

A LOOK INSIDE THE ISSUE

EDUCATION

REPORT 2014

The Maroon Tiger polled students invested in education and the Center for Teacher Preparation on how they felt about Morehouse's support system for students interested in education

7,603

Black men in 2009 with a degree in education or an education related field.



THE NUMBERS



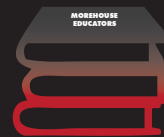
37% of the students polled were juniors



63% of the students polled were Seniors



When asked "DOES THE COLLEGE VALUE EDUCATION STUDIES" 75% of the students said no and 25% of the students said yes.



When asked "WHAT WOULD BE THE MOST BENEFICIAL RESOURCE FOR STUDENTS?" 24% chose Departmentalization, 35% chose Center for Teacher Preparation, and 41% chose Morehouse Educators.

SOURCES:
National Center for Education Statistics
Race Matters Institute
The Root
The Maroon Tiger

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A DIMINISHING LEGACY: EDUCATION STUDENTS SEARCHING FOR SCARCE RESOURCES

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Morehouse College was founded nearly 150 years ago to educate preachers and teachers. Now, the college's designated program for preparing future educators, the Center for Teacher Preparation, may be in jeopardy.

Program Manager for the Center for Teacher Preparation Amour Carthy will no longer work at the college, she said in an interview with the Maroon Tiger. She was informed in April that her contract would not be renewed. Her contract will expire on Sept. 30. Students seeking careers in education expressed their frustration with her contract not being renewed and the state of the education program overall.

"I can understand that the college doesn't want to invest in a teacher certification program, but I don't understand how administrators can continue to advocate for more black teachers and then cut what little support we do have," senior David Johnny said, referring to the college's decision not to renew her contract. The center acts as a liaison to Spelman's Education Department and Teacher Certification Program.

The center consists of two staff members, Carthy and Dr. Charles Meadows. The two have led the program for a number of years.

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Garikai Campbell said by email, "Our Center for Teacher Prep is currently supported by Title III dollars and as such, there are a number of restrictions placed by the government which decide whether or not we can continue to utilize those dollars to support the activities we would like to support.

"I am currently aggressively exploring the funding of our initiatives using those Title III dollars. In addition, I am exploring along with others, other funding sources that would allow us to in fact broaden how we support students engaging in not only teaching, but also other ways of taking on leadership roles in K-12 education."

Johnny, who was selected by the White House Initiative on HBCUs as an HBCU All Star, serves as the president of the Morehouse Student Educators Club (MSEC). He has also been offered a full-time teaching position in New York, upon graduation. He attributes each of these accomplishments to Carthy.

"Other staff [members] have resources and opportunities but they don't share those with the students, and now they are cutting our only resource – Mrs. Carthy," Johnny said. A week before an education roundtable at Spelman College, Johnny said, "A good example is that next week the U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan will be in the AUC but I only heard about Duncan's visit – and received an invitation – through an off-campus organization."

The roundtable Johnny referred to was attended by education ambassadors from Morehouse and Spelman.

Last school year, the college was involved in four major events to emphasize the need for black males in education, events that Johnny said did not extend beyond rhetoric. Those events included: a Crown Forum assembly led by David Johns, the Executive Director of the White House initiative on African American Excellence; a Crown Forum assembly and lunch led by Jeff Johnson, television journalist and motivational speaker; The White House/Morehouse College Black Male Summit; and the Morehouse Research Institute's [MRI] partnership with President Barack Obama's "My Brother's Keeper Initiative."

"There is such an amazing legacy and I am honored to be associated with the institution and the MRI," Johnson said during his visit last October. "More importantly [I] hope that we will be able to do some real work to

start turning the needle on some of these issues as opposed to just having really stimulating dialogue about them."

Former Chair of the Education Department at Spelman College Dr. Gwendolyn Middlebrooks said that very little has taken place other than dialogue.

"In my experience, the most vocal staff, with the exception of Amour [Carthy], are not certified teachers and have not been supporting students," she said.

After completing Spelman's teacher certification program as a graduate in 1961, years later Middlebrooks became the chair of the department. She served at Spelman for 42 years, being chair for eight years.

Carthy has taught in Los Angeles and Atlanta, and served as a school dean and district liaison in Philadelphia. She is also a graduate of Spelman College '97, Temple University '98 and Harvard University Graduate School of Education '08.

"Even if we don't create a teacher prep program, we could have more career placement if administrators backed the programs we already have," junior sociology major and vice president of MSEC Delonte Egwuatu said.

During his speech at Crown Forum last November, Johns of the White House initiative on African American Excellence said that black men only account for 1.8 percent of all teachers in the country and announced his goal of recruiting 10,000 new teachers. According to Race Matters Institute, the percentage of black male educators (1.8 percent) in comparison to the total black male student population (7.4 percent) is the largest gap second only to Latino males.

Egwuatu said that supporting student-led movements and sustaining current programs will greatly benefit students who are interested in education practice and policy. In addition to MSEC, another program preparing students for careers in education is the UPS Foundation's Community Service Scholars Program that was initiated by former Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Anne Watts. The program is now advised by English Professor Jamila Lyn.

Through the UPS program, Egwuatu and nine other Morehouse students volunteer at Fickett Elementary school for a minimum of 10 hours each week. Earlier this year, Egwuatu spent 18 weeks in Buenos Aires, Argentina, volunteering with 3 to 7-year-old children.

Last school year, Egwuatu, Johnny, and Carthy organized and fundraised for several on-campus events to support students. Through MSEC, which Carthy advises, they introduced students to graduate school recruiters from Columbia University and the University of Notre Dame, as well as job recruiters from Teach for America, Charleston City Schools District, Atlanta Public Schools, Cleveland Metropolitan School District, Gwinnett County Public Schools, and Utopian Academy for the Arts.

Johnny said that another one of his most memorable experiences last year was a trip to Washington, D.C., sponsored by MRI, but regrettably he has not been able to partner with the organization since.

In contrast, Johnny said that Carthy has continuously supported him with recommendation letters, interview preparation, and sharing her contacts and connections with him. Last semester, Carthy even took him to a mixer hosted by a local black Ivy League alumni network.

Johnny said that in the weeks after they met, he considered transferring to a school with more resources for students interested in education. However, Carthy convinced him to stay and create those necessary resources for himself and other Morehouse students. Now Johnny is hoping to convince the College to allow Carthy to stay to help him reach that goal.

#ITSBIGGERTHANYOU

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Founded by Executive Organizer Aurielle Marie and co-coordinator Janetta Hill, the #ItsBiggerThanYou campaign was formed in response to Michael Brown's murder. Since their town hall meeting and rally at the CNN Center, the movement continues to gain local and national support. It also inspired several AUC students to join their efforts in demonstrating solidarity with those in Ferguson, Mo.

