

A LOOK INSIDE THE ISSUE



# GENDER, SEXUAL ORIENTATION LEFT OUT

With gender and sexual orientation not explicitly mentioned in the college's Equal Opportunity clause, questions linger on the legal protections available to these two vulnerable groups. Although women make up a sizeable portion of faculty and staff, is operating "in good faith" enough?

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# MOREHOUSE AND THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY QUESTION

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Two categories not to be found in Morehouse's Equal Opportunity Employment clause: gender and sexual orientation. Yet, it appears the college gathers these groups under the umbrella term "sex." The exclusion raises several questions about the vagueness of the clause. Should the college be more explicit in outlining the groups it does not discriminate against?

"There's no need to change the policy because ... of the changes in popular vernacular," General Counsel Lacreacia Cade said. "People should know that women and people in the [LGBTQ] community are protected."

But what does the clause actually say? According to the college's official handbook, the college does not discriminate on the basis of "sex":

"Morehouse College is a private institution committed to equal opportunity as a basic human right. Morehouse College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities," the clause reads.

Compare the Morehouse clause to

## A GUIDE TO THE NEW ADMITTED STUDENTS DAY

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This spring high school seniors will have the opportunity to spend one night on campus before actually enrolling. Thanks to a collaboration between the Office of Admissions and the Office of Housing and Residential Life, incoming freshmen who have been accepted into the college will be allowed to sleep in a "host" upperclassmen's room during Admitted Students Weekend. Prospective students will also accompany their host to class and to extra-curricular activities during the weekend.

The qualifications for a student who wishes to house, host, and mentor an admitted student will be: a 3.0 GPA; on-campus housing; upperclassmen status; good standing with the

the one listed in nearby Spelman College's Employee Handbook:

"Spelman College does not discriminate in employment opportunities on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, gender, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital, protected veteran status, genetic tests, genetic information or any other legally protected status."

The Equal Opportunity Employment Commission (EEOC), the entity that oversees anti-discrimination compliance in the workplace, was founded as a bipartisan commission in 1965 to protect the very groups identified in Morehouse's and Spelman's respective statements.

A look at the equal opportunity statements at the country's top liberal arts colleges revealed that sexual orientation and gender are stated in explicit terms. At Williams College, Amherst, Swarthmore, Wellesley, and Bowdoin (the top five liberal arts schools in the country) equal opportunity encompasses "sex" and a number of different categories including sexual orientation, gender identity and gender.

According to Cade, Morehouse's EEO clause does adhere to the EEOC's guidelines. The term "sex" in its technical sense is a shorthand reference to a broader set of categories including gender, gender identity, and sexual orientation. However, does the term leave room for ambiguity given the explicit language other schools have adopted?

Some say yes. Moreover, some students

College; and completion of the application, interview, and preparation process. The current deadline to apply is November 14, and the dates for overnight hosting are February 20 through the 21 and April 17 through the 18.

This inaugural program at Morehouse will be similar to that of the 'Spelbound' weekend held each year at Spelman. Spelman's program pairs an admitted high school senior with an upperclassman for a weekend during which the prospective students follow the Spelman students' schedules and attends events specifically for the seniors.

"I had a great experience, and it definitely confirmed my interest in being at Spelman and ultimately led me to attend Spelman," sophomore My Havard said, describing "Spelbound".

think the absence of specific references to gender and sexual orientation points toward a larger institutional problem. In an op-ed following a recent incident of homophobia involving the Morehouse football team at a screening of "Dear White People" in South Carolina, SafeSpace president Marcus Lee tied the absence of gender and sexual orientation to a slew of issues facing the college.

"[There] are many faculty and staff members – including the president of the college, the Office of Student Life, several professors, etc. – that embrace us. However, Morehouse's curricula, institutional policies and procedures do not reflect this embrace. There are no Black queer studies courses, gender and sexual orientation are absent from our employment nondiscrimination policy, we have a dress code that outlaws wearing 'female attire,' we have an inactive diversity committee, and the list continues."

Beyond the questions surrounding the clause itself, in a recent statement Vice President of Student Development Timothy Sams promised an institutional embrace of gay students on campus. What this means specific to the concern Lee pointed out about sexual orientation remains to be seen.

"Because this issue [of homophobia] applies to our broader campus community, I am forming a task force to ... to look at policies and practices at the College that hinder our LGBTQA community from flourishing and to catalyze the College's creation of a 'safe space' on campus," Sams said.

Previously, Admitted Students Day was a one day event with interactive panel discussions, information sessions, and tours for prospective students. Last semester was the first time that the event was extended over two days and students lived on campus. However, all admitted students stayed in White Hall, where no current students were living at the time.

A freshman and current student ambassador for the Office of Admissions, Hamilton Jenkins, said that even without the overnight stay his Admitted Students Day experience last school year reinforced his decision to attend Morehouse.

"I am sure this year's Admitted Students Day will be even more beneficial and will continue to convince prospective students to choose Morehouse," Jenkins said.

# TIGERS FINISH SEASON STRONG

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After winning Saturday's game against the Kentucky State Thorobreds, the Maroon Tigers finished their season with a record of 6-4 (4-3 SIAC). After giving up a touchdown early in the game, Morehouse scored 20 unanswered points and held on to the lead to end the game at 26-20.

This was the team's first winning season in three years as the Tigers ended the season tied for second place in the conference. For the players, this is a positive sign of things to come in the future.

"It just shows that we're headed in the right direction," junior cornerback Eric Robinson said. "Next year the standard is set and we have to do even better."

There was a stretch in October when things weren't looking too good for the Tigers; they lost three games in a row. Injuries to key players, including the starting quarterback, led to the losing streak.

# DEBATE TEAM MEMBERS CONTINUE TO SOAR, WINS TRIPS TO SOUTH AFRICA AND MALAYSIA

## BEST UCHEHARA

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The debate team has continued to make strides toward international notoriety and top positions on debate team rankings. Recently, varsity members Emmanuel Waddell and Rodje Malcolm were selected to partake in a sponsored trip to South Africa. They were one of five teams selected at a recent debate tournament based on their stellar performance.

During their stay in South Africa, they will visit Cape Town and Johannesburg where they will study the repercussions of apartheid because it was discussed at their last tournament. The trip will also include touring constitutional courts, museums, and national landmarks to gain a greater understanding of how the current political and social realities of South Africa were shaped by decades of apartheid.

