

A LOOK INSIDE THE ISSUE

TWO NEW CHIEFS IN THE VILLAGE

JAMES PARKER
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR
JAMESJR.PARKER@GMAIL.COM

Both the new Morehouse Chief Information Officer, Clifford Russell, and new Chief of Police, Curtis Johnson, bring unique experiences and ideas to the college this semester.

Last week, Russell held a town hall meeting to release information about two of many upcoming initiatives. The big one: every student at Morehouse can now download Microsoft Office 365 for free at <http://tigernet.morehouse.edu/oit/365>. It is anticipated that by December 1 everyone will also have access to Microsoft's Student Advantage program that, among several capabilities, will provide each student with five free copies of the complete Microsoft office suite to use on multiple devices.

Russell also plans to eradicate the digital divide that exists between minority communities and predominantly white institutions – which have higher levels of access to technology. To bridge this gap, Russell plans to: expose students to radically better technology, provide state-of-the-art levels of technology service delivery, move the College into a technological leadership position, and assist students and staff in becoming more comfortable with technology.

He acknowledged that there is "some" decent technology already on campus that just isn't being used effectively, but he is very aware that there are major problems as well.

"There are some gaping issues," Russell said, "I know the Wi-Fi is the No. 1 [technical] problem for students and it's an issue for me, too, because I live on campus."

The newly appointed CIO had to relocate from Washington, D.C., so quickly that he is now living in on-campus student housing. Most of Russell's previous jobs, which include being the CIO of a Maryland company and a systems analyst at the University of Maryland, were all based in or around the nation's capital.

Before pursuing all of his technical professions, Russell was a photographer. "Around 17 years ago, I got tired of doing the starving artist thing," Russell said. However, he and his wife are still avid photographers, as are his two oldest children.

Russell and his wife worked for, and/or with, prominent organizations including The Washington Post, Washington Times, Jet Magazine, and the Smithsonian Magazine.

Equal in his strong resume and modest temporary-living arrangements, Johnson also made sacrifices to come to Morehouse. Johnson lives in a student residence hall as well because of his urgency to begin work at the College, so he is also away from his wife and family members.

Johnson said he was initially hesitant about accepting the role of Chief of Police until the narrative of Morehouse College inspired him.

"I started reading the history of Morehouse and I saw that it was founded as a Baptist school," Johnson said. He took that as a sign and packed everything he could get on the back of his pick-up truck and left his hometown of Little

Rock, Ark.

Back home, he had recently worked to change a state law that prevented private colleges from forming police departments, and he is currently working toward his master's degree with the hope of receiving his Ph.D. within the next five years. Previously he was the director of campus safety and government relations at Arkansas Baptist College and a district loss prevention supervisor for Wal-Mart prior to that.

Days after entering his new role at the College, Evelyn Lowery, the wife of civil rights leader Dr. Joseph Lowery, died. One week later her funeral was held in the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel and hundreds of mourners swarmed the campus, as well as several news outlets. Not long after Mrs. Lowery was laid to rest, Homecoming Week brought thousands of alumni and family members to the school.

Because of these major events immediately after his arrival, Johnson is now taking time to assess the current state of the College's security operation and will introduce new programs afterward.

Ironically, Johnson was a mentee of former Morehouse Chief of Police Vernon Worthy, and Johnson currently serves as the vice president of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities' Law Enforcement Executives and Administrators organization (HBCU-LEEA), which Worthy was president of while at Morehouse.

Both of the new leaders have exhibited great selflessness during their short time at the College and with their expressed passion for Morehouse, there should be even better things to look for in the future.

CLIFFORD RUSSELL Chief Information Officer

Hometown: Washington, D.C.
Bachelor's Degree: University of Maryland, College Park
Prior Position: Chief Information Officer, HeiTech Services, Inc.

- Current Tasks:**
- Provided Microsoft Office for all students
 - Improve Wi-Fi
 - Help students and staff use technology
 - Incorporate interested students in technological initiatives
 - Provide state-of-the-art levels of technology service delivery

Responsibility: "Eradicate the digital divide"

CHIEF OF POLICE Curtis Johnson

Hometown: Little Rock, Arkansas
Bachelor's Degree: University of Arkansas, Fayetteville
Prior Position: Director of Campus Safety and Government Relations, Arkansas Baptist College

- Current Tasks:**
- Assess current condition of the institution and identify its security needs

Responsibility: "To take care of students"

DEBATE TEAM NATIONALLY RANKED: A LOOK INSIDE SUCCESS

JAMES PARKER
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR
JAMESJR.PARKER@GMAIL.COM

"I would like to thank the peanut gallery for 'peanutting,'" Rodjé Malcolm, president of the Morehouse Debate Team said to the audience in a humorous tone. "And now I will explain why [my opponent] can't win today's debate." At last week's tournament, Malcolm greeted observers and took a jab at his Valdosta State opponent all in the same breath.

The three day tournament was filled with quick one-liners and long words. The terms 'refutation,' 'topicality,' and 'ubiquitous,' specifically, flowed through debates and informal conversations most frequently.

Students from Morehouse, Clark-Atlanta University, the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Middle Tennessee State University, the University of North Georgia, Valdosta State University, Oglethorpe University and Tulane University all converged on the Morehouse's campus with the hope of impressing the judges.

Having received several first place awards in the various formats of debate competition, the Morehouse debaters proved their ability to win-over judges.

"Morehouse guys are always well-spoken," Garrett Morin, a judge from the University of North Georgia, said. "They emit confidence in their presence alone." Before the debaters began, Morin listed qualities he looks for during competitions and according his vote, the Morehouse team met his expectations.

Morin and many other judges during the tournament voted for the men in the maroon blazers with the Morehouse seal attached. In total, Morehouse students walked away with more than a dozen trophies.

It appears that the team garnered just as many admirers as awards. During breaks, members of opposing teams compared stories about the men of Morehouse they

debated or simply encountered on campus.

"I actually enjoyed listening to Rodje's speech and that rarely happens at tournaments," Sina Mansouri, a junior at the acclaimed Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana, said as she described Morehouse's team captain.

Also, Keven Rudrow, a member of the Valdosta State team (which proved to be Morehouse's biggest competitor) said the Morehouse debaters have a reputation for being effective and intellectual speakers.

The coach of the Morehouse debate team, who is an attorney, professor, alumnus, and former political consultant, also praised this year's team – but with one caveat.

"Our students are capable of consistently performing well against the top schools, but the only thing that could hold us back is funding," Coach Kenneth Newby said. Newby added that the college's president has been committed to supporting the team and this has allowed them to start making arrangements to attend the world championships held in India this year.

The first time the Morehouse team went to the world championships was during Newby's senior year in 1997. The next, and only other, time Morehouse participated was last year when Newby fought again – this time as the coach – to have the school represented in the competition.

The current team is currently ranked fourth in the nation and is composed of students from varying majors, classifications and backgrounds, but they all recognize that the persuasion and analytical skills developed during debate are instrumental for every career field.

Not only have the students mastered the art of oration but they are also uniquely equipped to formulate and defend positions relating to all disciplines. If the Morehouse team can maintain its winning combination of dedicated debaters, passionate coaches, and adequate funding, it will continue to promote and enhance the institution as a whole.

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NEWSLINE

A NEW MINOR AT MOREHOUSE: 3M OFFICIALS RECENTLY PRESENTED MOREHOUSE WITH A CHECK FOR \$93,000 TO DEVELOP A MINOR IN SALES WITHIN THE DIVISION OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND ECONOMICS' MARKETING DEPARTMENT.

LOSING STREAK CONTINUES: KENTUCKY STATE THOROUGHBREDS DEFEATED MOREHOUSE'S MAROON TIGERS 44-0 OVER THE WEEKEND PUTTING THE SEASON RECORD AT 2-8.

ALL IN THE FAMILY: JASON CARTER, GRANDSON OF FORMER GEORGIA GOVERNOR AND 39TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES JIMMY CARTER, RECENTLY ANNOUNCED HIS CANDIDACY FOR GOVERNOR OF GEORGIA. HE IS SET TO CHALLENGE NATHAN DEAL IN THE 2014 RACE.

"THE BODY'S ISSUES" IS A SUCCESS: THE MAROON TIGER'S BODY ISSUE RECENTLY GARNERED OVER 75K VIEWS FOR ITS ONLINE EDITION. AL JAZEERA IS ALSO SET TO RUN A STORY ON THE EDITION.

THE CHINESE LANGUAGE MASTER: WILLIE THOMPSON '16 THOMPSON RECENTLY FINISHED WITH A SPECIAL PARTICIPATION PRIZE IN THE 2013 JIANGSU CUP AT EMORY UNIVERSITY, BECOMING THE FIRST MOREHOUSE STUDENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CHINESE LANGUAGE COMPETITION AND THE ONLY AFRICAN AMERICAN TO COMPETE THIS YEAR. HIS PRIZE IS A FOUR-WEEK SCHOLARSHIP TO STUDY AT NANJING UNIVERSITY IN THE JIANGSU PROVINCE.

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A LOOK INTO THE ROYAL QUEENS OF THE AUC

JAMES PARKER
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR
JAMESJR.PARKER@GMAIL.COM

An AUC queen is no longer just beautiful, elegant and smart. The three women selected to represent the institutions in the Atlanta University Center have made being servant leaders their top priority this year.

Miss Morehouse College, Jasmine Walker (also referred to as Miss Maroon and White), spends a majority of her time in service. She is the co-founder of GirlSprouts, a mentoring program at Kennedy Middle School which put over 40 young girls on paths toward college. Walker is also a mentor and tutor to elementary school students through Operation P.E.A.C.E.