Utilizing social media, #ItsBiggerThanYou established a platform to encourage others to combat injustice and inequality. They heavily relied on sites such as Instagram and Twitter to promote events, including a panel discussion entitled "Talk Back: Valuing Brown Bodies" on Aug. 28 and a national student walkout in which the AUC and Georgia State participated on Aug. 25.

#IBTY also traveled to Ferguson that weekend, where members collaborated with residents and people across the country in canvassing against the conflict of interest created by St. Louis Prosecutor Bob McCulloch's seeming support of Ferguson's police force.

During the walkout, students gathered at King Chapel to discuss Brown's death and other cases of police brutality. Among others, Campaign Advisor and member Shawn Walton, Assistant Grant Writer

Zarinah Mustafa, Director of Recruitment Antonio Jackson and the Ms. Maroon & White and Court provided information on how to get involved.

Moved by the walkout, Clark Atlanta University sophomores Brinyae Thompson and Destiny Davis with fellow classmates and junior Samantha Richards started an organization named after the Atlanta Student Movement, an AUC group initially formed in the 1960s.

Walton, a Morehouse alumnus, believes students naturally rally against social injustice because of the AUC's location. "That's why I think the AUC is sort of a catalyst because it's surrounded by the conditions that are glorified on the news media," he said.

Held at Hagar's Palace on 19 Joseph E. Lowery Blvd., "Talk Back" gave local residents a chance to examine multiple issues. The panel was comprised of community and student leaders: #IBTY's Walton and Randy Boyd II, State Rep. Tyrone Brooks, Peace and Love AUC president Mariah Cowling, New African Peoples' Association member Dr. Makungu Akinyela, The Kindezi School co-founder Dr. Bettina Love and Taryn Jordan, a member of the Trayvon Martin Campaign organizing committee.

Love said being Black was "to understand struggle and to understand that with struggle comes progress." She also stated the conditions of Blacks informs whites to assert supremacy.

Akinyela stressed self determination. "We as

black people have to define our own words, our own realities," he said regarding black-on-black crime, a phenomenon he feels should be rejected. He stated it suggests that Blacks are different from other ethnicities though all same-race killings are attributed to those resembling each other living in close proximity.

State Rep. "Able" Mable Thomas emphasized activity beyond social media to improve communities. "I can give you the political cover, but you have to have a desire to really wanna do something to get your hands dirty 'cause all revolution will not be on your phone and your hashtag," she stated.

Despite their growing success, #IBTY encounters some problems. Spelman junior Mustafa believes they're lacking mentorship from the older generation. Morehouse junior Jackson thinks the biggest challenge is time and not having to rush. Moving forward, #ItsBiggerThanYou hopes to build a definitive structure and provide sustainability methods.

"We're just really part of being the solution," Walton said. "We have the opportunity to be international examples and we're gonna really focus a lot of our energy into going directly across these streets and being part of that growing potential."

They plan to canvass in Atlanta, hold legal counseling classes, teach how to observe the police and share information about organizations that assist the hungry, the poor and troubled youth.

CAFE RENOVATIONS: NO MORE CASES OF "THE CHIVERS"

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"The chivers" became a term used on campus to describe the health effects often associated with eating in Chivers Dining Hall. Symptoms included; immediate loss of appetite, an upset stomach, fatigue, and severe frustration.

According to a poll conducted by the Maroon Tiger, "the chivers" have been completely eradicated – as well as Sodexo.

78 percent of respondents gave the updated cafeteria at least a four out of five stars for food and customer service.

Students who were on-campus during the summer noticed the improvements overnight. As soon as Sodexo, the previous food service provider, was replaced by Aramark in July, students said their cafeteria experience changed instantly.

"You could tell there was more flavor, more variety, and the staff aren't apathetic," said freshmen Winston Odom.

For Aramark General Manager Ed Robertson, the attitudes of staff members were extremely important.

"Of all the improvements we have made, I am most proud of our employees," said Robertson. "From all of the feedback I have received this year, the experience of students and our staff has completely turned around."

In his first month on campus, Robertson has been seen restocking cups, joking with staff members, and even consoling a grieving student whose grandparents had recently died.

In addition to a few new employees, the cafeteria also includes new chairs, tables, floors, food options, and five 75-inch TVs. Less noticeably, there are also five additional meal-plan options that students can choose from – which include more DCB dollars for students to spend at various campus restaurants.

Chic-fil-A is expected to open by November, and Starbucks and Which-Wich are scheduled to be completed before the end of the semester. Both Papa John's and Freshens will remain on campus.

Over Winter break, renovations will continue with

the installation of new counters at each point of service in Chivers and a Mongolian grill. Chivers is also featuring healthier dining options as well as a dietician to better educate students on healthy dining.

Aramark also provides dining services for other local schools including Spelman, Agnes Scott, West Georgia, and Oglethorpe University.

Students interested in being a part of the continuing changes are invited to join the Food Service Committee which is overseen by Associate Dean of Housing & Residential Life Maurice Washington. Faculty members are also welcome to participate.

A joint statement provided to the Maroon Tiger by Dr. Alan Robertson (CFO), Ralph Johnson (AVP Procurement & Auxiliaries), Elise Durham (Media Relations Manager), and Robertson, including the following statement:

"We are pleased with the progress of our transition and delighted that Aramark continually strives to understand the customer base that is unique to our campus. We all are eager to implement the renovations around campus as quickly as possible."

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IS MOREHOUSE A PEAK OF SUCCESS OR A PATHWAY TOWARD IT?

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Everyone has his or her own idea of the proper steps to take to attain success and what it actually is. When people turn on the television, they see Beyoncé performing for 15 minutes and then closing by accepting awards in the presence of her family and millions of fans.

In opposition, when people walk down the street, they may find that the local pastor has successfully developed an outreach program that caters to underprivileged youth. At Morehouse College, though it is an all-male institution, the opinions and personalities are incredibly diverse.

What a large group of Morehouse students have in common is that they came to this institution with the hope that one day they will be successful. However, is Morehouse College the definition of success or a step to it?

“It’s a bit of both,” freshman Psychology major Akeem Robinson said. “It has proven to be an environment

that propels young men forward.”

With an extensive history of propelling young men into intense leadership positions, it is easy to view Morehouse as a value and source of success. Though the evidence is there, some individuals do not see Morehouse as solely being the catalysts for an individual’s success.

“It’s not all good and it’s not all bad,” senior Political Science and Spanish major Rolland White said. “But in regards to success, it depends on how they utilize Morehouse.”

There is no doubting the quality of individuals who have graduated from Morehouse College and have moved on to establish names for themselves. What is debatable is if the individuals came to Morehouse on a path that was already heading for success, or if Morehouse College was the destination on that path.

“I think Morehouse is a platform for a lot of people to reach their dreams and aspirations,” freshman Biology

major Malakai Miller said.