"I am going to enjoy seeing the real-world application of what we discussed," Waddell said. "And I'm grateful to have the opportunity to learn about a different place that I would not have otherwise had the opportunity to visit."

He also stated that this is an invaluable opportunity, and that he and his partner are fortunate to have been selected to represent Morehouse.

However, through leadership and recovery the Tigers were able to bounce back and end the season on a positive note.

"I have to give [the credit] all to our seniors," redshirt sophomore Lake McGuffie said. "They really brought the team together when we were in a hard point."

That leadership was seen on Saturday as seniors Lance White, Demario Dixon and Joshua Thurston led the team in tackles. As this program looks to move on, the remaining upperclassmen have large shoes to fill, both on and off the field.

I looked up to the seniors this season and I saw how they led the team," Robinson said. "They were great leaders on the team, and I'm just ready to fill their shoes."

This year's season should make the Tigers feel proud of their ability to come together and persevere. The seniors were able to finish their Morehouse careers with a good win at home. If the Tigers' program continues to rise as it is, Robinson and the other rising seniors can look forward to another winning season.

"This tour is unique because we will be able to explore the conditions that precipitated the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that we have debated extensively," Malcolm said. "And we will be able to immerse ourselves in the conditions that created it."

Despite the unique magnitude of this trip, traveling overseas is no strange practice for the debate team. In recent years, multiple members of the team have debated in countries including China, India, and Malaysia. Senior Curtis O'Neal, who is president of the debate team, will be competing in Malaysia this December alongside his partner, Davon Boyd. Waddell and Malcolm will also be competing in this tournament.

The successes of this team are largely due to the commitment and persistence of its team members and coach.

"Creating that realm of intellect to where we are competing not just amongst HBCU's but on a global scale as well, the team continues to get better and to push the boundaries of what it means to be the best at something," O'Neal said.

The newest members of the team have already shown signs of promise, winning multiple novice debate tournaments and progressing throughout the semester. They, along with the more experience members, now have an international audience anticipating their continued success.

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# PROUD TO BE A WELL-BALANCED NERD



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Through the years, the idea of being a nerd, or the existence of the term in general, has consistently been showcased negatively due to the false and exaggerated stereotype of a nerd being the opposite of everything that would be considered fun or cool. Specifically in the Atlanta University Center, though the term nerd receives some leniency, it is not surprising to still see individuals looked at negatively because they may choose studying over a party.

It is probably the main reason why junior Applied Physics and Electrical Engineering major Terrell Glenn was slightly hesitant at first to label himself as primarily a nerd when asked to sum up who he is in a phrase. Ultimately, he would consider himself to be not just a nerd but a well-balanced one.

"I am a nerd because I watch science videos for fun, I study in my free time," Glenn said. "But I definitely still have fun and like going to movies."

Before arriving at Morehouse College, Glenn spent his high school years in Cleveland being extensively involved in student organizations and sports.

"Being around different people, I got a chance to see a little bit of everybody," Glenn said. During his upbringing there were primarily two individuals who had a significant impact on the direction of his life. They are his late grandmother, Dorothy Williams, and his brother, Tevin Glenn.

Describing his grandmother as being someone who would not accept anything but a person's best, it is not surprising that her death was one of the most challenging moments in Glenn's life. "Getting over that has been one of the hardest things," Glenn said. "I was really close to my grandmother."

While being a person who expected the best, Glenn's late grandmother was still just as well-balanced in her character and nature as her grandson.

"She was stern and a typical strong black woman," Glenn said. "She was also very loving, very kind, and very strong in her faith."

Having an inspiring adult role model who consistently pushed the best out of him is probably why the ability to maintain strong academics while having fun comes naturally to Glenn. In regards to his interest in applied physics and electrical engineering, he has someone else to thank for that.

My little brother is definitely my inspiration for going into Robotics," Glenn said.

Glenn's younger brother, Tevin, has spent his life confined to a wheelchair because he suffers from a condition known as cerebral palsy. As a result Terrell Glenn's parents have to take extensive care of his younger brother due to Tevin's inability to properly do so himself. Knowing that this process will become difficult for his parents as time goes on, Terrell Glenn looks to find ways to make that process easier.

"My parents are going to need assistance," Terrell said. "Robotics will help them take care of my little brother."

With his goal of attaining a Ph.D. in Robotics Engineering, Terrell hopes to establish his own robotics company that will establish technological innovations that would allow for his parents to receive greater assistance in taking care of his little brother.

Being a loving grandson, an inspirational older brother, and a well-rounded student, Terrell Glenn is embracing the term nerd and evolving it into something more inspirational and impactful.

"Being a nerd is not as bad as society makes it seem," he said. "You can be great and have fun at the same time."

# STAYING COOL IN THE FALL

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The time of year has come again when the air still smells of warmth, but the breeze is strong and cooling. An outfit change, or two, or three is not uncommon for the average fashionista who is trying to stay comfortable within the fluctuating climate. For those of us who lack the time and/or the wardrobe to sustain the alternation of multiple looks each day, there can only be one solution.

Simply putting on a sweater in the morning and hoping for the best will no longer suffice. What you need, are three key pieces in your repertoire to keep you feeling and looking your best this fall.

The first piece you should add to your fall wardrobe,

is a plain oxford button-up. The oxford is a classic and enduring piece. It has stood the test of time mostly due to the functionality that it encompasses. In the event the forecast calls for rain, pair your oxford with a waxed parka or a rain jacket to stay dry. If the sun comes out, unbutton that oxford and expose your t-shirt to stay cool.

Junior, Armani Owens, agrees, "...Functionality is key when it comes to dressing in the fall. This season, three pieces I can't live without are my white oxford button-up, dark denim jeans and chunky knit sweater."

The second piece you should add to your wardrobe is a quality and dark selvedge denim jean. The key to good denim is at first the fit. Your jean should not fit too tightly as to restrict movement and should also not be too loose. Instead a jean that suits your body type and tapers slightly toward the ankle is best.

Jeans are essential for fall because they are a stylish

way to stay comfortable. Also, roll your jeans up and show a little ankle when it gets warm or pair with hiking boots when it gets a little nippy out. Either way you put it, denim is your friend this fall.

