

# THE MAROON TIGER

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE • ATLANTA, GA

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## Department of Education Hosts Teach Campaign

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Morehouse College housed the Teach Campaign Town Hall Meeting that took place Jan. 31 in the Ray Charles Performing Arts Center.

Chauncey Smith, a senior Morehouse student, opened the event with a video recording of President Barack Obama, who applauded Secretary of Education Arne Duncan's efforts to foster a more diverse future of educators. Obama praised Morehouse for being at the forefront of such an important movement. The president echoed his State of the Union address stating that we are a nation that exceeds expectations and the same should go for our education.

Morehouse College President Dr. Robert Franklin '75 introduced the panel which consisted of: Shelton "Spike" Lee '79, Congressman John Lewis, MSNBC's Jeff Johnson, Christopher Watson,



Maroon Tiger staff photo/TIM ATAKORA

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan (center) hosts a town hall meeting at Morehouse to call for more male teachers. Other panelists for the forum included Spike Lee '79 and Jeff Johnson.

Derrick Dalton and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan.

Duncan alerted the audience to some "stark and tough" facts. Although there are large numbers of Black children in U.S. schools, less than 2 percent of

teachers in the workforce are Black males. However, due to the approaching retirement age of the "baby boomer" generation, over a million teachers will be leaving the classrooms within a matter of years.

In spite of layoffs, it is essential to attract great teachers and principals to leave a legacy for current and future generations. Duncan also relayed his feelings that for far too long teachers have been underpaid

and undervalued, but those times are coming to an end. Proposed revisions of the 2002 No Child Left Behind Act includes making the act more punitive, prescriptive and raising the standards and increasing rewards.

Lee '79 recounted his upbringing in an environment greatly focused on education. Lee, a third generation "Spelhouse" graduate, believes that Black men need to see more than just the great athletes, rappers and drug dealers and that teachers are a fundamental building block of our society.

light," Lee said.

Watson, a science teacher at Carver Early College High School in Atlanta, revealed that the Teach for America program was a "driving force" for him to become a teacher. Dalton, a principal at Mundy's Mill Middle School and the product of a factory worker and a felon, accredited his success to being moved into advanced courses in grade school that changed his perception. According to Dalton, no one in the room would be where they are without the effort of teachers.

Johnson redirected attention to the site 5by2015.org, a website that will soon help champion the mission of increasing the number of Black school teachers to 5 percent by the year 2015.

Duncan stirred a great deal of excitement for the cause of increasing the numbers of Black male educators. "We have to make sure the teachers and principals reflect the great deal of diversity of the country," Duncan said. "Men of Morehouse should be a huge part of the solution."

## Morehouse Students Named Business Plan Finalists

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The field of 36 contestants has been whittled down to five for the Morehouse Business Plan Competition that will take place during the Innovation Expo on Feb. 9 and 10. Out of the five finalists, four represent the AUC (three from Morehouse and one from Clark Atlanta).

The teams of Prescella Monger and Stephen Johnson (CAU), Phillip Wiggins and Lee Young (Morehouse), Malcolm Parrish (Morehouse), Alicia Glenn (Howard University) and Alex Rivera (Mount Saint Mary College) will present their ideas at the competition.

The theme of the competition is "There's an App for That," where students will present the application ideas they have for mobile phones.

"The business plan competition is a way to increase awareness in the minority

community in terms of increasing the whole concept of the entrepreneurial skill set," Tiffany Bussey, the director of the Morehouse College Entrepreneurship Center, said.

"It (entrepreneurship) doesn't mean just starting a business, it means having a skill set to see opportunity wherever it is. You don't have to be a business owner in order to be an entrepreneur. That's the Morehouse definition," Bussey said.

This year's competition theme was a no brainer for Bussey when she found out how prevalent apps are with today's youth.

"When it came up in the meeting, they had to tell me this is the hottest thing with young people, and that is all I needed to hear," Bussey said. "Everyone has a mobile device and everyone is using apps."

In fact, Wiggins and Young saw an opportunity when they came to a realization about their app. "We brainstormed and we realized that the app

we developed meets a need that is not currently being met. The one app that does what our app does has not been successful at all," Wiggins said.

For Glenn, entering the competition was a chance to get into a field where few black people have attempted to enter.

"I attended an event by the Congressional Black Caucus, and they were talking about developing apps and how black people were not really in the field of developing apps," Glenn said.

Parrish has created an app for education; he hopes his application serves as a remedy for the difficulties facing his hometown.

"I'm from Detroit, where the public school system is very bad and still struggling," Parrish said. "I've always wanted to do something about education, so that is where it stems from."

While there is no doubt that black people have the talent, ideas, and drive to succeed,

## Emotions Run High at SGA Senate Meeting

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The 81st session of the SGA Senate met Tuesday to discuss various matters of business. The business included topics such as appropriations for the Morehouse Film Association and a proposal from senior Jacques Pape for an upcoming Spring Break trip to Haiti. The most notable piece of business was discourse and debate over the resolution to a potential bill that would restructure the SGA.

This bill, affectionately known as the "Travis bill" named for SGA President Travis Randle, would introduce six new secretaries (including the Treasurer) to the SGA Executive Board who would serve as liaisons to the offices of the six vice presidents who serve with President Franklin. Voting for the bill will not take place until two weeks after Tuesday's meeting. The resolution to the

bill, which was received with a mixed reaction, was presented by Senators M. Louis Deas II and Ocoszio Jackson.

Vice President and President of the Senate, Tyler Bell, relinquished his position as chair over the debate of the resolution so he could voice his opinion. Bell drew issue with a phrase in the resolution that would resolve that the SGA's structure is currently "inadequate and inefficient." Bell considered the phrase "a slap in the face" to President Pro-Tempore Eric Bennett and those who worked to create the Senate scholarship for students.

The debate continued as other senators seemed to echo the sentiments of Bell and considered the wording of that particular item to be faulty and called the necessity of "radical change" into question. Senator Deas continued to debate the affirmative for the resolution by clarifying the difference between the SGA and its structure.

"The resolution states that

the SGA's structure is inadequate and inefficient not the SGA itself," Deas said.

When a motion was made to vote to amend those phrases, the motion was rejected after drawing the ire of some senators.

Many senators also seemed to see the change as unnecessary and instead argued that leaders needed to be called into question as opposed to being removed completely. President Randle quoted Abraham Lincoln when he stated "a house divided against itself cannot stand" and asserted that greater communication would come from these new secretarial positions.

"As a president there is no one I can turn to when it comes to an issue under one of the six offices of the college," Randle said.

Emotions would continue to run high. Randle spoke one final time before the vote to stress to the senators the importance of admitting the flaws of the SGA in order to

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on the web   
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<p>friday</p> <p>40° 39°</p>	<p>saturday</p> <p>46° 30°</p>	<p>sunday</p> <p>55° 35°</p>
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Recycle The Maroon Tiger

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## Lengthy SENATE meeting takes place with emotions running high

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move forward.

"My grandma said the first thing you do when you get saved is confess your sins," Randle said. "This resolution would address that there have been flaws in the SGA of the past."

The resolution did not pass with a vote of 10-9 which reflected the 19 senators that remained after the debate grew lengthy.

Although the resolution did not pass, the Senate decided to allow Senators Deas and Jackson to present the bill and go through each section the bill would amend and note how it would have changed the current structure.

While the reaction to the bill was somewhat mixed, the general consensus from many senators seemed to be that there are ways to fix what is already in place. Dontavious Taylor, Senator and Chairman of the Constitution & By-Laws Committee, was among those who voted nay to the resolution and believed there were other options.

"[The resolution] wasn't in the best interest of the students," Taylor said. "There are better things for the student body than radical change."

"Although I disagree and hoped for a different outcome, I respect the Senate's opinion," Deas said. "I hope this doesn't impede on the process of amending the Constitution."

## Innovation EXPO finalists consist of several AUC students

◀ continued from front page

Young and others believe that it is time for black people to receive the necessary exposure to make it to the next level.

"By us getting out there as contributing entrepreneurs, those who come behind us will have someone to look up to and gain knowledge from as it relates to how to become an entrepreneur," Young said.

The Morehouse College Entrepreneurship Center (MCEC) has been open for five years. Around the time of the center's opening, students told Bussey that most of the country's business plans were geared toward graduate students, primarily MBA candidates. After finding this out for herself, Bussey decided it was time for Morehouse to have a business plan competition of its own. While there are various competitions across the country, Morehouse's offers something that many others do not.

Students were given the opportunity to at-

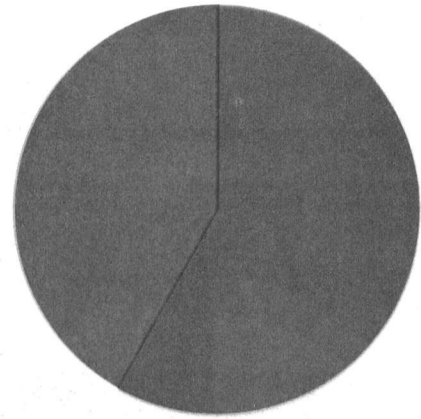
tend workshops and seminars that actually helped them prepare for business plan competitions. These types of activities give students with ideas a better foundation for the fundamentals.

"There are competitions out there, but there was nothing in the way of preparing a student to write business plans," Bussey said. "The assumption was that they (students) knew how to write it."

Bussey and the MCEC is always trying to "push the envelope" when it comes to entrepreneurship. Although the MCEC feels that there is nothing wrong with the traditional business ideas, Bussey wants to explore roads that are not usually taken.

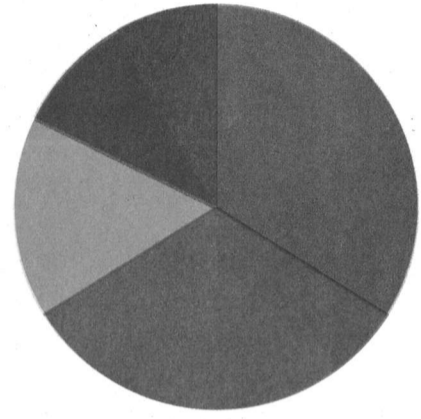
"We have enough barbershops and restaurants," Bussey explained. "I like to think that what Morehouse's niche is to think beyond those traditional businesses. Let's think about technology and big money businesses in terms of areas that we traditionally have not gone into. That's our focus here."

## SGA Survey Results



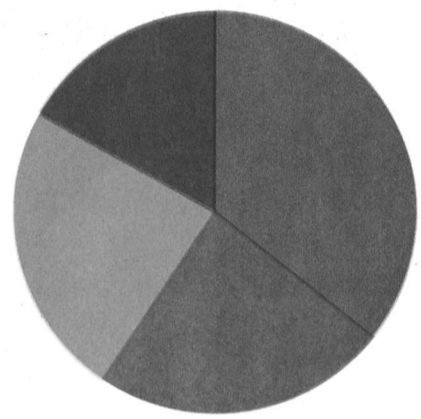
In your opinion, has the SGA effectively done its job in terms of advocating the needs of the student body?

