

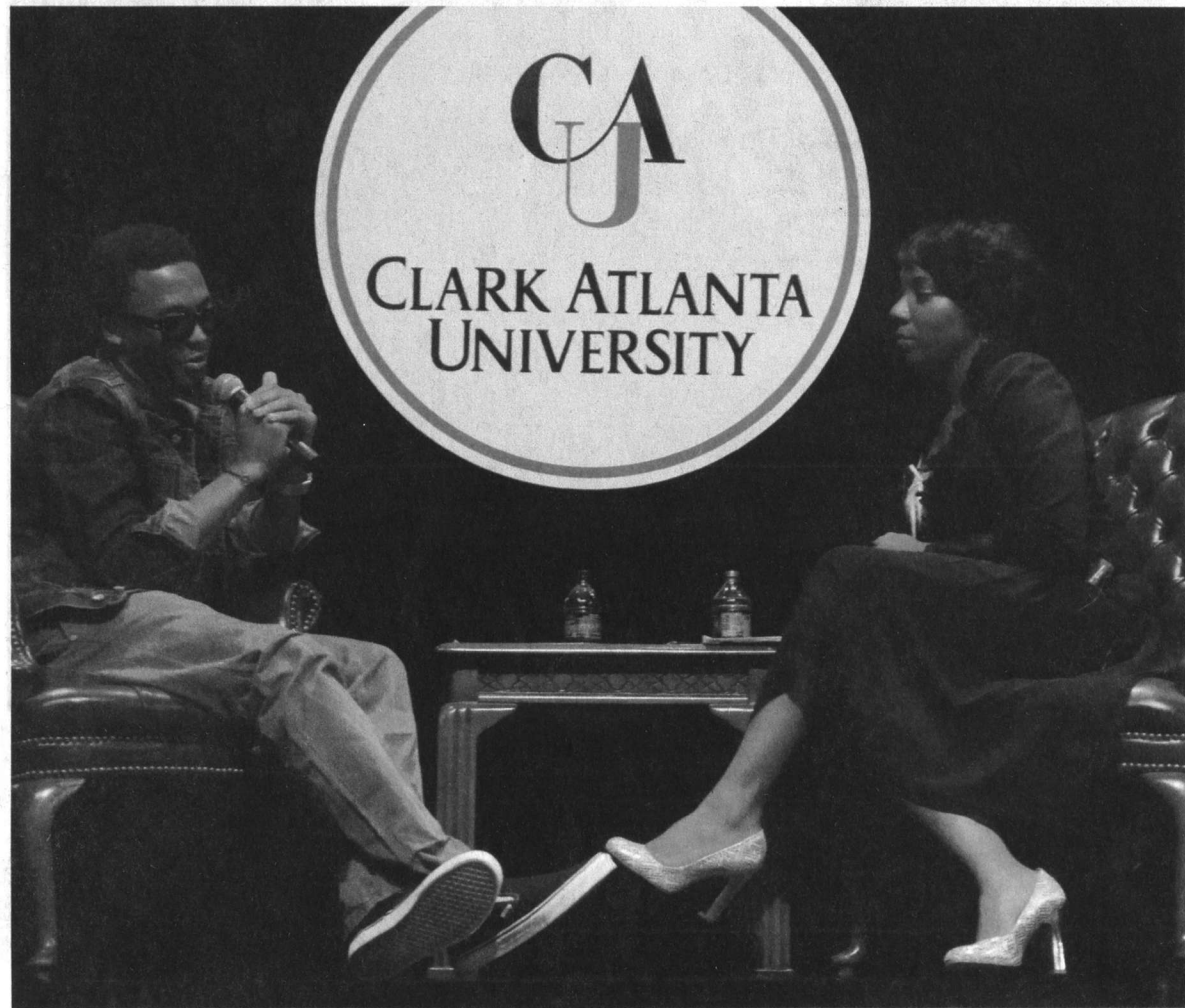
THE MAROON TIGER

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE • ATLANTA, GA

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Rapper Lupe Fiasco Visits AUC Community



Maroon Tiger staff photo

Rapper Lupe Fiasco visits Clark Atlanta University to discuss his upcoming album "Lasers" and political messages in his music. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Jocelyn Wilson (right) of Morehouse.

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Students packed Davage Auditorium in Clark Atlanta University's Haven-Warren Hall, anticipating the arrival of Lupe Fiasco for a poignant and relevant conversation on social issues. The discourse was put on by the Hip-Hop 2020 project, headed by Morehouse College professor Dr. Jocelyn Wilson. The Hip-Hop 2020 project was responsible for bringing Kid Cudi to the campus last year for a similar program. DJ Syfr, Morehouse junior Stephen Francis, kept the crowd at bay playing hits from the rap star's first two albums "Food & Liquor" and "The Cool" and cuts from his upcoming album "Lasers."

The program was organized by breaking down the unique acronym of Fiasco's album title. Fiasco has charged it to mean "Love Always Shines Every Time Remember 2 Smile." However, in this case, the focus was on Leadership and Authenticity, Spirituality & Ethics and Reciprocity & Social Consciousness.

The Hip-Hop 2020 program sought to find the bal-

ance between Fiasco's words and his deeds, which ultimately began with his origins. Dr. Wilson delved into Fiasco's childhood and how that helped shape him and his message. Fiasco referenced his mother and father as key figures in the home that allowed him to gain knowledge beyond his rough neighborhood. He noted this as the key to his knowledge because he never attended college.

"That's why I really believe in school for some, education for everybody," Fiasco said.

Education was a key concern for Fiasco, as he stated he does not know how to fix the problems with America's schools but knows changes have to be made.

"A perfect education system is a utopian one but there are little progressive steps we can make toward one," Fiasco said.

Wilson then asked Fiasco to expound on the lyrics to his latest single "Words I Never Said," a politically-charged piece that has Fiasco revealing his opinions on the Obama administration, the state of stagnant youth and the general complacency of people in the country. When comparing the use of social

media in the recent Egypt

protests compared to American use, Fiasco lauded the Egyptians and saw their use as the ideal example of how to make change.

"[They] used social media as a means to an end," Fiasco said. "Our problem is 'new media activism,' we post a tweet or make a song and that's the end."

The Chicago MC also noted the hypocrisy in the Black community and beyond. When questioned about the line "Complain about the liquor store but what you drinking liquor for?" Fiasco noted that line and the lines that follow speak to what he believes is a tendency of Americans to participate and contribute to things that they consider negative.

"That's why I unapologetically do not vote," Fiasco said. "I don't want to contribute to anything that will eventually be used to buy bombs."

The discourse continued on an encouraging note when Fiasco began to talk about his other single from "Lasers," the song "The Show Goes On." The second verse of the song was highlighted as one that could be inspirational for children and seek to combat

See LUPE FIASCO, page 2 ▶

Morehouse Glee Club Celebrates Centennial Concert

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The Morehouse College Glee Club hosted an event commemorating its 100 years of existence on Sunday, Feb. 20.

Family, alumni, faculty, staff and students piled into the International King Chapel for the opportunity to experience the historic occasion. The concert began after what seemed to be an unusually quick dispatch by the gentlemen of the Glee Club to the stage from the aisles of the Chapel. Once in place, a beckon was made to the audience for the members of the joint student and alumni centennial Glee Club to take the stage as well. Alumni members in the audience followed

suit and quickly dispatched to the stage, creating a sea of choral members prepared to perform the prearranged selections of songs that would highlight the Glee Club's musical prowess.

The musical roster of the centennial performance included a meshing of songs the Glee Club is renowned for such as "Betelehemu," as well as a few original pieces, including "Who'll Join," written specifically for the occasion by Morehouse College's own Dr. David Morrow. Morrow, the director of the Morehouse Glee Club, is only the third director of the Glee Club in its 100 years of existence.

During the performance, Morrow paused to recognize Glee Club member Antoine Griggs, a junior music major

from Detroit, with the David Morrow Prize. This award, established by Dr. Louis W. Sullivan '54, honors a hard-working member of the Glee Club each year for his outstanding work.

At a young age, Griggs had been infatuated with the Morehouse Glee Club. In fact, Griggs auditioned to be a part of the group while still enrolled in his performing arts high school. He felt privileged to be in the Glee Club and to be able to sing alongside past members for the centennial event.

"It's amazing to come back together with alumni. I was very impressed, I was proud," Griggs said. "I was honored to be a part of the Morehouse College Glee Club."

See GLEE, page 2 ▶

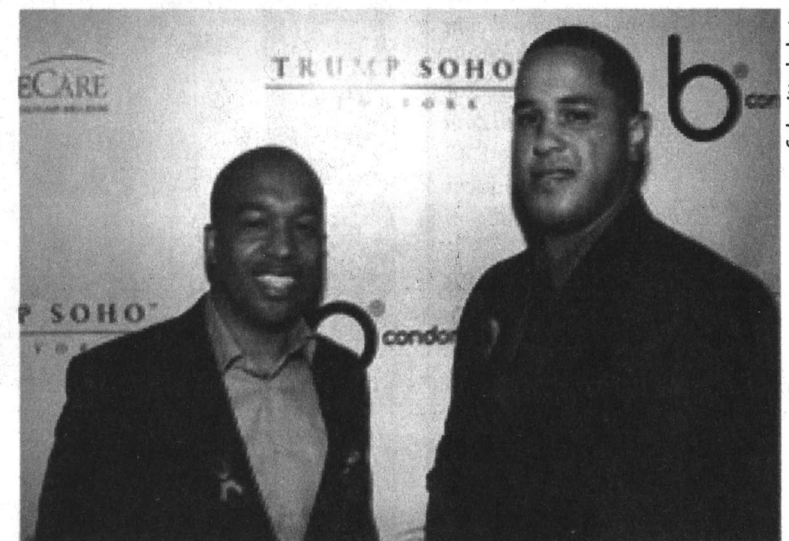
The Unlikely Venture: Morehouse Men Start Condom Line

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Never in a million years did Jason Panda envision that he would walk into a pharmacy and see his own condom shelved beside industry giants such as Trojan, Durex and Life-style.

In fact, when he majored in biology at Morehouse College, his aim was to become a lawyer—and he did just that. In spite of obtaining his law degree from Georgetown University and thriving as a corporate attorney in New York City, Panda, class of 2002, felt unfulfilled. So, after a suggestion from his mother, Panda partnered with fellow Morehouse brother Ashanti Johnson, also class of 2002, to launch their own condom line, b condoms.