Last, but certainly not least, everyone should have a leather jacket this season. Leather jackets come in a plethora of styles, from the classic bomber to the trendy and edgy biker jacket. Leather is not just for special occasions any longer; wear your leather at any and all times if you seek to add a stylish touch to any outfit. Just beware, if you have not taken proper preventative measures to waterproof your new leather piece, it will most definitely be ruined.

There you have it, the three keys to not only looking your best, but feeling your best in the unpredictable fall weather. In the words of the great fashion stylist and now designer, Rachel Zoe, "Style is a way to say who you are without having to speak." Stay stylish my friends.

# HOW MICROFINANCE CAN HELP RESHAPE THE WEST END COMMUNITY (SYNDICATED)

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*Village Micro Fund Founders: Nathan Jones, Malcolm DeFrantz, Donte Miller, Robin McKinnie, and B. Alex Moorer*

I had the wonderful opportunity to sit down with two Morehouse student entrepreneurs. Robin McKinnie and Donte Miller are two of the five founders of Village Micro Fund (VMF), a microfinance company that aims to aid businesses in Atlanta's West End community. They gave me an in-depth review of all things VMF; including the company's initiation and goals, along with sharing what being a student entrepreneur means to them.

**Me:** What is Village Micro Fund?

**VMF:** Essentially, it is a non-profit that provides microloans or small loans around \$10,000 or below, and consulting to small businesses in the West End. The approach is to service both existing and companies, but also entrepreneurs who have profitable ideas that too service the West End. In the West End, right now most profitable businesses are franchises, but by helping finance West End-owned businesses, this circulates money throughout the West End besides it going elsewhere.

**Me:** From where did the idea originate?

**VMF:** It was an idea that [Nathan Jones] had for a while. Nate has always been an entrepreneur at heart and he's always started a couple of his own ventures, and we felt that there was a need for things going on in the West End. Nate was talking about how if you look at Economics as a study or discipline, what's not covered in the theories are how choices are made in ethnic communities, for example, the economic structure

of the Hood does not follow your average economy; so, Economic Development is our passion in particular; Economic Development within the African-American and Minority community in general.

**Me:** What makes VMF unique from other microfinance companies?

**VMF:** For the most part, between campus-run, college run, and student-run microfinance firms, there is only one at an HBCU. Also, other [microfinance] companies they are also not necessarily targeting companies that need the money to get started it's more so pre-existing companies. Instead of taking a risk and picking out the best of folks that haven't yet started businesses, they pick the best of pre-existing businesses with the lowest-risk. Our philosophy is to be ore hands on and seek out folks with idea, or folks who have not been considered through the regular approach. We are the first business that is centered within the black community and is black student-run.

**Me:** What does VMF promise the AUC in the short-term and long-term future?

**VMF:** In the long term it's to offer an opportunity to pursue. There aren't many avenues in the AUC that are encouraged. The other component is to creating a better neighborhood that co-exists within the West End. The majority of AUC students have not taken the opportunities to explore the businesses that exist here or that are within a half of a mile here around the school, in contrast to the students who take Marta or a Lyft to Buckhead, Midtown or Lennox to shop. There are not many students who use their purchasing-power within the West End, but then again are not necessarily a lot of options to either. Part of it is that the AUC says that the West End is dangerous and to not go through the West End unless you're driving. So we want to change that relationship. There are a lot of great businesses in the West End, and we feel students should take advantage

of them. Because businesses anticipate having 5-10% of AUC students being their client, then they are not going to try to offer product and cater their stores to the student demographic. We believe these two parties are not communicating because there is no pipeline. We hope to provide that connection.

**Me:** What does being a student entrepreneur mean to you?

**Donte Miller:** Being an entrepreneur, it means following your dreams. You have two options after graduating from college: you can go and work for yourself, or you can go and work for someone else. Personally, I've always had a problem with authority, so being a student entrepreneur to me means to be really chasing my dream rather than doing everyday work and filling out some spreadsheet.

**Robin McKinnie:** To be a student entrepreneur has two components. One thing is taking risks; the process of learning to take risks, but then also picking out those opportunities that will allow you to make an actual impact on society in general. There is a stigma at Morehouse that you have to use someone else's platform in order to make an impact. For example, graduates are way more likely to join Teach for America versus just going out to teach or figure out where exactly within the realm of social impact they want to make an impact. Because someone has taken away the risk, you don't have to experience a risk. The problem is, there are not enough people with the mentality that they will follow whatever vision they have, regardless of the risk that is there. So I'll teach even though there isn't a job or opportunity that I will have afterwards. Or, I'll start a microfinance fund; even though there isn't a network of pre-existing microfinance funds to help guide me through the process. In order for you to ever be anywhere outside of what hasn't been done before, you have to take a risk, and I think that this is one of the best ways to do that.

MT

FASHION ISSUE

COMING SOON

# SPECIAL EDITION: T-TIME W/ NEB TRE'VON HILL



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For this special edition of T-Time w/Neb I sit down with the Editor-In-Chief of Torch yearbook, Tre'von Hill. We start with his plans for this year's yearbook. We still haven't ended.

### What vision do you have for the Morehouse yearbook?

To get the book to be a proper portrayal of campus life. How do you do this? Number one, you get the students involved. You remind them that this book is a reflection of them. Once you get them to realize that, they want to be a part. They want to make sure it's a proper reflection. Secondly, why aren't we sending this book out? One of the biggest complaints I've heard in the three years I've been here is that the alum are not connected to campus. What better way to be connected to campus – who's supposed to be writing newsletters to send to alum? Who's supposed to be doing that? Torch.

### How about Inside Morehouse? Inside Morehouse

**does that, but who's going to do that from a student standpoint?** I agree with you, they do that. All I'm saying is who better to give a reflection of campus than us. We have a unique opportunity as men of Morehouse, given the history of the college. We've had so many different alum that have gone through here. We've had periods of time that have been really key. For instance, we have Spencer Gibbs, Jim Haas. These are people that were here from '65-'69. That was a pivotal time.

Benjamin E. Mays retires (as Morehouse president), Hugh Gloster comes in, (Martin Luther) King dies, so much happens. Why aren't we having them captured in our yearbooks? The idea of Torch is that it's reflection on both ends. Students get a copy because it's their reflection. But we can also use it to get to the alum, to let them know what's going on. So why not put both of them in there? The alum see the students and students see alum. Have alum profiles the same way we have student profiles.

