

THE MAROON TIGER

WATCH Tiger TV THURSDAY 6:00PM ON CHANNEL 23

THE ORGAN OF STUDENT EXPRESSION SINCE 1925

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE . ATLANTA, GA

JANUARY 28 - FEBRUARY 3, 2009

WWW.THEMAROONTIGER.COM



Image: The New York Times

President Obama after meeting with House Republicans on Tuesday.

Obama Lobbies GOP on Stimulus Package

CHAD SANDERS
World News Editor
gwwiv.10@gmail.com

In just his first week in office, President Barack Obama has already made good on his second of several major promises given to the nation during his Inauguration address on January 20.

President Obama delivered a proposal of an economic stimulus plan to representatives of the Republican party in Washington that was described as "compelling, convincing and seemingly well received" by members of the media at hand during the conference.

Though lawmakers from the GOP and a few Democratic representatives did not see eye-to-eye on every issue of the plan, Obama portrayed the meeting as a positive and fluid discussion.

In hindsight, he said that there was a free-loving nature of ideas rather than the logjam that often plagues such discussions between the two parties.

"We had a wonderful exchange of ideas, and I continue to be optimistic about our ability to get this recovery package done to put people back to work," Obama said to reporters from CNN after leaving the meeting. "There are some legitimate philosophical differences and I respect that."

Obama noted earlier in the week that the plan was more of a soft block of clay to be molded by the nation's leaders rather than a finished product. However, as promised, Obama made sure to remember the lower-class families

and workers in constructing his plan. The day was split into two meetings, the first between the president and the House Republicans to discuss the \$825 billion economic stimulus plan and the second with the Senate GOP caucus.

Reporters at hand noted that the GOP representatives were particularly warm in their reception of Obama, contrary to similar meetings between presidents of one party and large-scale members of the opposing party. House Minority Leader John Boehner, a representative from Ohio, described the conversation as progressive and almost pleasant mentioning that some members of his party enjoyed it.

"Clearly there are some differences," Boehner said following the conference. "I look forward to improve[ing] this package in the coming days so that it is a package that will work for American families, small businesses and our overall economy."

The bill, as it currently stands, would be set to try and reverse some of the negative impacts of the current financial and job market crises in the United States.

Several Republicans voiced a fear that the bill would take too long to balance the market and thus too many families and companies would fall apart in waiting. Obama tried to allay such feelings by assuring that the bill, however slowly enacted, would create a strong financial foundation

"Obama's Plan" cont on page 2▶

Pinder Resigns from Andrew Young Center

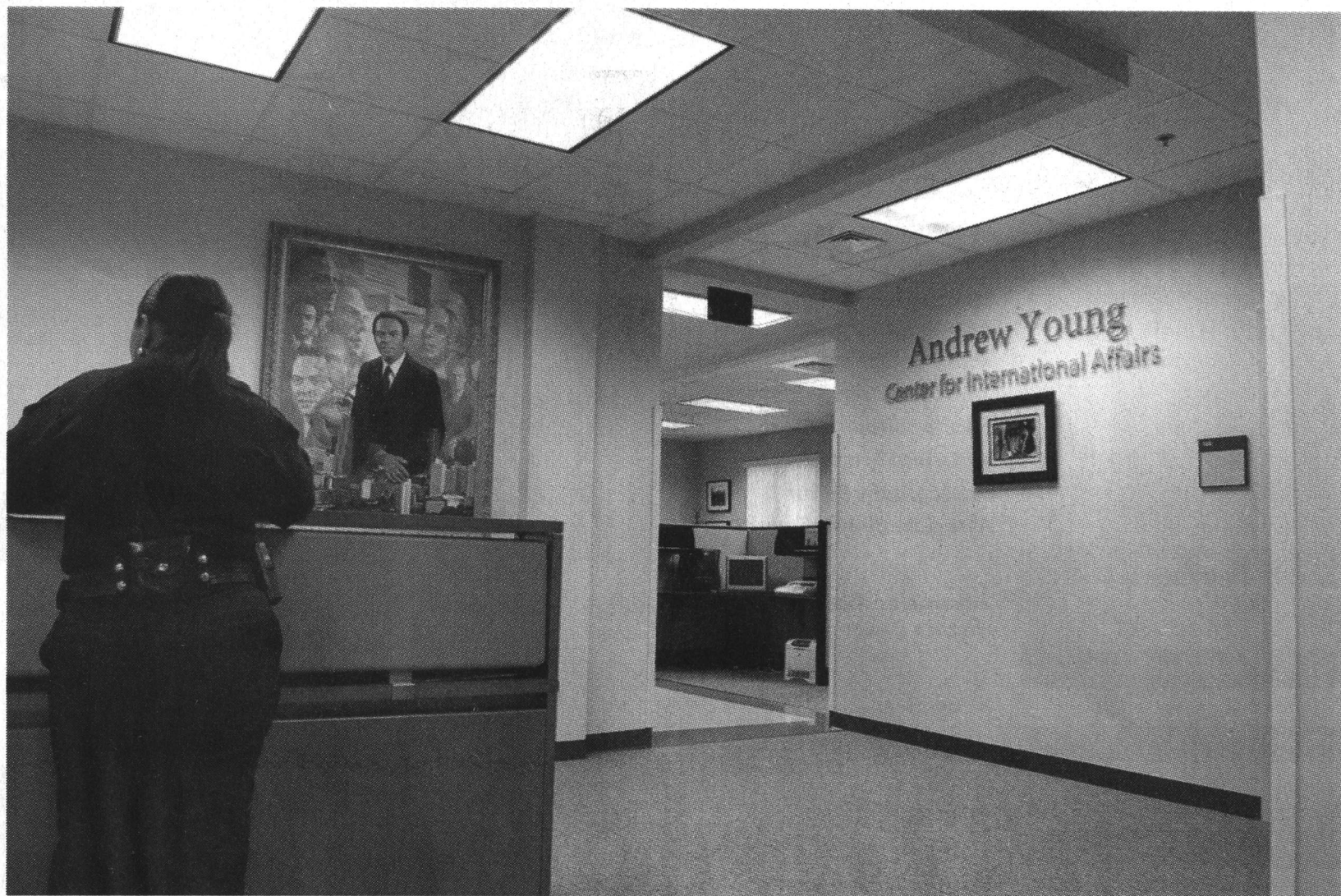


Image: Matt Jones

The Andrew Young Center for International Affairs located on the 3rd floor of Leadership Center.

GEORGE W. WILLIAMS IV
Campus News Editor
gwwiv.10@gmail.com

While students were on break from classes this winter, executive director of the Andrew Young Center [AYC] Anthony Pinder resigned. College administrators have not explained why Pinder suddenly departed.

"It was sudden," senior international studies major Alex Bibb said upon learning the news over the break from Political Science Department Chair Gregory Hall, Ph.D.

Bibb is one of many students whose interest in international studies led to a close relationship with Pinder.

"He was my adviser for so many things," Bibb said of Pinder.

With the guidance of Pinder, Bibb was named a fellow of the Institute for International Public Policy in 2007. Most recently, Pinder was working with Bibb to revamp the Morehouse chapter

of the Golden Key International Honour Society, the world's largest collegiate honor society.

Kawasi Weston, a junior international studies and philosophy double major, credits his unprecedented accomplishment of being awarded the Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship and the Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Fellowship to Pinder, his mentor.

"He got done what he said he was going to get done...unlike a lot of administrators," Weston commented.

Political Science Department Chair Gregory Hall shared similarly high regards for Pinder.

"He brought to the [Andrew Young Center] a very fluid mind... and an impressive résumé for someone his age," Hall said.

Hall is optimistic about the college's ability to move forward despite the abrupt departure of Pinder.

"We can get through the fiscal year without anything falling by

the way."

Hall echoed the sentiments shared by Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs John Williams, Ph.D.

Williams has been coordinating efforts to split the responsibilities of the AYC executive director between administrators affiliated with the center. This was the agreement reached between Williams and Hall after Williams reached out to Hall to assume the role of interim executive director.

In addition to his responsibilities as chair of the Political Science Department and soon to be announced interim executive director of the center, Hall also recently became the director of the International Studies Program after the departure of former director Hamid Taqi, Ph.D., last summer.

Weston also noticed how much of an impact the staff losses in the Political Science Department were affecting his courses when three of his classes last semester

were converted into directed study courses.

"Pinder stepped in and was an assistant professor for my Latin American Politics course," Weston said.

Williams and Hall assure students that they are prioritizing needs that have resulted from Pinder's absence.

"The [Model United Nations] trip to compete in the Netherlands is a top priority," Hall shared.

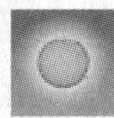
That will relieve the worried MUN members like Thomas-Shah who feel that without Pinder the award-winning campus organization is left to advocate for itself. Pinder was the group's advisor and the primary fundraiser for their trips overseas.

