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# NEW PRESIDENT COMES WITH CHANGES

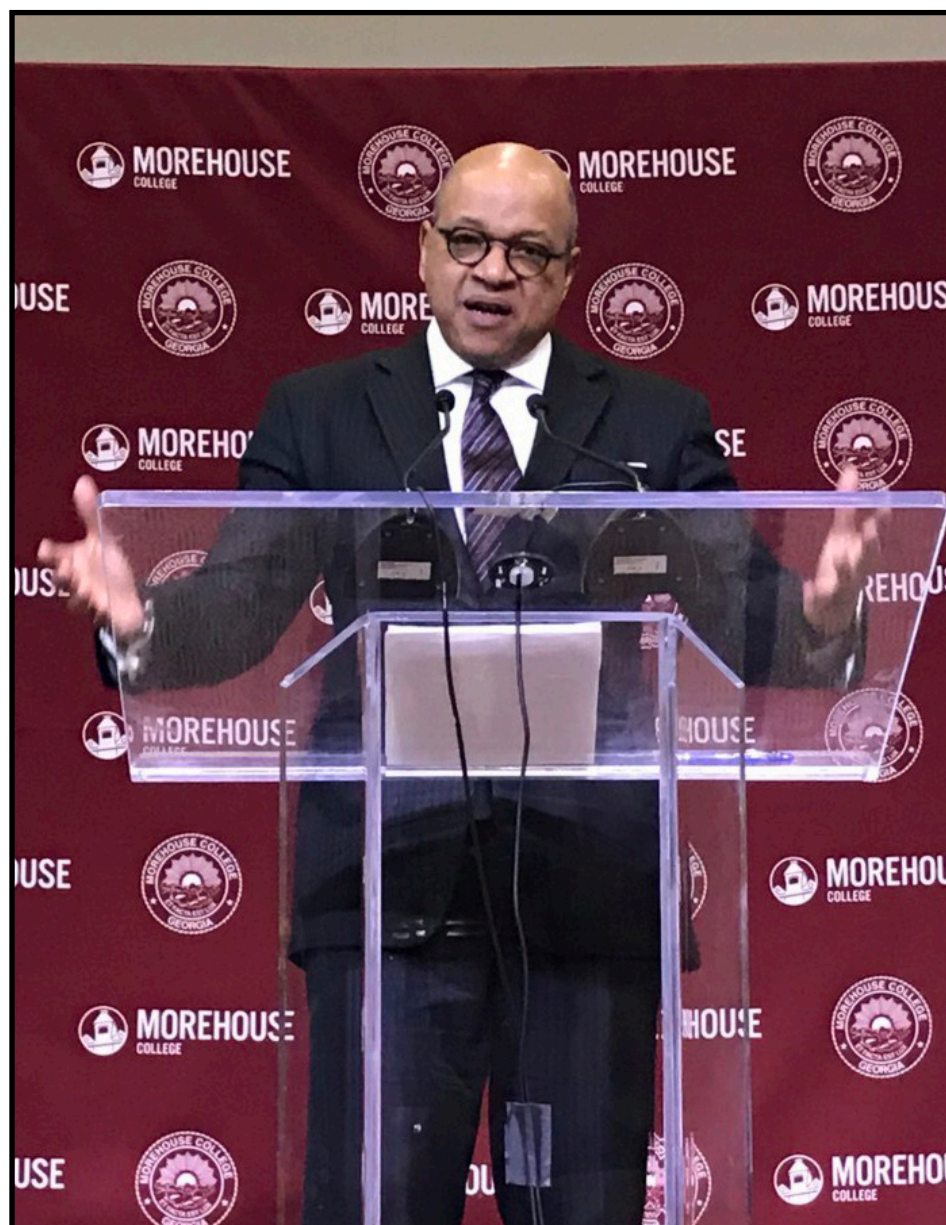
BY JAIR HILBURN, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Despite not hailing from the institution that he has had a love for since childhood, President David A. Thomas has dreams that he plans to become a reality while he is serving as the president of Morehouse College.

When speaking at the Opening Convocation, Thomas informed the Morehouse community about how he plans to lead the institution. He found inspiration from Langston Hughes' poem "I Dream a World" but with a twist that makes it more applicable for those that he is leading – from students to faculty and everyone in between.

"I dream a Morehouse where, as an idea, the institution will continue to be a place where black men can come and just be without all the noise that surrounds them in this country and other parts of the world," Thomas said during his Convocation address, "and where, in the process of just being, they can discover who they are, what their potential is, and become anchored in their identity in a way that steels them against what will be thrown at them when they leave."

Being a leader is a task that not all can fulfill because not everyone will believe in your dream or they may prefer a plan compared to a dream. But Thomas dreams a More-



PRESIDENT THOMAS SHARES BIG AMBITIONS // COURTESY OF SAPORTA REPORT

## A LOOK INTO THE CHANGES PRESIDENT THOMAS HAS MADE & WHAT IS TO COME

house for one reason in particular.

"Dreams are about possibilities not yet seen ... unlike fantasies," he said. "You dream because you believe this is what you want to come true, so I dream a Morehouse. It's not all here yet, but then, dreams are also based in some reality."

Some incoming presidents are getting acclimated to the school's environment as they plan what needs to be done for the betterment of the institution. Thomas was granted the luxury of getting to know the workings of the school during the Spring semester of 2018.

Before the beginning of this academic year, he was able to assess members of his leadership team, renovate Hubert Hall, hire Aramark to manage the facilities, and see how the institution works.

"Because the year was already underway when I arrived, what I essentially got to do was see it in progress," Thomas said. "Also, I think it helped me get a good sense of some of the things that might not pop out to the president of the college unless you have time to walk around and talk to students. I'm already in relationship as opposed to showing up and the first time people see me be today, and NSO for the freshmen. So I think that's all accelerated."

Just before this semester



began, he lived in Room 116 of historic Graves Hall for two days to get a better understanding of the student experience. While getting to know and build a relationship with students, he was able to hear some of their concerns.

They wished to have a nighttime convenience store on campus because it would be safer than going off campus, so by the time students returned to Morehouse from summer break, P.O.D. Market was ready to fulfill a request previous administrations had failed to meet.

But President Thomas' work hasn't stopped there. He also is tackling problems that stuck out to him soon after he arrived.

"I think I was only here for a few weeks, maybe a month, before I announced the goal of a 70 percent graduation rate for the class that enters this fall, and when you think about the fact our graduation rate today is about 38 percent in four years, some people would say big, hairy, audacious goal," Thomas said.

