

THE SPOKESMAN

Volume 72 | ISSUE 1

CALENDAR: LAST DAY OF CLASSES NOV. 30TH | FINAL EXAMS DEC. 3-10TH

Campus fares well in storm

SPECIAL TO THE SPOKESMAN

By JOUR 206: Intro to Editing Class

“We had 200 people in town for my grandma’s 90th birthday party this weekend and the show went on as planned,” says Morgan State senior Faven Amanuel, explaining how she passed the time as Hurricane Sandy hit Baltimore this week. She was out and about, ferrying people around while worrying that she’d be ticketed by cops who’d ordered folks to stay home.

Other students played it safe, hunkering down as recommended by area officials. Most gathered around in Morgan View and campus dorms watching TV, playing games, eating, surfing the net—and in general enjoying two unexpected days off.

Morgan State survived the storm just fine. Hurricane Sandy hit Baltimore City Monday morning with heavy winds, pelting rain and blasts of cold air. But the school didn’t lose power, didn’t sustain any serious damage from fallen trees and had no significant flooding in buildings or on the grounds. No students, faculty or staff were injured and classes began running normally on Wednesday. “We have many to thank for helping to us get through past few days not least among them those who are what I choose to call ‘Morgan’s first responders,’” wrote President David Wilson in an email to the Morgan community on Tuesday.

Students used the two days to chill, mostly in their rooms, but around 6 p.m., realizing classes would resume and likely assignments would still be due, many knuckled down and started working. “I remembered my book review was due on Wednesday for my Intro Editing class and I got started on it immediately,” says Morgan junior Briana Lynn.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF US NAVY VIA CREATIVE COMMONS

President Obama triumphs in elections despite enthusiasm gap

By ASHLEY COX
Spokesman Staff Writer

President Barack Obama takes another victory in the White House after a tight race against Governor Mitt Romney with a 97-electoral lead despite predictions that he would have a tough time regaining the young vote.

Although the president won electoral

votes from key states like Ohio, Pennsylvania and Colorado, he was under increasing pressure to regain support from young voters particularly those between the ages of 18 to 30. According to veteran pollster and analyst Dr. Silas H Lee, the “enthusiasm gap” in young voters is due to the decline of political interest in general, decreasing the percentage of voters from 72 percent in 2008 to 48 percent in 2012. Lee claims that the perspective on

President Obama’s policies has changed due to the increase of “basic survival need” and the excitement of change in the White House has shifted to fear for America’s future. He also claims that Obama voters in 2008 did not see enough change in the past four years. He defended the President saying, “People should understand, being President doesn’t automatically mean

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THE SPOKESMAN NEWSPAPER

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EDITOR'S NOTE



Good Day Morganites,

I must first offer congratulations to President Obama and Vice President Biden on their re-election. Hopefully, our newly elected officers move America forward in the next four years. Thankfully, I can sleep easier knowing that my Pell Grant is safe!

Speaking of Obama, have you guys been noticing the amazing job our institution has been doing of bringing speakers to this university? This semester we have had the pleasure of hosting Michelle Obama,

Michael Baisden, Marcus Canty, Wyclef Jean, Lupe Fiasco, Cornel West and others. This, combined with a great homecoming week, has brought a great start to the academic year. However, now it's time for us focus on academics.

Our administration has worked tirelessly to increase the prestige of this university with new buildings, new funding and new landscaping. As students we must match this effort. The difference between one university and the next is often the academic performance of its students.

Let's take the rest of this semester seriously. Knowing where we stand after midterms, let's strive to do the best that we can in our academics. The end of the semester is creeping up, so lets act accordingly.

And don't forget, The Spokesman meets every Tuesday at 4 pm in the New Communications building, room 234. If you are a writer, photographer, graphic designer or advertiser you are welcome to come and join the team.

In the Morgan Spirit,
Sam Ofori

Coppin State's president resigns

REGINALD S. AVERY RESIGNS FROM HIS POSITION AFTER NEARLY FIVE YEARS AS COPPIN STATE'S PRESIDENT

By TRAMON L. LUCAS

Spokesman Staff Writer

Coppin State's President Reginald S. Avery announced that he would resign as president from the university on Tuesday, January 22, 2013. Avery, who has been president of the historically black university Coppin State University for nearly five years, taking the position on January 14, 2008, resigns just nine months shy of the day his faculty gave him a vote of no confidence back in February. It's reported by the Baltimore Sun that Avery received the vote of no confidence from his faculty due to Avery "lacking vision" while he was "attempting" to improve Coppin State's graduation rate.