According to Bibb, another MUN member, this year's trip will cost upwards of \$60,000 for all 17 members to be able to attend. As of now, only \$20,000 has been raised, which would only enable

"Pinder Resigns" cont on page 2▶

Inside Track

Thur



58°F | 31°F

Fri



47°F | 25°F

Sat



51°F | 30°F

Mason Inaugurated as Alpha President

On Saturday, Jan. 24 Interim Vice President of Student Affairs Herman "Skip" Mason was inaugurated as the 33rd General President of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Read more about the Morehouse leader's accomplishment inside. **on page 2▶**

Dr. J is Back At It!



Read on page 6▶

Morehouse: Don't Like It? Leave!



Read on page 7▶

Concerns Over Fair St. Safety



Image: Matt Jones

Fair Street exit of Morehouse College.

Three armed robberies have occurred within sight of Perdue Hall since last Fall, with the most recent theft happening on January 17th near the Morehouse campus entry gate. SGA officials and students hope to see an increased security presence on Fair Street. dents who aren't doing anything wrong don't deserve that. It's unfortunate because of how the crime occurred. There should have been someone there to help the student and there should be security posted on Fair St."

News



The Maroon Tiger

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 16 - 8 pages

Management

Edward Mitchell, '09
Tyren C. Holmes, '10
Krista DeSouza, SC, '10
Wendell Marsh, '09
Carl Ringgold, '10

Editors

Hassan Kanu, '09
George W. Williams IV, '10
Chad Sanders, '10
Kody Melancon
Randol Davis, '09
Kevin Mallory, '10
Jamal Hansberry, '09
Frederick Salyers,
Ashley Precia, CAU, '09
Khadjah Robinson, SC, '10
Gerren Gaynor,
Jacobi Eaves, '09
Lauren Harper, SC, '10
Matt Jones, '10
Raveen Foster, '10

Finance & Advertising

Xavier Ifill, '10
Edwin Coffie, '09

www.TheMaroonTiger.com

Alimou Bah, '10

Tiger TV

Julius Pryor, '09
Martisse Hill, '09

Distribution & Public Relations

Brittney Daigle-Leonard SC, '10
Paul Underwood, '09
Kristin Mason, SC, '10
Shawn Thomas, '10

Online Production

Kara Walker
Hana Chelikowski

Adviser

Editor-in-Chief
Chief Layout Editor
Chief Copy Editor
New Media Director
Production Manager

Chief News Editor
Campus News Editor
World & Local News Editor
New Media Content
Associate News Editor
Assoc. Campus News Editor
Arts & Entertainment Editor
Associate A&E Editor
Features Editor
Opinions Editor
Associate Opinions Editor
Sports Editor
Associate Sports Editor
Photography Editor
Associate Copy Editor

Advertising Manager
Finance Director

Webmaster

Producer
Associate Producer

Distribution Manager
Assoc. Distribution Manager
Public Relations (PR) Director
Associate PR Director

Winn Walker

Ron Thomas

830 Westview Drive, SW • Box 40 • Atlanta, GA 30314

Mason Inaugurated as Alpha President



Image: Courtesy

Herman 'Skip' Mason, Interim Vice-President of Student Services, sworn in as 33rd General President of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated in the Martin Luther King International Chapel.

TURNER COOPER
Contributing Writer
turner.j.cooper@gmail.com

GEORGE W. WILLIAMS IV
Campus News Editor
gwwiv.10@gmail.com

On Saturday, Jan. 24 Interim Vice President of Student Affairs Herman "Skip" Mason was inaugurated as the 33rd General President of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

The ceremony took place in the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel, named for one of the most famous members of the 102-year-old organization. Ambassador Andrew Young, who is also a member of the

fraternity, and President Franklin were among those who honored Mason with remarks.

"What you have done for Morehouse and the Kappa Boule in this city, may you now do as you lead this great Alpha nation," President Franklin said.

In his remarks Franklin also noted Mason's vision to set education of young males as a priority of his tenure as president. To highlight the issue of education Mason included a symposium and lecture in the inaugural events. President Franklin was the symposium's keynote speaker.

"We will attack with a vengeance the educational

support of young boys," Mason said in his inaugural address.

Mason pointed towards his own educational background as an example of the affect educational opportunity can have on a young, Black male.

"I am proud to hold a degree from a historically Black college; Morris Brown College," Mason continued.

After graduating from Morris Brown in 1984, Mason earned a Master of Arts in Library and Information Science Degree from Clark Atlanta University.

In addition to his position as Interim Vice President of Student Services, Mason is the official college archivist and pastor

of Greater Hopewell Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Atlanta.

Mason was elected to the office of general president at the fraternity's 102nd annual convention this past summer in Kansas City. The convention marked the end to Mason's 16 month campaign for his fraternity's office. At the fraternity's Orlando convention in August of 2007, Mason was formally nominated for president by Ambassador Young.

"This is the pinnacle of my experience," Mason said to a packed King Chapel audience, which included his wife Harmel Codi Mason, daughter Jewel and son Jodari.

Anthony Pinder Resigns

◀ Continued from front page
10 students to compete.

Much of Pinder's successful fundraising for the MUN and AYC was a result of his beneficial relationships throughout the international community. Hall praised Pinder for the extensive network of contacts and respect the former executive director brought to the center.

Hall says that under the leadership of Pinder the center was very productive.

"More than any other unit on this campus...they're always thinking what do we need to do."

Hall described the center as having a 'spirit of unity' and of 'moving ahead.'

Pinder graduated from Morehouse in 1985 with a bachelor's degree in finance. He later earned a master's degree in international economics and Latin American studies from The John Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies.

Prior to his return to Morehouse Pinder served as

the Associate Dean of Global Studies at Dillard University and the director of the university's International Center for Economic Freedom. Before that he served as the national director for Minority Recruitment Initiatives with the U.S. Peace Corps and the national director of Program Development with the UNCF in Fairfax, VA.

"He had an interesting combination of business skills and international affairs knowledge," Hall said.

Despite current administrative changes at the AYC, Hall is urging other college administrators not to drop the ball. He strongly supports many of the initiatives Pinder started as executive director of the center and as co-chair of the college's SACS Consolidated Committee, which presented a Quality Enhancement Plan to guide Morehouse's strategic focus towards internationalization.

"I'm concerned about losing momentum and I don't want the access to good ideas he had to fall on deaf ears."

Obama Presents to GOP

◀ Continued from front page

for the Nation and one that would permeate the world's economy. Obama characterized the bill as potentially having a positive domino effect on the world.

Stevon Darling, a junior finance major from Nassau, Bahamas and self-acclaimed expert on the crisis was pleased to hear of Obama's approach to presenting the plan and its reception from the nation's leaders.

"It's good to know that the leaders in place are willing to sacrifice their individual feelings about opposing parties for the

betterment of this country," Darling said.

"It's so amazing the effect that someone like Obama can have on the leaders here and consequently the world. For a man to be able to come into a potentially hostile meeting and propose a plan in an eloquent and effective manner to his constituents is such a valuable trait in a president. I only hope that future meetings at the top can continue in this manner so that we can eventually get this crisis straightened out and thus the nation can move on to other pressing domestic and foreign issues."

Vivian Malone Jones Crown Forum

RODRIGUS GRAHAM
Contributing Writer
rodrigusg@gmail.com

GEORGE W. WILLIAMS IV
Campus News Editor
gwwiv.10@gmail.com

On Thursday, Jan 22, the first Crown Forum of the spring semester that traditionally observes the life and legacy of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., also commemorated and honored the life and legacy of Civil Rights hero Vivian Malone Jones.

"It is because of her life and her remarkable story that we celebrate the legacy of Mrs. Vivian Malone Jones," Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin said during her speech at the inaugural Vivian Malone Jones Civil Rights Lecture.

Jones, who died three years ago at the age of 63, was one of two Black students to enroll at the University of Alabama in 1963 in one of the most dramatic scenes of the modern Civil Rights Movement.

On June 12 Jones and James Hood were accompanied into the university by National Guard Troops after a passionate pro-segregation speech given by Alabama Governor George C. Wallace who blockaded the door. It has since been written by civil rights historians that Governor Wallace made the compromise to comply with federal authorities after he was allowed a second scripted and



Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin (left) and Vivian Malone Jones (right).

Images: Courtesy

defiant performance.

In 1965 Jones and Hood left the university two months later as a result of several incidents of threats. Hood transferred to Wayne State University. Despite several campus bombings that November, Jones remained enrolled. In 1965 she became the first Black graduate of the university.

Jones later worked for the civil rights division of the United States Justice Department and the Environmental Protection Agency, where she served as director of civil rights and urban affairs and director of environmental justice.

At the Crown Forum Dean

of the Martin Luther King International Chapel Lawrence E. Carter Sr., announced that an oil portrait in dedication to Jones would be revealed later in the semester as members of her family were unable to attend the lecture. However, an oil portrait of Mayor Franklin was unveiled, which will hang in the chapel's International Hall of Fame.

