4.24.01

April 21-28, 2001

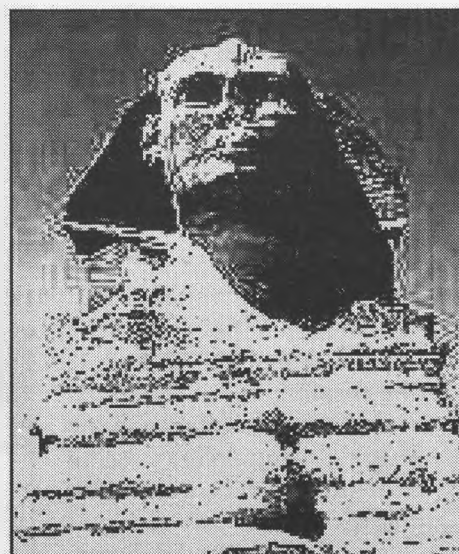
Continuing A Legacy Of Excellence

Saturday, April 21
Multiple Sclerosis Walk
 8:00 a.m.
 Piedmont Park

The distinguished men of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Alpha Rho chapter invite you to experience a week of enlightenment, service, elegance and culture.

Wednesday, April 25
Mind, Body & Soul
 7:06 p.m.
 Kilgore Hall
 -A cultural expression-

Sunday, April 22
Revelations 1:8-Worship Service
 11:00 a.m.
 Sale Hall Chapel
 Featuring:



Monday, April 23
Investing for Your Life
 6:00 p.m.
 Nabritt Mapp-McBay, Lecture Room 1
 -Refreshments will be served

Thursday, April 26
Alpha Rho-Mu Pi BBQ on the Yard
 4:00 p.m.
 Campus Green

The End of the Beginning...
 10:00 p.m.
 Park Avenue-511 Peachtree Street
 -A cosmopolitan affair-

Tuesday, April 24
Cataclysm
 7:06 p.m.
 Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel
 Plaza

Friday, April 27
Old School Greek Showdown
 3:00 p.m.
 Kilgore Plaza

Faceoff:
Alpha Phi Alpha vs. Kappa Alpha Psi
 6:30 p.m.
 Archer Hall
 -A B-Ball Game featuring: Alpha Rho vs. Pi

AP

www.AlphaRho.org

Pageant flowers in full bloom

Jeanne Byrd will reign as Miss Maroon & White 2001 -2002

Roger Spencer Humphrey
World & Local News Editor

By now you have all seen or heard about the show. You know all the vivid details. You remember Kim Copeland's sweet rendition of *My Funny Valentine*. You cheered after Courtney Gordon's acrobatic performance. The stunning dresses featured during the formal scene were mesmerizing. More importantly, you all remember the tears of joy Miss. Jeanne Byrd shed when she took her throne as Miss Maroon and White 2001-2002.

OUR QUEEN AND HER COURT

Reigning as Miss Maroon and White 2001-2002, Miss. Jeanne Byrd is a sophomore psychology major at Spelman from Woonsocket, Rhode Island. "I think the senior year is a busy time with job hunting and graduation requirements, but as a junior I will be able to better serve Morehouse College, because I will not have to



Alfred Record/Special

The beautiful "Flowers in the Garden"

deal with senior year distractions," said Ms. Byrd. She went added that she has plans of working with the Westend performing arts center in efforts to provide an outlet for children of the Westend community.

Tiffany Edwards, a junior biology major at Spelman from Alpharetta, Georgia will assume the role as the first attendant to Miss Maroon and White. Tiffany

anticipates going above and beyond the responsibilities of a member of the Miss. Maroon and White Court. "I feel that the court should do their service projects, and come over and interact with the student body. I have been a homecoming queen, I don't want to do that anymore, I want to go over and beyond," said Tiffany.

The second attendant is Maya Eady a junior biology pre-

med major at Spelman from Griffin, Georgia. Maya's aspirations include gaining 5 advanced degrees and changing the world of medicine as we know it. When asked what she would do as a representative of Morehouse College, Maya replied "I would like to work with the beautiful Men of Morehouse College to help build the Westend community."

THE LADIES

This year's contestants sacrificed and worked most of their spring semester for the opportunity to represent Morehouse College and their, grace, beauty, intelligence and character was evident by the pageant's end.

The tragedy of the pageant lies in the sad truth that although they are all winners only one of the flowers would bloom to become queen of the garden. However, the talent of these women and their tireless efforts did not go

unnoticed.

Niomi Henry, a History major with a Psychology minor is a junior at Spelman College. Hailing from Decatur, Georgia, Niomi is involved with intensive psychology research and she would like someday to obtain a Ph.D. in psychology. Courtney Gordon is a junior Economics major at Spelman from Dallas Texas. She has plans of becoming a Real Estate developer, and she would like to establish a program to teach economic empowerment in the Westend community. Kim Copeland is a junior political science major at Spelman from Cleveland Ohio. She's involved in many activities such as chairmen of the Spelbound initiative and the Spelman College glee club.

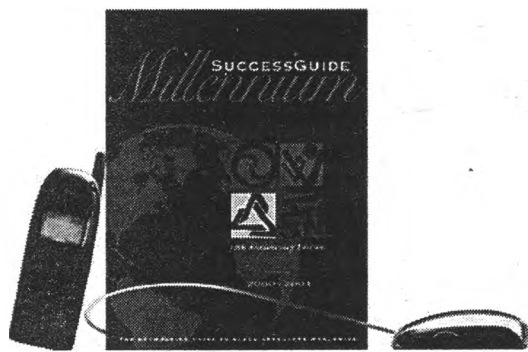
THE SHOW

The theme of this year's pageant was "Flowers in the Garden" and there were six girls each who represented a different flower. The show featured a red

Continued on page 8

Instant Networking.

A lifetime of contacts in an instant.



Network with thousands of professionals - all of them Black, all of them the best, all in an instant - with **SuccessGuide Millennium.**

This worldwide edition of **SuccessGuide Millennium** lists the names, business titles and phone numbers of thousands of influential professionals, leaders and entrepreneurs.

The Guide has:

- over 6,500 influential contacts
- useful profiles of top achievers, people to watch, and this year, our Hall of Famers
- resources for building your career and your business
- a wealth of role models, volunteers and mentors
- insightful data to help you improve your marketing strategies.

Directory listings are categorized according to profession, leadership, and entrepreneurial specialty. SuccessGuide is comprehensive, colorful and easy to use. Visit www.fraserville.com our companion website for even more networking tools and information.

Only \$39.95 plus \$7.50 (shipping and handling) each. Full 30-day money-back guarantee. Check, money order and major credits cards accepted.

Order in an Instant.
SuccessGuide Millennium 2000/01
www.fraserville.com
Phone Toll Free: 877 912-6308
Fax Toll Free: 877 912-6309
By mail: SuccessGuide
Publishing Group
2940 Noble Road, Ste. 1
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

Order Now!

SuccessGuide Millennium: The Networking Guide to Black Resources Worldwide Visit www.fraserville.com "Real people. Real connections. Real results."

Graves is SGA President

Graves from page 1

tomor service, academic and career development and social activities that included plans for a 24-hour study facility, lecture series and SGA sponsored parties.

"The elections process was a rigorous, yet rewarding experience that pitted four brothers, each with Morehouse's best interest at heart," he said. Although he himself emerged the victor on April 5, 2000, he has no plans to leave idle the capabilities of his opponents.

"Hopefully," he said, "Robert [Williams], Joe [Faxio], and B. [Johnson] will continue to lend to the student body with the same talents, charisma and passion that allowed them to run."

Oddly enough, it is Brandon Fontenot Johnson, clearly Graves' most formidable opponent throughout the election, who will play an integral role in the formation of next year's game plans. Graves has appointed him executive director of the transition team charged with assembling a capable cabinet and staff. This year's presidential race was Johnson's second attempt at heading the SGA. He made a previously unsuccessful bid for the vice-presidency last year.

"He's a man I respect more than I can say," Graves said. "He has the heart that it takes and the intellect that will make it all happen."

The two were friends before, and when asked if the elections strained their relationship at all, he coolly replies, "No. It wasn't a competition thing really. We just kept talking to each other about next year - despite whoever won."

"I would let him hold my bullhorn [on election day] to say something and then snatch it back to say something else [laugh]. I remember that first day out there in the rain, it was just me and Brandon," said Graves.

As for the team that helped Graves to realize his victory, he notes the efforts of Pi chapter line brother and political mastermind Geoffrey Bennett, a junior English major, who lent his hand to the campaign after resigning from the Elections Committee, having previously decided to run for president himself.

Bennett, an undefeated campaign manager, directed current vice-president Anthony Davis' campaign last year.

Concerning his campaign strategy, Bennett said, "I used the same strategy that James Carville used for Clinton in '92: 'keep it simple'. This campaign was driven by the desire to make Morehouse's reality exceed our expectations."

"Each candidate brought their unique insight to the process," said Bennett. "Brandon, for example, had the most creative and innovative platform of all the candidates, so I am glad that he will assume a major influential role in CJ's administration while I direct my efforts elsewhere."

Graves' campaign was encompassed by the buzzword "accountability." According to Graves, accountability will also be a motivating factor in his administration.

"Our administration is about doing what we say and doing it consistently throughout the year," said Graves.

"We take this accountability seriously, and expect everyone to hold us to it, as well as holding each other to it."

Overall, Graves has a strong faith in the powers of the SGA, commenting that there is no necessity to recreate the system as some may see it but to better utilize the one in place.

"I envision every man of Morehouse saying to himself, 'I must be the change I wish to see; and it starts with me.'"

2001-2002 Student Government Association

Executive Board

President: CJ Graves

Vice President: Benny Walk

Treasurer: Thomas Davenport

Corresponding Secretary: Randall Woodfin

Junior Board of Trustees Member: Troy Causey

2001-2002 Class Officers

Senior Class

President: Harold Martin

Vice President: Khalid Gross

Treasurer: Uriah Gilmore

Secretary: Jason Cobb

Senator: Jordan Brunson

Chief Justice: Galen Barrett

Junior Class

President: Randall Toussaint

Vice President: DeRoyce Simmons

Treasurer: John Cox

Secretary: Adriel Hilton

Senator: L. Jared Boyd

Sophomore Class

President: David Callaway

Vice President: Jerome Crawford

Chief Justice: DeAndre Jones

College Students and Prior Service Members

Would you like to be part of a winning team that offers excellent part-time pay and benefits like \$8,000 bonus, \$25,436.00 for college or vo-tech, retirement, plus much more. There are just a few openings left in your local National Guard Unit. We'll train you. For more information, contact SFC LaNorris Boyd at 404-299-4406. YOU CAN!