B condoms encourages consumers to take pride in whatever demographic they may subscribe to. It markets itself with a simple, yet alluring motto: "b cool, b safe, b yourself." The sleek, eye-pulsing packaging, available in four vibrant colors,



Jason Panda (left) and Ashanti Johnson (right).

offers a host of condom styles fit to meet the needs of each clientele.

"We want b condoms to be inclusive so that if we're talking to African-Americans we can say 'b African-American', if we're talking to the church we can say 'b spiritual'," Panda said.

"We wanted to have something that would be able to connect all of the different groups that we wanted to target with b condoms.

"Essentially, you can be anything. You can be a better person, you can be educated, you can be committed or you can be

community oriented."


While a condom line pioneered by a couple of Morehouse Men may strike one as a peculiar venture, Panda and Johnson felt it could not make any better sense. With the rise of HIV and AIDS cases in the African-American, Latino and gay communities, the duo visualized a condom that would be inclusive, reliable and, most of all, give back to those disease-stricken communities.

In a unique fashion, b condoms, which launched on Dec. See CONDOM, page 6 ▶

inside track

News.....1 World & Local.....3 Business & Tech.....4 Features.....6 Opinions.....7 A&E.....10 Sports.....12

This week, The Maroon Tiger features a Special Black History section on page 11, highlighting achievements of Morehouse Men and others.

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LUPE FIASCO visits Clark Atlanta auditorium to discuss new album

◀ continued from front page

some of the negative images and ideas of commercial hip-hop.

"Besides the [Rick Ross], [Lil Wayne] and [Drake] a kid will hear about New Zealand on the radio," Fiasco said, "Then he'll say to his mother, 'Mommy I wanna go to New Zealand.'"

The L.A.S.E.R.S. Manifesto, written by Fiasco, was the send-off for the audience as the crowd stood and recited it in unison. The manifesto was inspired by Fiasco's friend Ian Astbury, lead singer of The Doors of the 21st Century, and the punk rock movement. It was also inspired by popular manifestos such as "The Black Panther Manifesto," and "The Communist Manifesto." The manifesto is not quite as infamous as its inspirations and calls for non-violent changes and progress for the country and the world.

The manifesto states that "Lasers are the future" and Fiasco would hope to be the rebel with a cause to lead them.



GLEE Club hosts Centennial Concert, reunites old and new members

◀ continued from front page

Music major Darian Clonts was a featured soloist during the evening's events and is empowered knowing that he was able to play such a big part in the Glee Club's history. Clonts,

an Atlanta native, recalled joining the ranks of quartet members to be one goal of his and was thrilled to do so singing lead as second tenor. "The Glee Club is one of the best things to happen to me. I wouldn't trade it for the world," Clonts said.

Toward the end of the program, a student surprised the audience by taking the stage and giving the crowd an impromptu address. President Robert Franklin referred to the student as an "imposter." This spontaneous act shocked

and angered those in attendance while providing a brief moment of unrest.

Morrow, seeming to be greatly absorbed in the magnitude of the occasion, described the event as unbelievable. Morrow explained that all efforts

"came from the heart." He was very appreciative of the Morehouse community for continuing to show their support.

"Thank you for the support and allowing us to do it," Morrow said.

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Homeless Take Over Ruined Streets of New Orleans

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Dingy mattresses, worn clothes and old medicine bottles are scattered across ruined streets and abandoned buildings, which were once the home of New Orleans' most traumatizing hurricane, Katrina. After five years, over 40,000 homeless people currently reside in abandoned properties across Louisiana.

According to MSNBC, homeless outreach representatives of UNITY of Greater New Orleans (a collective of workers from over 63 New Orleans homeless agencies) are storming through the

streets of New Orleans to find homeless people who are camping out in abandoned buildings. These representatives search the buildings and offer assistance to anyone they find. A 100-year-old abandoned factory has become a home for many squatters that aren't able to afford rent in New Orleans since the increase in rent prices after the hurricane.

Due to harsh working conditions, low salary and poor living conditions it isn't unusual for the homeless in the city to fight and rob each other. Couples live in locker rooms in the back of a factory buried under blankets with small knapsacks of their possessions.

"It's better than sleeping on sidewalks," James Bragg, a 35-year-old, out-

of-work, carnival worker from Illinois tells MSNBC. Despite how long it has been since the hurricane in New Orleans, the city is still battling an overwhelming amount of blighted residential properties. Over 43,000 buildings have been deserted or warped,

making New Orleans the city with the largest amount of blighted properties in the United States.

Other than those that are homeless in factories, there are thousands taking refuge in old schools, abandoned shotgun-style homes, warehouses, funeral homes and hospitals.

"The homelessness here does seem very Third World, and that shouldn't be happening in America in 2011."

Martha J. Kegel, the executive director of UNITY of Greater New Orleans said, "I am just horrified by the magnitude of the problem."

The dangers of the homelessness in New Orleans has only grown since December of last year when eight squatters, a group of train hoppers and travelers died in an abandoned rail-yard warehouse after trying to start a fire to warm themselves.

MSNBC marks the terrors of Hurricane Katrina as a time in history that has brought some of the most impactful change in New Orleans due to urban planning, eco-friendly building, school reforms, community-driven politics, volunteerism and adaptation to a world facing global climate change.

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Google vs. Facebook: Race for the Next Irresistible Social Network

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There's nothing wrong with a little healthy competition, right? According to eCampusnews.com, Google is considering launching a social network to compete with the Facebook franchise.

In the middle of last year, press speculated that a new social networking product would come from Google. On Feb. 17, Google updated its social search service. When a current topic is typed into the Google search engine, Tweets and Facebook statuses pop up as some of the results, yet the feature was at the bottom of the page.

At first, the new feature flew under the radar and was considered moderately underwhelming. Google has since changed the feature to be mixed in with the rest of the result links. Many people are starting to pay close attention to the search results because the feature is more prominent.

Facebook's first chief officer and Quora co-founder, Adam D'Angelo said, "They[Google] had assumed that Facebook's growth would slow as it grew and that Facebook wouldn't be able to have too much leverage over them, but then it just didn't stop and now they are scared."

As Facebook grows, Google is steadily working on creating ways to remain on top of the market. It has become apparent that the social network has the ability to consume Google's market share in display advertising.

Google, however, has made significant improvements by adding new features to its already successful model. With these new additions, Google needs information from its users about their social network accounts to pull content from other social networks.

The company decided to add new options for connecting those services to Google accounts. Google is also adding a prompt on the search engine results page asking its users to connect their social networking and Google accounts together.

When Google launches its full social networking product, it will be a significant change in the social networking business. The product has been variously dubbed "Google Me" and "Google +1." However, the official name of the new network is still ambiguous. Google executives say that despite their tussle with getting a specific name for the site, their goal is to add social features to Google's already existing services rather than building a "standalone" site.

According to Google executives, Google's competitor to Facebook should be launched sometime this spring.



Maya Angelou's First Radio Talk Show

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In celebration of what the Black community has accomplished over the past 100 years, poet laureate Maya Angelou is hosting a Black History Month radio talk show special. The show will feature Angelou interviewing prominent faces in the Black community today. The guests on her show will include comedian Chris Rock, filmmaker Lee Daniels, R&B singer Common, and Black intellectual Cornel West.

Maya Angelou was born April 4, 1928 in St. Louis, Mo. She received a plethora of awards and accolades for her works. Some of her works include "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," a memoir of her life, and "And Still I Rise," a collection of poems. Some of Angelou's recognitions include, winning a Grammy for "Best Spoken Word Album" (1993), an NAACP Image Award, for "Outstanding Literary Work" (1997), and honorary induction into Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Angelou has also been awarded over 30 honorary degrees to numerous colleges, including the AUC's own Spelman College. Most recently, however, she has received The Presidential Medal of Freedom on Feb. 15. This award is the highest civilian award that can be bestowed upon a person. In earning her award, Angelou is joining the likes of T. S. Elliot and Ella Fitzgerald.

The show will consist of comedy segments, sentiments of people who have had an impact on her life and poetry. The final airing of the show in Atlanta will be Monday, Feb. 28, on 91.9 WCLK Atlanta at 11:00 a.m.

Is the UberMedia Ban A Social Media Conspiracy?

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Last week, thousands of UberTwitter and Twidroyd users felt a mighty blow as a result of the banning of UberMedia phone applications for Twitter.

UberTwitter, a popular app for most Blackberry and some iPhone users, as well as Twidroyd, an app exclusive to Android users, were banned from using Twitter's API because of copyright and trademark violations. According to a Twitter representative, as stated in a recent Mashable.com interview, the UberMedia phone apps were banned because they violated "privacy issues with private direct messages longer than 140 characters, trademark infringement and changing the content of users' tweets in order to make money."

While the apparent intellectual property violations may seem to be reasonable excuses to ban major Twitter phone apps, others in the technological and media industries suspect that the ban has more to do with power than anything legally explainable. As a company, Twitter is still battling to be one of three major social media sites – the other two being Facebook and LinkedIn. The competition between Facebook and Twitter has grown stronger since Accel partner and Facebook Board Member, Jim Breyer will also sit on the UberMedia board. Accel is an entrepreneur company that owns Facebook. Twitter fears that UberMedia's influence from Facebook may shift social media control.

CNNMoney reports that the changes and shift in social media control have forced Twitter to view the Uber-



Media phone applications as a competitor. Just last week, UberMedia bought TweetDeck, a major Twitter client. In addition to this, UberMedia has closed a deal with Accel for a whopping \$17.5 million

and has included Echofon, a popular iPhone Twitter application, to its collection.

"Our goals have evolved over the last year," said Jon Kraft, UberMedia COO, according to CNNMoney. "Our

number-one goal is to be the best partner for Twitter in their ecosystem and help them grow and enhance their ecosystem."

Becoming an epicenter of "all things Twitter" and en-

hancing the growth of the Twitter movement seems to be a goal of the UberMedia franchise. However, there are no mentions of partnerships with Twitter. In the past, Twitter has been able to partner – or acquire and internally build – with other third party applications, such as Tweetie and TwitPic.