Though the question of whether or not students feel as if Morehouse is the peak of success is still debatable, the general consensus among students is that the institution alone functions as a piece to the path toward being successful.

The truth is that the place of Morehouse College in someone’s success story will always depend on the individual.

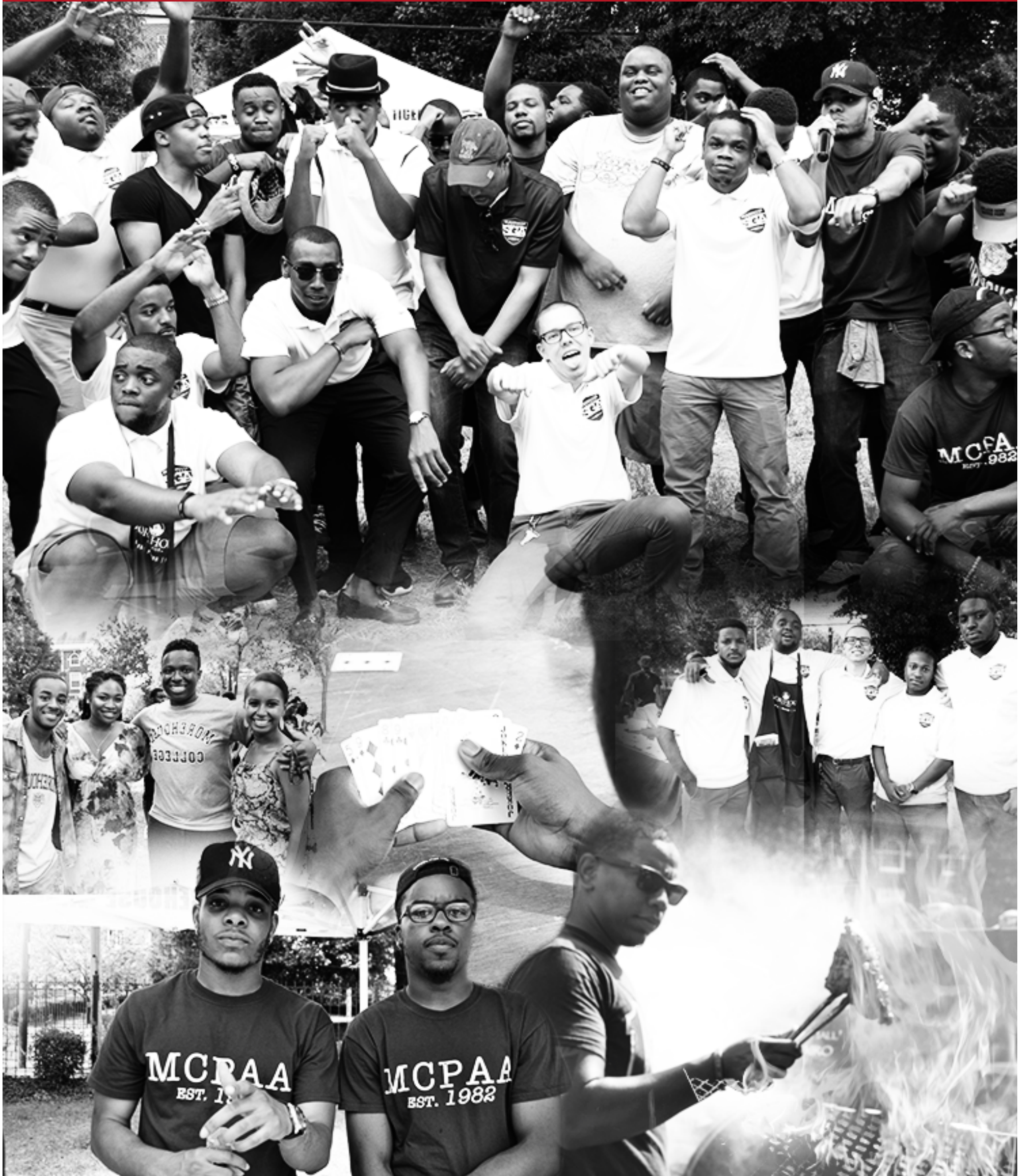
“Success is reaching your set goals, mastering them, and being proud of yourself,” sophomore Biology major Kyren Mcgary said.

If becoming a student of Morehouse College was an individual’s primary goal, then of course Morehouse would be their definition of success. It simply depends on the individual.

A large, 3D, red, blocky font spelling the word "SUCCESS" in all caps. The letters are thick and have a slight shadow underneath, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The word is positioned at the bottom of the page, spanning across most of the width.

THE SGA COOKOUT

PHOTOGRAPHY BY: Tyler Lacey, MT Photography





FROM MOREHOUSE TO ESPN, THE GLOBAL LEADER OF SPORTS

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Max Tyler, a 2013 graduate of Morehouse College who has been an avid fan of all sports his entire life, will be taking a job that he has been preparing for throughout his life. Tyler has been hired to be a researcher for ESPN the Magazine.

“It’s a dream come true,” Tyler said.

Tyler, who has been interning with a New Jersey-based website since graduating Columbia with a master’s degree in journalism, will start with ESPN late next week.

While Tyler was at Morehouse he worked at

the Maroon Tiger for three years. He began his sophomore year as a contributing and eventually a staff writer, the next year he advanced to associate sports editor and by his senior year he was the chief copy editor. Tyler also anchored shows on TigerTV. His progression through the MT system helped him immensely along the journey.

Once he graduated from Morehouse, Tyler went on to attend Columbia in New York City. The Columbia journalism program is recognized as one of the top schools for graduate study in the country. Columbia was the only graduate program that Tyler applied for. Tyler credits the Morehouse Journalism and Sports Program because it laid the foundation and “shaped me into a viable candidate” for the famed 10-month Columbia program.

Tyler got involved with the worldwide leader in sports when they came to a career fair at Columbia. Tyler knew that this was his opportunity to work for the sports network. Tyler remained in contact with ESPN after the fair and the person who initially recruited Tyler to ESPN is now his supervisor.

“In a field that isn’t as fluid as you would like, you must stay resilient,” Tyler said. Tyler did not receive his current job until he had applied for it three times, showcasing his enduring resilience. In the future, Tyler hopes to move up in position with ESPN and his ultimate goal is to be a SportsCenter anchor personality.

“Resilience is key. If you know what you want, go get it,” Tyler said.

TOP 7 VMA MOMENTS

The 2014 MTV Video Music Awards was one of the most trending social media topics and highly anticipated award shows of the year! With every award show will come a package of full throttle performances, tear-jerking acceptance speeches, unexpected victories, and even wardrobe malfunctions. These are our top 2014 VMA moments:



7. FIFTH HARMONY WINS "ARTIST TO WATCH" AWARD

Only one artist was able to claim the fame as Artist To Watch: Fifth Harmony. Debuting with their hit single, "Miss Movin' On" and now taking over the world with their newly released track, "Bo\$\$", there are definitely no signs of this gorgeous girl group slowing up on their grind. Congratulations, ladies.



