

WHAT'S INSIDE IF ONLY CHAIRS COULD TALK

page 2

IS CHINA GROWING TO FAST?

page 3

THE DARKEST FRIDAY OF THE YEAR

page 4

MPAGE: THE ULTIMATE AFRICAN EXPERIENCE

page 7

RAGG BOUTIQUE

FRESHMAN ENTREPRENEUR SETS
NEW TRENDS

page 10



STAY TUNED FOR
YOUR CHANCE IN
2013

LGBT-OLLOGY

SAFESPACE, SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT OFFERS NEW LGBT COURSE

Moriba Cummings
Staff Writer
moribacummings@yahoo.com

Morehouse College, though dominantly consisting of a homogenous demographic, regularly boasts an aura of diversity that is often ignored from the outside looking in. Most recently, this sense of diversity has taken new form as the gay/straight alliance and student advocacy group, SafeSpace, through the hard work of Dr. Michael Hodge of the sociology department, has officially received the green light to launch a special topics elective on Black lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender history and culture to be offered for credit Spring 2013.

The idea came to fruition when SafeSpace's Special Project and Events Coordinator Marcus Lee partnered with Yale University professor Dr. Jafari S. Allen to pitch the project. Allen focuses on the intersections of queer sexuality, gender and blackness.

"He's very interested in gender non-conformity among colored people, and I'm interested in that as well," Lee said. "I told him that I don't have much direction here at Morehouse because many of the professors whose focus is on sexuality often focus on diseases and not really cultural critique. So he recommended that he teach a class via Skype."

Both well versed and experienced in the field of sexuality and gender expression, Dr. Allen currently teaches courses on the cultural politics of race, sexuality and gender among Black diasporas, and has authored various publications, including "Crucial Palimpsest: Re-Reading Brother Brother" and most currently "Black Queer Here and There: The Social Poesis of Diaspora" (tentatively titled).

Fixed to extend his expertise to the students of Morehouse College, Allen is sure to make a mark and set quite a high standard of excellence through his course.

"What you call 'human rights advocacy' is for me just trying to be a responsible person in the world-to point out and perhaps, in some cases, also to attempt to help to fix injustices," Allen said. "While this may be controversial in some academic settings where there is the pretension of a kind of non-political educational project, this has never been the case for Morehouse or for any historically Black institution. So, it is essential for Morehouse students, faculty, administrators and alumni to engage [in] this conversation."

The fruition of this course is due to Hodge, the Chair

of the Morehouse College sociology department. Academic departments often offer special elective courses, such as this, to "allow the department to trial-run a course to strengthen the learning outcomes, judge student interest and clean up any loose ends before submitting it to the official committee for curriculum." Based on Allen's syllabus and learning outcomes, the course was approved by the division Dean Dr. Clarissa Myrick-Harris and faculty of the department.

The class has also been cross listed by the African American studies department.

The course is expected to outline various key concepts in Black feminism and critical cultural theory and methodology. Described as "an interdisciplinary survey of Black lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) culture and politics" in the course's syllabus, the class will serve as an in-depth look into critical, social and cultural theory that will vastly benefit the Morehouse community.

SafeSpace's Public Relations Director Ja'Mal Lewis believes that this course will finally shine light on the LGBT figures that have been overlooked throughout history.

"Many influential LGBT leaders have gone unrecorded due to their sexuality, and they made many of the movements that changed and shaped our history," Lewis said.

SafeSpace's President, Kenneth Pass, has one ultimate goal in mind for the course.

"We're not here to make people feel comfortable, we're here to make people think and this course will foster a much needed discussion about the Black experience through an LGBT lens here within Morehouse's walls," Pass commented.

Dr. Allen is working to make this not just a worthwhile educational experience, but also, more broadly, one that will perpetuate growth and expressional, educated freedom.

"I want students to be open and engaged in reading closely, generously, and with what Gramsci called something like 'pessimism of the intellect, optimism of the will,'" Allen said. "That is, to relentlessly question and never settle for a just-so story or interpretation that suggests, for example, that any knowledge is innocent of the author's own motives, background or the times in which s/he lived ... This is my general commitment as a pedagogue."

The course (History and Culture of Black LGBT, HSOC 300, CRN: 45022) is open for registration under the sociology department on Tigernet. It will be offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:50 P.M. to 5:05 P.M.

MOREHOUSE MEETS THEIR NEW PRESIDENT

Kayla Nelson
Campus News Editor
knelson11@scmail.spelman.edu

"I am pleased to be returning to my alma mater," President-elect Dr. John Silvanus Wilson Jr. '79 said. As the students began filing into the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel, Dean Kevin Booker could be heard from the center doors commanding, "First ten rows fellas; first ten rows."

It was a usual Tuesday morning but November 27, 2012 was about to mark something special. The presentation read, "Report of the Morehouse College Presidential Search Committee, Robert C. Davidson Jr., Chairman, Morehouse College Board of Trustees."

As students continued trickling down the aisles in 12 second intervals, men dressed in suits, no less, were convening at the right ends of the stage.

Clapping began at 11:05 A.M. and a man appeared at the transparent podium located center stage. After a swift introduction, Dr. Robert Michael Franklin '75 took his place. He spoke few words and quickly made reference to the new President-elect, Dr. Wilson. The students instinctively rose to their feet to welcome him.

Before he was set to speak, Dr. John Williams, Dean over the division of Business and Economics, began with an explanation of the subject at hand. He started outlining the steps that went into finding the new president who would be serving as the college's 11th president in the school's 145-year

history.

By 11:11 A.M. two-thirds of the chapel was already filled and students were still pooling in through the adjacent doors.

At the 25 minute mark, Dean Williams wrapped up his talk and introduced Dr. Wilson.

"Good morning everyone," Wilson greeted to the large gathering of students. "The last time I stood here was when I was delivering a commencement speech to classmates."

Wilson then touched on his more than 25 years in higher education which consisted of his work at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and his former position as the executive director of President Barack Obama's White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Wilson quickly jumped into sharing his time at Morehouse College.

"I had every intention of attending Lincoln University," he began. "I had the name of my roommate and the key to my dorm room."

Wilson then shared how it must have been divine intervention; "Something happened and I decided I wanted to go to Morehouse."

He then crept into some very honest territory.

"I loved Morehouse but I didn't always like it," he bellowed as voices from the crowd spoke in agreement. "I didn't like how it was being ran."

The crowd continued to clap and cheer. There was a unanimous energy flowing throughout the chapel.

The tone then changed to one of

action.

"We need a surge in capital," Wilson explained, "so that we are in the papers for the right reasons and not the wrong ones."

Wilson then began sharing the significance of 2013, which will mark his official arrival at the institution. In 1913, 100 years prior, the school was renamed Morehouse College from Atlanta Baptist College. He went on to say that 2013 would be the 50th anniversary of the "articulation of King's dream and the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. Wilson summed up by saying, "We need a new kind of freedom."

While sharing his hopes for the college, Wilson touched on his friendship and alliance with fellow alumnus Shelton "Spike" Lee '79.

"We met during freshman week and have stayed [friends] ever since," he smiled.

Wilson's experience and network will be a welcomed boost that Morehouse will undoubtedly benefit from. The college appears that it will continue to be in good hands and can look forward to an increase in funding, student retention and a rising graduation rate.

Though Dr. Robert M. Franklin will be missed, it can be said with assurance that Morehouse College will be safely left in fully capable hands of Dr. Wilson.

Interim Provost Sheftall will serve as Interim President until Wilson takes over the school's presidency in February.

THE MAROON TIGER

CHRISTIAN L. SAINT-VIL '14
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
csaintvil03@yahoo.com

MANAGEMENT

TRE'VELL R. ANDERSON '13
MANAGING EDITOR
anderson.trevell@yahoo.com

AHMAD BARBER '13
CHIEF LAYOUT EDITOR
ahmad.barber@gmail.com

ZACH THOMAS '13
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
zachthomas1991@gmail.com

JONATHAN MARCHEL '15
ASSOCIATE PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
thejonshmo@gmail.com

MAX TYLER '13
CHIEF COPY EDITOR
maxtyler.tyler2@gmail.com

CURTIS JACKSON '14
ASSOCIATE COPY EDITOR
curtisdj3@aol.com

MORIBA CUMMINGS '14
ASSOCIATE COPY EDITOR
moribacummings@yahoo.com

SIERRA STOKES SC '13
ASSOCIATE COPY EDITOR
sstokes6@scmail.spelman.edu

EDITORS

KAYLA NELSON SC '14
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

DONNELL WILLIAMSON '15
ASSOCIATE CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

AMAL YAMUSAH '14
WORLD & LOCAL EDITOR

JARED LOGGINS '15
ASSOCIATE WORLD & LOCAL EDITOR

GARRETT RANSOM '15
BUSINESS & TECH EDITOR

REGINALD HUTCHINS '15
FEATURES EDITOR

ARIANNAH HOOD SC '14
ASSOCIATE FEATURES EDITOR

NEAH MORTON SC '14
OPINIONS EDITOR

DARREN MARTIN '15
ASSOCIATE OPINIONS EDITOR

KEITH JONES '14
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

KEVIN WEBB '13
ASSOCIATE A & E EDITOR

CHRIS WOMACK '14
SPORTS EDITOR

JORDAN HOLLINGSWORTH '14
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

MULTIMEDIA

RYAN RUCKER '14
WEBMASTER
ryankrucker@gmail.com

JERRELL BAKER '15
ONLINE CONTENT EDITOR
jerrel.baker@gmail.com

JOHN WHATLEY '14
TIGER TV PRODUCER
johnwhatley@yahoo.com

PUBLIC RELATIONS

PAUL MAGA '13
CO-DIRECTOR

TIMOTHY A. HARRIS '14
CO-DIRECTOR

FANON N. BROWN '14
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

FINANCE

AUNDRAY GANIT '13
ADVERTISING MANAGER

ADVISER

RON THOMAS

IF ONLY CHAIRS
COULD TALK

Dawnn Anderson
Contributing Writer
dawnnariana@gmail.com

Recently the AUC students set aside the burning desire to turn up at Thirsty Thursday and stood in line at the Ray Charles Performing Arts Center in support of Chairs. On November 15, the lights dimmed and a hush came over the crowd. The plot centered around intimate discussion regarding sexual encounters on a Black college campus.