"But, you know, it just seems clear to me that is where we need to be to be consistent with our brand and our reputation. The other part of it is in a world of escalating challenges with affordability, it's to a student's advantage to get out in four years. ... The longer you stay, the more it costs, the less likely you'll ever finish."

After seeing litter on his way to work, Thomas took to Twitter to implore the Men of Morehouse to take care of the campus and keep it clean. However, there were those who felt that was an issue that shouldn't have been put in the public eye.

"To me, how we treat our campus, how we treat each other, how we treat those who visit our campus tells the world something about us, and they will treat us in kind," Thomas said. "One of the fun things about when people visit Morehouse is to see their reaction and how impressed they are. The flip side of that is, why are they surprised, right?"

"So we know some people come not expecting to see excellence, including not expecting to see us demanding respect

for our spaces."

As the year continues, the college's accreditation process is coming to a close. It will end in October with the campus visit from the external review team from SACSCOC (Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) that inspects every aspect of the college.

As part of that, there is a Quality Enhancement Program (QEP) that is meant to serve as a way to enhance the education at the college. The Five Wells were revitalized after students expressed their desire that they should be reinstated. While it will change tradition, the theme for the QEP will be adding a sixth well to former President Robert Franklin's Five Wells: The Morehouse Man Writes Well.

**'To me, how we treat our campus, how we treat each other, how we treat those who visit our campus tells the world something about us, and they will treat us in kind.'**

**- President Thomas**

"I think the five wells that Dr. Franklin articulated don't capture everything, but they captured five important dimensions right about how one should experience the Morehouse Man and how the Morehouse Man should want to be seen and experienced," Thomas said. "Well, once you know something, you have to be able to express it. No surprise, given the oratory traditions of Morehouse College, that we come quickly then to well-spoken, but you can be well-read and not well-written."

"Adding the sixth well, which is the Morehouse Man writes well, is really to underscore the importance of that as the third leg of communication."

While there have been changes on campus that pertain to the school's collaboration with the NFL, the creation of the Institute for Social Justice Theory and Praxis, fundraising and other things, the president believes there's still a need for improvement. No matter how much work needs to be put in, it's that love for Morehouse that keeps President Thomas going.

"At the end of the day [Morehouse] is worth my love," Thomas said. "We've already gotten better even in the last few months. The question is: can we get better fast enough?"

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## THOUGHT IT WAS A DROUGHT? MAROON TIGERS OUTSHINE GOLDEN TIGERS IN COLUMBUS

BY RODERICK DIAMOND II,  
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

**C**OLUMBUS – Words, facial expressions and hand gestures cannot begin to describe the game that took place in A.J. McClung Memorial Stadium on Saturday.

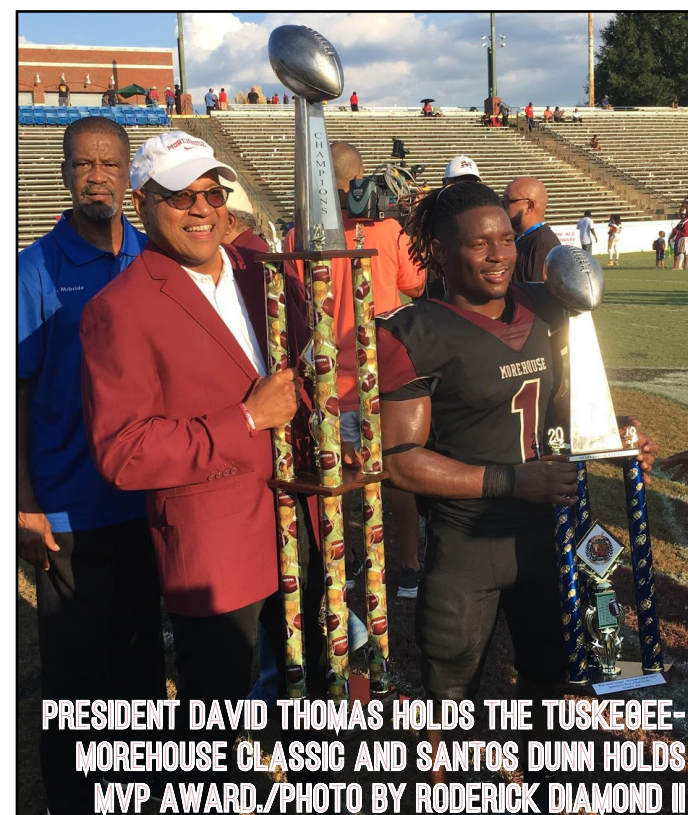
The Maroon Tigers' season has been nothing less than a roller coaster ride of excitement for players, fans and students that has no signs of slowing down after their 30-24 triple-overtime victory over Tuskegee in the 83rd Tuskegee-Morehouse Classic. The Tigers' 6-0 start is the team's best since 2010, when they had a five-game winning streak before falling to, guess who Tuskegee.

But this is a new year, a new season, a new Morehouse. The last time Morehouse defeated Tuskegee was in 2011, when the Tigers fought back from 14 down and tacked on 17 points for the win. Ever since, there had been shortcomings and disappointments. 2018 had a better, but stressful ending.

The first half was dominated by both teams' ground games and ended at 10-10 after a swarm of flags seemed to drop against Morehouse on nearly every play. The Maroon Tigers racked up 67 of their 108 yards of penalties before halftime.

Tuskegee protected a 17-10 lead until a late 5-yard touchdown pass from running back Frank Bailey Jr. reached the fingertips of receiver Tremell Gooden in the corner of the end zone. With 1:33 left, overtime was a foreseeable future before 27,563 deeply loyal fans.

Now only a score and a stop in overtime separated either team from victory. After neither scored in the first overtime, Tuskegee



PRESIDENT DAVID THOMAS HOLDS THE TUSKEGEE-MOREHOUSE CLASSIC AND SANTOS DUNN HOLDS MVP AWARD./PHOTO BY RODERICK DIAMOND II

struck with a 10-yard reverse play that caught defenders off guard. Morehouse's star running back Santo Dunn retaliated by grinding out a 16-yard touchdown to force triple OT.

Morehouse had control the following possession and Dunn sealed the deal with his third touchdown, a 14-yarder. He finished the game with a monster 152 yards, including 42-yard touchdown run.