President Franklin highlighted the shared historical significance of Jones and Franklin's lives. He noted the historic election of Mayor Franklin as the first Black female mayor of a major Southern city. Mayor Franklin also led an 11 day multi-million dollar fundraising

initiative to house the largest collection of King's personal items at Morehouse College.

In her address Mayor Franklin called on students of Morehouse College to be inspired by the brave life of Jones.

"Have the courage of your convictions...and listen to the voices of our ancestors," she said. Following the Crown Forum, Mayor Franklin discussed the significance of Jones in her personal life and career.

"She is a role model who has had a significant impact on my life," Mayor Franklin said of Jones. "She had the grace of a queen."

Sony Ericsson

Proudly Presents
Usher's One Night Stand Tour

Ladies only

I  music



PERFORM YOUR VERSION OF USHER'S
"WHAT'S YOUR NAME?" AND YOU COULD

**WIN A VIP TRIP
TO MEET USHER**

www.youtube.com/sonyericsson

No Purchase Necessary. Open to U.S. residents aged 14 or older as of the entry date. Void where prohibited. Contest starts 9/19/08. Contest ends on 11/30/08. Prize: \$5,000 ARV. To enter and for complete rules visit <http://www.sonyericsson.com/ushwalkman/>

See Usher Live www.usherworld.com



Headphones sold separately.
Music tracks displayed are for demonstration purposes only and are not included.

My life has a soundtrack. My phone has Walkman.™

Get a Sony Ericsson W760a Walkman™
phone for **\$99.99!***

*After \$50 mail-in rebate when purchased with a 2-year wireless service agreement and a \$19.99 MEdia package purchase. Valid 11/1/08 – 11/31/08. While supplies last. Offer good at all participating area AT&T retail stores.

Sony Ericsson
WALKMAN

*\$50 Mail-in Rebate: Offer is only available via mail-in rebate request and is not valid in store. Offer good 11/1/08 – 11/31/08, when purchased with a new 2-year service agreement at participating Atlanta area AT&T retail locations only. Promotion Card will be issued as a \$50 Promotion Card and may be used only in the U.S. and is valid for 120 days after issuance date. Price of W760a before MEdia package purchase and \$50 mail-in rebate is \$169.99. Promotion Card is not redeemable for cash and cannot be used for cash withdrawal at ATMs or automated gasoline pumps. Allow 60 days for fulfillment. Rebate requests must be postmarked by 1/2/09 and received by 1/31/09. You must be a customer for 30 consecutive days to qualify for the \$50 debit card. Offer open only to U.S. legal residents of Georgia, 18 and older.

The new  at&t

Opinions

Not Notorious

KHADIJAH ROBINSON
Opinions Editor
Krobin18@spelman.edu

Greatest rapper? There are no great qualifications for the job. That's my main problem. The qualification is mostly "skill." And anybody can have skills, including the most ignorant joke on God's green earth.

The whole entertainment industry either attracts or breeds nincompoops. But I wasn't put here to judge. My issue with the larger-than-life entertainers of the world (from athletes to rappers) is that the prominence attached to the job is not well-earned.

Just because you have a great jump shot or spit rhymes like Dr. Seuss doesn't mean that you should be on TV telling kids what to build their life on.

Think about it. Every time you hear the story of some rapper or another, he was selling crack to children and mothers and bustin' caps before he finally became successful rapping about selling crack to children and mothers and bustin' caps.

Then he gets himself into trouble when he continues such ridiculous behavior as bustin' caps and everyone is wearing shirts that read "Free _____" (insert name here). This is the example of manhood that pervades our life.

I just saw the movie "Notorious," the story of the late Brooklyn rapper, Biggie Smalls. Something about the movie bothered me. This man sold drugs, slept with a lot of women, treated the women in his life like

trash across the board and when he died, people lined the street crying and screaming his name.

That is what we idolize in our society, in our community. We still remember him as one of the greatest rappers of all time and we actually care enough about his life to see a movie about him!

I have numerous friends who are infatuated with the movie "Scarface," and would debate any critic on its importance in our culture, but when you think about it, it was just a movie about a thug with a drug problem and weaponry!

We make shirts and other paraphernalia honoring a movie about someone who did nothing constructive for the world he lived in. That's the movie we love. That's the image we love.

It doesn't surprise me when Michael Jackson touches little boys or R. Kelly pees on little girls, because, why shouldn't they? They're just ordinary people with a job that puts them in the public eye and attaches an artificial importance to every move they make.

There is no background check to make sure you're not a pervert before you're allowed into the world of entertainment. They are not more capable, intelligent, or enlightened than anyone else, yet people really care who Young Jeezy thinks our next president should be. Who the hell is he?!

The celebrity of people such as President Barack Obama is something that I view as a good thing; despite the way that Sen. John McCain tried to use it to condemn him.



Image: Courtesy

The late Brooklyn rapper Biggie Smalls.

When the person we're paying so much attention to actually has worthwhile things to say and does worthwhile things with his time, why should we not give him celebrity status? Instead of having David Banner save the children, why can't Henry Louis Gates?

Do we want our legacy to be built by our idols with an I.Q. of 80 and two priors?

Groups of misguided youth are leading this country. More people will show up for a Lil' Wayne concert than for a Dr. Cornel West lecture. Lil' Wayne's love life with Superhead is more interesting than studying for the SATs.

Biggie Smalls, a common drug dealer who decided he would rap about the game, was bigger than life. People loved him because he rapped the story of their lives. If that is the kind of person we idolize, it's time to live a different story.

THE MAROON TIGER

Edward Mitchell, '09
Editor-in-Chief

The Maroon Tiger is published weekly during the academic year at Morehouse College. Our goal is to maintain an independent editorial policy. Opinions expressed in *The Maroon Tiger* are solely the views of its staff 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 and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Maroon Tiger*. We believe all advertising to be correct but cannot guarantee its accuracy or be responsible for its outcome. *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 300 words or fewer, typed, signed, and should include a full address and telephone number.

Show me the Money

PATRICK BOATENG II

Contributing Writer
Patrick.boateng@gmail.com

President Barack Obama wants to bail out the financial system by providing close to a trillion dollars of taxpayer money. I'm not entirely sure if that is the solution to the financial crisis we are going through.

I would expect something like that if we were blindsided by some disaster, financial or not, that economically drained the system. However, it so happens that years of mismanagement and failed oversight have produced this consequence.

Some people might ask, "What about the Securities and Exchange Commission [SEC]? That's their job!" Well, those individuals are talking about the same Securities and Exchange Commission that satidly by and watched Bernie Madoff execute a highly simplistic, yet inconceivably effective Ponzi scheme, which lost tens of billions of dollars on false pretenses.

On its Web site, this same Securities and Exchange Commission says: "The world of investing is fascinating and complex and it can be very fruitful. But unlike the banking world, where deposits are guaranteed by the federal government, stocks, bonds and other securities can lose value.

There are no guarantees. That's why investing is not a spectator sport. By far the best way for investors to protect the money they put into the securities markets is to do research and ask questions."

Not a spectator sport? What does that mean? Are investors expected to devote all of their time to researching, making inquiries, and attempting to boil it down to a science, similar to drafting players or the NFL?

Even in the NFL, nobody can consistently predict which player will succeed and which one won't. Clearly, the SEC has a non-intervention policy in place.

The Securities and Exchanges Commission is the government agency that watches over the markets and financial system.

Here is a direct quote from the SEC on what they do: "The mission of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission is to protect investors, maintain fair, orderly, and efficient markets, and facilitate capital formation."

The words "fair" and "orderly" instantly stand out at me. Since when have markets and investing been fair and orderly? Is it fair and orderly to the American people to take nearly a trillion dollars of their tax money, which could be more effectively implemented, to "save" the very same irresponsible and borderline criminal institutions

that got us into this mess?

The Securities and Exchange Commission is supposed to protect the markets and at least provide a fair environment to the people who risk their life savings in them. People have to be protected from the more powerful investors and those with access to advantages in the system. This begs the question: How does the SEC even know who or what to regulate or enforce? I pulled this classic snippet from their site.

"One of the major sources of information on which the SEC relies to bring enforcement action is investors themselves..."

Investors themselves...are you serious? I'm no cynic, but I do find it hard to believe that investors can collectively be responsible enough to become the reliable watchdog that the SEC needs -- especially when they're in it to make money. Why don't we just put Hitler in charge of Jewish welfare?

I still don't know if President Obama's near-trillion dollar bank bailout is the solution to the financial crisis in this country. I can say that I would like to see more oversight and control from the SEC to prevent something like this from happening again.

Maybe, just maybe, that control could come from someone other than the people who need to be controlled!

Morehouse: If You Don't Like it, Leave!

