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# THE MAROON TIGER



MOREHOUSE COLLEGE • ATLANTA, GA

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## House of Funk bus accident reinforces Morehouse bond

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As the school year continues, the AUC seems to be unable to escape unfortunate circumstances. Last Saturday at around 10 a.m., a bus filled with Morehouse College band members flipped over on its way to Morehouse's football game against Albany State. The bus contained 42 band members.

The bus flipped over on Interstate 75 south of Atlanta in Henry County after the driver lost control trying to avoid another vehicle, an incident probably attributed to the rainy weather and slick roads. Injured members of the band were dispersed to four different hospitals: either downtown Atlanta's Grady Memorial Hospital or Atlanta Medical Center, Southern Regional Medical Center in Riverdale, or Henry Medical

Center in Stockbridge.

Band member Bruce Purvis, Jr. is the only student that remains hospitalized. He is being treated at Grady Memorial Hospital.

According to Morehouse College chief of police Vernon Worthy, the response to the accident was quick.

"I didn't go to the actual



A bus carrying Morehouse College band members overturned on I-75 in Henry County on Saturday, October 31, 2009. The band was traveling to a football game in Albany, Georgia.

scene. I went to Grady Hospital," Worthy said. "But I [have been] told that the Henry County police department, Henry County fire [department], and medical rescue were all very

Stock image

prompt." Worthy said that Morehouse College police received the initial alert of the accident at 10:09 a.m. and that he was notified by 10:12 a.m.

Because of today's vast amount of available technological media, students also

found out about the accident quickly. Word spread through Facebook, Twitter, and text messaging all afternoon about the incident.

Troy Brown, a sophomore business marketing major, said he found out about the accident via Twitter.

"When I woke up and checked my Twitter, there were 'tweets' about the incident," Brown said. "It shocked me because I had friends [who were] on the bus. It's a blessing that it was not fatal."

While a number of band members suffered injuries, most of them seemed to agree that the accident brought them together.

Larry Lambert, a freshman member of the band, suffered a broken hip and sprained ankle as a result of the accident. Despite his injuries, Lambert only had positive statements regarding the tragedy.

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## Recap: Atlanta mayoral elections

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The results of Atlanta's highly anticipated 2009 mayoral election yielded much excitement as Councilwoman Mary Norwood faces Kasim Reed in a runoff on December 1st.

"Mary Norwood can sustain her momentum because she was always proactive in the Atlanta community. She connects very well with the African-American community. She's not about race or color," said Tim Bailem, a Morehouse College senior who supports Mary Norwood.

Political analysts have stated that the ascension of Mary Norwood, who finished first Tuesday with 45 percent of the votes, as mayor of Atlanta would prove that America is undergoing a generational shift towards colorblind politics since she would be the first white mayor to return to the political post since 1973.

"That may not be true. It is more of a numbers game. Over the last two census periods, more whites have been moving in the city than blacks. Many of the blacks who left took a lot of the power with them," said Professor of Sociology Dr. Obie Clayton.

Others see the struggling Democrats in a liberal, majority black city as a clear failure of the coattail effect many

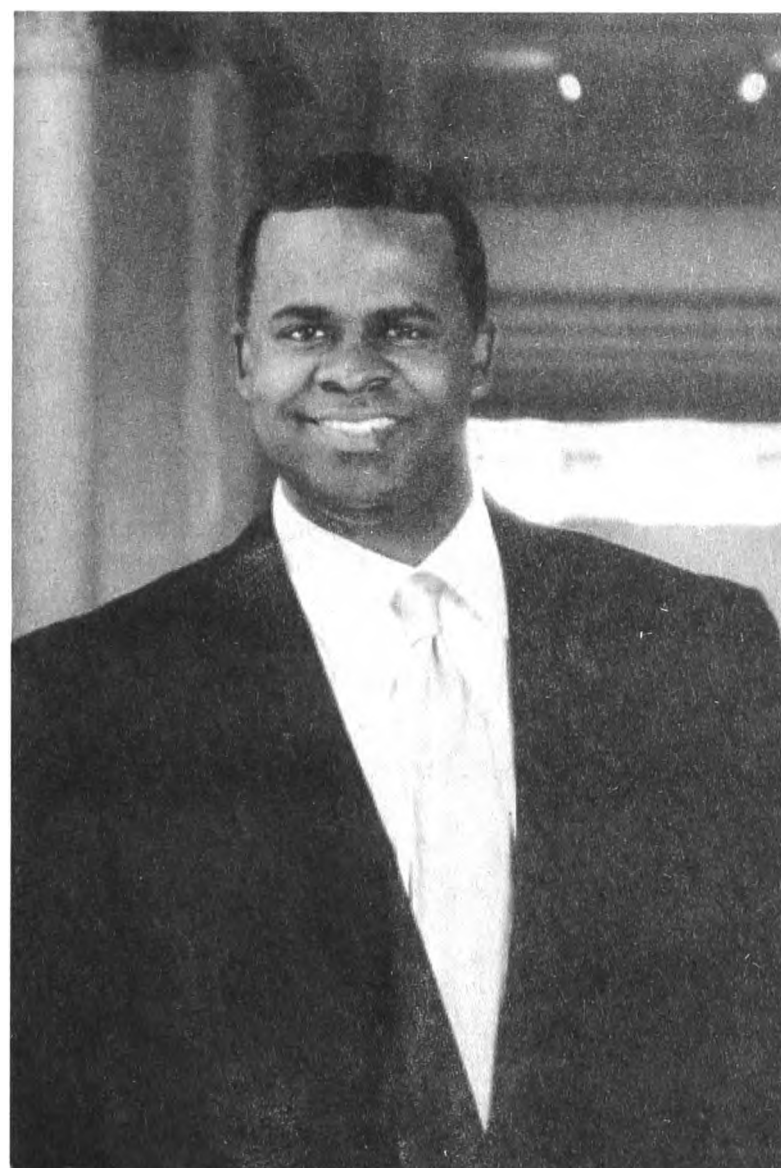
democratic politicians were hoping to have because of the Obama campaign.

Voter turnout was higher in white neighborhoods than in black neighborhoods. Some of the poorest black neighborhoods on the West and Southwest sides of Atlanta had dismal turnouts, with one precinct reporting only 5 percent of its eligible voters came out. In Atlanta's primarily white neighborhoods, voter turnout was higher.

Reed, who has much of Atlanta's civil rights power base and hip-hop community behind him, captured most of the vote on the largely black Southwest side of the city. Norwood however, made surprising bonds with the black community and is regarded by many as a supporter of both rich and poor neighborhoods.

"I think it is important we improve our efforts in letting people know exactly who Kasim Reed is. Once people, especially young people, find out more about Kasim Reed, I feel that will improve voter turnout," said Najee Johnson, a Morehouse senior who volunteered with the Reed campaign.

A turning point for all campaigns came in August when two Clark Atlanta University professors published a memo signaling the importance of keeping blacks in control of City Hall. While the can-



Kasim Reed, one of the two remaining Atlanta mayoral candidates. Reed will face Mary Norwood in a December 1st runoff election, following November 3rd's election which did not give any candidate a majority.

didates rejected the memo, it raises the question as to whether or not the racial factors will intensify moving forward.

"Another explanation for what is going on may go beyond race. It may just be with the dissatisfaction of the cur-

rent administration and people just wanting change. Even if a non-racial event is happening, it will be interpreted as racial because of how race pervades our society," said Professor of Sociology at Morehouse College Dr. Ida Mukenge.

## A Rivalry Renewed: Morehouse Defeats Howard in Mock Trial Competition

**Leroy R. Mitchell Jr.**  
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Morehouse College rekindled its rivalry with long time friend and foe Howard University in an exhibition mock trial competition. The rivalry between the schools, which in 2008 made Newsweek's top 12 academic rivalries of all-time, continued the long-standing tradition of competing for and obtaining intellectual dominance over the opposition.

The competition took place in the Martin Luther King International Chapel. The two HBCU's gave opening statements, cross-examined witnesses, approached jurors, requested recess, and objected each other throughout the afternoon to the delight of those in attendance.

"I was impressed with the level of talent, depth of skill, and legal competence," Fulton County Superior Court Judge Kimberly Esmond Adams said.

Judge Adams, a Howard University graduate, was the ruler over the proceedings and openly passionate about the cleverness, expertise, and

overall ability members of both teams displayed.

"I expected general knowledge of procedure," Judge Adams confessed. "My expectations were exceeded... they can try a case in my courtroom today."

Senior and Captain William Lawrence led the Morehouse team, constructed by President Robert M. Franklin Jr. and Dean Terry L. Mills of the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences. The roster, which included, Kevin Morris, Renaldo Pearson, Antoine Albert, Tyler Bell, Wesley Jackson, and Ahmad Cheers, was assigned the task on short notice, with less time to prepare for the match up than arch nemesis Howard.

"We practiced Monday thru Friday for two weeks at two hours per day," declared Lawrence, which alongside Morris, is the only returning member of the 2008 team.

Morris, who is vice-president of the team, was pleasantly surprised at the outcome of the day's proceedings as well, proclaiming, "I'm incredibly proud of our team

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# News

## THE MAROON TIGER

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# Morehouse alumnus gives back

## Ian Douglas Hicks '91 promotes diabetes awareness through foundation

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The AUC prides itself on many things; specifically our intelligence. One would be hard-pressed to find another place in the world full of so many capable, driven, and erudite young African-Americans. But despite being so far ahead of the curve, there is one thing that many students are still quite ignorant toward.

This thing is a mystery to people worldwide despite the fact that it affects a large amount of the population. African-Americans are more likely to encounter it than any other racial group. So what is it? The answer is diabetes. On Thursday, October 27th, Morehouse alumnus Ivan Douglas Hicks did his part to bring awareness of epidemic to the AUC.