"We never gave up even through adversity," Dunn said. "We still overcame it and I'm just so thankful and glad."

Coach Rich Freeman called Dunn a "difference maker" and also praised his offensive line that sometimes gets overlooked.

The defense also must be recognized. Linebackers Antonio Johnson (six tackles, three sacks, five quarterback hurries) and Julien Turner (a game-high 12 tackles) have been outstanding all season. Turner and Treyvon Luckey finished off Tuskegee with the last tackle of the game when they pushed back a rusher on a 4th-and-1 play.

Morehouse fans erupted with joy, the field was rushed and the drought was over. Next, the Maroon Tigers go for 7-0 in a 6 p.m. home game against Albany State.

NOTES: The Morehouse cross country team won the Robert Shumake HBCU Challenge on Saturday in Cary, N.C. Maroon Tigers Trey Simmons finished first, Collins Kiplimo sixth and Randy Carter ninth.

# MEDICAL SERVICES AT MOREHOUSE COLLEGE

BY TORRENCE BANKS, STAFF WRITER

The Morehouse College Counseling Center and the James B. Ellison, Sr. Student Health Center both offer medical services to students in need. Every semester, these facilities work together to maintain students' health and overall well being.

"At the counseling center we provide mental health treatment services," Dr. Steven Allwood said. "That could be on a number of different issues. From depression, adjustment to college, anxiety, and relationship issues."

These issues can be treated by both group and

one on one counseling. There will also be workshops held throughout the semester that address stress management and how to maximize study skills. The counseling center also provides disability services to students with disabilities.

"They play a lot of different roles from getting people their accommodations for their disabilities, to suicide intervention," Austyn Wyche President of AUC CHILL said. "There are things that you couldn't even imagine happening that they intervene on a daily basis."

The student health center offers services to

students who are enrolled in at least four credit hours. These services include physicals, STD test, aid for minor injuries, and allergy medication.

"We have a small pharmacy and we can get all the basic medications," Program Manager Shannon Jolly said. "If there's anything we don't have, we can get it the next day. So you can basically say it functions as an urgent care."

From a student's perspective, there have been changes that have made these facilities more equipped to serve students.

"The student health center has improved tremendously since my freshman year," Wyche said. "They went

from testing STI's from one day to on a daily basis. Before it was just Wednesdays every week.

"Now you can get tested on a daily basis. Thus making more resources available to the student body."

The Student Health Center and the Counseling Center provide free condoms for students.

The health center also has handouts that have information on National Youth HIV + AIDs Awareness Day and The College Diabetes Network.

These and other handouts are available on tables in the Student Health Center.

# DEFINING MOREHOUSE MYSTIQUE IN 2018

BY TATIANA S. RAFAEL, ASSOCIATE OPINIONS EDITOR

What is the Morehouse mystique? Is it simply a set of ideas, or does it translate into reality? The more pressing question of this article is: What does the Morehouse mystique look like in 2018 and to whom does it apply?

In a Washington Post article titled "The Men And Mystique of Morehouse," Robert Mallett, a 1979 Morehouse alum, said,

"Morehouse is two-thirds invisible. Morehouse is as much a set of ideas as anything else."

But a set of ideas for whom? For over a century, Morehouse College has found pride in being the only historically black, four-year college for men in the country. The irony is Morehouse, in its 150-year history, has graduated 33 women, non-black male students, several gender-queer students, and trans women as well. The point is Morehouse has not been an "all-male" nor "all-black school" for quite

some time, yet continues to promote itself as such even in 2018.

"Over the heads of her students, Morehouse holds a crown that she challenges them to grow tall enough to wear."

This is a quote from Dr. Howard Thurman, who was a Morehouse alum from the class of 1923, and from this quote we begin to understand one of the primary objectives of the Morehouse mystique: growth. A 1997 documentary titled "The Morehouse Mys-

tique" elaborates on this mystique. In it, another notable Morehouse alum, Robert Davidson Jr., the Chairman of the Board of Trustees from 2010-2017, suggested the Morehouse mystique is about striving with others through tough times and coming out on the other side with stronger bonds.

Overall, the mystique has long been depicted as a force that creates refined, poised, intellectual Morehouse men. However, President Barack Obama suggested in his 2013 speech at Morehouse



that the mystique is about much more. Obama suggested that Morehouse must not be content with yielding clever men, but that matriculating through Mother Morehouse is about being sensitive to your experiences as an outsider and using those experiences to engage with other marginalized groups empathetical-

ly and in a way that surpasses barriers.

What then does the Morehouse mystique look like in 2018? Again, in The Washington Post article "The Men And Mystique of Morehouse," former non-graduated student Jerry Washington said, "It is adapting that mystique to what you want." It is from

this quote that we arrive at the true purpose and function of the Morehouse mystique: adaptation. All those who claim Mother Morehouse must be able to morph and adapt to the times in which we live to remain relevant and effective.

In 2018, the mystique looks like blending tradition with unconventionality. It

looks like more multi-racial and multi-ethnic students. It looks like more trans women graduates. Those, like myself, who seek to expand the portrayal of the mystique are not against the mission of Morehouse. We are for broadening its mission to become more inclusive, diverse and ultimately more impactful.

## HART GOES BACK TO SCHOOL

BY JAIR HILBURN, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Upon release of his new movie "Night School," actor/comedian Kevin Hart visited the Atlanta University Center with film producer Will Packer to talk about the impact of education.

In this film, Hart plays Teddy Walker, a character who attends night school to receive his GED, but he struggles with learning disabilities such as dyslexia, dyscalculia, and others. While this made the character more complex, it was a way to shine a light on learning disabilities.

"My character Teddy as you saw was suffering from several different learning disabilities but because he has those learning disabilities what he had to understand was that didn't mean that he was an outcast," Hart said. "That didn't mean that he was something or someone should be frowned upon. What he had to do is embrace those things and figure out the best way to maneuver around it."

While Hart's character has several learning disabilities, he comes to the conclusion that they won't prevent him from getting his degree, but the message from this situation goes deeper for those that are watching that having a learning disability "doesn't mean you can't learn."

"It doesn't mean that you can't progress," Hart said. "It

just means that you have to do it differently. Your road is going to be a different road that your average individual's, but

that doesn't mean that you all aren't gonna come to the same punctuation at the end."

In the same breath this message served as an affirmation to those that watch the movie.