Coppin State's graduation rate has not been in the best shape within the last several years remaining along the 20 percent line. Avery had a plan back in 2008 to raise the graduation rate to 50 percent. It did not pan out that way; Coppin State's graduation rate did not improve, but fell to an unsatisfactory 13 percent decline (although there are reports the graduation rate stands now at 19 percent).

Under Avery's tenure he has initiated several strategies to help

reform the graduation rate at Coppin State University. He created effective student support groups to help keep students from falling behind and had plans to open a \$68 million science and technology building toward the end of December 2012.

With these approaches to reshaping not just the graduation rate, but the image at Coppin State University, why is Avery resigning? Avery never explained fully the reason he wanted to resign, but the Baltimore Sun reports, Avery felt it was time to "step aside" and had accepted that there was no real "turnaround" that had occurred. Reginald Avery declined the Spokesman's request for comment.

Reginald S. Avery, 66, also stated that his future plans are to return to the classroom (possibly to Coppin State) to continue to improve student engagement, but his unanticipated resignation leaves the campus without a leader. There is an immediate search for a new candidate taking place. The search could possibly leave the campus without an official president for up to a year. There is no word on who will take over in January 2013 if there is still no president for Coppin State by that time, which is only two months away.

Are you looking to **lock down a summer internship** early?

Are you interested in **social entrepreneurship**?

Are you passionate about **education reform** and closing the learning gap for students of color in America?

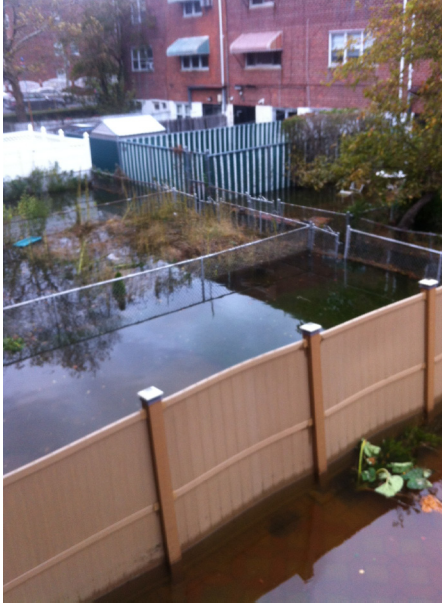
If your response to any of these questions is YES, then the **UNCF/Walton K-12 Social Entrepreneurship (USE) Program** is for you!



For more information, please contact wayne.wilson@uncf.org or, if you are ready to **JOIN THE MOVEMENT**, please visit us at: http://www.uncf.org/sections/ForStudents/SS_Scholarships/scholarDetailSGA.asp?id=837.

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CAMPUS NEWS



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF DASIANE BRANCH

Hurricane Sandy flooded many backyards in Brooklyn due to heavy rains



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS

In the aftermath of destruction caused by Hurricane Sandy, replacement demand could boost car sales in November, industry sources believe



PETER ROMANO VIA CREATIVE COMMONS

Storm damage, like this one from Astoria, Queens, were shared widely on Facebook and other websites



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF DAVID SHANKBONE/ CREATIVE COMMONS

Flooded Avenue C at East 6th Street in Manhattan's East Village neighborhood of Loisaia

Morgan State students grade media coverage during Hurricane Sandy: C-

SPECIAL TO THE SPOKESMAN
By JOUR 405: Magazine Publishing Class

Media coverage of Hurricane Sandy seemed over the top to many Morgan State journalism students who spent their two days off watching Fox News, Channel 13, The Weather Channel, and reading The Washington Post's Twitter, AP News and The Wall Street Journal.

On the Weather Channel for five days leading up to it, broadcasters referred to this

as the Storm of the Century. "They really ramped it up," said Morgan State senior Johnathan Thoman.

As a consequence some Morgan State students went overboard—along with most of Baltimore—in rushing to buy up emergency supplies. Water, tissue paper, snacks, milk, batteries, candles and bread were suddenly in short supply at area stores.