Accomplished student director and writer, Emmanuel Saint-Ange, shared how he was directly influenced by personas within the AUC and other Black colleges. Some of the main characters include the attractive and promiscuous Lana "Ms. Scarlett & White," Ellington, the devout Christian who pledged his life to a Greek fraternity, and Bradshaw who struggles to come to terms with his sexuality.

Saint-Ange urges audiences to reconsider their disposition regarding issues such as homophobia, monogamy, sexual promiscuity, rape, and even one's religious belief in the face of temptation. Inspired by certain aspects of his personal relationships and those of close friends within the HBCU circuit, Saint-Ange holds a mirror to the AUC. Students held on to the edge of their seats with wide eyes during the Elevator scene where Lana and Amiko, the pompous college football player, are unafraid to express their feelings for each other making P.D.A. an understatement.

The crowd lets out a hearty laugh as another couple acknowledges the fact that they attend the respective all women Asia College and all male Addison College and are of the same graduating class (sound familiar).

"Each story is told from the perspective of the chair, not the students," Saint-Ange shared in an interview. "It serves as a euphemism representing the sexual domain of the character."

The stories were convincing not just because of the setting, but because the characters showed great vulnerability. In Ellington, "Greekdom and Christianity are personified." Without his many flaws, and infidelities he and his girlfriend, Vanessa, would be the ideal SpelHouse couple.

Daniel White, a junior studying Business Administration at Morehouse, believed the characters were very realistic. "Its HBO meets the AUC," said White. Saint-Ange, an aspiring writer and producer, plans on attending Loyola University graduate school for dramatic writing.

"Be the best in your craft," Saint-Ange says. When asked about leaving a mark on the AUC he shared, "I want my work to serve as a memorandum to students after I graduate."

As a senior mathematics major, the Brooklyn native proves that it is possible to be multitalented and succeed in many facets of one's life. In case you missed Chairs, be on the lookout for future productions from this artist showing in Spring '13.

Q&A WITH
MILES MARSHALL LEWIS

Donnell Williamson
Associate Campus News Editor
donnellwilliamsonjr@yahoo.com

The Bronx native, Miles Marshall Lewis '93, came back to visit his Alma Mater to expose students and to give them a different perspective of Black Journalism. Currently, Lewis is a resident of France. He is the Arts & Culture Editor for Ebony Magazine, author of two books, and the founder and editor of his literary journal, Bronx Biannual.

Lewis was brought to Morehouse to speak to the Cinema, Television & Emerging Media Studies and Psychology Department. He spoke to the students about his life as a journalist and an author as well. Check out his webpages and follow him on Twitter @furthermucker, furthermucker.com, and/or facebook.com/furthermucker.

Donnell: What brought you into this arena of being a black journalist?

Miles: Well—I've been black all my life! In turns of being a journalist, it was just something I grew into. Writing was always very important to me. I grew up on comic books and always notice the names of people who wrote the comic books. There are two big comic cons that happen, one in San Diego and the other in New York, twice a year. When I was a kid, no one was devoted to bigger pop culture super hero movies; it was strictly about comic books. I always had a fertile imagination and I grew up on science fiction novels. By the age of 12, I tried to read all of the collected works of Sherlock Holmes by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle because I read in a comic book that Batman did it. I was the only child until I was 8, so I spent a lot of time reading. It blossomed, like even now I write fiction as well. There are a number of short stories that I had anthologized in different books. I just consider myself a writer, sure a journalist. I interview different celebrities, but I do my share of fiction writing as well. You exercise different muscles for each one, but I honestly just call myself a writer.

Donnell: There's a large population of students who are illiterate, or they just don't like to read or write as much as they should. What is something that you could personally tell them to encourage them?

Miles: Get in where you fit in! There's a writer for everyone. If you don't like to read and someone gives you James Joyce's Ulysses, you're really going to hate to read. Whereas if you get something like Toure's Soul City, it might appeal to you because there are Hip-Hop references and magical realism that you can deal with. Even for women, if you consider yourself a feminist and don't really like to read, you'll be surprised certain works by Alice Walker. Find the writer that's for you, there are so many books, it's impossible that you wouldn't find someone that fits your sensibility. In terms of writing, keep a journal. Not everything has to be spell checked and stuff like that; you don't have to be Toni Morrison out the box. You don't ever have to be Toni Morrison, I mean—I'll never be. It's all about finding your own lane and finding your own voice, and speaking in that voice.

Donnell: What are some techniques that you may use to gather your thoughts before writing?

Miles: As far as gathering your

thoughts, outlining is a good idea. When I write an article, chances are there are a certain amount of things that I make sure that I want to say, so I'll write those things down, and it somewhat takes on its own life. Once you have the things that you know you want said, then you kind of figure out the order that makes the most sense. Then you start building paragraphs out of things you want most to say, and then it becomes its own thing. It's somewhat like a puzzle as well. I can switch different piece around, and see what makes the picture of what you looking for

Donnell: When you were speaking, you spoke on how you were inspired by James Baldwin, and the Renaissance Era. Was he your biggest inspiration, or were there any other people that inspired your career choice as a journalist?

Miles: I've read everything that James Baldwin has ever written. There's a big collected anthology called The Price of the Ticket, which has all of his essays. I've read all of his plays and fiction works as well. I went through a few years of that, and reading everything that Toni Morrison wrote. Alice Walker, I read up to a certain point! But I do love Alice Walker. Maya Angelou, and all the memoirs she wrote back-to-back. My son's middle name is Morrison, because Toni Morrison is my all-time favorite living writer. Definitely August Wilson, a playwright who passed away. I had the honor of interviewing him in probably his last major interview that got anthologized in a book called, "The Believer Book of Writers Talking to Writers."

Since high school, I was a part of a Black Alliance club that would take us to Broadway plays in New York. I saw "Fences" on Broadway when I was 17. After "Fences" he has at least 10 plays and one takes place in every decade of the 20th Century, and reflects on what Black life was about in that decade. So, of those 10 plays, I've seen about seven of them probably eight of them. The last one was "Radio Golf," I was in Paris and I didn't get to see that one, and he had passed away. He's definitely an influence! His dialogue is amazing, especially for, true, African-American dialogue. It just sounds like you listening to your grandparents, or your older aunts and uncles speaking.

Donnell: One thing I have issues with is finding critiques on Black literature. We have all of these academic critiques on Plato, Aristotle, and etc.; however, we lack these same benefits and spaces for academic dialogue amongst Black students and Black authors. What are some things that you can recommend to students/writers to expound, or make the area of critiquing Black literature better for readers?

Miles: That's very true! Those critiques don't exist anymore. It's kind of hard to answer, because what you're saying is very true. In terms of academic critiquing, as in Plato, there is a dearth of that, and I'm not really sure what the answer is. In terms of creating a bigger space for that, or even creating a better space for our own ideas. That's what we definitely need, a place to be able to think freely, our own space. Somewhere to have our own thoughts and our own dialogues, I believe that dissecting Black literature, and later critiquing it can come from these spaces.

DEMOCRATS, GOP RETHINK BLACK SUPPORT FOLLOWING ELECTION



THE AMERICAS: UNITED STATES

Jared Loggins
Associate World and Local Editor
Jared.loggins@yahoo.com

On Nov. 6, President Obama won the support of black voters by garnering 93 percent of the African American vote, along with a sizeable amount of support from Latinos and women en route to a larger than expected victory.

Now, black leaders are asking the President and Congress to go to work for minorities.

"We who represent the nation's urban communities will demand a seat at the table in these discussions," National Urban League President Marc Morial said in a recent open letter to congressional leaders just before the election.

The letter, Morial said, was an "urgent petition" demanding that the President use his second term to grow the economy and mitigate economic inequalities among minorities.

The calls from national black leaders come as recent data has shown that black voters came out in larger numbers

for the President than in 2008. Blacks comprised 15 percent of the electorate in Ohio, up from 11 percent in 2008. The President carried 97 percent of those votes and carried the state in what was seen as an important electoral victory. Black turnout was also up in Michigan, Florida, and Virginia.

The President's support among blacks was considerably high in spite of crippling unemployment numbers that show a 14.3 percent unemployment rate.

"I think the President heard us loud and clear. The collective message was, 'Let us build on where we already are,'" the Rev. Al Sharpton said at a press conference following a recent meeting at the White House.

The Republican Party during the campaign and historically, has faced a problem when it comes to attracting black voters. Some black leaders don't see black voters shifting to the GOP anytime soon, even with shifts in policies.

"There's a big branding problem," Republican Artur Davis, former Democratic Alabama congressman, said. "One of the things that unified the Democratic base was the perception that Republicans are an insular party of older white men. I think the party has clearly got to deal with that perception. I think the party has to deal with the perception that it's insular, that it is trying to reconstitute a past that is

not going to be rebuilt."

Davis, in a recent conference call with reporters, explained that the key to black support for the GOP rests with image.

"For African-Americans to look at the Republican Party, the first thing they're going to need is to see African-Americans in prominent positions," Davis said.

These positions include GOP senators, governors and presidential candidates.

"Eventually that will happen. You will have an African-American [Republican] with the political talent of a Marco Rubio or Ted Cruz," Davis said.

