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Letter from the editor

The Maroon Tiger, the premiere organization, is the leading student news outlet of the Atlanta University Center. As the organ of student of expression since 1925, past and current members of our staff have been earnest in their commitment to the great responsibilities we bear as facilitators of awareness and truth.

While Homecoming is a time for revelry, it is also a time for members of the Morehouse family to reflect on their responsibilities to this great institution.

This week is always an awesome opportunity for students to engage with alumni who are brimming with pride and ready to share their praises for their dear alma mater. Those chances for Men of Morehouse to listen and learn are invaluable moments that enable us to reflect on our promising futures and our responsibility to fulfill our potential.

I imagine that for alumni, the return home is akin to a pilgrimage; there is, among many things, encouragement and rejuvenation. Alumni find time to look back on their formative years through conver-



sation with their brothers and gain further insight into how effective their Morehouse experience was.

However, the complex challenges that currently face Morehouse render a pressing responsibility of alumni. With concerns over campus safety, the institution's financial viability and student dress and decorum, there is an unprecedented need for alumni to step up and take the lead.

My hope this week is that I will see alumni taking the lead on revitalizing the campus

culture recapturing those timeless traditions that cultivate excellence. As of yet, there has not been an effectively significant effort from upperclassmen to recast campus our culture and reclaim campus from deviant dents who are not committed

to Morehouse's great legacy.

One day, as I walked down Brown Street, I saw a brother talking on the phone with his right hand and slyly releasing handbills one-by-one from a stack that was held by his left hand. He was a party promoter. I walked up to him and said, "Excuse me, are you a student here?"

"Yea," he snarled at me.

"And you don't see anything wrong with littering the campus," I asked, fully expecting what his response

would be. He sucked his teeth told me to get out of his face and to 'worry about my own [expletive].' I told him the campus was my [expletive]. We exchanged a few more barbs, and eventually we had begun walking in opposite directions. There were others looking on or passing by who witnessed this exchange, but none of them thought it important enough to assist or even affirm my effort to check this wayward brother.

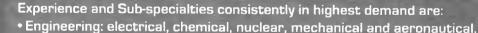
This week, I sincerely hope that alumni will be checking some brothers. I even hope that in their reflection of their responsibility to fulfill their potential, that my brothers will rise to the occasion and begin to take our campus back.

Homecoming is, of course, a celebration. It can also be, and should be, a rally for those who love the college to band together and show their fierce commitment to preserving Morehouse's legacy of excellence.

Steadfast, honest and true,

George W. Williams IV `10 Editor-in-Chief gwwiv.10@gmail.com

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Miss Spelman, Lacey Reddix (center) Hometown: Jackson, Mississippi

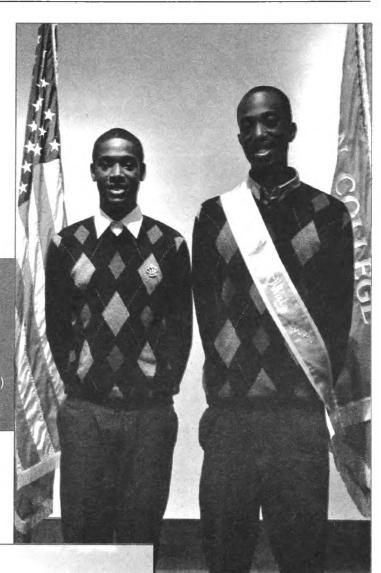
First Attendant, Charis Chambers (right) Hometown: Phenix City, Alabama

Second Attendant, Keri Ann Thomas (left) Hometown: Brooklyn, New York

> Mr. Blue and White (right) Christopher Jackson

First Attendant (left) Shawn Allen Thomas

Second Attendant (not shown) Javon A. Davis



Miss AUC (second from left) Amanda Green Hometown: California

First Attendant (far left) Danielle Myers Hometown: Hartford, CT Mr. AUC Errio Boyd Hometown:Memphis, TN

1st Attendant Lionel Daniels Hometown: Ellenwood, GA



Miss Maroon and Mhite







J'Nelle Agee First Attendant 2009 - 2010 Remington Wiley,
Miss Maroon and White
2009 - 2010

Alia Sabbs Second Attendant 2009 - 2010



An in-depth look at Miss Maroon and White and her court

Kelly N. Harper

For over 50 years, Miss Maroon & White and Her Court have represented the epitome of intelligence. compassion, and beauty. As the spokeswomen for Morehouse College, Miss Maroon of her biggest dreams. & White and Her Court are counted on to represent Morehouse with style and grace as they serve the community. Since its inception, Miss Maroon & White and Her Court have served the Morehouse community and beyond with grace and fervor, and this year's Court is no different from their predecessors.