"You shouldn't be separate," Hart said. "Our way of getting there can just be different, so it was just about making them understand that you're just as comfortable in the same conversation as any and everybody else. That's why the main character was the one that suffered from all of the main mental disabilities and everything else."

While working on this film, Hart realized how Tiffany Haddish's character - Carrie - served as the support system as she taught the night school classes.

"A lot of people suffer from feeling like it's okay to let out and let go, so many people alienate themselves because of judgement," Hart said. "I don't know what you're going to think, and I don't want what you're going to think to be negative and then you look at me a certain way so I'd rather just keep this to myself. Four

years go by, I'm not progressing in school the way I'm supposed to because I got secrets that I don't want to let out

**'This is a movie about second chances, so when you grasp that you understand that it's a movie that's really highlighting [if] you didn't get it right the first time it's okay to go back the second time, and if you get it right the second time just because you lost time doesn't mean you can't make up for it by doing it right and correctly.'**

**— Kevin Hart**

the bag.”

Instead of hiding, Hart feels there’s another route to follow.

“Letting people understand and know who you are can fully, fully, fully, get you and help you if needed. That’s the only way to really win in anything you do,” Hart said. “Don’t be afraid to be who you are. Don’t be afraid to get help.”

Packer, had seen that the movie was more than just a comedy.

“One thing he did really well with this is obviously a comedy, but in the movie his character is hiding the fact that he’s got these issues,” Packer said. “Ultimately, his character’s able to succeed because he admits who he is. I think we can all learn something from that whether we have learning disabilities or not because a lot of us do that.”

The involvement in school for Hart didn’t stop with making a movie. On August 6th, Hart’s Help from the Hart Charity launched a \$600,000 scholarship fund, and he hopes to have that amount increase by next year.

“At the beginning of my career I didn’t have money. Without money it’s hard to do some of the things that you want to do,” Hart said. “Everybody wants to be a humanitarian, everybody wants to help, but when you really get a platform [where] you can be heard and that you can make a difference and really use your relationship

**‘Within the street smarts, within the common sense smarts, I’ve been able to somehow become a sponge in any and all aspects of my career. I’ve been blessed enough to be around every CEO, every CFO, every star you can name, and I’ve seen some people manage business correctly. I’ve seen some people do it incorrectly. I’ve seen how development is done. I’ve watched it from the ground up to where I now understand any and every position from in front of the camera to behind the camera.’**

**- Kevin Hart**

to leverage the things that you want to do, you really can move the needle differently. For me, it’s about understanding what I can really do now with my platform and what I want to do.”

His platform has grown from being a comedian then actor and now a producer. This film serves as the first movies under his production company, HartBeat Productions, and he hopes to make changes in that realm of the industry as well.

“When you look at the business you look at how the business is done,” Hart said. “There’s not a lot of people of color that get these opportunities and have the longevity that we have, so whether than turning our back on one another and becoming selfish trying to do everything we found a way to maximize our potential by teaming up.”

By taking advice and learning from all that he has crossed paths with, Hart has been able to learn so much to the point where he believes he “went to school for seven years” because he took in all that he saw and was told.

“The only reason why I would not go back to school is just because I will be leaving behind the investment that I’ve gotten other people to believe in that’s supposed to be my priority,” Hart said. “HartBeat is the priority, and the people that I’ve hired underneath it are now believing in what I’ve given them. I can’t fail them.”

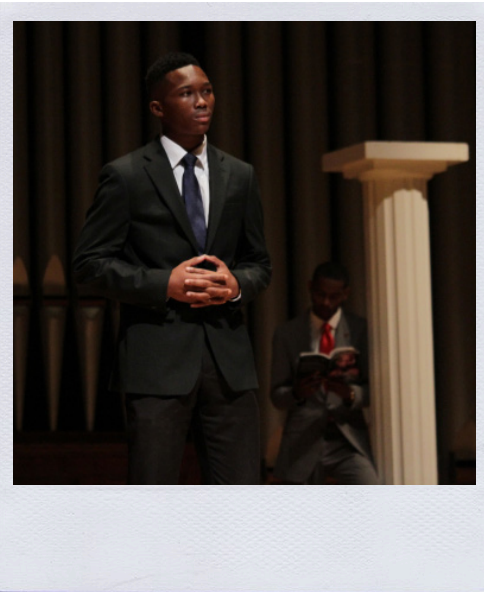
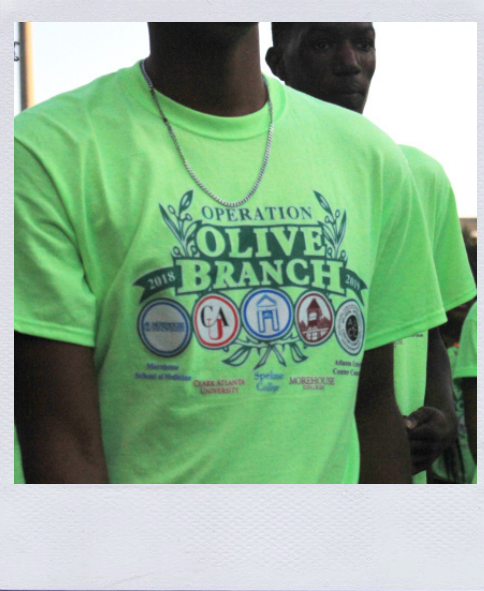




# NSO'S IMPACT:

## ALUMNUS AND STUDENTS REFLECT ON THE IMPACT THAT NSO MAKES ON MOREHOUSE EXPERIENCE

BY ISAIAH JOHNSON, OPINIONS EDITOR



Each year, Morehouse College welcomes a new group of bright and intellectual students to its campus. New students arrive a week in advance to participate in New Student Orientation week (NSO for short). It is a jam-packed week filled with laughter, tears and love from both parents and new students.

For alum and returning students who participate in NSO, it's not only a time of reflection but a time to reach out to their younger brothers. For the new students, NSO is not only a time where they learn more about their new school, it is also the beginning of their journey through Morehouse. What makes NSO so unique are the various stories you hear from students, all sharing one thing in common: that NSO played a vital role in their time spent at Morehouse.

"NSO makes you realize that you're not going to have a normal college experience," Taylor McCleod '13 said.

After graduating five years ago, McCleod reflected on his NSO experience and how it shaped his time at Morehouse.

"You won't be able to understand Morehouse traditions without going through NSO," McCleod said. "NSO is a rite of passage for Morehouse students."