When the 113th Congress convenes in January, Rep. Tim Scott (R-S.C.) will presumably be the lone black republican on The Hill. Allen West of Florida and Mia Love of Utah were both narrowly defeated in their respective bids to carry the mantle of the legacy of black GOP leaders.

"The main thing to me is that we do have a strong bench of folks of color that are willing to run for public office, public service," Glenn McCall, the first black Republican National Convention member in South Carolina, said regarding the potential of more black GOP leaders to run in the future.

"I think we'll continue to see that, and hopefully they will be successful," McCall said.

CHINA GROWING, BUT AT WHAT COST?



WORLDWIDE: CHINE

Amal Yamusah
World and Local Editor
amal@breaking-it-down.com

Despite its surging economy and growing popularity amongst tourists, the country of China has an immutable drinking problem that has citizens asking questions, and government officials seeking answers.

Currently, China is in the midst of a water crisis that is threatening the livelihoods of its citizens.

"China's water crisis looks grim," Jaime A. FlorCruz of CNN News said. "The United Nations says China is one of 13 countries with extreme water shortages."

Of the 13 countries with limited water supplies, China has the largest population and economy. This does not come without its costs, however. China's increasing population makes it difficult to sustain requisite resources. According to CNN, China "hosts 20 percent of the world's population, yet only holds six percent of the world's water resources."

This growing disproportion makes the burden of providing clean water to the masses all the more challenging. Additionally, the nation's economy poses a threat to the nation's limited water supply.

"Strong economic growth has turned the country into the world's second largest economy but at the expense of the environment," FlorCruz said. "The Yangtze River, once the lifeblood of the country, now flows a foreboding blood red, possibly due to industrial pollution, experts said."

This begs the question, at what cost will China continue its ethos to expand and grow?

For Guo Peiyuan, general manager at Syn Tao, a Beijing-based corporate sustainability-consulting firm, there is little reason to suggest China will change its industrialist ways.

"I was born in a farmer's family in southern China, and there are a lot of rivers there," Peiyuan recalled. "When I was a child we could swim in the river. But as I grew up in the 1990s, a lot of factories came in. One summer vacation I went to my hometown, and my mother told me that the local farmers would not use the water for the crops because water was polluted, and the vegetables would die."

Peiyuan's story is one shared by millions of other Chinese citizens, and they, like Peiyuan, fear the chronic water shortage will only get worse with time.

Yet, the fight to increase the Chinese's water supply is not merely economic. It is the difference between life and death. According to the World Bank, 300 million Chinese people are without potable water a year, and of those 300 million, 66,000 on average die.

Numbers like this add to an already tense situation. If China does not act quickly, more and more people will die due to lack of water.

Some companies have been responsive to this call to action, and have worked on their end to make subtle changes.

"So far we have 720 companies coming to our NGO's to figure out what they did wrong and how they can fix their problems," Ma Jun, President of the non-profit Institute of Public and Environmental Affairs in Beijing said.

However, this is not a matter that can be resolved with "subtle" efforts - Chinese citizens deserve more than that. Subsequently, a mass effort must take place to solve this problem once and for all.

But will China respond to this call of duty one might ask? As is becoming the cliché answer, only time will tell.

DIVERSITY IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH



WORLDWIDE: CATHOLIC CHURCH

Jonathan McFarlane-Weinstein
Staff Writer
jonathanmcfarlane1@hotmail.com

Recently, Pope Benedict XVI selected six non-European Cardinals to present the growing diversity within the Catholic Church, and to better reflect its international character.

These new appointments are what many believe, a response to the criticisms that the Pope appointed mostly European cardinals, "despite the Church's estimate that less than a quarter of the world's Catholics live in Europe," according to BBC News.

With large adherents of Catholicism in the Americas, Africa, and Asia, these new appointments seek to change the tradition of a majority European/White group. As the world population continues to increase and more people convert to Catholicism, the evolving diaspora of the Church seeks to change how Catholicism is viewed globally.

The six new appointed Cardinals come from countries spanning the globe: Lebanon, Colombia, U.S., Philippines, India, and Nigeria. Additionally, all appointees are younger than 80 years old.

As liaisons to the Pope, Cardinals, the Pope's closest aides, will assume instrumental roles in the selection of the next Pope. Several come from majority Muslim countries, which aligns with the Pope's ethos to connect different faiths

and religions for the betterment of humankind.

"The Pope's elevation of Patriarch Bechara Boutros Al Rahi, the head of the Maronite Church - an ancient Lebanese Christian Church in communion with Rome - is seen as a sign of Vatican support for religious diversity in Lebanon," David Wiley from BBC News reports.

The Pope hopes to ease the tension between Catholics and Muslims, especially in the Middle East where both religions share an intertwined history.

"By adding six non-Europeans to the number of 114 cardinal electors, the Pope has slightly shifted the geographical demographic of the body which will ultimately choose his successor, though Europeans still make up the majority, at 51%," according to the BBC News.

Although the majority of Catholics live outside of Europe, the demographics of Cardinals are still compromised mostly of European/White men. This is a new beginning for the diversity within the faith. Elaborate ceremonies were held this past week to commemorate the appointed positions.

"Cheers broke out among the supporters of each cardinal-designate as the Pope presented them with the gold rings at the consistory and the red hats and vestments, which symbolize their readiness to shed their blood to defend their Christian faith" BBC News reports.

This is only the beginning of a new chapter, with Pope Benedict XVI showing the world that Catholicism and the Catholic Church is a "church for the whole of humanity".

KEISER PERMANENTE'S "MR. THRIVE"

Alexander Tyson
Contributing Writer
A.tyson16@yahoo.com

Recently announced to the world, Kaiser Permanente's president and chief operating officer Bernard Tyson will be taking over retiring CEO George Halvorson's position as the head of Kaiser Permanente. In the upcoming year he will be the head of the largest nonprofit insurer in the U.S.

Halvorson has worked at Kaiser for an astounding 28 years, directing the hospital's nonprofit system and leading the development of Kaiser's "Thrive" advertising campaign. Tyson will join the company's board of directors close to the end of next month and assume Halvorson's position at the end of 2013.

Kaiser Permanente, mainly based in Oakland, Calif., had \$47.9 billion in revenue, according to its online records, while covering over nine million people in the last year, mainly in the West Coast. Kaiser has 37 hospitals in California, Oregon, and Hawaii.

Kaiser employs 17,000 physicians, and has an integrated system in which one commodity delivers health care and pays for bills. This theme was a model for the U.S. health-care overtake that encourages everyone to make healthcare more available and dependable to everyone.

"As we continue down the path of health-care reform and the transformation of the health-care industry, I am excited about leading an organization so committed to high-quality and affordable care for everyone," Tyson said in a statement.

In the upcoming year Tyson will be taking over the development of President Barack Obama's health care overhaul. Starting in 2014, the Affordable Health Care Act will be fully implemented. New insurance markets will open up, titled "exchanges," in every state.

The joint federal-state program for the less privileged citizens of America will expand nationwide to cover people earning close to poverty wages. The projections believe that 30 million people are expected to gain coverage. Kaiser expects to offer exchange plans in every state where it operates, Tyson said.

"Clearly there's a lot of unknowns right now as we think about all the changes happening in the industry," he said. "One of the biggest challenges is making sure that we continue to contribute to the evolving landscape for health care in this country."

Not being on the Fortune 500 because of Kaiser being a nonprofit does not show how Kaiser is ranked No. 3 on the 2012 Diversity Inc. Top 50 companies for Diversity list. Naming an African American as the lead figure of a major organization is a significant step to a new diverse directive for all companies.

According to relevant statistics, currently only 1.2 percent of Fortune 500 companies have African-American CEOs, compared to 4 percent of the Diversity Inc. Top 50.

As a last remark Tyson stated in an interview the legacy of Halvorson creating the most diverse top of the line organization: "My job is to build on that and leverage the great strength of the diversity as we continue to deal with very complex problems in this country and the health-care system."

HIGHEST PAYING JOBS OUT OF UNDERGRAD

Garrett Ransom
Business & Tech Editor
G2ransom@gmail.com

Some would say that people go to college to get an education, but the well informed would prefer to say that people go to college to find a living. In a money-driven society, undergraduates are often motivated to make the biggest bucks after graduation to compensate for long hours spent inside books and long years to come of loan payments. Career Cast, an online career source, took a look at the 11 best paying jobs after undergrad, but this article will specifically focus on the top 5.

Ranking at No. 5 is the Network Systems Administrator position, where an employee can hope to make around \$70,000. Network Systems Administrators work with the maintaining a computers complex networks to control its day to day functionality. Due to the good pay, this job is competitive, so all those interested in the position should have sound technical knowledge, as well as hands on experience related to the field.

Ranking at No. 4 is the Engineer position, where an employee can expect to make around \$72,000. This is a highly publicized position for technical savvy individuals. This position is directed to college graduates with a great interest in science and math. Although great technical skills are essential, communication skills are also looked at as a commodity within the field. There are several different branches of engineering such as civil, chemical, and nuclear that all have various salaries, but all pay considerably well.

Ranking at No. 3 is the Actuary position, where an employee can expect to be paid \$79,000. Working as an actuary involves evaluating risks, typically for insurance companies. Actuaries typically have a strong financial and statistical background, which is especially needed for the job. Although the job is not especially publicized, especially to our youth, the job can lead to a solid paying professional career.

Ranking at No. 2 is the Software Developer position, where a worker can expect to be paid \$84,000. The job also noted as a Software Engineer, provides strong job security along with its solid pay. The job provides a lot of upward mobility, and also calls for the constant update of technical skills. Software Developers get multiple perks, one of them being the opportunity to gain a solid bonus at the end of the year.