The press fueled panic by glibly tossing out dramatic terms such as "epic devastation," "super storm," "apocalypse,"

and "Frankenstorm." (David Stern, NBA Commissioner, even accidentally referred to the storm as "Katrina" during the Miami Heat ring ceremony and was slammed via twitter for the mistake.) Field reporters, in their efforts to capture the most dramatic shots, courted danger with some of them being swept off their feet by storm surges. Through it all, the prominent branding, like the Weather Channel's reporters decked out in L.L.

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Morgan fosters relationships with the community

By MANYI ABANGMA
Spokesman Staff Writer

With a continued effort to grow the future and lead the world, Morgan State University has partnered with residents, businesses, public officials and other investors in the community to bring change to the Northeast Baltimore region. On Saturday, Oct. 27, members of the university along with Northeast Baltimore neighborhoods gathered in the Calvin and Tina Tyler Ballroom in the University Student Center to kick-off the Morgan Community Mile.

Morgan State University President, David Wilson, opened the event by explaining the strategic plan for the Morgan Community Mile initiative. "Our continued growth has to be married...to the growth, vibrancy, stability, productivity,

"Our continued growth has to be married... to the growth, vibrancy, stability, productivity, competitiveness, and the way we live the good life in our neighborhoods. And that's what this is designed to do."

competitiveness, and the way we live the good life in our neighborhoods. And that's what this is designed to do," said Wilson. He went on to outline five strategic goals for building the Morgan brand and reiterated the importance of having the community involved in the process.

Mary Anne Akers, Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning, followed the president's remarks by describing the impact that the plan would have on those involved and addressing the school's hopes of being a model for other institutions to follow. A raffle was played, before opening the floor to discussions.

At each end of the room were different stations named after the general topics that were up for discussion in the strategic planning process. A community leader from

each of the organizations and businesses in attendance led the discussions and asked participants what their thoughts and concerns were. After three rounds, each station was brought back as a whole to communicate the findings.

Discussion topics included Healthy Families, Public Safety, Workforce and Economic Development, Education and Youth Development, Sustainable Environment, Livable Viable Neighborhoods, and Culture, Art, Recreation and Entertainment. Among those topics, some of the issues that came up were communication and awareness of available resources, building unity and opening the lines of communication between communities, and taking into account the life that children in the Northeast are living in order to make improvements.

"This is a real opportunity for the community and Morgan to really maximize this effort to improve the Northeast Baltimore community," said Linda Stewart, a resident of Northwood, in response to what she got out of the event. "There are so many great assets here at Morgan, that I think need to be uncovered and by working together... I think we can just be stronger in how we improve the quality of life here."

The event, hosted by Community and Economic Development Director, Ellis Brown, included a community fair, faculty and student project displays, and allowed for a dialogue covering the critical issues within the Morgan Mile. The day kicked-off a series of many more meetings set to take place before the unveiling of a concrete plan in the spring of 2013.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF XASSEMBLY.ORG

Anissa Caldwell speaks at HBCU rally in Annapolis

Activist group X-Assembly shakes things up with a Republican member

By CHARLESE JOHNSON
Spokesman Staff Writer

X-Assembly is a student activist group on Morgan's campus that protests against social injustices that plague all nationalities and races. Contrary to it being more-so liberal, one of its members lies on the right wing. Active X Assembly member, and one of the framers of the organization, Anissa Caldwell, is a Republican.

Caldwell says her involvement within the X-Assembly is not about her Republican views. She does not allow her political ties to influence her work for the organization. "I am very liberal [and] to get the job done, I cannot always associate my personal beliefs on certain issues that our organization [X-Assembly] addresses and gets involved in," said Caldwell. However, Caldwell does believe that there may be a time when she will have to decide between her personal beliefs and the issues the organization chooses to advocate.

Caldwell discussed the issue of government welfare programs. She believes that it is possible for African Americans to thrive without government assistance. "I am about setting a standard of tremendous success and excellence for our people without handouts," said Caldwell. The young republican detailed several methods she believed the African American community could utilize to prosper. She

believes increasing the presence of family based businesses and culturing more academically competitive children will help the African American race. "Then and only then can we as a people say 'Black Excellence, [is] truly yours,'" said Caldwell.

Yet she does allow one of her personal beliefs, humanitarianism, to influence her role in the X-Assembly. Caldwell's humanitarianism values derive from her inspiration and role model Russell Simmons. Simmons' support of philanthropy motivates her to apply humanitarianism not only to her personal life but to her public efforts. Caldwell deems herself an individual who cares about humanity. She uses the X-Assembly as a vehicle to better understand society. "Through the X-Assembly I can have a different perspective on how the world works and how other people are effected by things," says Caldwell.