As the community service chair of Spelman College's Pre-Alumnae Council, she works to get other women involved in volunteering opportunities in the areas around the AUC. In her role as an ambassador for the United Negro College Fund (UNCF), Walker advocates for increased scholarships for African-American students in need of financial assistance.

Walker said her platform as Miss Morehouse entitled "Give Me You" focuses on "building higher self-esteem through healthier relationships and better eating and exercising habits." For her most recent event to achieve this goal, she partnered with Project House and the Spelman Pre Alumnae Council to give food, clothing, and blankets to the homeless. Her next event will consist of working with women interested in learning about the Miss Morehouse position making a Thanksgiving basket for a family in the West End community. She intends to continue her benevolent efforts after graduation by starting a school for children in low-income neighborhoods who have

a passion for dance and the arts.

Ebony McCovery, Miss Clark-Atlanta University, also devotes much of her time to her institution and the surrounding area. As a Joseph E. Lowery Institute Change Agent, she mentors students at Perkerson Elementary School, works with other college students in Atlanta to promote non-violence, and recently sat on a panel at Clark-Atlanta to raise awareness about domestic violence.

McCovery's love for children is evident. "I am all about youth empowerment," McCovery said. "I think that everyone should have a fair chance to succeed in life." To ensure that others do succeed, she plans to attend graduate school while teaching full-time. Miss Clark-Atlanta was recently offered a position with Teach for America and is currently deciding on a location in which to serve.

Just as noticeable as McCovery's passion for children is her devotion to – and pride in – her school. She said she wanted to represent Clark-Atlanta in this position since her freshman year and she continues to work to make it a better place for all students.

"I really love CAU, so why not do something that's going to benefit the school that I love so much," McCovery said, in describing why she chose to be Miss Clark-Atlanta. Her platform is centered around all students doing their part to make a positive impact on the campus and its students. Her goal is to have each individual contribute in such a way that their legacy and influence will remain even after they graduate.

It is currently Miss Royal Court Week at Clark-Atlanta, so McCovery is hosting several events including Tuesday's "Great Pretenders" to raise food for disadvantaged individuals before Thanksgiving. Students donated canned food items, dressed like celebrities, and held a lip-singing contest. Thursday there will be a

mixer and Scandal television show watch party in addition to an open-mic night Wednesday and several other events throughout the week.

Miss Spelman College, Joi Crenshaw, spends much of her time in service abroad. This summer Crenshaw went to Ankara, Turkey to delve into their culture and history and she previously spent an entire semester in Cape Town, South Africa. She said she would go back to South Africa anytime if she has the chance. In her role, Crenshaw represents the college to perspective students, families, and donors. She also travels during the year as an ambassador for the institution, and is a role model for current students at Spelman.

"I was driven to this position because I love Spelman so much and I wanted to serve in this way," Crenshaw said. "I definitely appreciate every opportunity to be on campus and interact with the students."

Her platform, "Let's Save the Children," allows her to raise awareness about physically, mentally, and sexually abused children. She participated in several activities so far this year and has already begun planning to host events in the spring semester.

The competition to become the 23rd Miss Spelman College was Crenshaw's first pageant experience, so she worried about choosing a talent to perform and other components like the opening dance. It is only a few months later and her attention has shifted completely toward law school. After Spelman hosted its graduate-school fair, she followed-up the experience by visiting several programs in California last week.

Crenshaw, McCovery, and Walker represent the AUC with more than class and grace. They have made it their mission to lead by serving—and in serving, they became world leaders

JASMINE WALKER

Miss Maroon & White

Major: Psychology with a Concentration in Management

Hometown: New Orleans, Louisiana
Greek Affiliation: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Platform: "Give Me You"



STUDENTS REACT TO 'UNLEASH THE GREEKS' STEP SHOW

MATTHEW JAMES
STAFF WRITER
MTJAMES95@YAHOO.COM

Packed with college students fervently anticipating the "Unleash the Greeks" homecoming step show, Forbes Arena gave off an aura of purpose amid the roaring fans and loud music. Something grand was at stake for every fraternity and sorority involved—something to show for the hours of hard work and practice it took to perfect their routines.

Many students felt that the overall quality of the event held on October 26 was very good. One student in particular, Spelman College freshman Selest Braddock, shared her thoughts after attending her first Greek step show.

"Most of the groups were pretty good," Braddock said, "It was fun to see everybody come out and show their talents [so] all-in-all there wasn't really anything bad about it."

Even though popular sentiment seemed to be in favor of the show, there were some students who believed that – though a good event – it could have been improved.

"Some things that would have made the event better were cheaper prices, better phone service, and better security," Wayne Stevens, a Morehouse College freshman said. Many of his suggestions are echoed throughout the year in reference to other school sponsored events as well.

Stevens also offered more specific tips for the show's producers. "[Organizers] were inefficient with how they separated the groups, and the quality of the speakers was too muffled," Stevens said. Technical difficulties aside, many students admire the com-

mitment and sacrifices made by all participants to make this event a success. Each competing team had to learn their routines and balance their academic and social lives—in addition to the strenuous practice sessions they had to endure. Brandon Anderson, a junior at Morehouse College and resident advisor for Graves Hall, shared his thoughts on preparing for the step show.

"On top of academics and everything else pertaining to school, we had to work together as a team," Anderson, who is currently a part of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. step team, said. "There were times when we couldn't kick it with the rest of our friends because we had to practice."

Anderson also talked about the pressure associated with surpassing the fraternity's step team from last year, who placed first in the competition.

Anderson said that in preparing for the show, he and his fraternity brothers knew it would be a challenge to exceed the standards set by last year's team. He went on to say that being more creative with choreography was a key component for the team going into the competition.

Eventually, they all relaxed and Anderson said that once the necessary time and effort was put into practicing, he knew they had "worked too hard for there to be any pressure."

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority came out victorious in the end, though all participants contributed to a successful event.

Based on what was shown at the 2013 Unleash the Greeks step show, the standard for a quality event has been set even higher for future years.

WHAT SHOULD OUR NEXT SPECIAL EDITION BE?

ELECTION DAY FOR ATLANTA RESIDENTS

TIFFANY PENNAMON

CONTRIBUTING WRITER
TPENNAMO@SCMAIL.SPELMAN.EDU

Off-year elections, like presidential elections, determine the local politicians we place into office. They are a reflection of the closest opinions, thoughts, and ideals of constituents. This past Tuesday on November 5th, 2013, the country held its off-year elections that included two gubernatorial races, state legislative elections, and mayoral races around the U.S.

In Atlanta, citizens voted for the Office of the Mayor, for City Council President, City Council Members, and for Atlanta Public School Board of Education Members. Atlanta is one of the largest cities in the Southeastern United States and should be run by a competent mayor. Kasim Reed, 44, reassured voters once again by winning a second mayoral term. The Associated Press reported, "Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed has been elected to a second term, defeating three little-known challengers as he continues to raise his profile overseeing a key city in the South."

Preliminary election results showed Reed winning another four year-term in Tuesday's election. Reed touted reforms to the city's pension system, efforts to reduce crime, and his hiring of additional police officers. The other candidates were mediator Al Bartell, financial planner Fraser Duke and consultant Glenn Wrightson. The race was officially nonpartisan."

To give a brief synopsis of the Atlanta Municipal Elections, the Atlanta Journal Constitution and the Buckhead Patch reported the results soon after polls closed. Quoting Mayor Reed, he says that being mayor is "his 'dream job'" and he says he has no interest in other offices." The elected Atlanta City Council President and Members include President Ceasar Mitchell (who is expected to make a bid for mayor in 2017), Mary Norwood, Andre Dickens, Yolanda Adrean, Kwanza Hall, Michael Julian Bond, C.T. Martin, Carla Smith, Ivory Lee Young Jr., Clea Winslow, Alex Wan, Howard Shook, Felicia Moore, Keisha Lance Bottoms and Joyce Sheperd.

Atlanta Public School Board of Education Members include Brenda Muhammad (District 1), Byron Amos (Vice-Chair,

District 2), Cecily Harsch-Kinnane (District 3), Nancy Meister (District 4), LaChandra Butler-Burks (District 5), Yolanda Johnson (District 6). Courtney English (Member at Large), Reuben R. McDaniel III (Chair, Member at Large), and Emmett Johnson (Member at Large). The school board elections were important this year following the cheating scandal in APS schools in past years and board members will elect a new superintendent soon. Jasmine Lucas, a sophomore at Spelman says, "Leaders in education are important for cultivating younger citizens to grow into citizens that give back to the community."

In the Atlanta University Center, students come from various states and countries around the globe. However, local politics play an important role in the daily life of every college student. Residents from the Atlanta area were encouraged to go to the polls, let their voices be heard, and their votes counted.

Dr. Opal Moore, Associate Professor of Creative Writing and the director of the Honors Program, stated on Tuesday, "I'm counting on [students] to recognize the importance of the midterm elections, which are as important to our local politics as the national elections are to our national and international politics." She invited students to bring their Peach voter sticker to her office as well. Recent tweets from AUC students on twitter emphasized that the AUC can be an influential voting bloc in smaller elections such as the off-year elections. It is our duty to bring to light issues that affect our living circumstances, education, and rights. In doing so, it is our duty to vote even in the smallest of elections.