Ranking at No. 1 is the Investment Banker position, where a worker can expect to receive \$112,000. Investment banking has been a lucrative profession for a long time. This fact is credited to a very profitable decade in the 1980s, where bankers ranked in large amounts of money all throughout. In recent years, the profession has been downplayed by financial uncertainty as well as a passing financial crisis.

Although investment banking does not provide a great amount of job security, the profession pays well and supplies workers with skills that are transferable to a multitude of fields. The job calls for motivated workers, who are willing to work long hours and put their social life to the side. Investment banking is not for the lovers of leisure time.

All of these professions have pros and cons and provide a solid roadmap to success. As college students, it is our choice to make the right decision for our careers. Some may put a price on happiness, as others believe that happiness has no price. Possibly the key to a great life is a mixture between the two.

THE DARKEST FRIDAY OF THE YEAR

Garrett Ransom
Business & Tech Editor
G2ransom@gmail.com

Black Friday has personified itself as a day full of ruthless shopping cart pushing and vigilant parking spot finding that encompasses the dreams of every American consumer: big sales. The day after Thanksgiving, Black Friday awakens those previously comatose from food comas prepared for an early day of intense sale shopping, but who exactly are shopping and how does this day contribute to annual sales in the economy.

A break down by Women Wear's Daily took a survey of 460 people and found that 57 percent of shoppers went for the fun shopping experience while the remaining percent went not necessarily for a pleasant experience, but a day of productive savings.

A further breakdown divided the shoppers into three dominant groups: small packs of women, individual women looking for great deals and families who are on a restrictive budget. The small packs of women were typically regarded as teens or those in their early twenties, as the individual women are 22 to 55-year-old retail troopers rushing through stores looking for the best prices. Lower income families will also be in the pack with their entire family in hopes of buying essential items, or items that will serve as gifts in the future.

According to the statistics, up to 147 million people were scheduled to indulge in the Black Friday weekend festivities. That serves as a huge portion of America and shows that the proof is in the pudding. America is truly a consuming nation that will go lengths to find great deals on material items that they may or may not need.

The actual numbers, recorded by the National Retail Federation released figures from November 22-25 that were higher than expectations and the highest in history. 247 million shoppers came out and spent an average of \$423.66 to spend a massive total of \$59.1 billion throughout the holiday weekend. The statistics came in with a 1.6 percent margin for error.

Black Friday brings in around 40 percent of annual sales, which is a huge chunk for such a short period of time. The day truly marks the beginning of the holiday shopping season as people from all over rush to scoop up deals on items that they desire. Out of the United States population of more than 314 million citizens, roughly 78 percent of them went out to blow holes in their pockets.

Trends throughout Black Friday 2012 were led by mobile consuming, topped by the iPad. Mobile consumption produced 16.3 percent of sales, according to IBM. Online shopping was also a popular trend, where there was a 17.4 increase in online sales. A possible reason for the increase could be due to multiscreen shopping, where online browsers can quickly move from store to store by the click of a button.

Black Friday this year served as a great success and proved that America still loves to spend money, especially when they feel that they are saving money. With consumer confidence increasing as a whole, it will be interesting to see the sales numbers throughout the full holiday season.

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE
BONNER OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE
& DAVID R. BOYD II SHOEBOX CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

WINTER FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 29-30



THURSDAY, NOV. 29TH

DAY OF WRAPPING | 2:30PM - 5:30PM EST

Welcome Center | Morehouse College | Room 103

FRIDAY, NOV. 30TH

WINTER FESTIVAL | 10 AM - 2

Deak Rusk YMCA -Head Start A

433 Peoples Street SW • Atlanta, GA 30310

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT

EFFREY ISAAC 901.921.6151

HABI RELEFORD 678.485-1613

DESIGNED BY: JDESIGNSONLINE.COM

MPAGE: THE ULTIMATE AFRICAN EXPERIENCE



Kobi Ansong
Media Director, MPAGE
Kobi.ansong@gmail.com

Since 2009, the Morehouse Pan-African Global Experience (MPAGE) has been bringing Morehouse and Spelman students to Africa each summer. The study abroad program offers fully accredited courses with specific global and African themes led by program directors Dr. Cynthia Hewitt and Dr. Samuel Livingston.

MPAGE's goal is to immerse college students in the African culture and expose them to sustainable possibilities for the people of Africa and its Diaspora. MPAGE focuses on historic knowledge of plants and nature, modern science and social justice.

The following passage is Kamau Grimes's '12 reflection of MPAGE 2012:

"The MPAGE 2012 program was single-handedly the most well-rounded and amazing experience of my whole life. I always told myself that if I did not study abroad during my undergraduate years that I would sincerely regret it. I thank God and Dr. Cynthia Hewitt that I can live my life with no regrets, and that I was able

to embody the principle of Sankofa, returning to one's roots.

Before MPAGE I had never been outside the east coast, let alone Africa. After living in Ghana for a month, I can now say that I am a global citizen. I sincerely doubt that my experience in Ghana would have been half as complete without the MPAGE program. We were integrated into so many aspects of Ghanaian culture. We went from city to city and from town to town. We connected the dots between pre-colonial Africa to modern day Africa. We went from meeting the queen mothers in the village of Gomoa Darhom to Accra's number one hip-hop radio station, 107.9 YFM to premier a song we recorded with talented Ghanaian and Nigerian artists.

We went from walking on a canopy bridge at the top of a rainforest to a Gala held by prominent African-Americans living in Ghana. I met Dr. James Small, who was a close friend and colleague of Malcolm X as well as Dahveed Nelson who is the only surviving member of the acclaimed Last Poets. Along with these noteworthy gentlemen, I was also able to meet many other African-Americans who now live in Ghana. This is inspirational, as I believe it us up to Africa's children to return home and restore

her to greatness.

There is even an organization designed for African diasporans to comfortably assimilate to African culture during a visit or a move. All diasporans should visit the African Union Diaspora Africa Forum in Accra located right behind the W.E.B. DuBois house for more information about integrating into Ghanaian culture.

One of the best experiences of MPAGE was the family bonding that came from living with the other MPAGE participants. Many of us did not know one another beforehand, but now we will forever be connected by our once in a lifetime experience. I love all of you: Roman, Jordan, Kobi, Khadijah, Borley, Brandon, Albert, Robert, Jomo, Emmanuel, Dr. Hewitt, Dr. Livingston, Dr. Rice, and my Ghanaian family Hajj, Abdul, Emmanuel, Ibrahim, Florence, Gifti, little Kofi, Festus and Gabriel. Nyame Nshira Wo.

This summer MPAGE will be returning to Ghana and Burkina Faso, and on a separate trip, to Egypt and Sudan. If you are interested you can email Dr. Hewitt at chewitt@morehouse.edu. To check out the day-to-day activities of MPAGE 2012 participants visit mpage1867.wordpress.com

STUDENT ADVOCACY CORNER: WHITE CHRISTIAN CAMPAIGNERS PUSH ANTI-GAY AGENDA IN AFRICA

Kenneth Pass
Contributing Writer
kmauricep@gmail.com

By the end of this article, you will make a choice.

On Monday, Nov. 12, 2012 Ugandan Speaker Rebecca Kadaga told The Associated Press that by the end of the year the Anti-Homosexuality Bill of 2009, which mandates death or lifetime imprisonment for homosexual acts or the condoning of same-sex actions, will be passed. The law states that if one knows of someone who may be participating in same-sex interactions and does not report it within 24 hours, he/she will be arrested and can serve up to three years in prison. If one is found to be a homosexual and have escaped to another country, one will be extradited back to Uganda and charged.

Members of the international community, including varying European nations, have stated that aid to Uganda will cease if the law is passed; potentially threatening the economic security of the nation. Even President Obama has called the bill "odious."

Nonetheless, the law will be implemented as Ugandans hold steadfast in the belief that homosexuality is degrading to their society and poses a political, social, religious and overall threat to Uganda.

Continent wide, 38 of the 53 African nations criminalize homosexuality in some manner. The idea is that same-sex attraction is both un-African and un-Christian, despite there being an extensive history of same-sex attraction in Africa dating back to ancient times.

In reality, the sole funders of the anti-homosexuality law in Uganda are American, Christian anti-gay organizations. They are promoting this law and execut-

ing campaigns that preach the deprivation and corruption of Ugandan society, family and children because of homosexual practices.

A report by Kopya John Kaoma, an Anglican priest originally from Zambia, called "How the U.S. Christian Right is Transforming Sexual Politics in Africa" discusses research on this specific topic.

"In an aggressive attempt to establish a new legal infrastructure on the African continent that reflects the U.S. Christian Right's ideals, the Washington D.C.-based American Center for Law and Justice opened two Africa offices while Uganda was debating its anti-homosexuality bill in 2009 and 2010," Kaoma began. "Named the East African Center for Law and Justice's (EACLJ) in Kenya and the African Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ) in Zimbabwe, these U.S. institutions aim to lobby African parliaments 'to take the Christian's views into consideration as they draft legislation and policies.'"

This is just one of the examples of U.S. Christian-based organizations asserting their anti-gay agendas on African nations.

These American and often time white-based organizations are pushing their anti-gay agendas in Uganda, even in the light of nations declaring their potential withdrawal of national aid and funding to Uganda. The question that echoes from this situation is: Do these white-based, Christian organizations care more about the welfare and well-being of Ugandan citizens or their own anti-gay agendas?

Not only will the LGBTQ citizens of Uganda be affected but the country as a whole will be. Thus, the real-life implications extend farther than what most think. This bill is a moral, social, constitutional and financial issue, and it serves as a prime example of how different levels of racism and homophobia intersect to

oppress a people. Similar laws instituted during colonialism banned same-sex interactions and the affirmation of those actions before these nuance Christian organizations entered into today's African policy and legislation; however, this situation and the like have created a neo-Nazi genocide. This warrants neo-social activism that globally combines forces of all marginalized groups to reach a common ground goal of justice, equality and empowerment for all.