**58.1% YES**  
41.9% NO



If you could rate the performance of the SGA, what would it be?

**33.9% Good**  
32.3% Fair  
16.1% Poor  
9.7% Too soon to gauge  
8.1% Excellent



In your opinion, what is the SGA's most prevalent criticism?

**35.6% Communicating to the Student Body**  
23.7% Transparency  
23.7% Student Advocacy  
16.9% Visibility

Complete results of the SGA survey will be available on the re-launch of [www.themaroontiger.com](http://www.themaroontiger.com).

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## Georgia Immigrants on Lock: Refining of Immigration Laws

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This month a new labor commissioner, Mark Butler, was instated in Georgia, according to the Atlanta Journal Constitution (AJC). In his short time in office, he has already begun to make some changes. He is requesting funds from the federal treasury to begin investigations on government agencies and contractors' ability to implement Georgia's immigration laws.

Butler is requesting \$350,000 for the first year of audits and \$105,890 for each succeeding year. Butler is planning to do at least 100 random audits per year. It is still unclear how long these assessments will last.

The new law went into effect in July 2010. However, former commissioner Michael Thurmond said he supports the audits and has already looked into funding sources for them. When Thurmond's term was coming to an end, he decided to leave the task to Butler. According to AJC, Butler said in a phone interview, "I am in full support of the audits. When we found out that the letter had not been sent to request the funding, we immediately did it."

With the passing of this law comes the guarantee that the state is using E-verify, a program that uses an employee's social security number and other personal information to assess the employee's eligibility to work in the United States.

As of March 2010, only five unidentified, small counties in south Georgia had not registered to use E-verify. So far, only two percent of E-verify cases have reported to have workers that were not approved in the United States.

Senator John Bulloch, a Republican from Oconee, told AJC, "I'm glad to know that we have a commissioner that is interested in trying to uphold what the laws are."

Many of E-verify's critics are complaining about the programs reliability, claiming that it has burdensome accuracy issues. The results of the future audits are listed online at [www.opengeorgia.gov](http://www.opengeorgia.gov).

## Georgia School System, Indication of National Education Improvement

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As America's education system is inches nearer to cataclysmic crisis, it leaves one to wonder, what exactly will happen to our children? Since the passing of 2002's No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) during the Bush administration, an increased number of students have been promoted, although they lack the demonstrated competence for the next grade. Teachers and principals alike have been involved in scandal after scandal involving inner city public schools.

Most recently in DeKalb County, students and parents are finding new, unfamiliar faces midway into the school year. The trend is quite unusual but when teachers and principals are allegedly helping students cheat or cause testing irregularities, what is the Georgia Board of Education supposed to do?

Almost two dozen teachers were reassigned due to evidence of erased and corrected answers in 26 DeKalb County schools on the Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT), which students took last April. But it doesn't stop there. Within the city of Atlanta, only 12 out of 58 schools were cleared from cheating allegations last August.

In light of the State of the Union address on Jan. 25, when President Obama mentioned his new blueprint for education entitled "Race to the Top," which should replace NCLB, the pressing issue to focus on education could not come at a better time.

The issue of education is becoming increasingly critical, and students of the Atlanta University Center (AUC) are committed to getting involved. Many AUC students were accepted to the Teach For America (TFA) program.

Morehouse College's SGA Vice President Tyler R. Bell, one of the many AUC students set to begin his journey with TFA, considers the events in DeKalb County to be highly unfortunate.

"I think it's heart breaking, but it also sends out an alarm that in order to receive those test scores, teachers are willing to risk their jobs. It's like a cry for help," Bell said.

Before he began his matriculation through law school, Bell knew he wanted to give back to Black communities, an opportunity teaching allows him to do.

"I know it will take time to save a community but I know any young man or woman will benefit from having me in the classroom. I wouldn't focus on just the curriculum, but also the integrity of the school," he said.

Bell, and other students on our campuses, couldn't have picked a more perfect time to enter the imperative profession of education.

## When Pigs Drive!: Construction Chaos On I-75

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Typically when driving, you may be cautioned about wild deer on the sides of highways or back roads. However, on Jan. 22 Cobb County warned drivers on Interstate 75 about a runaway pig on the highway. It took three days, but animal control officials recently captured the wild ungulate 10 a.m. Sunday morning. There were many concerns about the dangers the pig could have caused by running back and forth on the highway. According to the Atlanta Journal Constitution (AJC), animal control officials lured the pig into a humane trap.

"You don't want to kill it [the pig] but you want to stop it. If not, more than likely it'll run out on the road and there will be a wreck and somebody is going to end up hurting themselves," Jaz Grant, a junior, English major at Morehouse College said.

Although Grant doesn't travel I-75 through Cobb and Fulton counties to get to school, he says he empathizes with those who do travel that route and were at possible risk of having an accident because of the pig.

As if a pig in the fast lane wasn't enough, I-75 will also be undergoing some construction near Cobb and Fulton Counties. According to the AJC, there will be lane closures over the Chattahoochee due to road work The State Department of Transportation began Jan. 28.

The objective is to reconstruct I-75 from the Brookwood split to Interstate 285, which will cause the highway to be under intense construction. The AJC states that joint repairs and guardrail assembly will take place on various bridges over the next couple of weekends. Mark McKinnon, a contractor from C.W. Matthews Co., said that the construction

on the bridge over the Chattahoochee is only the beginning of a series of construction sites on bridges around the county. McKinnon marks the beginning of the rest of the paving to take place in mid-March. The \$17.5 million project will cover only 8.7 miles of land.

Kenley Hargett, a junior at Morehouse College, has been making a commute through Cobb and Fulton counties on I-75 to get to school for the last two years.

"Any kind of construction that would improve the traffic in Atlanta would be beneficial. I drive [on I-75] on a regular basis and I would appreciate it if they came up with a more convenient way [to get through Atlanta]. The traffic jams are ridiculous," Hargett said.

## Egyptian Civil Unrest Marks Epoch

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On the week of Jan. 24, protests throughout the Arab Republic of Egypt erupted, with civilians demanding that President Mubarak be exiled from the country. This period of protest proves to be an indisputably watershed moment in the country's politically tenuous history. Sunday protests stamp the sixth consecutive day of protests in cities throughout Egypt.

Motivated by the popular uprising that toppled the 23-year regime of Tunisian strongman Zine el Abidine ben Ali this month, ordinary Egyptians have taken to the streets to oppose Mubarak, who has ruled the country for 30 years. Led by a new generation of youth, citizens have defied Mubarak's extensive security machinery. According to the Los Angeles Times (LAT), the police force has largely fled their posts and left the cities of Cairo, Alexandria and Suez to the army.

The Egyptian military, according to the New York Times (NYT), has reinforced the aforementioned cities, especially the capital, with tanks, jets and helicopters. Civilians are embracing the army, as it has been reported that the protesters were shouting, "the people and the army are one hand!"

Disillusioned, tens of thousands of protesters flooded central Cairo, continuing to ignore government orders of a nationwide curfew. NYT has also reported that a shopping center has been burned and cars have been stolen, as thousands of inmates have escaped prisons. Alarmed local-store owners have increased security to prevent looting.

According to the Associated Press (AP), many Egyptians wonder whether the regime was seeking to create public rancor over the security situation — even directing plainclothes agents to riot and loot — in order to send protesters back to their homes and to justify a harsh crackdown. The Iranian government to crush 2009 protests used the same tactic, as well as a failed attempt by Ben Ali earlier this month.

According to the LAT, Mubarak's regime also took heavy-handed measures against international media. Al Jazeera, on Sunday, condemned the closure of its Cairo bureau by Egyptian authorities. The Qatar-based channel, which has galvanized activists with its nonstop coverage of widespread protests against authoritarian regimes throughout the Arab world, vowed to continue its work.

"Al Jazeera sees this as an act designed to stifle and repress the freedom of reporting by the network and its journalists," the network said in a statement. "In this time of deep turmoil and unrest in Egyptian society, it is imperative that voices from all sides be heard."

Undoubtedly, the actions of Egypt's civilians are cataclysmic. The Tunisian and Egyptian uprisings are motivating people around the Arab world to voice solidarity. Protesters gathered Friday in front of the Egyptian embassies in Amman, Jordan and Beirut, for similar aims of seeing that the vox populi be heeded.



## 2011: The End of Credit Cards? Can Google Preserve Its Prominence With New CEO?

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With high credit rates come high stress levels and attitudes for those unfortunate enough to have to deal with them. Once checks started to become obsolete, consumers could only imagine the day the credit card would follow suit. Debit and credit cards have been one of the primary means of payment since their inception in the 20th century, and now, some are looking forward to move spending further into the digital era.

No one knows better about credit cards than college students. Not to say that they know much about them relatively, but this time in life is the easiest for a person to open an account on credit. As most have just reached the age to handle their own fiscal responsibilities, the choices made now will directly reflect what a person can do later in life. Things like buying a house, signing a lease on an apartment or car, and privilege of larger amounts in loans are tied to the decisions made now, in college, and should not be taken lightly, but that may soon stop.

In 2008 when the stock market crashed and some time before that, many Americans could sense that things in the coming years were going to get more difficult, and no one could have imagined how much things could have changed in such a short amount of time. Since then, banks have done everything within their power to ensure that the cycle of money continues to spin and Americans have continued their contributions to that cycle. In the past five years alone, overdraft rates have increased and miscellaneous maintenance fees have skyrocketed along with credit interest rates.

The online banking phenomena began in the middle of the last decade and has taken flight ever since. Apps, mobile web banking, text alerts, etc. have all been feasible ways of tracking and spending the money in an account but what if customers could do it all online without the bank card? Online payments have been one way but as stated on Money.CNN.com, companies are working toward creating a complete mobile wallet to handle transactions digitally.

"This is the chance to bring payments forward from the plastic age and the vinyl records age to the digital age,"

said Michael Abbott, the CEO of one of the mobile payment networks, Isis. The technology has been in the developing stages for some time and 2011 may be the year that consumers see tangible results. One of the downsides to this new area in spending and finances is that people don't often accept change easily. The saying "if it isn't broke, don't try to fix it" is arguable for some consumers, but the vast majority want something new to lift spirits in this economy.

The future of credit cards is looking bleak at the moment because they are something that generally cause more spending and leave room for splurging. The mobile wallet lets you not only look at what is being spent, but also places a larger burden of responsibility on spenders. But, as mentioned earlier, for students, this is the time to make smart decisions.



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The multinational public corporation Google Inc. has grown to be a household name everyone knows and loves. Reliable, resourceful and fast paced, Google is currently dominating the Internet web search engine scene. From advertising techniques, cloud computing and one of the Internet's most comprehensive searches, Google is one of the main powerhouses of the technology world.