Chicago native and Spelman sophomore, Tamara Byrd said, "As someone who's grown up in another state, it's difficult for me to identify with the politicians here." Atlanta politics can be quite confusing to students from other states because of each mayoral candidate's political platform and constituent ideas in different regions. Furthermore, being informed as a citizen is germane to making a difference locally and nationally. Were you able to vote? Tell us your thoughts on the recent re-election of Mayor Kasim Reed and other elected officials.

MEET SENATOR CORY BOOKER: FIRST ELECTED BLACK SENATOR SINCE OBAMA

SARAH BROKENBOROUGH

STAFF WRITER
SBROKENB@SCMAIL.SPELMAN.EDU

Former Mayor of Newark, Cory Booker won New Jersey's Oct. 16 special election costing New Jersey taxpayers an approximately \$24 million, defeating Republican Steve Lonegan.

Booker resigned as mayor of Newark at midnight before Vice President Joe Biden swore him in at noon on Oct. 31.

He has served a total of seven years as Mayor of Newark and replaced Senator Jeffery (R-NJ) Chisea who was appointed as interim senator by Governor Chris Christie following the death of Senator Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ), who lost his battle with cancer in June.

Booker won the special election with fifty-five percent of the vote; he will serve the remainder of Lautenberg's term, which ends Jan 15. Booker's mayoral replacement will be City Councilman Luis Quintana. Sen. Booker plans for running for re-election in 2014.

Hours after swearing him in, Booker was placed on the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Environmental and Public Works, and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Senator Booker has publicly stated that he would like to cosponsor the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), a bill making discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity illegal. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 states that the discrimination based on color, sex, nationality, religion, age, or disability is illegal. The ENDA bill was passed on Nov 15.

Booker, the ninth African American in history

to serve in the US Senate, is also the fourth African American to be popularly elected into the Senate. Among this shortlist of popularly elected African American senators is President Barack Obama when he was elected to the Senate in 2004, Massachusetts Republican Edward Brooke in 1966, and Illinois Democrat Carol Moseley Braun in 1992.

Sophomore Joshua Drumming states, "I believe that Cory Booker's election is momentous, not just because he's the first African-American to be elected to the Senate from New Jersey, but because he has shown many a time that he has a genuine interest and concern for the welfare of those that he represents."

Currently, Booker is the only African American senator besides Senator Tim Scott (R-SC), who was appointed by Governor Nikki Haley last December after Senator Jim DeMint resigned to focus his efforts on heading the Heritage Foundation.

Booker grew up in suburban Harrington Park, NJ. He is the son of 2 IBM executives, played football at Stanford University, was a Rhodes Scholar and graduated from Yale Law School.

Sophomore Atesia Mickens states, "I like Cory Booker's approach to politics. He says what he feels, which is necessary in a political arena where people are afraid to say what they really want because they want to appeal to certain support base. Booker forsakes demur for brash in order to truly speak on the issues."

At the swearing in ceremony, Booker was showered with congratulations and advice from colleagues and friends. Senator Cory Booker stated, "Be humble, and learn as much as you can, but at the end of the day, you were elected for a reason. Don't forget that. Don't let the Senate change you. Try to change the Senate."

SENATOR BOOKER'S POLITICAL POSITIONS

ABORTION: opposes repealing Roe v. Wade

CLIMATE CHANGE: supports cap-and-trade approach to dealing with greenhouse gas emissions

EDUCATION: supports education reform and privatization of education (Charter schools, the controversial school voucher program, merit pay for teachers)

GUN RIGHTS: Defends the right for law-abiding citizens to own firearms; opposes carrying concealed loaded weapons across state borders; supports closing "gun show loophole" which

allows the sale of guns without a background check, supports banning assault rifles

LGBTQ RIGHTS: Refuses to perform any marriage ceremonies until same-sex couples are legally allowed to marry in NJ. On October 21, 2013 at 12:01 am when same-sex marriage became legal in New Jersey, Booker began performing same-sex and opposite-sex marriage ceremonies

MINIMUM WAGE: supports raising the federal minimum wage to \$10.10

HOW DEMOCRATIC ARE WE? A LOOK INTO THE AUC'S DIVERSE POLITICAL VIEWS

KADIJAH NDOYE

WORLD AND LOCAL EDITOR
KNDOYE@SCMAIL.SPELMAN.EDU

As colleges are diverse in race, gender, social class or orientation, they also contain diverse viewpoints on American politics.

The AUC, like many institutions of higher learning, is a microcosmic world with diverse insight on domestic and foreign policy. Even so, there exists a dominance and even unspoken understanding that students do or should hold views in alignment with the liberal or Democratic Party.

A bipartisan style of government in the United States allows citizens to affiliate with either of the two major parties, the Republican Party or Democratic Party, while others are independent and others do not vote.

As students and faculty comprised mainly of people of African descent, the term black conservative can be angering considering the toted laissez-faire mentality of conservatives at a time when African Americans are continually plagued with socioeconomic struggles and legislation written to shame and marginalize those that are not in the elite.

"It makes sense to be black and vote for what you believe in." Courtney Willis, a sophomore Spanish major at Spelman College, said.

A group of Morehouse students decided to offer an alternative option for those students who do not follow the campus' majority opinion on political ideologies.

"The purpose of the organization is to bring a diversity of ideas...challenge the ideas that a majority of people feel on campus", Mark Smith, a senior Sociology major and Political Director of the Morehouse Republicans, said.

He noticed, in his freshman year as a Political Science major, that some professors brought their personal biases to the classroom. While he expected diversity upon arriving to Morehouse, he was not surprised by the lack of diversity in political opinion.

Dr. Alwyn Westfield, a professor of Political Theory at Spelman College, said, "I teach a well-rounded class and look at different perspectives like Marxism, Liberalism, Conservatism, and even Totalitarianism."

He makes the point that conservative are in fact liberals to the extreme right. His upbringing, in a third-world country and in England, as well as his diplomatic and political experiences abroad has shaped his holistic teaching style. In essence, professors teach from a place of comfort that is molded by their own experiences.

The Morehouse Republicans work with the departments to foster discussions surrounding the partiality of class discussion. Even so, Smith notices some hesitance from professors. In terms

of event planning, there is a cooperation allowing them to host speakers like Herman Cain.

Spelman College students have adopted the same practice as the Morehouse Republicans in challenge the majority to think in more diverse terms of political viewpoints.

"The Social-lite Organization is the one group on campus that tries to show both the Democratic and Republican points of view," Faith Reid, a sophomore Environmental Science major at Spelman College, said.

She references the panel discussion hosted by Social-lite during the presidential elections that Smith was involved in. Often when delineating between political affiliations, especially in the African American community, a common thread of anti-black versus pro-black rhetoric emerges.

"A lot of times, people look at it as one party doing good for black people and the other as doing bad for black people", Faith Kirkland, a sophomore Biology major at Spelman College said.

"I feel that the Republican Party can do more to promote bipartisan unity. When they all take on the mentality as extreme conservatives, it does little for the American people and even their constituents because nothing gets done", Tiffany Penamon, sophomore English major at Spelman College, said. Having different political and religious organizations at work in the AUC is important as it reflects the diversity of the student

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EDITOR'S NOTES: Earlier this semester, MT and the Morehouse Business Association teamed together to publish a monthly spread of the newly created MBA Today Newsletter in The Maroon Tiger. These articles were created, edited and published initially by The Morehouse Business Association and transferred to MT for publishing. For more information on the Morehouse Business Association or MBA Today please contact its Editor-in-Chief, Clinton James at Clinton.m.james3@gmail.com

--Darren W. Martin, Jr., Editor-in-Chief

THE DEVASTATION OF THE PLUS LOAN DENIALS

According to Cameron French, a spokesman for the United States Education Department, from March through September of this year, more than 60,000 parents applying for PLUS loans for students at historically black colleges were denied, a denial rate of 70%.

U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan apologized to historically black colleges last month for the miscommunication in the changes in loan eligibility. Additionally, the Department of Education stated that until 2011, applicants were approved for a PLUS loan as long as no debt was more than 90 days delinquent, and there were no foreclosures, bankruptcies, tax liens, wage garnishments, or student loan defaults in the past five years.

However, under the new standards, unpaid debts in collection and student loans written off as unpayable in the previous five years also count against applicants. As of earlier this year, 400,000 parents have been denied a PLUS loan since the new standards went into effect. The department of education, which does not track defaults for the PLUS Program, has said the changes bring its credit standards in line with those of other federal loan programs and ensures that parents are not taking out loans they cannot afford to pay back.

Students whose parents are denied the PLUS loan automatically qualify for more in unsubsidized Stafford loans. Unlike the parent PLUS loans, however, which have no cap, students can borrow only up to a certain amount in additional federal loans.

Unfortunately, the capped available amounts of the Stafford loans are not nearly enough to cover most students' needs and don't come near the amount of the PLUS loan. Historically black colleges and universities were particularly hard hit by the PLUS loan eligibility policy change.

Over 14,600 students at HBCUs were declined loans according to HBCU advocates and college Presidents.

"Some 14,000 HBCU students came to our campuses last year, learned that their Parent PLUS applications had been denied and were sent back home," Dr. William Harvey, President of Hampton University in Virginia since 1978, and the Chair of President Obama's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, said.

All HBCUs were impacted, but those who saw the most students denied loans and leave school in the fall of 2012, were as follows:

1. North Carolina Central University (NC): 609 students denied loans;
2. Howard University (DC): 607 students denied loans;
3. Florida A&M University (FL): 569 students denied loans;
4. Prairie View A&M (TX): 528 students denied loans;
5. Grambling State University (LA): 523 students denied loans;

In response to the outcry from historically black colleges, the federal agency revamped its appeals process for PLUS loans this year and both colleges and applicants are now notified if they are eligible for an appeal. In September 2013, during the HBCU conference in Washington DC, an Education Department official told college financial aid officers that the department had reversed the denials in more than 98 percent of the appeals that had been filed so far.