For Whom the Bell Tolls, Spirit Night, and the Parent Parting Ceremony are some of the events that Morehouse students go through during NSO week. With each event holding its own

significance, they set the groundwork for the students' four years at Morehouse College. However, some NSO events are more memorable to some students than others, creating a more diverse NSO experience among the class.

"I was completely unaware of what to expect from NSO week," McCleod said. "The experience was great, but going through it at the time was confusing."

For Kevin Tolliver '20, For Whom the Bell Tolls was his favorite part of NSO.

"For Whom the Bell Tolls because that's where I really got to know the history of Morehouse and the hymn," Tolliver said.

As a current student and now a residential assistant, Tolliver now gets to see NSO from a leadership role.

"I have a new appreciation for NSO; everything in NSO is tradition," Tolliver said.

Those who have a chance to relive NSO from a different perspective leave a lasting impression on the new students that go through this process. Those lasting impressions can shape a student's outlook on the NSO process and Morehouse for years to come.

"NSO is something that you will talk about for the rest of your time here at Morehouse college," Tolliver said. "Take in every moment of it."

As classes start full swing here are a few words of encouragement. Enjoy your time at Morehouse College, remember your purpose of being here, and know that your NSO experience has shaped you into a future Morehouse Man.



# FIRST STEP INTO FUTURE:

## MEMBERS OF FRESHMAN CLASS TALK ABOUT WHAT THEY HOPE TO GET FROM THEIR TIME AT MOREHOUSE

BY SHAKIM MUHAFIZ, STAFF WRITER

The transition from high school to college is an exciting adventure, but it can also bring about a new world of challenges. With moving in and getting adjusted to a roommate, getting up for classes on time or just even balancing their time wisely, the growing pains are indeed there.

The brotherhood Morehouse presents is a major attraction to new students. However, there is still a need to adjust to life on campus.

"It was pretty hard," said Quadir Murray, a freshman. "Teachers expect you to read a lot more and more of the teachers are on you. The learning and studying is a whole different process from high school."

The culture of the AUC and the familial environment it provides can offer distraction for freshmen adjusting to leaving their families at home. The teachings that Morehouse provides for the people who attend this institution could help them in the long run, whether it be in classroom or life.

"I expect to form a brotherhood here," said Dwayne Woods Jr, a freshman. "Get all the information and skills I need to move to the next step in life and keep a network of individuals that I can call my brothers. Who I can call on or who can call on me if they're ever in need."

That brotherhood can be traced back decades with men who went on to accomplish great things in life. With alumni such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Thurgood Marshall,

Samuel L. Jackson and more, Morehouse has produced men that live up to the reputation to carry the title "Morehouse Man." The Class of '22 hopes to add to that legacy and be the next drum major for change.

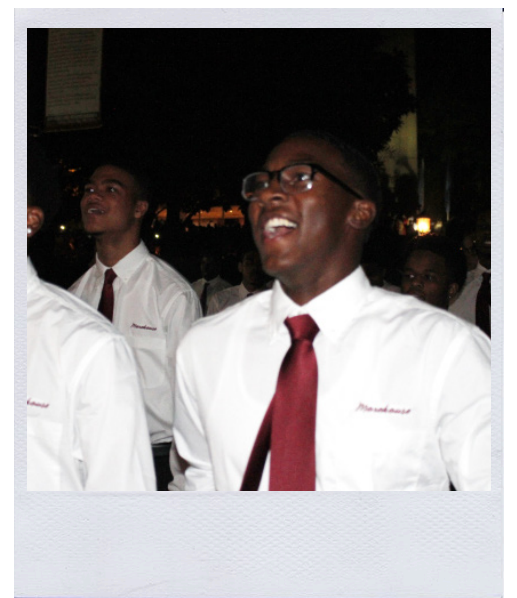
"I hope to become a better young black man and transform into an excellent black leader," Murray said.

Coming into Morehouse, students look for guidance and hope to leave with the wisdom necessary to be the next generation of world leaders.

"I expect to be more mature," freshman Javion Moore said. "I want help to be mature in my life and focused and learn how to manage my time."

Morehouse College will surely

provide all of its resources to this ambitious freshman class, as each newcomer works to solidify his spot as a Morehouse Man.



# MAKINGS OF MOREHOUSE MENTORSHIP

BY RODERICK DIAMOND II, ASSOCIATE EDITOR

There are plenty of examples that show how crucial a positive mentor is to success. Oprah Winfrey was mentored by the late Maya Angelou. Benjamin Elijah Mays mentored our brother Martin Luther King Jr., and Ray Charles mentored Quincy Jones. These are all individuals that have had a global impact.

If greats such as those had mentors, imagine what that relationship can do for the at-risk or average student in the AUC. The AUC thrives on that type of relationship because it's a driving force for the future. There are countless areas on our campuses

where that relationship can foster.

Forexample there are residential advisors (RA) in our houses. Raymond White, an RA in the Living Learning Center, a freshman dorm, credits his position in the freshman dorms as a "better chance for the youth."

"I am an upperclassmen in a freshman dorm," said White. "So they look to me for answers and guidance. They see me as a big brother because I am only one step ahead of them. I am where they are trying to get. Just like a kid or baby they learn from the stuff they see or hear, good or bad."

The senior accounting major from Dekalb County also spoke on how he would not have made it this far without his mentor.

Another perspective is Paul Larkin, a Public Health graduate student from Morehouse School of Medicine who wants to give back because he did not have mentors when he began his career. He has been mentoring six years starting with Big Brothers and Big Sisters of the Collegiate 100 of Atlanta. Larkin currently has mentees at Morehouse and Clark Atlanta.

"I did not always have that advice that I needed," Larkin said. "I missed out on some-

body that I identify with. I strive to not only provide support but also direction."

Those two components, support and direction, are essential in the mentor/mentee relationship. Without those, the connection is nonexistent. Nonetheless, mentors fuel and guide generations for years to come.

As students at Morehouse College, it would be wise to attempt to foster those types of relationships with underclassmen brothers, or even find a professional in your specific field. It has been proven successful, so it is worth the try.

## MOREHOUSE TRIVIA QUIZ

WHAT YEAR WAS MOREHOUSE COLLEGE FOUNDED?

1. 1887
2. 1904
3. 1891
4. 1867

WHERE WAS MOREHOUSE ORIGINALLY FOUNDED?

1. ATLANTA, GA
2. ATHENS, GA
3. AUGUSTA, GA
4. SAVANNAH, GA

WHICH PRESIDENT ADOPTED MOREHOUSE'S SCHOOL COLORS?