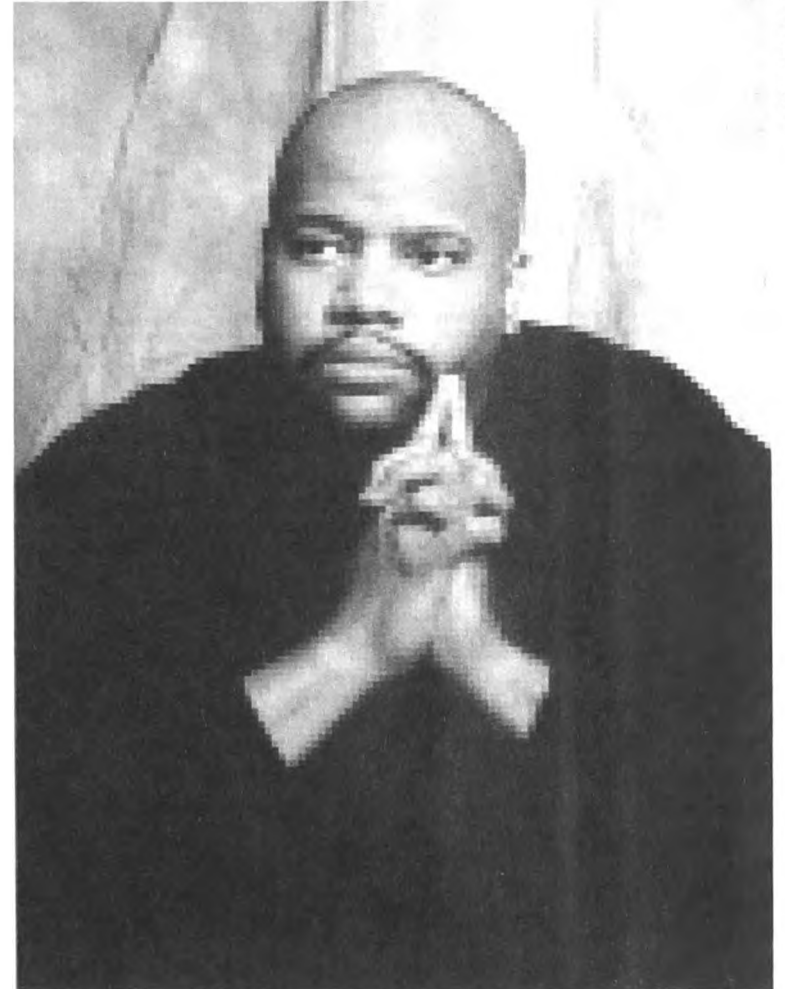
Hicks was the president of the class of 1991. He helped to bring diabetes awareness to the AUC with the Laugh4Life Comedy Tour in conjunction with Gordon Fykes, founder of The Fykes Foundation, and Ron Wilson '86, head of Laffapalooza.

Sponsored by the The Fykes Foundation, the pur-

pose of the Laugh4Life Comedy Tour is to raise awareness of diabetes in the African-American community. The tour consists of free screening for diabetes and hypertension as well as a family-friendly comedy show featuring comedians AJ Jamal and Doug Williams. Laugh4Life will be heading to ten HBCU's around the country and Morehouse was their first stop.

In addition to working with Laugh4Life, Hicks was also working on his class's 20th reunion which will take place in May of 2011. While at Morehouse, Hicks very involved in community service – he is the founder of the Morehouse Mentoring Program that is thriving today. Hicks kept this service oriented mentality with him throughout his life and saw this coordination weekend as an opportunity to raise money for Morehouse and particularly for The Fykes Foundation.

The coordination weekend was full of festivities which were combined with the events that Fykes and Wilson were putting on. Thursday the screenings would take place on Morehouse's campus. Friday would be the comedy show and Saturday, after a



Dr. Ivan Douglas Hicks '91, Senior Minister of First Baptist Church North Indianapolis, Indiana.

game a golf, the coordinators threw a 40th birthday party for the entirety of the class of '91.

But before the mirth began, Hicks, Wilson, and Fykes set up shop outside of Sale Hall on Thursday to begin the first phase of the tour – the free screenings. Each person that walked by the small plastic table surrounded by three medical as-

sistants was asked the same question by Hicks himself: "Have you been screened today?"

Most students, although puzzled by this seemingly odd question, stopped to speak to Hicks out of politeness. After listening to his well-practiced and concise yet highly-informative spiel

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# Study Abroad Office offers students numerous opportunities

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The effects of globalization and the regular cross-cultural experiences that have become mainstays of the 21st century have made studying abroad an almost necessity for Men of Morehouse. The Study Abroad Office serves to expose students to the world outside the United States' borders while assisting them

in attaining the skills to cope with a world that is constantly evolving.

The Study Abroad Office offers a multitude of study abroad opportunities for students who wish to study abroad. These opportunities include popular study abroad venues such as Paris, London, and Rio de Janeiro. Other opportunities include traditionally lesser known territories such as Istanbul, Hong Kong, and Dubai.

The study abroad programs are equally as diverse as they offer a wide-range of classes including strictly language-based, immersion study, and classes in students' actual majors.

Mrs. Gwen Wade is the director of Morehouse College's study abroad program. Wade says that she strives to expose all students to the wonderful opportunities that are offered by the different study abroad programs.

"[My goal is] to work with faculty in selecting the right programs and assist them (students) in meeting the financial and immigration requirements [so that they can study abroad]," Wade said.

Wade also admits that she loves her role as Director of the college's study abroad program.

"I enjoy what I do so much because I can see the growth in the students when they return," Wade said. "[Once they return], they have a better appreciation for diversity... [and] they realize that they are competing with brothers around the world."

Stevon Darling, a senior Accounting major took advantage of the opportunities offered by the Study Abroad Office. He visited St. Thomas (U.S. Virgin Islands).

"I participated in a 2-week long leadership program over the summer," Darling said. "[The program] immersed me into the culture of the country and gave me the unique opportunity to network and learn from some foremost personalities in the region."

Darling also stated how he thoroughly enjoyed his experience.

"I particularly enjoyed the opportunity to meet 30 other program participants from across the United States and the Caribbean," Darling said. "[This] allowed me to better

understand cross-cultural relationships while creating a meaningful bond.

Ali Osman, a junior Accounting major, also took advantage of the opportunities presented by the Study Abroad Office. Osman took a two week course in Beijing, China this past summer.

"I was enrolled in a two-week intensive corporate finance course with London School of Economics at Peking University," Osman said. "The program was comprised of 190 students from 55 different countries."

Osman also thoroughly enjoyed his study abroad experience.

"I enjoyed the interaction with such diverse student body," Osman said. "Even though [the course] was challenging, I gained a lot of experience in relating with people all over the world."

Osman will be spending next semester studying at Koc University in Istanbul, Turkey. According to the Study Abroad office, Osman will be the first Man of Morehouse to study in Istanbul.

Morehouse College hosted their annual "Study Abroad Fair" on October 19th. The fair featured a number of different study abroad programs that students could apply for.

Wesley Clark, the Associate Director of Admissions and Financial Aid for The American University in Cairo, was a part of the study abroad fair. Clark feels that the study abroad fair was very beneficial for Morehouse and its students.

"I think that the study abroad fair was a great way to reach out to [Morehouse] students," Clark said. "I think that study abroad fairs provide a good venue for study abroad providers to develop a stronger relationship with individual institutions."

Clark also feels that studying abroad is essential in each student's undergraduate matriculation.

"I encourage all students to leave the USA and experience a different culture," Clark said. "I think that studying abroad is an integral part of an undergraduate degree."

For those students who are not aware, the study abroad office is located on the third floor of the Leadership Center. Aspiring study abroad students will be expected to discuss where they would like to study along with their reason for choosing that particular location. As one of the expectations of a "Renaissance Man" is to be well traveled, the Study Abroad office attempts to fulfill that expectation by helping students travel across the world.



The Study Abroad Office at Morehouse College serves to expose students to the world outside the borders of the United States.

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over sixty AUC students consented to a screening.

The first step of the screening process was getting students' blood pressure taken. Blood pressure measurements are given in two numbers; the first is an expression of systolic pressure and the second an expression of diastolic pressure.

Systolic pressure is the peak pressure in the arteries where as diastolic pressure is the minimum pressure. A healthy range for one's BP is from 90/60 to 139/89; any numbers higher than these are in the range of hypertension. Although blood pressure does fluctuate because of diet, stress, or various other factors, if it is perpetually high, one is officially diagnosed with hypertension, which can make one more susceptible to stroke, heart attacks, and even heart failure.

After the blood pressure comes the blood sugar test which involves the most painful part of the entire procedure – the finger prick. A drop of blood is placed on a small meter that almost instantly returns a result. Although the prick was not horribly painful, to experience it every day as many diabetics do would take its toll.

Diabetes is a disease where the body either does not produce enough of or

does not respond properly to insulin which is responsible for breaking down sugar, or glucose, in the blood. There are three major types: type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes.

Type 1 diabetes is a result of the body's failure to create insulin and is often found diagnosed in children and young adults. Type 2 diabetes occurs when the body stops producing enough insulin or ignores the hormone altogether.

Most Americans who are diagnosed with this chronic disease have type 2, or adult onset, diabetes. Gestational diabetes occurs in pregnant women who do not normally have high blood sugar but do so during pregnancy. 23.6 million people in the United States have some form of diabetes.

Thanks to The Fykes Foundation, both of these very important tests were free for all students who wished to participate. The Foundation puts a very strong emphasis on the awareness of these diseases in the African-American community because we are so highly affected by it. 11.5% of all cases of diabetes occur in African-Americans and 35% of the Black community is afflicted with hypertension. Gordon Fykes combined these dire circumstances with the power of laughter and the desire to make a difference in order to create the Laugh4Life Tour.

"I merged health and wellness and what I like to call a relief that everyone can relate to: comedy" Fykes said.

As stated before, the tour will be heading to ten HBCU's around the country with goal of screening 10,000 college students and raising awareness tenfold. Although it is a lofty goal, all members involved in the venture believe it will be successful.

Another aspect of the tour is the desire to find the next best collegiate comedy talent and to bring them along on the tour as well. Students were invited into Sale Hall to audition to be in the comedy show that was occurring the next night in the Bell Tower of Ebenezer Baptist Church.

The Laugh4Life Comedy Tour's next stop will be at Tuskegee University and then they will be heading to Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina. The Laugh4Life Comedy Tour is not only a prime example of African-Americans doing their part to help their community, but it also exemplifies the reach that Morehouse has and the potential that lies within each one of the college's students.