GERREN K. GAYNOR

Associate Opinions Editor
gerren.gaynor@gmail.com

Recently, I took part in a philosophical conversation with some of my fellow Morehouse brothers in which we discussed whether or not Morehouse lived up to its expectations and truly exemplified the true essence of brotherhood.

One of my brothers, who would like to remain anonymous, firmly articulated his deep concerns and disappointments with Morehouse College. As a transfer student from a community college, he expressed his personal experiences with the institution and his difficulty in navigating the campus.

He said that Morehouse was not the Renaissance Man-producing institution it sought out to be and that brotherhood just simply did not exist. He even jokingly modified the term "brotherhood" to "cousinhood," the close knit family ties that theoretically for through attendance more so resemble that of a cousin than brotherly love.

His personal journey through Morehouse thus far is one of much disenchantment. From his perspective, Morehouse College does not produce leaders, but rather followers. These "followers," instead of majoring in the liberal arts and going into the realm of teaching, are majoring in business to become prosperous men on Wall Street.

He suggested Morehouse only focused on producing money hungry, selfish men who could care less about going back into their communities and making a change. Not only did he outright insult the college's mission of producing a Renaissance Man with a social conscience, but everything that Morehouse College stands for. He mocked the school's adoption of religious values and discredited it's involvement in the outside community.

My brothers, who highly detested this young man's assertions, greatly criticized his outlook on Morehouse. They suggested that maybe Morehouse just wasn't the school for him and if he didn't like it, he was more than welcomed to leave.

They attacked his personal views and implied that the school he described just did not exist, for their personal experiences at Morehouse College did not reflect the establishment he had just described. They knew of Morehouse Men who were not only concerned with their communities, but who also took direct action.

They enlightened him on the countless Morehouse men, both past and present, who have made great strides in executing the mission of Morehouse College and of course reminded him that if it was not for a prestigious Morehouse man who had a "dream," his future may have been drastically different.

While I do agree there are some individuals in this institution who are here for the wrong reasons, I think it's simply naïve to think the general populace of the student body [and those who have preceded us] only sought out to self bolster themselves all at the expense of the Morehouse insignia.

This simple conversation amongst my brethren harkens back to the various occasions in which I witnessed a student here complain about our illustrious institution. The fact of the matter is that you chose Morehouse College, for whatever selfish or unselfish reason.

I think it's about time for these individuals stop complaining about things that they are not actively participating in and be the change they want to see.

It's not enough to just point blame and harshly criticize the institution that you attend. For the most part, the young men who find themselves unhappy at "The House" are the same ones

who sit back and do nothing.

Stop writing off your blessing of being in this institution as a lost cause, and allow yourself to absorb both the brotherhood and development Morehouse has to offer.

Now, I completely understand that Morehouse is not perfect. Like any other institution, we have some cracks to fill, but Morehouse College is what you make of it.

I can't speak for every man of Morehouse, but I could not imagine being at any other institution. Morehouse has inspired me to be a better man through the inspiration of my professors and intellectual prowess of my Morehouse brothers.

Never in my life have I witnessed such a profound gathering of strong willed and determined Black men. When I did not have money, my brothers spotted me. When I needed a ride, advice, or just someone to talk to, my brothers were never far away. Unlike my "brother" who seems to not detect the brotherhood here on campus, I have acquired some of the best brothers I could ever ask for, and for that I will always be grateful and be sure to return that loyalty.

The bottom line is this; Morehouse College just isn't for everyone.

You either go through Morehouse College or you allow Morehouse to go through you. So next time you feel that Morehouse just isn't what it's cracked up to be, maybe you should look in the mirror and ask yourself if you have done anything to contribute to this great school.

The only way we can further our legacy of producing great leaders and scholars is if we commit ourselves wholeheartedly—and if you feel you've done all you can to make your mark in this institution, and yet remain unmoved by the spirit of Morehouse, there's only one thing left to do—leave!

20 Questions

Sponsored by the Atlanta Hawks and Atlanta Thrashers



By: YO MOMMA

TellAndy@Center.com

- 1) Where will you be Thursday night?
- 2) Are you going to be by YOself or with the crOWd?
- 3) Will your application be ready by Friday?
- 4) Oh, so you didn't know it's due Friday?
- 5) Black before greek. Does that REALLY apply?
- 6) Did the 'no plunging necklines' policy cause a riff?
- 7) I'm not sure but did he see that?
- 8) That's a HUGE dog...but don't you want one?
- 9) Isn't it hard enough to tell you TWO apart?
- 10) Do you really have to dress EXACTLY alike?
- 11) 9-0!!! Whoops, 0-9...really?
- 12) Isn't there a height-limit on that lifestyle?
- 13) Should Spelman's security come guard Fair Street?
- 14) Look, it's a bird! It's a plane! It's....a Political Science professor?
- 15) Does your girlfriend know why you really went to D.C.?
- 16) Amc Kan't do bettA?
- 17) I do solemnly swear that I will...wait, I'm sorry, can you repeat that?
- 18) So he FINALLY ditched the Steve Harvey afro?
- 19) How much Kryptonite does it take for Superman too loose that much weight? Maybe it wasn't Kryptonite.
- 20) Cardinals vs. Steelers: is that really the Superbowl?

Bonus:

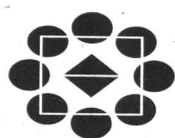
- 21) Will the SUV bandits ever be stopped?
- 22) Have you seen www.TheMaroonTiger.com this semester?

College Student Tickets are 50% in select areas!
Visit HawksU.com and ThrashersU.com for more information!

Features

You are thinking big about the kind of social impact you want to have after you graduate; you want to be a leader for business and society; you are a future nurse, poet, businessperson, doctor, engineer, teacher, lawyer, politician; you are committed to diversity in public and private management; you are ready to work and play with engaging students from a variety of backgrounds; you are in or beyond your sophomore year. We want you to come to New Haven, Connecticut, for a fully funded, two-week session in June to discover how an MBA could prepare you to change the world.

Learn more and apply online at som.yale.edu/premba. Applications due by February 16, 2009.



Yale SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT



Where can this seat take you?

Whether you want to increase wind turbine efficiencies or run an auto manufacturer's engineering plant, your path to leadership starts right now—with a Harvard Business School MBA and an info session near you.

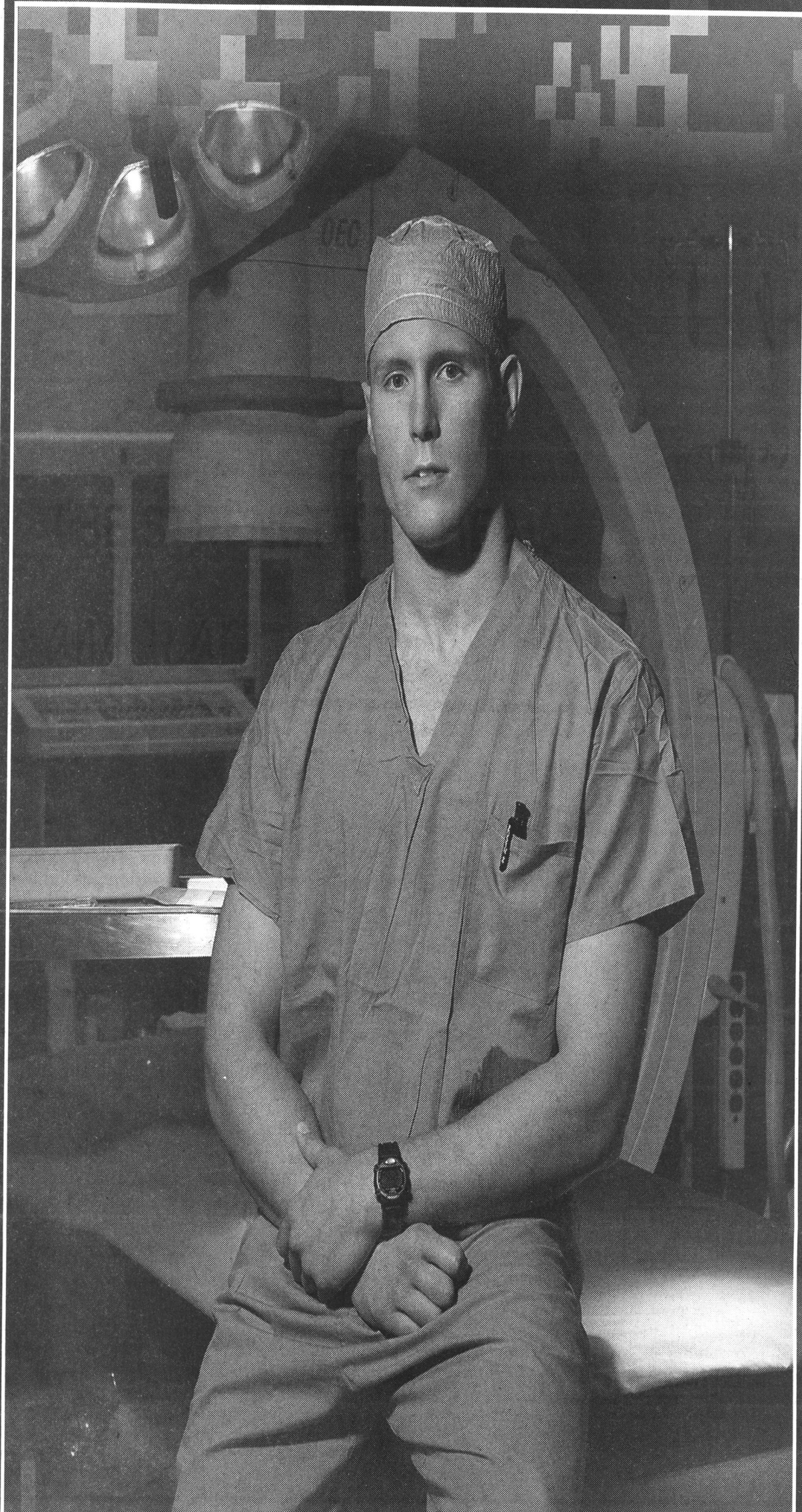
Find your seat. Find your future.