While Caldwell takes inspiration from Russell Simmons, she attributes her inner Republican to her upbringing and personal experiences. Caldwell was raised in a conservative home. She says that even today many of her older family members still believe in the same viewpoints. Her own experiences molded her as a Republican as well. The formation of her Republican views resulted after several periods of experiences in her life. "There were different levels or stages when I learned about myself and my practices as far as politics are concerned."

The brewing melting pot at Morgan State

By ODESSA MOHABEER
Spokesman Staff Writer

As the students scatter across Morgan State University's campus in a bustle to meet up with friends and get to their classes, there is a display of Morgan's increasing diversity. "Every semester I feel like there are more international students on the campus," says Junior Cesar Francis.

The Foreign Exchange program has been operating on Morgan's campus for ten years and is orchestrated by the Center for Global Studies and Exchange in the Turner's Armory building. The focus is not only bringing students from other countries to Morgan, but increasing the number of students that go overseas to further their studies.

Although active on the campus for 10 years, the foreign exchange program is still a work in progress. "The goal is to allow students to receive a holistic education that is needed to reorient their thinking in a global fashion," says Johnson Niba. Niba, a Cameroon native, is the assistant director of the Center for Global Studies and Exchange program, and has been working with the program for two years. He explained that through the program, Morgan plans to create partnerships with various countries in different regions of the world in order to establish a more structured program. President David Wilson has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Hubei University located in the Hubei Province of China. As a result, two Chinese students are attending Morgan this semester.

"My experience at Morgan is both

exciting and challenging," says Yequing Liu. Liu is 20 years old and this is her first time not only experiencing education outside of China, but at a historically black college. This is a big culture shock because there are not a high percentage of African Americans in China. She has been at Morgan for two months and she is Finance major.

Of Morgan's population, 4.1 percent of the student body is international students that attend the University through the foreign exchange program. The demographics of the foreign students have shifted over time. Currently the Nepalese students are the largest ethnic group on Morgan's campus. Two years ago, the largest population of students came from Nigeria.

This semester the program has its first Brazilian student, Eduardo Morais. Morais is 23 years old and was able to attend Morgan through the Science without Borders scholarship program. He is Chemistry major at the university and has two semesters left. "I am excited about doing my research," he explains as he discusses the difference between the education he receive at Morgan in comparison to the university he attended in Brazil.

"I am excited, passionate, and enthusiastic about the work we do with students not only to increase international students on campus but to sharpen the competitive edge of Morgan State University students to strive to graduate and become globally oriented professionals and citizens," Niba says.

Developing "global competent professionals"

By CHARLESE JOHNSON
Spokesman Staff Writer

Morgan State University is making several strides to connect its students with the vast international world. Earlier this year, on April 19, Dr. Wilson and the president of Hubei University finalized an agreement on a Chinese Exchange Program. The two-way exchange program offers opportunities to both Morgan and Hubei University students and professors. The partnership allows Morgan students to earn degrees from Hubei University and similarly Hubei students to obtain degrees from Morgan. Under the exchange program, Morgan professors are offered the opportunity to teach at Hubei as well. The initiative will also promote collaborative research between the two universities; professors within the same disciplines will be able to partner to research and apply for grants.

Dr. Mbare Ngom, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Senior Executive Director of International Studies at Morgan State University, has been in communication with Hubei for several years, and was involved in the development of the program. He and other Morgan professors have been connected to Hubei University. Dr. Ngom stated that the partnership with Hubei University in the Wuhan Province of China began in 1997. In the fall semester of 1999, Professor Joanna Crosby, participated in an exchange program as a visiting professor. She described her experience as "amazing,

scary, intense, and educational."

In 2011, Dr. Ngom, Dr. Joan Robinson, Dr. Willie D. Larkin, and other Morgan affiliates met with Yang Yiping, Hubei's representative, to revive the relationship between the two universities. From this meeting, Hubei offered Morgan two summer abroad scholarships and extended an invitation to attend Hubei's 80th founders anniversary. In the fall of 2011, President Wilson attended the ceremony and it was decided by both institutions to renew partnership, which led to the signing ceremony in April 2012.