**CREDIT
SUISSE** | FIRST
BOSTON

**SEE THE EFFECTS OF CHANGE.
OR ACTUALLY AFFECT IT.**



www.csfb.com

In a world that changes by the hour, the challenge is to lead the change yourself. To identify trends and then capitalize on them. Now that Credit Suisse First Boston and Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette have merged to form the preeminent global financial services firm, there's never been a better time to join our team. Whether your interests are in investment banking, private client services, equities, fixed income or IT, you'll find a dynamic environment that values one thing above all else. You. Your development. Your contribution. Your entrepreneurialism. Above all, you won't just learn about the world of business. You'll affect it. We invite you to get to know us. **CREDIT SUISSE FIRST BOSTON.**

EMPOWERING CHANGE.SM

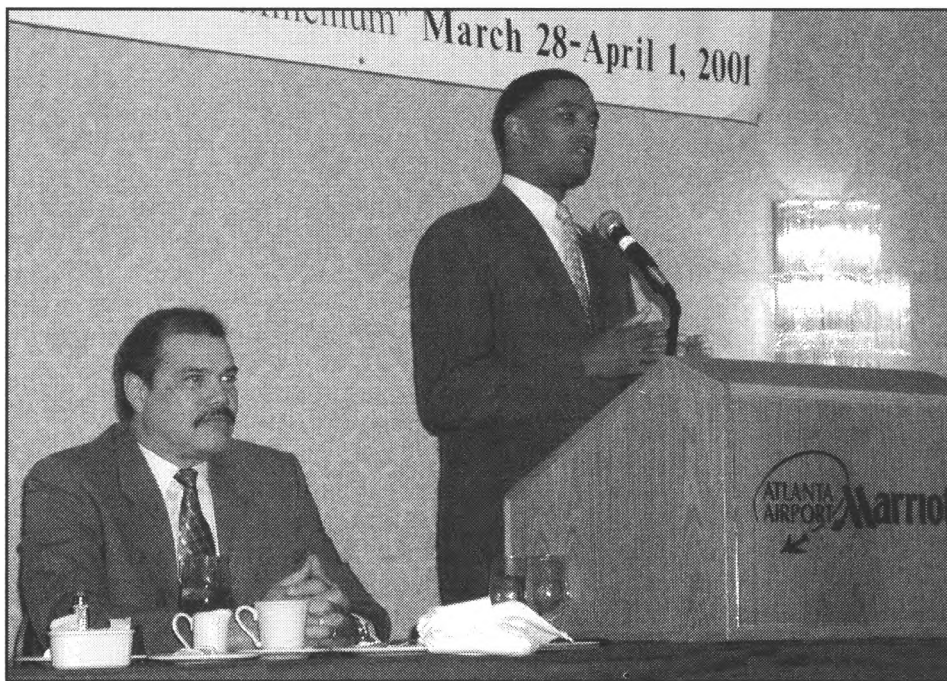
©Copyright 2000 Credit Suisse First Boston Corp. All rights reserved.

15th annual PSS, a memorable occasion

James Britton
Staff Writer

The week of March 25-April 1 marked the fifteenth anniversary of the Prospective Student Seminar (PSS). PSS developed as the brain-child of then admissions director Sterling H. Hudson and several freshman S.T.R.I.P.E.S. (Student Tigers Recruiting Interested Persons In Enrollment Stability) representatives who were desirous of providing a first-hand experience of the Morehouse Mystique to interested high school juniors and seniors.

Fifteen years and eight chairmen later, the "Molding Men for the Millennium" PSS, headed by chairman N. Omar Thomas, a senior child development major, and vice-chairman Dominic Purviance, a senior Urban Planning major, continued the tradition of excellence and service to Morehouse by giving more than 150 students and parents



Alfred Record/Special

Cedric Richmond, Louisiana State Representative, addresses PSS.

an intimate glimpse of the life of a Man of Morehouse. Among the week's highlights included Greek life and student activities forums, an Atlanta Braves exhibition game and leadership sessions given by Dr. Belinda White, Associate Director of the

Morehouse College Leadership Center.

The fifteenth anniversary was special because all of the past chairmen returned for fellowship and memories to provide guidance to the current student workers and planners of the Prospective

Student Seminar. Students and parents were greeted with experiences as far back as 1986, the year PSS began. Spencer Tolliver, former SGA President and past chairman of PSS, provided insight for prospective students and staff members about much of the history of Morehouse

during the late 1980's and the early 90's. All of the past chairmen spoke to the delight of those who were in Sale Hall so much so that students continued to ask questions after the lectures were scheduled to end.

Contrary to popular belief, PSS is not only for stu-

dents. Each year parents from across the country accompany their sons to the seminar. According to vice-chairman Purviance, "It is so vital for parents also to experience something like PSS because they not only influence the decisions of the prospective students, but they will become just as much a part of the Morehouse family as the students. The main goal is to keep them [the parents] satisfied and comfortable with sending their sons to Dear Old Morehouse." By Sunday morning, many near misty-eyed parents were congratulating staff members on a job well done.

According to Thomas, the success of the program is "twofold." "First, because it is one of the few purely student-planned and implemented programs on campus. The profound effect the students have on prospective students keeps the program alive and the college support behind it."



The Maroon Tiger

The Organ of Student Expression
SERVING MOREHOUSE COLLEGE SINCE 1898

If you are interested in seeking an **editorial position** for the 2001-2002 school year, pick up an application from the Maroon Tiger office (Morehouse College Archer Hall 115) by **Wednesday, April 25th**. Interviews will be held on **Thursday, May 3rd**.

The following paid positions are available:

- Editor in Chief
- Campus News Editor
- World & Local News Editor
- Features Editor
- Arts & Entertainment Editor
- Sports Editor
- Photo Editor
- Copy Editor
- Columnist
- Managing Editor
- Business Manager

For more information,
call 404-614-6041

or

e-mail

mtiger@morehouse.edu

A large graphic of a piece of paper being torn away from the top left, revealing a map of Africa and a scene of people in a room. The map shows major cities like Cairo, Addis Ababa, and Lagos, and regions like the Sahara Desert. The scene below shows several people in a room, with one person in the foreground looking distressed.

Dick Gregory

Dorothy Lewis

Leonard Jefferies

Kwame Kalimara

Marimba Ani

The Big Payback

A REPARATIONS EXPERIENCE

APRIL 28, 2001

@ MOREHOUSE COLLEGE

REPARATIONS@ONEBOX.COM

(404) 978-1262 ext. 2866



Patrick C. Martin/Special

Jeanne Byrd please the gods with her dancing talents.

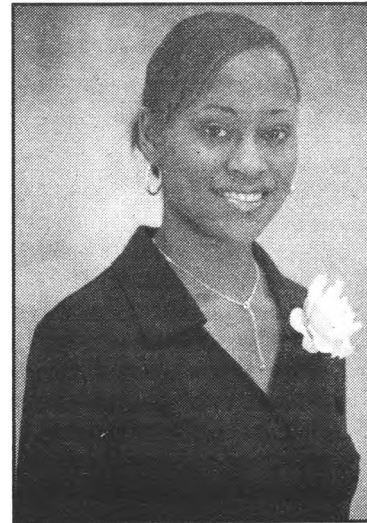
junior Marketing major Alfred Record.

Thanks for a great time! A homage to the 2001 Miss Maroon and White Contestants

The contemporary Man of the House can often have a split personality that can range from being the sweet and respectable guy next door to being a disrespectful ignorant and belligerent person. Truthfully, it takes a special woman to put up with the Morehouse Man. A woman must have tolerance, and the uncanny ability to maintain her composure when dealing with the negative side of our split personality.

As sad as it may be, tolerance and composure are two traits

our new Miss Maroon and White must have. During our interviews



Maya Eady, 2nd Attendant

with the contestants we decided to put these women to the test. They never knew they were being tested, but never the less they all performed well.

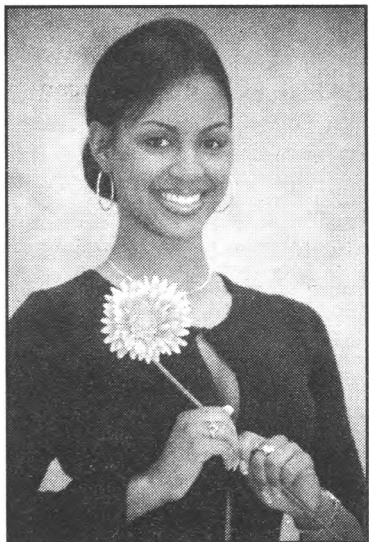
Based on the show we all know they are talented, beautiful, and well involved in campus activities, but there was a great deal of uncertainty as to whether or not these women have the tolerance and composure needed to be Miss Maroon and White. After a conversation with the contestants about topics ranging from the Morehouse College gay community, skeletons in the closet, dating in the AUC, and marriage we came to a consensus about these special ladies.

Miss Maroon and White

Maroon from page 3

rose, a pink orchid, a yellow dandelion, orange tulip, and purple violet, and a bluebonnet. The ultimate goal for each flower was to bloom into the College queen.

Directed by senior Chemistry major Wesley Franklin and co-

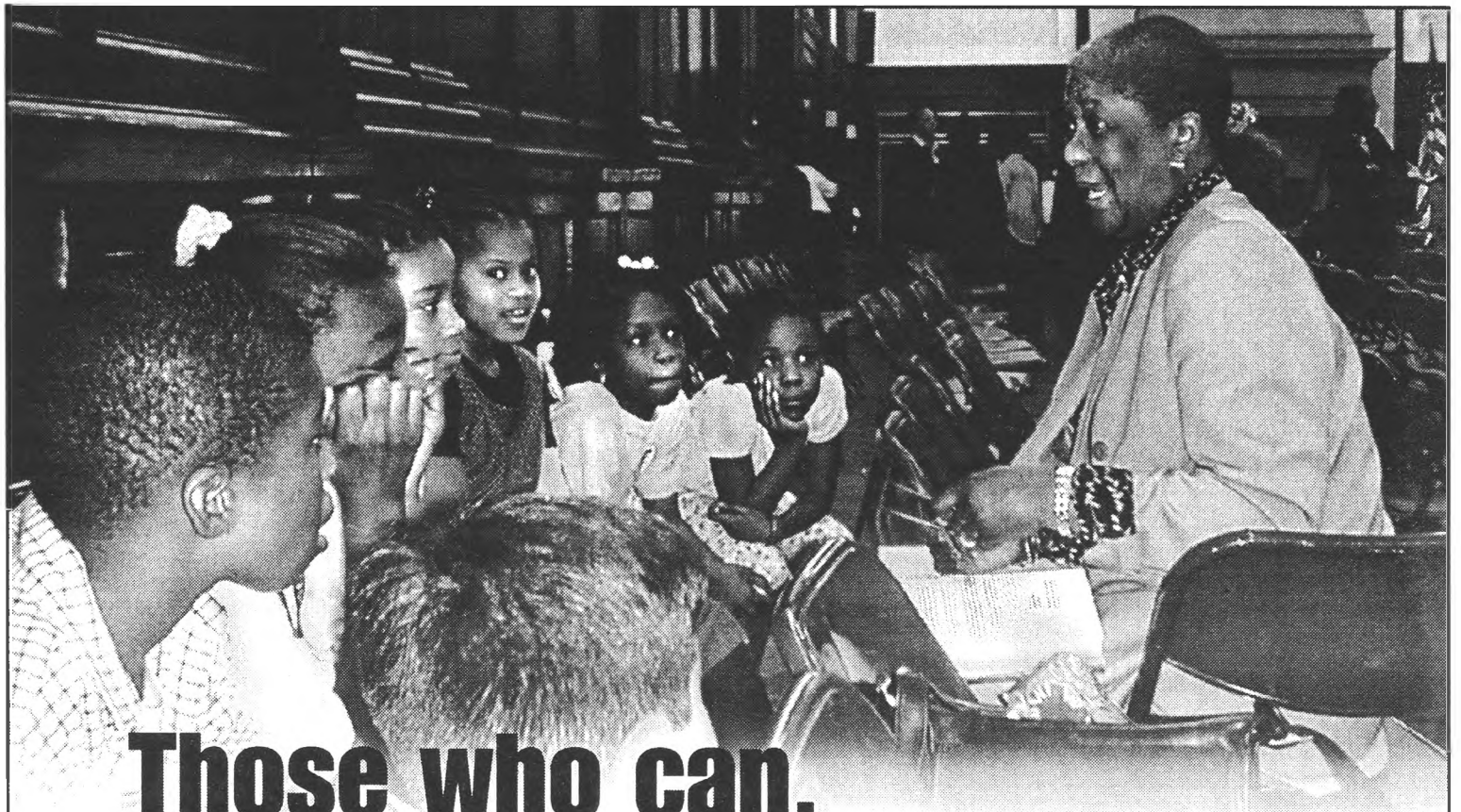


Tiffany Edwards, 1st Attendant

directed and choreographed by senior Mathematics major Alissa Ellis, "Flowers in the Garden" displayed a level of creativity like none other. From the fairytale story line, to the computer-animated backdrop, the show was a refreshing change from previous pageants.