PLUS Loans will continue to be a hot topic in the HBCU community as a result of over 80 percent of HBCU budgets come from these loans. While many HBCUs have streamlined their budgets, like Morehouse College has, there are others who might not be able to withstand the severe and devastating effects of these changes. The survival of many HBCUs are in jeopardy, and as long as the federal government continues to enforce stringent measures for Plus loans approval, the future of HBCUs will be at stake and thousands of African American students will be denied a college education.

WHAT'S NEW IN GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY?

SOUTH KOREA'S LG ELECTRONICS UNVEILS A CURVED SMARTPHONE

LG Electronics Inc. recently released their curved Smartphone in the South Korean market as they gauge consumer appetite. Samsung, one of LG Electronics biggest competitors, launched a variant of the curved phone with the Galaxy Note earlier this month as the world's first Smartphone with a display slightly curved side to side.

The curved Smartphone proves to be innovational because curved smart phones provide a more comfortable grip than flat-screen models, its curved video display offers more immersive video watching experience, and the phone uses a curved battery to support its form factor.

Curved displays and flexible screens will be the new battleground for phone makers as many analysts predict this will transform the high-end Smartphone market when it does come to America. Unfortunately, the innovational phone does not have enough current features to lure big consumers, but expect to see a wave of curved smart phones in the distant future. Apple is currently working on a smart watch that may potentially have a curved screen, but Apple's sources have yet to validate.



APPLE RELEASE IPAD AIR

Apple recently released one of two of their new iPads, the iPad Air, for \$499. Apple decided to return to its roots in producing a large tablet, but this tablet has the potential to be game changing, as consumers consistently demand tablets over PC's.



The iPad air sports a slimmer look and is iPad mini inspired in terms of design with a 43% smaller bezel, 20% thinner case, and is approximately one pound, according to sources at TechCrunch. Compared to its 4th generation family, the iPad air is much more comfortable to hold and the aesthetics of the tablet is astounding because returning to the 9.7 in display provides a more realistic feel.

Some of the popular features this tablet contains are dual microphones which will assist with sound quality, a new A7 64 bit processor that acts similar to the iPhone 5S' "forward thinking" device, and there is an update with the camera (especially with the FaceTime HD camera that offers 1080p video calling instead of 720p on the last model. With its many amenities, the iPad Air will be a competitive table despite being 10 in, but will challenge PC owners as PCs become harder to find.



COMMON SENSE POINTERS TO GET "THAT" BUSINESS INTERNSHIP

Acquiring a summer internship or a full-time employment opportunity will keep some business students on a persistent grind until the end of this semester. Many of you have begun filling out applications, interviewing, or weighing offers. As the process become sometimes overwhelming, consider these pointers to land your ideal internship or job.

- The first step is to make a list of the companies you would like to work for. One should be able to explain why and specifically identify the ways in which you would be a benefit to the company.
- The second step is to thoroughly research each company to find their latest news, check their website for history, values, and in-depth descriptions of positions. Create a chart weighing the pros and cons of each of the firms. Moreover, you are encouraged to use creativity in your research by going beyond the status quo of working for corporate America. Smaller companies, boutique companies or finding companies that feed your passion are worthy of your search.
- Always make sure that your resume is current and the format is easy to read. Your cover letter, and interviewing skills should be top notch. It is important to list your education, work experience, leadership positions, community service and development on your resume. All of the aforementioned is key because your resume is the tool used to speak to potential employers. It is important that you make sure you appeal to different jobs by demonstrating your varied experience. Additionally, be sure to tailor your resume to the job or industry where you're seeking employment.

- Networking is always huge and it is important to attend MBA informationals. Connect with the business world via LinkedIn, and take advantage of the different networking events to find and take advantage of opportunities. Be open to discussions with those who you think might not be directly in your desired sphere of interest. Although someone may not directly be able to help you, chances are they may be willing to give good advice. Some are able to connect you to someone who helps your quest.

- Investigate programs beyond the Morehouse Business Association, designed for your success, programs such as Managing Leaders for Tomorrow, Sponsoring Educational Opportunity (SEO) and INROADS.

- Another way to receive your ideal internship is to stay abreast of business news and trends. Business knowledge will increase your acumen and improve your marketability. Know the history and core technical skills of your industry by reading Vault Guides, Wall Street Oasis or Training the Street for bankers, Wall Street Journal, and many other business publications. It is important to know the why and how behind an article. Try to always think in that manner when reading articles because such insight will help you better articulate the issues.

- Choose friends, family, faculty, mentors, or others whose feedback you respect. Remember the old saying that "you don't get a second chance to make a first impression!" Practice your presentation skills! Practice and improve your presentation skills in front of the mirror and with others. Interviewing skills, case studies, communication, body language and eye contact, very seldom come naturally. Practicing your communicative & presentation skills is imperative to garner the self-confidence that companies look for.

- Lastly, I want to encourage you to never give up!!!

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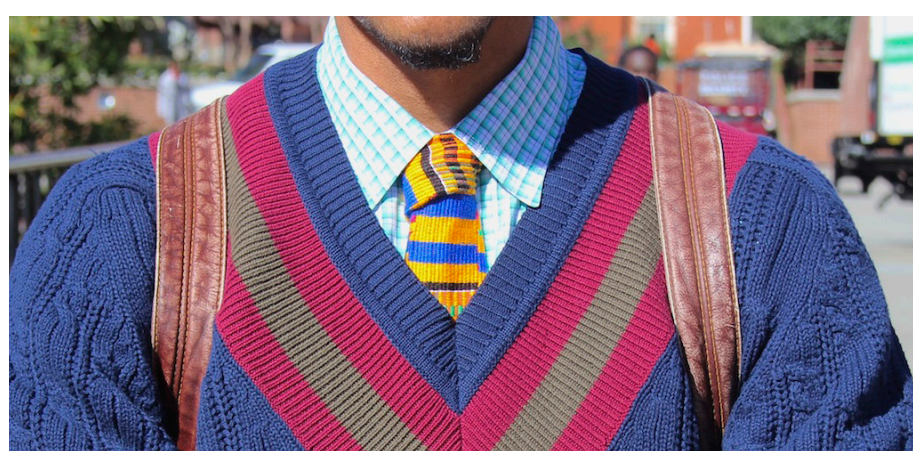
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CAMPUS STREET VIEW



NAME: ARTIMEAUS MOORE

Major: Business Marketing
 Hometown: Springfield, IL
 Classification: Senior
 MT: What inspires your style?
 Artimeus Moore: I'm inspired most by magazines and blogs. I draw a lot inspiration from Esquire, GQ, and Details. Two of my style icons are Kanye West and Angel Bespoke. However, a lot of my style is derived from emotion.



NAME: GUY ANTHONY WILLIAMS II

Major: Biology
 Hometown: Lawrence, Kansas
 Classification: Junior
 MT: What is your favorite style quote?
 Guy Williams: My favorite quote is from Pharrell, "I don't really know about style mistakes." Since style is a form of self-expression, as long as it radiates confidence in the outfit, the outfit won't be perceived as poor fashion.



AUTHOR: JALEN LAW
 ASSOCIATE
 PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
 JALENLAW@GMAIL.COM



NAME: TRAYVON JACKSON

Major: Urban Studies & Economics Double Major
 Hometown: Troy, New York
 Classification: Junior
 MT: What influences your personal style?
 Trayvon Jackson: My strongest influence is Phoebe Philo's take on silhouette and color at Céline. Céline's 2011 collection was practically a tutorial on creating flattering looks for almost any silhouette. It moved me to reconsider my profile within the framework of style and creative direction.



TALENT SEARCH: U. OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SEEKS JOURNALISM GRADUATE STUDENTS



DARREN MARTIN

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
DARRENMARTIN884@GMAIL.COM

Top graduate schools around the country are yearning for equipped, educated, creative and committed young Black men to occupy their institutions. Year after year, Morehouse satisfies this desire in abundance by producing competitive candidates. Morehouse departments have found a way to produce well-rounded intellectuals, regardless of the department's size or fiscal situation.

A prime example of this virtue is the Journalism and Sports Program, a minor offered by the college headed by Professor Ron Thomas, who also advises The Maroon Tiger. In the seven years that the Journalism and Sports Program has been in existence, it has produced promising results.

Thomas strongly encourages journalism students to attend graduate school once they leave Morehouse College, and last week he participated in a University of Southern California Faculty Visit Program created to attract more black and Hispanic students to USC.

"I think it is important for our students who are interested in a career in journalism to go to grad school," Thomas said, "particularly with us because we're a minor, not a major, so they can only take a maximum of four (journalism) classes here."

He has seen success throughout the seven years that he has headed the program.

Six former Journalism and Sports students as well as Maroon Tiger staffers (Morehouse's Trevell Anderson, Kenley Hargett, Paul Maga, Thomas Scott, Max Tyler and Nikki Tucker from Clark Atlanta), are currently in graduate school for communications or journalism, and 10 others have already obtained a master's degree in journalism or a related field. That includes Spelman's Regina Graham's master's from USC.

Already, 26 former journalism students/The Maroon Tiger staff members are working in the media industry – including in public relations, digital communications, business

communications, broadcast journalism and print journalism.

Thomas prides his students' commitment to their field and dedication to the program and is shocked at the results of the program in its beginning phase as a minor.