Marshall College
Executive Conference Center, Leadership Center
10/6/08

Contact your Career Services Center for event information and to register.



HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL



THE STRENGTH TO HEAL
and learn lessons in courage.

The pride you'll feel in being a doctor increases dramatically when you care for our Soldiers and their Families. Courage is contagious. Our Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP) helps you reach your goal by providing full tuition, money towards books and lab fees, a \$20,000 sign-on bonus, plus a monthly stipend of more than \$1,900.

To learn more about the U.S. Army Health Care Team, call Sgt. 1st Class Stefan Austin at 404-808-2736, email stefan.austin@usarec.army.mil, or visit healthcare.goarmy.com/info/mchpsp1.



U.S. ARMY

ARMY STRONG®

Features

Brainify.com: The Better WebCT

ASHLEY PRECIA
Features Editor
a.precia@yahoo.com

Just when students thought WebCT ranked second in importance in their academia, after their student email accounts, a newly created Web site has come along as another helpful tool to students.

Brainify is a resourceful site, similar to WebCT, strictly for students and professors aimed only in the acceleration towards scholarly success.

Brainify.com is an academic bookmarking and networking site for university and college students as outlined on the Web site. Brainify serves as a one time-stop-shop-and-go for students in regards to their academic courses where they can complete assignments, gain

help and network all in one visit.

"There are a tremendous number of outstanding academic resources on the Web that can help students do well in their courses," Murray Goldberg stated, Founder and President of BrainifyEducationalTechnologies Corps and former Founder and President of WebCT.

"Examples include obvious ones like Wikipedia and Massachusetts Institute Technology open course initiative," Murray continued.

Now, university after university have followed suit, where resources are posted for students by their professors in academic resource sites to assist students further if needed with assignments and tests.

"It is a site where students and professors can bookmark academic sites they have found useful. They rate them, comment

on them, tag them and place them in a hierarchy," Murray said.

A relatable comparison that Murray uses is the YouTube Website, for instance. "Without YouTube, the way to find videos would be Google. But Google does not work well for finding videos. You can find lots of them there, but until you watch it, you have no idea of whether it is going to be of interest."

"YouTube's purpose is built for videos. Not only can you find most any video there, but the communities of YouTube users act collectively to indicate which ones are the 'best' from their point of view."

In the terms of that analogy, Brainify is a Web site that offers students all the possible tools that they need in terms of academic success. Brainify should be able to equip student with the resources needed to

complete assignments and exams given in a courses that are listed on Brainify.com. Message boards and public forums are also another beneficial component of this site.

"I am hoping that Brainify becomes a strong academic community where university and college students can ask questions of one another, share ideas and even work together."

WebCT got its start in 1997 and has received critical acclaim when universities and colleges are concerned. Murray has the same high hope for Brainify.

"It is the combination of having a world-wide student community and all Web based academic content accessible from one place (and having the community indicate their quality), that I hope will make Brainify a phenomenal resource for students."



Image: Staff

The pleasures of the Brown Street Bench.

Needy Men

DOCTOR J

Columnist
Doctorjmorehouse@gmail.com

Women hate "needy" men. It makes them look desperate and vulnerable.

Women see their dream guy as being confident and well-balanced. Being needy completely turns a woman off. Period.

If any of the scenarios below relate to you, then you, sir, are needy! Remember you are trying to attract women, not turn them off. So if you suffer from any of the symptoms of neediness, read this and stop these unhealthy habits now!

1. "You just walked a girl to her door at the end of a date. Instead of kissing her, you ask her if she had a good time."

Women are attracted to confident men. They don't want to have to tell you that they had a good time on a date ... they want you to be secure enough in yourself to assume that they had a good time.

2. "You called the girl last night and she has not yet called you back. Therefore you either text her or call her to ask her if she received your message."

If you want to push her away, this is one of the best ways to get her to quickly run away from you.

3. "You just started dating a young lady and you start texting her five or six times a day."

STOP IT! You're over-texting her - or maybe even stalking. You don't need to check in every two hours. Extreme turn off!

4. "You miss a call on your cell phone from a phone number that you don't recognize. You call the girl (to whom you talked just an hour before) and ask, 'Did you just call me?'"

This kind of behavior is scary and will certainly push her away.

5. "The woman you're dating is out for the evening with her friends. She promised to call you when she gets home. It's getting late and you haven't heard from her. You just can't resist and you call her cell phone several times." You're insecure and lonely!

She's out with her friends ... not out with another guy. Let her have some personal space and she'll respect you so much more.

6. "You are always available upon her request even when you've made prior plans."

If you have plans with a friend, keep those plans even if the woman you're dating asks you to do something that night. Women don't want men who are like a 7-Eleven -- convenient and ready 24/7. Get a life!

7. "You try to please women ALL the time."

I'm all about men doing nice things for women, but she has to earn it. Some men will let a woman walk all over them and then continue to be a sponge and allow it over and over again. Stand up for yourself and she'll respect you more.

8. "You agree with everything she says or does."

Women are turned off by men they can completely control. Challenge her! If you don't agree with something she says, don't just sit there and agree with her thinking it's what she wants. Women look for someone who is going to stimulate their mind ... not bore them.

9. "You always ask her what would she like to do tonight."

Be the man! Have a plan. Stick with it. Women like men who plan out evenings of fun. Stop asking her what she wants to do. She'll always give you the "It doesn't matter" answer. Listen to what she likes when you're having conversations with her, then come up with a fun plan that you will already know she'll like. A needy man will do whatever a woman wants (i.e. whipped, sprung, etc.). A man of action is creative and spontaneous.

Being a man of action will lead her to find you a lot more attractive in the long run. Women are attracted to men who are confident and real.

Women want to feel like you need them ... but only after you already have your own life, your own ambitions and your own goals. The moment a man starts getting too clingy, a woman will run for the hills!

A Call to Service: A Letter to My Brothers

JOHN BURNETT
Contributing Writer
mtigerinfo@gmail.com

Two years ago I, too, was in the same boat you are in now; frantically scurrying around Morehouse's campus trying to fulfill my graduation requirements as well as land that "prestigious" first job.

This would be the job that justified all of those late night cram sessions as well as the \$120,000 spent on tuition. It would also be the job that would make my family proud and, of equal importance, my peers envious.

I began the Teach For America application process in March 2006 thinking that if I didn't land the marketing or advertising gig I envisioned for myself, I would fall back on teaching—sound familiar? If not, just substitute marketing with accounting or medical or law school or any of the popular career choices and it should ring a bell.

I'm sure since my departure from the AUC (two years ago) this hasn't become an uncommon plan. What I failed to realize was that Teach For America was much more than a contingency plan. It symbolized a call to action; a call that our students desperately needed us to respond to.

As a senior, I wasn't aware

of the importance of what submitting that Teach For America application signified. After I successfully completed my initial phone interview, the possibility of being accepted into Teach for America's corps began to materialize, I shirked the idea of being a teacher.

Instead, I spent the next few months clicking "apply now" on Careerbuilder.com and dispersing my resume to anyone with an email address. This process produced an opportunity at the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. The salary was modest, but it was a "foot-in-the-door" position that could lead to bigger opportunities and it did, just not in the same field.

I can honestly say the next two years of my life were disappointing.

I had my fancy Morehouse degree but in the real world, at least mine, it amounted to not much more than, "Oh, you graduated from Morehouse? I have a (insert random relation) that went there," followed by an order to complete a menial task. The life that emerged post-college fell far short of the lofty ambitions I had upon graduation.

Most of my work at the AJC consisted of data-entry.

Sitting at a computer all day does have some benefits. It affords you the opportunity to

surf the net all day.