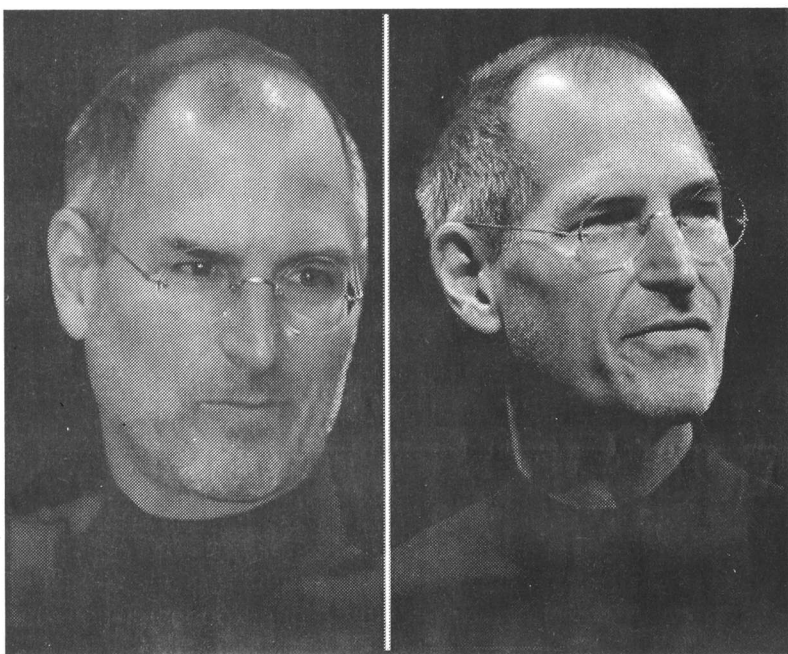
UberMedia claims to have a good relationship with Twitter but continually perpetuates itself as a private control hub. The ban on their phone apps may have been much more personal than professional. To continue to reign, Twitter must stop the conglomeration in its tracks. Unfortunately, UberMedia has complied with the restrictions and resurfaced UberTwitter and UberSocial while keeping the same name for Twidroyd. It's feared that this social media battle will continue to get ugly.

Apple CEO Steve Jobs Takes Second Medical Leave of Absence

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While the U.S. markets were closed and the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday approached, Steve Jobs and Apple Inc. announced that Jobs will be taking an indefinite leave of absence due to health reasons.

This leave comes as a shock to many considering it has been a year and a half since his return following a liver transplant. While he is away in recovery, he will maintain his title of CEO but his daily duties will



Steve Jobs, CEO of Apple before (left) and after his 2009 liver transplant.

be resumed by Chief Operating Officer, Tim Cook.

Central concerns raised from this announcement are

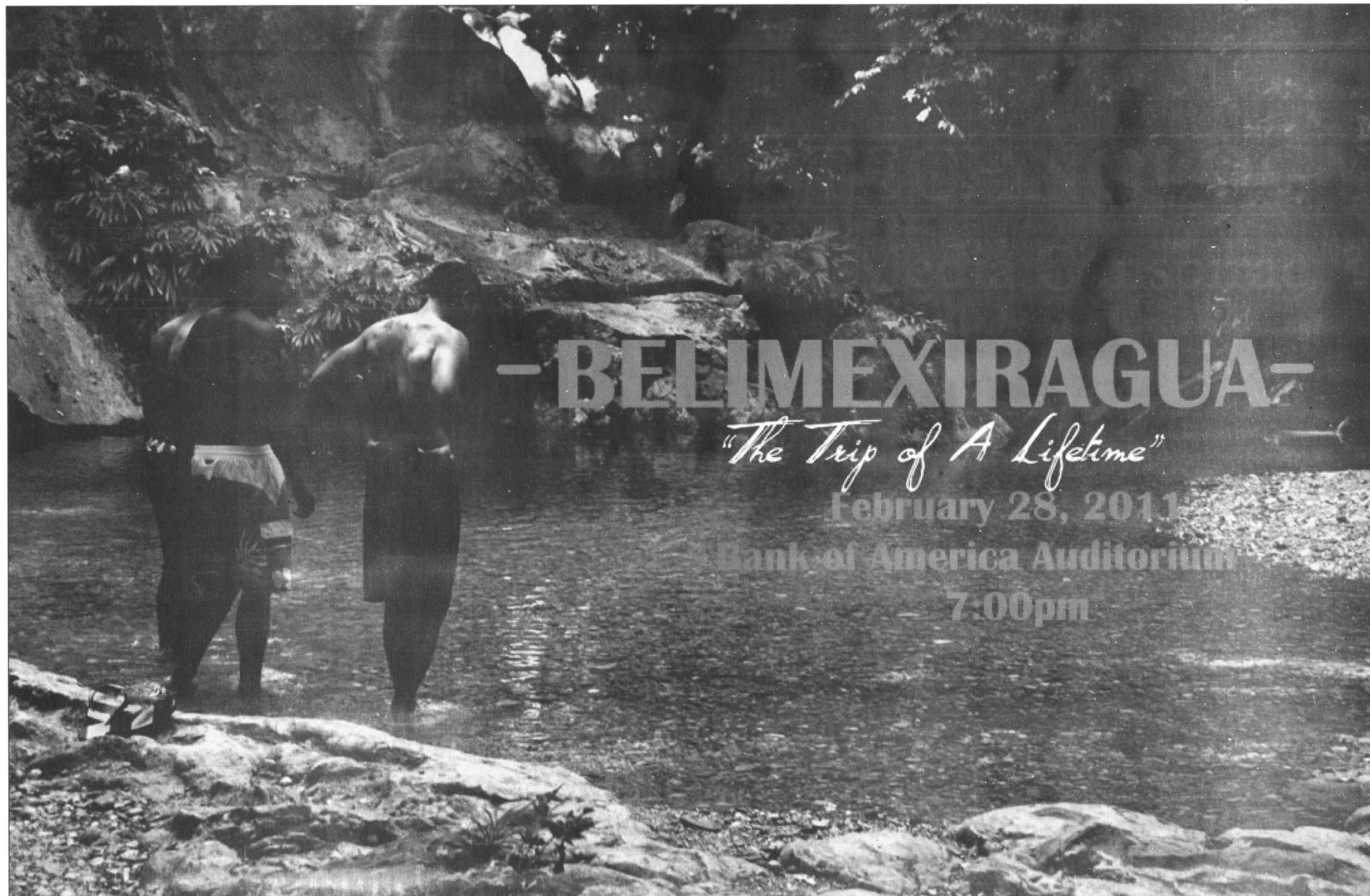
worries about the long-term prognosis of Jobs and what is in store for the leadership of what has been deemed "the world's most valuable technology company."

Jobs is the visionary behind Apple Inc. who keeps it successfully running on a day-to-day basis. In recent years, many health concerns have afflicted Jobs and he has been slowly preparing those around him to continue leading Apple Inc. into the next generation. After surgery in 2004, he recovered from pancreatic cancer and now his team wonders if running the company is taking a toll

on his health. Jobs has refrained from making public appearances and attending events since October and is struggling to make the best of days with a frail physical appearance, noted by many.

Apple Inc. and Jobs have halted any further information in regards to his recent condition. Due to his weakening immune system, his health frequently suffers, causing Jobs to keep his ailments private. "In recent weeks Jobs has faced a down cycle. He has reduced his trips to the office, coming in about two days a week, and has appeared increasingly emaciated,"

said Katie Cotton, an Apple Inc. spokeswoman, according to the New York Times. This is such a crucial time for Apple with the release of various iPhone and iPad products and giants like Google and Microsoft are posing a tough challenge for Apple Inc.'s lead in the technology industry. Although worries are present, his company is choosing to stand by his side no matter what the future may hold for their success. They are remaining optimistic and are hopeful that Jobs will be leading the way.



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Morehouse Community Shines at 23rd Annual "A Candle in the Dark" Gala

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Every year for the past 23 years, the Morehouse community has turned out in force for the annual "A Candle in the Dark Gala." This year was certainly no different. On Feb. 19 students, alumni, parents and friends came from all over to take part in one of Morehouse College's most lavish and celebratory events.

"A Candle in the Dark" has been a fixture in the Morehouse community and one of the most anticipated events of the season for over two decades. According to the Morehouse website, the purpose of the gala is to "highlight the College's tradition of producing leaders, showcase the oratorical skills of Morehouse students and pay tribute to nationally acclaimed African-Americans who are pioneers and leaders in their respective fields." Everyone who attended the illustrious event on Saturday cannot deny that it did just that.

The 23rd Annual "A Candle in the Dark" Gala was

a beautiful and star-studded affair that took place in the grand ballroom of the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Atlanta. The entire room was packed with phenomenal personalities from local philanthropists to award-winning actors. Some of the honored guests included former Surgeon General David Satcher and Candle award honorees baseball hall-of-famer Frank Robinson and Academy Award-winning actor Morgan Freeman.

Although the celebrities in the room commanded quite a bit of attention, it was the Morehouse students who truly stole the spotlight. Students of every discipline were charged with introducing the great men that received the Bennie and Candle Awards at the gala. Trained in oratorical skills by Anne Winbush Watts, vice president of academic affairs, each Man of Morehouse gave a lilted and passionate overture for the award recipient they were chosen to introduce. Students such as senior Cameron Thomas-Shah and sophomore Seth Fowler represented Morehouse

well with their commanding presence and powerful words.

In addition to awarding three Bennie Awards and two Candle Awards, Morehouse also recognized two pillars of the Black community with the lifetime achievement awards. Athlete Frank Robinson was recognized for his contribution to the sport of baseball and actor Morgan Freeman was celebrated for his efforts on the stage and screen. Although these two men have received some of the most coveted awards in their fields, they were still humbled and honored to receive their Candle Awards from Morehouse College.

The entire event exhibited the beauty, elegance and potential of the Black community. It was an amazing and inspiring sight to see so many influential and accomplished faces in one place for a night of celebration and recognition. Ticket prices may have been a bit steep, however, each person who attended "A Candle in the Dark" can confirm that the incredible event was worth every single penny.

CONDOM line started by Morehouse Men takes off with NYC sales and online store

◀ continued from front page

1, 2010, invests part of its profit into organizations tuned with its mission of preventing the spread of sexually transmitted infections (STI) in the most at risk areas.