Miss Maroon & White 2009-2010 is Miss Remington Rochelle Wiley, a senior International Studies major with a minor in Spanish (Spelman College) from Houston, Texas. Wiley hails from Houston, TX, and her platform is entitled "Social Summons: A Calling for Dedication and Service to Autism Awareness." Remington was inspired to carry out this platform because of her younger brother's diagnosis of autism lieves the travel is at a very young age, and hopes that men of Morehouse will join her in bringing awareness to the disorder.

Shortly after the pageant in April, Remington wasted no time in taking her first steps of service, organizing a team for Georgia Walks for Autism, raising over \$600 for the Walk. Her platform will officially begin after the Homecoming Coronation, and she is planning a major fundraiser in November to

prepare for the 2010 Georgia Walks for Autism.

Known for her regal stature and exotic beauty. Remington decided to run for Miss Maroon and White as the fulfillment of one After dancing in the Miss Maroon & White pageant as an underclassman, Remington forged bonds with former Miss Maroon &White queens and became inspired to run during her junior year, after her semester abroad in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

"I love Morehouse, and I've always been inspired by the former Miss Maroon & Whites that I've met," Remington. "Serving the men of Morehouse and being their representative is important to me, and I am excited for this

Remington an essential part of life, and after gradu-

ation she plans to teach back in her home state of Texas. She wants to open an international school, either in Brazil or in America. The school would have an international focus, and every student would be required to study abroad.

1st Attendant to Miss Maroon & White 2009-2010 is Miss J'Nelle Nicole Agee, a senior economics major

with a minor in management and organization from East Elmhurst, New York. J'Nelle's platform is entitled, "The K.I.C.K.S. (Keeping Interest and Continuing Kids' Sports), a health-centered service initiative to reach out to schools in the west end community and teach students about nutrition and fitness. J'Nelle's long-running history of sports participation inspired her to create this project.

"Fitness is important, and is vital to cutting out obesity in children, particularly the children in the schools in the west end," J'Nelle says.

J'Nelle is a seasoned veteran when it comes to serving the men of Morehouse as a member of a court. She has been on the Miss Hopps Scholars and Miss Sophomore courts, and believes that her service on those courts helped her decide to run for

Miss Maroon & White.

"As a member of the [Miss Maroon & White] court, I am given the unique opportunity to represent my brother college, my Morehouse brothers, and the Morehouse men that I have looked up to throughout my life," says J'Nelle.

J'Nelle plans to work at the Major Baseball League as the first African American female general manager after graduation.

2nd Attendant to Miss Maroon & White 2009-2010 is Miss Alia Barnum Sabbs, a senior English major from Americus, Georgia. Alia's platform is "The House: Road to Redemption", a community service based major project that would include all of the men of Morehouse, including members of Greek fraternities, SGA, and all organizations on campus. The service project is designed to unify the men of Morehouse under the umbrella of service. Alia has deep connections to Morehouse,

as both of her brothers are products of Morehouse.

"Morehouse College has transformed the lives of my brothers, and giving back to Morehouse College what they gave to me is what motivated me to run for Miss Maroon & White," Alia says.

Upon graduation from Spelman College in May, Alia will be teaching through her charter school job in either

New York or Washington. Passionate about the urban education crisis, Alia plans to go into public policy and hopes to become a superintendent of a school district

All three of the ladies on the court were friends prior to being selected as Miss Maroon & White and her court, and the camaraderie is evident to all. When the three are together, heartfelt laughter and good times are sure to result. "[We] really enjoy being on the court together", says Alia.

3 Fun Facts about Miss Maroon & White and her court:

Remington:

- Started growing locks after her freshman year
- Loves Whitney Houston
- Has traveled to over 11 countries, and is currently trying to learn Portuguese

J'Nelle:

- Her father played baseball for the Mets in the 1969 World Series
- 3rd Spelmanite to hit a home run on the Spelman softball team
- Loves Mexican food

- Loves Broadway musi-
- Her family owns their own funeral home since
- Has been dancing since she was 3 years old (tap, jazz, ballet)



2009 SpelHouse fashion show: Park Place style

Chrishelle Griffin

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Exclusive, flare and originality are just a few words to describe the infamous Spelhouse fashion show. This year The Maroon Tiger decided to get an inside look on what goes on behind the scenes of one of the biggest attractions at the annual Spelhouse Homecoming.