Kaoma makes eight suggestions towards fighting these anti-gay agendas. In sum, he says "to first, confront the myth that human rights advocacy is Western neocolonialism; second, support the visibility of LGBT Africans as a means of reducing homophobia by putting meaningful pressure on African political leadership and supporting the leadership of African human rights activists; and third, engage diplomatically on issues of human rights and rally against bigotry across ecumenical lines."

Black people, especially Morehouse College, cannot ignore this topic any longer. We must make a decision to take some type of action to address the issue—there are lesbian, gays, bisexuals, transgenders, and queer-identifying people who are a part of our global community who are being killed and chastised. Furthermore, there are African nations that are being used by private U.S. organizations for intolerable agendas; all to the nation's detriment.

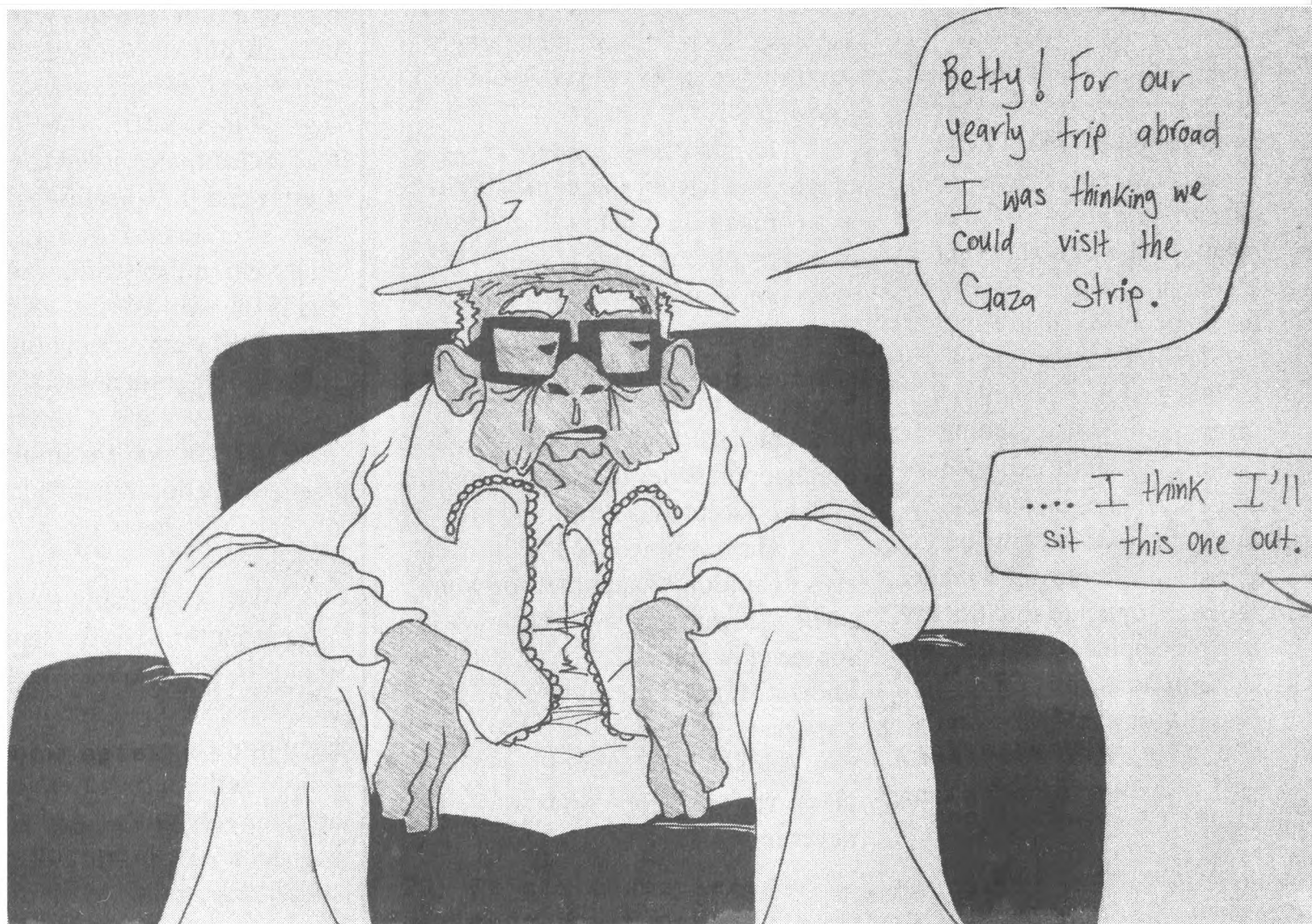
We must resist this oppressive system and we must become more involved about the lives of others. We must understand that we will never create a legacy and progress by simply following the status quo. As students, we have a voice and we have influence that can reach across cities, states and nations. We just have to collectively stand and speak. Now - make your choice.

~~TWENTY~~ FORTY QUESTIONS

King Wilson
The Money Man
00_00@notimefordat.org

- 1) What do you think of our new president?
- 2) Didn't the Board reject his application during the last presidential search?
- 3) Don't you wonder why they didn't pick him in the first place?
- 4) Back then they didn't want him, now he's hot they all on him?
- 5) Is this just a ploy to get Obama to speak at commencement?
- 6) If he hadn't worked at the White House, would he have even been considered?
- 7) Do the trustees not appreciate men of ACHIEVEMENT?
- 8) Would they have tolerated his bid if he had phirst pham aspirations?
- 9) Is that why Bobby Frank has been in office this long?
- 10) Shouldn't he have been dismissed a while ago?
- 11) Did anyone check his resume before we hired him in the first place?
- 12) Should we give him points for trying?
- 13) How many points would he have is we were counting ACTUAL presidential accomplishments?
- 14) Aren't you gonna miss the Five Wells?
- 15) Isn't it a shame that a job WELL DONE wasn't added to his list?
- 16) Do you think he'll introduce these virtues at his new institution?
- 17) Or will he realize that "dey ain't got time fo' dat"?
- 18) Did any of you go to the "meet and greet"?
- 19) Why was SHE in attendance at the meeting?
- 20) Doesn't he know that Ladies shouldn't sPeak without perMission?
- 21) Don't you wish someone would have just MARSHALLed him away?
- 22) Or would he just complain about being "horribly ac costed"?
- 23) Who TF thought it was a good idea to close Douglas at the END OF THE SEMESTER?!?!?!?
- 24) Asbestos....really?
- 25) Is that the REAL reason Douglass was closed?
- 26) Or was this a byproduct of the furloughs?
- 27) Is the newest crop of pretty girls the SWEET dream that Spelman was hoping for?
- 28) Or did their arrival leave a SOUR taste in our mouths?
- 29) Did you see all of the SALTY interests in attendance at their probate?
- 30) Isn't this just a RECIPE for disaster?
- 31) Who knew that the tail could whip her hair so well?
- 32) Wasn't she Taylor made to hold the line down?
- 33) Speaking of tails, didn't their New Call dog show and show OWT?
- 34) Aren't we all happy that they FINALLY had a decent sized line?
- 35) Will the men in BLUE PHinally be able to sustain chapter membership numbers?
- 36) Have you been on your grind for next semester?
- 37) Will you have the GPA to undergo membership intake?
- 38) Or will you have to do some "extra credit" with yo professor to get a grade change?
- 39) Don't you know they're just gonna get dropped AGAIN?
- 40) Isn't that why November was slightly warmer than usual?

COMIC CORNER



CHANGE.ORG VS. NAACP

Stephen Green
Contributing Writer
StephenAGreen1@gmail.com

The relevance of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and other traditional civil rights organizations is often discussed amongst Black college students. For over 100 years the NAACP has been the superior voice for civil rights in the black community. Presently, the NAACP has the youngest national leadership duo of Chairman and President/CEO in the organization's history. Even with relatively young leadership and chapters active on many college campuses, the NAACP is losing relevance to this generation.

There once was a time when individuals in a community faced with an injustice first called their church and then their local NAACP branch. The NAACP was the vehicle that assisted them in finding a lawyer, drafting petitions, spreading the word through action alerts, organizing marches and advocating on their behalf. However, the bureaucracy of the NAACP, which required certain approval from different levels, often complicated immediate responses.

In a generation that finds pleasure in putting complete thoughts in 140 characters, sharing Youtube links on Facebook and choosing the best filter on Instagram, we are not used to waiting. Similarly, when we

“DEFINE: HAPPINESS”

Darren Wesley Martin, Jr.
Staff Writer
Darrenmartin884@gmail.com

The most clichéd and jaded word that has been used by every human at least once in a lifetime is “happiness.” We claim it when we receive a gift that we really wanted. We claim happiness when we have a day without conflict. We even claim happiness when we are in a relationship with someone else.

After having many conversations with a plethora of different people, I couldn't help but ask myself, “What is happiness? What does it even mean?” As I sat in class I examined the convoluted responses of what many believed happiness meant to them and came to one conclusion. That although happiness has one concrete definition in a dictionary, there is a different personal meaning for everyone.

I remember the first time someone asked me what was my true source of happiness and did it contribute to my life's journey. It was this year, seven years after the traumatic growing days of middle school and just shy of the painful four-year experience called high school. I was shocked that I did not know the answer, and moreover, I was upset with myself that I never thought of this question before.

Of course, there were the times where I went through things to get to where I am now. The clichéd split family, the overcoming of adversity to pay for Morehouse, the long nights in where I believed that I could not recover from anything I was going through; and while those experiences were definitely an integral part of my life, I knew not how they contributed to my happiness and journey. I made it a challenge to myself to find out my true source of happiness, and day by day I tried with no avail.