For more information on The Fykes Foundation and the Laugh4Life Comedy Tour, please visit their website: [www.thefykesfoundation.com](http://www.thefykesfoundation.com).

## International News Notes



### Floods, mudslides kill scores in El Salvador

At least 130 people have died and dozens are missing after heavy rains triggered flooding and mudslides that buried communities Sunday and left a swath of destruction in El Salvador, officials said Monday.

The death toll was "preliminary," said Raul Murillo, subdirector of the Department of Civil Protection in San Salvador. Another 13,680 people were staying in emergency shelters, he said.

Some 60 people were still missing Monday afternoon, said Carlos Alvarado, communications director for the government's rescue efforts. The most affected departments are San Salvador, La Paz, Cuscatlan, Usulután and San Vicente. He described the latter as the most heavily affected.

### Man attends own funeral after mix-up over body's ID

On November 1, some family members and friends had identified the victim of

a car crash as 59-year-old bricklayer Ademir Jorge Goncalves.

They scheduled his funeral for the following day, Dia de Finados, a holiday when Brazilians remember loved ones who have died.

What Goncalves' family did not know is that he had spent the night drinking at a bar near the site of the crash, but he was not the victim.

When the bricklayer got word of his funeral, he showed up at the Funeraria Rainha das Colinas funeral home Monday morning.

Later that day, the mystery was solved when a family in a neighboring town came inquiring about a son who was missing.

The family recognized the body and took it away for burial.

### China's 'godmother' sentenced to 18 years

A court sentenced a Chinese crime boss known as the "godmother of the underworld" to 18 years in prison Tuesday, state-run media reported.

Xie Caiping "was convicted of organizing and leading a criminal organization, running gambling dens, illegal imprisonment, harboring people taking illegal narcotics and giving bribes to officials," the Xinhua news agency reported. She was also fined 1.02 million yuan (about \$150,000).

Twenty-one others were given jail terms ranging from one to 13 years by Chongqing No. 5 Intermediate People's Court.

A massive crackdown, which began in China's Chongqing municipality in June, has implicated millionaires, gangsters, and even police officers. Known as dahei or combat triads, the campaign has put the spotlight on organized crime and how it has infested local bureaucracy and businesses through bribery, extortion, blackmail and violence.

Police operations have led to the arrest of more than 4,800 suspected gangsters and the confiscation of 1,700 illegal firearms. Investigations led to many city officials, including police officers.

## Band bus accident inspires friendships

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"I'm glad everybody is OK," Lambert said. "The band is a family more than an organization...I love everybody in the band."

On Sunday, the day after the accident, a public worship service was held in the Martin Luther King International Chapel to reflect about the incident. Some of the service's attendees included Morehouse College president, Dr. Robert Franklin, Spelman College president, Dr. Beverly Tatum, Morehouse and Spelman faculty, Morehouse band members, and AUC students.

The service included worship songs, remarks from Morehouse and Spelman administrators, and stories about

the accident from several members of the band.

Nicholas Stevens was one of the students who shared his story. Stevens said the incident showed him the brotherhood and sisterhood that exists within the Morehouse College band.

Stevens ended his story by giving recognition to senior Chris Allison, one of the band's two drum majors, calling him the "hero" of the day. "Chris, you [are] my hero," Stevens said.

Despite dislocating his shoulder on the initial impact of the bus flipping, Allison carried several students out of the bus. Allison also sustained a concussion and broken ribs.

"I just did my job as a drum major and leader," Allison

said in response to the many acknowledgements.

The driver of the bus and the bus company's owner attended the worship service as well. Steve McClardy, owner of Superior Coach of Atlanta and Clark Atlanta alumnus attended the service, along with the bus driver, Ralph Marshall.

"[Thankfully] the only thing that died that day was the bus," McClardy said. "We can replace a bus; we can't replace human life."

Band director Melvin Jones reflected on the positive effects of the accident as opposed to any negatives.

"People who [before] knew nothing about each other now know enough about each other to be lifelong friends."

## Morehouse defeats Howard in mock trial

(continued from front page)

for showing exactly what the Morehouse Mystique really is, uplifting and intellectual."

Pearson, a junior political science major, was thrilled when mock jurors and Judge Adams ruled in Morehouse's favor.

"Literally, at the very utterance of the jury's verdict...for the first time of the day, the sun shined, and seemingly directed its rays at the right side of the courtroom, the plaintiffs side," Pearson said.

Dean Mills, who co-advises the Morehouse Mock Trial

Team, was not only impressed with the victors, but also equally amazed at Howard University and their students.

"Both sides exemplified President Franklin's wells," Mills said. "Especially well read and well spoken...it was an intellectual endeavor that was a joy and privilege to be involved with."

Yosef Wise, a mock attorney for Howard University and whose brother is a Morehouse Man, reaffirmed the sentiments of Dean Mills.

"This competition was essential in showing that African-Americans can speak well

and think quickly as opposed to the stereotypes that are always on display," Mills said.

Although, Howard didn't prevail, members of their team echoed the attitude and sentiments similar to those of Morehouse. Manti Bahn, a senior political science and history major, as well as the only female mock attorney in the competition, quickly came to terms with the outcome.

"The verdict was fair," Bahn said. "I was just very honored to come to and challenge another HBCU who participates in mock trial."

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# Features

## Commercial real-estate lender bankrupt

**Jordan McKinnie**  
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On Oct. 25, 2009, Capmark Financial Group, one of the nation's largest commercial real estate lenders, based in Horsham, PA, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. Capmark filed after losing \$1.6 billion in the second quarter of 2009. The company had accumulated \$21 billion in debts and only \$20.1 billion in assets. With more than 1000 employees, Capmark handled over \$360 billion of debt through mortgage financing for commercial real-estate investors on properties. Traditionally, Capmark did not issue loans on residential properties. So, to put its size in perspective, the properties in Capmark's global loan portfolio were valued at over 1000 Lenox Square Malls.

Capmark has been suffering since 2007 when commercial property values on average started falling over 47 percent since its peak. Four Capmark properties have suffered from foreclosure in the Atlanta area including, The Equitable Building, Chastain Crossing, Chastain Woods and Cobb Marketfair Shopping Center.

Dr. Roger C. Williams, economics professor at Morehouse College, said,

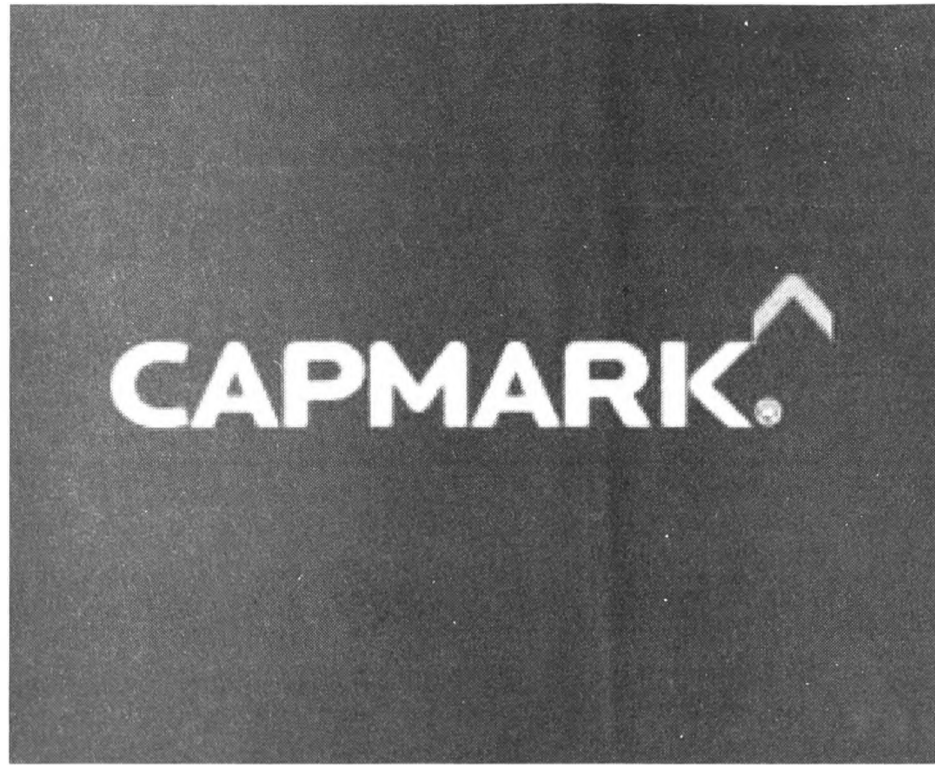
"The problem is, business is drying up in the malls and strip malls as people who are unemployed don't have money to spend as they did."

Stores opened as people were spending. People had jobs, so the commercial real estate owners could pay their mortgages based on the revenues from shoppers in their stores.

"Without these shoppers, revenues shrink, and property owners aren't able to pay back their loans," Dr. Williams explained. "Property values fall, and the commercial property has to ultimately be foreclosed on. That's what the problem is."

Some economists see the fall of Capmark as affirmation of a trend similar to the

Dr. Williams explained, "This time could be worst, but for slightly different reasons. The loans from 2007 have become non-performing loans. You can't sell them. Nobody would buy them or at least not as much



Stock Image

as they were buying them."

Anthony Edson, partner and co-founder of Stone Tower Capital and a Morehouse College alumnus, presented his firm's outlook on economic trends for the Economics Club last month.

When asked what he thought the magnitude of this fall out would be, he said, "It's unclear. It's going to be bad, but hopefully people learned their lesson and hopefully people get ready for it."

According to research provided by Mr. Edson, about \$535 billion of commercial mortgage debt will mature over the next two years. Declining Net Operating Incomes (NOI) and property values and tight lending

criteria could hinder mortgage holders from refinancing without contributing more equity.

Jim Adkins, vice president of Leasing at Bull Realty Inc. in Atlanta, GA, explained, "We need banks to start loaning money. We are in a vicious cycle. Banks are holding money and need to loosen up."

Stagnant commercial real-estate markets could suffer indefinitely.