6. TAYLOR SWIFT SHAKES IT OFF

Is that?...that can't be America's country-pop star sweetheart Taylor Swift strutting her stuff in a sexy "The Great Gatsby" inspired ensemble! Oh, but it is! The Songwriter Hall of Fame honoree took the VMA's by absolute storm during her debut performance of her new single, "Shake It Off." Everything from the fireworks at the end to her amazing acrobatic dancers was nothing less than perfection and fun!



5. NICKI MINAJ'S ANACONDA PERFORMANCE

Nicki was supposed to have a real anaconda at the performance, but it was pulled the day before because a dancer got bit during rehearsal the day before the actual show. No alterations to the performance needed to be made (though her wardrobe malfunction during her Bang Bang performance with Jessie J and Ariana Grande could've used some altercations). Great job, Nicki!



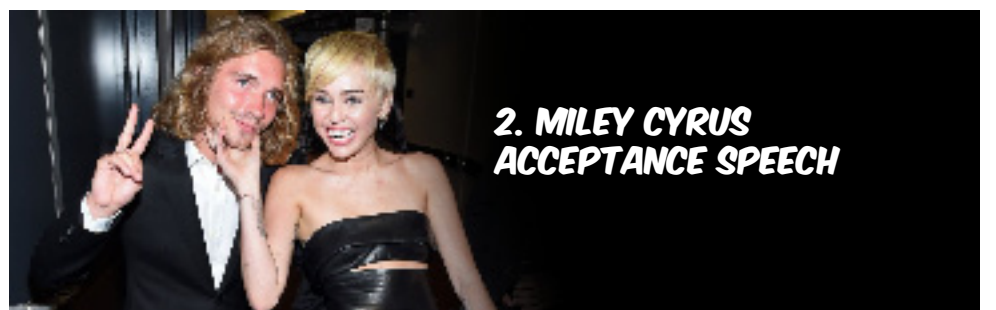
4. SAM SMITH SERENADES AUDIENCE TO STAY WITH HIM

From the moment Mrs. Kim Kardashian-West opened her mouth to introduce her close personal friend as the next performer, the audience could already tell who it was: Sam Smith. The live performance included a baby grand piano by his side, hitting high notes unimaginable for most artists and making fans swoon as he serenades them with his hit single, "Stay With Me." Keep it up, Sam Smith!



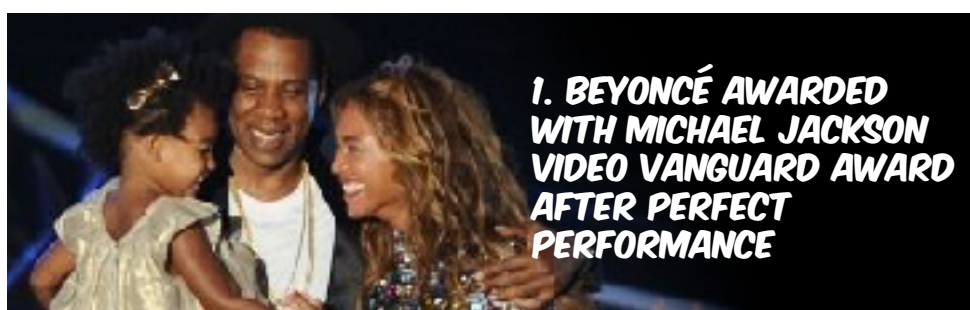
3. COMMON TOUCHES UPON FERGUSON

The Mike Brown tragedy in St. Louis is one of the most sensitive moments of 2014. "Hip hop has always presented a voice for the revolution. I want us all to take a moment of silence for Mike Brown and for peace in this country and in the world," Common said at the VMAs. Snoop Dogg was even seen bowing his head and chucking up the peace sign as a symbol of respect.



2. MILEY CYRUS ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

Miley Cyrus' heart-filled speech was nothing more than tear-jerking and sentimental, listening to the plea of her date, Jesse, as he advocated for the homeless youth in America. "I've been an extra in your movies. I've been an extra in your lives," he added. He touched upon Los Angeles having the highest population of homeless youth, with there being a total of 1.6 million homeless and runaway children and teenagers. "A dream you dream alone is only a dream, but a dream we dream together is reality," concluded Jesse with a famous John Lennon quote as he gracefully exited the stage and received much applause from the audience and a watery-eyed Miley.



1. BEYONCÉ AWARDED WITH MICHAEL JACKSON VIDEO VANGUARD AWARD AFTER PERFECT PERFORMANCE

One word...FLAWLESS! The legendary Beyoncé took the stage and made it her own, performing hit songs from her latest album such as XO, Drunk in Love, Partition and Flawless. Vines instantly went viral of the precious toddler dancing to her talented mother's hit single, "Flawless", as she sat upon her father's lap who couldn't help but smile. Talk about the perfect ending to a stellar performance!

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First Time's the Charm!

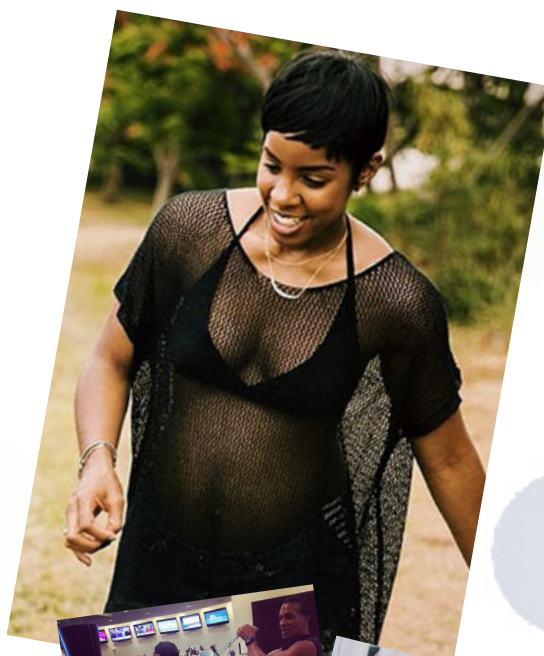


On Sept. 4, Lucy star Scarlett Johansson became a first-time mom! She and French journalist fiancé, Romain Dauriac, welcomed a beautiful baby girl named Rose into their lives. Johansson kept her pregnancy super low-key, and many didn't even know she was expecting! Now that baby Rose has been welcomed into Hollywood, here are the next first-time mommies we are excited for here at MT:



Zoe Saldana

Star of the box office hit Guardians of the Galaxy 2, Zoe Saldana, is expecting with husband Marco Perego. Not only is Saldana set to be a mom for the first time, sources say she is expecting twins! According to US Weekly, the couple has plans for a big family, and they are kicking it off with beautiful twins! The accomplished actress has said that the children will be bilingual, speaking English and Spanish, just like both parents. Well Zoe, felicitaciones por su embarazo!