Then one day, in a classroom filled with the sun's radiant light and the birds loudly softened voice it came to me. The true source of happiness is not tangible, it is not one facet of

your life, nor is it a person. Happiness comes from one's own journey in life. The journey spans from all trials and tribulations to all moments full of glee.

I'll tell you what happiness is. It is the smile of assurance after the storm of confusion. It is the sunshine revealed after the overshadowing clouds have been cast away. It is being proud that the tailor to your life did not let you alter your morals. Happiness is knowing you will go through a storm but the sun will inevitably rise. It's a definition I came up with from many years of experience and pain.

One may wonder the motives behind writing an article on something that is instilled in us as little children. Happiness has been a taught emotion since we were born. This ideology is thrown upon us that happiness is coupled with a smile and rays of sunshine. It is not. Many people are on a search for an existential happiness but are afraid to go through experiences in order to find it.

For example, in relationships one of two things can happen. Either it flourishes into a fairy tale story, or it crumbles like the walls of Jericho. In any case, the relationship has taught you things that you never would have known.

In many instances, we are taught that having someone with us as a companion is better than being alone; that being alone is some kind of mental disorder. As if happiness in many cases does not lie in the depths of solitude. Some are so scared to experience different types of relationships, because society has taught them that happiness lies in the relationships that are accepted culturally.

Have you been following society's definition of happiness or your own? Ask yourself, what is your main source of happiness? Do you even know it? If not, how do you find it? Experience is there to help and teach you. Are you looking for happiness in places your experience has warned you never to return to?

find ourselves faced with social injustice such as the recent killing of Ernest Hoskins Jr. and Trayvon Martin, we do not have the time to wait on a response from the local NAACP branch. Change.org has usurped the NAACP as the primary vehicle to express social injustice.

In less than two years, Change.org has over 20 million users in 196 countries. Through technology, anyone can start a campaign and mobilize others to challenge social ills. Unlike the NAACP, you do not have to submit your petitions for a committee to debate over. Neither do you have to worry about who will take your issue to promote their own personal agenda. Change.org allows you to share your petitions through all social media outlets and spread the word to get others talking about your issue.

Also, unlike the NAACP, Change.org does not beg you for money. They have a very creative business model, “social enterprise, using the power of business for social good”. Similar to Youtube, Google and Twitter, they receive funding in the form of advertisements.

As a generation that is plagued with modern forms of oppression and social injustice, it behooves us to stay engaged. In order for our civil rights organizations to remain relevant they must modernize and adapt their structures to the current trends. As young people, we cannot give up on the NAACP. Let us roll up our sleeves and instead of waiting for our spot in line, let's start another line!

THE GRADUATE

Jordan T. Jones
Contributing Writer
jtaylor.jones92@gmail.com

Most of us will graduate. It will no doubt take some longer than others but at the end of the needed time, we will be sent out into the world with a piece of paper and a handshake. After all, isn't that why we came to college in the first place? As the sun sets over Kilgore Plaza time and time again, the romantic idea of walking across a stage and being greeted with a diploma is becoming more tangible, less romantic. It's just another check off the ol' life list. Go to college. Check. Graduate from college. Check.

But now for the first time, as a ..., this drastic checkpoint in life is within reach and in reality, closer than when I first stepped onto campus. Yet, I'm filled with a vast sense of apathy and aimlessness when I know I should be excited that the end is near and everything that I set out to accomplish is right around the corner.

Unfortunately, I am not the only one who feels this way. I am not the only one who notices that attendance in all of my classes is declining. Unfortunately, when I talk to my fellow classmates about the past semester and the upcoming ones, there lacks a certain zeal that we should all have to finish strong and go on to tackle the world's most pressing issues.

“Why am I doing this? What is this all for?” students ask. There's got to be more to college, the supposed “best years of our life,” more to life itself, than checking off a laundry list of goals. Graduate. Check. Get a job. Check.

We are all supposed to graduate, no matter what the statistics say about the Black male. We as a collective are students and no one in his right mind or pocket would enroll in school without the intention to graduate ... or get drafted. Although it may be a genuine struggle to slip by, we as students are called to more than grad-

uation.

Say it happens, say the prayers and financial aid go through. Although it's been a challenge, you've made it and you've come to finally hold that piece of paper after receiving that coveted handshake. What will it mean to you? What stories will that one page hold? What relationships will be as deep as the seal embossed on the paper, et facta et lux. What kind of person will you be when there finally is light and you have the tools you need to go out into the world?

The reality is, for many, the final papers will look similar, except with different names. For some, when they reflect on their college experience, they will recall a montage of “turn-ups” and late night/early morning cram sessions. Their relationships will be confined to this cycle of school and party, just as the music played and tests given are on a cycle.

As once again the cycle of handshakes changes with the new president, I cannot help but be reminded of the words of one of Morehouse's most esteemed presidents, Dr. Benjamin Elijah Mays.

“It will not be sufficient for Morehouse College, for any college, for that matter, to produce clever graduates, men fluent in speech and able to argue their way through; but rather honest men, who can be trusted in public and private – who are sensitive to the wrongs, the sufferings, and the injustices of society and who are willing to accept responsibility for correcting the ills.”

Dr. Mays had it right. He knew that college means more than just graduation. He saw the need there is in the world and the potential for Morehouse men to fill it. So now, as we get ready to adjourn for the winter break, ask yourself, what will your paper mean when the bell rings and all hands have been shaken?

FOUR REASONS: WHY RIHANNA IS A MODERN-DAY HERO?

Darren Wesley Martin, Jr.
Staff Writer
Darrenmartin884@gmail.com

The highlight of Thanksgiving weekend was not the turkey at the dinner table Thursday night or the shopping that ensued hours later — it was a simple tweet from the pop superstar herself, Rihanna.

The tweet, simple in nature but massive in symbolism: “Dis n*****,... #BartObsession,” served as a caption for a picture of pop superstar Christopher Brown sprawled on a bed as multiple black Bart Simpson shirts encompassed him.

6,289 retweets, 3,897 favorites and 126,000+ likes on Instagram later — the world is still raving on the fact that Robyn “Rihanna” Fenty tweeted, and is still with, the man who brutally beat her five years ago.

Why is this such a remarkable story? Some may believe that it contributes to society’s pattern of battered women going back to their abusers; however, it is interesting to see that no one has labeled Rihanna as a hero for this. A hero? Yes. A hero.

Let’s look at some statistics on abuse in the United States. According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV), one in every four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime and an estimated 1.3 million women are victims of physical assault by an intimate partner each year.

Rihanna became a statistic on March 9, 2009. She was abused severely by her intimate partner, taken to the hospital, and the whole world knew. The NCADV says, “Less than half of domestic violence incidents are reported to the police.”

Hero quality No. 1: Rihanna indeed did not have to have the police called on Chris Brown — but she did. In fact, she could have simply called someone to pick her up and headed back to be cleaned up and have had the fiasco kept a secret. Sounds ludicrous for a superstar, but according to statistics, more than half of abused women (whether superstar or not) will not report an abuse case. Rihanna initially started her heroic climb when: She did not hide.

Hero quality No. 2: Rihanna not only reported the incident to the police, but she spoke out, very courageously filled with hurt and rage, against the man she would call “the love of her life” in multiple interviews. She spoke out on a personal issue that did not warrant any public explanation. But because she understood the impact that her silence would have on abused women across the world, she did the interviews. Rihanna became a hero when she spoke out.

Hero quality No. 3: Rihanna was on talk show host Oprah’s “Next Chapter” as she explained to Oprah that after the abuse she was “mad” and “hurt” that the “love of [her] life” would have done something as crazy as abuse. However, she told Oprah that she had to understand where the hate was coming from, she had to understand the methods behind the apparent madness in both Brown and herself. Of course this introspection resulted in viewers knowing that both Rihanna and Brown were brought up in homes where domestic violence was prevalent. While we could argue that she continued this cycle, one could also say that she is a hero because of one aspect: The promotion of introspection and understanding.

Hero quality No. 4: For her seventh studio album, which was released this year, Rihanna named it “Unapologetic.” Music critics and fans alike have theorized about the album title’s true meaning. Many believe that this is an album dedicated to Brown. In fact, he appears on some of her songs, some implicitly, others explicitly. Moreover, fans and critics alike understand that Chris Brown and Rihanna are back together and are trying to place the missing puzzle pieces back into their lives to become whole again. What makes Rihanna a hero is not that she came back to Brown (as some would believe this is psychological slavery — Chris being the master) but because she is promoting something that we tend to forget in crisis: Endurance and Growth.

Of course, there are going to be rebuts to the claim that Rihanna is a hero. Some will believe that this column is promoting domestic violence — it is indeed not. Some may believe this is promoting the pacification of crime — it is not.

This article was written to remind readers of one thing, Rihanna is living her life — she is not perfect. However, some things in the madness of her many “mistakes” may have inspired another young woman. Rihanna may be a pot-smoking, nudist, manic, but she has done things interpersonally that many have not.

She has shattered statistics in domestic violence, she has spoken out on her flaws and weaknesses, and she has found her way into introspection and God. For some, Ms. Fenty is indeed a hero.

UNSEEN, UNHEARD, AND UNDENIABLY IMPORTANT

Neah Morton
Opinions Editor
neahmorton@aol.com

Just the other day, my friends and I were casually chatting about Spelman’s 2013 commencement and who the administration could possibly find to top the last two years’ powerhouse speakers, Michelle Obama and Oprah Winfrey. They represented everything we desired to see and be for that matter, beautiful, intelligent, erudite, and high profile.

But what about the women we don’t see? What about the African-American women who have changed our lives without a single news wave or sound clip?