The company's founders, Larry Page and Sergey Brin, are frequently dubbed "The Google Guys." During its period of incorporation, Eric Schmidt, former board of director of Apple Inc., joined the dynamic duo to lead Google into the future. Brought in as a mentor and jokingly to provide adult supervision for its founders, Schmidt has been the CEO of the company since 2009. In a recent announcement that shocked many, Google released a statement that indicated Schmidt would no longer hold the position of CEO, and co-founder Page would take his place.

The new transition is set to take place on April 4., but Schmidt will remain a full contributing member to cur-

rent and future projects. He will incur the new title of executive chairman and focus more on external needs impacting Google, particularly its business relationships and acquisitions. On his Twitter account, Schmidt wrote: "Day-to-day adult supervision is no longer needed." The staff and various supporters of Google have great faith in Page's capabilities to fulfill his duties in this position.

From 1998 to 2001, Page had been the reigning CEO during the time when Schmidt was hired. Behind the scenes, this major company is facing a few struggles in living up to its high expectations. There are several rumors about antitrust trouble within the organization. Recently, such reports have proved to be true as Google came out unsuccessful in its mission to buy the social buying site Groupon. Additionally, they tried to make some promising moves with the online travel company ITA, which also fell through.

The \$6 billion Groupon deal would have been the company's largest transaction ever. Such troubles are causing Google to fall prey to up-and-coming influential competitors. Google aspires to break into the social networking realm to compete with

Facebook and Twitter, but hasn't quite found its niche to breakout into this new and demanding territory. With the dawn of Facebook, it's apparent that Google lacks the skills to adequately branch into social networking and television. Their inability to have a stable support system in the online advertising market has not overshadowed the success they have had in other areas such as display and mobile advertising.

Many deem Google as the "stumbling giant," however Google hopes that this new shake up in management can restore new life into the company we trust and highly depend on. "One of the primary goals I have is to get Google to be a big company that has the nimbleness and soul and passion and speed of a start-up," Page said. He is aiming to restore the drive and liveliness Google once had as a brand new company, and use that to carry it into a more prosperous and promising future. Google does have fears that many will place it with Microsoft in the category of "past its prime." Google, the world's largest Internet company, will not fall short of the public and its own expectations of its success and it will continue to push past its hardships and remain at the top of its industry.



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Shiekgo Carter

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Morehouse College introduces a new minor...

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- Improved writing = better grades in all disciplines
- Your error-free resume won't get tossed in the trash
- Give you a license to be nosy

## Student Receives Allstate Award

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Jonathan Wall's name is not foreign to the Maroon Tiger. Wall's work in helping to successfully build Peachtree Hope Charter School has pushed him towards the center of a plethora of articles not only in the Maroon Tiger but also in national papers like the Atlanta Journal Constitution. Wall once again received national attention by being chosen as an Allstate Give Back Day Hero.

Wall was one of four recipients from around the country that were chosen to receive the Allstate Give Back Day Hero Award. Wall and his fellow recipients were honored with this award because of their undying and continued dedication to community service and volunteer work.

As mentioned previously, Wall was chosen as a Give Back Day Hero because of his work with Peachtree Hope Charter School, a brand new charter school that Wall himself was instrumental in opening. It all began with a Facebook note that Wall posted after judging an elementary/junior high math competition. Wall was outraged because only three of the top 40 students in the competition were Black. Wall expressed anger and disappointment with schools in America and their

inability to educate young minorities.

This note was eventually printed in the Atlanta Journal Constitution and it caught the eye of former civil rights leader Lonnie King, who invited Wall to become a member of the board for Peachtree Hope Charter School back in 2008. By 2010, Peachtree Hope Charter School had opened its doors and welcomed its inaugural class of over 100 students.

This dedication to education is what earned Wall his rightfully deserved recognition as a an Allstate Give Back Day Hero. Wall was informed of this great honor in November. "I was just honored and speechless," Wall said. "When you do things for the right reason and because you're passionate about it, you never expect to be honored...publicly. It was a pleasant surprise," Wall continued.

The "Salute to Greatness" Banquet, where the actual receipt of the award took place, was held on Jan. 15, a very fitting day to commemorate those who have dedicated their lives to service much like the great Dr. King. Wall was taken back by the grandeur and circumstance of ceremony: "It was an amazing experience," Wall said. "I got a chance to meet a lot of people I look up to like Martin Luther King III and Amba-

sador Andrew Young, among others. It was an outstanding event."

Although all of the publicity that has come with his actions originally made Wall a bit wary, his hope that his actions will inspire others to reach out and make a difference has eradicated that discomfort entirely: "The inspiration of others is my ultimate goal in all of this. Originally, I didn't want the publicity because I didn't want the attention to be on me as a person, but rather what was being done through the organization I'm a part of," Wall said. "But my mother let me know that my individual story could inspire others to get out into their community and address social issues, as I have."

With this most recent honor as the recipient of the Allstate Give Back Day Hero Award, Jonathan Wall can not only feel humbled and honored that he was chosen for such a meaningful and prestigious award, he can also find solace in the fact that his greatest hope is coming to fruition. People across America and across the globe are hearing his story now because of his recognition. And it is absolutely without a doubt that his amazing actions have stirred feelings of activism, pride, and purpose in the hearts and minds of all who learn about his contribution to his community.

## Spelman Student Marian Mereba, A Star On The Rise

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With a beautiful voice and lyrics, Marian Mereba is a captivating talent that uses elements of folk, pop, r&b, and hip hop in order to create her own unique sound. Hailing from Philadelphia, Meraba began singing at a young age and knew from that point, music had a special place in her heart.

"I started singing at the age of 2 in the children's choir at church and became completely enthralled by it," she said. With her gift for crafting melodies and words effortlessly, Mereba began writing her own songs while in elementary school. She also learned to play the guitar and piano at a very young age as a way to continue her expression of her music.

As her passion, music has given Mereba the opportunity to express herself and even inspire young people to go after their dreams. Though at times the merging of her passion into her career may seem difficult, Mereba continues to navigate her way through the music industry, while finishing up her studies at Spelman College.

As a singer, songwriter, and gifted musician, Mereba not only demands the attention



of a crowd when she steps on stage, but also maintains a serene elegance that allows her listeners to feel as if she is speaking to them directly. Though Mereba continues to build her craft, since her homecoming showcase, Mereba has been working with other artists, writing with them and connecting with the music industry.

As for the reactions she has received from her peers Marian said, "the response has been really rewarding. I love when people have been affected by my music because that is the ultimate goal, to find commonalities between all different types of people through music."

With musical influences such as Stevie Wonder, Bob Dylan, Kanye West and Whit-

ney Houston, Mereba has a refreshing style that expands past the typical genres of music popularized by today's youth. When most young singers choose to sing catchy hooks and demean themselves for the sake of stardom, Mereba stands out in the crowd by choosing to create her own path laid by the foundation of her thoughts, which can be heard within songs such as "Rider" and "Calendar Love." "I want to become a new voice to this generation," Mereba said.

"I've lived in a lot of different places, seen a bunch of different faces, and I'm just trying to connect all of my experiences together to make the most undeniably universal pop music."

## New Sign Language Course Ushered into Spelman

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Kelly Harper, a junior at Spelman College, is beginning the semester with a workshop that will help enhance students' knowledge at Spelman and in the AUC. Harper is the founder of the American Sign Language Course Workshop coming to Spelman this semester. Bringing this workshop to Spelman has been a dream of Harper's since last fall. Spelman already offers a wide array of language courses and sign language will just add to the substantial list.

She is proud to host the workshop after much hard work and dedication. Harper expressed great enthusiasm and noted the positive interest and feedback she has received after the creation of the workshop.

"Over 175 people expressed interest, including students from Morehouse, Clark Atlanta, and even people from the local community!" Harper said. "My inbox was inundated with people expressing deep interest in the course. We definitely did not expect so many people to be interested, which was very exciting!"

The excitement of knowing that people had a genuine interest in learning the language was one that pro-

pelled Harper to go forward with her goal. Originally, not knowing if she would receive the needed support, she looked to the Spelman's staff. When the numbers began to back up her idea, she knew she was on the verge of making history at Spelman.

"I took my proposal to the academic provost, and she was excited about my idea," Harper explained. "I was faced with the task of finding an instructor who met the requirements that the College insists that any instructor must have, in addition to assisting in the crafting of the proposal to the Board of Trustees' Curriculum Committee."

"Using the input and suggestions from my fellow SSGA members and professors, I found an excellent instructor in addition to creating a shell of what skills should be focused on in the course," Harper said.

Harper took an interest in bringing American Sign Language to Spelman because of her duties as the Secretary of Academic Affairs on the SSGA Board and also because it is a personal matter. She spoke on how her own relation to a person with special needs motivated her to create the workshop.

"As the sister of a child with special needs, I am acutely aware of the awkwardness and difficulty that

those who are deaf as well as those who can hear have in communicating with each other," Harper said. "In addition to that, I believed that Spelman students deserved to have a course that would assist them in becoming more marketable as well as developing an awareness of deafness."

Ticara Wicks, a freshman at Spelman, expressed her excitement upon learning the course was being approved. Wicks had experience with sign language during her high school years when she volunteered for a clinic near her home. Wicks felt having the workshop at Spelman would keep her up to date on the language.

"I have wondered why Spelman did not offer a sign language course since the beginning of my arrival," Wicks said. "I felt it was a great language to know and was just as valuable as any other foreign language."


Harper hopes that the sign language workshop becomes a mainstay in the Spelman curriculum.

"If all goes well, I hope to continue the workshop and make it a permanent part of the Spelman academic experience. Also, it is my hope that the program can be expanded to accommodate more students, as it currently can only hold 15 students," Harper said.