1. SAMUEL H. ARCHER
2. WALTER E. MASSEY
3. BENJAMIN E. MAYS
4. ROBERT M. FRANKLIN

WHO WAS THE LONGEST SERVING PRESIDENT AT MOREHOUSE COLLEGE?

1. JOHN SILVANUS WILSON JR
2. JOSEPH T. ROBERT
3. SAMUEL GRAVES
4. BENJAMIN E. MAYS

PRESIDENT ROBERT M. FRANKLIN SAID MOREHOUSE MEN AND MEN OF MOREHOUSE ARE?

1. WELL READ, WELL-TRAVELED, WELL SPOKEN, WELL DRESSED, WELL BALANCED
2. WELL TAUGHT, WELL SPOKEN, WELL OFF, WELL DRESSED, WELL GROOMED
3. WELL SPOKEN, WELL DRIVEN, WELL MANNERED, WELL PUT TOGETHER, WELL DRESSED
4. WELL BALANCED, WELL FED, WELL INFORMED, WELL VERSED, WELL SPOKEN

ANSWERS: 1: (4) 1867, 2: (3) AUGUSTA, GA, 3: (1) SAMUEL H. ARCHER, 4: (4) BENJAMIN E. MAYS, 5: (1) WELL READ, WELL-TRAVELED, WELL SPOKEN, WELL DRESSED, WELL BALANCED.



## FRESHMAN ADVICE

BY AARON JOHNSON, MANAGING EDITOR

Freshman year at Morehouse is a unique experience that most cannot relate to or completely understand. It's easy to feel lost, confused, disappointed, or annoyed during your first semester. Hopefully these emotions and experiences build character and you can see the positive change by the time you return home for Christmas break. Hardships are inevitable, but these tips from your older Morehouse brothers will help you avoid as many major mistakes as possible.

Ask for help and clarify everything - Morehouse is really busy during the first weeks of fall semester with financial aid, students renting books, and people moving in. Plans change fast, so make sure your class is still where Banner says it is before walking across campus to get there.

Keep your receipts! - In other words, keep a paper trail. It's extremely important you keep every transaction, receipt and written conversation saved somewhere that you can pull up at any time. I've had to pay for multiple books that I know I returned just because I didn't save the receipt. Save yourself the time, money and trouble.

Network Horizontally - Build genuine relationships and care about what your friends are doing. A lot of your

classmates will go on to do great things in life, and it would be a shame to look back years from now and see your old hall mates that you lost touch with become executives and entrepreneurs. Cultivate those relationships now while you still can.

Don't believe the Hype - Morehouse is definitely a great place, but don't get too caught up believing everything you hear while on the campus. You still have to work as hard as everyone else for opportunities. The name of the school does not change who you are or what you can do. There are still talented black students everywhere, there just happen to be a lot here. Don't let Morehouse Mystique get to your head.

Don't follow the crowd - Specifically, don't join an organization because everyone else decided to join. Don't commit to a major because people say it's the best or it will get you the most money after school. Instead, find where you fit in on campus and find people who support you. Your experience will be much better because of it.

Lastly, you don't have to make up your mind about what you want to do immediately. Build the necessary transferable skills such as networking and communication while you figure out exactly what you want to do.





## MY DAY AT 2018 US OPEN

BY TUCKER TOOLE, SPORTS EDITOR

Tennis was instilled in my blood before my parents and grandparents were born. My great grandfather, Henry A. Isaacs, was a founder of the first black tennis club in Chicago in 1912, which is now the Chicago Prairie Tennis Club. My mother's parents met on a blind tennis date. Growing up in Chicago, my younger brother and I would play tirelessly on the courts as kids.

This month I was thrilled to attend the 50th US Open, which is also the 50th anniversary of the great Arthur Ashe becoming the only black male to win the US Open in 1968. Ashe used his platform to stand up for what he believed in, which is something the US Open stands for as well. Other players have used their platform, like Billie Jean King, who recently stood up for Serena Williams after her "catsuit" was banned from the French Open by Bernard Giudicelli, head of the French Tennis Federation.

Both of my parents played tennis in college; my mother played at Texas Southern University, and my father played at Hampton. Back in Chicago, my mother and her high school played against Katrina Adams, who is now the president and CEO of the United States Tennis Association. My uncle played at Texas Southern as well, and later became a collegiate head coach whose teams won multiple SWAC champion-

ships at Prairie View A&M University. So tennis has been a major part of my upbringing.

I remember watching the Grand Slams – the Australian, French Open, Wimbledon, and US Open – on TV with my family. The US Open was one of my favorites because I watched stars like Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal, Andy Roddick, and Serena and Venus Williams. The matches that always got my attention were the big battles between Federer and Nadal.

So imagine how excited I was when I first walked into the gates of the tennis complex, and there was Nadal standing 20 feet away from me. It was a cool moment, and then I was welcomed with open arms by the US Open communications staff. The facilities are exceptional on the grounds: the beautiful Arthur Ashe Stadium, the newly renovated Louis Armstrong Stadium that now has a retractable roof, along

with the newly renovated Grandstand.

I was in awe of the campus and seeing it in person, seeing the fans, and seeing the diversity that a major international sporting event like this brings.

The first match of the day was No. 3 Sloane Stephens, who won the Open last year, and has been

one of the best female players on the tour over the last few years. She faced off against No. 79 Victoria Azarenka, who has won two Australian opens and was ranked No. 1 at one point in her career.

Stephens defeated her 6-3, 6-4 and was asked after the match about her recent success when facing Azarenka:

"I think the first couple of times I played her, I was just like the young gun, just happy to be on the court with someone who's ranked No. 1 in the world and had won a Grand Slam already. I think

the tables turned... now I'm in a position where I fully believe I can win the match, and I go out there ready to execute and ready to play."

Stephens is such a great defensive player and returner, she always maintains a low base and that's how she managed to beat Azarenka in the match.