The pageant was based on a fairytale with the flowers in the garden paying reverence to the gods, while keeping with the traditional pageant scenes of talent, question and answer, and evening gown scene. The fairytale concept and absence of MC's gave the show a unique pageant atmosphere, different from what most people have grown to expect.

"From the opening dance act until the announcement of the queen this year's show was by far the most tasteful, and entertaining pageant in the recent years," says



Those who can, TEACH.

Behind every good student, there's a great teacher. That special person who can spark interest and inspire learning. Teaching is more than an acquired skill; it's a passion, a gift. If you're a teacher, college senior, or a professional considering a career change, take a look at sharing your gift by teaching in **The Newark Public Schools**.

Job fair. Be there. Please join us for a job fair on Saturday, March 31, and meet teachers who are already inspiring tomorrow's leaders; talk with the staff members who support them; and (if qualified) complete an employment application and possibly go home with a signed contract to teach in one of the areas where immediate openings exist. Or, you may apply for a teaching position for the 2001-02 school year.

On-the-spot job interviews. Bring your resume, college transcript, New Jersey Certificate of Eligibility, Certificate of Advanced Standing or Standard Certificate, along with your driver's license and Social Security card, birth certificate or passport. If you're qualified, you can interview for one of our teaching opportunities at the job fair. We offer an excellent salary and benefits package, including tuition reimbursement.

For more information, visit our website at www.nps.k12.nj.us or call our Recruiting Office at (973) 733-8960.

Job Fair for Teachers

Saturday, March 31
8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Camden Middle School
321 Bergen Street, Newark, NJ

Changing Careers?

Special presentations at 9:00 a.m.,
11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Immediate Openings in These Areas:

- Bilingual Education
- Child Study Teams
- Computer Science
- Early Childhood Education
- Elementary Education
- Guidance Counselors
- Media Specialists
- Music, Visual and Performing Arts
- Physical Education
- Secondary Education (all subjects)
- Social Work
- Special Education
- World Language



The Newark
Public Schools

IN SHORTS

Program For Black Homeownership

□
 Marcy Gordon
 The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A program to make 1 million black families homeowners by 2005 was announced Tuesday by a black lawmakers' group, mortgage-market giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, major banks, mortgage companies and community groups.

New mortgages, many with special terms for low-income borrowers and those with bad credit records, could total \$50 billion under the program.

Mel Martinez, secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, said the new program "means 1 million more African-American families who can live their American dream."

The program, called "With Ownership, Wealth" (WOW), will begin next month in 20 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands. To reach prospective home buyers, there will be homeownership fairs and seminars, radio and newspaper ad campaigns and individual credit counseling.

Black Reporters Suggest Changes

By Gina Holland
 Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — America's newspaper editors should include Black journalists in daily news meetings and offer minorities more internships and top management jobs, a Black reporters group said Thursday.

The National Association of Black Journalists made its recommendations following a report at an editors convention that showed the number of minority journalists working at U.S. daily newspapers had declined for the first time in 22 years.

"We can stop this trend," said Herbert Lowe, a Newsday reporter and an officer of the association.

Segregation Persists, Study Says

□
 By Genaro C. Armas
 The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Segregation persisted in big cities over the past decade amid the nation's growing racial and ethnic diversity, said a report that provoked calls for stronger enforcement of laws against housing discrimination.

Distinct living patterns continued to hold sway in large urban centers where most of America's blacks, Hispanics and Asians are located, said the report released Tuesday by the Civil Rights Project at Harvard University.

With forecasts suggesting even greater diversity in the future, advocacy groups urged federal and local governments to step up enforcement of fair-housing regulations and upgrade education in minority neighborhoods.

Blacks and whites were most likely to be segregated in the Detroit metropolitan area, the study said, while whites, Hispanics and Asians were most likely to live separately in New York.

"But it will take some real effort by newsroom leaders to show that they honestly value Black journalists and the diversity that everyone says they want and the latest census numbers demand," he said.

Islam as a new way of life

Tauheedah Muhammad
 Staff Writer

Who would believe that religion would become part of mainstream America?

Larger than that, who would believe that Islam has become the "main stream" within America's prison systems.

Islam has manifested through time making history with leaders such as Malcolm X and Gandhi to national marked events such as the Million Man March. But as the free world adapts itself to the growing religion, prison-bound men and women use the religion as a mean of survival.

Forty-one-year-old Hakeem Fareed has been incarcerated for 15 years. He is the head Imam (prayer leader) within his Georgia prison system. Before incarceration,

Fareed did not have a particular religion. However, he now leads a life

of teachings, growing knowledge and understanding of the self and its place within society. According to Fareed, although Islam holds no race barriers, African-American men gravitate to its teachings and life changing philosophy. They hold within themselves the memories of bad experiences and choices wanting to be changed. He states that a drive for inner-self becomes a must, and nothing separates the men from this religion except the cell bound walls of the "inside" world.

It is within prison that you can find the most educated Muslims, the most knowledgeable about the religion. "With Islam everything is very clear. When it is understood, it can be taught easily," stated Fareed, another voice among thousands of other mumbled toned inmates. "Your soul knows the truth and when your soul knows the truth, it surrenders to it."

Islam, a religion of discipline, teaches you about yourself and your place within society. This distinction is an important aspect of life for those incarcerated. According to Fareed, it teaches you about yourself and every type of character that exists. Fareed explains that once you follow

Islam, you will never be the same.

With many of the prisoners, change is all they have. A lot of African-American men cling to the religion because it gives them a lot of hope. Many, who are abandoned by family and friends, seek Islam and its teachings as a way to befriend their dark days.

"Everyone acts according to their own disparities. What they attach themselves to," explained Fareed. According to the leader, most African-American men in prison attach themselves to their bad experiences and burdens such as drugs, alcohol and crime. Islam relieves the pain and opens doors to a brighter future, even if the remaining days for many exist behind bars.

The life-changing religion also incorporates the

"Learned does not mean you have a college degree. Learned is one's ability to adapt. Once you adapt you have a good learning capacity."

—Hakeem Fareed

teaching of life. Prisoners develop not only a religious aspect but also how to adapt to life's environment. "Islam teaches you how to deal with all aspects of life. It teaches you how to be compassionate," Fareed explained. According to him, the religion teaches one how to deal with their family, children, wives, brothers and other family members.

Fareed has been the head Imam for a little over six years. During his time, he has taught many men of the fundamentals of Islam, enhancing his own knowledge day by day. He reaches out to the men, teaching them how to be selfish without being self-centered. "Being a leader does not mean you stop learning at a certain level. It is an ongoing process," he says.

Fareed exuberates his lessons of life by attributing his knowledge of the religion to personal experiences. Jail leaves no room for inspiration or aspiring dreams. It is hard to face everyday life without contact with the free world and those of the same religion. Life often has no meaning, and for most inmates, it is non-existent. Through Islam, these men are not only followers of the religion, but they become educated. According to Fareed,

you become educated through the religion. Many African-American men who are incarcerated have no education. Islam helps them by providing educational opportunities.

"Learned does not mean you have a college degree. Learned is one's ability to adapt. Once you adapt, you have a good learning capacity," Fareed said.

Islam gives the inmates a sense of pride, allowing them to realize that they too can contribute to society. Throughout his years, Fareed has realized that the prison system is a "warehouse" for people. He believes that "incarcerated" does not tell you the educational background of a person or intelligence. "It is only a geographical location of a prisoner. Prison is a microcosm of the so called free world."

Both African-Americans and whites educate themselves through Islam. However, African-Americans

dominate the religion within the prison. Female prisoners within female institutions also dedicate themselves to Islam. However, women cannot be Imams within the religion. Neither gender nor race constitute limitations; however, more African-American men become Muslims as opposed to whites because of less family support and family contact. Islam is what they have.

Fareed states that most men, who are not educated within the prison system, come out doing the same things they were incarcerated for. When they are released they act the same way, not having the chance to find themselves or recognize their potential.

For many teachers of Islam, and those who are strong followers, faith is the only assurance of survival. However, it is sometimes hard to keep strong faith when many prisoners believe that the "system" is against them. As religion creates social issues within the free world, the same continues behind bars.

Akeem Abdul Makin was incarcerated in the Colorado prison system in 1993 and 1994. According to the Associated Press, Makin was denied his religious rights during the

Continued on page 15

Experiences you should have had

Just a little something we threw together about the Spring because we didn't finish the proposed feature

Joe Carlos
Features Editor

Earlier this school year, we told you what you should have done by your senior year. Now, we're letting you know what you should have experienced by the time the Spring Semester comes to a close. If you haven't done a majority of these, don't worry. Chances are, you'll have a few more Springs to get it right.