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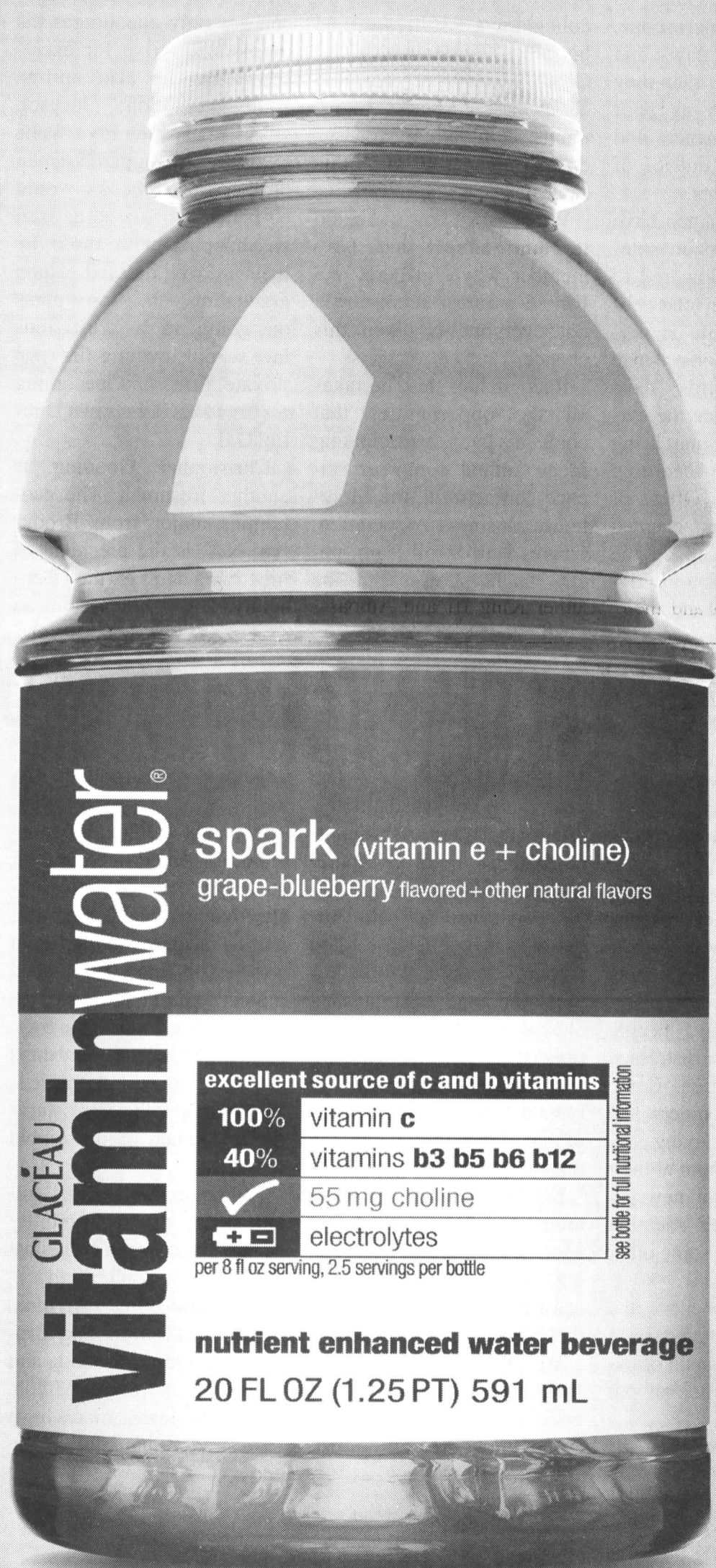
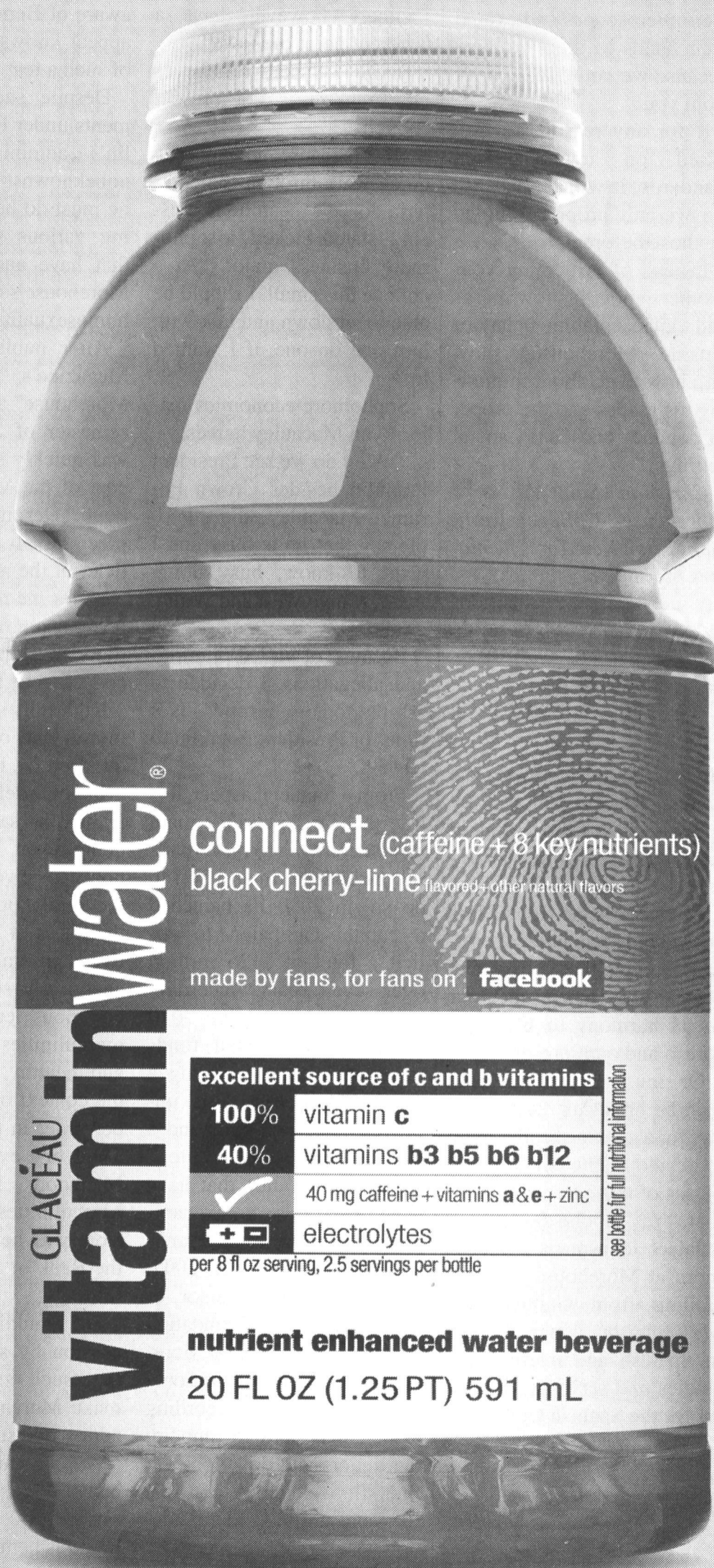
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 **Recycle The Maroon Tiger**

## Eradicating Misconceptions of the Freshman Class

**Christian Saint-Vil**  
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Every class that has entered through the gates of Morehouse College has one thing in common: each deems itself a higher caliber than those to follow. The classes of 2011, 2012, and 2013 have not been any different in their mindset. In their eyes, their classes are the best anyone has ever seen.

Doubting the capability, and the worthiness of the incoming class of 2014, upperclassmen have kept us closely under a microscope, aggrandizing our flaws and weaknesses, those that they too possess, such as poor academic performance and "ratchet" conduct outside of the Morehouse gates.

Many upperclassmen have argued that admission standards have been lowered to accommodate the class of 2014. Such a claim is preposterous, especially since admission standards have been the same since the early 80's, neither increasing nor decreasing. According to the Morehouse Office of Admissions, one is accepted to Morehouse based on the overall SAT scores and GPA of the entire pool of appli-

cants. Morehouse has no cut off SAT score or GPA, rather it averages the pool of applicants' scores to determine who gets an acceptance letter.

Knowing this, upperclassmen continue to doubt our class saying that there is no hope for the freshmen class. Taking a look at some of the members of the class of 2014, you will find quite the opposite.

Francisco Nunez, a computer science major, theatre minor, exemplifies the potential of the class of 2014. Nunez, one of the few members of his family to go to college, successfully finished his first semester with a 3.9 GPA. Instead of boasting about his high marks, he remains humble and focuses on attaining a 4.0 GPA this semester.

When asked how did he do it, Nunez simply said "I remember why I'm here, and I'm in a rare circumstance; not everyone is given this chance."

Recognizing this, he takes all the opportunities that come his way, participating in an annual computer science competition, the Morehouse Business Association, Graves Hall Stroll team, poetry talent shows, and the Morehouse Computer Sci-

ence Club. Nunez also serves as a Hopps Scholar and a member of Clark Atlanta University's modeling team.

Well balanced wouldn't you say?

He may not be a Morehouse Man just yet, but he is getting there.

But our class potential doesn't stop there.

Political science major Ocoszio Jackson also represents the merit of his class. Jackson serves as co-chairmen of the Student Government Association Ethics Committee, completing his first semester with a 3.66 GPA. On a daily basis, Jackson not only encourages his brothers to strive for excellence, but he also uplifts. With gumption, Jackson works toward the Five Wells by asking his upperclassmen brothers what books would be beneficial to read as well as shopping with those he feels are well dressed. Upon graduation, Jackson plans on going to a prestigious law school, owning his own private firm, and becoming mayor of his hometown Dublin, Ga.

Christopher Gooding is another freshman. The economics major from Brooklyn, N.Y. is the president of his Living and Learning Center residence hall. Serving as

a member of the Residence Housing Association and the Freshman Class Council, Gooding finished his first semester with a 3.48 GPA. Upon graduation, he plans on attaining a master's degree in business and finance to later work at a top tier firm, and be a part of the Morehouse alumni chapter of his state.

But it doesn't stop at Gooding either; there are many freshmen scholars just like him.

Yes, some freshmen don't fall in the category of Nunez, Jackson, and Gooding, but many do. I challenge the other classes to put down their microscopes and extend their hands to their brothers because we could learn a lot from you.

If for any reason we fail, based on upperclassmen standards, it will be because we weren't properly guided by those before us.

Instead of criticizing your brothers about his low marks and unacceptable behavior outside Morehouse, show him how to go about improving his grades and the proper to conduct oneself in social settings.

*Christian Saint-Vil is a Morehouse College freshman. From New York, he majors in English.*

## Why Does it Take Tragedy to Unite Us?

**Jaleel Johnson**  
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A bomb drops and a city is erased. A hurricane ravages and lives start anew. Rebellions commence and soils stain red.

Continents away, people empathize with the distressed individuals' situation. Some will rush money orders and clothes to the surviving victims. Others will pout at their television screen or newspaper as long as their attention is not snatched by some other trivial distraction.

Our sense of oneness and camaraderie slowly dissipate until we are once again oblivious to those outside of our immediate circles.

A prime example is the

Vibe spectacle we saw last year. In the published article's aftermath, whoever attempted to throw mud on Mother Morehouse's name quickly found themselves the target of a strong defense filled with US News & World Report rankings, distinguished alumni, and definitions of individuality. For the most part, Morehouse's sons huddled to uphold the valor and respect of her name throughout the ordeal.

Fast forward three weeks after the "Mean Girls of Morehouse" Vibe article, and homosexuality was regressed again to being a taboo topic of discourse.

We were back to shooting looks out of the corners of our eyes and whispering in ears. Although we had full knowl-

edge of the rifts, nobody acted.

When the earthquake struck Haiti, it seemed like our own struggles were put into perspective as orphans were left without shelter and the island was left in ruins. We rushed monies to relief agencies.