As 2012 comes to a close, I want to take a moment to recognize one of the most influential, yet unknown African-American women of the 20th century. Each year, the Morehouse School of Medicine honors the legacy of the woman who unknowingly mothered modern medical innovation, yet few of us actually know the person behind the cells that have contributed to so much life-changing research. The cells cut from her body and purchased countless times have led to advances in vaccinations, cancer treatment and many more medical applications worldwide.

The world knows her cells as HeLa. The shortening of her name is the reflection of an abbreviated existence, wrought by the reduction of her worth to a network of microscopic cells that began as “two dime-sized pieces of tissue” unlawfully cut from her dying body in 1951. Through detailed juxtaposition of Henrietta Lacks’ little known personal life and the scientific implications of her death, Lacks’ biographer, Rebecca Skloot, paints a divine portrait of a woman forgotten by time.

On a winter day in Baltimore, Md., the 30-year-old tobacco farmer walked into Johns Hopkins Hospital with abdominal pain, and left with the knowledge of what would eventually lead to her death. The sequence of moments leading to Lacks’ cervical cancer diagnosis is our first glimpse into the meager status of the mid-20th century Black Woman.

Her treatment was marked by condescension and racism, as her physician labeled her sexually deviant based on her medical history and declined to fully explain the circumstances regarding her illness and its implications. Not that it necessarily would have mattered. As the matriarch of a bustling, financially strapped household, Lacks didn’t have the luxury of pausing her life.

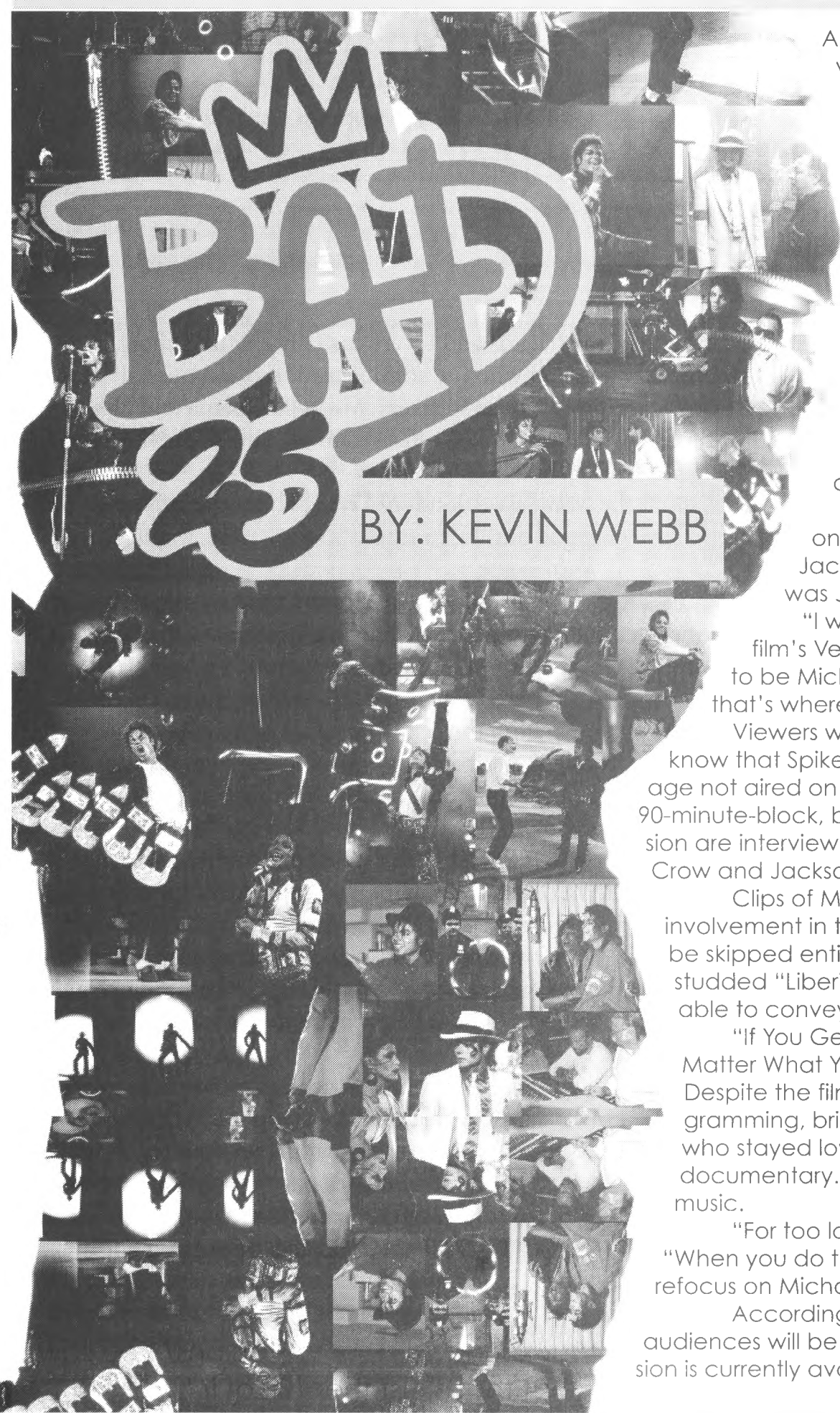
Theft of the Black female body has existed since Africans arrived in North America. Although the practice has evolved from its carnal roots in the sexual brutality of plantation life, perhaps becoming more refined through the years, the ownership White America has taken over African-American women remains as pervasive as ever.

History has revealed women of color as universal property. As the venerable Zora Neale Hurston proclaimed, “the Negro woman is the mule of the world,” she is the soil of the Earth, walked on by all and acknowledged by few. She is used, and more often than not, abused without consequence. In her book “The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks” that was published two years ago, Skloot carefully detailed the process by which the medical industry stole one woman’s body and rendered her invisible.

However, Dr. Roland Pattillo, a professor of gynecology at the Morehouse School of Medicine, brought her back to life. He created the HeLa conference, an annual medical symposium honoring the legacy of Mrs. Lacks. She has contributed to our lives in more ways than we could ever imagine. There are thousands of Black women just like her, unseen, unheard, not at all glamorous, but entirely worthy of reverence and recognition.

**VISIT THE
MAROON TIGER WEBSITE
WWW.THEMAROONTIGER.COM**





A week before the 30th anniversary of Michael Jackson's *Thriller*, ABC aired an edited version of *Michael Jackson: Bad 25*, Spike Lee's documentary on the King of Pop. The film first debuted at the Venice International Film Festival, where it was warmly received. *Bad 25* coincided with a special 25th anniversary release of the album earlier this year, and follows the creative process behind some of the iconic music and short films spawned from the album, including "Dirty Diana" and "Smooth Criminal."

Lee utilizes behind the scenes clips from those shoots along with interviews from a range of stars, including Martin Scorsese, Sheryl Crow and Jackson's producer Quincy Jones. Jackson's drive and dedication to his craft are on full display, as he worked to create an album in *Bad* that would outsell *Thriller*, his original masterpiece. Even the album's cover is subject for examination in the film one of the first appearances of the black studded leather that would define Jackson's image into the 90s.

"I think the "Bad" moment, outfit wise, was far more influential than the "Thriller" moment," Kanye West said of the classic look in the documentary. "I'm like almost dressed like that today."

Bad 25 keeps the habit of celebrating Jackson as an artist, rather than focusing on the personal turmoil that characterized his later years. During the production for *Bad* Jackson was at the height of his career, but he refused to let his fame define his work. It was Jackson's work ethic that kept him at the top of pop culture for decades.

"I was born in 1957, he was born in '58," Lee told reporters at a press conference for the film's Venice premiere. "And when I saw the Jackson Five on *The Ed Sullivan Show*, I wanted to be Michael Jackson. I had the Afro, the whole Jackson look. But the singing and dancing — that's where it stopped."

Viewers who enjoyed ABC's hour long *Bad 25* special on Thanksgiving night will be happy to know that Spike Lee's full Michael Jackson documentary contains more than an hour of extra footage not aired on television. Lee was forced to cut down *Bad 25* to just over an hour to fit into ABC's 90-minute-block, but the DVD version lasts a full 123 minutes. Among the footage cut from ABC's version are interviews with Stevie Wonder and Justin Bieber, as well as a dance shared by a young Sheryl Crow and Jackson during the 1987 *Bad* tour.

Clips of Michael himself were omitted as well, though the film maintains the star's constant involvement in the creation of his music and short films. The ABC time slot forced certain topics to be skipped entirely, such as Jackson's acquisition of the Beatles catalog, and the filming of the star studded "Liberian Girl" video. Even if the fans were able to catch the full version of the film, Lee is still able to convey a positive image of the legendary artist.

"If You Get 1 Thing From *Bad 25*, You To Bust Ya Ass To Make It Happen. No Shuckin' No Jivin. No Matter What You Wish To Pursue. Work N' Mo' Work," Lee tweeted after *Bad 25* aired on ABC. Despite the film's strong reviews, it struggled to steal viewers away from other Thanksgiving programming, bringing in just 4.2 million for ABC compared to the NFL's 15.9 million on NBC. Those who stayed loyal to the King of Pop were no doubt done a disservice with the edited version of the documentary. Still, years after his death the film serves as a way for fans to recognize Jackson for his music.

"For too long, people focused on that other stuff," Lee said in an interview with *USA Today*. "When you do that with an artist, you do it to the detriment of the art. I think people are beginning to refocus on Michael Jackson's music now."

According to Lee's Twitter, the full version will be available for fans in February 2013. European audiences will be treated to the complete documentary on December 1 via BBC2. The hour-long version is currently available on Hulu.