The show's theme entitled "Park Place," was inspired by this year's Homecoming theme "Winner Takes All," based on the Monopoly board game. The inspiration for this year's fashion show theme also came from the birthplace of New York's Fashion Week

Unknown to many, the Spelhouse fashion show has not always been what it is today. It was not until 2006, which debuted the student of fashion. Choosing who gets

produced show entitled "Heat," that the show made its transition from an outside production to a show for the students and by the students. With this transition, the Spelhouse show inspired a new standard for the "fashion show" from its themes, clothing and even the typical runway model.

"If you want to be a Spelhouse model, confidence and a good walk is key," Spelman junior and show board member, Jillian Macklin said.

"As you can see from our previous shows, the Spelhouse fashion show does not focus on size or height requirements. seen within the typical world



Models for the pose in high fashion shots, in preparation for the 2009 Homecoming Fashion Show in the Forbes Arena.

to walk down the run-way is much more than something of physical technicalities," Macklin adds.

Putting on a show of this magnitude is no easy task and everything from models, sponsors, stage crews, and others years of age, the age bracket of

are essential to making this infamous show a success. In the past, outside sponsors included Macys, Belt and student and local designers. With the demographic of fashion consumerism currently between 18-25 sponsors see the show as both an opportunity for support and self promotion. "Putting this

many

AUC.

show together is a full time job," Morehouse senior and show director. Omari Williams commented. "As the director of 50 models, 35 student staff members, sponsors, and other things overwhelming

What truly makes the show a success is the passion that those involved possess from the models that walk down the run-way to the stage crew that

"Honestly there are a lot of challenges faced when putting on the show," Morehouse junior and board member, Spencer Greene said. "The biggest challenge is the task of getting models, clothes and sponsors, but despite the road blocks that are encountered, our main goal is to maintain focus on the overall success of the show."

Once again the masterminds behind the Spelhouse fashion show are bringing something new and exclusive to the students of the AUC.

"This year we want to introduce students to two concepts within the world of fashion, that they may not have typically seen before," Williams states. "Students can expect to see challenged standards of acceptable fashion based on gender, traditional combinations of seasonal and informal versus formal wear, and

Morehouse, Spelman, and Bennett: The historical connection

Carl Ringgold

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The connection that has Lexisted between Morehouse College and Bennett College dates back to a very close and historic friendship of influential educators. Former Bennett President Dr. David Dallas Jones and former Morehouse President Dr. Benjamin E. Mays started the tradition of Bennett making the trip to Morehouse every year for Homecoming. The purpose behind the yearly expedition originated from

the two educators wanting to coming week. "It's always build a bond between students at the two institutions.

This traveling tradition, which Bennett holds dear, has been a very harmonious bonding between Bennett, Morehouse and Morehouse's traditionally accepted sister school. Spelman College. Every year Miss Maroon and White and her court, who are typically comprised of Spelman students, welcome Bennett College student leaders including Miss Bennett and the Bennett College SGA in a reception held each year during Home-

very fun during Homecoming to greet and welcome some of our Bennett sisters we haven't seen before," said Candice Manier, a junior at Spelman.

Bennett joins Morehouse and Spelman as the only single gender liberal arts HBCUs in the nation. Bennett also joined Morehouse and Spelman on the U.S. News's ranking of Historical Black Colleges and Universities. The bond between Morehouse and Bennett which started with Mays seemed to grow with Spelman through Johnetta B. Cole.

Cole became president of Bennett College in 2002 and served until 2007 after serving as president of Spelman College from 1987-1997. Her contributions at the two institutions seemed to bring a new harmony to a relationship amongt the two all women's schools and their shared brother school.

Historically, Bennett has been overshadowed as Morehouse's sister school due to Spelman's close proximity. This is largely due to the fact that the strong relationship between Morehouse and

Spelman has been so revered throughout history. From intermarriage to civil rights protest, the proximity of the two institutions has spurred a history that has overlooked Bennett. Students at the two institutions rarely interact with their "sibling school."