"One thing that I think is very interesting is that we are a small program but our students have gotten into some of the best graduate programs in the country," Thomas said.

Nine of the 16 former Morehouse journalism students and Maroon Tiger staffers who have pursued graduate communication or journalism studies have attended four out of the top 10 journalism programs: Columbia, Northwestern and Syracuse universities, along with University of Missouri-Columbia.

So when the University of Southern California called Thomas to tour their institution, Thomas believed that it was a great opportunity to add USC to the running list of institutions that Morehouse Men attend.

Dr. Ernest J. Wilson III, Dean of USC's Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, and Thomas both believe that there is a need for a bigger presence of Black males in those fields.

"There has been a decrease in males in the journalism profession," Thomas said. "It is important to be committed to diversifying the profession in general."

Wilson agrees with this sentiment and said that creating diversity at Annenberg was a primary reason for inviting journalism professors from Morehouse College, Morgan State, University of Miami and Cal State Los Angeles to the campus.

"It is in the charter of the school to be a diverse campus," Wilson said, referring to USC's founding principles.

Wilson also serves as a member of the board of the Pacific Council on International Policy and the National Academies' Computer Science and Telecommunications Board.

"As I talk to the people in government, they are saying, 'Don't send us the stereotypical student, send us diversity,'" Wilson explained.

Wilson believes that the Annenberg School is one of

the most competitive schools in the job field and produces a wide-range of communication and journalism professionals.

"We call it the 'Annenberg Advantage,'" Wilson said. "Inside the school's curriculum is a wide scope of opportunities from sports media and society, to digital entrepreneurship and even media economics. We have an unparalleled relationship with practitioners and unparalleled ties with Hollywood; thus, you have a network outside of the school and a network inside of the school."

While visiting USC, Thomas had a change to experience this "Annenberg Advantage."

"It's right in the heart of LA, so it's an urban campus – it's a big block of territory, very attractive," Thomas said.

He explained that during his trip he was able to meet with different Annenberg faculty members and even current graduate students who expressed their delight with the school for Communication and Journalism.

Wilson debunks the myth that you have to love journalism to attend Annenberg.

"Communication today is what the mission of liberal arts once was – you can go into a range of communications from interpersonal to business," he said. "You can receive a public relations degree, International Relations communication degree and even a digital communications degree."

Annenberg surveyed 60 percent of the 2012 graduating class and found that 95 percent have jobs in the media industry and 98 percent of those graduates have jobs in the field they want to be in.

Wilson expressed his desire for more Men of Morehouse to apply to Annenberg.

"We need some of those Morehouse Men who do so well to come to us," he said. "It's all about passion and commitment."

For more information on Annenberg, visit: www.annenberg.usc.edu

For information on the Morehouse College Journalism and Sports Program visit: www.morehouse.edu/academics/journalism.

THE POLITICS OF CHIVERS

JOSHUA DRUMMING

CONTRIBUTING WRITER
JOSHDRUMMING@YAHOO.COM

The dilemmas of dilemmas, the question that has sat precariously on the tip of our tongues since time immemorial: Who shall I sit with at lunch? What social stigmas am I jumping into by sitting at one table as opposed to another or what social blessings may be bestowed upon me with my forethought in table selection?

Students in the Atlanta University Center do not simply sit at a table of arbitrary selection; they pick based upon everything from freshman experiences to their geographic origin to their complexion.

"I can only speak for my group of friends, but I have noticed that we all have a similar outward appearance in that we all have natural hair and dress in a style that is not 'typical' of Spelman," sophomore Kadajah Ndoye said, "My two best friends here are Political Science majors and I don't tend to have too many friends that are not social science majors."

While seemingly trivial, the placement of students in a cafeteria can serve as a rather intriguing psychological experiment. By looking at where one is seated in the cafeteria, the students' backgrounds are in clear view of any that care to take a more inquiring eye at the situation.

Those who are "popular" will establish a clique that encourages assimilation and discourages individuality. Many times, this will be groups that have unconsciously united with one another due to a shared sense of unity or socio-economic background.

"You sit with your common interest," freshman Morgan Anderson said. "You sit with people that look like you, act like you. It's hard to approach them and enter their world, unless you're like them

in a way, dress like them, have personalities like them."

Sometimes, the connections established between people are derived from much more recent affairs. Friends are said to be those who suffer with you, thus it makes perfect sense that cafeteria politics are commonly influenced by whom you bunked with in your freshman year.

"If you want to look at it from the perspective of freshmen, I would guess that people would naturally gravitate toward the people that they see the most, which would be the people that they see in their dorm," freshman Marleca Higgs said. "I do, however, think that it also depends on how sociable you are. Some people will just try to associate themselves with as many people as they can."

While others live for social interaction, wearing their extrovert patch on their shoulders with pride, others prefer a more solitary life – at least from time to time.

"I feel more comfortable sitting with myself if I'm in a somber mood or if it's just early in the morning, but as the day progresses, I'll sit with others," sophomore Clayton Mason said.

There will always be those that opt for the life of solitude, but everyone who sits alone is not doing it of their own volition. Sometimes people sit alone because they do not feel the sisterhood or brotherhood that many unconsciously and yet so fervently longed for when they decided to apply to attend an Atlanta University Center school.

"I sit with people that don't have anyone to sit with, because this school is too small to have people sitting by themselves," sophomore Alicia Cole said. "People here are entirely too segregated, whether it be because of where you are from, whether you were on a stroll team, etc."

Whether conscious of it or not, we all play a part in cafeteria politics and while it is not inherently bad, students must learn to be cognizant of how something as small as who they sit with can have a profound influence on others.

SO I HEARD MOREHOUSE HAS A RUGBY TEAM?

SAIHIM WALLACE

STAFF WRITER
SAI.WALL@YAHOO.COM

If you're walking past Nabrit Mapp McBay around 6:00p.m during the week, it is likely that you will see a group of guys playing football, at least what seems to be football. However, it is not just any group of guys, and it is not football – it is the Morehouse Rugby team partaking in its routine practices.

Rugby is not exactly a common sport in urban areas and black communities, especially within the HBCU community, but last year, Jalani Traxler ('14) and Stephen O Reiley-Pol ('15) had the idea of starting a rugby team here in the Atlanta University Center. Seifuddin Saafir, along with two other students, serve as the captain of the AUC Saber Rugby Team. Currently, the organization only consists of Morehouse students but is open to all AUC students.

"Training for rugby can be a little more difficult because we have to work on increasing

body control and strength," Saafir said. "We start off the practices with a one-mile run. Then we do leg work such as lunges. We then work on drills passing the ball around. Our practices last usually two hours."

The Rugby team practices Monday through Thursday during the week and has games throughout the month. This year, they have played against Emory, Georgia State University, South Carolina, and Georgia Tech. When asked about the difficulties and successes of the rugby team, Saafir cited attendance and consistency as the main issues.

"Some of the difficulties were consistency and attending practices," he said. "However, we've been very progressive as a team and that is evident in the chemistry of our team". Other successes include the Rugby team's awareness on campus and more tournaments and games played.

"The Rugby team is like a small brotherhood. We build a connection when we play as a team and when the game is over, we fellowship. Rugby has a culture and decorum of fellowship," he added.

DREADED FIFTH YEAR

JOSHUA DRUMMING

CONTRIBUTING WRITER
JOSHDRUMMING@YAHOO.COM

People sit in a cramped room, some awake, some asleep, waiting for their resident director to come in. Today is yet another day of NSO and this is yet another meeting. The agenda of the day is four-year plans, but everyone present in the room knows that not all of their brothers will be leaving Morehouse's hallowed halls in four years.

It is becoming increasingly more common for students at both Morehouse and other colleges to stay well beyond the prescribed four years of college, staying for fifth and even sixth years due to finances, class loads, and a host of other obstacles. College has entered a state where many believe a fifth year to be inevitable.

"Sometimes life happens," junior Simon Montique said. "People have to take people's different situations into account.

Sometimes people are just not handling business and are forced to stay longer than they originally intended."

While a large portion of the students who stay beyond the prescribed four years do so because of events well within their control, others do as much as possible with limited resources.

"I have friends that didn't come in as full-time students," Montique said. "They came in as part-time students, sometimes taking as little as one class every semester, because that was all they had money for. These guys just had to take their time and grind it out."

In many cases, by the time students reach certain points in their collegiate academic careers, they are able to see what will be in their near futures. Some see their plans going right in line with the little pamphlets handed out by their respective schools, and others not. For the latter, they must muster up the inner fortitude to face this reality.

"I'm going to be a fifth-year student, but I've learned that when life gives you lemons, you bake a cake and leave life wondering how," junior Rodney Hunt said. "It's not so bad, really. I'll

just be well seasoned."

Once you come to college, many students are suggested to create a four year plan. This plan should ideally allow one to completely chart out their four years and come out in four years.

"Plan to be out in four years, but sometimes you just have to bite the bullet," junior Seifuddin Saafir said.

What students must remember, though, regardless of their institution of higher learning, is this: There is a method to the madness of getting from college matriculation to college graduation, and it is incumbent upon each and every student to teach themselves (or to get themselves taught) this method. It could very well affect the rest of their lives.

"I believe that the process of going through college depends not on academic excellence, but instead on how much students learn how to manipulate credits within a major," senior Mingo Clark said. "More than enough students succeed in graduating college within four years to show that the dreaded fifth year is far from being inevitable."