Dr. Ngom and Professor Crosby believe the Chinese Exchange Program is beneficial for Morgan students. "[it's] important for people of United States to see another country, [to] see first class life (similar to us) and see people of an entire spectrum with very different living standards," said Crosby. Dr. Ngom said that the program will not only open student perspective, but it will allow him or her to be competitive in the job search in the global market. Dr. Ngom believes that simply learning a language is not enough. He said it is important for a student to, "speak confidently and competently with no intermediaries to be culturally proficient." He believes there is a need for more African Americans as diplomats and representatives, which is why he expressed the importance to, "graduate global competent professionals." The Chinese Exchange Program will be one of many to help foster such Morgan professionals.

* SGA ADDRESS

The Student Government Association hopes that everyone is settling well into the Fall semester of the 2012-2013 academic year.

Please look forward to the following:

· Currently we are sponsoring the "Growing the Future, Leading the World" Grant

Proposal \$500 Competition for all active on-campus organizations

· SGA Student Discount Cards that will allow students to receive discounted and free items from twenty local businesses including Noodles N' Company, Smoothie King, etc. will be available soon

· \$500 Academic scholarships & \$250 Book Scholarships from SGA will be available in the Spring

Students question campus housing

By BRITTANY BUCHANAN
Spokesman Staff Writer

Thousands of students make their way back to Morgan State University's campus; many with a place to live, others left to find arrangements elsewhere. Concerns of housing arrangements and living conditions consume the minds of students this fall semester.

"There is not a shortage of housing. Some of the challenges we experience is the date students request housing. July 15th is really late because we are pretty much in the full swing of the assignment process," states Gwynn. "We had 140 students on the waiting list. We were able to house about 90 students. The other 50 or so students made other arrangements. Maybe 150 to 200 students did not receive housing. We are not sure of the number of students who do not have

it," says MSU senior Odessa Mohabeer. "No one let me know my lease was late and that they gave my room to someone else. Three weeks after school started they called and asked me if I needed a room after they specifically told me I should find an alternate place to stay."

Students also complain about the living conditions of the housing residences.

"Living at Blount was semi decent but really frustrating at times. I lived there during my freshman year. The females acted very childish at times like that incident I told you about and a lot of them were really nasty. The bathrooms were filthy girls would leave hair everywhere and use the bathroom without flushing and it would just be gross," says MSU sophomore, Taiye Ojomo. "One time the cleaning lady refused to clean up the bathroom and didn't come back

"Do we need more housing? Yes. The institution is presently making that evaluation comprehensibly.

Beginning next spring, the housing process will become fully automated and students will be able to make payments online"

housing because they might get other placements."

The Office of Residence Life & Housing assigns rooms, oversees maintenance, housekeeping, safety, and security of facilities, and provides academic support with tutors and computer labs for students. According to the director of The Office of Residence Life & Housing, Douglas F. Gwynn students should file their FAFSA by the second week of January to ensure housing.

"I was living in Morgan View and there was a miscommunication of the lease deadline. I was trying to get my lease turned back in on time. He said he mailed it three times, but I never received

for 3 days because the bathroom was so nasty. I wanted a change and I used to visit Morgan View a lot because I had friends here and I liked it. So far since living [in Morgan View] I haven't had any problems. I live with my roommate from last semester and two of my friends."

The Office of Residence Life and Housing will implement an improved system for housing beginning in the fall.

"Do we need more housing? Yes. The institution is presently making that evaluation comprehensibly. Beginning next spring, the housing process will become fully automated and students will be able to make payments online," Gwynn says.

EDITORIAL

Metal detector wands arrive

TRAINING TO BEGIN FOR NEW SECURITY MEASURES IN BALTIMORE COUNTY SCHOOLS

By ZAKIA STERRETT
Spokesman Staff Writer

It's been more than three weeks since the Baltimore County Police Department promised to put metal detectors in some Baltimore County Schools. Early last week, the Pikesville Patch reported that Lt. Michael DiCara of the Baltimore County Police Department directed an officer from the Pikesville, Maryland precinct to receive training on the usage of wands and their legalities. He was then instructed to share that information with school resource officers. There's no question that more effective safety measures need to be put in place at Baltimore County schools, especially after the recent gun incidences at Perry Hall High School and Stemmers Run Middle School. What is in question is the criteria officials will use to determine which schools get the metal detectors, and more specifically, how those detectors will be used.