A year later, that same tragedy and its related hardships are just fuzzy memories. Meanwhile, babies are starving and much of the rubble remains.

Although we have full knowledge of the instability of the island, when is the last time it crossed your mind?

Massacres in Arizona, floods in Australia and Brazil, genocides in Rwanda and Darfur, wars in the Middle East, and loads more have transpired. Shamefully, we

are able to anticipate the gradual concern followed by a quick downward spiral in motivation, effort and cognizance.

Are we so short-sighted that we can only recognize the human struggle that is front and center? Do we consider our social harmony to be widespread and omnipresent?

Or must catastrophe and pain be broadcast 24 hours a day for a genuine brotherhood to develop? The existing surpluses of these tragedies pray that, "Yes" not be the retort.

Jaleel Johnson is a sophomore at Morehouse College. Hailing from Gaithersburg, Md, Johnson double majors in Spanish and international studies and serves as a senator for the Spanish Club.

## Don't Knock Dr. Franklin: He's Doing A Good Job

**Tre'vell Anderson**  
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Across the yard, many opinions of the Morehouse College president, Dr. Robert Franklin, can be heard. Some students say that Dr. Franklin is doing the best job possible considering the social issues he has and will have to address in the 21st century.

Others, however, have a different point of view.

Bryan Pickett believes Dr. Franklin is not present enough.

"Just because he makes a quick walk through the cafeteria doesn't mean he is present," stated Pickett, a sophomore business major. "At a college this small, I should be able to sit down and talk with him one on one, if I wanted to."

Sophomore economics major Ryan Macauley agrees.

"When do we see President Franklin besides Crown Forum?" Macauley said. "People say that he is busy and I want to know, busy doing what? He surely is not raising funds."

Because of varied opinions and allegations, I decided to ask the tough question – is it time for President Franklin to leave?

From a financial aspect, it is true that Dr. Franklin's main responsibility is to raise funds for the college. In an effort to do so, in 2010 he launched a capital campaign to solicit a total of \$125 million over seven years. According to Dr. Franklin at the 2010 President's Town Hall, funds raised will go to building a "new Morehouse with improved residence halls and a state of the art student center."

Regarding funds that have been raised prior to this campaign since President Franklin's inauguration in 2007, I spoke to the Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations Julie Sills, in Morehouse's Office of Institutional Advancement. According to her, it is hard to pinpoint the donors and donations Dr. Franklin is solely responsible for, corporation and foundation wise.

"There are some partners who have had a long-term relationship with the college before Franklin," Sills said. "But under him, they have given more money than before; Dr. Franklin has maintained strong ties with our corporate partners."

Two such instances includes Delta Airlines and Coca-Cola. In 2009, Coca-Cola gave \$1.8 million followed by Delta with \$1 million to establish a scholarship honoring civil rights leader Rev. Joseph E. Lowery. Both of these corporations have been partners

with Morehouse for over 20 years, but under Dr. Franklin, they donated the largest amounts in the history of the partnerships.

Dr. Franklin has also been influential in attracting various speakers to the college under the Leadership Lecture Series begun in 1999. Perhaps the most impressive guest has been Chair of the Federal Reserve System, Ben Bernanke in 2009. Everyone semi-aware of Bernanke's national appeal knows the magnitude of such a feat.

Despite such accomplishments under President Franklin's administration, many unbeknownst to me, I believe he must do better in addressing various social concerns that have and will arise on Morehouse's campus, namely homosexuality.

After publication of Vibe Magazine's "Mean Girls of Morehouse" article in the fall semester of 2010, the issue was quickly swept under the coat of the Morehouse Mystique. Despite Dr. Franklin preemptively rebutting the article, in the aftermath, it was hard for me to see any action being taken from an administrative standpoint to confront concerns the article raised.

Rightfully so, this caused myself and other students to question Dr. Franklin.

In his defense, however, it must be said that action is being taken. Recently, Morehouse received a grant from the Ford Foundation to start the Faces of Manhood Initiative, a program to produce academically superior, morally conscious leaders to discuss masculinities, sexualities, and healthy relationships in the context of the world gender order in the 21st century. Their first event, the "Facing Manhood: Expressions of Masculinities" panel discussion, was held on Jan. 20 in the Bank of America Auditorium.

Dr. Franklin began the discussion by stating his hopes that such an initiative will make Morehouse a leader in addressing such topics.

As one can see, things are being done, money is being raised, and the Morehouse brand is being maintained.

Though many things go unannounced to the student body, Dr. Franklin is doing his job.

Whether he is obliged to let us know, is another article.

*Tre'vell Anderson is a sophomore at Morehouse College. Originally from Charleston, SC, Anderson majors in political science with a double minor in leadership and international studies. He currently serves as a member of the Faces of Manhood Initiative advisory board and sophomore intern of the Bonner Office of Community Service.*

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# OPINIONS

9

## Black Men With Degrees: Get Them While They're Hot

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About a month ago, I posted a status on Facebook that said something along the lines of, "In reference to African-American college graduates and dating, men should always go for the dime; women will have to settle."

This means that men should always go for the best of the best. Women will inevitably have to settle for a guy who doesn't necessarily meet their standards.

Naturally it caused quite a commotion, and 45 minutes later, I returned to my laptop to find over 40 comments supporting and opposing my views.

The statistics are everywhere and they don't lie. There is endless data that prove Blacks attend and graduate from college at a lower rate than their counterparts of other ethnicities and, furthermore, that Black women are attending and graduating college at a higher rate than their male counterparts.

Considering those Blacks who have obtained or are pursuing a degree, there are more women than men. As one can see, in the dating game, some women will be left out.

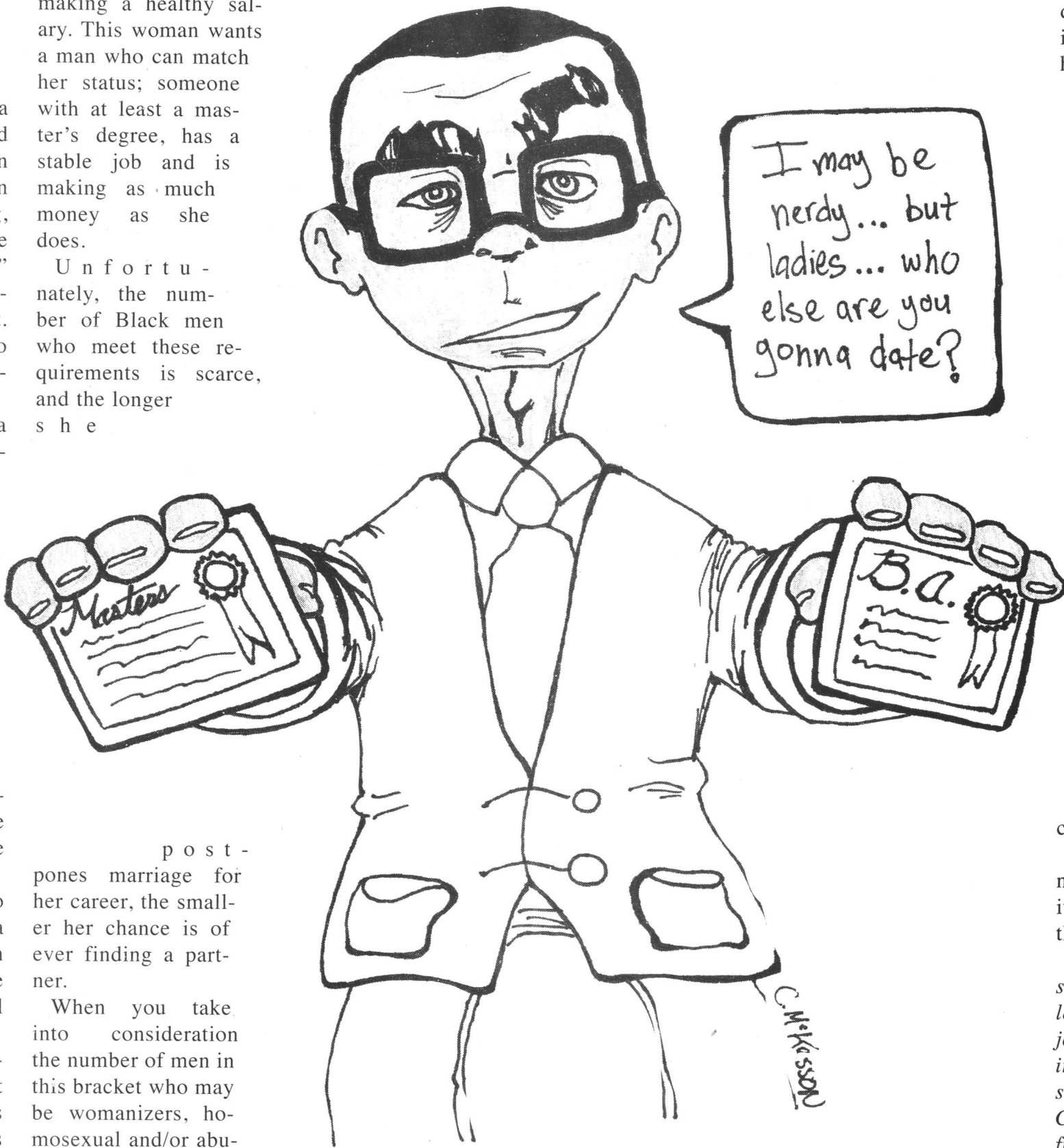
Now, consider the rising epidemic of the strong, independent Black woman. She has a master's in business marketing and works at a top notch marketing firm

making a healthy salary. This woman wants a man who can match her status; someone with at least a master's degree, has a stable job and is making as much money as she does.

Unfortunately, the number of Black men who meet these requirements is scarce, and the longer she

postpones marriage for her career, the smaller her chance is of ever finding a partner.

When you take into consideration the number of men in this bracket who may be womanizers, homosexual and/or abusive, her opportunities



decrease greatly. The degree-toting Black woman looking for a husband has slim pickings.

If she wants to increase her chances, she will have to open up her dating pool to guys that may not typically interest her.

The Black man with a degree is a hot commodity. Although I am not promoting the arrogant stereotype of the Morehouse Man, I am saying that a Black male with a degree isn't common.

Any business or economic major can tell you that if there is a huge demand for an object, namely Black men with degrees, but little supply of that object, prices will go up.

Thus, a Black man with a degree is valuable and doesn't have much competition; he should always go for the highest bidder.

The Black woman with a degree however is a bit more common, her value is lower, and she has much more competition.

I am not stating this as a fact nor am I advocating this mentality. However, I do acknowledge the truth in this theory.

Anthony Galloway Jr. is a sophomore at Morehouse College. Native to Maryland, he majors in psychology with a minor in studio art. Galloway currently serves as the Freshmen Class Coordinator for the Bonner Office of Community Service.