It's the idea of connecting, of bringing pieces back together. It's something that I can't even put a word on that Morehouse has. We've deemed it the "mystique." We

should be working on relaying that so that when I pick up a Torch yearbook when I'm an alum, I want to see the artistry, I want to see the craftsmanship.

**You want to see the mystique?** I want to see the mystique. The school doesn't see that. We do not respect our yearbook enough. Most of us do not even understand that it comes out of our student fees. Most people are not eager to go pick it up. They're upset that they're paying all these fees. Don't be upset about paying all these fees, know what you're paying for. Because, you still have your blazer, you're still getting charged student fees - Go to CASA events! Don't get mad at CASA. Why don't you join CASA? Why don't you actually write on CASA's boards about what you want to happen?

You know people get so upset when the semester starts. They don't know where their money's going. They've got to pay this. They've got to pay that. Well, just actually become a man of Morehouse. Believe in the institution, and maybe your experience here will be a little different. You won't leave being so upset at Mother Morehouse. Instead, you will leave understanding why you were here.

# ALBUM WATCH 2015

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## BEYONCÉ AND JAY-Z



Coming off of the heat of their On the Run tour, there is word that the power couple will be releasing an album early next year. On Dash Radio, DJ Skee gave a report that he received from multiple confirmed sources. This rumored album is anticipated to come on the heels of the release of Beyoncé, a platinum edition box set complete with two CDs and two DVDs with new, unreleased tracks “7/11” and “Ring Off.” The CDs will contain songs from Bey’s self-titled album along with remixes featuring Kanye West and Pharrell. The box set is slated to release on Nov. 24, so the Beyhive will get a pre-holiday present and the hopes of a Bey & Jay collaboration with the new year.

## FRANK OCEAN



Ocean fans have been toyed with all of 2014 with rumored release dates and hints for his next album, and the “Thinking Bout You” singer said himself in Oct. 2013 that new music would come with the following summer. It’s now fall 2014 and no dice. However, Ocean did suggest in Apr. 2014 that the album was close to completion and there is news circulating that Ocean will embark on a world tour at the end of 2015. If so, he’ll need an album to perform, so the release may not be far off. So, don’t uncross your fingers just yet!

## KANYE WEST



Is another Yeezy Season approaching? According to Theophilus London (an up and coming artist whose Vibes album was produced by Ye), Kanye played songs from his new album for 20 fans in Paris in Sept. An unfinished track from the new album - “All Day” - hit the Internet in Aug. but was quickly removed from the web. Luckily, the track and the rest of the album is assumed to hit the airwaves in the coming year.

## FERGIE



After eight years, Stacy “Fergie” Ferguson will likely be releasing her sophomore album in 2015. Fergie hinted at a new project on Chelsea Lately in Aug. and alluded to the possibility of a single dropping before the end of 2014. Since then, she has released the single “L.A. Love (La La)” which has also been used as the theme song for E!’s new Kourtney and Khloe Take the Hamptons. When The Dutchess dropped in 2006, Fergie had five Top 5 Singles on the Hot 100 chart and hopefully that success is repeated on her second solo creation. Mike WiLL Made-It will be on the production team and his work with Ciara, Rihanna, and 2 Chainz will be reflective of the talent that he can introduce to Fergie’s new tracks.

# PRIDE OF MOREHOUSE

Photography by Kenneth Greenwood  
Special thanks to Myles Hicks



ANTHONY BOND

I am fond of the LGBTQ community here but I don't feel like we've had that incident or that problem that has brought us together yet. And so I feel like there's a separation in our own community. There is really no LGBTQ presence—an open presence on campus.

*Why do you think that is?*

I think its because the institutionalized ideas of Morehouse. Everybody wants to be masculine. Everybody wants to be—no one really wants to be themselves. NO one really feels comfortable being themselves here. So I'm trying to fix that.



AKEE WEAKS

I would like to see more straight people at the Safe space events. Reason being, it's not a LGBT people only club, and it's not an LGBT only people event. It's for everybody—Gay, Bisexual, Lesbian, Transgender, Queer, Straight, Ally, so everybody. You will hear things from the perspective the LGBT person. Because more than likely before you have met one of us, you've probably heard about us from family members or your religion or your preachers or people in your neighborhood and more than likely they have denigrated and called us all kinds of names.



AMIR HOBSON:

There are people who are accepting and are understanding, but then there are other people who live in this closed minded box, and I know that sounds cliché. For example we were talking in my psychology class about the resend incident with the football team and a question was raises whether people thought people were born homosexual and not many people raised their hands. And then he also asked whether people were born heterosexual and lots of people raised their hands, but nobody could really explain why, which is the key.





**MYLES HICKS**

I come from a town where its just 200 people so everyone knows everyone and everyone knows everyone's secrets. So being gay isn't conversation, we don't talk about it. I'm like one of 4 or 5 gay people in my hometown. And so coming here was kind of a release because you're surrounded by other gay people but some of them are from urban surroundings, so being gay is normal for them, so they might still think we're oppressed. That's why I'm so lax about the topic because where I'm from its just no, we don't talk about it, you don't wear certain things, or anything. And so I look at it as like it hasn't really changed me. It's made me more open about my sexuality of course like I realize how more accepting of myself I am.



**SHAREEF PHILLIPS**

I think a lot more could be done concerning the LGBTQ community as far as knowing what it's about and being more open and educated about what we're about. It's not just about sex in the LGBT community, you know, you can still be a Morehouse man, on your grind. Your sexuality should come second behind everything else. It shouldn't be something that categorizes you; it should be like a sub-category of the other things you are.v



**SEAN SHEPPHEARD**

I don't identify by any normal construct or label such as gay, straight, bisexual. I say I believe that love is unconditional and unidentifiable by society's labels. So I just say that I love love.

*How has being a part of the LGBTQ community shaped your Morehouse experience?*

It has totally altered my perspective. It has shown me that there is a more broad perspective of personalities when it comes to people of the community. Mainly because there are people in the community who don't identify with the community, but they still understand that they are a part of the community and all of the issues that they face. So it has shown me that it's larger than me.



**TIMOTHY TUKES**

I would love to see acceptance. I would love to see love. First, love of self because I am firm believer that if you don't love yourself, you can't love other people. But tolerance does not woo me. We need acceptance, and acceptance does not mean I accept you and I therefore am going to become you. Acceptance means understanding and acknowledging and respecting that yes, you're different than me, and yes, that's okay. Tolerance is saying you do you, and I do me. Acceptance is saying we live together and I acknowledge that, and this is how it's going to be.