"We want to be able to raise awareness about what is happening [in our communities]," Panda said. "I'm glad that I was able to hook up with another Morehouse Man who felt just as passionate about this issue and, who, was willing to take a leap of faith."

Both Panda and Johnson's educational and professional backgrounds have aided in their ability to springboard b condoms. Before the inception of the condom line, Panda practiced biopharmaceutical patent law and Johnson worked as a pharmaceutical salesman. Panda says their pharmaceutical background was a perfect ingredient for the needed expertise in selling medical devices.

While there are many competitors in the condom market, Panda underlines some of the hallmarks which distinguishes b condoms from its rival brands. "We are not solely profit driven. The goal is to decrease the trajectory of HIV and AIDS in the most [affected] populations," he said.

"We [operate] through a grass-roots approach. We partner with tons of non-prof-

its that have their hands in the most at risk neighborhoods."

B condoms has since partnered with organizations such as Bronx AIDS services, AIDS Atlanta, AIDS Alabama and, more recently, the Magic Johnson Foundation. The condom line is also reaching out to college campuses in an effort to spread awareness.

According to Panda, Trojan's earnings make up nearly 75% of the U.S. condom market, followed by Durex and Lifestyle. However, he doesn't count that as a disadvantage.

"Magnum (a Trojan brand) isn't really promoting or marketing its product in the Black community. Because of its [consumer] loyalty it has gained a bit of arrogance," Panda said. "But what are they putting back into the community of color? Not a lot" he said.

Aside from the fact that b condoms promotes HIV and AIDS prevention & awareness and gives back, financially, to the community, it also uses the same manufacturer that produces condoms for the United Nations, ensuring the best quality possible.

Panda notes that Trojan, on the contrary, has a high propensity for breaking.

"They are charging more for a substandard product and that's not something that I want to put in our community," he said.

Although Trojan and other brands have years of history,

Panda believes that b condoms will soon thrive because of its ingenuity, dependency and culturally specific knowledge.

Panda maintains that his product is second to none and credits a lot of b condoms' success to Morehouse. He contends that Morehouse taught him and Johnson how to believe in themselves. That self-belief, according to Panda, has equipped him and Johnson with the skill set to compete in the condom market. He also values the support of his Morehouse brothers, mentioning how alumni from all over the world, such as Nigeria and Bahamas, have requested product shipment.

"The Morehouse brotherhood and network is something really strong and something we can take pride in because we can support and value our own," Panda said.

"Benjamin Elijah Mays said 'Whatever you do, strive to do it so well that no man living and no man dead, and no man yet to be born can do it any better' and that's what we plan to do with b condoms."

B condoms are currently sold in selected stores in New York City, however, the company is working to solidify distribution deals with retail stores such as Walgreens, CVS and Duane Reade. In the meantime, the company hopes to have the condoms sold on their website, www.bcondoms.com.

Two names as valuable as our own

You don't build a 200-year history of excellence in financial services without learning a few things. Like how to recognize and celebrate colleagues with exceptional qualities. And the importance of training and developing them throughout their careers. We are proud to welcome the two Morehouse students who will be joining us full-time this summer. Congratulations to them on all their success.



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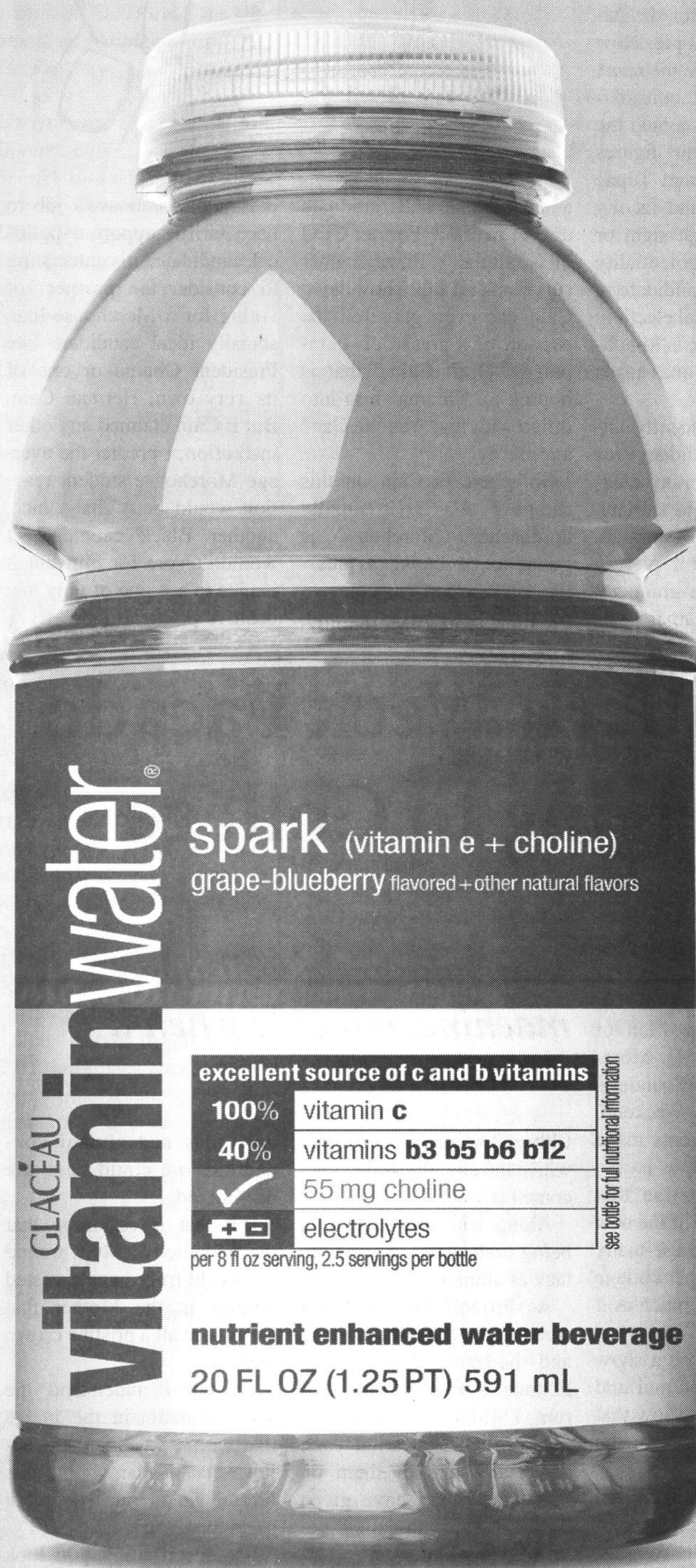
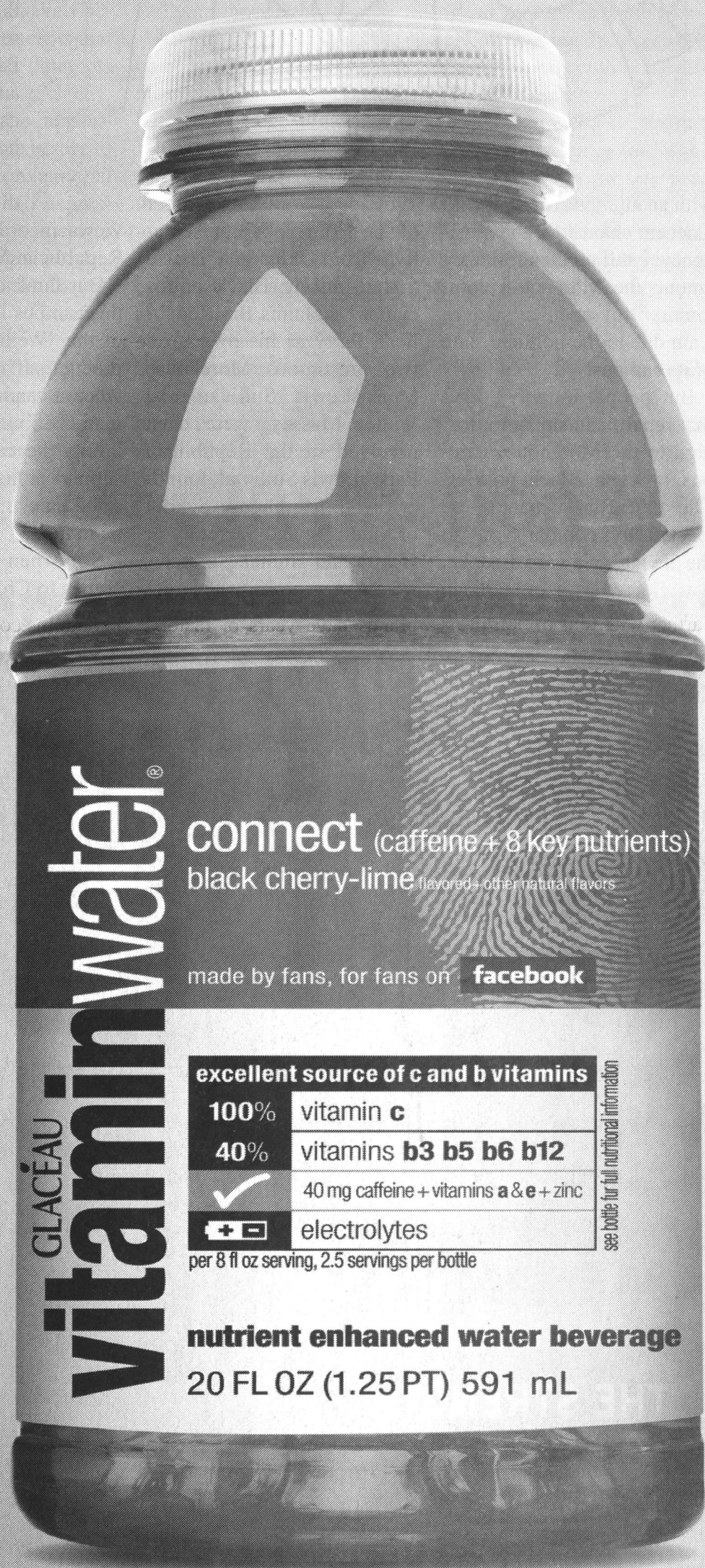
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 **Recycle The Maroon Tiger**

A Voting Dilemma: Barack Obama vs. A Morehouse Man

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When someone steps onto a college campus, especially one as politically and socially charged as Morehouse, he or she would expect to find an array of belief systems on how this world and this country should run. Whether Republican, Democratic, liberal, or conservative, one could expect Morehouse to be a place of pluralism and diversity of mind.