## Why The AUC Needs a Dedicated AUC Church

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It's 10 a.m. Sunday morning. You're awake and determined to get back in touch with your spiritual roots by finally going to church. Where do you go? At your disposal are Sister's Chapel on Spelman's campus, Morehouse's King Chapel, and Clark Atlanta's service held in Davage Auditorium.

From my personal experience, I walk into King Chapel to encounter the few, but faithful. Delving deeper, I realize no one is in attendance except one or two lost souls, the Chapel Assistants, and Dean Carter. Once in a blue moon, a guest minister's con-

gregation may make an appearance, but, for the most part, the thousands of seats of the illustrious King Chapel remain vacant.

I attribute this to the service style Dean Carter has selected. It seems to me that the service is not catered to its prospective audience.

Tradition is too present in King Chapel.

When I go to church, I don't want someone to use overly blown, bombastic language. There is no need to restate the Bible in an even more complicated manner.

Just tell me what the Word says and leave it at that.

Sister's Chapel, from what I hear, has a more consistent congregation. However, they would benefit from more

members and a splash of contemporary juice.

"It's nothing special," Spelman sophomore Alana Tunstel stated. "Honestly, I was bored."

Fellow Spelman sophomore Alannah Mack agrees saying that Sister's Chapel service is "too structured."

And then we have Clark Atlanta.

Off the Promenade lies the quaint Davage Auditorium. By 10:55 a.m. however, this once quiet building is silent no more. Students pour into the pews for Clark Atlanta's service hailing from all AUC institutions. Under the direction of Dr. Valerie Green, service is in the now; it is contemporary. With the CAU Praise Team, Gospel Choir,

and Heavenly Family mime team, students are reminded of their home church; that back-in-the-day praise with a new school interpretation.

Dr. Green knows her audience and allows the service to be more student oriented by having her Chapel Assistants lead the service. Also, by bringing in campus and community organizations, the membership of CAU's church is always growing and something new is forever present in the order of service.

I say all of this neither to demean or put down the work of Dean Carter or Spelman's Dean Rhodes, nor to uplift Dr. Green. Rather, I am choosing to recognize the leadership of Dr. Green in realizing that sometimes tradition must

be subsided in order to bring more into the church.

The gospel of Christ is the gospel of Christ no matter how you choose to present it.

As such, why must students squeeze into the small Davage Auditorium to come to a service that they will thoroughly enjoy?

We always promote this concept of AUC Unity, and we're forced to chant this very phrase during freshman orientation week, so what's the hold up on creating an AUC church?

Why have 2,000 plus seats and have only 10 of them filled? King Chapel is a large venue created, in part, for the purpose of religious worship, however, more people show up to a pageant or play.

Why not fulfill one of the purposes by combining all AUC services into one service held in King Chapel?

It has the space that Clark Atlanta needs and Clark has the students that the other chapels could use. By doing so, everyone's mission to spread the word of God can be accomplished on a larger scale.

Tre'vell Anderson is a Morehouse College sophomore. Hailing from Charleston, SC, Anderson majors in political science pre-law with a double minor in leadership and international studies. He currently serves as the Sophomore Intern of the Bonner Office of Community Service and a member of the Morehouse Student Judicial Review Board.

## 20 questions

1. Is the gala the start of their process?
2. Which MMW hopefuls will be in attendance?
3. Who will move up the ranks now that one of the FAVORITES is out of the race?
4. Have you purchased your tux yet?
5. Were the faculty members really not paid?
6. Did a police officer really punch in gloster's glass door because he didn't get his money?
7. Who's to blame for this MISHAP?
8. Did you pay \$10 to watch us lose to Clark?
9. Did you RUSH to archer hall in your suit Monday evening?
10. Do you think you have a real chance of making line considering the LIFESTYLE you live?
11. Did you make it onto Spelman's campus for the STROLL OFF?
12. Were you mad when they wouldn't let you passed the gates

13. What's up with all of these HONORARY greeks?
14. Don't they ever feel weird when they're the only one around without the OFFICIAL colors?
15. Aren't they a beautiful PHIRST PHAM couple?
16. Too bad he's not very PHAITHFUL, huh?
17. Isn't it a little ironic that he doesn't think she is PRETTY enough?
18. Is playing doorman at their party part of the GRIND?
19. Will you be in king chapel Saturday night?
20. How many INTERESTS will we have to watch make a fool of themselves on stage this year?

Got questions? Submit them anonymously to [mtiger20questions@gmail.com](mailto:mtiger20questions@gmail.com)

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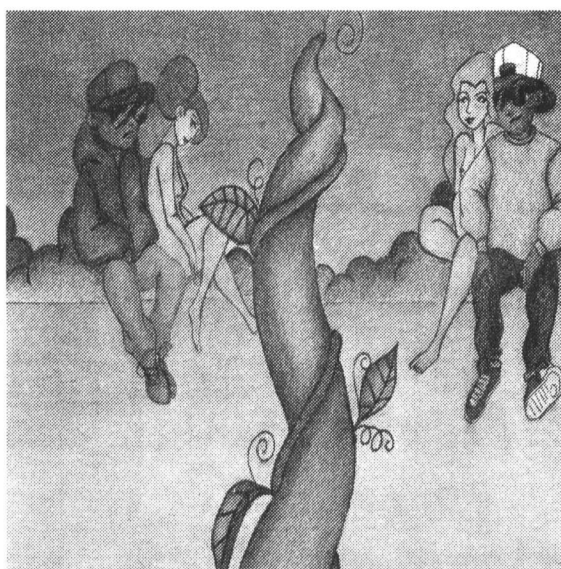
## "The Stinc and Boog Show" Mixtape Talib Kweli Gutter

**Terrence Campbell**  
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Feel Good Music. That's what appears in the 'genre' category of iTunes under "The Stinc and Boog Show" when downloaded. Coincidence? On his first mixtape, "Superegular," Lincoln Carr (Stinc) told anyone listening that he was "looking for that feel good sound." Months later, he's back to further define the sound — this time alongside R&B talent and Morehouse brother, Todd Perry (Boog).

The hazy opener, "Rollin or Powin' Up," represents the start of the show in more ways than one. Recorded on a MacBook in 2009, it was the duo's first recording together and the song that inspired the mixtape. The song opens with Boog slurring his thesis for the mixtape — "We're just gonna show you how to have a good time." For Stinc and Boog, feeling good is not only their sound; it's also the prerequisite to enjoying it. The effect is comparable to being instructed to wear 3D glasses to properly enjoy the special effects of a movie.

The chilled-out jam session sound of "The Stinc and Boog Show" is consistent and intentional. "Really, this is music for our age group," Boog said. "There's a certain nostalgia we were going for that



MTV Jams. But spend time with the mixtape and you'll find that this show is more of a true-life drama. The above-it-all cool, as illustrated on the mixtape's cover art, is the duo's response and remedy to the disappointments of fading and failed relationships.

[college-aged listeners] and older can appreciate." Listen to summery mid-tempo favorite "Everywhere I've Gone" and his creative direction is clear. A plainspoken hook and special attention to the bridge are his ode to the laid-back gold of mid-90s R&B.

On the same track, Stinc explains and showcases his lyrical style. "Speaking my own emotions, I'm a soulful soliloquist," he raps. Throughout the mixtape, Stinc's verbal agility shines through against a varied palette of beats. Whether rapping over the borrowed instrumentals of Kanye West's "Addiction," Erykah Badu's "Window Seat" or his own self-produced backdrops, Stinc's is verbally fit for anything thrown his way.

A steady stream of head-nodding production throughout make it easy to mistake the "Stinc and Boog Show" for a feel-good rotation of

On the Stinc and Boog produced "Wanna Get Sum," the superficial intentions of a potential girlfriend are exposed and declined. "So glad we never started, it would have never worked / So glad we never started, just thought that I'd let you know," Boog laments on the bridge. In harmony, Stinc joins in and adds his own lesson learned — "Shorty only want me for my paper."

Overall, "The Stinc and Boog Show" is music to chill to. The breezy production feels made for windows-down cruising and Stinc's nimble wordplay satisfies even the most lyric-conscious listener. Even still, Stinc and Boog want more and insist that this is only the first episode in a series of projects. Tune in and download the mixtape at [DatPiff.com](http://DatPiff.com).

## Rainbows Album review

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Three and a half years after his last solo album, Talib Kweli is back with his fourth solo album "Gutter Rainbows." Much more subtle than his previous releases, Kweli went in a different direction with the features and production of this album. However, the sharp lyrics that earned him status as a top MC are definitely present on this album.

Other than Jean Grae, Kweli has an entirely new cast of producers and features on this album but it works out well for him. The production for intro to the album "After the Rain," was crafted by producer turned MC, 88 Keys. The flute-laced track is a very smooth way to begin the album, though it would have been nice to hear Kweli rhyme on the beat.

The title track "Gutter Rainbows," explains exactly what a gutter rainbow is. Kweli spits, "The trap on the corner with the oil spilling / Mix with the dirt and the water collects in the gutter 'til the colors brilliant." This is Kweli's metaphor for the 'hood and the beauty that

he finds in it compared to what many find in a typical rainbow.

Kweli then picks up the pace with the track "Palookas," which features Brooklyn MC, Sean Price. The two MCs go hard over the Marco Polo produced beat. On the hook Kweli spits, "You against me is a fifty cal against a squirt gun / You ain't got a verse better than worse one." That lyrical moment is one of the highlights of the album.

Kweli continues to show exactly why he is heralded as one of hip-hop's top lyricists. On the track "I'm On One," Kweli proves he is not an MC to be fooled with. "I play this game without a referee / So they ain't no official / So even Too \$hort couldn't blow the whistle," he raps. He continues with gems like this throughout the entire Khrysis produced track.

Continuing with the trend of new sounds and features, Kweli teams up with producer 6th Sense and rapper Outasight on the track "Ain't Waiting." This one is more up tempo than the previous tracks and Kweli speeds up his flow accordingly. A bit more experimental than songs



he's done in the past, this is either a hit or a miss depending on the listener.

Kweli also teams up producer Ski Beatz on the album's only single to date "Cold Rain." The piano-laced track is the type of song you would normally expect from Kweli. Challenging social institutions to make a change, this track leaves you wanting to make a change in the world around you.

The next track, "Uh Oh," sounds the theme music of a villain in a horror track. Produced by Oh No, Kweli and Jean Grae both deliver malicious but dope verses. Grae's verse on the track is definitely an ear catcher.

"Gutter Rainbows" is a solid release from Talib Kweli; a bit more experimental than his previous releases but he ultimately makes it work for him.