*What needs to be done administratively*

I would love to see policies first written, and then enacted and then implemented that are queer friendly. An example would be there to be a policy that says—because there is a policy that says that you cannot use profanity in certain spaces—but there is no protective legislative policy for queer students, in particular derogatory terms. So if a student in a classroom setting says faggot, he doesn't get reprimanded for that or reproached. Whereas if he curses in the classroom, he may get a stern reproach or he even be sent to a superior. However if he says faggot that's kind of ambiguous because the word faggot isn't considered profane, its considered a derogatory word certainly, however it is profane.

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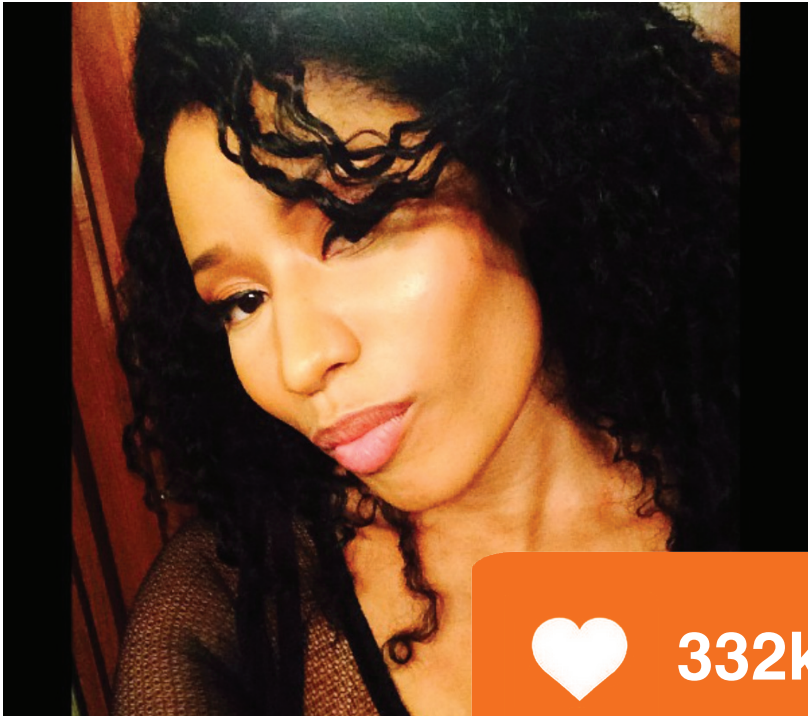
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# CELEBRITY SELFIE OF THE WEEK

D'SHONDA BROWN | SENIOR ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT STAFF WRITER | DBROWN86@SCMAIL.SPELMAN.EDU



332k Likes

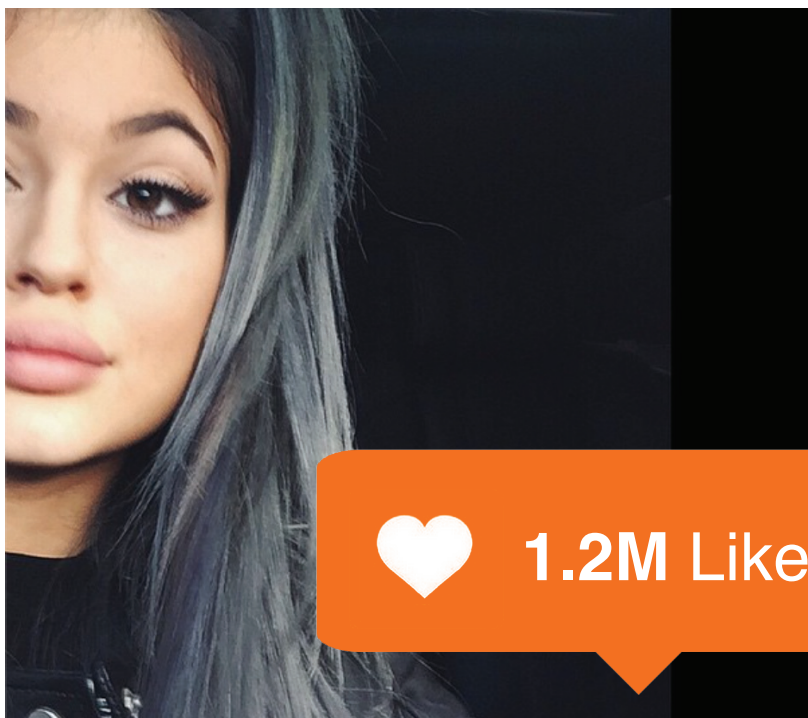
Queen Nicki graces "The Gram" with her presence with a natural-faced selfie and nearly limited make-up. In the caption, she thanks her fellow "Barbz" for helping "Bang Bang" featuring Ariana Grande and Jessie J hit the number one spot on Top40 Radio. She too promotes her upcoming and long-anticipated album, The Pinkprint, which is set for release on Dec. 15.

Is it true? Can it be? Yes, the rumors have been confirmed that rapper Big Sean and "Bang Bang" collaborator Ariana Grande are INDEED a couple. The two lovebirds took a selfie on the way to an event in remembrance of Grande's grandfather, who passed away earlier this year. In a synonymous selfie on Big Sean's page, he captioned it, "Repost: My baby" and tagged Ariana's Instagram handle. Seems like he's been in a good place since his recent move on from ex-fiancee Naya Rivera and the release of his new single, "IDFWU", which has been the talk of the music industry as to whether or not the song is about his past relationship. Congratulations, you two!



1.3M Likes

Though these lip injection rumours have yet to be confirmed or denied by Kylie Jenner herself, she doesn't cease to slay in her amazing selfies. The youngest Kardashian has had ranging hair colors from brown to blonde to aqua to midnight blue and now....grey? The new and unexpected color works for Kylie and as she captioned the picture, "a little grey never hurt nobody."



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# THE EUROPE MINAJ AWARDS

## JEBAR KING

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So far in 2014, Nicki Minaj performed in Paris with Beyonce and Jay Z, she opened up the VMAs, she broke Miley Cyrus' Vevo record for most views in 24 hours, and NOW she has headlined and hosted MTV's Europe Music Awards – a feat no other black female entertainer has done.