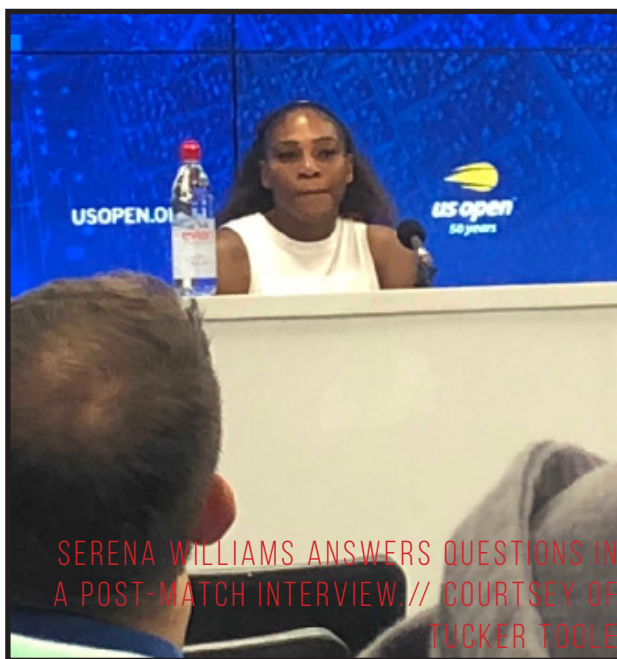
The second match that took place was No. 1 ranked and one of the greatest men's players in the history of the sport, Nadal, versus No. 27 Karen Khachanov. Nadal won in four sets in a grind-out four hour and 23-minute match.

It was a flashback to those great Nadal-Federer matches I watched when I was a kid. Seeing Nadal in person gave me an even greater appreciation for the tremendous athlete that he is.

I was able to watch other matches at the Grandstand and Louis Armstrong Stadium, catching No. 25 Milos Raonic vs. Stan Wawrinka and No. 9 Dominic Thiem against the American Taylor Fritz, who had the crowd on his side during the match.

I was in for a surprise for the third match where the Williams sisters faced off against each other. When I caught one of their matches on television I would feel lucky, but the opportunity to see two of the greatest women's tennis players of all time in person felt like a dream.

Seeing Venus and Serena go



SERENA WILLIAMS ANSWERS QUESTIONS IN A POST-MATCH INTERVIEW. // COURTESY OF TUCKER TOOLE





TUCKER TOOLE PROUDLY HOLDS HIS US OPEN PRESS PASS.

back and forth, Serena plays with so much power but with so much grace and strategy. Seeing Venus hit tough shots on the line against her sister and not give up easily showed her persistence. Serena won the sibling rivalry in straight sets 6-1, 6-2. After the match, Venus said she thought it was the best match her sister ever played against her and Serena responded:

"I don't know. I think it's by far the best match I ever played against her in forever. But I don't know about ever. It probably was. I played much better tonight than I have since I started this journey on my way back."

Just being able to witness arguably the greatest tennis player ever

and watching her come back and play at that level after giving birth was amazing.

Also watching the Williams sisters were Colin Kaepernick, who has been exiled from the NFL for standing up for social justice after kneeling during the national anthem. With him was Eric Reid, his former teammate who knelt alongside him.

The experience of being at a sporting event like the US Open witnessing great players that I had grown up watching was like no other. It also gave me a greater appreciation for my great grandfather, who provided an opportunity for black people to play tennis in Chicago 106 years ago.

## KAEPPER-NIKE: JUST BUSINESS

BY MARLIN COOK, STAFF WRITER

A headline on Yahoo Finance read, "Nike Loses \$3.75 Billion in Market Cap." What could be the reason a multi-billion-dollar company that has presence in every continent could lose so much money? Maybe the company had a huge decline in sales or it lost a major endorsement deal with a sports superstar.

None of those reasons were responsible for the loss in the company's market cap. Last Tuesday, former 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick was announced as the face of Nike's 30th anniversary "Just Do It" campaign. Kaepernick is known for the controversial decision to kneel during the national anthem in the NFL to bring awareness to police brutality of African-Americans.

The announcement caused backlash on social media with the #BoycottNike trending on Twitter, as well as, shares of the company



dropped about 4 percent during the trading day. However, the decline in stock price did not last long as the stock rebounded the next day and is now up 3 or 4 percent since last Tuesday.

Surprising many Wall Street analysts, sales increased by 31 percent following the major announcement of the campaign after it was predicted that Nike would see a drop in sales. This made many people

ask the question how could Nike see an increase in sales with such a backlash from social media?

In contrast, Nike's marketing strategy targets young urban buyers in major cities around the world. Millennials are the biggest consumers of Nike products as they attach to brands that take a stance on social and political issues. Therefore, it should be no surprise that Nike would partner with

Kaepernick not just from a social perspective but from a financial perspective.

Finance students in the Morehouse business department, Jason Grant and Deionte Jones, gave their thoughts on the Nike and Kaepernick deal. Grant, who interned at HSBC as an investment banking analyst, believes Nike made the deal to take advantage of its stock buyback program.

"Stock buyback programs are popular right now so in a campaign like this you can expect the share price to be low," Grant said.

Nonetheless, Jones, who interned at Bloomberg as an equity research analyst, has an interesting take on the issue.

"The company is not manipulating its stock price, but management is looking at the deal from a growth perspective, given football season is upon us," Jones said.

From the masses' eyes the Nike and Kaepernick deal might be viewed as a risky business decision, but for Nike it is a calculated business move that has and will continue to pay dividends moving forward.



# JAMEL MYLES: CHANGING NARRATIVE

BY MARCUS HUGHES, STAFF WRITER

Jamel Myles, a nine-year-old student from Denver, CO, told his mother, Leia Pierce, that he identified as gay. She supported him and encouraged him to authentically express himself after coming out to her. Jamel later came out to his peers at school, unfortunately it resulted in him being harassed by other students for wearing press-on nails to class.

On Aug 23, four days after making his bold statement of self-expression, Jamel Myles committed suicide in his home.

Shortly after the news broke, the internet was alight with debate. With people making statements such as: "Was he old enough to know," "How could he be sure if he hasn't been with a woman," "What do nine-year-olds know about suicide," and things of that nature.

Comments of this magnitude are red flag signaling that the narratives around identity and mental health must change in the United States.

Identity should be recognized as a personal journey. Each of us has a quirk or two about ourselves that we may keep hidden for fear of judgement.

Jamel knew his identity, and even made it a point to share it with his peers. Parents could take on the role of explaining to their children that we live in a world where differences should be welcomed and em-

braced to teach a lesson and introduce us to things unknown.

Paying closer attention to our children and their state of mind is also important because underlying issues that go unaddressed like this can lead to issues later in life. LGBTQIA+ youth find themselves in the crosshairs of bullying which takes a toll on their education.

with their peers and teachers while in school. Bullying not only affects LGBTQIA+ individuals in elementary and high school, it can also affect LGBTQIA+ individuals in college as well.