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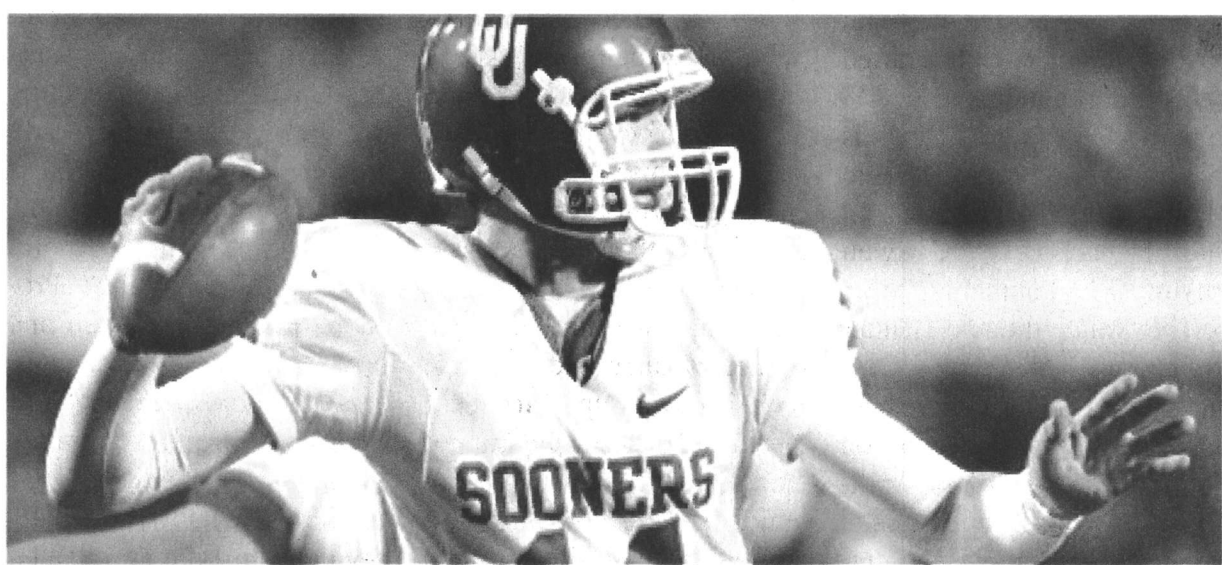
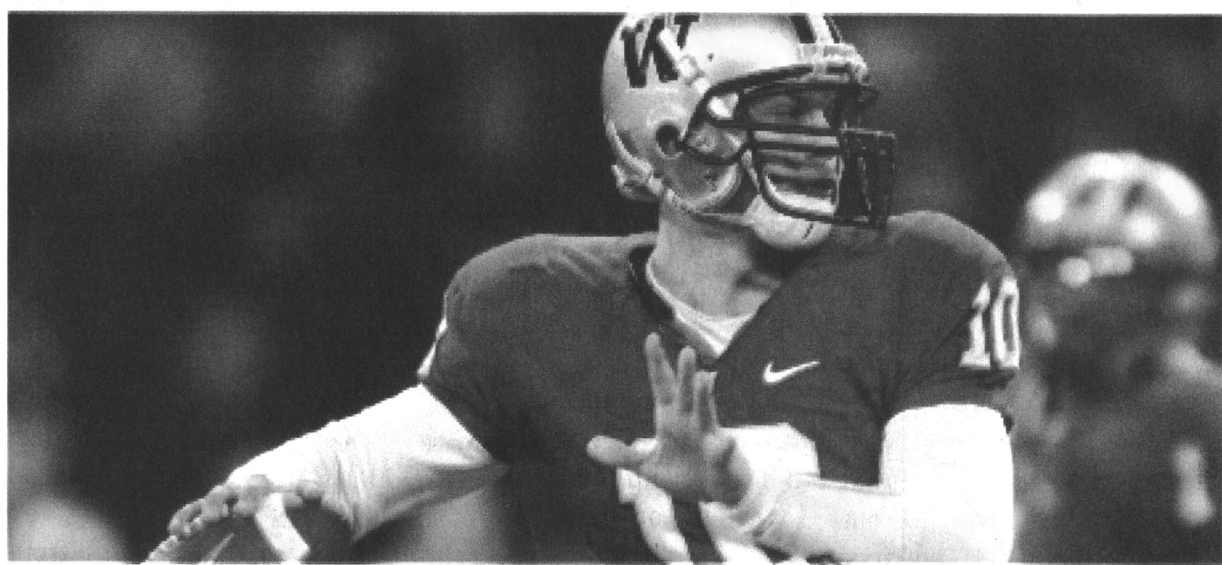
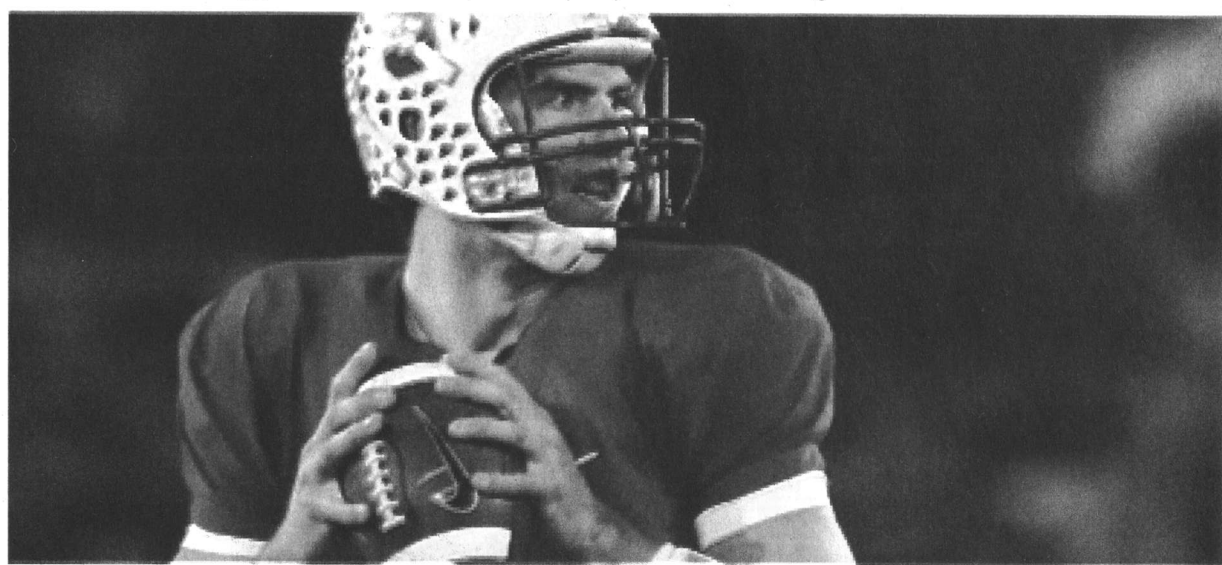
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## SPORTS

11

## College QBs: Luck(y) or Not?



College quarterbacks Andrew Luck (top), Jake Locker (center), Sam Bradford (bottom).

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Let's face it, most star athletes don't stay in college. Many people cringe at this notion, but the lack of superstar four-year players only attest to this statement. The opportunities to join the elite ranks of the professional sports world are so few that for many student athletes the question of whether or not to forgo their remaining eligibility seems laughable.

Recently, Stanford quarterback Andrew Luck surprised many college football analysts with his decision to delay his entry into the 2011 NFL draft. The announcement left many puzzled as Luck was a unanimous favorite to be the first pick overall in the NFL Draft in April. Some draft analysts are so high on the junior as to label him "can't miss prospect."

Luck has everything needed to be a good, possibly great, quarterback in the NFL. At 21, this Cardinal has been afforded rare physical attributes: size (6'4", 235 pounds), footwork, durability, adequate arm strength and accuracy. Born into a football family, he has been instilled with the importance of work ethic and drive, which NFL teams greatly desire.

In a statement concerning his decision to stay in school, Luck told reporters, "I am committed to earning my degree in architectural design from Stanford University and

am on track to accomplish this at the completion of the spring quarter of 2012."

His father, former NFL quarterback Oliver Luck, echoed his sons sentiments saying, "This is a win-win for him. He gets to spend another year at Stanford, be part of a team that will be highly ranked again next year, finish his degree and enjoy Palo Alto." Oliver added, "It's not like the NFL is going anywhere; it's one of the best-run leagues in the world. It will still be there when he graduates."

One person who can attest to that statement is St. Louis Rams rookie quarterback Sam Bradford, whom Luck actually contacted in search of advice on the situation.

After a standout season as a redshirt sophomore in 2008 (4,720 yards, 50 TDs, 8 interceptions), The Heisman Trophy winner opted to remain at Oklahoma instead of entering the 2009 NFL draft, where he was also projected to be selected first overall. While enduring outside scrutiny, he suffered an injury to his throwing shoulder during the first game of the 2009 college season. After rehabbing the first shoulder injury, Bradford re-injured the shoulder, causing many to believe that he had caused himself to miss out on millions of dollars due to injury.

Despite the injuries and the press, Bradford, another "can't miss prospect", went on to still be the first overall pick by the Rams in the 2010

NFL Draft. Though the Rams were undoubtedly aware of his medical history, the organization offered the former Sooner the wealthiest contract for a rookie quarterback in NFL history (six years, \$78 million).

While Bradford proved that being labeled as a "can't miss prospect" does one day pay off, there are others who cannot say the same.

As the 2009 college football season came to a close, University of Washington QB Jacob "Jake" Locker was placed atop many mock draft boards across the country.

His impact was so great that one NFL general manager anonymously told ESPN analyst Chris Mortensen that Locker was a bigger, taller, right-handed version of Steve Young.

Despite all of the praise, Locker chose to remain at Washington for his senior campaign. After a disappointing and shocking 2010 season by Locker (2,265 YDS, 17 TDs, 9 INTs), his draft stock has plummeted. It is certain he will not receive the honor, as well as a huge payday, that is awarded to the No. 1 overall pick.

With the threat of a rookie salary cap in the new collective bargaining agreement, coupled with the possibility of injury, Luck has placed millions of dollars at risk for the sake of education. If all goes well, then it will just be another story to tell in the life of an NFL great who values education over football.

## Where Are They Now? George Mason

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Who could ever forget the Cinderella run that George Mason University had in the 2006 NCAA basketball tournament? Led by starters Jai Lewis, Tony Skinn, Lamar Butler, Will Thomas and Folarin Campbell, GMU had an historic run knocking off three of the last six national champions. But the question of where are these players now looms?

Jai Lewis was undoubtedly the leader of the GMU squad that beat Michigan State, North Carolina and Connecticut en route to the Final Four. The 6-foot-7 forward and leading scorer of that Patriots team (13.7 ppg) dabbled with professional football and was signed as an undrafted offensive tackle for the New York Giants. Unfortunately, he could not make that leap and decided basketball was his true niche. After bouncing around professional teams in Israel, France and Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lewis currently plays for the Rain or Shine Panthers in the Philippines.