FIGHT TRENDS AND BE TIMELESS WITH *Raggs Boutique*

Michael Martin
Contributing Writer
mike.a.martin93@gmail.com

"I try to stray away from being trendy, I try to be timeless.... timeless in a piece that you can put up right now and pull out a year from now, and you'll still get compliments."

Freshman Economics major Karon Smith has found a strong AUC following behind his Chicago-based store, *Raggs Boutique* after pieces from the boutique made their way down the catwalk at this year's Homecoming Fashion Show.

So what is *Raggs Boutique*?

"It's my baby [...] It's a facet of my passion [...] I provide men's clothing, men's street wear, specifically for that male (or female) who wants to TRULY be different and who wants not only a garment that reflects them, but one that gives their look a thought of art and not just clothing on their body. I provide men's clothing, men's street wear, specifically."

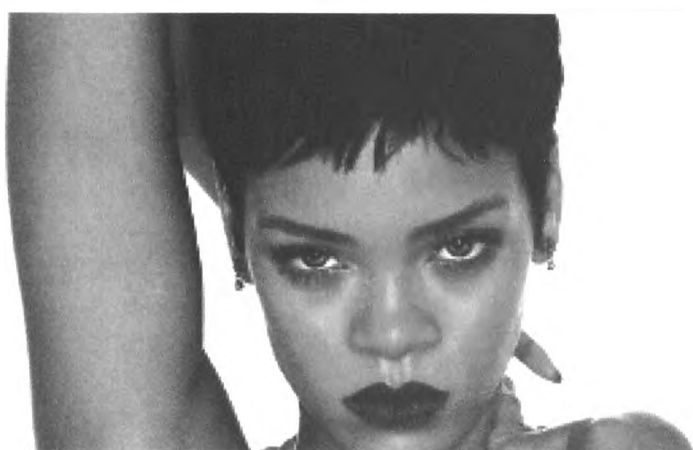
A handful of the designs showcased at this year's Spelhouse Homecoming Fashion Show were pieces from *Raggs Boutique*, including the genius cheetah print studded snapbacks. This is an amazing accomplishment for anyone, let alone the fact that he's only a freshman!

"...I was really ecstatic about [it] because me, being a freshman, to be making the business moves that I have is truly an experience. Some people don't do this until their junior or senior year. So for me to be doing it as a freshman was awesome."

I asked Smith how he felt about being showcased in the fashion show, to which he replied, "They reached out to me... 'Hey, we like your pieces, can we put them in the show?' [...] For me to be in this business and to be assured that I'm on the right path of what people want was definitely like 'oh yes, I'm on the right track!'"

Smith is definitely on the right track, garnering attention from designers around the country who want their pieces to be sold in *Raggs Boutique*, like the edgy new labels, *Appetight* and *Dead-HeartNYC*.





AN UNAPOLOGETIC REVIEW

"Shine bright like a diamond." That hypnotic phrase could very well be the catchiest hook of 2012.

A more mature and peaceful side of Rihanna emerged as the bad girl has finally grown up! Unapologetic—her 7th studio album—fits the mold as more of a "Loud" meets "Rated R" type of record.

"Unapologetic" is Rihanna's diary – it is, without question, Rihanna's most personal album to date, not to mention her most complex, both emotionally and sonically. Whether she intended it or not, Rihanna's on-again/off-again romance with Chris Brown seems to be the album's biggest inspiration. Each of its 14 tracks in some way has been colored with allusions to their rocky romance that started on the eve of the Grammys four years ago.

To open the album, the rapid-fire lyrics of the opening track "Fresh out the Runway" shows Rihanna channeling her inner rapper. She spits rhymes over an electro whoop of trap music produced and co-produced by hit-makers David Guetta and Nicky Romero.

Throughout most of the first act, she flirts with urban-tinged stylings pulling in the infamous trap rhythms and screwed vocal samples. There's indeed an influence of trapsters A\$AP Rocky and Juicy J on one particular track "Pour It Up." The female anthem likens to the instrumental of "Bandz Make Her Dance," where Rihanna drips with strip-club vernacular: "All I see is signs; all I see is dollars signs."

To follow the pace, a few guests are invited to the party. Eminem dribbles some mean breakneck bars on the down-tempo, freebase "Numb,"

while Future croons on "Loveeeeeee song." David Guetta also makes another appearance, this time as a featured artist on "Right Now."

Though self-reflective, Rihanna still likes to have fun! She stays true to her roots on songs like "Lost in Paradise" and "No Love Allowed" where she continues her outlet of rock-pop guitar influenced songs and reggae inspired Bob Marley styled rhymes, respectively.

The track that will stir up the most chatter is the duet "Nobody's Business" with Chris Brown. An ode to the late Michael Jackson, the song finds them both flirting endlessly over the infectious melody on a two-step-friendly funk track.

"Stay," a standout ballad featuring Mikky Ekko, paints a picture of a young girl lost and confused, persistent in her own opinions but still unsure how to convey her story to a world who is constantly watching every single move. On tracks like the euphoric "Get It Over With" and the lengthy "Mother Mary/Love Without Tragedy," Rihanna continues to confront her emotions with writing contributions from industry heavyweights The-Dream and James Fauntleroy.

At the end of the album, Rihanna begins to shed light on her greatest enemy: Fame. Written by critically acclaimed Emeli Sandé, "Half of Me," tells a simple story: there's more than what meets the eye. "I'm the type that don't give a ****," she sings, with no remorse. "Saw me on a television hanging out my dirty linen. You're entitled to your opinion. Sit and shake your head at my decisions/ you saw me on the television, but that's just the half of it."

For an album that's title basically says "I don't give two ****," Rihanna simultaneously shows that she's vulnerable and strong. It's the perfect way to introspectively plug an album that lingers between ephemeral youth and accepting responsibility, in matters both public and private.



ARTIST INFO: Victor Perry
Contributing Writer
victortperry@yahoo.com

POSSIBILITY OF NEW FALCONS STADIUM

James Parker
Staff Writer
jparker4@tigermail.morehouse.edu

"This is a hoax." John Michaels declared, a 1984 Clark College graduate. "Vine City has not benefitted from the creation of the [Georgia] Dome."

Michaels was one of many concerned citizens and politicians who filled Sale Hall Chapel Monday night to learn about the proposed new Atlanta Falcons NFL stadium and express their opinions on the issue. The panel discussion, moderated by 11 Alive local news anchor Demarco Morgan, allowed attendees to speak with an architecture expert, experienced lawyer, as well as a leader of the nation's fourth largest convention center.

By 2017, the Falcons plan to open a new retractable-roof stadium worth \$1 billion, of which \$300 million will be paid by taxes on Atlanta hotels/motels. As Executive Director of Georgia World Congress Center, Frank Poe is leading negotiations between the stadium and the Falcons.

"The Falcons' interests lie in the development of a long term stadium that will last 30 years," Poe said. This visibly angered some guests who were more interested in the new structure's effects on surrounding neighborhoods. While some audience members yelled out during his statements, Poe went on to explain that at least two thirds of the stadium's costs (an estimated \$700 million) will be at the expense of the private sector including the Falcons and the NFL. These details seemed to do little to settle the concerns of the public in attendance.

"This is not about the people involved; it is about the process," lawyer and panelist Wyc Orr said. The project, backed by Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed, is likely to proceed but most citizens at the forum were more concerned with how it is carried out rather than stopping the project all together. Orr, also a board member of the Common Cause Georgia organization, argued that Atlanta tax payers are not happy with the way the structure will be

funded and are also displeased that their opinions are not included or considered in the development.

"It's a legitimate concern that all other affected parties be involved in the negotiation process," he added.

Though many of the night's questions were answered by Poe, Georgia Tech University Professor of Architecture Dr. Benjamin Flowers, shed light on the possible functionality of a new stadium but also mentioned his grievances.

"Stadiums are occupied under the most robust imagination, 100 nights a year at most," Flowers said, who went on to question what other ways the stadium could be used during vacancy. In addition to wanting the new stadium to gain more uses, Flowers also wants it to provide for the adjacent neighborhoods.

While unanswered, he raised the question, "What does the public get in return for its investment?"

Anonymous statements were displayed on a projector above the panelists' heads, some of which agreed with Dr. Flowers' sentiments and others that did not.

"If the falcons want it, let them build it with their money," read one quotation. "There are better ways to spend taxes; infrastructure, etc."

An opposing opinion offered, "As much as I like the Dome, I know that we need a new one to stay competitive and attract events to Atlanta." A comment credited to Robert Vogel called the development unnecessary, adding that it should not get any public tax money because Atlanta roads and bridges are "crumbling."

Sharing in Vogel's frustration, Michaels continued in saying, "There isn't any team in America that has never won a Super Bowl and needs a new 70,000 seat stadium." Contrastingly, Orr used the team's record as a reason for a deserved stadium, citing the Falcon's 10-1 standings as of Monday. But regardless of the Falcons' desires or the citizens' displeasure, the team will continue to use the \$214 million Georgia Dome funded completely by the public/state in 1992 until a final deal is made.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK HONORS

Chris Womack
Sports Editor
cwomackmj@gmail.com

Austin Anderson, who missed the entire 2011-2012 season due to a knee injury, has begun the 2012-2013 campaign by winning the SIAC player of the week.

Anderson, a 6'-2" sophomore from Inkster, MI captured player of the week honors after two big scoring games at the SIAC/GSC challenge held at the University of West Georgia. The sophomore guard led the team in scoring with 22 points per game in the tournament, including a season high 25 points against the University of North Alabama.

After missing last year, Anderson looks to continue playing at a high level this in hopes of elevating the play of his teammates, as the Maroon Tigers have started the season 0-2.

MAN OF THE YEAR

MAN OF THE YEAR

STAY TUNED FOR YOUR CHANCE IN
2013