Edson predicted, "The commercial real estate market is tied to the macroeconomic indicators. Until we see stability in indicators specifically unemployment and GDP, we aren't going to see any improvement."

## Robert Ascot

### The AUC's re-introduction to high fashion

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In recent years, the demand for "quality" has declined as the "finer" things in life have been tainted by cheap imposters. However, Robert Ascot, a luxury advertising firm, is devoted to putting the consumer back in touch with brands of exquisite taste and caliber.

With its mission to revive a hands-on method of shopping, made primitive by the Internet, crowded malls and department stores, Yohance Salmon, Walter J. Whitehead, Michael C. Hayes and Stephen Keshi, teamed up with John Witherspoon, the owner of a local boutique, to form Robert Ascot. The five young men met in the AUC and discovered their shared love of upscale art and fashion. After much informal collaboration, they concluded that there was a gap forming between the buyer and the dealer. By hosting intimate mixers where dealers and costumers have the opportunity to directly interact with one another, Robert Ascot hopes to mend this broken bond.

Imagine walking into a clothing store where you are greeted by the designer who explains the inspiration and intricate detailing that went into each garment. Envision stepping into a coffee shop

and sampling every brew before making a final decision. This is the experience that Robert Ascot provides. Using swanky soirees as a venue, this advertising firm aims to create a learning environment where buyers are taught about products they may potentially invest in.

"We want to be the bridge between the ultra-affluent connoisseur and those who aspire to wealth and luxury," Michael Hayes explained.

These ambitious gentlemen are not just limited to clothing. Walter Whitehead said that the company caters to "connoisseurs seeking the very best life has to offer. Robert Ascot is the essential luxury resource."

Robert Ascot plans to showcase a wide variety of merchandise, ranging from luxury cars to fine wine. Currently, they are working with popular brands such as Mac, Hermes, Giorgio Armani, Made to Fit and Mercedes. Their first major event will be held in March of 2010.

Until then, Cowboys and Poodles, their lounge and boutique, provides a place of networking for young fashion designers in Atlanta. This contemporary lounge was the proud of host of Haute Lanta Fashion week in September, and has been visited by Michael Knight, of the Atlanta Housewives, and representatives from Vogue magazine.

## AUC buckles down on public safety

### Patrol coverage expands due to continuing violence

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The AUC is an area full of the young, Black leaders of tomorrow-- an intellectual paradise and a social atmosphere. However, with recent events, this adored place has been affected greatly by acts of violence. Sparked by the tragic loss of Spelmanite Jasmine Lynn, the AUC has been in a whirlwind of devastating occurrences as students have fallen victim to robberies, fights, and shootings. This chain of events has sparked collaboration between the four AUC Public Safety teams: Spelman College, Morehouse College, Clark Atlanta University, and Morehouse School of Medicine.

There have been efforts to expand patrol coverage and initiate shared radio frequencies to improve inter-campus communication when incidents occur. Brawley Street has also been closed off to vehicular traffic, making it harder for individuals who are not students to infiltrate the campus. Also, there has been an increase in the checking of student IDs to reduce non-student loitering. The presidents of the AUC colleges have been meeting with community

leaders to discuss rebuilding the areas around the AUC and creating a safer environment.

The AUC has begun to implement new methods that they feel will keep the AUC safer for the students of all the campuses. One of the new additions to the method of transportation was implemented by the Woodruff Library security team, a system that is called the "Brawley Bounce." This system provides golf-cart pick-up and drop-off transportation on Sunday through Thursday from 5:30p.m. until 12:30a.m. along the Brawley street pedestrian promenade. The "Brawley Bounce" supplements the already-existing Library Shuttle which runs daily, making stops on each campus, during the hours that the library is open.

Spelman College has also begun to create more methods to create a safer atmosphere for the students. One of these proposals is Spelman Public Safety "Brawley Escorts." Spelman College Public Safety officers are now patrolling the Brawley pedestrian promenade between the Greensferry entrance to Spelman and the Woodruff Library entrance on T-3 scooters. Students may request an escort by checking in with an officer at the

Greensferry gate or at the Woodruff Library entrance between 6:00p.m. and midnight, Sunday through Thursday.

Many students have different reactions to the changes made within the AUC regarding safety.

Michele Honore, a junior at Spelman College said, "I feel as though the safety dynamic of the AUC has changed, although others may not see it as a drastic change it is a change nonetheless." Honore added "I believe that the public safety on each campus should work together to establish better safety for the entire AUC as well as collaborative forces with Atlanta Police Department."

A junior at Morehouse College, who would like to remain anonymous disagreed and argued that he has not seen a change.

"Campus security will not be effective until they corroborate with the Atlanta Police Department like Georgia Tech and Georgia State has already done," he explained. "And until they do so, Morehouse College, will continue to have second rate security."

Taking students safety seriously is the number one priority of the AUC. Staff and students must ensure the protection of each and every one of the students within this community.

## Kasim Reed's plans for Atlanta youth

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For eleven years, Kasim Reed has served Atlanta in the Georgia Legislature. With four years in the House and seven years in the Senate, now as a mayoral candidate, he seeks to serve in a greater capacity. While serving in the Georgia Legislature, Reed has addressed issues including economic development, crime, and ethics. But the question lingering among AUC students is what does Reed plan to do about my education?

As a native Atlantan, Reed has far stretching roots in the city. "I was raised by parents who instilled the importance of giving back to my community," Reed explained. "I love Atlanta, and I believe that I can contribute to making our city a better place by serving in public office."

Reed's familiarity with the city has benefited him, with his strong grassroots campaign in local communities and neighborhoods. Terrance Woodbury, a 2009 Morehouse Alumnus, started working for the campaign after witnessing Reed's communal efforts. "His long record of public service, and commitment to the advancement of all citizens in Atlanta made him an easy choice for me," Woodbury noted.

Reed claims that it is integral to include students in his campaign. "Our young people are our greatest assets and best hope for the future," he said.

While serving in the Georgia Legislature, Reed has dealt with issues involving youth. Though

his focus has not directly correlated between youth and education, he has worked to ensure that working families were paid fairly in order to access services necessary to supporting their children. Legislatively, Reed supported the expansion of funding to assist low-income families in paying for childcare and opposed efforts to restrict access to "Peach Care" for children of working families.

Reed's campaign promises for the youth of Atlanta center on his plan to build "Centers of Hope." As mayor, Reed plans to reopen the city's abandoned recreation centers that he says, were closed due to the City Council's lack of leadership and financial discipline. "The early closing of our recreation centers has left many children with no place to go after school and has placed an increased burden on working parents," he explained.

By rebuilding the recreation centers, Reed hopes that he can create havens of esteem and education where young people will be trained in science and technology. The new recreation centers will offer expanded after-school and summer programs that will provide structure for young people in the areas of character development, reading, math, science and physical education component.

"I have heard him [Reed] say time and time again that his reasons for being in this race are to affect the Joshua generation that will follow after his administration," Woodbury confirmed. "He has promised to open every single recreation center that has been closed as a result of the city's financial crisis."

Outside of Reed's "Centers of Hope," most of his campaign initiatives for youth and education center on Atlanta Public School and endowing Mayor Shirley Franklin's "Next Step Program." Reed has involved college students with the work of his campaign, but there have been no official promises made as to what he will do, specifically, for college students as mayor.

As an HBCU alumnus, a graduate of Howard University, Reed has engaged local HBCUs during his campaign. "We engage with college students on a regular basis," Reed explained, "to have them help out with the campaign through canvassing, phone-banking and telling their friends about my candidacy."

"Kasim has reached out to the students of the AUC on many different occasions," Woodbury said. "Along with employing about 10 former and current AUC students, he has promised to start a conversation with the AUC that will last throughout his administration."

Reed started this conversation during the summer of 2009 when he invited 25 student leaders from the AUC to join him for dinner with his staff. Since then, he has frequented the AUC, when invited, to continue the conversation.

Reed and his staff recognize that the city of Atlanta is developing into a nationally and internationally influential city. Reed is ready to assist in the city's development as he believes, "we need tested and proven leadership now for the difficult challenges facing our great city."

# Healthcare and race: The enduring American dilemma

Asst. Professor

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The racial dynamic in the health care debate is an often misunderstood issue. Although conservative commentators such as David Brooks have downplayed race, while right-wing rabble-rousers have distorted the issue arguing that health care is a form of reparations, the Morehouse community needs to consider the historical link between race and health care. This link goes beyond the Tuskegee Study and includes race as a subtext to the denial of universal health care in 20th century American history.

According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, of the 47 million Americans who go without health care insurance:

- two-thirds of them are made up of the working poor (too rich for Medicaid and too poor to pay the highway robbery insurance rates)
- only 13 percent of white Americans are uninsured
- 17 percent of Asians/Pacific Islanders are uninsured
- 22 percent of blacks are uninsured
- 36 percent of Hispanics are uninsured

- 33 percent of Native Americans are uninsured.

Historically, mortality, quality of health care and rates of maintaining health care insurance have been functions of social assimilation, race and class. Considering the effect of the lack of health care, we should be shocked into action. A recent study by Physicians for a National Health Program states that annually 45,000 Americans, regardless of race, will die prematurely due to a lack of health care.