— Those lovely, flowing sundresses

— Those Beer Bashes thrown by those nice upstanding boys from that "Covent"

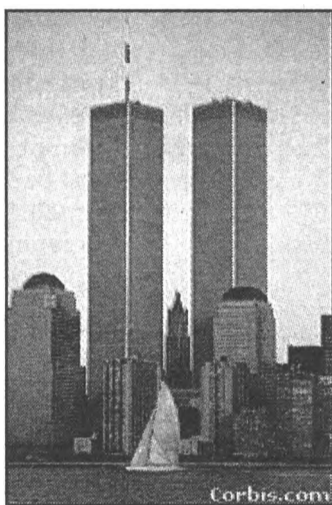
— Shorts and Sandals

— Sparkling, Spankin' New White Tennis Shoes

— The Ms. Maroon & White Pageant

— 2 or 3 Collars

— Spending endless hours



Corbis.com

— A round of 9 holes at John A. White Park

— A good Dominican or Honduran cigar

— Breathless Reunion

— A misunderstanding with your roommate

— Ridin' Dirty but shinin' so clean

— Killing bees for sport

— Spring Tours getting in your way when you're trying to get to class

— Watching the well-trained, tanned and toned track girls run around the AU

— Hearing seniors scream in joy while running out of Gloster Hall

— Bell Bottoms on Thursday. 'Nuff said

— Hearing seniors scream in disgust while storming out of Gloster Hall

— Brotherly love during finals

— Dorm pranks

— The nice but pathetic attempt by other AU Center papers to mess with *The Maroon Tiger* (You're welcome to come see our Regional and National

plaques)

— Cultivating that perfectly relaxed look

— Market Fridays

on The Strip

— Unabashed use of sunglasses, indoors and out

— Attending Greek Probate shows

— Shiny Foreheads

— Water Guns

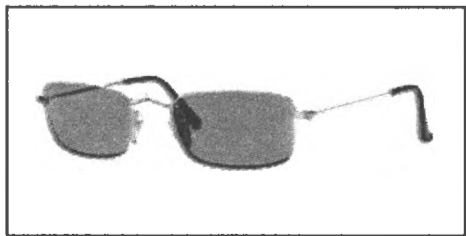
— Cookouts and Barbecues

— More of those Beer Bashes thrown by those nice upstanding boys from that "Covent"

— The uncanny knack of knowing the right time to play Will Smith's classic, "Summertime"

— Red polo shirts

— Breaking visitation



plaques)

— Cultivating that perfectly relaxed look

— Market Fridays

The Spelman Spotlight

Atlanta, GA

SPELMAN COLLEGE

on-line

— Washington Park in all of its finery

— A Senior Week party

— Stuntin'

— Bumping the latest Cash Money anthem

— Listening to your boys' summer plans

— Immortalizing fresh, new cement

— Going to Spelman for no

lab from dusk 'till dawn

— Re-introducing yourself to key professors

— Trying to get to New York or D.C. for the summer

getting his library sticker in May

— Drop Day Madness

— Burning your latest MP3ed-out Spring CD

— Riding down Peachtree on Friday and Saturday nights

— Buckhead invasions

— Summer Breakups



— Graduation Dinners

— Someone getting caught creeping at the Gate

— Alums coming back just because

— House parties where P-Nut is spinning

— The peaceful transference of power within the SGA

— Swimming parties at far out places

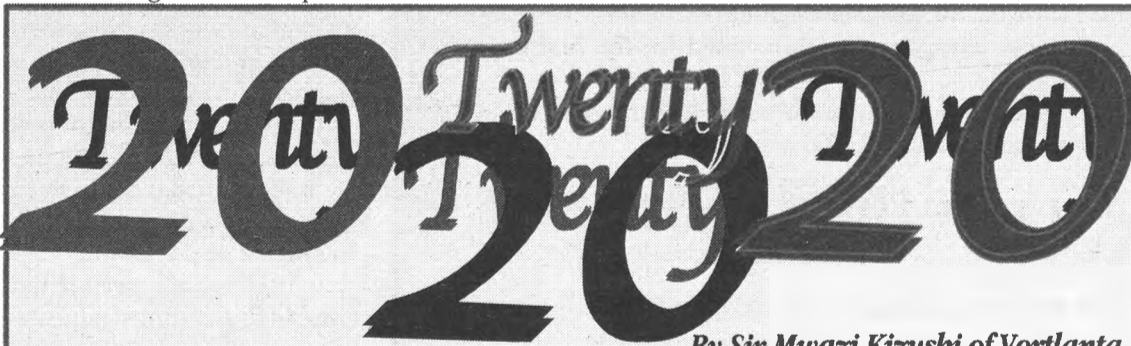
possible reason

— The endless search for the perfect summer internship

— Being in the computer

— Spending the night at Emory's Woodruff Library

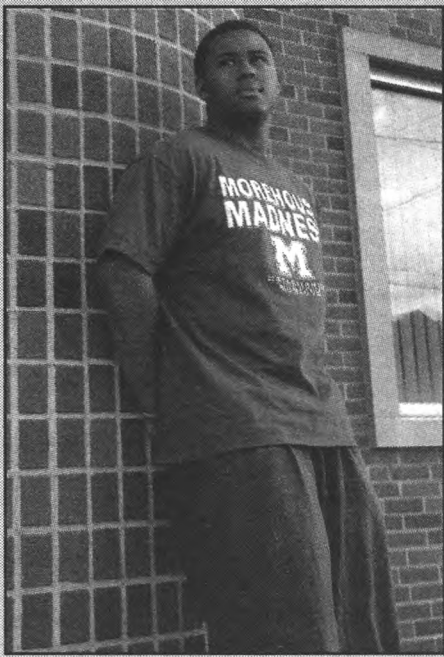
— A friend of yours just



By Sir Mwazi Kizushi of Vortlanta

1. S-P-O-T-L-I-G-H-T
2. L-A-M-E.
3. Aren't midterm grades a tool of the devil?
4. Did anyone notice that the change machine works now?
5. So will you brats stop complaining?
6. What if you could meet your enslaved ancestors?
7. So who's going to continue the AP legacy?
8. What must man know?
9. Wasn't the real race for 2nd attendant?
10. What if Marla Gibbs were our Miss Maroon & White?
11. You think people would read your paper if you didn't talk about us?
12. Did Suge Knight oversee the Spelman SGA elections or what?
13. HK be runnin' thangs, huh?
14. Don't those potentials remind you of army ants?
15. How do you define coonin'?
16. Why don't class deans ever see students?
17. What makes you believe that just because nobody reads your paper you can send us mediocre drivel and expect it to be printed?
18. When will you realize that haters never win?
19. If you wanna see him, shouldn't you be there on the 24th, Speech?
20. David Satcher... again? Come on, Perry.

Benny Walk, a (single) junior accounting major from Tallulah, Louisiana and the newly elected Vice President of the Student Government Association. Recently, he sat with our own George A. Peters II over a plate of Chiver's "guess what" and shared some thoughts.



Who knows the real Benny Walk and why?

My family, because they raised me, making me the person I am today. Also, some select individuals who I have shared a lot with and one or two special females.

What motivates you to achieve?

I came from a small town and saw a lot of people with potential and no opportunity. I have been given the opportunity to reach my potential, and I am going to take full advantage of it.

Common misconceptions people share about you.

That I am shy or that I am arrogant.

What do you find that females most appreciate from you?

My sense of humor, the fact that I listen to them, and they feel like they can do anything around me.

Tell me your biggest pet peeves...

I hate when people don't uphold their responsibilities; when people lie, or doubt my abilities. Oh yeah, and I can't stand it when a girl likes me and is afraid to approach me.

I wear what I wear because...

I believe perception is 75% what people think of you and 25% what you think of yourself. I think my stuff looks good, that's why I

wear what I wear.

Q&A
with
Benny Walk

Describe your perfect day.

It's Friday, it's hot outside, and class is canceled. I just got a fresh cut, Market Friday and the strip are poppin', my mood has been "mellowed" and somebody special wants to do something special.

THE MONASTERY

George A. Peters, II
Asst. Features Editor

The Monastery, is a secret society believe it or not. Sixteen founders and one reason—to rule the world, seriously they are not kidding. The members, who come from all of the various departments across the campus, were informally organized during the fall of '90, on the second floor of Graves Hall. Although some of the names have changed, the ambition is still the same.

They boast a strong presence in the Morehouse SGA, sponsorship of four candidates for elected office and the undying adoration of womenfolk. They completely control the Senate, claiming both the Pro-Tempore and two of the most significant committee chairs; and as of May 3 the SGA Vice president. The group, the predominance of whom are

honor students, maintain high GPA's and numerous candidacies to the prestigious Phi Beta Kappa. This summer, they are sending one monk to Harvard, one to the University of Chicago, two to Wall Street and several to a host of other summer programs.

The Monastery thrives on

Sixteen founders, one reason—to rule the world, seriously, they are not kidding.

the strength of its individual members. They believe in their ability to buttress the visions of the whole. The concept of ruling the world cannot be taken as literally as one would initially. The goal is to control all of the areas in which the clicks choose to expand, so as to obtain more than their fair share, limiting the degrees of separation wherever plausible and thriving in what they term "capitalistic communalism."

By no means a non-profit organization, many of their functions require a small contribution. But, speak with those leaving one

of the Monks events (if their speech isn't undiscernably slurred) and they will admit to contributing willingly. If you haven't been to one of their functions, then you have been hiding under a rock all year or you've been online.

The parties are tight. With two memorable house parties (if you didn't partake of the punch) and a cosmopolitan affair at Sylvia's under their belt, the Monastery recently went back to the old staple—The Beer Bash, Washington Park (after Market Friday), the whole AUC, drink and music. Not exactly rocket science but it works everytime.

The semester is almost over, and with it goes the Beer Bash. So the next time you hear of any event with the Monastery's name attached, don't ask any questions, just find a ride there.

*Oh yeah—if you got bit by a wild rott at the last beer bash and you are reading this article, the Monks want you to know that they're sorry.

How Joe Sees It

By Joe Carlos

I'm tired. For those of you who don't know me, I'm a little older than most of you. And though I love going to school with many of you, man it's getting old.

I've never felt so old before. I threw a football today soared through the air beautifully and made it to its target with a little extra something on it. Yet, I know without question that my arm will hurt tomorrow.

It's no one's fault but my own.

I was the one who made the conscious decision not to go to those classes. I was the one who decided to sleep in. I was the one who didn't want to read the assigned reading, and now I am the one facing the repercussions of my actions.

I wrote in my first edition of this column about wasted opportunities. As the school year is winding down and graduation beckons, I hope many of you who read what I wrote took it to heart.

Every night that I'm in Archer working late or reading for Valls, I see my freshman brothers playing pool, watching television and doing everything but work. When I was in my first year of school, I spent the first semester playing Madden and the second semester playing pool. Needless to say, I am a pretty good Madden player, and my pool game isn't too shabby. But brother, I'm still in school.

Do for self. Go, re-acquaint yourself with your professors, your classmates, your books, your notes and salvage what you have left in this semester.

For it will be sad when in June, the Morehouse College Office of Enrollment Management sends a Fed Exed letter to your home mentioning that you have lost your scholarship or you are suspended for the 2001-2002 school year for academic purposes.

I know because I speak from experience.

Having transferred to Morehouse from Howard University in the fall of 1996, I was here on a hope and several prayers. And after the emotional and tumultuous school year that was 1996-97 (The Forbes Four, the deaths of Tupac and Biggie, Antonio Johnson, Control Desks), a letter was sent to my home, stating that I was suspended for the 1997-98 school year because I couldn't keep a certain aggregate grade point average.

Fortunately for myself, my family in Texas and my

Morehouse family (Bernecea Johnson, Sterling Hudson, Jamie Campbell), were hell-bent on my academic success so much so that I was able to take summer courses here while working in Douglass until 12AM every night to get my grades back up to where they should have always been.

It was hot that summer.

It was muggy.

The courses were tougher.

They each lasted two hours and met everyday. The nights were intolerably long and full of pseudo-philosophical banter from the counselors of COE and HCOP.