Kelly Rowland

Singer Kelly Rowland is another star whose baby we cannot wait to meet! 33-year-old "Motivation" singer is expected to give birth to her first child, a baby boy, in just less than two months. Rowland says former Heavyweight champion boxer husband Tim Witherspoon has been "super supportive" throughout the pregnancy. We bet baby Blue Ivy can't wait to meet her cousin!



Mila Kunis

The 31-year-old actress is expecting her first child with That 70's Show co-star fiancé Ashton Kutcher any day now! Kunis has kept her petite body in great shape throughout her pregnancy by attending prenatal yoga classes - classes that have benefits for both mommy and baby! We are anxiously awaiting the arrival of baby Kunis-Kutcher, who will without a doubt be a little heartbreaker!

WHERE IS THE LOVE?

THE "REALITY" IN LOVE AND HIP HOP THE REUNION PART 1



JEREMIE DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

As I walked through the dorm last Monday it was oddly quiet. There was no talking in the hallway, there was no music coming from rooms – the hallway was barren.

Peeking into the rooms I saw groups of young ladies gathered around a single 22" flat screen T.V.

To me this was a regular Monday filled with a strenuous workload and nagging text messages from my Mom reminding me to "wash my clothes on Wednesday." To everyone else this was the day of the long anticipated reunion of Love and Hip-Hop: Atlanta on VH1. This would be the episode where faithful viewers would find out if all the scandal involved in Season Three really did "put the real in reality television."

Viewers knew what was coming when the infamous Stevie J. and Joseline Hernandez seemed a little out of their element. So when the show came back on after its second break and cameras came on to Stevie J. and Benzino going "tit for tat" with each other, that was

the signal for everyone to get their popcorn, sit back, and enjoy.

In a matter of seconds, Stevie J. and Joseline charged towards Benzino and Althea, and attacked them. Everything spiraled out of control as the security guards tried to tame the two couples. Remaining cast members scattered off the stage in fear that they would get caught up in the tornado of chaos.

As Benzino and Althea were escorted off stage, security thought it was safe to release Joseline, which turned out to be a huge mistake! Joseline ran towards Tami screaming, "I don't like you either!" and attacked her, ripping off her ponytail.

The melee turned into such a precarious and dangerous incident that the VH1 staff had to ask the audience to exit the building in order to ensure their safety.

After witnessing the severity of the situation, it made me ask myself a few questions: Why do we watch and support a show that dehumanizes black culture? Why do we imitate these characters? And most importantly, where is the love in this show? The cast rarely displays love for each other or for Hip Hop.

Instead of tweeting about and glorifying black women and men who are making an effort to change the imagery of blacks in the eyes of others, we focus all of our energy on the cast of Love and Hip Hop, who are the very people depicting us as ignorant, irrational, and inelegant.

Going to an HBCU, I am immersed in positive black culture, where everyday the goal is to increase sisterhood and brotherhood and to change the world; this makes it painfully difficult to watch the cast of Love and Hip Hop tear each other down.

We as a black community need to stand together and vow that the only light we will put ourselves in, is a positive one. That we will not "throw punches" and beat each other down with Versace shoes, but will come together and uplift each other to a level that makes the shoulders of the ancestors that we stand upon, proud!

Hello? This is Atlanta! The home of the Nobel PEACE Prize winner Martin Luther King Jr.. So the next time you watch Love and Hip Hop just ask yourself, "Where is the love in "Love and Hip Hop?"

I AM FINALLY HUMAN: A SEMESTER'S REFLECTION ON BLACKNESS

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“Que onda, negro? Como andas?” was one of the many ways my friends greeted me daily. Traveling abroad at this point in my life, I wasn’t quite sure what it meant to black—if it meant anything at all. To be more specific, what it meant to be a black American in a foreign nation. Whenever I met new people, many assumed that I was Brazilian, Colombia, Venezuelan, or European, but never American. However, after being there for a couple of months, I got comfortable with speaking Spanish. I would often joke with individuals and play on that I was a native Spanish speaker from one of those countries.

Living in Buenos Aires, Argentina, I had one of the best experiences of my life. I often hear that people from Buenos Aires or “porteños” can oftentimes be racist or off-putting to people of color. Conversely, not once in the four and a half months that I was there did I ever have an unpleasant experience in regards to my race.

Conversations did arise about how I view race as an American and why I have made certain life decisions. Having to explain to people the history of racism in the States was always interesting because I felt as if people could never really grasp what it meant to be continually disadvantaged systemically and institutionally because of skin color. Dialogues would nearly almost end with me conceding or stating that it’s something you simply cannot fully understand unless you have lived it personally. Although racism has not hurt me greatly as an individual, in terms of my own experiences, I know that it is a constant factor for many in the black community, and subsequently a reason that many cannot thrive today.

Discussing my life back home in the States with friends was another aspect of explaining my decision to study abroad. As a student at Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA, the world’s only institution of higher learning aimed for developing black males, it was interesting getting reactions of why I made the choice to attend that college. I began by affirming that it was indeed a choice and that secondly I wanted to learn about my history of as a black man in America that I may not learn elsewhere.

I wanted to be culturally cultivated in my own community to understand my position in this society so that I can better contribute to it. As a future educator, seeing the current abominable statistics on black male educators urges me to follow that career path. It isn’t necessarily that I choose to self-segregate myself from the rest of my environment, but I know that this unique setting at a Historically Black College is needed for me to have a particular perspective. Moreover, traveling abroad would further broaden

my viewpoint. Combining what I learned during my first year and a half at college and the change I would undergo abroad, I was excited to see the new person I would become.

Furthermore, using that for context, it was interesting how I observed situations being put in a foreign environment. Black individuals no longer surrounded me, rather all native Spanish speakers and South Americans. More often than not, they had never really interacted with a black American man socially. When it came to social settings in Buenos Aires, such as bars and boliches (night clubs), I often felt like a celebrity. I always had someone approach me associate the black entertainer label with me. That image is that the world primarily receives of black men unfortunately. I must state that always exploring a new social scene almost always gave me a natural high because I knew I would engage in a conversation I had never conceived.

Consequently, what struck me the most about my experience abroad was how I developed individually as a black man. Dare I say not as a “black man” but as a human? For the first time in my life, I felt free live life how I chose. It is almost as if I wasn’t aware of the racial tag that was attached to me living in the States. Although people did obviously see my skin color, it was not a signifier of less than or incapable of achieving. I felt that I could wake up in the morning, proceed with my daily routine, and not be judged because of my skin color. Strangely enough, through the experience of visiting another country, I was able to find true humanity.