The EMAs has been hosted in the past by names like Wyclef Jean, P. Diddy, and Christina Aguilera. Queen Nicki was chosen as the designated host for the show's 20th anniversary held in Glasgow, Scotland.

Following a time travel theme, the show opened up with a video of young "Minaj" in her overly-pink bedroom decked out with an MTV poster, CD racks, a disco ball, and a lava lamp in Queens, NY in 1994. Nicki is watching the EMAs when she is sucked into the television and transported to the 2014 stage.

Nicki appeared hovering and suspended above the stage wearing a stunning 14-foot train ruffled skirt by Peter Hidalgo.

Cheered on by thousands of screaming fans, she welcomed everyone to the show in an unconventional, yet very Nicki-esque way, dropping the F bomb twice. The fans did not seem to mind and Nicki looked as comfortable as ever as she shined as hostess amidst the crowd of Scots.

The sexy hostess kept the crowd entertained throughout

the night with jokes, Scottish references, her signature English accent, and even a selfie with fans.

Minaj expressed her gratitude for being in Scotland, and performed an original rap exclusively for her Scottish fans. In the rap Minaj said she likes "red heads that rock kilts," referred to the tartan army, and expressed her love for Whiskey and shortbread – a Scottish favorite. She ended her rap with crowd participation of the extremely popular "I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)" by the Proclaimers.

When it came time for Nicki to perform, she took viewers on a little adventure through time. "I'd like to take you on a journey tonight," she said.

"I'd like to go to the past then to the future then back to the present. Can I do that tonight?"

She proceeded to take us back and performed her 2011 hit "Super Bass," exchanging the bright bubblegum pink look of the video and past performances for a new dark and sexy lace look. The video for "Super Bass" was the first time fans got to see Minaj's dance moves, and Minaj added a few new dance moves to the popular routine during her performance.

Next, Nicki gave fans a peek into the future with a preview of her new song "Bed of Lies" featuring Skylar Grey. The slow soothing sounds of Skylar on the hook precede a teaser verse from Minaj about a love gone sour because of an ungrateful, unappreciative, star-struck partner.

Finally, Nicki brought fans back to the present with her

latest hit "Anaconda." She performed the risqué, big butt anthem, this time adding male dancers to the end of the performance – something that both the video and her VMA performance lacked.

Minaj did not only come to the EMAs to host and headline – she also came to win. The Queen took home her very first EMA, the award for Best Hip Hop.

In her acceptance speech, Minaj thanked MTV, Young Money, her glam team, and plugged her third album *The Pinkprint*, which is scheduled for release next month. Minaj also informed an excited crowd that she will be back to perform again at the EMAs next year.

Minaj closed the show in a short sparkly Saint Laurent dress with her English accent and a long silky black hairstyle with bangs, reminiscent of her "5 Star Chick" days. Continuing with the time travel theme, the show took a look into the future at Nicki's night of partying following the awards. After a wild night, Nicki wakes up in her bed in a trashed hotel room with her EMA award and a traffic cone beside her and all she can say is "Oh my God."

Nicki thanked fans and viewers for tuning in and closed out the night with a smile and a salute.

Minaj will continue her 2014 takeover with the release of *The Pinkprint* on Dec. 15.



## JAYSON OVERBY

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When a barber is in charge of shaping the way the hair on top of man's head looks, he knows the man's struggles, aspirations, dreams (for the hair, anyway). The congenial relationship between client and barber is integral to sustain a relationship and even form a friendship, for the sake of self and hair.

There are men who jump around from barber to barber and never develop a relationship with one; it's like going on a first date every time. Even if a certain man likes first dates, after a while, it's not as fun as it sounds. Hair needs to stability and predictability.

Most men have been with their barbers for a while because the best barber knows how a particular client hair acts and grows. After a client has been with his barber for a few sessions, the barber is at the point when the client doesn't have to say much but just sit in the chair and have a casual conversation.

"I've ended up becoming roommates with one of my clients." Barber and stylist Terrel Wicks said. "He wasn't just a client after we developed a friendship past me being his barber."

Barbers are relationship counselors, life counselors, and even mentors. The significance of the

barber-client relationship is essential if a man expects a clean cut and conversation.

After a client establishes the rapport with his barber it's not an easy job to just get a haircut, as if it's just another daily task. Many men are devoted to their barbers. They'll never think about getting a haircut from another barber because it's like betraying his barber and it just doesn't feel right. It's all about respect, and the fact that a man doesn't want to leave the barbershop with a crooked fade and weak line up.

"I once got my haircut from one of the other barbers in a previous shop, but that was the worst idea I ever had," said Jabir Muhad, a frequent client of Upper Cutz barbershop. "My barber insisted I continue to let him cut my hair."

However, unlike most barbers, there are a small amount of barbers who joke with their client when they recognize that someone else cut their hair, but the previous barber did a horrible job. After receiving a haircut from another barber, due to his the current barber being too late once Muhad went on a Twitter rant. As Muhad noted on Twitter, "I'll break up with my girlfriend, rather than let another barber cut my hair again. #AlwaysLoosing" It just may be that serious, haircuts are more important than food—we digress.

In particular, some men have been with their barbers longer than their current and past spouses. All because the barber never changed, not the line-up; he always understands what's going on and how to make it all better, with the right haircut.

# SEEKING FINANCIAL SECURITY CROOKED encounters

**JONATHAN THIBEAUX**  
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A professor told me recently that there are many individuals around Atlanta and other large metropolitan cities that live millionaire lifestyles on \$36,000 a year salaries. These individuals wear designer sneakers, rock the latest fashions and trends, eat at Urban Spoon's top five restaurants of the moment, and are regulars at their city's trendiest lounges and bars. While I am not one to cast judgment on the actions of others, this conversation soon led me to reflect on my money mismanagement skills while at Morehouse College.

"College Rich" to my peers, yet broke in spirit, I have come to realize that my love for good eats, occasional fashion splurges, and frequent nights on the town have left my bank account at the start of each school year not on "fleek" and downright lackluster.

Each semester I set out with a budget that should result in my having saved at least \$4,000 each school year. Though my intentions are pure, my budgeting skills and spending habits have been at war with one another since my freshman year.

You would think that with a roommate to split rent, a roadster bike for transportation to and from school, and cooking abilities that my ancestors would be proud of, reaching my goal of saving \$4,000 each year would be easy. However, now in my senior year, I have missed the mark three times.