But through all of that, there was an upperclassman there who taught me the importance of not wasting an opportunity. When my attention span, (normally that of a gnat) starting to decrease, he reminded me of why I was here. When I got tired of reading Douglass' Narrative at 2 and 3AM, he would kick my chair and tell me to wake up. He helped put in perspective why so many people believed in me and were so determined on me getting my education and shaping up.

By virtue of the fact that he was there, he was not wasting his opportunity either. He had had a very rough year. He was accused of a horrible crime, had to endure the scrutiny of the local and national media and still maintained his high grade point average and stature among his Morehouse brothers.

He didn't help me to be aware of the need to be focused with a column in a newspaper, he did it by telling me. He did it by reminding me why I was in school. He did it by having me notice the surroundings that envelop the campus and how year after year and time after time, it gets worse and worse.

Tony Clark is his name. Remember that name because it will be one of the great names of Morehouse men who freshmen will learn about in New Student Orientation. We will be reading his work, and we will be better for it.

Remember his name because, to me, he's the patron saint of all Morehouse men who overcome the odds and surmount the struggles and still succeed. Remember his name because I'm going to do for you what T. Clark did for me. Never forget why you are here. Never forget the importance of your education. Never waste this opportunity.

You grew up in a time...

When...

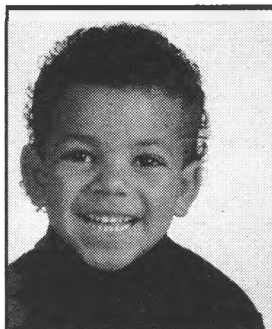
George A. Peters, II
Asst. Features Editor

You grew up in a time, when you woke up on Saturday morning and cut your grass, and if you didn't have any, you found some. You would finish at the same time as every other kid in your neighborhood, pull your bikes out of the garage and ride out. You and all your boys wore sweatpants with the name of your team striped down the side and all of you managed to "somehow" be put on the same pickup basketball team. You grew up together and fought all the time.

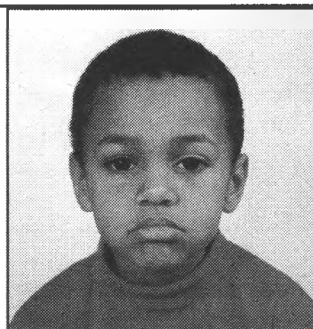
You ticked each other off and asked for all of your Nintendo games back, to no avail of course. But that next day, when it was time to come outside again, you rekindled a brotherhood that you had never lost. Sure you would fight again, but you would always

come back outside the next day knowing that he would never do anything to you that you wouldn't do to him. This unspoken trust, these unauthored rules were what kept you together and made you appreciate each other when it was time to be apart.

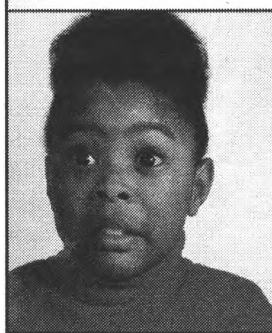
You go to college in a time when you expect everybody to have grown up the way you did. You can't understand it when your boys disrespect their women or neglect their responsibilities as men. You are unused to seeing girls open doors for themselves and uncomfortable with them walking on the outside, closest to the curb.



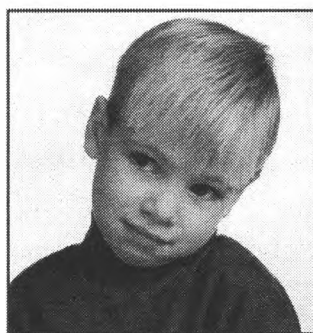
happy



sad



afraid



shy

Which face are you today?

In your short time at school, you have gained and lost "lifetime"

her your attention, only to find that she prefers to be ignored by him. When your boys need advice they

friendships and have learned from each one. You have fallen out with your boys. You have apologized in the same breath all the while knowing there are certain intangibles that make your relationship strong. You would never talk about him behind his back, never let some "arbo" swing on him, and you would never step to the woman he loves.

You have contended with the notion that chivalry is dead and been met with resistance. As part of your contention, you have given

come to you, and when she needs to feel special, she does the same. Yet, when you suggest they refer to her as something more endearing than "b-h," they laugh saying, "All women are the same." "I know, but...he loves me", is her response to your insistence that she deserves so much better.

Brother, you are one in a long line of men who have shared your sentiment. Whether or not you care to acknowledge it, your image as a black man cannot be governed by your actions alone. The perception of the males who check the same box on an application as you do can however be influenced. While you embrace the desire to be chivalrous, you must understand that you were the beneficiary of fuel for that desire. It could have been your father, a pastor, an uncle, or a family friend, but, at some point, somebody instructed you to drape your suit jacket over her shoulders or open her car door first.

AUC SENIOR WEEK 2001

Friday, May 11
"Kick-off" Bash

3:00-8:00 p.m.

Washington Park

Cost: Free, includes beverages and BBQ

Saturday, May 12

Wet n Wild

2:00-7:00 p.m.

Lake Lanier Islands

Cost: \$20 -waterpark/beach, parking, food & drinks

Sunday, May 13

Joint Convocation

10:00 a.m.

Sale Hall Chapel

Six Flags over Georgia

2:00-8:00 p.m.

Cost: \$20.50

Dave & Buster's

7:00 p.m. -12:00 a.m.

Cost: Free

Monday, May 14

Cabaret

10:00 p.m. -until

The Velvet Room

Tuesday, May 15

Community Service:

Project Open Hand

Atlanta

9:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m.

Lake Lanier Islands

ESPN Zone

6:00-10:00 p.m.

Cost: Free

"Fiesta"

10:00 p.m.-until

Paradox

Celebrate with the Class of 2001!

Wednesday, May 16

"School Daze"

10:00 p.m.-until

Club Kaya

Thursday, May 17

Bellbottoms

9:00-10:00 p.m.

Cost: Free drinks

"White & Black"

10:00 p.m. - until

The Vault

Friday, May 18

"Pajama Jammy Jam"

10:00 p.m.- until

Karma

Saturday, May 19

Event: TBA

Sunday, May 20

Morehouse College Commencement

8:00 a.m.

Spelman College Commencement

4:30 p.m.

Event: TBA

The truth hides within the "fine print"

Reading is still fundamental guys...and gals

The Maroon Tiger
Editorial Board

Ok...It was indeed a joke--An April Fools' prank that was intended to make you smile, chuckle a little and brighten your day to say the very least. For the most part, our expectations were met and you indeed got a big kick out of the April Fools' edition of *The Maroon Tiger*. However, a substantial percentage of our constituency just did not get it. The intended laughter was overtaken by anger and frustration. "How can this be?!" was the phrase that went through the minds of many as they "read" this issue cover to cover during class. For whatever reason they just could not and would not get it, for in their minds, groundbreaking news was before them that threatened to alter everything that is wholesome and superior about Morehouse College.

"Morehouse-Spelman merge"... "President Bush visits College"... "Graduation postponed"... "Co-ed dorms to open next fall." The headlines shocked you and despite their fantastic nature, many of you believed them. Although all of these things could reasonably happen—and as much as we would like to think that we keep the Morehouse College student body and the greater AUC informed—do you really think *The Maroon Tiger* would be the primary means of disseminating this Earth-shattering information? However, this is just a surface oversight. There are deeper and far more pressing issues that must be dealt with as a result of the response to this "hoax" of a newspaper.

The racist-white-man school of thought states that when hiding valuable information from black people, it is essential that the information be present in books, periodicals, newspapers or any other form of literature. Why? The answer is simple. We do not read. We are a visual people and consequently, we receive the majority of our information from the television—a medium of communication that rarely has our best interest at heart. True, it is entertaining and more often than not, entertainment is at the peak of our priority list. However, some balance between entertainment and educational enlightenment must be sustained in our lives. It is doubtful that the majority

of you are still watching Sesame Street.

We are a visual people by nature, which is why when we pick up a newspaper or a magazine, we generally scan it cover to cover looking at the pictures and headlines. A small percentage of us will pick it up again and commence to read it but the greater majority will be content with the "cover-to-cover scan." Undoubtedly we keep this ideology in mind when we design *The Maroon Tiger* every two weeks.

We understand that most of you pick it up and turn directly to the 20 questions and we are not offended. However, there is information out there that you need to be aware of (i.e. the Morehouse-Spelman merger) and to increase the likelihood of you receiving it, we cater the paper to your needs. Usually, publications that contain information that can help financially or keep you abreast of what is happening in the world are not the most visually appealing publications; nor

do they have a sincere invested interest in you (i.e. *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *Forbes*). Conversely, *The Maroon Tiger*, because we do care, uses vivid color, and aesthetically pleasing pages as tricks to get you to read—and to pay attention to what you are reading.

Indeed, although these publications maybe boring, the information is invaluable. Not necessarily because it is the

Since it is said that we only use a very small percentage of our brainpower, shouldn't we be reading whenever we have the opportunity?

"truth" but rather because it is knowledge. Without a reasonable knowledge base one will never be able to discern what truth really is. This is the reason why your parents made you turn off the television and read a book when you were younger. This is the reason David Robinson still does commercials that encourage people to "take the time to read." It is said that we only use a very small percentage of our brainpower—so

shouldn't we be reading whenever we have the opportunity?

The racist-white-man school of thought also contends that African Americans do not have the mental capacity to compete with them. They believe our inferiority is genetic, and innate in black culture. Although these views are absurd, how can we get angry when we refuse the opportunity to intellectually stimulate our minds? It is one thing to "read" an article, and quite another to apply critical analysis to the information within it. The average cover-

to-cover reader finishes an article with superficial knowledge, and no greater understanding, of what he has "read," while the informed reader actually processes the information contained within an article, and emerges with heightened knowledge and understanding of the topic at hand.

Furthermore, the informed reader also takes into consideration the context of what he reads—who wrote it,

when it was written, and why—and can determine the validity of the information. *The Maroon Tiger*, by virtue of its title should have informed you that what you were about to read was false. Maybe you were not paying attention to the title because it generally does not change from paper to paper. Still, had you read with the slightest detailed eye, it would have been painfully obvious that what was before you was a mere manifestation of Tiger writer wit and creativity. Some of you were enraged and full of questions after reading *The Maroon Tiger* but the answers were there; they were simply hidden within the "fine" print.

In fact, all the answers (most of them anyway) can be found in the "fine" print. Whether it is a book or a periodical, the chances of finding what you need to know are extremely good. The racist white man knows this to be true but does not feel threatened for he knows that you will not attempt to access it. He knows what you need and he gives it to you at his discretion—that is until you seize the information yourself.

Reflections on reconciliation

Henry A. Thompson, II
Staff Writer

Howard Thurman, a Morehouse graduate and world-renowned theologian, once wrote that "things do not happen, merely, they are part of some rationale. If this can be tracked down and understood, then the living experience, however terrible, makes sense."

The experiences of contemporary African-Americans are united by shared suffering that manifests itself in a variety of ways. Much of this suffering often seems to be senseless and undeserved. However, just like the phoenix rises from the ashes, people of color have the potential to return to their former greatness. The conditions of oppression that people of color face in the United States can be understood, at least partially, as a call for reconciliation within the Black community because it is becoming increasingly evident that fair and equal treatment from the powers that be will remain an elusive ideal until we learn to love and respect each

other.