Much of my time at the AJC was spent reading and/or listening to the news. The barrage of stories on young Black men was nonstop; young Black male picked up for breaking and entering, young Black male slain by another young Black male; under-age Black male to be arrested for a violent crime, etc.

So while I sat in my comfy office chair, outside of the AJC walls, war was being waged on those who looked like me. And it didn't take a Ph.D. to evaluate the current state of affairs for young Black men. It was bad, really bad.

A series of events led to a drastic career change. After hours of dialogue about the current state of affairs for young Black men, a social awakening spurred on by Barack Obama's call to service, an enlightening trip to Jena, LA, and most importantly, several tutoring sessions with an amazing young man at Burgess Peterson Elementary school, I decided it was time to do something.

That something was to re-apply to Teach For America. This time I knew what was at stake and it was time to begin creating change. Tomorrow might not be an option for these young Black students and they deserved access to an excellent education and a fair shot at life.

I was accepted into the corps

in early 2008. It's not an easy process as you'll be vying for a spot with approximately 30,000 of our country's finest, but we are the crème de la crème - I know you will be up to this challenge.


Brothers, this is a life-changing opportunity that spans past the discussion of prestige and money. Teaching is about changing lives, not in the rhetorical sense, but in the sense of altering a person's future. Just your presence produces new possibility for your students. It's that real.

Venturing into a classroom in an under-resourced community and educating our own is assuredly what our school's founders and great men envisioned for us. I truly believe Graves, Mays and King, in addition to all of the other great men who have graced our wondrous campus, would want us to do this.

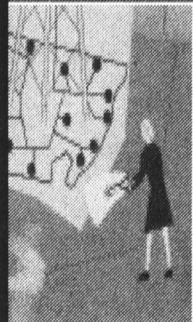


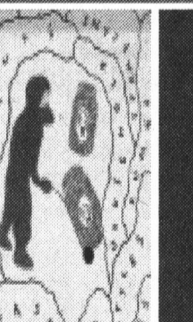
They dedicated their lives to educating others and serving as leaders. Why wouldn't they want us to do the same?

I challenge you all to commit two years of your life to give our younger brothers and sisters the same opportunities you and I have had. They deserve that. It will change your life, and more importantly, someone else's. I wish you good luck in your endeavors.

Brotherly, John Burnett



COLUMBIA | SIPA
School of International and Public Affairs

**Earn your MPA in
Environmental Science and Policy**

The Master of Public Administration Program in Environmental Science and Policy is a twelve-month program that combines Columbia University's hands-on approach to teaching public policy and administration with pioneering thinking about the environment.

Application deadline for early decision: November 1. For fellowship consideration: January 15. Final deadline: February 15

For more information, please call 212-834-3142, e-mail: lar46@columbia.edu, or visit www.columbia.edu/cu/mpaenvironment
For information about SIPA programs, visit www.SIPA.columbia.edu

• • • • •

**Want to work for
The Maroon Tiger?**

Meetings take place every
Thursday @ 7 in Merrill
Hall 111

Contact us for the location

Send all inquiries to:
MTrecruitpr@gmail.com

• • • • •

Movin' Up and Out

VICKY CHUKWUKA
Staff Writer
mtigerinfo@gmail.com

One of the AUC's most highly acclaimed open-mic events, Tilted Mics; jump-started the year with its first showcase of the 2009 spring semester on Saturday, Jan. 24.

However, compared to its run last semester, several changes have been made to the event.

Coordinators of Tilted Mics have now begun charging a five-dollar cover fee as opposed to their initial free admission. It was said that portions of the new fee would be used towards the expenses for organizations W.O.R.D. and the H.I. Ink Society.

Added to the changes, the show itself has now officially been scheduled to occur on the fourth Saturday of every month. The show's monthly appearance allows the organizations to create a more defining event that is well worth the time and money.

However, sponsored by the H.I. Ink Society, more satisfying alterations have been incorporated into the event. Attendees now have the opportunity to have free professional photos taken during the shows intermission.

Ife Mazzimoyo, 17, and the H.I. Ink Society photographer, said, "Guests can now have their picture taken, kind of as a memory of the night."

Participants will be able to see their photos posted on the Facebook website.

Mr. James Wright Jr., owner of Tilt Coffee Shop has also established a change for the venue. Wright is also the owner

of club Niche, which has now been relocated right next door to Tilt Coffee Shop at 256 Walker Street, Suite 100.

He said that the convenience of the relocation will allow people to, "have more space to offset more freedom and hold more events." He went on to say that, "it keeps all the services of the café's events close and doesn't displace the customers."

Possibilities for Tilted Mics or any other W.O.R.D. or H.I. Ink sponsored event may have future collaborations with the lofty styled facility.

Of all the changes, the one main aspect of Tilted Mics that remains constant is the talent.

On Saturday's performance the featured artists included Vinson Muhammad, Morehouse senior and Zamir "Green Tea" Walton, Georgia State junior. Both performers supplied an incredible essence for the show.

Muhammad charmed the crowd with his highly anticipated skills in rapping, reciting poetry, playing his trumpet and dancing.

He surprised the audience as he announced that his new album entitled "Act" debuts Feb. 7. Inspired by the artistry of rapper KRS-1, Muhammad describes "Act" as motivational hip-hop.

With songs such as "\$20 Budget" and "Girls in the Hood" he touches on relatable issues for his listeners.

Muhammad blatantly remarked that, "Act is not an acronym, it's a word. The title means just that. Act! So don't talk about it, be about it."

Walton's performance

also captivated the crowd. Incorporating acting with poetry, and rapping, "Green Tea" received a standing ovation for his showcase.

"I felt as though my performance went very well. Praise God. The crowd was really receptive and energetic, and the familiar faces helped me get through a lot of anxiety."

Walton further explained that, "that was literally my first time presenting myself as a hip-hop artist, so the butterflies were there, but God saw me through it and he saw to it that I do well."

As the founder of H.I. Ink, Walton anticipates for Tilted Mics to continue to be a success.

Linked to the event was a group of young poets from the organization Society of Poets Expressing African Konnections (S.P.E.A.K.).

Walton verified that H.I. Ink, "will be working with kids at the show to get them in a positive nightspot so we can be a community again with the children and the Elders."

"It was a great show! A nice way to bring consciousness to the AUC without making it overbearing," Jihad Kheperu, Morehouse sophomore exclaimed.

Several artists took to the stage and offered the essential elements that make Tilted Mics the success that it is. Students of various colleges in the Metro Atlanta area attended the show, such as Emory University, Georgia State University and the collaborating schools of the AUC. Tilted Mics has created a name for itself that has reached far beyond its foundation.



ImageS: MTV.com

Rappers Jay-Z Young Jeezy (left) and Jay-Z (right).

Rappers Ruffle Feathers at Inauguration Performance

JORDAN BROWN
Urban Arts Writer
jordambrown08@gmail.com

By now we've all heard the song "My President" off of Young Jeezy's 2008 album "The Recession," a triumphant nod to then President-elect, Barack Obama. Its been six months since the aforementioned album hit shelves and now "My President" has become the unofficial hip-hop presidential anthem.

While many have supported the song, others have denounced it for its profanity, drug references and other non-relevant subject matter. Nonetheless, the song, and its performance became a highlight at last weeks Inauguration festivities.

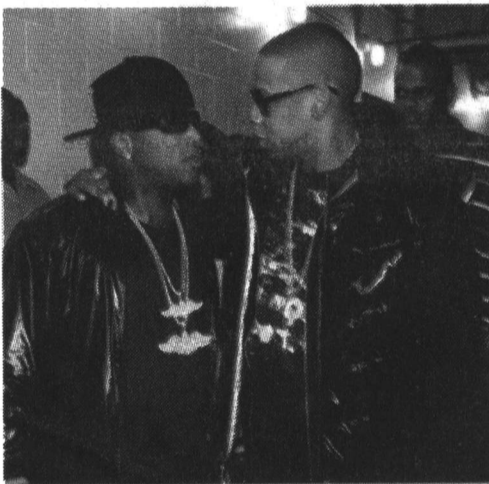
Originally featuring Queens-bridge rapper Nas, Jeezy performed the song (with mentor of sorts Jay-Z tagging on a guest verse) for a sold out crowd in Washington DC on Monday, Jan. 19, two days before the swearing in of our new president.

The performance, which can be found on YouTube.com, was a great success for those onlookers in the building, but within the next couple of days when footage of the show popped up on the Internet, Fox News pundit Bill O'Reilly took the concert as an opportunity to confront the hip-hop community (more specifically Young Jeezy and Jay-Z) on the song's content.

On the January 22 episode

of The O'Reilly Factor, Bill O'Reilly invited nationally syndicated radio host Dennis Miller to discuss what they felt was offensive about the performance of "My President."

Among other things, the two attacked both Jay-Z and Young Jeezy calling them "stupid" and "uninformed". Mr. O'Reilly took



offense to the fact that Jeezy exclaimed the statement, "My muthaf___n president is Black, ni__al", at the beginning of the performance.