"I don't know anyone at Bennett College." Said Chester Jones a junior at More-

"The relationship between Bennett and Morehouse should be more than just Bennett coming down for Homecoming. Morehouse is our

brother school and I don't even know anyone there," said Bria Washington a sophomore and Bennett College.

Bennett's under the radar approach to Homecoming is probably the cause. The Bennett Belles typically come to Homecoming without much notice to the Morehouse student body. This makes the bond seemingly obsolete, as the two schools never interact. Perhaps the future will change the schools circumstances but if history repeats itself Bennett will always be the sister that never was.



More than just a step show

Spencer Greene

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Tear after year, alumni Y and students crowd into Forbes arena to watch the Greek fraternities and sororities compete for the number one title at the Homecoming step show. One of the main events of Homecoming, the step show brings new excitement and surprises every

"I think the expectations are higher than they have ever been," Marcus Blackwell of Omega Psi Phi fraternity inc., Psi chapter, spoke on his anticipation for this year's show. He expressed how excited he was to see every organization represented this year.

The winners of last year's show were members of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity inc., from Georgia State University. With the return of Pi chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, each participating fraternity this year will be from Morehouse

With creative concepts and difficult moves, each team brings their own unique style to the stage. Vann Newkirk of Phi Beta Sigma fraternity inc., Chi chapter, has been practicing with his team since the beginning of school and is ready to hit the stage. With the tight competition this year, as well as last year, he is confident in his team's success

In a joking manner, Newkirk left competitive words for the other organizations, "enjoy second place." Blackwell laughed at Newkirk's statement and responded with, "let's see what you got."

"We don't focus on what others do, we let them focus on us," John Terrelle Bynum of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity inc., Alpha Rho chapter, responded when asked if he had any thoughts on his competition for this year's show. Alpha Rho, who took second place last year with an astronaut inspired theme, are coming for the number one spot this year. "A Rho has always brought great stepping. This year we will also bring a great

show. We aim to be aesthetically pleasing to the stepper and the regular student," stated Bynum.

Blackwell also stated that they would put on a high-energy show. "Omega Psi Phi is known for hopping, not really stepping," explained Blackwell, "our marches have messages in them." He is confident their enthusiasm is what they need to put them over the

Overall, the main focus for the step show is to have a good time while putting on a good show. "Stepping in general is a celebration of roots," says Newkirk. The competition doesn't overshadow celebration aspect.

Miss Maroon and White '79 now Spelman instructor

Kevin Mallory

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Thirty years after being I crowned Miss Maroon and White, Sister Omelika Kuumba is still going strong in the Atlanta University Center. Sister Omelika can be found at Spelman College instructing dance.

"When I was crowned Miss Maroon and White, I was extremely excited," said Omelika, who won the title as a sophomore. "It was an honor to be in the number of women who went before me and to represent these men for whom I have such great respect and admiration. It was a wonderful moment in my life."

As Miss Maroon and White, Omelika was invited to the alumni luncheon and the homecoming convocation. She also had the opportunity to meet the President of Morehouse and the first lady and pose for a picture in Ebony magazine.

Omelika entered Spelman as a double major in physical education and biology, desiring to be a veterinarian; she would eventually graduate from Spelman with a degree in philosophy.

After venturing into business as an entrepreneur and traveling as a background singer, Omelika would find her niche to be in

She began teaching at private schools her children attended and would later begin teaching in public schools. Also, she taught African dance and African drumming in after-school programs.

"I would never, in a million years, imagine that I would be teaching African dance here," Omelika said. "It has been an absolute joy. I took a real interesting path to the point where I am, but I feel really honored and blessed to be able to be here.

"I enjoy having the opportunity to bring this to the young women and men of the Atlanta University Center."

When she's not instructing students at Spelman, Omelika can be found traveling with Giwayen Mata, an award winning, all female dance, percussion and vocal ensemble that she directs.

Founded in 1993 by 10 women of African descent, Giwayen Mata, which means "elephant leaders of women," also possessed a trait that was unprecedented: female drummers.

"We came together to sing and dance and to drum, which was something at that time that wasn't being done that often. This was the first time in Atlanta that a large group of women came together to create music and dance for performance purposes."

The ensemble debuted Spelman's Sisters Chapel in 1993. Since that time, Giwayen Mata has taken their show around Georgia, going as far west as Texas and going as far north as Michigan and New York.