I often think to myself, "Where did I go wrong?" or "How did it come down to this?" To answer these questions, I came up with a solution that allows me to generate more money than I spend and manage my burn (one financial counselor's term for expenditures).

The first step in analyzing my burn consisted of grouping together my expenses

into three main areas: needs, wants and splurges. Needs include rent, utilities, groceries, toiletries, gas, and school-related expenses, while wants take into account entertainment (clubs, bars, concerts, movies), eating out, coffee runs, shopping, and hosting friends for a kickback. Splurges, while rare, are expensive and encompass items like jewelry purchases, tattoos, electronic devices, bags and trips.

I soon realized that once I set aside the essentials (rent and utilities), over 75 percent of my money was going toward my wants and not my savings. The breakdown of my burn emphasized a huge trend that if not fixed now, will result in not having money for rainy days or for life after undergrad.

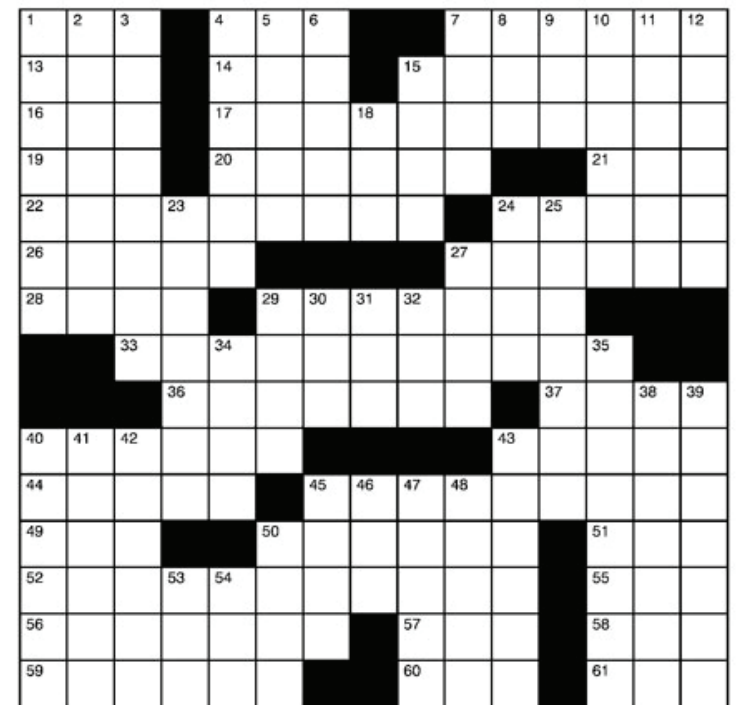
Moving forward, to generate more and spend less, I am committing to saving 50 percent of all incoming money outside of the essentials. To ensure that this will happen, I will grocery shop once a week so that my fridge is always stocked with snacks and common food items, cut down gas cost by riding my bike to class at least three days a week, and set a shopping allowance of \$125 a month.

Beyond that, when going out I will limit my alcohol intake to one drink at the club (yes, I am over 21) and choose not to eat out after the club or kickbacks. In addition, kicking newly formed habits to the curb and downsizing my Starbucks' coffee size will save \$15 a week.

Now proactive about my spending, I hope to increase my savings and invest. With ambitions of acquiring income properties, it is vital that I stick to my plan. Living below my means and taking my finances seriously will allow me to live comfortably and acquire a wealth that is far beyond even my own expectations.

Yours truly,  
CrookedT

## AULD LANG SYNE



CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

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# BLACK PEOPLE AND THE 'TANGLE OF PATHOLOGY'

**JARED LOGGINS**

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This piece first appeared in Mused Magazine on 09/08/2014

There is a long history in this country of taking detours around the real problem of racism in the United States. We live in a country that, since the end of Reconstruction, has convinced itself that white supremacy is not its central occupation and that dysfunction on the part of black citizens is an abdication of their own responsibility. Mike Brown and Eric Garner held a critical role in their deaths, the thinking so holds, and the solution is to mold upstanding men for the sake of the race, for the safeguarding of the black community.

The argument goes like this: criminality and pathology are born out of the absence of black fathers; single mothers bear the brunt of responsibility; and the presence or re-entry of black fathers is both preventative and corrective for successful black communities.

The thread that links these ideas together is that black success hinges on the active presence of men. The only problem is that male-centered correctives that conservatives and progressives alike have preached about since Adam haven't worked to ameliorate black lives. In fact, this line of thinking is a distraction from the source of black dysfunction. Today, black people live in disproportionately poorer neighborhoods, attend underfunded schools, and are unemployed at an alarmingly higher rate than their white counterparts. This is not because black people are failures. It is because of systemic racism. Yet, male-centered correctives preoccupy national discourse.

The male-centered approach has an interesting lineage. The Department of Labor convened a national study in 1965 in an attempt to deal with what the report deemed a 'tangle of pathology' in black communities due in part to a destabilization of black men. The solution was a kind of respectability that essentially works in this way: fix black men, problem solved. This was the progressive solution. Listlessly, the report cites national figures to support the claim that men are the absolute necessity:

Lyndon B. Johnson, January 1965: "The evidence — not final, but powerfully persuasive — is that the Negro family in the urban ghettos is crumbling."

Robert Blood and Donald Wolfe, 1960: "Negro husbands have unusually low power..."

Daniel Thompson, 1965: "As low as is the aspirational level among lower class Negro girls, it is considerably higher than among the boys..."

Dorothy Height, 1963: "If the Negro woman has a major underlying concern, it is the status of the Negro man..."

We are haunted by the temptingly seductive view that if black people would just stand upright, if we would simply tell all the black men in our lives to get it together, to be ultra-perfect, we can somehow undo the wholesale legacy of systemic racism that subsumes American life. The logic is that good behavior is the one-way ticket out of white supremacy. But good behavior is no more an escape from white supremacy than bad behavior is a justification for being gunned down and choked in the street. The reality is that it does not matter. Good behavior isn't bulletproof.

Still, both black women and black men suffer in this country under the stifling hands of a country that refuses to see itself, that refuses to admit that the great defect of our democracy has been the vile treatment of black people; and the gendered language of liberation that often leaves a multitude of narratives invisible in our national discourse. We are a country that refuses to stay on topic. Of all the issues that black people face in this country — high unemployment, housing segregation, underfunded schools, discrimination against gay and trans men and women, incarceration of women, etc. — we always seem to change the subject back to "black men need to get it together."