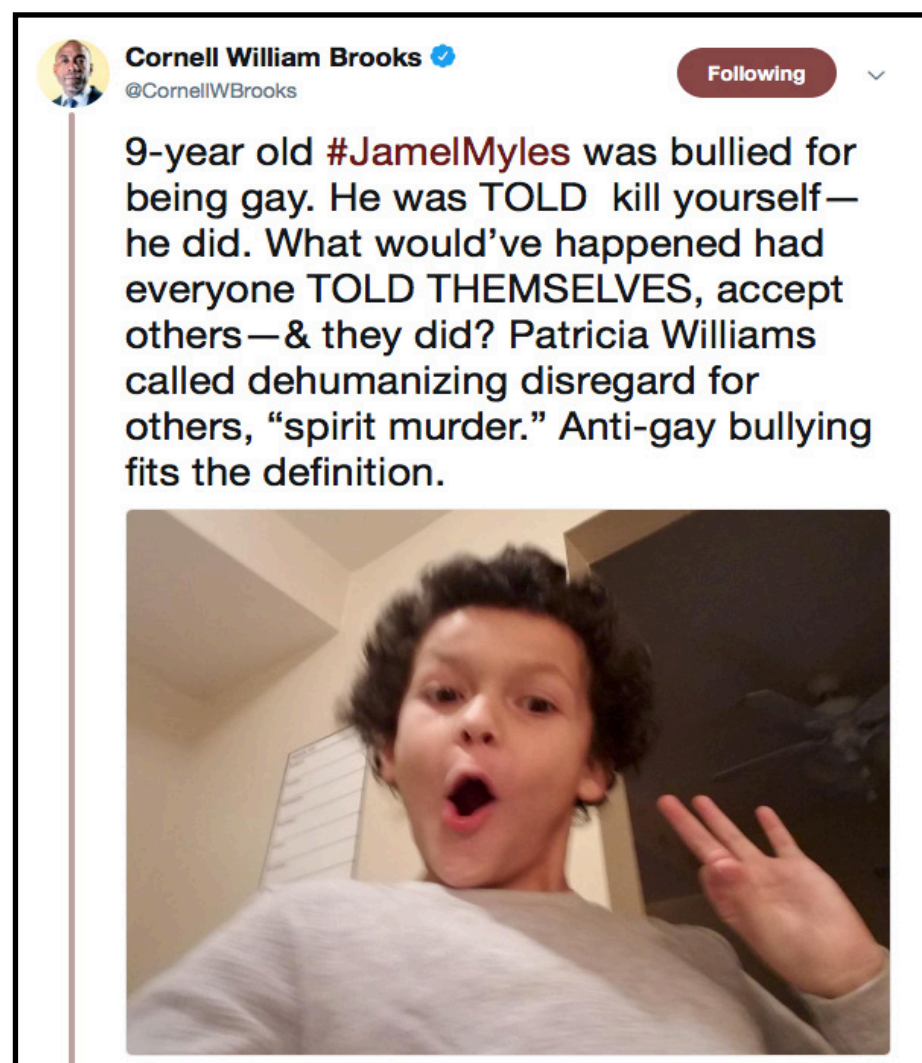
With organizations such as Safe Space, Afrekete, and Empty Closets, the AUC has had a hub where members of

Stories like Jamel Myles are why the students of the AUC are constantly battling homophobia.

This is why organizations like Safe Space, Afrekete, and Empty Closets are important in creating spaces where people can be accepted regardless of sexuality or gender identity. It is also important that these spaces reach out not only to individuals who identify as LGBTQIA+ but their heterosexual peers. By doing this the organization not only addresses LGBTQIA+ problems, they also take time to teach and inform their heterosexual counterparts about the importance of acceptance.

Mental health is not something that should be referred to in hindsight after a tragedy, but rather should be taught from as young an age as possible. Jamel was described as a happy kid, and many from his community were shocked to hear the news.

Jamel's suicide should not have happened in vain. It cannot be undone, but change can still come from it. The conversations we have as a nation, especially in the wake of tragedy, should evolve over time to take into consideration that all walks of life are not the same, and should be evaluated with an open mind. The only way we can advance as a group is if we choose to face these issues together and work to include young people.



One study found that more than one-third of gay respondents had missed an entire day of school in the past month because they felt unsafe there. According to Mental Health America LGBTQIA+ youth stated that bullying is their second biggest problem, making it harder for them to be open

the LGBTQIA+ community can go and find solidarity.

Due to attending these respective institutions, we are employed to make a positive change in the world. Homophobia is one of the many detrimental ideologies that we as students are encouraged to combat.





## IT'S A 'HOUSE THING!

### 2018 MOREHOUSE COLLEGE FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		
01 UNIV. ARK. PINE BLUFF	PINE BLUFF, AR	6:00 PM
08 LANE COLLEGE	JACKSON, TN	2:00 PM
<b>15 CENTRAL STATE UNIV.</b>	<b>ATLANTA, GA</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>
<b>22 MILES COLLEGE</b>	CHICAGO, IL	3:30 PM
(21st CHICAGO FOOTBALL CLASSIC - SOLDIER FIELD)		
29 KENTUCKY STATE UNIV.*	FRANKFORT, KY	2:00 PM
<b>OCTOBER</b>		
06 TUSKEGEE UNIV.*	COLUMBUS, GA	2:00 PM
(83RD ANNUAL TUSKEGEE-MOREHOUSE FOOTBALL CLASSIC - MEMORIAL STADIUM)		
<b>13 ALBANY STATE UNIV.*</b>	<b>ATLANTA, GA</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>
20 BENEDICT COLLEGE*	COLUMBIA, SC	2:00 PM
<b>27 FORT VALLEY STATE UNIV.*</b>	<b>ATLANTA, GA (HOMECOMING)</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b>
<b>NOVEMBER</b>		
03 CLARK ATLANTA UNIV.*	ATLANTA, GA (AWAY)	2:00 PM

PRESIDENT: DR. DAVID THOMAS

V.P. FOR STUDENT DEVELOPMENT: DR. SAID SEWELL    ATHLETIC DIRECTOR: ANDRE PATTILLO

HEAD COACH: RICH FREEMAN

SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR: RUBEN PEREZ

ALL GAME TIMES ARE LOCAL TIMES

\* DENOTES SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE GAMES

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