Omelika believes that the audience, no matter the age or sex, can appreciate the performances of the women on stage

"It is an empowering experience for women to see women drumming, and for brothers, too because it is something that they did not expect to see. When it's a male or a female, or a young or old person, seeing women do what we do has given audiences members the opportunity to think about things they thought that they could not do."

Alumni, put your money where your mouths are

Gerren K. Gaynor

Opinions Editor gerren gaynor@gmail.com

Homecoming, for most Morehouse men, is a time to return to their roots, reminiscing on the grandeur of dear ole Morehouse and reuniting with fellow graduates to celebrate both the past and present successes of this illustrious institution.

That's all fine and dandy, but it seems as though alumni return year after year for tailgating, attending balls and football games—and yet hold on to their pockets as if Morehouse is out to empty their bank accounts.

Giving back is something that has always seemed to be lacking in the Morehouse alma mater department

But even considering the towering mass of alumni during

Homecoming, there continues to be a prevailing observation that Morehouse eras. is inadvertently from a distance. Rather than alum onlookers appearing proud of the progress of Morehouse (i.e., technology, architecture and student-driven initiatives), they are seemingly unattached from the oft-times considered hip-hop generation of the "The House."

But it's more than simply not understanding the generations that come after them. Not only do some alumni appear uninterested in understanding us, but others even go to the lengths of downgrading our experience, and verbally illegitimating our right to co-exist under the crown of mother Morehouse.

Walking through the doors of the King International Chapel with bourgeois undertones does nothing but further expand the generational gap that lies between both the new and old

While Morehouse continues to be the top feeding institution of African American males who go on to become entrepreneurs, politicians and businessmen, this Black ivy league continuously fails to recapture its status as the number one HBCU in the na-

Why? That's up for debate. Let's face it, Spelman College and Howard University almost always beat us out because of higher endowment-and we all know what main component would help Morehouse is that sector.

Fortunately not all alumni are indisposed to dropping a couple of checks onto Brown street. Some actually make the sacrifice of investing in the education and overall development of future Morehouse men.

Others even take the time out to roam the halls of freshman dormitories, Chiver's hall, etc., not only to re-live their own undergraduate years, but to witness the modern day Morehouse that us students are so fortunate enough to experience.

But a hand-selected number of alumni who consistently bequeath their monetary gifts to the college aren't enough. We need everyone on board and doing their share. If the old cats are failing to exemplify what is necessary to lead by example, how can one possibly expect future Morehouse men to carry on the "legacy" of Morehouse College? A legacy doesn't sustain itself. Recession or not, money still makes the world go round, and a Morehouse with no funding equals a Morehouse with no foundation. The only way to uphold that foundation and build upon it, is to dig deeper into our piggy banks to ensure that Morehouse stays affoat.

Alumni profile: William Clement, Class of 1964

Kevin Mallory

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William Clement is what you would consider a "head honcho" in the field of business and economics in Atlanta. He is the 7th serving president and CEO of Atlanta Life Financial Group, a financial services company headquartered in Atlanta. Also, Clement serves as Chairman of the board of DOBBS, RAM & Company, a financial and computer services company he founded in 1981.

Clement was born in Atlanta, earning a BA from Morehouse in 1964 and an MBA from the

at the University of Pennsyl-

Clement looked back on his days as a student at Morehouse and appreciated the high expectations that were placed upon him.

"The best trait that I remember at Morehouse was an expectation for success," Clement said. "I was a student when Benjamin Mays was the president; he always had an expectation that a Morehouse student would always be suc-

Erstwhile homecomings were not nearly as grandiose as they are today. Clement

Wharton School of Business described homecoming in the past as "subdued" and stated that the game was the focal point of homecoming. Now, the students use homecoming to further possible careers.

> "The focus was more around the game as opposed to networking."

> Atlanta Life, founded by ex-slave Alonzo Herndon in 1905, is one of the oldest and most successful Black-owned businesses in Atlanta, and it is licensed in 17 states. Atlanta Life earned the distinction of being named the 2008 financial services company of the year by Black Enterprise Magazine.

"I think his story (Alonzo Herndon) is an inspiration in that you can overcome any type of circumstance and create an institution that lives long after you have passed."

Clement also maintains a relationship with another Morehouse president. He and President Robert Michael Franklin '75 serve as board members on the Atlanta Committee for Progress and the Metropolitan Atlanta Chamber of Commerce.