The first and most important stage of this reconciliation involves forgiving oneself for her or his shortcomings and mistakes. Everybody has done or said something that they later wish they hadn't, and even though it is not within our capacities to change the

Learning to forgive yourself frees you from the cold clutches of regret and makes it possible to be the person that you are meant to be.

past, we can learn and grow from these experiences. However, regret is a sinister force that tries to retard our growth as individuals by constantly reminding us of our shortcomings. Learning to forgive yourself frees you from the cold clutches of regret and makes it possible to be the person that you are meant to be.

Coming to terms with others is also imperative. The state of relationships of all sorts within the Black community has deteriorated to a distressing extent, and the finger pointing and hard feelings that accompany this deterioration do

not help matters much at all. Frustration with the status quo often leads people of color to lash out at the people who they should be protecting and nurturing. Even though personal responsibility must always be primary, a lot of progress can be made by understanding that many of the sources

of conflict within the Black community either derive from or are exacerbated by external entities that do not want to see people of color living peaceful and positive lives. If we can start directing some of the anger and frustration that inevitably results from our relegation to second-class status in the proper directions, then we will be able to move towards loving and progressive relationships.

The third and final part of this grand reconciliation involves engaging institutions in a more positive manner. Historically Black Colleges and Universities

definitely have their share of shortcomings, but they are united by a more significant thread. Even though they often fall short of their lofty ambitions, these schools are genuinely committed to the enlightenment of young Black minds and the liberation of the struggling masses. In many ways, HBCU's are amongst our most potent weapons in the battle for social justice, and criticism of them should be based on good faith and directed towards making the execution of the mission statements all the more efficient. Most of our nation's institutions, especially the penal system, are not motivated by any sort of real concern for people of color, so we cannot afford to alienate ourselves from or unfairly damage the image of those who are trying to secure full recognition of our humanity.

Reconciliation works where anger and suspicion fail miserably. African-Americans are an extremely diverse group. However, we can all benefit from a sympathetic understanding of self, others and the power structures that we must engage on a daily basis.

What's next?

What will the future hold for the Morehouse College SGA?

James Britton
Staff Writer

Finally, the election results are in. With the effects of graduation and the past election, the face of the Student Government Association will look markedly different with some familiar faces among the new. With the student leadership changing hands and the torch passing almost completed, this humble student and slave to words would like to make some simple observations about this year's elections and the future of our newly elected representatives of the student body.

Before I go any further, I would like to congratulate C. J. Graves, Benny Walk, Randall Woodfin, Troy Causey, Thomas Davenport, Sam Williams and all of our other elected student leaders and their respective campaign teams for a job well done. One of the things that impressed me the most about this year's election was the level of class and dignity with which the candidates carried themselves. It was especially good to see all four presidential candidates, Joe Faxio, C. J. Graves, B. Fontenot Johnson and Robert Williams walking together on campus during the height of the election campaigns. Much of the backbiting and evilness that has characterized past elections was absent this time. That was indeed a comforting and welcoming change.

But as a student, observer, and one who is concerned about the direction of Dear Old Morehouse, I am compelled to ask the question, What next? I am charged to make the observation that next year's SGA will be unavoidably more unfamiliar with each other simply because times are changing and the familiar "SGA faces" that I have come to know will not be here. Will this loss of commonality hinder the overall goals and objectives of the SGA and the student body? I pray it will not. It is my sincere hope that, under C. J.'s leadership, the men who have been entrusted with the leadership of the stu-

dent body can gel together for the betterment of those they represent.

During last year's elections, I watched as Rory Griffin, J. C. Love, Ronald Newman and Jonathan Wilkins debated and as each told to the students present what he could bring to the table. Needless to say, all were impressive. I also watched as each candidate proclaimed that he would be more than happy to work his fellow peers should he win or lose. Needless to say, for whatever reason, the three men besides President Love were not heard of on the SGA scene there after. I make this point to say that again this year we were presented with candi-

There is no reason why men cannot work together absent titles and glory for the good of the school and the student body at-large.

dates who had great plans for the betterment of student life at Morehouse. There is no reason why men cannot work together absent of titles and glory for the good of the school and the student body at-large. If the candidate is truly about service to the students and wants what's best for them, win or lose, he should not hesitate to offer his services to that end and the president should readily accept such ideas and support.

Too often though, we as students place all of the impetus on the president and his executive board to make miracles on and around campus while we never hold our individual selves accountable for the prosperity of the cam-

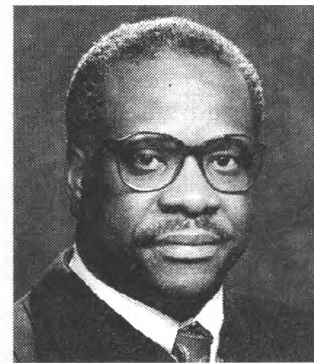
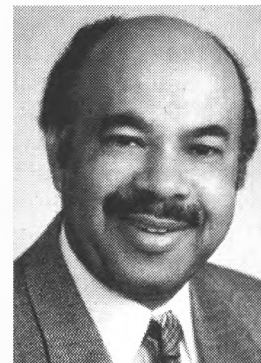
pus. Our lethargy is evinced throughout the year in our support of our sports teams and also SGA sponsored events. But if ever the time comes to complain and criticize the leadership we the students have elected, those of us with the least school spirit and the most apathy, those of us who do the least service but pimp mostly the name, those of us who excel academically the least and party the most, are the first in line to grab a microphone or pick up a pen and spew venomous and hurtful words though we have done nothing to advance the good name of Morehouse and everything to tear it down.

I think I have made my point painfully clear as to say the success of any administration will depend, yes, on the ability of the leaders to reach the students on their level but will depend more so on the willingness of the students to voice needs, concerns and constructive criticism and also to go beyond what we expect of ourselves so the trust that is so vital between those who lead and the ones who are lead can be equalized, reciprocated, and actualized.

So, what next? What will the future hold? I'll start by doing what we all should do. I'll look in the mirror and ask myself because it all depends on what the individual, I, me, is willing to do. What I am not willing to do is point my finger away from myself until I have done my part. Good Luck!

What If?

By
George A. Peters II



Ward Connerly and Clarence Thomas ... if only a few shades lighter ...

You finish filling out the application, confident in its ability to afford you that much needed scholarship, and you notice a series of "yes or no" boxes at the bottom of the paper that you've failed to check. Being the astute young man that you are, you recognize that that these boxes need "yes" responses in order for your application to be considered. These responses, a prelude to a potential interview, will most likely be revisited. So let's see ... full time student—check...GPA—check...parents' total income—check...white male—uh....well...maybe...

What if you could pass for a White male, when convenient?

The first question that comes to mind is, would you? And if you did, is that conceding to the idea that you cannot excel as a Black person? It may be mildly successful in the occasional situation, but what strengthens our pride in our success is the idea that it is ours. In order to pronounce our victories, we must take credit for them.

How would that affect your self-concept and appreciation for you race?

If you secured a position by representing yourself as a White man, not only are you not truly representing yourself, you are not representing your race. Appreciating your race does not simply apply to its given benefits, it requires an understanding and taking all that it offers and working with it.

Could your dedication to the advancement of your people be sacrificed?

While seemingly beneficial, this misrepresentation defeats the goals of advancement that your people have set for themselves. Whether or not we would like to admit it, many people would abandon "the cause". What makes people champion a cause is the desire to succeed for themselves. If people could pass for White, why would they continue to fight for Black?

Why are we so happy when we succeed, no matter how small the victory?

Because we know that our battle was harder! Admittedly, being White would be easier, but being Black is more fun.

**"An Appreciation of AUC Art"
Opens Sat. April 21st
at
Woodruff Library
brought to you by
The Photographers' Club &
The Diverge Club**

A visit from a concerned parent

LueRachelle Brim-Atkins
Contributing Writer

I am a parent of a Spelman College student. I visited campus a few weeks ago and had the privilege of talking individually with many students and I sat in on several classes. I was impressed with the caliber of male and female students and enjoyed hearing their thoughtful, well-articulated views. I left those encounters with much hope and enthusiasm for our future as African Americans and for our nation.

One conversation was particularly disturbing to me, however, and I cannot let it pass unmentioned. In a class, one young woman talked of an incident where men at the AUC stood on a corner and made extremely boisterous, disparaging, sexual remarks about her and what they fantasized themselves doing sexually to her. She said that she has made it a point to carry herself in a way that would in

no way invite such comments and when these remarks were made to her, she made it clear that she did not like the comments. The young males continued, laughing all the while. Several "Morehouse men" who, until that moment, she had considered to be her friends, laughed along with the others. When she challenged them later, her "friends" simply responded, "They were just having a good time" and "I thought it was funny."

I find this particularly distressful for a number of reasons:

—I have three generations of Morehouse men in my family and none of them would take pride in the behavior of these males as representative of what Morehouse purports to stand for.

—Males who make such disparaging comments

have obviously spent little time thinking about how hurtful and offensive their behaviors are. Perhaps if they heard someone making the same comments to their MOTHERS, SISTERS, and one day, their DAUGHTERS, the pain would be more obvious. Unless they change their behaviors, by that time they will have

In the grown up world, it's called "harassment" and harassers PAY! Better to learn that now than later.

given up the right to protest such actions because they have agreed to be perpetrators of the problem.

—Males who do not learn appropriate behaviors toward women while they are in college or earlier are often the ones we read about in the newspapers after they have joined the work force. They embarrass their families and friends as they are named in huge sexual ha-

arrassment suits and join the ranks of the disgraced and unemployed.

I understand the need to be accepted, to feel a part of a community, to do the "male bonding" thing. Everyone needs to feel that they belong. But at what cost do we sacrifice our souls to be part of a "club?"

As a parent, I would urge SOMEONE, ANYONE at the AUC to begin discussions with young men and women about respectful behaviors. This particular young woman felt violated, humiliated, angry and hurt. If the young males involved intended to humiliate and hurt a fellow human being, they can commend themselves for their success. If not, they owe this young woman—and any other woman who has been the recipient of such behavior—a sincere, heartfelt apology. No situation is "fun" unless

everyone involved is having fun. In the grown up world, it's called "harassment" and harassers PAY! Better to learn that now than later.

I'm an African American parent and all black sons and daughters are my sons and daughters. My heart goes out to the young woman who felt humiliated. My fear is for the young men who "don't know and don't know that they don't know." Once you get to college, guys, it's time to grow up and recognize that grabbing a crotch, making lewd remarks, or hurting another human being are NOT definitions of a MAN. The men of AUC would do well to have some discussions to find definitions. After graduation may be too late.

Done any community service lately???
Stop by the Emma and Joe Adams Public Service Institute for more details.

Islam as a new way of life

Islam from page 7

Holy month of Ramadan (a fasting month for Muslims). Because this fast requires no meals during daylight hours, Makin requested his meals to be given to him between sunset and dawn. However, officials did not adhere to the prisoners' request, which prevented him from devoting himself to the full religious experience of Ramadan. According to the article, a federal judge ruled in favor of Makin in April 1998, stating that the prison officials violated Makin's constitutional right to practice his faith.