Upon returning to the States, I became annoyed by the redundant news and headlines of racial injustices and have asked several questions. When does enough become enough? When do black people begin to value themselves more? When does the system and institutional racism take a tumble? When do I become better treated in my own country where I have citizenship than in another that I am simply visiting? How do we truly solve this issue of racial acceptance? Those are some of the questions that I ask myself. Sadly, the concept of race is back on my mind, but not to idly contemplate it, but to encourage others to find their humanity elsewhere if that is what it takes.

Moreover, when do we as community stop judging each other based on exterior superficialities? While it may sound cliché, there isn’t enough value on the internal character. How does one separate material acquisition from who a person really is? In Buenos Aires, I learned how to value people for who they are, the relationships we forged, the laughs we shared, candid conversations had, and for the life connecting moments that I will never forget. After a while, some days I simply didn’t care that how well I was dressed because I knew my friends would respect me for who I am and not for who/what I was wearing. When we

get to the point of uplift and self-worth, we find those types of interactions and feelings occurring more frequently.

Now reflecting on my return to the States, I can say that has been the most difficult part of the journey. The challenging part of re-adjusting to life back here is having to conceptualize race once again. I try to encourage myself daily to assure myself that I can conquer and accomplish my goals no matter what. While I cannot be naïve to the fact that my skin color can hinder me in some situations, it is not enough to stop me globally. With a global mindset, I find that we are all dependent upon each other. I am able to speak from my viewpoint as a black man, but that is not my sole definer.

Considering the current place of the black community in the United States, what we need is self-actualization. Many hear self-actualization and think of Maslow’s hierarchy of needs. One may question, how can one self-actualize if their basic needs are not met.

Equally, it may be in how one views what is needed most for self-actualization to occur. In this case for the black community, while some may struggle to furnish the dinner table with food every night or keep the lights on and water running, what if they could more easily meet those basic needs elsewhere. Focusing more on the self and what the self requires to feel established in society, one can argue that finding humanity and a sense of belonging is what it takes to move closer to self-actualization. The notion is that we need to understand clearly why we as blacks are underprivileged and often undervalued in the US, to be able to successfully create a new sense of perspective that values importance of self and ability to prosper somewhere else.

It can be characterized as a communal revolution of self-actualization. Knowing keenly what has caused the issue and therefore take those lessons learned and form them in a new context of global appreciation. Moreover, it is the urge to become global citizens. Citizens that realize what he or she can accomplish when racial bias and prejudice is not a factor. It is true that other nations face their own myriad of social issues, but black Americans seem not to be hindered by them.

The conversations that allow us to explore what is wrong and open those wounds to speak on what has thwarted us for years, and to allow for the new self to be formed. You might just find your self happier some other place you never would have imagined. As an individual, if you are ready to greater your sense of self-awareness, self-confidence, and self-reliance, leaving the US is a must. If you are ready for your perspective to be broken down, stripped apart, and resurrected, take a chance and find your humanity abroad.

WHY DO WE LOVE? CROOKED encounters

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“You’re such a great guy. I mean really, why are you so nice?” (wait for it...) “You’re smart, handsome, can cook, and bleeding with ambition.” (almost there...) “But, you scream relationship, and... I’m just not ready for that yet.” (Damn! Here we go again.) I’ve heard this statement a million times, yet it never gets old. You see, I never go into anything expecting to hear these prerecorded lines, but somehow this arrangement of words always seems to follow me. The funny part is, the persons who have said this to me always end up getting into a relationship with someone else right after me. At one point, I called myself “The Preparer.” We go on a few dates, share a couple of sensual embraces, talk on the phone for hours on end, the whole nine, and right before the relationship word comes up. BAM! Another one bites the dust. You would think after going through this several times that I would be bitter, pressed, and alone, right? And I was. But, somewhere between chance and divine intervention, I met someone.

This someone was the person of my dreams—intelligent, beautiful, and extremely passionate. The year we spent together was amazing! I loved Taylor. With all my heart I swear I did. Taylor was in all ways the exact opposite of me and I think for a lot of reasons that’s why I really wanted it to work. I sacrificed so much and gave Taylor everything. When that

beautiful nightmare ended, I was exhausted, confused, and doubted the very thing I knew God would bless me with, Love.

For some, love comes in their thirties, forties, or after they’ve grown tired of sleeping with countless individuals, but for me, love is something I want now. And not just any kind of love, but unconditional love. The type of love where even after the two year butterfly period, we’re still as attracted and excited about one another as we were the day we met. I thank God for that relationship because it showed me that I could actually experience love. But, I had to learn that love doesn’t have to come from Yang. It can come from anyone. I now look to the future ready, hopeful for what it may bring.

So, why do we love LOVE? We love the thrill. We love the bumpy road, and believe it to be so worth the blood, sweat, and tears that we put into it. The thought of one day being with our soul mate—the ultimate experience—alone makes us quiver. To share in a relationship with someone else that is only second to that of your relationship with God, who wouldn’t want that? To look someone in the face and say, “This here, right now, at this very moment, is all that matters to me. I love you. That’s urgent like a motherf***er.” (Darius, Love Jones)

Love.
Four letters.
One syllable.
Endless possibilities.

GAME OF THRONES JUMBLE

tv.com
tv.com/shows/game-of-thrones

Unscramble these three jumbles, one letter per square, to form three Game of Thrones words

ROKDAHIT

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

JROEYYG

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

GARNOD

--	--	--	--	--	--

employees exit



Now arrange the circled letters to form a surprise answer!!!

Hodor said Littlefinger asked him to use this exit from his brothel so as not to disturb the clients:

Answer: The “OO” OO

		9	4	6		3		
						2		1
				2	9			5
7				3		I		9
		1				8		
6				8				7
4			8	9				
3		6						
		8		5	3	6		

BACK IN BUSINESS

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This twist on wearing a pants suit has unfolded—or, more accurately, loosened—right before our eyes: tucking in a shirt, wearing with no shirt, wearing a basic white tee, and wearing it better than men. Sure, it sounds like an old idea, but here's why ladies should be on board.

The pantsuit is no longer considered something in the 1980s archive, or something men wear to depict a new idea of dapper. It's sexy and stylish; it's sophisticated and sleek.

This season, designers—Ralph Rucci, Wes Gordon, and Halston Heritage—have taken a different approach on how to wear a suit. In the past we've seen ladies like Rihanna, Blake Lively, and the Olsen twins donned in two-piece suits and they look just, well, stylish.

Synclaire, a sophomore at Spelman College said, "I only have one suit, I just never wear it. It doesn't fit right and I find it so hard to style."

The fit, it's probably the most important part when actually purchasing the pantsuit. Sure, a suit that conforms to the body is nice but it's more about loose and relaxed-fit suits this time around.