As early as 1883, the leading pan-Africanist of his day, Bishop Henry McNeal Turner, addressed the African demographic situation in America by writing:

**I know (the African) is increasing South much more rapidly than the whites, and the ration of increase, should it go on as it did from 1870 to 1880, will put the Southern States in the hands of the negro in 1900 ... I can see that the Southern whites are apprehensive of such a contingency, and to avert it they are moving heaven and earth to procure white immigration, but with all they can get and all they can kill and starve to death in the penitentiaries, the fecundity of the negro is gaining on them rapidly...**

Opportunistic Southern white leaders took up the cudgel of racism to beat down the upward climb of Black people at the turn of the 20th century. In 1908, former governor and U.S. Senator Benjamin "Pitchfork" Tillman framed health care and racial demography within a political context. Speaking before South Carolina's legislators on Jan. 24, 1908, he called on the state government to increase the number of European immigrants and simultaneously decrease its Black numerical dominance. In an address titled "The Negro Problem and Immigration," Tillman laid his cards on the table:

**when I look around and see how many negroes also are not guilty of race suicide, I must confess the cold-blooded fact that the negroes are ahead of us, and unless disease—syphilis, tuberculosis, alcoholism, or something else—shall come along and desolate these people; unless we do get reinforcements, the struggle for mastery as between a majority of negroes and a minority of whites is bound to come.**

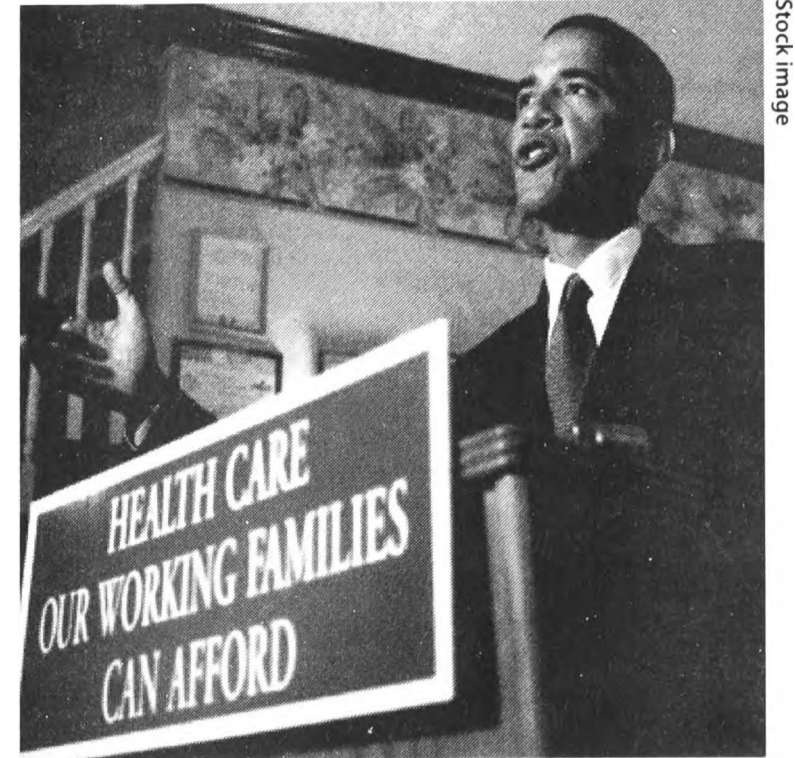
Denial of health insurance was a minor one of many efforts to enforce racist, gender-biased and culturally chauvinistic social control measures during the first quarter of the 20th century.

Progressive era politicians made an attempt to provide universal health care. However, a coalition including the American Federation of Labor, doctors, insurance companies and business interests won the day and the American Association of Labor Legislation bill was defeated in Congress. President Teddy Roosevelt's personal convictions may have been born, in part, by seeing his son Archie suffer the ravages of diphtheria in 1907. Regardless, his support of the AALL bill in 1912 failed miserably. Other failures during President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal and the Great Society Reforms of Lyndon B. Johnson mark the graveyard of failed social reforms.

The creation of Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid have not provided for the spiraling costs of health care relative to other household expenses. The cost dynamic has been studied beginning in 1926 when the Committee on the Cost of Medical Care first met. Yet today, health care is pushing toward accounting for one-fifth of all of the wealth that the American economy produces annually.

In the long run, it's all about values. Whose lives are valued and what portion of a society's collective wealth is it willing to sacrifice so that a neighbor who has less can actually afford quality health care?

I was impressed in the 1980s when Surgeon General C. Everett Koop compared the two major industrialized nations without universal health care insurance for its citizens – the two USAs:



President Barack Obama giving a talk about healthcare, the heavily noted oft-criticized focus of his early presidency.

the United States of America and the Union of South Africa. In the Reagan era, Koop dared to suggest that race and the cost of care were directly linked in the domestic policies of these two nations.

In 2001, Koop gave props to a democratic South Africa, which had then "affirmed the right to health care of all of its citizens, (leaving) the United States stand(ing) alone as the industrialized nation that has not yet recognized this right for its people." Not much has changed despite the election of President Barack H. Obama.

I have seen family members ravaged by illness and receive good quality health care. As someone who has kept the vigil beside a hospital bed, the last thing I would want an ailing person to be con-

cerned with is the question of cost. America has much to be proud of, but of her failings, this one ranks up there among the worst.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. saw health care as a central facet of his notion of "equality now" which he expressed in 1961 in a similarly titled article in *The Nation*. His words convey the matter most clearly: "Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane."

We can all make a difference. Contact (email, write and call) your senator and representatives by visiting the United States Congressional website [<https://writerep.house.gov/writerep/welcome.shtml>] to make your position known.

## Deceitful titles at Morehouse

Carlton Collins

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Morehouse College is known to produce men of distinction, men of great moral character, and men known for exceptional leadership. These principles of campus leaders have diminished to little more than a mosh pit filled with young men with plans of campus-wide domination or meaningful padding for a lackluster resume.

But there is a razor-thin tightrope between serving your institution and leeching from the prominence of a title. And Morehouse's political system is nearly bled dry.

In years past, there were talks of secret societies and underground factions with an underlying goal of changing the status quo to fit into their specific purpose. There have been articles highlighting plans for their faction to take over Morehouse's political landscape and change the institution to conform to their ideals. Former Editor-In-Chief of the Maroon Tiger, Edward Mitchell, wrote a controversial series on the existence of these societies in the spring of 2007.

During my matriculation through Morehouse, I have watched the veracity of holding an office on campus devalued and the standard of purposeful service fall drastically. Some would suggest there are still Men of Morehouse with

a purpose in making effective change; my response is both yes and no.

Morehouse College is filled with young men want to become powerful, financially adept individuals, which is what is expected from alumni of our illustrious institution. Nonetheless most social activity on our highly competitive campus has an underlying connotation.

Whether it be joining a National Pan-Hellenic Council fraternity, or for a position later during matriculation, such as SGA President or even Editor-In-Chief of this publication, the campus has become a chess match against other brothers with similar aspirations. These talented young men throw caution to the wind and loosen their hold on their brother's back in order to step on or over it.

John Dalberg-Acton suggests that "absolute power corrupts absolutely," but am I wrong to believe Morehouse College should be evolved beyond that level of primal existence? Is using ethics and morality as we enter the world of politics too much to ask of men already in a fraternity, the Morehouse fraternity? But the bottom line is integrity.

For the record, I do not have an issue with building your resume, but why the lack of ethics? Must you hold the position, simply as a figurehead, without the thought of reprisal or consequence? A stance against these Men of More-

house should be taken. Young men who care nothing about the sovereignty of the position they hold, and have no interest in leaving a legacy at Morehouse of service, should be ousted. To serve one's institution in a capacity should not be taken lightly, yet we have those who abuse the opportunity afforded to them every year. It has to come to an end.

My charge to the student body of this prestigious institution is to not only vote for your friends, but more importantly to vote for the person who will best serve. That man may not be the most flashy, that person may not be the most social, that person may very well be homosexual, but analyze each man's work ethic.

It is hypocritical to be both apathetic and expectant. Do not have expectations of your SGA when you have no expectations for its candidates. Hold these futures leaders to standards. And after they enter their various offices, question them about the progress made, as it is your right and obligation to do so.

Every man at some point in his life must make a decision to stand for the truth or stand for his friend. If they are synonymous there is no issue, but as of late on this campus there are two separate entities. You choose: Mother Morehouse or your friend, who is not wearing the crown. The latter choice will not be mine.

## Women's special report How to be black, successful, and get your man

Chenaika (Chelsea Johnson and Shenaika Davis)

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As black women are graduating in greater numbers than African American men, educated Black women are often choosing between pursuing their career aspirations or their family dreams. With success comes dilemma: recent studies from Yale University show that Black women who have degrees are less likely to be married at 45 than their white counterparts.

However, do not fret ladies! We have some tips you may want to explore while you're still in college so when the time comes, you can dream about jumping the broom with no worries.

- Consider an interracial relationship. Black women are highly unlikely to date outside their race. Why? It could be preference; maybe you've always had a strong Black male in your life. Or maybe because you think the hot Paul Walker-look-alike in your biology class has a better chance with the Megan Fox-look-alike sitting right next to him. The problem we Black woman face is that there are not enough eligible Black bachelors with the same educational stature that we have. The typical trend is that Black women marry outside their educational level while Black men marry outside

their race (partially because they have more choices). But while you're still in college, try "Something New." If you go to Howard, take a trip to Georgetown! If you attend Spelman, try some of the guys at Emory! It's not like you'll have to worry about long-term commitment – just yet!

- Adoption is an Option! Highly educated Black women tend to put career first, social life second, and marriage somewhere off in the distance. We tend to neglect personal relationships because we are so focused on being successful. And who can blame us? We not only have to face a double jeopardy in the labor market (being Black and a woman) but we also face an imbalanced gender ratio. Our choices are limited. So what happens when our biological clock begins to rust? Well there's always a baby out there in need of a strong, successful, Black mother!

- Settle for a nice guy. We know the word settle sounds bad... but really... wouldn't you like a guy who treats you right over the star athlete that is playing more in your relationship than on the field? Nice guys don't always have to finish last... You really might grow to love him! Forget about the guy who has a girl in every dorm. Although his drama might add spice to your life, it might be time for you to get rid of that bad boy fetish while you're still in college.

- Accept the fact that you might be the breadwinner. It's just the truth. Black women are succeed-

ing more educationally than their male counterparts. Some of us are already getting it right; Black women are more likely to date outside of their educational level while Black men are more likely to date outside of their race (see tip No. 1; we can learn something from the boys). There are good, strong, caring men who don't have an advanced degree. This doesn't mean that they lack drive or the ability to someday be on your level. Behind every strong Black man is a strong Black woman. Be the strong woman to push your man to succeed.

- Be a cougar... as long as it's legal! It's all about expanding your pool of eligible men. If this means that as a senior you need to start looking towards the freshman for a little lovin', then so be it! Do the math: this will increase your options by 400 percent. Again, your male friends are already doing it. There are some other advantages to this situation. You get to take charge, he will look up to you, and you call the shots. Just be careful to check ID before you get physical!