Just a few years ago, nails were bitten as countless students craned their necks at the various T.V. stations broadcasting one of the most incredible victories for the African-American people. Now as 2012 approaches, the name "Obama" has lost considerable luster and has joined the likes of trendy t-shirt figures like Bob Marley and Tupac Shakur. Students and faculty have seemingly lost sight or even ignored the potentiality of another Black candidate in the 2012 presidential election. Except this time, he is Republican. Jaws drop and heads shake.

Herman Cain recently announced his candidacy for the 2012 presidential election. Not only is he a Black man and a native of Atlanta, but also (drum roll please) he is a Morehouse graduate. Cain studied mathematics

and earned his undergraduate degree in 1967. Former CEO of Godfather's Pizza, cancer survivor and talk show host, Cain has even garnered the support of a grassroots campaign, "Draft Cain," that is hoping to "Obama" him into office with his "Yes We Can" approach.

So where is Cain on this campus? As 2012 rapidly approaches, Morehouse is going to be facing a pressing issue when it comes to political support. Although

it is not Morehouse's job to necessarily support a political candidate, it's interesting to consider the prospect of voting for a Morehouse-like, socially ideal candidate like President Obama or one of its very own, Herman Cain. But if Cain claimed any other institution, I predict the average Morehouse student reaction would be, "That's nice, another Black candidate. I wouldn't vote for him but it is nice to see one of ours in a positive political light." Even

with an alumnus running with a decent chance for the presidency, I still predict hesitancy among the Morehouse community to openly support Cain due to the political state of its campus.

But people quickly forget that republicanism is not foreign to the Morehouse campus or even Black politics. The first Black man to be elected by popular vote to the Senate, Edward Brooke, was elected as a Republican senator to Massachusetts in

1966. J.C. Watts, a member of the House of Representatives from Oklahoma, is also a trail-blazing Black politician who claims the Republican Party as his own. And two prestigious Morehouse Men, Lewis Sullivan and Walter Massey, were even involved in the Republican Party. Lewis Sullivan, founder of the Morehouse School of Medicine and Secretary of Health and Human Services, was a very prominent figure during George H. W. Bush's

presidency and even the 9th president, who was also the Director of the National Science Foundation, Dr. Walter Massey was under George W. Bush.

So what? Even these preceding Black Republicans existed in a political state when the Tea Party was not as staunch (and unyielding) as it is today. Some even go so far as to say that Black Republicans nowadays are sell-outs when they link themselves to the Tea Party. But on such an open-minded campus, Morehouse will have to mend its traditional political

views in order to support a Republican Morehouse Man.

But think of the day when this campus lights up because of the "Wellness" of its own product. If the day comes when a candidate like a Herman Cain makes it o the top, I hope he can count on the support of his brothers. At the same time, the support should be mutual.

So when Herman Cain comes to Crown Forum, will you go?



Founder's Week Facade Damaging to College

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Each spring, one of the highlights of a Man of Morehouse's life is Morehouse College's Founder's Week and Parent's Weekend. Alumni return, parents make a visit and the campus is given life for perhaps the first time since the start of the new semester. Despite these many perks, however, the college does not benefit as much as it could.

Morehouse puts on a show for the returning alumni and visiting parents – a show that masks the true nature of the college.

When parents, alumni and guests of President Robert Franklin come to the campus, Morehouse College becomes an entirely different institution. This past week, security personnel were scattered randomly throughout the campus, food in the cafeteria was uncommonly delicious, and our reputation of having it all together was maintained.

Just a week prior there wasn't a security guard to be seen, unless he was plastering a violation sticker on a student's car or aimlessly riding around campus in a golf cart. Days earlier, students tweeted that if one could eat food from

“*Morehouse is a well-oiled machine, but only when it needs to be.*”

Chivers Dining Hall, he could withstand any illness that may come his way.

Along with our reputation being maintained, so was the lack of alumni giving.

As Provost Weldon Jackson asked all alumni to stand and be recognized at the Founder's Week Crown Forum, I wanted to leap out of my seat and question each and every one of them on how much they have given back to their so-called beloved Alma Mater.

But why should they when we don't blatantly demonstrate any need? Why help an institution that appears to have it all together?

Morehouse is a well-oiled machine, but only when it needs to be.

I'm not saying that we need to allow ourselves to aesthetically become like Morris Brown, or hang all of our dirty laundry for the neighbors to view, but I do believe that in us having this seemingly picture perfect institution, the possible

donations and alumni connections we could have are minimized.

But that is assuming that the Morehouse Men around the world truly have a vested interest in the Mother that gave them all a pristine crown to wear.

Though I understand the need to maintain the image that we are known for, I believe that in maintaining this facade, we do ourselves more harm than good.

Perhaps if we would look a little unkempt, or ask for some guidance through our actions, or lack thereof, Franklin would not need to overeagerly accept a check at a Crown Forum.

Tre'vell Anderson is a sophomore at Morehouse College. Hailing from Charleston, SC, he serves as the Sophomore Intern for the Morehouse Bonner Office of Community Service and a member of the Student Judicial Review Board for the Morehouse Office of Housing and Residential Life.

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OPINIONS

9

Lady Gaga an Inspiration for Renaissance Men

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Artist. Activist. Celebrity of the 21st century. No matter the moniker, Lady Gaga is slowly climbing the stardom ladder. Using both fashion and music, she bridges the gap between humanitarianism and artistic expression.

Men of Morehouse and Morehouse Men, take notes.

With the recent release of her newest single "Born This Way," Lady Gaga continues to champion issues of equality, social justice and self acceptance – three concepts that Mother Morehouse attempts to instill in her sons each day.

With each public appearance she makes, one is sure to recognize her unconventional style and form of self expression – all of which is correlated to advocating for rights of the socially disadvantaged.

At the 2011 Grammy Awards, Lady Gaga was escorted onto the red carpet encapsulated in a temperature controlled egg-shaped vessel.

During an interview on Good Morning America (GMA) days later, she revealed that she had been inside the egg for three days. In doing so, she experienced "a rebirth" that she believes the world should undergo as well.

"I think we all need to be inside a vessel for three whole days, thinking about how we can love ourselves more, protect ourselves more, live life with more passion and look not outwards for validation, but inwards," Lady Gaga said on GMA wearing a latex condom inspired outfit. "Look inside of yourself to your spirit and your inner light."

All I heard in that one statement was renaissance, which means rebirth, and "et fact est lux," our college motto.

It's a shame that one woman can be more renaissance-like than the men we supposedly manufacture to do so.

But maybe she is too flamboyant in her activism for us to take notice. Perhaps seeing such inspiration is clouded by her skin color or sex.

Regardless of the reasons, however, we must take off our

blinders to realize that inspiration can come from anyone, no matter their sex, race, or sexual orientation.

I long to see the day when we can walk Brown street and downtown Atlanta in awareness inspired outfits, focused on the cause and not people's perceptions.

Because, in retrospect, that is why we don't stand up for holistic human rights to this day. If it's not about getting young Black males to college or someone shaking their behind in our faces, we are missing in action.

What happened to embracing our greatest alumnus Martin Luther King Jr.'s concept of a collective community despite our differences?

What happened to putting ourselves in the public eye, even if it costs us our job, friends, or family?

But this must be one of those situations where using King is not wholly convenient and we push him to the corner.

We need to begin experiencing a rebirth and stop talking about one, much like

Lady Gaga. We can't expect to be the light for our communities if we have yet to be enlightened.

I challenge you to take time away from the world and evaluate your life. What is your purpose, your calling? What will you stand up for, despite opposition, despite others' perceptions, despite the lonely struggle that it may be?

It's time we embrace something that is bigger than just us. It's time we become Renaissance Men with a social conscience and a global perspective.

Tre'vell Anderson is a sophomore at Morehouse College. Hailing from Charleston, Sc, he serves as the Sophomore Intern for the Morehouse Bonner Office of Community Service and a member of Engaged Diversity. Engaged Diversity is a consortium of five institutions including Dillard, Huston-Tillotson, and Southwestern Universities and Morehouse and Rhodes Colleges.

Healthcare Act is a Slippery Slope

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The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) has not only been declared unconstitutional by two United States District Judges, but also has caught the heat wave of the "Bieber Fever."

On Dec. 13, 2010 U.S. District Judge Henry Hudson found a key point of President Obama's PPACA unconstitutional. According to Judge Hudson, Obama's mandate, which demands that the American people purchase health insurance by 2014, is unlawful. In Judge Hudson's opinion, it is one's choice to purchase insurance and to mandate someone to purchase health insurance is unconstitutional under the Commerce Clause of the Constitution.

This February, U.S. District Judge Roger Vinson has also agreed with Judge Hudson stating it is also unconstitutional because it exceeds congress spending power according to the Commerce Clause and also seeing no need for it when the Medicaid program exists.

Between preparing for Grammy's and the controversy of politics Justin Bieber, a Canadian pop star, has had time to weigh in on American politics. In a Rolling Stone interview, Bieber openly expressed his opposition to both Judge Hudson and Judge Vinson.

"You guys are evil," is what Bieber told Rolling Stone magazine. He continues by stating, "Canada is the best country in the world, because we can go to the doctor and not worry about paying him, but here [America] you're broke because of medical bills."

Bieber's comment begs one to wonder: Are Republicans so against Obama, that they cannot see the greater good of what he's trying to enforce?

With Obama requiring citizens to purchase health care by 2014 he is eliminating medical debt.

Say, for instance, you become ill, as an American citizen public hospitals cannot deny you of being cared for. But now you do not have insurance and cannot afford to pay your hospital bills, you are not only in debt yourself, but the hospital is now re-

sponsible for the delinquent bills they are left with. This domino effect then falls on the shoulders of the rest of the American citizens. At the end of the day, premiums are raised to cover the hospital charges, which account for the percentage of customers who received care they did not pay for. Now is that fair?