Because of their situation, many incarcerated lose or are withheld from certain religious rights. Many who work for the prison system believe that Islam is a threat to society inside and outside of prison. Others believe that the growing religion is a threat to other religions. "A lot of people think it's a African-American thing,"

Fareed said. He maintains his connection to the religion within the free world as well as within the prison.

In a world of religious devotion, where language is learned and education focused upon, Muslims maintain the strength of their faith even in times of despair. It is through Brotherhood that they alleviate

In a world of religious devotion, where language is learned and education focused upon, Muslims maintain the strength of their faith even in times of despair.

their burdens and elevate to higher levels. However, there are those who find that the brotherhood taught within the Qur'an (Islamic equivalence to the Bible) is not the same inside and outside of prison. Dawud Burgess, became a Muslim in prison. As a white American, Burgess expressed his Islamic experience in an article he wrote entitled, "Behind Bars: Islam Inside and Outside Prison." While in prison, Burgess was welcomed by his fellow inmates into the religion. Entering a predominately Af-

rican-American community, Burgess felt as though his fellow inmates took him in as one of their own, "risking their lives to teach me about Islam."

However, Burgess felt that this warm-hearted treatment only lasted while incarcerated. According to Burgess, as he continued to enhance his fellowship outside of prison walls, his treatment was not the same. He was ignored and felt as though he was betrayed;

longing for the brotherhood he received in jail. "I had to wonder if the Qur'an I had been reading was actually a whole different book. When I left the prison and those brothers who had become my family, I was sad. I know that I would not see most of them again in this life. I left there making a promise that I would not forget what I had learned. I haven't. Often, I am reminded of those bars and the brothers I left behind. It is brotherhood that many have to hang on to, and hanging on is just an intricate part of an inmate's survival."

The Maroon Tiger

The Maroon Tiger is published fifteen times during the academic year of Morehouse 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 author, 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.

Shaun Spearmon Editor in Chief	George A. Peters, II Asst. Features Editor	Howard Franklin Managing Editor
Kasi David Campus News Editor	Roger Spencer Humphrey World & Local News Editor	Michael D. Harrison Copy Editor
Cedric Dark Photo Editor	Calvin Miles Smith, III Sports Editor	Joe Carlos Features Editor
Hamadi Dawkins Rose A & E Editor	Carnegie Mims, III Swing Editor	Elliot McDaniel Business Manager
Geoffrey R. Bennett Asst. Campus News Editor	Broderick McGrady Advisor	Andrew Valls, Ph.D. Advisor
Jocelyn Jackson, Ph.D. Advisor		Steven Baker, Ph.D. Advisor

The Editorial Board members are Shaun Spearmon (Editor-in-Chief), Joe Carlos (Features Editor) and Sterling Taylor (Senior Staff Writer).

The Maroon Tiger welcomes your views on any public issue. We routinely edit letters for space and correct errors in spelling and punctuation. Letters as well as commentaries must be 500 words or less, typed, signed and should include full address and telephone number.

All correspondence should be mailed to:

The Maroon Tiger
Morehouse College • 830 Westview Drive, Southwest • Atlanta, Georgia 30314
Phone: (404) 614-6041 • Fax: (404) 507-8628
E-mail: mtiger@morehouse.edu

She's not the average girl

Another in a series of great R&B albums this Spring

Kenny Allen
Staff Writer

When India Arie sings, "I'm not the average girl from your video," she isn't just whistling Dixie. This talented young, female from Atlanta has already touched the souls of people nationwide, and she's only 25! In Arie's first single, "Video," we discover a young woman who expresses her beauty through her music and style. "I'm not the average girl from your video. My worth is not determined by the price of my clothes. No matter what I'm wearing I will always be—

The India Arie!" From local Coffeehouses like the Ying Yang café in Atlanta to the stages of Lilith Fair, Arie has already left deep impressions in the souls of many.

Her rich, melodic voice echoes songs from her ancestors like Bill Weathers, Roberta Flak and Stevie Wonder. "Songwriting has had an effect on me that I would never have predicted," says Arie. "In 'Back to the Middle,' the girl who was 'afraid to speak her mind,' is me. The deeper understanding of myself and others was a direct result of writing songs." And that may be just what makes India's many talents so impressive and truly inspired.

Divided between blues, soul and R&B, Arie's voice can be described as a universal tool that speaks directly to the heart. She displays her insights and visions in "Strength, Courage and Wisdom." In life stories like "Promises" and "Beautiful," Arie pro-



vides the kind of warm, loving advice that only a mother or best friend can provide. Swinging from life to love, "Brown Skin," "I see God in You," "Ready for Love" and "Always in my Head," Arie offers a good dose of melodic, sensual, baby-making tonic that will heal even a hardcore case of the blues.

Acoustic Soul is a masterpiece ahead of its time. "I'm trying to blend acoustic and hip-hop elements," India explains. "I used the most acoustic sounding drum samples, to have something loud enough to compete with other records but keep a realistic softer feel."

Arie's background and individualist spirit are rooted in a supportive and musical family. "I love my family y'all. Family is so im-

portant to me, without them I wouldn't be here today," Arie explains at her album release party held at the Cotton Club in Atlanta. Her mother called Simpson by the family, and her father, basketball player Ralph Simpson, named India in tribute to Mahatma Gandhi because her due date matched his birthday. "Arie was something my mom made up, but I was told later that it means 'lion,'" she says.

The album is an absolute embarrassment of riches, joys, sorrows and an inspirational wake-up call for those seeking salvation from our pop-driven society. So when Arie says she's not the "average girl," please believe it. Video hoes consider yourself warned! Grade:A

Jessica Car Moore adds verse-atility to Atlanta Jazz Series

April 16, 2001, Detroit—Spoken word artist and best-selling author Jessica Care Moore will headline MoorEpics Poetry Planet's "Conversations in Jazz" series in Monday, April 23, 2001 at 8pm at 227 Mitchell Street in Atlanta, Georgia.

Jessica Care Moore made entertainment history after claiming the first victory for a poet on the nationally syndicated "Its Showtime At The Apollo" talent showcase. Moore has since enlightened and captivated U.S. and European audiences by delivering her prolific poetry with a powerful punch. She is the author of *The Words Don't Fit In My Mouth* (Moore Black Press, 97).

"Conversations in Jazz" is one of MoorEpics Poetry Planet's weekly jam-session se-



ries. Jessica Care Moore will be joined by Sharrif Simmons, poet, musician and author of *Fast Cities and Objects That Burn* (Moore Black Press, 99) and other local musicians, vocalists and spoken word artists. The event will be hosted by SunNova, local saxophonist and jazz improvisationist.

"The purpose of the jazz series is to show how artists fuse the language of music with words," said Care Moore. "Poets like Nikki Giovanni, Amiri Baraka and The Last Poets have been doing this for a long time.

"This is our generation's spin on the rich tradition of mixing music and poetry."

A night of stars

Tauheedah Muhammad
Staff Writer

The music industry has become one of the world's largest enterprises, growing at a rapid pace with new artists and new music trends every day.

Whether they are "one-hit wonders" or long-time favorites, each artist adds a new face to entertainment.

Hip-hop, R&B, Gospel and Rock set most of the scene for the millennium, boosting album sales, and providing the latest hits for star-struck fans.

But what makes the artist is more than just the music. For many, it's the love for musical

want to do this when I get older."

Damita displayed her talent by singing a few tracks from her album at the annual Atlantic Urban Records artist promotional event on Friday, April 13th. She, along with Atlantic Records "Jazzy Faye," and "Ray J," set the mood for the evening.

Damita's album features songs that speak about the fears and abuses of life, and how God can alleviate such shortcomings through a person's strength in faith and God's love. According to Damita, you do not have to be in church to witness and praise God. You can do it in your home, or any other area of everyday life.



talent. Musicians often portray what they feel through music. "I like to portray to people a message of positiveness, of hope of God, and also just to show them that there are more positive things to direct their energy instead of the negative stuff," according to Atlantic Records gospel artist Damita. Damita's self-titled album *Damita* came out September of 2000. This Detroit native has sang for over twelve years. Starting from young, she grew up singing in her church choir, from the children's choir to young adults.

Her career lifted off in 1996, when meeting Aretha Franklin who asked her to sing back up for her after hearing Damita sing in a play performance. The inspirational singer contributed a lot of her gospel career to growing up in a musical environment. "My family was musically orientated, and stuff like that, so it became something that I was like 'hey, I

The event allowed each artist to display their talent, and also gave them a chance to meet the same ones who support their music. "Jazzy Faye," rocked the night with tracks from his August released album, "Do you know this playboy?" This artist, originally from Memphis, Tennessee, resides here in Atlanta. "Ray J," ended the performance with his new hit "Wait a Minute" which features "Lil Kim" on his new album "This Ain't A Game."

The room filled with Mass Communication Majors from colleges all over and the AUC, was encompassed with excitement from both the stars and students. Chris Washington, head of the event, lead the night making sure to include information on ways the students can network amongst each other throughout their careers. His staff included college representatives from many different schools including two from Atlanta's own AUC.



The
Maroon Tiger

To All Graduating Seniors:

For all you graduating seniors who have a profound story to tell about your tenure at Morehouse College, **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.** This is your chance to prove to your parents and yourself that you did not waste their money and the past 4 or 5 years of your life, rather you have become an educated, cultured, future Black leader.

We need your story. *The Maroon Tiger* is now accepting essays and retrospectives for the 2001 Commencement Issue. Please bring your masterpiece by Archer Hall 115 or e-mail us at mtiger@morehouse.edu. The deadline for submissions is May 2.

Thank You,

Shaun A. Spearmon—Editor-in-Chief

Much respect due to the players

Demetrius Smith
Contributing Writer

It's spring, which can only mean one thing in Archer Hall, intramural basketball. For those that's out the know, intramural basketball has been a fixture here at Morehouse for the past four years.

Associate Vice President of Student Services Johnny Nims, Student Services Staff member Irving Seabrook, and Assistant Basketball Coach Stubbs along with the support of our many student athletes have led to the development of an exciting and competitive intramural basketball program.

Since its inception in 1998 students have vigorously supported intramural basketball. The program has a participation average 22 teams per year and in its inaugural season in 1998 the league had 31 teams.

The intramural league consists of freshman and upper-classmen teams from the various residence halls. The season begins in February and continues through late March followed by the playoffs in early April.

Intramural basketball has

been extremely important here at Morehouse because it allows students that are not involved with the varsity program to continue to participate in organized sports. The program also offers students a break from the daily grind of classes and studying.

As Coach Seabrook stated "The program allows students to relive their high school days and it serves as the battle ground

"The intramural program and the varsity program goes hand and hand by allowing players who didn't make the varsity team to continue to improve their skills"

—Coach Stubbs

for student bragging rights."

Since its inception there has been friction between the intramural program and the varsity program. Many of the intramural players believe that their program has more talent than the varsity program, and with some practice an all-star intramural team would beat the varsity basketball team.

Coach Seabrook would not guarantee a victory but he stated, "They would be very competitive against the varsity team." Coach Stubbs playing

the ambassador stated, "The intramural program and the varsity program goes hand and hand by allowing players who didn't make the varsity team to continue to improve their skills."