Don't let the statistics get you down. You really can have it all. Have an open mind and an open heart and consciously balance the two. These tips are meant to encourage you to consider a wide variety of options and men that you otherwise might overlook. Take these tips to heart sistas, because the white picket fence should not only be for the white woman!



Recycle The Maroon Tiger

# Arts & Entertainment

## Style seekers: Urban Takeout

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During the sunlight hours, the guys behind Urban Takeout fulfill their daytime jobs and duties. You have Italo Brown, a 2006 Morehouse alum who is a researcher at Boston's Medical Center; Brennan Manuel, a Magna cum Laude graduate in Business/Marketing who is currently a student at FIT and only ten hours away from completing his JD from Tulane law School; and Brandon Earl, who currently clerks for Corporate Defense Law Firm Hawkins and Parnell and was recently recommended to be the personal publicist for actress/comedienne Mo'Nique. When they are not busy with these duties, they are busy at work on their new lifestyle brand.

Urban Takeout is not as expensive as Marc Jacobs, nor is it located too far away such as Commes Des Garçons. Instead Urban Takeout is a lifestyle brand that is rooted in tangible ideals that are highly relatable to today's world. Urban Takeout sets out to cater to a certain demographic of people. "The Urban Graduate" An urban graduate is described as a student of life and his/her environment. They understand trends and set out to be self-innovative.

Urban Takeout's upcoming line of clothing will be a tribute of sorts to Morehouse,

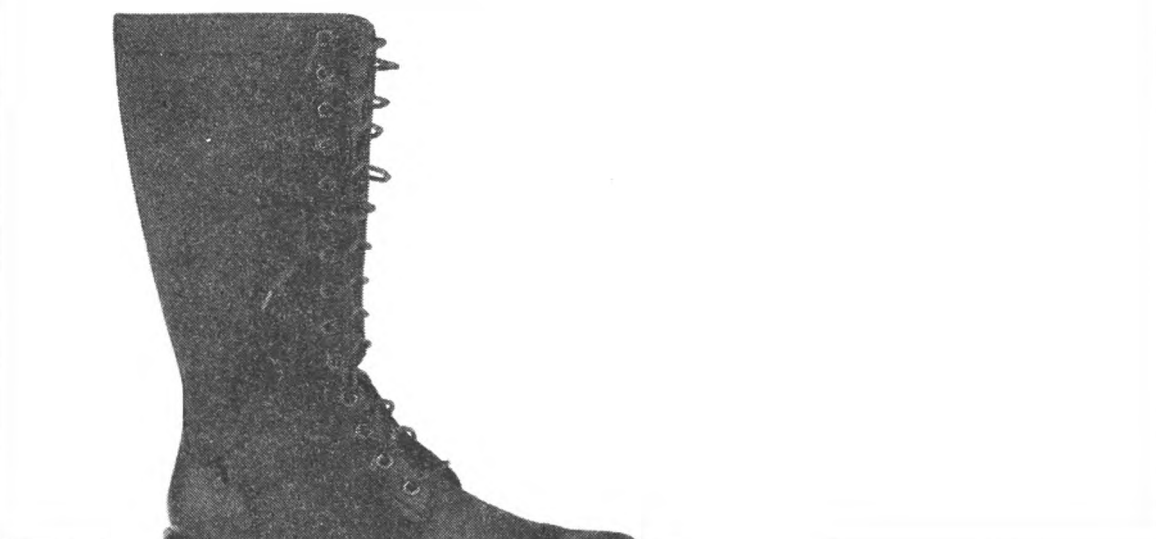
[ URBAN + TAKE(ØUT) ]

**Get Familiar: Cole Haan of Winter**

leave a comment »

Cole Haan has resurrected the name of its's long lost co-founder with the COLE ROOD & HAAN line of "roaring-twenties" inspired brogues, wingtips and dress boots and some cool complementary bags.

For ze Urban Graduation



A screen capture of the website for clothing line Urban Takeout, which launched in 2005. UTØ encourages fashion-forward thinking, through dialogue and product/concept development.

where their whole company began. The line will pinpoint high-end basics and will focus on several themes of the Morehouse mystique that will drop sequentially. Every different theme will only have 67 pieces in existence in reference to Morehouse's founding in 1867. Each piece in Urban Takeout's line is versatile and readily adaptable in order to cater to the Renaissance man who must take on multiple roles throughout the day. This results in the line being all encompassing. Whether you are the high fashion tai-

lored suit type of student or the savvy fashionable nerd, Urban Takeout has something for everyone.

More than just a clothing line however, Urban Takeout also consists of an active blog that highlights fashion and offers advice to readers. Urban Takeout is just one of three branches under a bigger company, Great 8 Productions, LLC. Before coming to Morehouse, many pre-freshmen in recent years have spent hours on Youtube looking up random Morehouse related videos. Many students

watched countless step show videos, anxiously awaiting their chance to get to experience such an event. Most of those videos came courtesy of Great 8 Productions, LLC. The company was started by 8 friends, who were four sets of roommates while living in Graves Hall. Today, in addition to the Urban Takeout lifestyle brand, the company consists of two other distinctive creative suites, Gr8media, which focuses on web consulting and marketing, and iStep, which is an interactive step community.

## Maroon Tiger gets first listen to new Angie Stone project

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Angie Stone is a bit of an enigma in the world of popular music. She has had quite a bit of success in her own right, but is not often held in the regard of popular neo soul artists such as Jill Scott, India.Arie or even more recently artists like Chrisette Michele. Her career however has weathered the storm regardless of her popularity.

She's been in the music business since the 80's and began her solo recording career with the album Black Diamond. Since then she has released four albums her most recent being "The Art of Love and War" which was spurred by the hit single "Baby" featuring Betty Wright and was her most successful album to date. Now, however, Angie seems to be ready to reinvent herself and keep that momentum going with her latest effort Unexpected.

The Maroon Tiger had the privilege to hear this album before it is scheduled to be released and from the album's opening track Stone wants to make her fans aware that her sound is "coming without warning" and will be different from previous efforts.

The album has quite a few upbeat songs such as "Hey Mr.

DJ" and "I Ain't Hearin' You" and they break up some of the album's slower moments with thumping beats, horns and even a few synthesizers here and there that show a new sound, and complement the light soulful sounds of Ms. Stone.

Speaking of her voice she doesn't take many vocal chances, but after being in the industry for so long, she knows what works and she doesn't attempt to do things out of her vocal comfort zone.

Some of the album's best moments come when Angie is at her mellow soulful best with songs like "Free" and a song with a great message "Think Sometimes" which urges the listener to be appreciative of life and to not take it for granted which essentially anyone could relate to.

The only disappointment with the album is when Angie uses auto-tune on her song "Tell Me". Stone's pure talent does need such a gimmicky tool.

Overall though the album is a clear indicator that Stone still has spark left in her, and fans of Ms. Stone will enjoy this latest CD. Recommend to all soul music fans, this album is quite good. As Angie states in the album's closing song "If you're gonna survive you gotta do left when everybody else is doing right" and Stone's gamble certainly pays off.

## Erykah Badu, also known as

**Joshua Moore**  
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When Ricky Smiley brought his comedy tour to Atlanta, he brought along with him Erykah Badu, who gave a stellar, albeit brief stage show. Wearing a pair black Yves Saint Laurent sequined pants with a matching black top hat and a red scarf and a brown trench coat, Erykah Badu treated the audience to selections from all four of her studio albums. Starting with her most recent, New Amerykah Part One (4th World War).

Jumpstarted by a tiny synth keyboard which she played from her laptop, Badu started the New Amerykah portion with "The Healer (Hip Hop)" before running through "Me," "My People," which she assisted instrumentally by using a synthetic snare drum and then finally, "Twinkle."

Without missing a beat, Badu then transitioned into a personal story of some of her greatest hits, kicked off by her first hit single, "On and On."

"I dedicate this one to my first baby daddy (Andre 3000)," she an-



Neo-soul artist Erykah Badu

nounced before launching into, "Otherside of the Game." The song narrates a tale about a lover who has "work that ain't honest but it pays the bill" and conceiving and raising a child.

The crowning moment of her little over an hour long performance came with the up-tempo mix of "Apple Tree and Love of My Life," which was infused with Atlanta natives, Outkast "So Fresh,

So Clean." During the 10-minute segue, Badu managed to not only sing, but also to dance, bee-hop, play the synthetic drums, lead the crowd in call and response, and deliver a medley of old school gems from the likes of Ice Cube, Whodini, Slick Rick and Doug E Fresh that provided a retrospective look at hip-hop.

As a parting gift, Badu warned the audience to pack light as she left the crowd, with a gospel-tinged and audience helped rendition of Bag Lady. Her top hat was gone and her coat removed. It was

Erykah Badu in her element. As people filed out of the auditorium, they were all in want, for more of the analog girl in the digital world.

### Celebrating 10 Years of Excellence!



#### Organizing Power: The Force of Change in the South November 21, 2009

Southern Partners Fund (SPF) invites you to celebrate 10 years of excellence in philanthropy in the Southeast, as we host the *Inaugural Launch of the Social Justice Institute (SJI)*. Join us as we and honorary hosts, Atiba Mbiwan and Tiffany Friesen, recognize some of the South's key social change leaders representing philanthropy, grassroots organizing and service to humanity at the *Social Justice Leadership and Humanitarian Awards Dinner and Gala*.

#### Keynote Speaker

Southern Partners Fund is honored to announce **Rev. Dr. Joseph E. Lowery** as the keynote speaker at the Social Justice Institute Launch. Hailed as the "Dean of the Civil Rights Movement", Dr. Lowery represents a legacy of service and commitment to the nonviolent struggle for the causes of justice, human rights, economic equality, voting rights, peace and human dignity. Dr. Lowery delivered the Benediction on the occasion of President Obama's inauguration and is the recent recipient of The Presidential Medal of Freedom.