He also feels the recently passed attire policy is necessary to help uphold the Morehouse maxim of "being a Renaissance man with a social conscience."

"Llike the framework of being a Morehouse man who is wellread, well-spoken, well-dressed, well-traveled and well-balanced. We are at the vanguard; we have got to think and act as leaders and be leaders."

Clement also feels having the basic abilities to read and write well can take students far.

"I believe that the ability to read and write is still very crucial to the success of any individual, especially a Black man, in this country. When I was at Morehouse, public speaking and the basic ability to communicate ideas and thoughts in writing were

Clement's advice to current students wishing to succeed is to follow the three Bs (book, ballot and buck), an idea taught by his grandfather.

Book: Being as well-educated and exposed as you can.

Ballot: Being involved in electing officials that will pass policies that affect the communities in which we live.

Buck: Create wealth in our communities and be successful entrepreneurs and business people who leave a legacy of economic empowerment.

Clement is married to Ressie Guy Clement and is the proud father of two daughters and two grandchildren.

Morehouse football team: Brotherly dymanics

Elizabeth Sawyer

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The shimmering lights of the stadium flood the field as the Morehouse College football team assembles to begin their practice. Maroon and white uniforms intertwine as they stride up and down the field during opening stretches, preparing themselves mentally and physically for the grueling two and a half hour practice that lies ahead; there is a low rumble of chatter amidst the focus on the task that is at hand. This may seem like an severe and daunting environment to immerse oneself in, but for the Maroon Tiger football team, this is every day life.

Most of us only see the football team on Saturday afternoons and evenings when they step on to the field to

face opponent after opponent. But there is an entire side of the team that most never see rich with tradition and camaraderie. In order to expose these hidden aspects of the team, the Maroon Tiger experienced what a week in the life of a Morehouse football player is like.

The week begins Tuesday. Monday is an "academic day," given to the athletes so they can also fulfill their role as students as well. Practices begin promptly at 7 p.m. with a series of stretches and warmups that allow the team to limber up for the practice ahead. Although divided up into offense and defense by the color of their jerseys, the team does these basic drills together. Subsequently the team divides into smaller groups by position and stretches again. Towards the

the team comes together once again and does "tiger jacks."

"We come together and do jumping jacks while spelling out the word 'tiger'," junior receiver Paul Parker said. "We do that right before we do claps and split into offense and defense.'

The claps that Parker mentions occur at the end of stretches. In a "Remember the Titans"-esque fashion, the team comes together in a swirl of maroon and white. They clap as a collective and finish by shouting "Go hard or go home."

They then split into offense and defense, occupying separate sides of the field. Practices continue in this fashion for the remainder of the week

What is evident from

end of their warm up regime, team's dedication to their sport is their dedication to one another. During practice Tuesday Oct. 13, a couple of members of the team were injured. After being attended to by the trainer, they either limped or were carried off the field and were met by the concerned faces of their teammates. Various members of the team in the general vicinity provided help for the injured players and many came over to inquire about their well being.

Although the practices are rather intense, both in the strenuous activity that take place and the traditions and rituals they hold, they do not hold a candle to the atmosphere of game day.

The day starts early.

Players rise many hours before the game starts and the practices aside from the convene to have breakfast to-

gether. Breakfast is followed by chapel which is led by a Morehouse and Maroon Tiger football alumnus. After spending the earlier part of the day together, the team once again split into offense and defense and go over certain aspects of the game that need to be addressed. The team then comes together once again for a pregame meal and begins the process of heading over to the stadium. After a few words from head coach Rich Freeman, the team gathers in a circle and say a prayer before stepping out under the lights.

The cohesiveness of the team on the field is a result of them all working toward the common goal of victory.

"We're all trying to achieve the same goal right now," Parker said. "We all see that we have a good chance of

winning the SIAC championship and that keeps us together."

The players engage in team building activities outside of the practice and games as well. Parker also described how during summer practices, the team would attend church together on Sundays.

"We would all go to receive the word together," he said. "It was a good experience."

This aspect of the team, the amity and dedication they compose themselves with, simply adds to the image of the team. There is something almost majestic about the Maroon Tiger football team as they proudly sport the colors of dear old Morehouse, providing a brilliant exemplar of the brotherhood and discipline that it preaches.