There's a blog dedicated to women in suits. Yes, women in suits. The name of the blog, Fuck Yeah Women In Suits, is self explanatory of the admiration of women wearing suits.

Women are borrowing from the boys, and they're wearing it better than the boys. Stepping out in suits made from a range of fabrics (pastel silks, muted tweeds) and cut in a handful of silhouettes (flowy and '70s-ish, skinny and cropped) but always perfectly tailored.

Ladies, I'm daring you to purchase a pantsuit. Also, if you're a proud owner of a pantsuit, feel free to hashtag #MTFashion so we can see how you wear it!



ORIGINAL RETRO



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By now you should know that white shoes are swag, even after the summer—and Labor Day. Luckily the folks who work in footwear blessed us: the Fall/Winter 2014 hit sneaker is one you can run to class in and even knock out a game of tennis. White sneakers— a trend kicked off with the revival of Adidas' Stan Smiths— works with sharp tailored suits and denim distressed among the hills. Keep in mind: when wearing white sneakers you can't be touched.



DON'T UNWRAP JUST YET

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I can't tell if the scarf was meant for only the summer evenings, but somehow it's still a key accessory talked about as we go into Fall/Winter 2014. I'm not talking about those exquisite long over-sized cashmere scarfs that you've waiting to wear since last winter, but the bright, resilient, delicate silk pieces that naturally take any outfit to the next level. So let's invest and keep our eye on something so simple, but irresistible: a silk neck scarf. It's the one easy way to tap into the season's luxe '70s vibe—after flared denim. Fold it, tie, or roll it—just make this piece your new style signature.



J.Crew
\$135



Urbanoutfitters
\$6

*Hats
Off*
\$245



IS THERE A 'SUIT' OF ARMOR FOR BLACK MEN?

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A young man walks the streets of his neighborhood at night alone. Whether he is afraid or not is unknown. What is known is that at this moment he is unprotected.

As he continues this walk he notices a car following him slowly. Realizing that the vehicle is in fact a police car, he lowers his guard. He is filled with hope at the sight of this new form of protection and thus slows his pace.

Instead of extending an offer of safe passage, the law enforcement officer seeks to harass and threaten the young man. No, this young man is not Michael Brown or Trayvon Martin. The question of whether or not this story ends in arrest or murder is not the point, either.

For some, the importance of this story and source of the young man's harassment is strictly the color of his skin. For others, it could be the clothes the young man chose to wear or the way he walked down the street.

Today there are some conflicting ideas on the source of discrimination in modern American society. It is argued that if a black man carries himself in a way that exudes professionalism and class, then he is less likely to be a target of discrimination. This implies that if someone chooses to dress in clothes that could allow other individuals to encase them in a thug stereotype or persona, then it is natural for others to be threatened by them. "It's how people perceive you," junior Psychology major Michael Smith Jr said. "How is someone supposed to protect you if they are scared?"

With the recent coverage of events in black communities involving young black men and law enforcement

officials, a separation has emerged in the black community as a way to explain the occurrence of this common phenomenon.

The separation can be referred to as classism. This means that due to having a certain upbringing and opportunities, some feel as if they are immune to the hardship of discrimination. These opportunities could include their education or the environment in which they were raised.

Though events like Eric Garner's death in Staten Island, N.Y. – that was caused by a policeman's chokehold – have been happening for years, it is natural to cling to beliefs that ensure an individual's safety.

"It's people being afraid and wanting to cling to the hope that if I wear a suit, hopefully nothing happens to me," senior Sociology major Marcus Lee said.

Lee went on to mention the arrest of Harvard University professor Henry Louis Gates several years ago. Though he fits the persona of an educated and professional black man, he was still accused of breaking into his own home.

The question is if a Morehouse student finds himself walking through a neighborhood street alone, will the law enforcement officer see the Morehouse education or the color of his skin?

"What we have to realize is that discrimination is an entity in which no one is immune from," junior Political Science major Donte Gresham said.

Whether discrimination is categorized by attire or solely the color of an individual's skin, it will never be right to harass or question someone's morality before that person even relays a single sentence.

BLACK MALE ACHIEVEMENTS STILL LARGELY EXCLUDED FROM DISCOURSES

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Whether it is the recent killings of defenseless Black males or violence within our communities, the media often highlights the demeaning truths of Black men while excluding their many achievements and contributions to America's history.

This one sided approach can be dangerous, as it undermines and, in some cases, disregards the present and historical triumphs.

Chair of the History Department Dr. Fredrick Knight said that America would not be the same without the contributions of Black "If you look at any field in human endeavor [in America], you find an African-American man playing a role in it."

Knight specifically referenced the accomplishments of Duke Ellington in Music, Frederick Douglass in Politics, and Howard Thurman in Theology. He also said that the historical texts containing American history have been revised to include more African-American voices and experiences, but Americans must be mature enough to look at both sides of history. Dr. Keisha Tassie, associate professor of Communications said.

"We already hear many lies and negative stereotypes about what Black men do and do not do for their families and communities. that when we have real-life examples of Black men achieving – as they do every day of the week in just about every street in this country - it helps to encourage the hope and potential success of other Black men."

Tassie criticized the media industry for doing a poor job of highlighting those success stories. She said the country overall purposefully robs young Black boys of their sense of hope because they know the immeasurable potential that such hope possesses.

She further elaborated on the need for others to see another side of Blacks – the side that depicts their successes as a testament of hard work and determination. "Contrary to what some believe, all African Americans do not meet the stereotypes of what is presented on T.V., such as the lie that there are more Blacks incarcerated than in college," said Tassie.

Many stories of success and Black male achievement can be found on campus, such as senior Business Administration major Herberto Horne. , for example, is a walking testament of hard work and perseverance. During his freshman year in high school, he founded "The Perfect Gentleman," a non-profit that strives to educate young men about etiquette, fashion, self-confidence, and work ethic. He currently has an audience base of over 3,000 people.

"I'm making plans to do more classes on etiquette, dressing, and confidence around the different schools in the area," Horne said.

Unfortunately for Horne and others like him, however, the likelihood that he will make the news for his positive works is far less probable than if he committed a crime



LITTLE LEAGUER GETS HOME BASE OF HIS OWN: BUSINESSMAN OFFERS TO PAY YEAR'S RENT

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The Jackie Robinson West Little Leaguers gained major notoriety around the country this past month, but especially in Chicago. Though they lost to South Korea, 8-4, in the Little League World Series Championship game, Jackie Robinson West had no problem beating the Mountain Ridge team from Las Vegas, 7-5, to win the national title.

When the boys, all ages 11-13, returned to Chicago, nearly everyone knew who they were and what they had done. The team members were treated like superstars when they went home. The city of Chicago threw a parade for the Jackie Robinson West players and Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel deemed them "America's Team" for winning the national championship.