Essentially, the two right-wing journalists called out the rappers for their profanity, derogatory language and ignorance during the performance.

In some aspects I must agree with O'Reilly and Miller. Young Jeezy and Jay-Z should have known better than to conduct what would have otherwise been a normal rap show, with the national spotlight on our capital during such a historic time.

The cursing and use of derogatory language is in no

way acceptable, especially when saluting the first Black President of our country, and with this criticism I must agree with O'Reilly and Miller.

In defense of Young Jeezy and Jay-Z, the performance was private and in no way related to the official Inauguration ceremonies that took place over the week. The performance was at a hip-hop show held at Club Love for fans that had purchased tickets to see the performers.

Those fans had undoubtedly heard the song before and we can assume that most were not offended by what O'Reilly and Miller deemed "derogatory rants."

The song and the performance were both done out of celebration and triumph and I believe done out of good nature. This however does not excuse the inappropriate language used. So where does this leave hip-hop? Well, it's a tight line between artistic expression and freedom of speech and the offense of others. The hip-hop community must realize that with the election of Pres. Barack Obama the spotlight is that much brighter on us, and people of color in general.

We must continue to represent our culture but we must do better, we must do better!

To view excerpts from the concert as well as O'Reilly's and Millers commentary please visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=H2S88qRu4eA

The Garden: How to Shop on a Budget

MARK ANTHONY GREEN
Contributing Writer
mtigerinfo@gmail.com

If I got a nickel for every time I heard someone say the word recession during the last six months, I would pay this semester's tuition in cash. Just because we are in a recession, doesn't mean you have to dress like it. Here are some helpful tips that will keep you from looking like you shopped during the peak of Reaganomics.

Tailor: A man's best friend. The way your clothes fit is crucial. I'm not suggesting that you tailor every piece of clothing you own or that you make your clothes have "no room for error" but they should fit.

When most people think of tailoring, they limit tailoring to blazers and suits but a well-

tailored dress shirt or a pair of jeans can go a long way. Tailoring is a lot cheaper than purchasing pricy clothing and will keep you looking like the million bucks you don't have.

Support Local Designers. I hate when things are expensive simply for the sake of being expensive. Unfortunately, we have entered an era where the quality of clothes comes second to the tag inside of them. There are plenty of local designers that make quality and original clothing for a fraction of the price of anything you'll see on the shelves.

Where?: The key question. Why pay full price if you don't have to? Nearly any brand can be found at an outlet somewhere. Also, there is a common misconception that buying "last year's styles" is a bad thing. If it's something you like,

then it's in style (unless you like 4 button suits).

The best place to shop is and always will be eBay. Point Blank.

If you buy big, buy smart. Fashion snobs love to throw around the term "staple pieces". As annoying as they are, they have a point. If you spend a lot of money on an article of clothing, make sure its one timeless piece of haberdashery.

Never empty your piggy bank for a fad. Fashion Fads are kind like Nick Cannon and Mariah Carey getting married; it was cool when it happened but now is seems like a horrible idea.

Be yourself. Imitation may be the greatest form of flattery, but its also the most expensive. Wear what you like. Instead of idolizing someone else's brand, develop your own.

In the words of my mentor Rick Brehm, "Be An Original."

Morehouse College

Spring Career Fair

Thursday, February 5th, 2009 4-8pm

Leadership Center-Executive Conference Center

Enter on Welborn St. Across from football stadium

Open to AUC Students of all majors and Alumni

For a list of participating employers email

kblackbu@morehouse.edu

Sports

Maroon Tigers End 9 Game Losing Streak

REGINA GRAHAM
Staff Writer
rgraham3@spelman.edu

The Fighting Maroon Tigers finally broke their nine game losing streak after they defeated Tuskegee University on Saturday, Jan. 24 in Forbes Arena. The Tigers beat the Golden Tigers 67-63 in an all out battle.

The starting five for Morehouse was junior guard Paul Williams, freshman Gaven Lucas, sophomore Roderick Williams, senior Jerry "JP" Felder and senior Kenney Boyd.

Morehouse immediately gained possession of the ball and scored the first points of the game. Throughout the first half of the game, the Tigers were trying to get a handle on the ball. With a barely 10 minutes

left on the clock for the first half, Morehouse was down by four points with the score at 21-17.

Tuskegee had control of the game and it did not look like they were going to give it up. Morehouse finally got in the groove of the game and the Tigers began to fight back. By half time Morehouse was leading the game 36-32.

After half-time, Morehouse fans became rowdier chanting "Defense!" and screaming when the Tigers put up another shot.

Towards the end of the game, Tuskegee seemed became more anxious and kept sending the Tigers to the foul line, which helped the Maroon and White keep its lead on Tuskegee.

Felder, Boyd, and Paul Williams were the major contributors to the Tigers

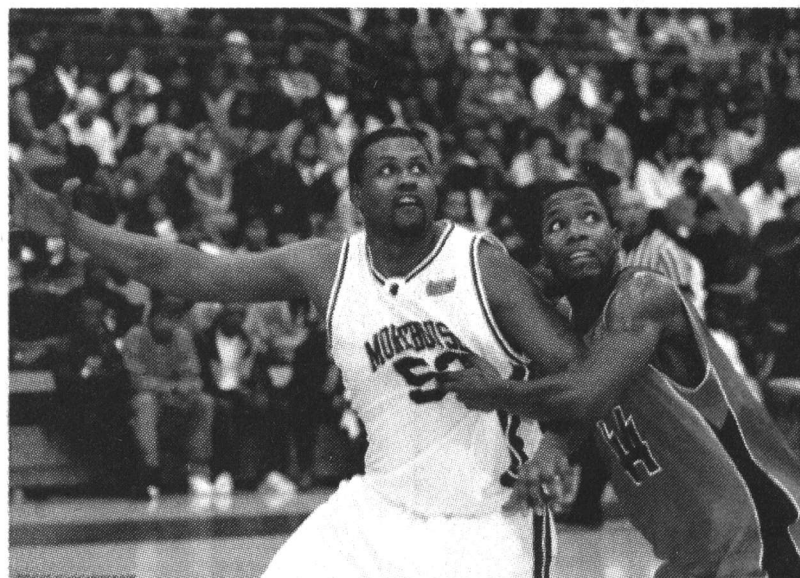


Image: Courtesy

Three Maroon Tigers scored in double figures to help Morehouse break a nine-game losing streak and beat the Tuskegee Golden Tigers 67-63

winning the game. Making seven of his 14 shots, Felder produced 18 points and 11

while Paul Williams scored 14 points for the Tigers.

Guard Jelani Figures, Forward Roderick Williams and Guard Lawrence Diamond also made contributions to the team winning as well.

Diamond returned to the team after missing four games from an ankle injury during the first half of the game against LeMoyné-Owen College on January 12.

"We will have everybody back on Thursday," Head Coach Grady Brewer said. "It does not mean they are ready to play up to the potential that they possess. At least on Thursday we will be back on our home floor."

On Thursday, Jan. 29 the Tigers will take on the Clark Atlanta University Panthers in Forbes Arena. The two games against CAU always prove to be

the biggest games of the year for Morehouse.

"Besides winning, I want us to play a tough defense against Clark," Boyd said. "We need to hustle and make plays. I want everyone to play at the best of their ability. I want the coaches to coach at the best of their ability. Last year we lost and I do not want any repeats. It is going to be a good game."

The game will be considered a home game for CAU, so Morehouse fans be prepared to pay an admission. The game starts at 7:30 p.m.

"We want to play well and we want to compete," Brewer said. "Last year we let both games get away. It is never over until it's over. There is a sense of urgency to make sure we close out well. We want to close out the game."

Hawks Ascending in East

JESSIKA MORGAN
Associate Sports Editor
jessikashine@yahoo.com

LAUREN HARPER
Associate Sports Editor
Laurenharper@rocketmail.com

After finishing a strong week of play, the Atlanta Hawks are looking more like a team that took the eventual champion Boston Celtics to a seven-game series and less like The Artists Formerly Known as Horrible.

Since Jan. 19, the Hawks now have won close games over Toronto, Chicago and Phoenix, along with a blowout victories against the Milwaukee Bucks under their belts. The one loss to mar the Hawks' winning ways came Sunday with a 104-99 home loss to the Phoenix Suns.

Last Monday against the Raptors, the Hawks' leading scorer Joe Johnson hit a jumper in the waning seconds of the game to win, 87-84. Mike Bibby added 23 in the victory.

The following night in Chicago, the Hawks swept their regular-season series 3-0 against the Bulls, beating them 105-102. Five Hawks scored in double-digits as Bibby led the balanced attack with a season-high 31 points and six boards.