Whether people realize it or not someone has to pay for health care, whether it is the person that is sick or the rest of the citizens who's premiums are now raised. If requiring people to purchase coverage by 2014, helps eliminate the increase of higher premium cost for some, also eliminating delinquent hospital bills and debt of the American citizens, then what is the problem?

Let's not forget the mandate would also prohibit insurers from denying coverage for sicker patients and from imposing special conditions, such as higher cost sharing and higher premiums.

Pediatrics Residency Program Assistant of Morehouse School of Medicine, Serena Robinson completely disagrees with the decision of both district judges.

"This is more of an opinionated question," Robinson said. She continues, "Do I think that the bill is unconstitutional? No. But for those who think that it is and who use the Commerce Clause as reasoning are sliding down a slippery slope."

Although the bill is nothing considerably like the universal health care in Europe or the Canadian health care, the PPACA will make insurance more affordable, hence the name and Robinson can attest to that.

"The new health care bill will make having health care more affordable, assuring that more Americans will be insured," Robinson said.

Though opinions of the health care bill varies from political affiliation and other factors, one thing is for sure; no one should not have health care or be denied insurance because of special conditions.

Nicolette Tucker is a senior journalism major at Clark Atlanta University from Brooklyn, NY. She is also a candidate for Columbia University School of Journalism.

Pell Grant Reduction Has Bad Repercussions for Students

Christian Saint-Vil
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President Barack Obama has introduced his budget plan for 2012 to Congress. One of its many perks includes bringing in more teachers for grade K-12. Along with these perks, however, are some downfalls. In order for us Americans to live within our means and cut our deficits, Obama proposes to reduce federal programs.

One of these programs he suggests to Congress is to eliminate the federal Pell Grants given to college students for the summer.

Under this change, college students will only be able to use Pell Grants during the fall and spring semesters to assist with the cost of their educa-

tion; no longer can it be used to assist with the cost of the summer semester.

With the money saved on supplying college students with Pell Grants for the summer, Obama plans on supplying more students with year round grants. Approximately nine million students will be on year round Pell Grants in 2012, if this budget plan passes. The goal is to increase the number of people receiving a higher education by assisting more students financially.

Paradoxically, however, reducing Pell Grants for the summer will decrease the number of college graduates. Some students are not able to go to school during the fall and spring semesters. Taking away assistance will only cause them to refrain from attending college all together.

Not to mention, those seeking to graduate early or catch up with their graduating class are stuck trying to find money for tuition.

As with any type of budget cut, one must evaluate whether the benefits outweigh the losses. I have yet to decide whether or not it is worth it.

I am for more students receiving a higher education, but not at the cost of others losing their chance of receiving one, or receiving financial assistance. Instead of taking away grants, Congress should consider decreasing funds for transportation being that many people today own at least two cars.

Funds for national defense should also be decreased. Approximately 20 percent of the 2012 budget goes to national defense with to 2.77 percent

for education and job training.

The budget also plans to reduce the money allotted to graduate students as well. Before this budget plan, the government paid the interest of subsidized loans for graduate students while they are still in school. If the new budget plan is passed, interest on loans for graduate students will not be deferred any longer.

Though this plan would cut deficits in half by the end of 2012, I urge Congress to think about what living within our means will do to those attending college.

Christian Saint-Vil is a freshman at Morehouse College. From Queens, N.Y., he majors in English. He currently serves as member of the Morehouse-Spelman Pre Law Society.

20 questions

Montana Fishburne
Miss Morris Brown College
iGohardthanMMWs@wackpageants.com

1. Were you at CANDLE?
2. Did you have an actual TICKET?
3. Or did you sneak in?
4. Did anybody see the AlterKAtion at the last market friday?
5. Why was a certain pink elephant trying to trAmPle over the AKAs?
6. Weren't you trying to be one of them?
7. Don't you realize that a lot of your "line sisters" don't take you seriously?
8. So the MMW hopefuls got their calls last week huh?
9. How iZ she in the pageant after such a Bad interview?
10. Is it because one of the Jewels' former queens dropped out?
11. Or is it because the next selection lied about her GPA?
12. Isn't it a little ironic that Clark's choice is a THIRD string contestant?

13. Shouldn't she be DISQUALIFIED for her role in market's AlterKAtion?
14. Is she going to make us sit through another boring a%\$ MONOLOGUE?
15. Speaking of pretty girls, is it true she wouldn't Allow anybody else from the Chapter to run against her?
16. Who's wearing the GREEN dress?
17. Will THEIR choice win for the second year in a row?
18. Will you be participating in THE BIG DAY?
19. Why is there no WALK this year?
20. Has this year's court come up SHORT once again?

Got questions?
Send them to mtiger20questions@gmail.com

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The Maroon Tiger welcomes your views on any public issue. We routinely edit letters for space and correct errors in spelling and punctuation. Letters as well as commentaries must be 300 words or less, typed, signed and should include a full address and telephone number.

Theophilus London "Lovers Holiday" EP Review

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In a music industry that's all about who is the toughest or who can make the next big party record, Brooklyn MC, Theophilus London, brings something new to hip-hop. A more up-tempo, eclectic, and all around feel good sound. London released his latest EP, "Lovers Holiday," through Warner Bros. Records.

London seems to pick up right where he left off with his last project "I Want You," blending a wavy electronica sound with hip-hop.

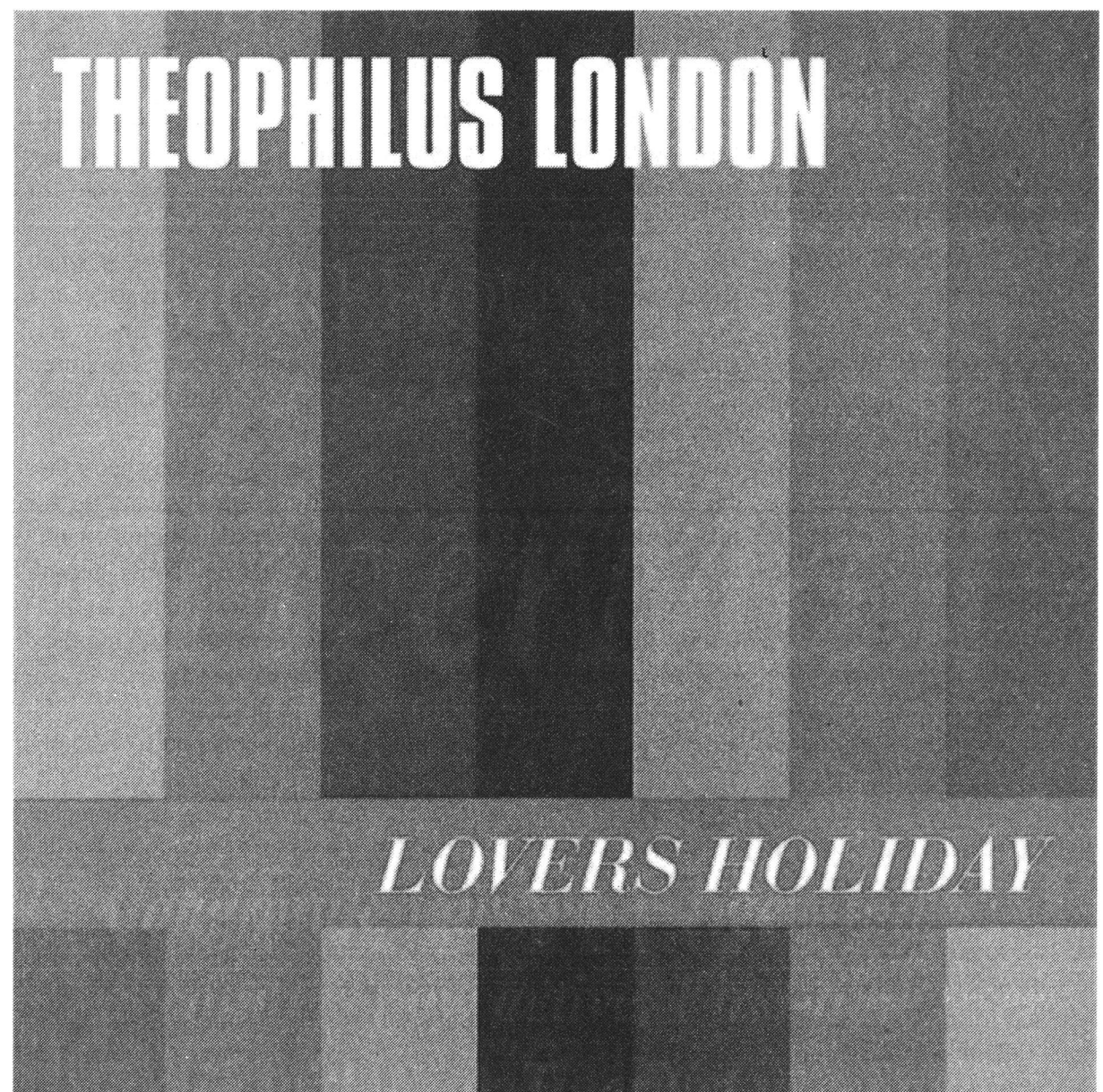
London keeps the EP brief, opting for five tracks, but they are all very distinctive:

- "Why Even Try" features songstress Sara Quin from the Canadian indie band Teagan and Sara. A mesmerizing thumping bass is the first thing that catches your ear followed by very distinctive drums reminiscent of an early 80s Prince song. Quin's mellow and graceful voice keeps the 80s feel of this song going. London's unique flow and clever wordplay make for a memorable track.
- "Strange Love" also gives off a 80s feel but is a bit more up-tempo than "Why Even Try." The track depicts the on and off encounters of an unexpected lover and London picks up the flow and delivers

a different cadence on this track. This is probably one of the more relatable songs on the EP.

- "Girls Girls \$" is more of an electronica song, something that you would expect to hear at a rave party but could also be played at a hip-hop party and still have the same appeal. Promoting promiscuity alcohol consumption, this is definitely the party track of the album. 3:11 of fun.
- "Wine and Chocolates" is exactly what its title depicts; a more sophisticated and classy aesthetic. London uses this track as an avenue to express what a day in the life of Theophilus London is like. This song will get a lot of spins in fashion shows all across the world.
- "Flying Overseas" is the last track and first single on "Lovers Holiday." Both the production and vocals are very smooth and flowing. This is a perfect song to sit and relax on the beach to. The song features Devonte Hynes and Solange Knowles, whose voices mesh perfectly over the laid back, cool beat.