#### Location

Intercontinental Buckhead Atlanta  
3315 Peachtree Road NE  
Atlanta, Georgia 30326  
404-261-9250

#### Agenda

8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Social Justice Institute Launch  
Workshops, Salon Armchair discussion with community organizer panelists, Keynote Speaker  
6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Social Justice Leadership and Humanitarian Awards Dinner and Gala  
9:00 p.m.-Midnight Dance

#### Fees

SJI Launch	\$100
Social Justice Awards Dinner and Gala	
Individual	\$100
Table of 10	\$1000

Sponsorship opportunities available! Contact SPF to learn about the various ways to support the event.

SPF invites community partners, philanthropic and business leaders, HBCU and other college and university colleagues, nonprofit professionals, grassroots organizers, and young leaders to share in the launch of SPF's premier program, the Social Justice Institute!

Visit [www.spfund.org](http://www.spfund.org) to register.  
For more information, call 404-541-9091 ext. 13.

# Arts & Entertainment

## Lasers light up Forbes Arena for Lupe Fiasco concert

**Spencer Greene**  
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Recovering from the confusion of last year's hip-hop concert, Lupe Fiasco gave a show worth waiting an entire year for. With the help of B.O.B, also known as Bobby Ray, Lupe took Forbes Arena to a new galaxy as "lasers" filled the place by the end of the night.

As soon as the doors opened, skateboarders, hipsters, nerds, cool kids, and all around hip-hop fans rushed to the Arena, creating a mosh pit. Students from various universities and of various ethnicities filled Forbes, anticipating the Chicago emcee.

The show opened up with LS, the winner of the Who's Up Next competition held at Hump Wednesday early that day. He performed his single dedicated to all of the "bad girls."

The next artist to hit the stage was Young Money signee, Lil Twist. With a Mohawk that sat at least 8 inches on top of his head, Twist performed an array of songs with bass heavy beats and lyrics that mentioned Lil Wayne's name every 30 seconds. The crowd quickly warmed up to Twist and began to sing his catchy hooks.

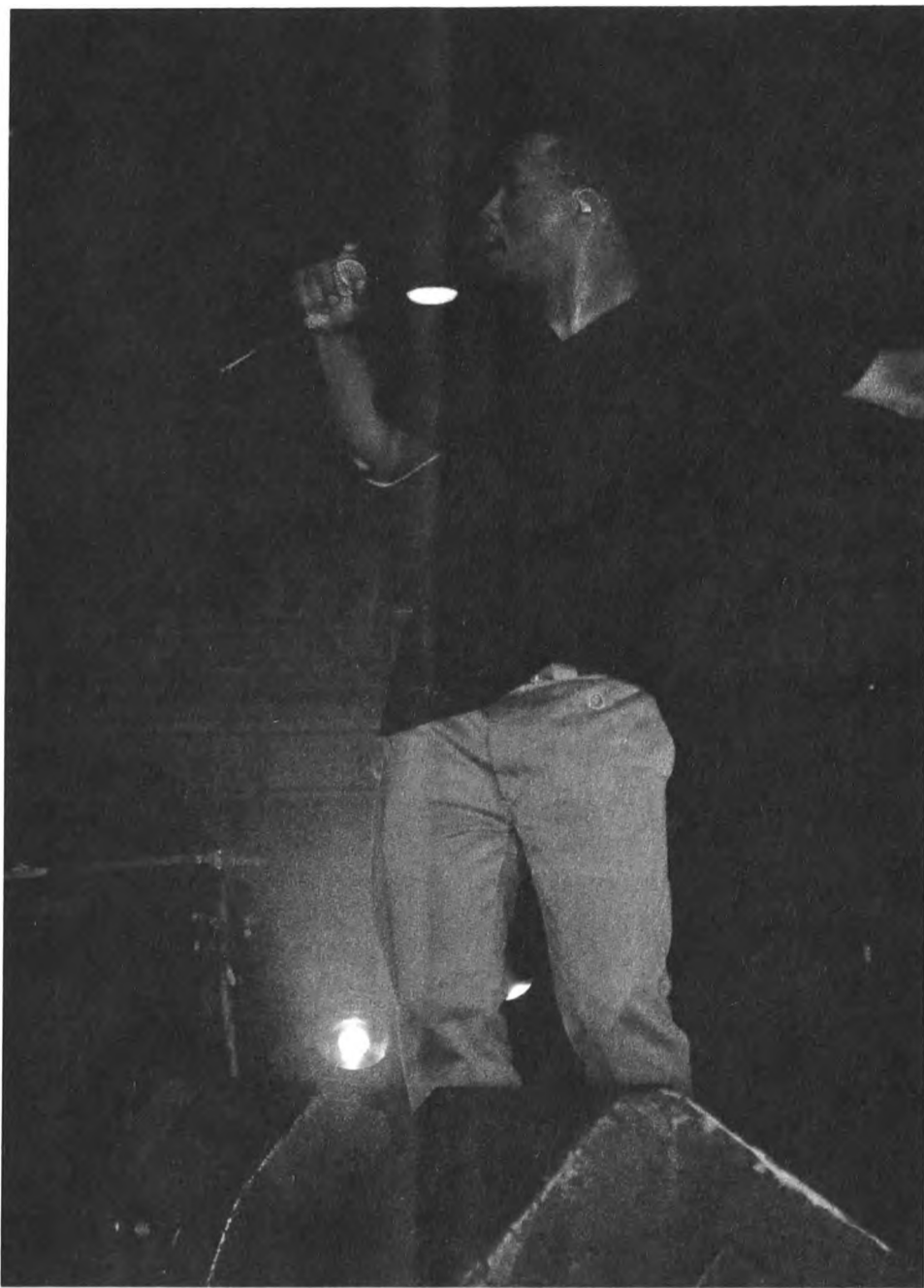
Shortly after Twist exited the stage, B.O.B entered the stage to perform his set. After a few minutes of technical difficulties, he proceeded with his

amazing performance, beginning with his song Sweet Baby. Reciting some of his lyrics and giving the meaning of them, he proved that there are southern rappers who also focus on lyrical content and ability. Paying respect to his fellow Atlanta natives, he shouted out different high schools and neighborhoods in Atlanta. He then brought out his friend and fellow Atlanta rapper, Killer Mike.

Mike spent a few minutes shouting out Dubois hall, where he stayed as a freshman at Morehouse College. He then performed a song before bringing out Atlanta rapper, Yung Dro. Dro, accompanied by an entourage, performed a new song as well as a couple of his well-known songs. He ended his set with Take Off, his most popular song at the moment.

As Dro exited the stage, B.O.B came back to perform the rest of his set. He hadn't lost any momentum from his previous visit to the stage. He went into a few of his known singles such as: I'll Be In The Sky, Haters Everywhere, and Put Me On, which samples the Tribe Called Quest classic song, Bonita Applebaum.

He then introduced the crowd



Hip Hop Concert headliner Lupe Fiasco performing in the Forbes Arena during the 2009 Morehouse and Spelman Homecoming.

Maroon Tiger staff photo/Eric Ross

as they waited for the headliner to come to the stage. After awhile, CASA co-chairs, Warren Chancellor and Mark Anthony Green came to the stage with Miss Maroon and White and court. Green jokingly reminded the crowd of last year's mix-up, and informed them Lupe was there for sure this year.

As the crowd grew tired of waiting, the lights got darker and cinematic mood music filled the arena. The crowd screamed as Lupe Fiasco appeared on the stage with a live band. He began performing his song, The Instrumental, but stopped to fix the sound. After apologizing to the crowd for the technical difficulties, he asked the DJ to play a few instrumentals for him to get back in the groove. The DJ played Travis Porter's All The Way Turnt Up and Lupe freestyled over the beat. After finding his groove, he went back into The Instrumental.

Lupe brought the excitement up with his song Go Go Gadget Flow and his verse from N.E.R.D's Everyone Nose remix. He was in total control

of the crowd as he flowed into each song.

After performing some of his known songs, he went into a couple of his new songs from his upcoming album, Lasers. He started with his new single, Shining Down, which features Matthew Santos. After getting a good response on his new songs, he went back into his old songs, starting with Kick Push, his first single from his first album. He also performed Little Weapons and Streets on fire. The crowd nearly lost it as he transitioned into Hip Hop Saved my Life. Lupe seemed to transition smoothly in and out of each of his songs.

As he was performing Paris Tokyo, the lights of the Arena were turned on. The crowd became angry that Lupe was out of time, but he assured everyone he would do one more song. He then ended his performance with his hit, Superstar.

The concert left a lasting impression on many in attendance. "I enjoyed it, from the opening act who set the vibe for Lupe, to Lupe actually coming and performing well," says Morehouse student, Jeffrey Clark. "Everything, it was the most amazing experience of my life," responded Hyma Moore when asked what was the best part of the show.

Despite the controversy around the long awaited concert, the night was a great success. Lupe Fiasco, as well as B.O.B gave epic performances.

to his live band, as well as his alter ego, Bobby Ray. With his sister on keys and a guitar player that played like John Mayer, Ray rocked the crowd with an array of alternative songs. He picked up his guitar and played

his popular songs: Satellite, Wonderland, and lovelier than you.

Bobby Ray left the entire crowd amplified, excited, and ready to see Lupe Fiasco. The DJ kept the crowd occupied

groove, he went back into The Instrumental.

Lupe brought the excitement up with his song Go Go Gadget Flow and his verse from N.E.R.D's Everyone Nose remix. He was in total control

~~20~~ questions

40 questions

1. Aren't you glad to see us?
2. Is this still the only reason you'll pick up a paper?
3. Did you really think we were done until January?

4. Did you see him on CNN last week?
5. Why is he STILL talking about it?
6. Does he think he is a celebrity now?
7. Did he really ask for his own page in the year book?

8. What's up with Hump Wednesday?
9. Is the alliance falling apart?
10. Was homecoming too much for them?
11. Were they pleased with their FBI escorts at the game?
12. Could you even see her on the other side of Him?
13. Did they really swARM around him during the step show?
14. Did that justify him pulling out his gun on students?
15. Was that the reason they lost the step show?
16. Didn't you think they should have won?
17. But wasn't it Amazing?
18. Is that why they won?
19. Didn't they have the best pageant?
20. Did their family plan that too?
21. But wasn't that step show performance the worst?
22. Are they a fraternity of 25 or 11?
23. Maybe they should have let the other guys plan the step show too?