REVIVING THE MOREHOUSE SPIRIT

MATTHEW GARRETT

CONTRIBUTING WRITER
GARRETTMATT92@GMAIL.COM

The stimulating debates on Brown St. have taken form at random times of the day, but never like what a prospective student of Morehouse would see in 2010. Debate topics from Kendrick Johnson's murder, to Morehouse President Wilson's true intentions, to the use of natural fuel resources to even reforming the Black Panther Party of the 1960s and '70s have all taken place in the past few days. But the question of where black folks are headed was the most complex by far.

Looking at the horrific past of our ancestors, are African-Americans presently using that as fuel to make strides toward greatness and progression? "No taxation without representation" was one of the major slogans used during the 1750s and 1760s by British colonists in the 13 colonies. Ironically, decades later, a similar form of this was enforced by the newly independent country of the United States.

Disrespect at its highest form occurred when white

men, teenagers, and boys looked your grandfather or father in the eye and calling him a racial slur, with no fear at all. Ralph Ginzburg's "100 Years of Lynching" provides a great amount of evidence about the reality of the past, but this is the present. It is astonishing how often the N-word is used on and around HBCU campuses; some food for thought.

Now that we have access to all the resources we need, free education [grade schooling] libraries, smart phones, computers, etc., networking should not be a problem. The great Dr. Benjamin E. Mays hinted that a time would soon come when racism no longer played as large of a role as "black folks" would themselves.

A wise man once told me, there's nothing more dangerous than a "brotha" or "sista" in their groove. The challenge is to tune everything and anything that is holding you back, because the only thing holding you back is what you let hold you back. The task is simple. Put your energy, thoughts, vibes, and love into what you want for yourself and it will not only manifest itself in due time, but also bring more joy and peace into your life. If something is not making you happy, attempt to change it. Time

is short and life is fast. Do not allow anything to keep you from your pursuit of happiness.

The government justified slavery for hundreds of years, and now that we have the resources in place to succeed, we don't utilize them. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. found a way to organize millions to march with him, without Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram. When asked to look at the horrific past of my ancestors, are African-Americans presently using that as force, fuel and support to make strides toward greatness and progression?

This generation's spirit seems to be very dull and superficial. The only people I want to be in contact with are people who advocate and promote messages of positivity, progression and peace. All of the opportunities are in place here in the AUC from the students, to the staff, to the alums; it's a matter of application.

We have a past that only makes for a great legacy. Will you use your fuel to lead a path to greatness? Will you live a virtuous life, progress, move with confidence and promote unity, respect, love and peace?

Peace!

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE



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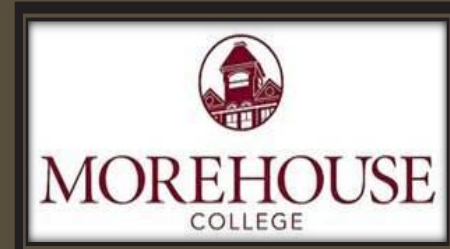
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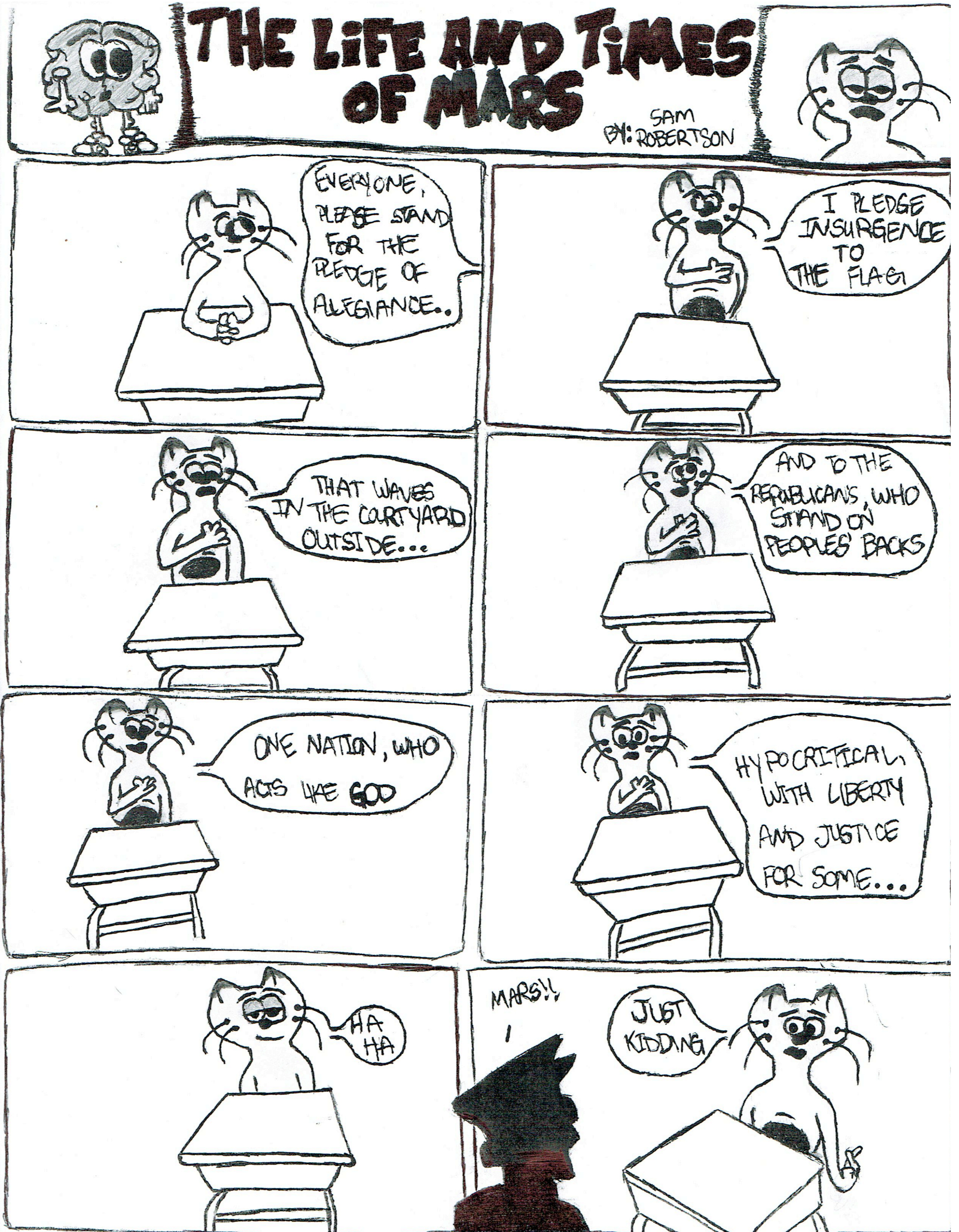
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CARTOON CORNER

The Life and Times of Mars

by Sam Robertson



LANTANA: HUSTLING 101

MORIBA CUMMINGS

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
MORIBACUMMINGS@YAHOO.COM

Raw. Passionate. Conscientious. — These are all terms that can be used to describe up-and-coming hip hop prodigy Lantana. Hailing from the streets of Cincinnati, Oh., the young emcee has lived a life that many of today's most well known hip hop faces fictitiously flaunt as a marketing ploy for that infamous "street cred." With Lantana, however, what you see is what you get. From serving a period of his life in jail, to lamenting his personal testament in his recently released single "All Hustle, No Luck," this young rapper gives an honorable attestation of what it means to be a hustler.

Born Marcus Waldon, the Cincinnati-based artist has always remained loyal to his roots, never hesitating to publicly acknowledge the place where it all began.

"Lantana is the first street I ever lived on, so that's where I get the name from," he told *The Maroon Tiger*.

Producing the likes of Bone Thugs-N-Harmony and Machine Gun Kelly, Ohio is known to crank out some of hip hop's most memorable and authentically fervent acts. Though Lantana looks up to his fellow Ohioan hip hop predecessors, he considers himself a more contemporary voice for his community, eventually intending on creating a lane for himself in due time.

"I'm trying to be another solid figure from my region who could bring a little more respect because for the most part, they don't talk about midwest music," he said. "Bone Thugs-N-Harmony is from 1990, and Machine Gun Kelly is a different type of music, so I feel like I'm bringing a new sound from where we're from."

Ever thankful for the positive feedback he has been receiving for his new material, Lantana reminisces on his four year stint in prison at the age of 19, citing it as a pivotal moment in his life, ultimately prompting him to make better choices.

"When I was 19, I ended up getting locked up for four years," he said. "That was a big turning point where I really took a look at myself and really figured out what I wanted to do. So, when I came out in 2011, I hit the ground running."

Seemingly making the necessary changes to his lifestyle, Lantana caught the eye of James "Lil' Henchman" Rosemond, who signed him to Polo Ground Music under the imprint of RCA/Sony, based on his raw appeal and positive spirit.

Now officially signed and managed, Lantana has recently released the intensely passionate lead single, "All Hustle, No Luck" off of his mixtape of the same name. Boasting that go-getter mentality that is often expounded as a necessity in the entertainment industry, Lantana makes it a point to stress that in order to reach that coveted level of self-fulfillment, one must make a way out of no way.

"All hustle, no luck, for real, man. To not wish, wait, or anything," he said. "In this day and age, they give you nothing. It's not even a Black or White thing."

Proving that the experience makes the man, Lantana extracts from personal episodes in his life to create music that is honest and relatable to a variety of audiences. Though he faced his fair share of adversities throughout his young adult years, the blossoming rapper is using his former setbacks as authentic inspiration, proving that "rags to riches" is indeed a revolutionary notion that can be achieved by anyone who possesses the necessary passion to get the job done.

Lantana's single "All Hustle, No Luck" is currently available on iTunes.