Tony Skinn, the second-leading scorer on that GMU team, has been taken down a rough road to find professional basketball in Germany. During the CAA tournament, Skinn punched



Stock Image

opposing Hofstra guard Loren Stokes in the groin and was suspended for one game. Later in 2006, he signed a contract to play in France's Pro A League Team. In July 2007, he was invited to play for the Orlando Magic summer league team and played on the same team as Stokes. Like his teammate, Skinn was not offered a contract and signed with an Italian team in 2009. Eventually, the 6-foot-1 guard went on to sign with the New York-er Phantoms of Germany in 2010.

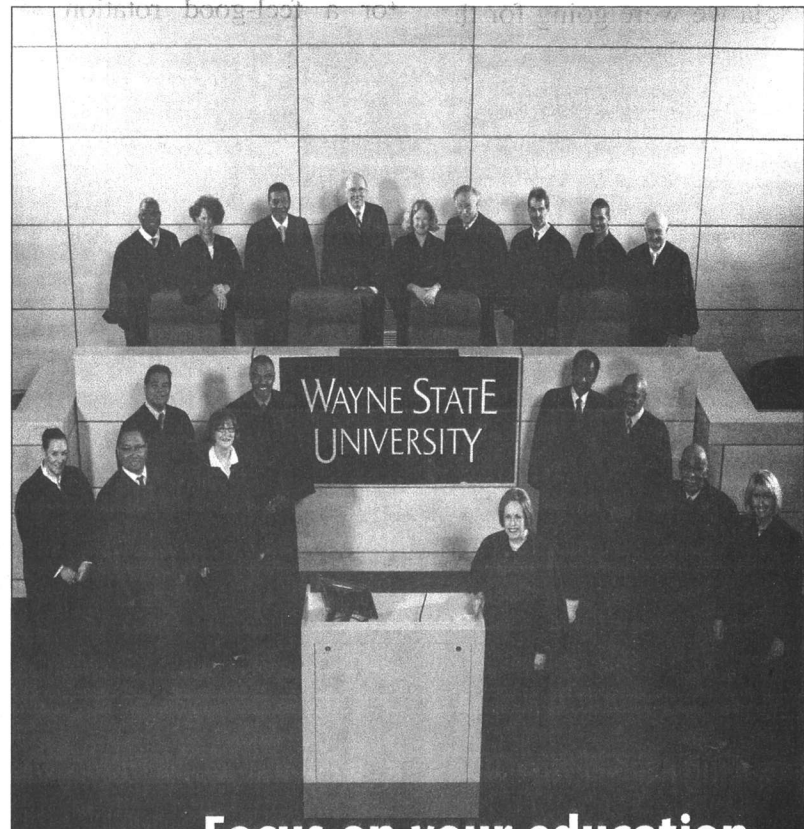
Lamar Butler, the starting point guard of the Patriots team, may be found playing

in the NBA's Development League (NBDL) for the Reno Bighorns. After graduation, he was offered to join the summer league with the Washington Wizards, but his deal was revoked. He then went on to play in the BK Prostějov (Czech Republic) and then came back to America in 2009 to play in the Colorado 14ers, another NBDL team.

As a sophomore, Will Thomas started for the Patriots in 2006, but has since moved on great success in Belgium. In 2008, Thomas graduated from George Mason and was invited to join the Washington Wiz-

ards summer league team. However, he never made the regular season roster and moved to Europe. Thomas joined the Belgacom Liege and just this past May he was named the Belgium Division 1 league Most Valuable Player and winner of the Star's Coaches Award. As for the final member of the team, Folarin Thomas, he is currently playing in Germany.

Even though none of these players has actually made it to the NBA, they will always be remembered as one of the most historic teams in NCAA history.



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Recycle The Maroon Tiger

# Rivalry Between Morehouse and Clark Atlanta Renewed

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Exactly one year after arguably the most memorable Morehouse-Clark Atlanta basketball game in recent memory, the teams took the floor once again last Wednesday in Forbes Arena. In their first meeting of the 2010-11 season, the Maroon Tigers (4-8, 4-6) suffered another loss to the Panthers (9-4, 8-3), 77-68. Despite an exciting and close first half, the Panthers went on a 23-5 run for seven minutes in the second half to ultimately win the game.

On a typical game night at Forbes Arena, the atmosphere is relatively calm with parents, casual fans and a few Morehouse and Spelman students sprinkled here and there. However, on Jan. 28, 2010, the atmosphere was emphatically different as the former Olympic gym was flooded with students, faculty, graduates, reporters, families, and even a few Atlanta Hawks players ready to watch the infamous AUC clash.

Despite being the overwhelming favorite to easily win the game, Clark Atlanta was shocked by the Maroon Tigers in a 74-71 overtime loss that caused the Morehouse fans to rush the court after the game.

Understanding how intense the game was capable of becoming, the city of At-



Maroon Tiger staff photo/TIM ATAKORA

lanta came prepared after last year's game caused multiple on and off court incidents. As the game approached, Morehouse teamed with multiple organizations to ensure the safety of the crowd and players.

"In planning for tonight a great deal of consideration went into it," Sergeant Hollowman of the Atlanta Police Department said about the night's security. "We had to consult both athletic departments, fire and EMS (Emergency Medical Service), increase the manpower and create an overtime budget. All the coordination was done

with Morehouse [police], the [Clark] band leader and V-103. We also had to check the maintenance of the building thoroughly."

Despite the immense preparation to create a civil and safe atmosphere, it is extremely difficult for Clark Atlanta or Morehouse to remain that way in the same setting.

During a timeout with 15:39 left in the first half, an individual was escorted out of the arena for celebrating on the court after an explosive Roderick Williams dunk on a Clark Atlanta player. While "No Hands" was played, one Clark Atlanta student was

seen waving a Morehouse shirt on a stick with an "X" made of duct tape. The worst incident of the night happened in the second half when a fight occurred in the upper level of the Morehouse section.

However, the night overall was relatively calm with Forbes packed to the rafters, mostly with Panthers supporters, to watch the two HBCUs square off.

Coming off of an overtime win over LeMoyne-Owen, Morehouse was looking to earn its fourth win in five games. Throughout the first half, Morehouse dominated one aspect of the game, the

post. Reigning SIAC co-player of the week, Roderick Williams, and Joshiah Anabraba were no match on either side of the court for the Panthers big men. The two combined for 20 points, 13 rebounds, three blocks for the game.

Morehouse continuously worked the in-and-out game, but primarily attacked the basket.

As the first half was coming to a close, Morehouse missed two makeable tip-ins by Williams and Temple transfer Christopher Clarke. Those two missed baskets foreshadowed the drought and inconsistency that defined the second half.

To open the second half, Morehouse head coach Grady Brewer replaced starting guard Adam Callaway with Malcolm Frank to create a taller lineup. Brewer also switched the team's defense from half court to full-court press. That decision resulted with a 13-7 run for Clark Atlanta until Callaway checked in. Unfortunately, that did not help, either.

Brewer opted to substitute 15 of his 16 dressed players throughout the second half by changing players during nearly every dead ball.

Becoming more perplexed by the constant substitutions and relatively new faces, one unidentifiable Morehouse fan yelled, "Are they part-time students? Who are these people?"

The offense and defense seemed to have very little, if any, continuity, which resulted in a seven-minute scoring drought for the Maroon Tigers. The Panthers easily dismantled the full-court pressure to score multiple layups and dunks during a 23-5 run.

The overall defense of Morehouse was just not able to slow the 2009-2010 SIAC player of the year, Najee Lane, from scoring at will. The senior guard from Trenton, N.J., played all but three minutes of the game, scored 20 points, grabbed eight rebounds and totaled four assists. Fellow senior guard, David Brown added 21 points in the 35 minutes he played.

Morehouse seemed inept to do anything on the court, including getting to the foul line. The Panthers made more free throws (29) than the Maroon Tigers took (23). The referees were making very uneven calls, however, the Maroon Tigers inexcusably missed 10 of their free throws. Those 10 free throws alone would have won the game for the team.

Clark Atlanta and Morehouse will face off for the second and final time during the SIAC regular season on Feb. 12 in Forbes Arena. This time Morehouse will truly be the home team as they were designated away team on their own court in this game. In this final matchup, hopefully, they can duplicate their last win against Clark Atlanta.

## SUPER BOWL PREVIEW



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After months of debate, Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones and North Texas finally have two teams to host for Super Bowl XLV. Two of the NFL's most iconic franchises, the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Green Bay Packers, will meet for the 33rd and most important time to battle in Cowboys Stadium for the Lombardi Trophy. Overcoming injuries, personal legal issues, and fines, the Steelers and Packers have made it to arguably the grandest stage in all American professional sports.

The Steelers will be making an NFL record eighth Super Bowl appearance, including three in the last five seasons. The Steel Curtain defense that has been the staple for the Pittsburgh franchise for decades has once again reappeared. Despite a pass defense that ranks only 12th in yards allowed (214.1 ypg), their rush defense has been nearly impenetrable as they rank first out of all 32 teams (62.8 ypg). However, their defense has not dealt with an Aaron Rodgers-led offense all season.

The Chico, CA, native is a like no other current quarterback. Combining his craftiness, athleticism, decisiveness, arm strength, accuracy and the infamous "intangibles" there are few things, if anything, he cannot do on the field. Aside from his concussion issues, Rodgers has had no problems throwing to arguably the best receiving core corps in the NFL.

The Green Bay Packers offense defines the antonym of "inept" as they rank first in the playoffs in passing (251 ypg) and total offense (369.0). Only the New York Jets stand in their way for top playoff rushing honors as they lead Green Bay by five yards (NYJ-359 yards).

As he continues to compile playoff wins, Rodgers is aiding his consideration for the title of best quarterback in the NFL. He has led his team on the road each game during the 2011 playoffs and came out victorious every time. On the opposite side of the football, defensive coordinator Dom Capers and his Green Bay defense is as effective and formidable as any in the league.

The Packers defense will have a hard time trying to control Rashard Mendenhall, who is coming off a fantastic AFC Championship game against the Jets. The for-

mer University of Illinois tailback rushed for 121 yards; most of which came in the first half. Along with the rushing game, the Packers will have to deal with "Big Ben" Roethlisberger, another elite quarterback.

If the Packers defeat the Steelers this Sunday they will have defeated Michael Vick, Matt Ryan, Jay Cutler and Roethlisberger. Those quarterbacks have combined for a total of seven Pro Bowl selections.

The Steelers' quarterback is in a class of his own as he has built his on-field reputation to include the adjectives "clutch", "lethal", and "elusive." Roethlisberger gives defensive coordinators nightmares by stretching out a play with his ability to scramble and throw on the run after the play has been disrupted.

This game has all the characteristics to create one of the greatest matchups in Super Bowl history. Although analysts and fans expect a defensive struggle, both teams have combined to score 35+ points seven times this season. All one needs to do is find a television by 6:29 EST to watch countless multimillion dollar commercials, a halftime performance that cater to youth, and the game itself.