It's the apple's fault for falling off the tree. Black men are partly to blame for the conditions black people have found themselves in and not coincidentally, black men are the way out, so the logic goes.

We can look no further than President Barack Obama's historic "My Brother's Keeper" initiative on black boys to see that male-centered correctives remain intact. He chose a press conference in the wake of Mike Brown's death in Ferguson, MO at the hands of a police officer to offer a shameless plug on the initiative:

"In too many communities, too many young men of color are left behind and seen only as objects of fear," he said. "And through initiatives like My Brother's Keeper, I'm personally committed to changing both perception and reality."

Community-based programs are not the problem, per se. And for all that it's worth, having a national mentorship program in place is groundbreaking. But programs like this engender a type of respectability that hinges on the assumption that by concerning ourselves with black boys we can fundamentally change the conditions specific to black communities, as if one causally follows the other.

The solution to crime, to moral failure, and to delinquency is to create more Obama's; it is to mold more exceptions to the rule. We end up climbing a falling ladder. While black boys might well benefit by a program like My Brother's Keeper, our communities yet struggle to survive. All the while, progressives seem unable to come to terms with the gendered exclusion of women from these conversations and with the reality that good behavior is not a sound political strategy for overcoming systemic racism.

The implications of the male-centered corrective are innumerable. Above all, what's at stake is a political life that seems incapable of legibly understanding the plight of anyone other than men. Police and senseless vigilantes gun down black women too. The number of homeless black gay and trans men and women in cities across the country is on the rise. The rate of women incarcerated since the 1970s is 757%, a disproportionate number of which are black and Latino women. Yet, their voices are largely excluded from national discourses.

America's ultimate preoccupation has been with attempting to excuse itself out of systemic racism. The male-centered corrective is but one of those excuses. And it's not a particularly good one in context when we consider that inward male-centered approaches have ultimately failed to shield black men from a world that sees them as abject fears. It's even worse of an excuse when we consider that the torment against black lives has been neither gender specific nor sexuality-specific nor class-specific. The war has forever been in our front yards, on our doorsteps, and in our living rooms and respectability has proved to be our least formidable weapon. So long as ours is a country and a people that refuses to commit to the difficult conversation of seeing black communities and identities as interconnected and our struggles as bound together, we are a nation and a people that refuse to see ourselves.

# THE MIS-EDUCATION OF THE TALENTED ATHLETE

**MALCOLM BANKS**

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A few months back, social media witnessed the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge, which was a great movement to notify celebrities and everyday people about the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis disease, also known as ALS. It greatly raised awareness about the disease and brought in millions in donations for further research.

After a month, when the movement began to decline, you may have heard of the entertaining feud between rapper 50 Cent and world-class boxing champion Floyd “Money” Mayweather. The dispute between the old friends has been occurring on and off for quite some time. But it received enormous attention and media publicity when 50 Cent brashly joked that he would donate \$750,000 to any charity if Mayweather could read a page out of a Harry Potter book or the entire “Cat in The Hat.”

An ignorant statement, yes! But entertaining to say the least.

It was all fun and games until video footage leaked out and confirmed that Mayweather indeed does have serious literacy issues. 50 Cent, being one of Mayweather’s old buddies must have known this, which makes it even more disrespectful. 50’s taunts made Mayweather a laughing stock for social media sites over the 72 hours following the video leak and his only response was a picture of a \$72 million check captioned, “Read this.”

It is without question that 50 Cent’s jokes were indeed funny, but it takes us to a more serious conversation about the literacy and education of athletes in America. Are public schools actually teaching these young and gifted athletes or are they pushing them along because they are freakishly athletic and destined for stardom?

The issue isn’t necessarily Mayweather not getting a serious education because he was gifted enough to dominate his profession for over 18 years, making millions of dollars. His life is set whether he can read a sentence or not. I am more concerned about the athletes who dominate on the high school level, get pushed along by their teachers without actually learning much, get into college based off their skill in a particular sport, but aren’t good enough to go pro.

These athletes actually have to go out into the world and find real jobs. This is an incredibly difficult task for someone who has not received a proper education.

A New York Times study in 2012 about student athletes showed that “According to an N.C.A.A. report, the graduation rate (given six years to complete the degree) for football players is 16 percent below the college average, and the rate for men’s basketball players is 25 percent below.”

These issues start even before the athletes’ NCAA days.

In my old high school in Teaneck, N.J., Rashad White was nothing short of a town legend, trumping every running back record in the school’s history. With a top-15 spot in the nation at halfback, he seemed destined for the NFL.

But he was another case of getting pushed along.

The kid was practically treated like royalty before he even made it. He was so good that the NFL wasn’t a question of if, but rather when. Noticing his undeniable skills, many people invested in him, from coaches to teachers, and pushed him along.

He received and accepted an offer from Rutgers University, followed by a brief celebration. The young man’s grades and test scores were so poor that Rutgers pulled back their offer.

As a result, in an interview with Zagsblog.com White said he landed at Lackawanna College, a two-year community college in Scranton, Pa. He injured a knee, went home, and then three schools considered him as a slot receiver – Delaware State, Temple and North Carolina A&T. But none of them turned their interest into an offer.

This story still remains bothersome as many watched this immensely talented athlete fall from destined stardom faster than anyone could imagine.

Athletes such as White miss out on an opportunity of a lifetime and coaches, teachers, and ADULTS helped him squander it. If star athletes had the same pressure as any other student has to succeed academically, situations like this one could have been easily avoided.

“I feel like it depends on the level of the athlete; superior athletes can benefit the school from an athletic standpoint,” former Morehouse track and field athlete Alex Ocansey stated. “I don’t necessarily agree with it because those achieving on the high school or college level who don’t make it to the league are going to be blind to certain things because they didn’t receive a proper education. Unless they are able to reeducate themselves they will be fighting an uphill battle and are more likely than not to become a statistic.”

Are there parallels between athletes falling short of their dreams and the size of the prison population? If so, the true criminals who should be punished are whoever is responsible for the athletes being wrongly pushed along without the proper education.

So yes, while the 50 Cent-Mayweather feud remains nothing short of pure comedy and ignorance, it has broadened my mind to a much bigger issue at hand. The question remains if we will see a change anytime soon.

Or dare I say ever?