MARTINEZ'S BIG PITCH

DAVID T. PARKER JR

OPINIONS EDITOR
DAVID.TPARKERJR@GMAIL.COM

Lauren Martinez, senior Clark Atlanta University mass media arts major, impressed a panel of film and entertainment executives with her pitch for a docu-series she had been working on for over two years. This opportunity came via her Video Producing and Directing course taught by Dr. Dogini, which required students to develop a story idea to pitch to a panel in pairs. As of now, her documentary is in the process of being funded after having the budget reviewed and accepted.

Without revealing too much before the planned screening on campus, the documentary is about interracial relationships that black men enter. Martinez is attempting to unravel the psychology behind these relationships by focusing on the effects that historical events and media have had on black men. "The African-American community is so broken especially in this aspect," Martinez said, "so I hope that it would give people

clarity or a better understanding of why this is going on and help develop a solution to make things better."

As she prepares to start shooting the series, Martinez feels as though her professional experience has adequately prepared her for her role as director, which is an entirely new position to her. Currently she works as an intern for Def Jam Recordings, in addition to being a brand ambassador for Umgee U.S.A. Inc. These employment opportunities have afforded her exposure and access to the entertainment industry where she hopes to foster a career.

When asked what has been her most influential experience, Martinex recalled being public relations coordinator for Atlanta International Fashion week saying, "My confidence level grew, I felt like I could do anything since my small ten man team successfully brought to fruition the vision we shared." This experience along with the other experiences on her extensive resume has cultivated her ambition, leading her to serve as a stark example of a collegiate professional.

KEVIN HART DONATES A QUARTER-MILLION DOLLARS TO PHILADELPHIA SCHOOLS

FANON N BROWN

ASSOCIATE A&E EDITOR
FANONBROWN@YMAIL.COM

Actor and comedian Kevin Hart has had an astoundingly successful year, and he made it a point to stop in his hometown of Philadelphia and show some love before it ends.

Two weeks ago, the former "class clown" announced via Instagram that he would be donating \$250,000 to the struggling Philadelphia School District, which had to close 24 schools city-wide this year and layoff hundreds of school employees. Just this past September, a 12-year-old student named Laporshia Massey died after suffering from an untreated asthma attack as she attended one of the many schools suffering from stifling budget cuts which left the school with no on-site nurse. Other reports claim that numerous Philadelphia schools are short of staff and are in desperate need of supplies and maintenance.

In an interview with *Hot 107.90s Philly's Morning Show (PMS)*, Hart told listeners that he simply could not stand by as the city that made him who he is suffered, especially the children.

"I felt like the city was in a time of need," Hart said passionately. "I feel like it's good to step up and show kids that regardless of where I'm at in my life now, I once sat in the same seat they sit in. This city made me...you're not alone."

The funds will reportedly be allocated to purchasing new computers for numerous schools throughout the city, and hopefully will prompt more aid to help the district and its students flourish. When asked if he thought that other Philly celebs such as Jill Scott, Will Smith, Tina Fey and Pink would step up or if he would be solo in his efforts, he responded that he would be fine baring the task alone, but that more help would only be beneficial.

"Well if I am I am...I bleed Philadel-

phia. This is definitely a start of something big for me. I'm jumping into this philanthropy world and for me, this is where I wanted it to start," Hart said. "How am I going to continue to raise money? I don't know yet, that's why I went into my pocket personally, but this is something that I'm going to take serious and go full steam ahead with it."

The following day after making his announcement, Hart visited a few schools with Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter. His first stop was the John F. Hartranft School in North Philadelphia, and then on to Allen M. Stearne Elementary School. He took tours of the schools and spoke to students in their classrooms and joked that being back in school brought back memories.

"First of all, they brought me to the principal's office when I first got here which immediately took me back to bad memories," he said.

Nevertheless, with all jokes aside, the students were star struck and immensely grateful.

"Your contribution makes it possible for students like myself to do proper research and to expand our knowledge of the expanding world," said one student to local reporters.

"He says we have to take care of the laptops or we are going to have a problem with him," said another student.

"I want to thank Kevin Hart for his incredibly generous gift to our schools, recreation centers and citizens of all ages," Nutter said, thanking Hart for his efforts. "These computers will have a very meaningful impact on Philadelphia."

For Hart, the act came naturally and he believes that the hope he gives through giving back will help students remain focused and finish school.

"That's my lane, trying to put my city on my back, uplift it and showing these kids that I give a damn," he said. "Hopefully, it'll keep them interested to stay in school, and make it out, like I did."

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WHAT'S THE 411?: SIX BEST MOMENTS IN A&E THIS PAST WEEK

MORIBA CUMMINGS

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
MORIBACUMMINGS@YAHOO.COM

BET GOES ALL OUT FOR 'BLACK GIRLS ROCK!'

Shining a light on female youth empowerment and mentorship, Black Entertainment Television (BET) aired *Black Girls Rock!*, one of its most highly respected and successful original programs in the network's history. This year, the Beverly Bond-led project aired on Nov. 3 and featured inspiring speeches from honorees including entrepreneur Queen Latifah, *Girlfriends* creator Mara Brock Akil, and social humanitarian Marian Wright Edelman as well as show-stopping performances from Janelle Monáe ("Electric Lady"), Kelly Rowland ("Gone" featuring Sevyn Streeter & Eve), Jennifer Hudson ("Indescribable"), and Ledisi ("I Blame You"), to name a few. In quite a rarity for any live performance-driven program, each performance proved to be nothing less than stellar. Kudos, BET!

KERRY WASHINGTON'S A SPELMAN PROFESSOR!

...On *Saturday Night Live*, at least. During her highly anticipated SNL stint, the actress put aside the white hat (Scandal reference), and instead decided to show the world her funny side. Though Washington was there to bring the funny, it was all cleverly executed with the underlying thread of race relations. The sketches included Washington portraying a "ghetto fabulous" assistant to an over zealous motivational speaker, a babbling Miss Uganda in a sensationalized recreation of the Miss Universe pageant, a nagging girlfriend, and a hilarious take on the controversial issue of lacking Black female talent on the SNL stage, with Washington changing costumes to play the roles of First Lady Michelle Obama and Oprah in a matter of seconds. The most outstanding performance, however — at least by the AUC's standards — proved to be the actress portraying Alice Roger Smith (all fiction), an overtly Afrocentric Spelman political science professor, donning earth tones, a wooden necklace and a baby fro for that extra touch of "Black power."

CIARA GETS ENGAGED TO BOYFRIEND RAPPER FUTURE

"Body Party" singer Ciara has been planning on releasing the official video for "Overdose," the new single from her well received latest self-titled studio album, but has apparently put those plans on the back burner as she is probably still high off of her engagement to rapper Future. The "Honest" emcee proposed to CiCi with a 15-carat emerald cut diamond engagement ring.

THE ATLANTA-RAISED SINGER TOLD E! OF HOW SHE ENVISIONS HER WALK DOWN THE AISLE:

"I'm thinking I want a spotlight when I come down the aisle," she said. "I want it to be nice! It's the performer in me!"

Both musicians have been dating for a year now. Congratulations to the happy couple!

BEYONCÉ'S "SCRAPS" ARE ARIANA GRANDE'S TREASURE

Platinum-selling newcomer Ariana Grande has been having the best year ever. Her debut album, *Yours Truly*, debuted at No. 1 on both iTunes and the Billboard Hot 200 charts, and her singles "The Way" and "Baby I" have reached new heights, become smash hits nationwide. In an recent interview with *Complex* magazine, the singer revealed that Babyface originally wrote the latter for pop superstar Beyoncé, who ultimately decided to pass on the track.

RIHANNA SHADES KARRUECHE TRAN ON HALLOWEEN

This year's Halloween festivities proved to be more celebrity-driven than expected. Ellen dressed as a bra-less Nicki Minaj, and Miley Cyrus even pulled off Lil' Kim's infamous purple revealing jumpsuit. However, the talk of the night went to Bajan artist Rihanna when she subtly — or, blatantly, depending on how you look at it — shaded Chris Brown's on-again-off-again girlfriend Karrueche Tran.

Two days before Halloween, Tran debuted her latina gang member costume on Instagram with the caption, "Chola." On Halloween night, RihRih rocked the same getup... just a "dead" version. Adding a zombie twist, she painted her skin a pale blue, and posted photos on her Instagram account with one caption reading, "My chola name was #ShyGirl."

KIM KARDASHIAN IS MORE INFLUENTIAL THAN MICHELLE OBAMA ... BY KANYE'S STANDARDS

...And the madness continues. Still giddy off of his recent engagement to reality television star Kim Kardashian, "Golddigger" rapper Kanye West keeps finding the need to let the world know that his girl is the best thing since free tuition. In an interview with *Ryan Seacrest*, the 36-year-old musician sang his fiancée's praises, even throwing veteran journalist Barbara Walters and First Lady Michelle Obama's names in the mix:

"There's no way Kim Kardashian shouldn't be on the cover of *Vogue*," West said. "She's like the most intriguing woman right now. She's got Barbara Walters calling her like everyday ... Michelle Obama cannot Instagram a [bikini] pic like what my girl Instagrammed the other day."



THE BEST MAN HOLIDAY: A CLEAR PORTRAYAL OF BLACK EXCELLENCE

MORIBA CUMMINGS

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
MORIBACUMMINGS@YAHOO.COM

"Black don't crack." – This adage is considered the holy grail of Black Hollywood descriptions. While these words are often used to dub the outward aesthetics of an individual(s), such limitations are not subject to the cast of *The Best Man Holiday*, as each character displays awe-inspiring growth both physically and theatrically, ultimately resulting in the film indefinitely promising to be one of the Holiday's box office smashes.