The return home was bittersweet for one Little League player because 12-year-old outfielder Jaheim Benton had no real bed or home to return to. While in South Williamsport, Pa., for the Little League World Series, Jaheim was informed by his mother, Devona Benton, that they had lost their home and had been staying with relatives moving from house to house.

"It's been hard, but I just tell my baby to hold his head up," Devona Benton told TODAY News. "I told him to get out there and play ball despite his knowing

that we lost our home." Benton did just that, stayed strong and came home a champion.

Frank Jackson, Jaheim's father, works only part-time as a radiator technician while his mother is employed as a home care provider at Catholic Charities in Chicago. Things slowly started going downhill when the Catholic Charities started cutting back on Devona's hours from 80 hours every two weeks to just 36 hours. On top of caring and providing for Jaheim, Devona also has a 30-year-old daughter and a 16-year-old son as well as three grandchildren. As of now, Jaheim is living with his dad at a family friend's home while his parents try to get back on their feet.

News of the Benton family story is slowly but surely starting to spread around the state of Illinois and the country. People are starting to hear the heartwarming story and some are even stepping up to give a helping hand. Chicago business owner Spencer Leak Jr. was the first selfless individual to really step up to the plate and help Jaheim's family in a huge way. According to ABC 7 in Chicago, he offered to pay the family's rent for an entire year. The station reported the following:

Spencer Leak, Jr., from Leak and Sons Funeral Home in Chatham, IL, was moved by Jaheim's story. The Leak family made a generous gift on Friday: a year's worth of rent for the Little Leaguer's family.

"I would hope that this rent turns into a mortgage that turns into home ownership for them," said Leak Jr. "We want our little superstar to have a roof over his head because that's what he is. He's a superstar."

UNEXPECTED TEAMS CONTEND FOR BASEBALL PLAYOFFS

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As September begins and the 2014 Major League Baseball season is concluding, the pennant races are heating up. This year unfamiliar teams such as the Kansas City Royals and Seattle Mariners are each in playoff contention. This makes for new, fresh, and intriguing pennant races in both the National and American Leagues.

The best and most competitive divisional race has been the AL West. The Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, Oakland A's and Seattle Mariners have battled and made this a three-team race since June.

Oakland controlled the division and the best record in the entire major league until mid-

August, when the Angels surged pasted the struggling A's. The A's have made major trades this season to hopefully get them over the hump and into the World Series, but this did not deter the Angels, who have been 21-12 since August 1.

The Seattle Mariners have been a major surprise this season. Led by Robinson Cano, the Mariners currently have a one-game lead over the Detroit Tigers for the second wild-card spot. The Mariners are looking to get back to the postseason for the first time since 2001.

The greatest surprise of the season, however, has been the dynamic play of Kansas City. The Royals have not been this close to the postseason since 1985, the year they won their only World Series. The Royals have not played meaningful games in September

since 2003. If they conclude this season with a winning record it will be the first time since 1988 and 1989 that they had winning seasons in back-to-back years.

Greats like George Brett, Frank White, and Bret Saberhagen are no longer around but the scrappy new Royals, who quietly have been building young talent for years, are now blossoming and winning.

As of September 5, the Royals are 2 1/2 games better than the perennial division winner Detroit and they show no signs of letting their opportunity slide. But winning the AL Central will not be easy. Winning important games late in the season brings a unique challenge to the team that has not done such in many years. Their dominant pitching and timely hitting has to continue if they plan on holding off the mighty Tigers.

MICHAEL SAM: RELEASED AND SIGNED. BLESSING OR CURSE



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Michael Sam being released from the St. Louis Rams can be looked at as a blessing in disguise. Sam, professional football's first openly gay player, was cut from the Rams on Aug. 30.

No surprise.

As many celebrated St. Louis drafting him in the seventh round, it was instantly known that the odds were against him to make the final roster. This had nothing to do with his sexual orientation, but rather, the strong fact that St. Louis is stacked at the defensive end position. Their defensive line boasts all first-round picks that are a very young and a formidable group.

No doubt Sam has talent; he racked up 11 tackles and a very impressive three sacks in four preseason games with St. Louis. The fact of the matter is that he simply wasn't good enough at that position to make their roster. No disrespect intended, for very few around the league are.

Quickly after the final roster was announced, social media and many football fans around the country were upset, and grew more worried when he wasn't picked up off waivers on Sept. 2. As imagined, many questions were being pondered as to whether coaches and GMs wanted to take a chance on a player who causes such a media outburst.

It was surprising to see that he received little to no interest from teams around the league. There are numerous teams who Sam could jump right into rotation for heading into Week 1. Let's not forget, he was indeed the SEC's co-defensive most valuable player of the year last year.

In case you didn't know, that's the toughest conference in college football.

Quickly after waivers passed, Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones reached out to Sam's camp and proceeded to sign the 6-foot-2 defensive end out of Missouri. It's good to see a rookie who was productive get picked up, however it can be wondered if this was done to improve the team, which it should, or just to add to the circus that has been the Cowboys for the past decade.

With well-known locker room headache Dez Bryant and the media's favorite punching bag, Tony Romo, already on the roster, if Dallas doesn't find a way to win games early it can turn into an all-out catastrophe.

"They've got to concentrate on the San Francisco 49ers regardless of the situation," ESPN analyst Herm Edwards declared.

But maybe Jones really does believe in Sam and isn't looking for attention, like he has for years. After all, he did pass up on Johnny Manziel back in April's draft.

"To get a player that has shown success at being able to rush the passer, that's what he was in college, he was outstanding at it. We hope that he can refine his skills," Jones said. Was being released actually a gift

or curse for the NFL's first openly gay athlete? The answer to that question is a no-brainer when you take a look at how awful the Cowboys' defense was last year; it has the potential to be significantly worse this year.

I'm not kidding, either.

In the 2013 season, Dallas gave up the third most passing yards in National Football League history. The league was created in 1920, just to give you a glimpse of how mind-boggling that stat is. As unbelievable as it sounds, 2014 expects to get worse as Dallas lost their four best defensive players (Sean Lee, DeMarcus Ware, Jason Hatcher, Orlando Scandrick).

So I ask the question once more, was being released from St. Louis and signed by Dallas a gift or curse? This is clearly an ideal situation for Sam and he could possibly be on the perfect roster if he wants to make an impact in the league immediately. He will be fighting for playing time against mediocre players, at best, and should be able to get significant minutes.

"As a kid growing up in Texas, I always loved the Dallas Cowboys, so I look forward to putting my helmet and pads on every day to work my hardest to help bring a sixth Super Bowl Championship to Dallas," an excited Sam said.

Whether you're a fan of his or not, the Dallas Cowboys are a destination that appears to be an almost perfect fit for Sam. Now, we'll wait and see if he seizes the opportunity and becomes a respectable player, or if he'll only be remembered for the sexual barrier-breaking announcement he made last February.