24. Does ANYBODY still want to be Grand?
25. Was that loss DEVASTATING to you?
26. Was she the reason you LoSt?
27. Our president is black, but will our mayor be in a few weeks?
28. Did you vote?
29. Did we EVER make it to 100?
30. So is it okay to break the dress code at Spelman?
31. Did you attend WERK?
32. Was that a fashion show or a drag race?
33. Did you see the beast?
34. Should we change his/her name to Madea?
35. Did the VP really give him a dollar bill during the performance?

36. Is it true that the driver didn't have a license?
37. Is anyone trying to sue?
38. Do you think you all should consult the head of PAD?
39. Did he ever win that case or is it still pending?
40. Speaking of them, do they think they are a real fraternity?
41. If so, are they think they run the yard?

# Sports

## SIAC Basketball Tournament comes to Atlanta

**Justin Gamble**  
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The Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) has changed the host city for the women and men's basketball championship tournament. Morehouse's own Forbes Arena will now host the event Mar. 1-6, bringing the event back to Atlanta for the first time since 1998.

When the 13 different colleges from the SIAC come to Morehouse's campus in early March, it will mark the 77th year of the post-season tournament. Started in 1934, this tournament is the longest running HBCU basketball tournament in America.

Last year the championship was held in Birmingham, Al. and has floated to several different cities after being move from its initial home in Tuskegee. However the move to Atlanta was made to add excitement to the tournament.

"One of the overarching priorities of the conference office involves working every day to maximize the championship experiences of both our student-athletes and fans," SIAC Commissioner Gregory Moore said at a press conference to announce the change in the host city. "Moving the tournament back to Atlanta, one of the greatest destination cities in the country, will

be a positive step forward in that regard."

Atlanta now gives the SIAC tournament a host city with plenty to do outside of the tournament for the fans and the student-athletes. Atlanta also puts the SIAC in the new "mecca" for media coverage, giving the conference an opportunity to pull in more sponsors.

The SIAC is in its 97th season of intercollegiate competition, and is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association. The schools from the conference participate on the Division II level. The SIAC calls five states home, Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Members include Albany State, Benedict, Claflin, Clark Atlanta, Fort Valley State, Kentucky State, Lane, LeMoyne-Owens, Miles, Paine, Stillman, Tuskegee, and Morehouse.

Besides the change in ven-

ue, the SIAC has changed another common practice from past tournaments. "We decided to move the championship finals from Sunday afternoon to Saturday evening, which we believe will enhance the exposure enjoyed by our student-athletes, and generate more excitement for our fans," Moore said.

Forbes hosted the 1996 Olympic Games held in Atlanta. It was part of the \$51 million investment in the AUC by the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games. With fans coming out in full force, the Arena holds 6,000 plus. The arena consistently ranks at the top for Division II attendance,

averaging over 4,000 fans a game. That number time after time ranks above several Division I programs.

Morehouse head basketball coach Grady L. Brewer hopes the Tiger fans come out in bunches and brings the enthusiasm with them. Brewer understands that with Forbes hosting the tournament, his young and inexperienced players will have a sense of comfort playing on their home court. Brewer says the difference between a comfort zone and a home-court advantage is the fans.

With a supportive fan base cheering the Tiger basketball team, fans become the sixth man on the court at all times.



Stock image

## What to Watch

**Charlie Williams IV**  
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defensive struggle with two of the best defenses in the country facing off. Turn to ABC at 3:30 p.m.

### NCAA

Saturday, Nov. 7

No. 9 LSU at No. 3 Alabama

This is a contest between the two best teams in the SEC West. Both come in with top defenses and great, national champion winning coaches. The difference in this matchup will be the effectiveness of the offenses and the possibility of the big play on special teams. Whoever wins this matchup will control their own destiny to the SEC championship against the Florida Gators. Tune in to CBS at 3:30 p.m.

No. 16 Penn State at No. 11 Ohio State

A classic Big Ten battle of two of the most historic programs in the conference and the nation. Both teams are coming off impressive wins and look to add another quality win to their record. Ohio State will need a stellar performance from quarterback Terrelle Pryor, and Penn St. senior quarterback Daryl Clark will have to do the same for his Nitanny Lions team. This could be a

### NFL

Sunday, Nov. 8

Dallas at Philadelphia

The teams atop the NFC East square off at "The Linc." Both teams come in razor sharp and have had impressive showings in the last two weeks. The Eagles' offense is clicking on all cylinders and looks pretty much unstoppable with all the weapons Donovan McNabb has at his disposal. The Cowboys' defense and offense have both hit their stride and are poised for a continued run. NBC has this one at 8:20 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 9

Pittsburgh at Denver

Pittsburgh is coming off of a bye week and should be all revved up for 6-1 Denver. Although the Broncos had a tough loss against Baltimore, they should be able to bounce back and prepare for Big Ben (Roethlisberger) and crew. Defense will probably steal the show, so the offense that doesn't turn it over will have the best chance at a win. Turn to ESPN at 8:30 p.m.

## A tough kid from Houston

**Matthew Hargrove**  
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It is the first football game of the 2006 fall season. After summertime "two-a-days" and hours in both the weight and film rooms, the season was ready to commence, and the Maroon Tigers received the ball first.

The ball was kicked; return specialist and freshman recruit from Houston, Jamar Rodriguez, received the ball. Excitement and eagerness must have taken over on the Morehouse bench.

Rodriguez led all of Houston in kick return yards for his junior and senior years in high school. In 2004, he won the Gatorade Special Teams Player of the Year Award.

Unfortunately, the season was over for Rodriguez before it could finish beginning. He tore his ACL on the opening play and missed the remainder of the season. This would be a tough situation for anyone to overcome, especially a freshman.

However, this "tough kid from Houston" - as described by wide receivers coach Derrick Jackson - kept working hard, and for Rodriguez, belief and a summertime of hard work really paid off.

Rodriguez's amateur football career began at age 8 with the A-League Steelers in the Fun Football League based in Houston, TX. Rodriguez has always exhibited versatile athletic ability and as a result, he was able to show off his skills at four different positions; cornerback, running back, kick returner and wide receiver.

Coach Jackson said, "I'm impressed with [Rodriguez's] heart. Pound for pound, [Rodriguez] is the best athlete on the field. He can do it all."

However, even this rare athletic specimen needed support coming off such a severe injury. Rodriguez described the comeback as "shaky at first," but with the help of his coaches he was able to get back in shape.

Last year was a successful comeback season. Rodriguez received First Team All-Conference and Second Team All-Regional recognition while leading the nation and conference in kick return yards and ranking in the nation's Top 50 in all-purpose yards in Division II football.

In Morehouse's game against Stillman two weeks ago, Rodriguez had four receptions, 81 yards, three touchdown receptions, one kick return for TD. Let's

not forget that 93-yard kick return for a touchdown that the referee called back for holding.

After Rodriguez scored his first touchdown, a corner route reception, Rodriguez went to his coaches and told them, "They can't stop our passing game."

This was music to the ears of head coach Rich Freeman and Jackson as they both formerly worked at Stillman and wanted to get a win versus their old program. With Rodriguez at the slot receiver position, the other team lined up man to man against him with a linebacker or their nickel back, both cases being gross mismatches trying to contain Rodriguez's speed and athleticism.

The end result: two more touchdown receptions and a kick return for a touchdown.

When asked what he was feeling and thinking after the game was over, Rodriguez responded, "Man, I scored more TDs in this game than I did all of last year. Summer time hard work really paid off."

Rodriguez stands around 5-foot-8 and 185 pounds. Not your usual 6-foot-3, 220-pound wide receiver.

When asked about his size and playing wide receiver, Rodriguez respond-

ed, "My size does not temper my playing style, I play with my heart."

This is further testimony to both Jackson's words and to Rodriguez himself. Jackson is used to coaching tough guys. He has seen plenty over the years at Stillman, Alabama State, and now here at Morehouse.

"At receiver - outstanding. At running back - outstanding. Kick returns - outstanding," Jackson said of Rodriguez. "Get [Rodriguez] around guys like Achille Hendje and David Hart, he can only get better. They really get him going. They've been a thrill to coach and have made my job easier."

"This is one of the most talented receiving cores I've coached in a long time." His position coach isn't the only one noticing Rodriguez and his hard work.

After watching her son on ESPN's coverage of the game, Rodriguez's mother called him in tears of joy telling him what analysts on the channel were saying about her baby boy. "We will be seeing more of No. 5 on Sundays; he is a great NFL prospect."

For a "tough kid from Houston," like with all of us, the hard work can and will pay off.

## Catching up with Morehouse Basketball

**Lamar Remikie**  
Staff Writer

As the Maroon Tigers prepare for the 2009-2010 season, students shouldn't expect a stellar season coming out of the gates but should expect promise.

"We're very young," said an optimistic coach Grady Brewer. "We're infants getting ready to crawl, we hope to be walking very soon, by the end of January (or) mid-February we look to be running in full stride by then."

Coming off a 9-19 record from last season, the Tigers are trying to rebuild after their key All-American Kenney Boyd graduated. He has gone overseas to play for the Hapeol Holons in Israel.

"Our motto this year is to be the best team that plays on that day, if we do that 27 times we will be 27-0," Brewer said.

Two players who look to fill the void that Kenney has left behind are junior power forward Rod Williams and Joe Anabra, who bring a solid post presence. With Rod's athletic ability and Anabra's big body, they can cause problems in the post for opponents.

"Rod has developed a lot since his freshman year. I want him to become more vocal but I don't think it's in his DNA," Brewer said of his 6'5" big man. "We have a lot of young players with talent and leadership qualities so we will be fine."

Four returnees from last season are also hungry for respect and hope to replace the 15.9 points per game the All-American has left behind. Another player to look for Emzie Perry, who is returning from a tour of duty in Iraq with the U.S. Army. He hopes to provide that extra edge of toughness and leadership to his team every time they step on the court.

"Just coming back from OIF (Operation Iraqi Freedom), I want to bring a strong physical post game and just play physical with a warrior mentality," Perry said.

Perry also gave his outlook on the season. "Our coaching staff is strong; if the players are willing, able and have what it takes we will be fine. Our coaches have won it all before in the past and if we can feed into the system, we can make it happen again."