Theophilus London is one of the more unique talents in music right now. He possesses a sound that is atypical of most hip-hop artists, which is why many gravitate to his music. "Lovers Holiday" is definitely an essential in any music library.



The Maroon Tiger is launching an advice column "Tiger Talk" with Mr. NOBODY!

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To have your questions answered, email Mr. NOBODY at mtigertalk@gmail.com.

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11

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Black Icons of Yesterday & Today

Yesterday: Paul Robeson

Paul Robeson was the epitome of the 20th-century Renaissance man. He was an exceptional athlete, actor, singer, cultural scholar, author, and political activist. His talents made him a revered man of his time, yet his radical political beliefs all but erased him from popular history. Today, more than one hundred years after his birth, Robeson is just beginning to receive the credit he is due.

Born in 1898, Paul Robeson grew up in Princeton, New Jersey. His father had escaped slavery and become a Presbyterian minister, while his mother was from a distinguished Philadelphia family. At seventeen, he was given a scholarship to Rutgers University, where he received an unprecedented twelve major letters in four years and was his class valedictorian. After graduating he went on to Columbia University Law School, and, in the early 1920s, took a job with a New York law firm. Racial strife at the firm ended Robeson's career as a lawyer early, but he was soon to find an appreciative home for his talents.

As an actor, Robeson was one of the first black men to play serious roles in the primarily white American theater. He performed in a number of films as well, including a re-make of "The Emperor Jones" (1933) and "Song of Freedom" (1936). In a time of deeply entrenched racism, he continually struggled for further understanding of cultural difference. At the height of his popularity, Robeson was a national symbol and a cultural leader in the war against fascism abroad and racism at home. He was admired and befriended by both the general public and prominent personalities, including Eleanor Roosevelt, W.E.B. Du Bois, Joe Louis, Pablo Neruda, Lena Horne, and Harry Truman. While his varied talents and his outspoken defense of civil liberties brought him many admirers, it also made him

enemies among conservatives trying to maintain the status quo.

During the 1940s, Robeson's black nationalist and anti-colonialist activities brought him to the attention of Senator Joseph McCarthy. Despite his contributions as an entertainer to the Allied forces during World War II, Robeson was singled out as a major threat to American democracy. Every attempt was made to silence and discredit him, and in 1950 the persecution reached a climax when his passport was revoked. He could no longer travel abroad to perform, and his career was stifled. Of this time, Lloyd Brown, a writer and long-time colleague of Robeson, states: "Paul Robeson was the most persecuted, the most ostracized, the most condemned black man in America, then or ever."

It was eight years before his passport was reinstated. A weary and triumphant Robeson began again to travel and give concerts in England and Australia. But the years of hardship had taken their toll. After several bouts of depression, he was admitted to a hospital in London, where he was administered continued shock treatments. When Robeson returned to the United States in 1963, he was misdiagnosed several times and treated for a variety of physical and psychological problems. Realizing that he was no longer the powerful singer or agile orator of his prime, he decided to step out of the public eye. He retired to Philadelphia and lived in self-imposed seclusion until his death in 1976. Robeson's health decline has given rise to controversy and speculation. Paul Robeson, Jr. argued for years that his father's health problems stemmed from attempts by CIA and MI5 to "neutralize" his father. He remembered that his father had such fears prior to his prostate operation. He said that three doctors treating Robeson in London and New York had been CIA contractors, and

that his father's symptoms resulted from being "subjected to mind depatterning under MKULTRA," a secret CIA program.

To this day, Paul Robeson's many accomplishments remain obscured by the propaganda of those who tirelessly dogged him throughout his life. His role in the history of civil rights and as a spokesperson for the oppressed of other nations remains relatively unknown. In 1995, more than seventy-five years after graduating from Rutgers, his athletic achievements were finally recognized with his posthumous entry into the College Football Hall of Fame. Though a handful of movies and recordings are still available, they are a sad testament to one of the greatest Americans of the twentieth century. If we are to remember Paul Robeson for anything, it should be for the courage and the dignity with which he struggled for his own personal voice and for the rights of all people.

Today: Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.

Dubbed the "consummate D.C. insider," American attorney, civil rights leader, business consultant, and influential power broker, Vernon E. Jordan, Jr. was born August 15, 1935 in Atlanta, Ga. Although he never held political office, Jordan served as a key adviser in the 1990s to U.S. President Bill Clinton, having befriended him and his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton, decades earlier.

Jordan grew up in Georgia and studied political science at DePauw University (B.A., 1957), where he distinguished himself as a compelling public speaker. After studying law at Howard University (J.D., 1960), Jordan joined the effort to desegregate colleges and universities and helped lead black student Charlayne Hunter through a group of whites protesting the University of Georgia's integration policy in 1961. He was named field secretary for the

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in Georgia (1961-63) and then became director of the Southern Regional Council for the Voter Education Project (1964-68).

By 1966 Jordan's political influence was evident through his participation in President Lyndon B. Johnson's civil rights conference. As director of the United Negro College Fund in 1970, he raised \$10 million in contributions that benefited African American institutions. While serving as president of the National Urban League (1972-81), Jordan joined corporate boards such as American Express and Dow Jones, thereby using business connections to press the case for minority hiring and advancement. He survived a white supremacist's assassination attempt in 1980 but was wounded by gunshot. In 1981 Jordan moved into private law practice, joining the Washington, D.C., office of a Texas law firm in 1982 and quietly exerting his influence in corporate and political affairs for an increasingly elite clientele. After advising Bill Clinton's 1992 presidential campaign, he helped guide the new president's transition into office but never took any political appointment, preferring instead to remain behind the scenes as one of Clinton's closest friends and a powerful political force in and beyond the nation's capital. He published an autobiography, *Vernon Can Read!* (written with Annette Gordon-Reed), in 2001.

Put best, "The whole point of the civil rights movement was to open the doors of access to mainstream America," said Hugh Price, Mr Jordan's successor at the National Urban League. "Vernon Jordan both opened those doors and led the charge through."

(Note: Vernon Jordan is teaching an "Ethical Leadership" course, along with President Franklin, Drs. Melvina King and Preston King, as distinguished lecturer, at Morehouse this semester.)

This Week in Black History

- February 21, 1965: Malcolm X assassinated.
- February 22, 1967: Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. stripped of seniority in the U.S. Congress.
- February 23, 1868: W.E.B. DuBois born.
- February 24, 1811: Educator, Daniel Payne born.
- February 25, 1870: Hiram Revels elected (Miss.) 1st African-American in U.S. Senate.
- February 26, 1776: George Washington answered letter from Phillis Wheatley (1st published African-American poet)
- February 26, 1869: Congress passes the 15th Amendment declaring that the right to vote shall not be restricted on the basis of race.
- February 27, 1844: The Dominican Republic established.

Did You Know???

Did you know that Dr. Mae Jemison (a childhood friend of President Franklin and recently-named trustee of Morehouse) became the 1st African American woman to travel in space when she went into orbit aboard the Space Shuttle "Endeavour" on September 12, 1992?

Did you know that there are more African Americans under correctional control today—in prison or jail, on probation or parole—than were enslaved in 1850, a decade before the Civil War began?

Words of Wisdom

"To tell the truth today is to run the risk of being killed. But if I fall, I'll fall five feet four inches forward in the fight for freedom." -Fannie Lou Hamer

"We must not, in trying to think about how we can make a big difference, ignore the small daily differences we can make which, over time, add up to big differences that we often cannot foresee." -Marian Wright Edelman

Suggested Reading

"The Souls of Black Folk" by W.E.B. DuBois

William Edward Burghardt Du Bois (1868-1963) is the greatest of African American intellectuals—a sociologist, historian, novelist, and activist whose astounding career spanned the nation's history from Reconstruction to the civil rights movement. Born in Massachusetts and educated at Fisk, Harvard, and the University of Berlin, DuBois penned his epochal masterpiece, *The Souls of Black Folk*, in 1903. It remains his most studied and popular work; its insights into Negro life at the turn of the 20th century still ring true.

With a dash of the Victorian and Enlightenment influences that peppered his impassioned yet formal prose, the

book's largely autobiographical chapters take the reader through the momentous and moody maze of Afro-American life after the Emancipation Proclamation: from poverty, the neo-slavery of the sharecropper, illiteracy, miseducation, and lynching, to the heights of humanity reached by the spiritual "sorrow songs" that birthed gospel and the blues. The most memorable passages are contained in "On Booker T. Washington and Others," where Du Bois criticizes his famous contemporary's rejection of higher education and accommodationist stance toward white racism: "Mr. Washington's programme practically accepts the alleged inferiority of the Negro races," he writes, further complaining that Washington's thinking "withdraws many of

the high demands of Negroes as men and American citizens." The capstone of *The Souls of Black Folk*, though, is Du Bois' haunting, eloquent description of the concept of the black psyche's "double consciousness," which he described as "a peculiar sensation.... One ever feels this twoness—an American, a Negro; two souls, two thoughts, two unreconciled strivings; two warring ideals in one dark body, whose dogged strength alone keeps it from being torn asunder." Thanks to W.E.B. Du Bois' commitment and foresight—and the intellectual excellence expressed in this timeless literary gem—black Americans can today look in the mirror and rejoice in their beautiful black, brown, and beige reflections. (From Eugene Holley, Jr. via Amazon)

W. E. B. DU BOIS



THE SOULS OF BLACK FOLK

Super Bowl XLVI: Who's Got Next?

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Now that the Green Bay Packers have brought the Vince Lombardi Trophy back to Wisconsin, the next question is "Who is next?" After a heated debate, these are six teams that The Maroon Tiger sports staff has picked to be in contention for Super Bowl XLVI:

AFC

New England Patriots
Although the Patriots finished the regular season last year with the best record in the NFL (14-2), their season could only be described as a failure because of their shocking home loss to their hated division rivals, the New York Jets. What made the Patriots' loss even more devastating was that on Dec. 3 New England routed the Jets 45-3. With the return of the 2010 regular season MVP, Tom Brady, and six draft picks at their disposal for this upcoming April NFL Draft, Patriots fans have reason to believe their team will be competing for a 2012 February trip to Lucas Oil Stadium.