Coach Stubbs also stated that the intramural program serves as a minor league for the varsity program because it allows the coaches to consider players for the varsity team.

It remains to be seen if the intramural league can compete with the varsity team but there is no doubt about the talent level that the league possess. In the past two seasons the Morehouse traveling intramural team has fought its way to the final four in the state intramural tournament.

Coach Seabrook and Coach Stubbs both agree that the talent level of Morehouse intramural program rivals any program in the southeast. This year

has been no different, at press time there were seven players in the intramural league that are averaging 15 point per game.

The league's leading scorers are Patrick Richards who is averaging 20.8 points per game and Ricky Gulley who is averaging 19.8. The premiere teams in the intramural league are Smackdown, the only undefeated team in the league and The Young Guns the two time defending champs. Other notable teams are Ox & the Boys, E.O.T.O., NFL, Black Ceasar.

The Morehouse intramural league has a bright future also. Next year the league's final four and all-star game will be played at Forbes Arena. Also, the program will expand to two divisions next year. It will be a division for non-competitive students and a division for students with prior basketball experience. Morehouse will also host an intramural invite tournament amongst various teams in Atlanta.

[Editor's Addendum: The tournament final was played following the writing of this story. E.O.T.O. defeated the Young Guns in the final game played in front of a packed house in

Archer Hall by a score of 65-63. The MVP of the game was William Cade. The team was coached by Seabrook who also hit a key three pointer in the closing seconds of the game. Congratulations to both teams on a job well done.]



The **POWER** behind your potential.

SALES ANALYST
-Galliersburg, Maryland-

At Honda, we've created a stimulating working environment based on mutual respect. This philosophy, combined with our superior products, guarantees that our associates are proud to be members of the Honda team.

The selected candidate will play a key role in 2000 sales operations and provide support for District Sales Managers, including generating management reports and handling special projects. Requires a BA/BS degree in marketing, management and a background working with financial analysis and statements. Proficiency in Word, Excel and PowerPoint is essential, as are excellent organizational and communication skills. Candidates with 3 years of retail automotive sales experience and a dealership background are highly preferred. Must be open to travel and have relocation. Position may lead to a District Sales Manager role.

For consideration, please send your resume with salary history to: **American Honda Motor Co., Inc., 1919 Terrance Blvd., MS 100-1C-3A, ANN-7433MAS, Torrance, CA 90501-2746. FAX (310) 783-2110. www.honda.com.** An Equal Opportunity/Alternative Action Employer. Women and Minorities are encouraged to apply.

HONDA
The power of dreams?

Support Our Own Squad

Calvin Miles Smith, III
Sports Editor

Satisfying the fickle fans at Morehouse is very difficult. Even winning basketball and football programs have a hard time getting attention.

For many fans, besides the Tiger Rumble, the cheerleaders play second banana to Mahogany in Motion. After their performance in the Black College National Cheerleading Competition people should start to take notice.

The competition consists of a routine including a cheer portion, a dance, jumping, and stunts. A panel of judges then judges the routines.

This was Morehouse's first year fielding a team and based on all indications they performed very well. They performed in a division along with rival Clark-Atlanta and Johnson C. Smith Universities.

According to team member Cathy Silva, who could not participate due to injury, the team originally finished in third behind

Clark-Atlanta and Johnson C. Smith. This decision was questioned by many including the fans and participants. In fact according to Silva, the fans booed the result and the reader appeared to be in shock. According to team member Lorielle Broussard the result was "a fraud." Ultimately Morehouse was placed ahead of Clark-Atlanta for a second place finish.

Some of the controversy stemmed from judging inconsistencies. The team was informed that the panel would consist of eight judges when in fact it only had five. They also were not the judges listed on the original roster of judges.

The team was led by captains Heather Kinney and India Johnson and coached by Shannon Jones. There are currently twenty

cheerleaders.

The competition was over sold and as a result not everyone who bought a ticket could get in. Many Morehouse and Spelman students were in attendance to support the team. Broussard noted that the crowd was "crunk" and surprised by what they saw from the team.

Still as a whole the student body has shown lack luster support for the team. According to Silva the support is "weak". She makes a valid point that fans do not pay much attention to anything besides the Tiger Rumble and like many student athletes she expresses the fact that she and

her squad members do not feel appreciated.

Morehouse's Cheerleaders deserve a hand for their performance on the 24th and the continued support of fans in the future.



Jabulani Barber/Staff

Flying High.

Flying high

Charlene Cole gets the word from high jumper Jesse Lipscombe

Charlene Cole
Staff Writer

The sun tried to creep in through the clouds and shine down on the Edwin C. Moses track for the AUC Track and Field Championship on a cloudy Wednesday afternoon. As a nice-sized crowd filed in, almost reminiscent of October Saturdays, Morehouse College started out and ended strong in all events as junior sensation high jumper Jesse Lipscombe looked on. With a smile on his face and his laughter filling the air, you'd never guess the level of compassion and seriousness he has for the sport.

Having followed the lead of his older brother and sister into track and field, Jesse, at the age of nine, became skilled in every aspect of competition. However, through the process of elimination and the effects of age, Jesse found his specialty at the age of 16 -high jumping. In the same spirit of competition demonstrated in his adolescence, he focused intensely on being the best high jumper he could be, which is exactly what he did.

Having been recruited from numerous Division 1 and Division 2 colleges and universities prior to graduation from high school, Jesse chose Morehouse. Unlike most highly recruited athletes, Jesse wanted more from his college experience than the opportunity to be treated as a commodity.

"You get recruited out of high school and you go visit the different schools and they try to sell you their best offer," Jesse says. "Usually, an athlete will take it. If I were to get hurt or something they could just put me to the side. Besides, location-wise, Morehouse is perfect for training, especially outside. I knew the weather would be warm," said Jesse.

The native Canadian moved a long distance from home to join a coach and a team at a school that he felt would offer far more than any school, D1 or D2. He attributes his decision to come here to Coach Bell.

"Coach didn't set out to make me a better high

jumper; his main objective was to first make me a better man as well as a better high jumper, something that would benefit me for life," Jesse explains.

Even with the coach's help, the transition was difficult. Coming to Morehouse was a change he was not ready for, but he eventually became well adapted, especially when he combined the two environments - that of Morehouse and the track.

If you've never seen Morehouse's Track and Field team compete, then you've never seen a group of individuals continuing in the

"Coach didn't set out to make me a better jumper; his main objective was to first make me a better man."

burning light of past and future Olympians, Jesse Lipscombe included. During the AUC championship, there wasn't a placing Morehouse did not obtain, even if it were first, second, AND third. with a joyous,

"I was projected to be on the Canadian team last year," Jesse answers when asked if he holds any Olympic dreams of his own.

"I had a bit of bad luck at the IAAF meet, a track and field competition for all the athletes in the Western Hemisphere in Mexico this past summer. I won my portion of the competition with a qualifying record for the Olympics. I was 3rd ranked in Canada; however in order to go to the Olympics I needed to place amongst the top three overall, but I placed fourth. Thus, I couldn't go to Olympics, but I promised myself what happened this past summer would never happen again," Jesse continues.

It is not surprising that Jesse is determined to go to the Olympics. With his namesake and idol being Jesse Owens, who also died the day Jesse was born, nothing less would be expected.

Yet, before you look for Jesse at the 2004 Olympics in Athens, watch out for him at the World Track and Field competition. If you can't wait that long to catch his spectacular high jumping abilities in action, look no farther than

the Edwin C. Moses Track where he and his teammates, better yet, his "family," can be found.

"We are like a family. The upperclassmen are my big brothers who teach the younger ones all there is to learn," says Jesse.

If there were one particular family member Jesse would characterize himself as, he would be the child that brings light heartedness to the table.

"Track and field is a serious sport. So I provide a scapegoat to the team to give them a break from reality, a little laughter. They're my family and I'm willing to do anything for them. Besides, I feel as if I owe the program for all the things it and the coach has done for me."

With the protective spirit of an older brother, he warns all of the teams they will compete against by saying: "This year we're chalked full of talent, young talent. And you know how it goes with talented young teams. Well, it can go a number of ways actually, but I see us doing well and I expect us to do better in the years to come. And there's no question that we're going to win conference this year and find ourselves amongst the top three in the nation."

Behind the competitive nature of key leaders such as Todd Smith, Damien Savoy, Christophe Arumva, Horace Steele. Other team members to watch include David Dreggers, Terrance Battle, Keith Johnson, Don Von Gee Manuel, Jancen McMillian and countless others, Jesse doesn't see his expectations as a stretch at all. He plans to fly high above the bars for them 100%, no matter what.

Around the Horn

By Calvin Miles Smith, III

This issue I have two things that are on my mind more than anything else, basketball and baseball.

The NCAA Basketball season has come to a close with the Duke Blue Devils taking the title. Duke is a real case of a "love them or hate them" type team. I stand on the hater side and that fact probably hurt more than anything when I picked them to win the tournament. I guess my hatred stems from the tournament where they beat Kentucky on Christian Laettner's last second three pointer and then went on to beat UNLV.

This year the Dukies were merely the most consistent team in the nation. Jason Williams and Shane Battier had the benefit of some suspect calls from the referees but there is no denying their skills on the court. Love them or hate them, the Blue Devils deserved this year's title and could very well repeat if Jason Williams and Carlos Boozer return.

In the NBA the Portland Trailblazers have yet another problem to add to their list, the drug problems of Shawn Kemp. The former "Reign Man" has been in decline since his trade four years ago to Cleveland.

The Dallas Mavericks have become my new favorite team. With the pickup of Wang Zhizhi from China they have the pieces now to build a championship contender. Will they do it this year? They have a good chance actually. If the playoffs started as of this writing they would be the number five seed and open up against Utah Jazz, a team they have shown that they can beat. That would set up a date with the winner of the L.A. Lakers (who own Dallas this season) and the

slumping Trailblazers. Just know that you've been warned.

In the east Philadelphia still has the best record despite a recent slump. However the Milwaukee Bucks have quietly had a very impressive string of games. They own a perfect record so far against the top four teams in the Western Conference, with a fast paced west-coast type offense. They still need work on the defensive end and on the glass.

Baseball season is only a few days old and already the season is looking good. Hideo Nomo pitched a no-hitter in the second game of the season for the Boston Red Sox, the second of his career. I am sure Sox fans are excited to see that there is a capable arm behind Pedro Martinez in the rotation.

The New York Mets took the first series from the Atlanta Braves in Turner Field. This is remarkable given the Mets 6-21 record at Turner Field in recent years. It could be a long summer for Braves and Mets fans with the teams playing 19 times over the season.

In sad news Darryl Strawberry once again left his rehabilitation center for a drug binge. Allegedly he was in a car with a woman who pulled out a crack pipe and started to smoke and he could not resist the temptation. Strawberry has numerous violations on his record and is also battling colon cancer. He has the support of many friends and colleagues but it appears that this may have been the last straw (no pun intended) in this saga.

Until next issue, enjoy yourself and support Morehouse athletics.

**Get out and support
the Track Team and
Tennis Team**



Beloved...

Photo by
Shaun Spearmon