On Friday, at home against the Bucks, the Hawks surged to their biggest win of the season with a 117-87 thumping, led by Flip Murray's 25 points. Finally,

on Sunday, a posterizing dunk over Steve Nash courtesy of Josh Smith capped off the road loss to Phoenix.

At this time last season, the Hawks were 19-21. This season, the Hawks' improved play has pushed them to a 26-17 record and a fourth-place berth in the Eastern Conference, one spot ahead of the perennial East-powerhouse Detroit Pistons.

Various players have contributed to the Hawks' steady climb to threaten the East.

Over the summer, Josh Childress made headlines when he opted to play for the Greek ball club Olympiacos instead of returning to the Hawks. However, his presence is not as missed as originally expected: the resurgence of Mike Bibby, Marvin Williams, and leading scorer Joe Johnson have more than made up for Childress' offensive efficiency.

The Hawks also have a sturdy supporting cast in Flip Murray, who scored a season-high 25 points, and Josh Smith, who contributed 24 in Friday's rout against Milwaukee.

The Hawks have, however, been plagued with injuries. Marvin Williams and Acie Law have since returned from their ailments, but center Al Horford has not played since Jan. 9 because of a bruised knee bone. Ex-Hawk Childress even returned to the US recently because of a

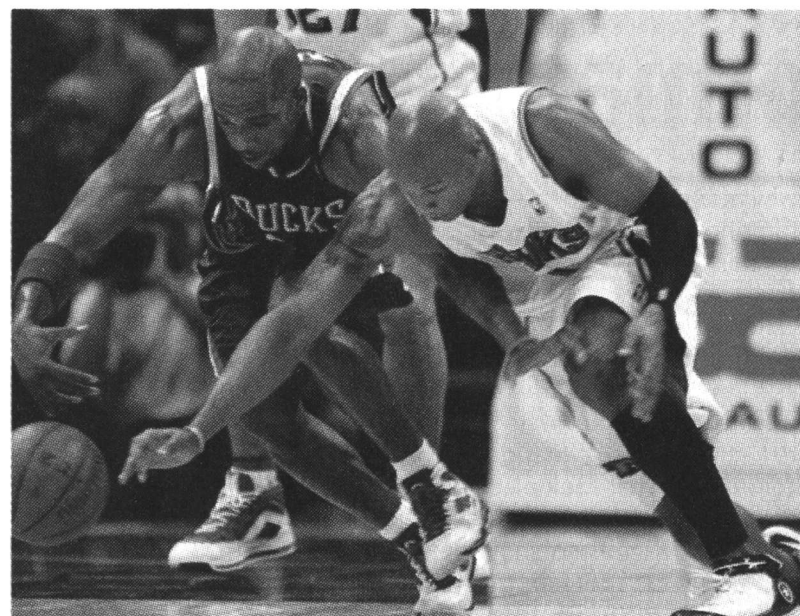


Image: ESPN.com

With the Basketball season just past the halfway point, the Atlanta Hawks fight their way to the top.

hernia.

Over the past few games, the Hawks have capitalized on many aspects of their arsenal to beat teams. Great play in the clutch, efficient offensive firing, and rebound-heavy defense have all translated into Hawk victories.

Team personnel is positively affecting Atlanta's win column. Starting guard Mike Bibby and Smith created great chemistry that devoured Milwaukee. Bibby tallied 15 assists, many of which went to Smith. In the fourth, they ran an impressive over-the-shoulder alley-oop from the three-point line. Atlanta totaled 31 assists; six came from Johnson.

It could also be the spoils of playing at home: the Hawks are 16-6 at Philips Arena.

"I expected a high level of competition. They always play well at home," Bucks' guard and former Hawk Tyrone Lue said on Friday after his team's loss.

The Hawks have a stretch of road games ahead, playing 14 of their next 19 on the road. However, if they can build up another win streak and get their roster healthy again, they will have a solid chance to make the playoffs not by luck, but as a team that has reformed itself into a young, feisty contender in the East.



Image: Jamie Squire for Getty Image

Michael Beasley while playing basketball for Kansas State University

Selling Their Soles

ELIZABETH SAWYER
Staff Writer
Edsaw4@yahoo.com

In the world of college basketball, most of the athletes involved have been entrenched in a malevolent and self-serving system since they were under 10 years old.

It is a system that values monetary gain over personal growth. It is a system that celebrates the individual over the collective. It is a system based on the business of basketball.

These athletes begin in recreational programs but as their skills develop and improve, they start to move toward the more exclusive select teams. This is typically the regional Amateur Athletic Union or AAU team.

These programs are available for those as young as 7 and as old as 19. Once these young men reach high school age, their regional and national tournaments are sponsored, certified, and monitored by the National Collegiate Athletic Association, also known as the NCAA.

College coaches are welcomed and encouraged to attend these tournaments in hopes of wooing the next top recruit. The NCAA recently declared that a "prospective athlete" can be as young as a seventh-grader, as opposed to the old ninth-grade minimum.

While college coaches are bidding their time until they can legally approach a player, the sporting goods juggernauts, Nike and adidas/Reebok, are already trying to establish an elementary school-to-the-NBA relationship with the best prospects.

The shoe companies scout and recruit players into their elite basketball camps in hopes that a player will declare his allegiance to a brand. There's no contract involved, but a virtual sponsorship is formed that may bring the player a mélange of shoes, athletic gear and notoriety.

The companies, in turn, make an investment hoping the player

will become the next superstar, produce immense revenue through equipment sales, and attract the next generation of top players to their brand.

By outfitting NCAA Division I schools, corporations often can maintain their ties with athletes they have built a connection with in the past.

The consequences of dealing with this industry are grave.

Morehouse College basketball coach Grady Brewer is very passionate about the issue. He believes that it lulls standout players' teammates into thinking that they will make it to the NBA as well. Therefore, the teammates feel they do not need an education because they, too, will profit from their sport.

Unfortunately, this is more than likely not the case.

"Two percent of high school athletes make it to the league and only .02 percent play for more than five years," Brewer said. "It's a pipe dream."

Players that are fortunate enough to reach the NBA are sought after by company after company once again. They throw endorsement and shoe deals at these athletes until they finally have a share in yet another investment.

The effects of this process can be seen in the profiles of many NBA players. Take NBA rookie and phenomenon Michael Beasley. He was born in Maryland and played for the DC Assault AAU team.

He then attended ABCD Camp for a brief stint but ended up in the adidas Superstar Camp in 2006. He attended Kansas State University where he played for his former AAU coach, Delonte Hill, by then a KSU assistant coach.

Beasley was picked second overall in the 2008 NBA Draft by the Miami Heat and subsequently signed an endorsement deal with adidas.

So the question arises, what effect has the business of basketball had on the sport and the players that are involved in it? To Brewer, the answer is very simple: "It has ruined the game."

Patient Drafting Leads to Cardinal Success

ETHAN BRISBY
Staff Writer
ejbrisby@gmail.com

The Super Bowl-bound Arizona Cardinals have had 62 years to perfect their drafting strategies: their last Super Bowl championships were in 1925 and 1947.

The Pittsburgh Steelers are in search of an unprecedented sixth Super Bowl championship and second since 2006. Both teams have used smart draft choices to their advantages: the Steelers have used a proven blueprint of drafting well and developing offensive and defensive talent.

Although the Cardinals' road has been less than smooth, their draft choices have blended well enough to lead right to the Super Bowl.

Any time an organization has difficult draft choices to make, there are always bright minds scouting the talent, headed by an exceptional general manager. In the case of the Red Birds, that bright mind is Rod Graves, one of few African-American general managers in the NFL.

Graves was promoted to Vice

President of Football Operations and General Manager in 2002, after 12 years with the organization. Graves was one of the voices convincing enough to take wide receiver Larry Fitzgerald as the Cards' third pick in 2004.

The results of sub-par seasons, Arizona has drafted 16, 5, 10, 8 and 3 in the last five years. However, many of those draft picks did not meet the team's expectations as the losses continued to mount.

The franchise's fortunes turned in 2004 after choosing Fitzgerald. In his first three playoff games, Fitzgerald broke Jerry Rice's record for most receiving yards in a single postseason.

Two years later, in the 2006 draft, the Cards drafted quarterback Matt Leinart 10th, and since then the former USC star is preparing to make an impact in place of the aging Kurt Warner.

Disappointing draft outcomes have insured that many in the Cardinal family are products of the third, fourth and fifth rounds.

Defensive anchor Eugene



Image: ESPN.com

Rod Graves joined the Cardinals in June 1997 after 13 years in various personnel capacities with the Chicago Bears.

Wilson was the 64th pick of the 2001 draft, and Steve Breaston from the University of Michigan was not taken until the 147th pick of the 2007 draft. Both have since outshined the Cardinals' 2001 number two-pick Leonard Davis and 2007's number five-pick Levi Brown.

Drafting is more hit-or-miss than GM's, players, and pundits care to imagine. Tom Brady, after all, was the 199th pick in the