New York Jets

The New York Jets' road to Super Bowl XLVI will majorly rest on the shoulders of quarterback Mark Sanchez. Entering his third season, San-



chez will be expected to play a more featured role in the offense to lead the team over the AFC championship hump. Unfortunately, the Jets may have to enter this season without their two premier receivers, Braylon Edwards and Santonio Holmes, along with cornerback Antonio Cromartie, because of their free agency. Whomever the Jets decide to re-sign will be key to their success next season.

Indianapolis Colts

For the Indianapolis Colts to be able to play in their home stadium for the Super Bowl, it will come down to the health of their players, specifically the receivers. Last season,

Peyton Manning and the Colts struggled to make it to the playoffs because Dallas Clark, Austin Collie, and Anthony Gonzalez all suffered season-ending injuries. As long as quarterback Manning has a healthy receiving corps surrounding him, the Colts are a legitimate choice to win Super Bowl XLVI.

NFC

Green Bay Packers

The defending Super Bowl champions are undoubtedly poised to make another title run with NFL superstar quarterback Aaron Rodgers at the reigns of the offense. Green Bay's offensive unit will only

get stronger next season as tight end Jermichael Finley and running back Ryan Grant will return from season-ending injuries. Also, the young Packers defense, led by Clay Matthews, will only improve with another year of experience to help their title hopes this upcoming season.

Philadelphia Eagles

Outside of the Packers, the Philadelphia Eagles have one of most explosive offenses in the league. Quarterback Michael Vick's continued maturation as a pocket passer will be the foundation for the Eagles' quest towards winning the Super Bowl. However, the Eagles will need to strengthen their defensive backfield and pass rush if they are going to be able to consistently beat offensive juggernauts like Green Bay.

New Orleans Saints

For the New Orleans Saints, the key to returning to the Super Bowl is securing home-field advantage throughout the playoffs. The importance of playing in the Superdome was obvious after the Saints' shocking first-round loss to the under .500 Seattle Seahawks. In the offseason, the Saints will need to address their defense line and running game to become as formidable as they were in 2009.

Honorable mention: Dallas Cowboys, Tampa Bay Buccaneers, and Pittsburgh Steelers.

The Steady Dilution Of The NBA

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As a generation have had the distinct pleasure of witnessing some of the greatest basketball players to ever play the game. Being from Chicago, some of my earliest basketball memories are of the epic battles between the Chicago Bulls and the New York Knicks, Indiana Pacers and Utah Jazz.

Along with those memories come more recent classic series such as the many clashes between the Los Angeles Lakers and the Sacramento Kings. However, while the NBA is currently at its peak in popularity, many believe that the overall talent level has decreased.

I am one of those to believe this to be true. The reason behind it is simple: The quality of basketball has dropped due to the lack of time spent by players cultivating their talents before they enter the NBA.

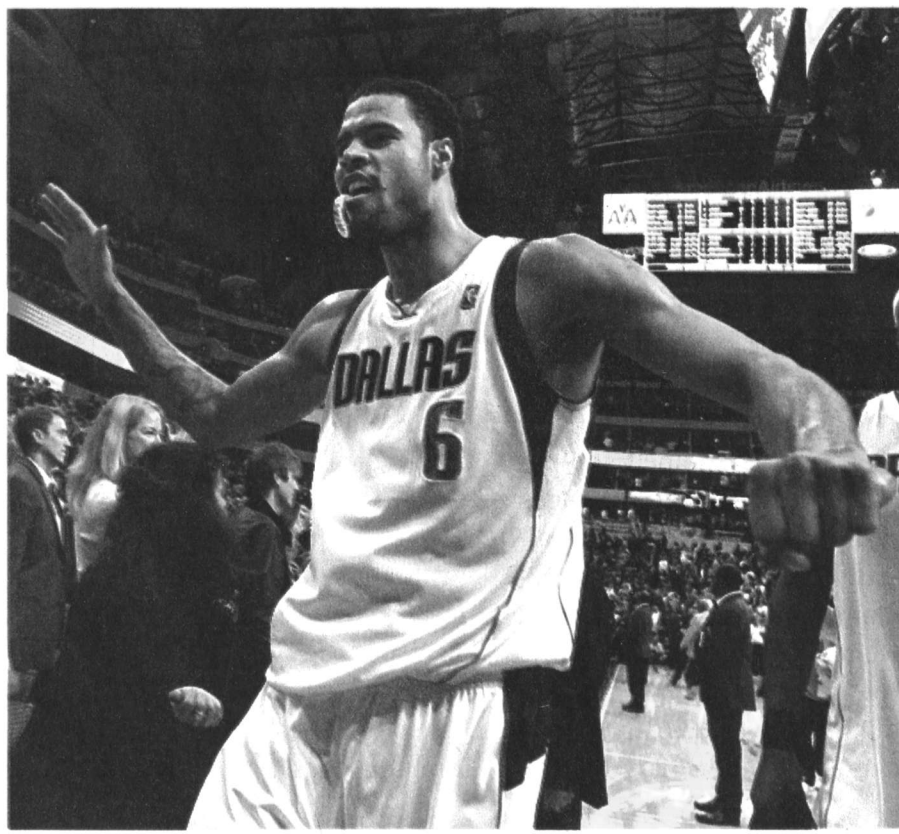
The dominant players of the '90s all spent time developing their game at top programs around the country. Michael Jordan spent three years under Dean Smith at North Carolina. Patrick Ewing played four seasons at Georgetown in a program headed by the great John Thompson.

The surge of players from 1995 to 2005 who came straight from high school, coupled with today's typical

one-and-done process, have led to fewer true "programs" left. The lack of places for players to learn about the game has led to a downturn in true basketball ability, leading to a lesser overall product on the floor. Instead of seeing players go through college and further hone their abilities, NBA general managers are instead forced to draft players based off unseen potential.

Charlie Williams IV, a junior at Morehouse College and an avid basketball fan, gave a similar outlook on the current state of the league saying, "College players don't possess all-around skills and have lower basketball IQs because they haven't played in systems for a good amount of time." Williams added, "The extra time in college would lead to better developed players who could impact a team right away and help the NBA make better investments."

However, some argue that playing college basketball is outright unnecessary. Jabari Brown, a senior from Chicago, IL, said, "Honestly, college isn't going to help or develop a player's overall game. The only thing college can help you with is time management. When it comes down to it, if you have the tal-



ent you will be successful in the NBA."

Without question there are exceptions to this rule (Kevin Garnett, Kobe Bryant, LeBron James, etc.), yet there is still an abundance of players who made that leap that would have benefited from developing in college. Take Dallas Mavericks center Tyson Chandler, for example. Chandler, now in his ninth season, has developed into a quality role player for the Mavs. Despite his recent success, Chandler's career has never reached its full potential.

Chandler spent the first five seasons of his career floundering as a Chicago Bull with fellow former prep star Eddy Curry. Imagine if

Chandler had taken three or four of those years and spent them in college developing his game. Surely his overall game would have benefited from the stability of a quality program rather than being labeled as the foundation of an entire organization at 18.

As March Madness approaches, college fans across the country prepare to watch their team compete for the nation title. But when you look at these different teams, none bring the excitement of a Jordan vs. Ewing or Magic vs. Bird and the powerhouse programs of old. As long as this feeling remains toward college basketball, it is safe to say that the professional game will continue to suffer the same fate.

WHAT 2 WATCH 4

Monday, February 28

7:00 p.m. ESPN
(14) Villanova at (7) Notre Dame
9:00 p.m. ESPN
Kansas State at (2) Texas

Wednesday March 2

12 p.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Opening round of the 2011 SIAC Basketball Tournament
Location: Forbes Arena and L.S. Epps Gymnasium at Clark University

Thursday, March 3

12 p.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Quarterfinal Round of the 2011 SIAC Basketball Tournament
Location: Forbes Arena and L.S. Epps Gymnasium at Clark University
8:00 p.m. TNT
Orlando at Miami
10:30 p.m. TNT
Denver at Utah

Friday, March 4

12 p.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Semifinal Round of the 2011 SIAC Basketball Tournament
Location: Forbes Arena and L.S. Epps Gymnasium at Clark University
7:00 p.m. ESPN
Chicago at Orlando
9:30 p.m. ESPN
Miami at San Antonio

Saturday, March 5

5:00 p.m. (Women) 8:00 p.m. (Men)
Championship Saturday
Location: Forbes Arena
8:00 p.m. CBS
(5) Duke at (19) North Carolina
Sunday, March 6
1:00 p.m. ABC
Chicago at Miami
3:30 p.m.
La Lakers at San Antonio

Tennis Team Looks For Consecutive SIAC Titles

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After a successful 2010 season, which included winning the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championship, the tennis team hopes to earn a consecutive SIAC championship.

Last year, the Maroon Tigers defeated the Fort Valley State University Wildcats, 5-1, to win the conference championship. Winning the SIAC led the Tigers to the NCAA Tournament, where they eventually lost to Florida Southern College in a hard-fought match.

The team has won 28 championships since 1977. This year's squad should be able to duplicate that success since they have a multitude of returning faces. The leadership of the team comes from 16-year coach Terry Alexander and senior team captain Tory Martin. Also the team returns nine experienced players from 2010: Jordan Bailey, Michael Cutrer, Dewayne Dixon, Mario Econg, Garrett Howard, Martin, Jonah Oliver, Nathaniel Sinckler, and Michael Thomas.

Although this looks like a promising season for the team, it has had a rocky start. Its first match on Feb. 5 was at home against the Georgia College & State University Bobcats and the Maroon Tigers came up short, losing 9-0. It was definitely a frustrating match with no players winning over two games in all of the singles matches. The Tigers wanted to erase that painful first match, but unfortunately their next game two days later against Augusta State University was postponed.

Looking for their first win of the season, the Maroon Tigers played the Columbus State University Cougars in Columbus, Georgia. Going into the match, the team knew it would not be an easy win as the Cougars were ranked No. 9 in the nation. The task of upsetting the Cougars proved to be overwhelming, as the Maroon Tigers lost to the Cougars, 9-0, on Feb. 12.

Luckily, it is just the beginning of the season and the Maroon Tigers have plenty of matches to play. Their next match at home will be on March 4 as the host of the Morehouse College Tennis Tournament.