Boasting the same director, Malcolm D. Lee, and iconic cast as the 1999-released original film, *The Best Man Holiday* is an ideal representation of seamless acting, propelled by relatable story lines and timeless themes. In addition to highlighting all of the deeply rooted plotting techniques and conflicts, the film also cleverly catches the audience up on lost times, briefly explaining what each character has been up to since the infamous hustle scene at Lance and Mia's wedding.

Harper Stewart (Taye Diggs) is a best-selling author; Robin Stewart (Sanaa Lathan) is a well established chef; Jordan Armstrong (Nia Long) goes from segment producer to lead producer at a major network; Lance Sullivan (Morris Chestnut) is a professional veteran NFL player; Mia Sullivan (Monica Calhoun) is a devoted housewife; Julian Murch (Harold Perrineau) is a respected school teacher; Candace "Candy" Murch (Regina

Hall), goes from an exotic dancer to a respected educator in her own right; Quentin Spivey (Terrence Howard) is still a foul-mouthed, outspoken bachelor; and Shelby (Melissa De Sousa) is the breakout star of a fictitious version of the "Real Housewives" franchise.

With these timely role progressions, one would think that the cast would appear somewhat disconnected given their time apart. However, that proved to be farthest from the truth, as the roles were so well executed that one almost felt as if one was eavesdropping on the lives of real individuals. Contributing to the innate ease of acting performed in this film, Taye Diggs exclusively told *The Maroon Tiger* his secret recipe to a brilliant performance.

"I find it effortless because I'm a great actor," Diggs jokingly said. "But seriously, I attribute it to our personal relationships."

Actress Sanaa Lathan, who portrays Diggs' pregnant wife in the film, agrees with his notion, citing their organic chemistry as the main reason.

"It's all about the chemistry we have as a cast," she said. "The chemistry we had from the first movie, you can't recreate it or fake it. That energy comes across in the movie authentically."

Aside from the film's inherent energy, the natural, yet cleverly calculated, display of these characters as individually successful members of the African-American community stands as a hefty contributor to the movie's overall magnificence. Mul-

tiples facets of professionalism are explored through the characters' respective roles. From Jordan Armstrong breaking the glass ceiling in becoming a reputable network producer, to Harper Stewart's vast success as a best-selling author, shining a positive light on the often frowned upon vocation of the "starving artist," this film shows a new outlook on the Black experience as illustrated through the silver screen.

Touching on this subject of artistic freedom, Nia Long supported the notion, and further gave insight on why the Best Man brand has remained a staple for Black culture for more than a decade.

"This business is difficult. You have to take your time and be motivated by what influences you artistically," she told *The Maroon Tiger*. "Therefore, you will be able to sustain throughout the years instead of being gone in five years or so."

During a time where Black contemporary films seems to be what's "in at the moment," *The Best Man Holiday* stands in solidarity as one of the few – non slavery-themed films – that authentically promotes the Black American dream. And ultimately, the beauty of it remains that after experiencing the roller coaster of emotions that this film exudes, that dream can be whatever you hope for it to be.

The Best Man Holiday opens nationwide on November 15, 2013.

B.O.B DOES FOCUS GROUP FOR EMORY; TWERK CONTEST FOR AUC



FANON N BROWN

ASSOCIATE A&E EDITOR
FANONBROWN@YMAIL.COM

Considering the fact that rapper B.o.B and his recent unprecedented performance in the AUC have been hot topics for the past few weeks, how nice would it have been to get the opportunity to preview his upcoming album?

Last week, the Emory Wheel released a story detailing a private listening session hosted by the Atlanta rapper where he allowed a small group of Emory students to preview his latest project *Underground Luxury*, which is set to release in December. The selection of about 20 students got to hear the entire album and give their candid opinions about the music as well as B.o.B as an artist and where they would like to see him and his music go. WMRE General Manager Wilma Qiu said B.o.B contacted the Emory student-run station to coordinate the session, after

which she scouted a small diverse audience.

"I looked for a lot of people who I knew had a vested interest in hip hop and knew his music," Qiu said. "We looped in a few people who hadn't listened to him as much so we could get people who could just be a consumer of music."

What may have been a thoughtful attempt to get some authentic feedback has seemingly become a discouraging spectacle in which some observers felt that B.o.B's choosing Emory to conduct his listening session as opposed to a school in the AUC was a "read," claiming that he may be suggesting some intellectual superiority between institutions. A few Spelman students found it particularly striking that he made a point to host a twerk contest during his set at the concert and referred to the women in the audience as "bad b****es." To them, it was the implications of B.o.B's choices to appropriate the various activities as he did.

"I'm assuming that we're [AUC students] only good for the twerk show," sarcastically remarked Tierra Gomez, a senior

English major and concert attendee. "The people who can actually think must go to Emory."

"I just couldn't believe that he cursed so much and really brought girls on stage," added Kiersten Young, another senior Political Science major with interests in foreign policy. "He literally had them dancing on him, like he's not a professional."

Their sentiments were not unaccompanied. Some Morehouse students also found it strange that B.o.B preferred to host the listening session at Emory instead of in the AUC where he presumably has a larger fan base.

"We play his music; we had him come perform for our homecoming," said student Brandon Paschal. "He didn't think that we would like to get the exclusive, or that we would have good feedback?"

Whether or not B.o.B will make another stop in the Atlanta college circuit for a listening session has yet to be determined.

NFL AWARD WINNERS – SO FAR

JASON COLEMAN

STAFF WRITER
JASONKNIGHTCOLEMAN@YAHOO.COM

The NFL has had some great stories and talent displayed this year. Based on the first nine of 16 games, I have come up with some candidates for the awards given at the end of the season.

COMEBACK PLAYER OF THE YEAR: TERRELL SUGGS, OLB, BALTIMORE RAVENS

Terrell Suggs has been the Comeback Player of the Year so far because of his great play after coming off an injury that dramatically affected his 2012 season. Suggs has piled up nine sacks, tied for fifth best in the NFL.

OFFENSIVE OF THE YEAR: PEYTON MANNING, QB, DENVER BRONCOS

Peyton Manning currently has 3,249 passing yards, the best by far in the league. Second place belongs to New Orleans' Drew Brees with 3,064 passing yards. In his first four games, Manning also had one of the best starts ever among NFL players with a 75 percent completion rate, 9.4 yards per attempt, and zero interceptions.

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: J.J. WATT, DE, HOUSTON TEXANS

J.J. Watt is contending for the Defensive Player of the Year award because of his ability to lead Houston to first in least yards allowed and least passing yards allowed. Watt has 6.5 sacks and four knocked down passes this year.

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR: EDDIE LACY, RB, GREEN BAY PACKERS

Eddie Lacy has been the league's best rookie because his 669 rushing yards rank first among them and eighth in the league. That's excellent production from a second-round draft pick.

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER: PEYTON MANNING, QB, DENVER BRONCOS

Peyton Manning has led the Denver Broncos to the most passing yards in the NFL (3,181), the most receiving yards (3,259), the most points per game (41.2) and the most yards per game (458.7). Manning has a chance to make sure he wins this award if he shows strong performances in his next three games against the Chiefs (home and away) and the New England Patriots.

COACH OF THE YEAR: ANDY REID, KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

There is no doubt that Andy Reid deserves this award more than any other coach in the NFL. Reid transformed a Kansas City Chiefs team that went 2-14 last season to the team with the best record in the NFL with nine wins and zero losses.

THE BACKBONE OF MAROON TIGER TRACK AND CROSS-COUNTRY TEAMS

RYAN RHODES

SPORTS EDITOR
MR-RHODES@HOTMAIL.COM

At Morehouse College, football and basketball are the sports that get the majority of the attention from the student body. These teams have played very well at times over the past few years, but there are two teams that have had major success over the past decade but still have not received the attention that they deserve.

The track and field team as well as the cross-country team have had an amazing amount of success over recent years. The track and field team has won eight consecutive SIAC titles and the cross-country team has won five consecutive SIAC titles, and 18 of the last 19. Their success comes

from a number of different reasons, and the leadership of coach Willie Hill is surely a big part of it.

Hill, who has served as a coach at Morehouse for 33 years, is the backbone of both teams. Hill, a multi-sport athlete at Central State, initially came to Morehouse as a defensive coordinator for the football team, but switched to track and field and cross-country in 1979. Hill credits Morehouse's maturation process for him coming to and staying at Morehouse.

"Morehouse helps develop black men and helps them grow, and I wanted to be a part of that," Hill says. Hill is very demanding of his athletes, but he believes that regardless of what place they come in their event, as long as they do their best that's all that matters.

"Preparation is key, but I know our season will always be a success because my athletes will always become the best they can be," Hill says. Kasahun Neselu, a member of both of Hill's teams, attributes most of his success to Hill's constant encouragement and expertise on the art of running.

"All that I have I attribute to both my team and my coach," Neselu says. "I was ashamed to call myself a runner just because of how much I improved once I got here."

Neselu believes that what sets Hill apart from any other coach he has ever had is his care for his athletes, not only on the field but off of it.

"Coach Hill is not just interested in making us better athletes, but making us better students and people," Neselu says. He believes that because of this, his relationship with Hill will last



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The Maroon Tiger is open to all interested writers, editors, video producers, cameramen, broadcast talent, public relation mavericks, business finance interest, and more. We write the narratives and capture the events that change Mother Morehouse.

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