Several years ago when I worked as a teacher's assistant within the Baltimore County and Baltimore City school systems, I was alarmed to find deficient security measures at most of the schools. Doors were frequently left unattended, students ran wild, assaults were a regular occurrence, and issues that led to more serious matters went unchecked while expressed concerns fell upon deaf ears. A note to school administrators: more foresight and less reactionary decision making is needed now.

As a condition of the new security measure, school officers will only be able to use the metal detectors when they suspect a crime or act of violence is about to happen. This ambiguity raises more questions. What discretions will officers use to identify threats? Will they single out the student whose eyes are glazed over and unresponsive to why he or she is wandering the halls while class is in session? Or will wands come out because a disoriented youth in a crowded

cafeteria is fumbling with something in his book bag only to pull out an asthma inhaler? Weeks ago Cpl. Cathy Batton of the Baltimore County Police Department stated that metal detectors are to be used in a way that is appropriate for the school setting. These devices should be in the hands of adequately trained staff that are able to sense real and eminent danger to prevent overreaction in situations where there is no real threat, but vigilance in times where there is.

Once school officials are trained in the usage of hand held metal detectors they should not expect changes overnight. This new security measure could put a halt to violence when it comes to guns and other weapons, but schools should not rely solely on wands. Getting to the root of the problem will take a closer examination into why students decide to bring guns and weapons to school in the first place. Teachers, parents, and students want to feel a sense of relief that delinquents will think twice about bringing concealed weapons onto school premises. Let's hope that there will be significant changes in the climate of those schools equipped with these devices.

As an overall preventative measure, all schools need to step up their violence policies even if wands are not implemented in their schools. The bottom line is that our children need to feel and be safe. Whether they attend school in the county or city, public or private, they deserve to experience an academic life without the fear of having to dodge bullets in homeroom or anywhere else. A solid plan of action needs to be adopted across the board and each school should take greater responsibility in protecting its own students rather than rely on a decision as to whether or not they will receive metal detectors.

Zakia Sterrett is a Baltimore native and 2012 graduate of Morgan State University receiving her Bachelor of Science degree in Telecommunications/Public Relations. She is currently pursuing a Masters of Art in Sociology at the university.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KTYLERCONK

The Baltimore Rundown

By BRITTANY BUCHANAN & NICK BEDFORD
Spokesman Staff Writers

▶▶▶▶▶ WHAT'S GOING ON IN B'MORE?

POE AT CENTER STAGE - October 17-Nov.25

Bruce Nelson stars in a tale portraying the dark and mysterious life of the famous Baltimorean poet Edgar Allen Poe.

RAM'S HEAD AND IMP PRESENT: SURPRISE AT THE CLUB! NAS WITH JHENE AIKO - Nov.5

Nas Stops by Baltimore to promote his album, Life is Good along with new singer/songwriter Jhene Aiko

A PURPLE EVENING - Nov. 5

A fun football filled evening at M&T Bank Stadium catered to the ladies. Ladies will compete in on the field activities and have a full access tour of the stadiums facility. There will also be an autograph session conducted by the Ravens.

CARRIE UNDERWOOD IN CONCERT

Carrie Underwood brings her Blown Away tour to Baltimore Wednesday November 7 at the 1st Mariner Arena.

RAVENS VS. RAIDERS - M and T Bank Stadium, Nov. 11, 1:00pm

MMG CONCERT RICK ROSS, MEEK MILLS, AND WALE AT 1ST MARINER ARENA - Nov. 17

Maybach Music Group Tour Starring Rick Ross, Meek Mills, and Wale with special guest Machine Gun Kelly

THE SINGLE LADIES TOUR- R KELLY FEATURING TAMIA TUESDAY - Nov. 27 at the Modell Performing Arts Center at The Lyric.

▶▶▶▶▶ MOVIES

FLIGHT - Nov. 2

Alongside John Goodman and Don Cheadle, Denzel Washington stars in this dramatic film about a pilot, who saves a flight from crashing, but an investigation reveals he had alcohol in his system. (Rated pG-13, Drama)

007 SKY FALL - Nov. 9

The 23rd edition of Ian Fleming's 007 James Bond films returns this fall. Bond played by Daniel Craig, jumps back into action as MI6 faces one of its greatest threats ever. 007 is tangled between the web of M (MI6 leader) and her foggy past as he attempts to destroy the threat. (Rated PG-13, Action/Adventure)

LINCOLN - Nov.9

Steven Spielberg directs this American drama about the life of the Abraham Lincoln in his final months of office as he designs a course of action to end the war and abolish slavery. With stars Daniel Day-Lewis, Sally Field, Tommy Lee Jones, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, and Hal Holbrook, the film will conjure up emotions of the past.

THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART 2 - Nov. 16

Bella, Edward, and Jacob come together one last time as the Cullens gather other vampire clans to protect Renesmee from a false allegation that puts the family in front of the Volturi. Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson, and Taylor Lautner star in the hit film. (Rated PG 13 Action/Adventure/Drama)

RED DAWN - Nov. 21

As "foreign papratroopers" drop from the sky invading the U.S' hometown, a small group of people, called the "Wolverines," escape into the woods and train themselves to take back their freedom from the intruders. Chris Hemsworth, Josh Peck, Josh Hutcherson, and Adriaane Palicki, and Isabel Lucas star in this action-packed film.

KILLING THEM SOFTLY - Nov. 30

Brad Pitt stars in this gangster action movie, alongside James Gandolfini, Ray Liotta, and Richard Jenkins. As three criminals rob a high-roller

▶▶▶▶▶ ALBUMS

CEE-LO GREEN / CEE LO'S MAGIC MOMENT - Oct. 30

NE-YO / R.E.D. - Nov. 6

50 CENT/ STREET KING MORTAL - Nov. 13

RIHANNA / UNAPOLEGETIC - Nov. 20

TALIB KWELI / PRISONER OF CONSCIOUSNESS - Nov. 20

ALICIA KEYS / GIRL ON FIRE - Nov. 27

WU-TANG CLAN AND D-BLOCK / WU-BLOCK - Nov. 27

Morgan and neighbors strive

By ALFRED OSU
Spokesman Staff Writer

The city of Baltimore is no stranger to crime and violence. Walk six minutes off campus in some directions and it is what some people might consider a war zone. Often, these dangers—drugs, robbery, violence—are not restrained by artificial boundaries and spill onto the MSU campus, putting sons, daughters, students and others in the middle of crossfire.

“We are too close to the neighborhoods, it’s basically like all of Baltimore lives on Morgan’s campus,” third year sociology student Gabriel Pierce said. On a daily basis, students walk the campus, congregate with friends, and share greetings with acquaintances. But every so often, students see unfamiliar faces and question who is on campus and whether this person is in fact a student.

Though comical at times, even younger elementary- or middle-school students are seen walking through the campus with no guardian as if they too were a part of the school community.

So, what force is set in place to regulate the traffic of intruders? Morgan State has its own police department on campus, housing campus police and local officers alike. But Morgan is a part of the local community and some students agree with Michael Adebisi, a third year Communications major, who said, “There is no point in having a police station on campus.” Though the call for a “police station” may be extreme, recent events may argue for a greater police presence on campus.

With the shooting that took place in the university’s Student Center just a day after the anniversary of 9/11, many students are calling for better regulations to be enforced. Students need protection from neighboring criminals, they say. One of the major areas of danger that many students have to face on a daily basis is Northwood Plaza, which encompasses a McDonalds, local carryout restaurant, Rite Aid and grocery store for students’ convenience. This area has been the battleground for robberies, drug transactions and even murders.

In 2008 Baltimore City Councilman Kenneth Harris Sr was shot and killed at New Haven Lounge, a bar also located within the plaza and many students say they feel unsafe if people who aren’t supposed to be able to be touched are being destroyed just minutes from their place of learning.

Citizens familiar with the area see the crimes as very

detrimental for everyone. However, some have learned to accept it, even as it pertains to Morgan State. “It doesn’t faze us for the most part. What took place at Morgan just gets charged to the game,” a young man who lives in the area said, declining to give his name. There aren’t many access points on campus that require photo I.D. or an MSU Bearcard other than the parking entries. A person can enter the academic buildings, Student Center, library and refectory without showing any student identification. Many students see this as problematic and believe that this is the core of where the issues and possible solutions begin.

Still, after speaking with the president of Original Northwood, Eric Lapointe, about his views on the relationship between Morgan State and the community, his concern about safety echoed students and the issue was the top of his organization’s priority list. “We strive

to build strong relationships with neighboring schools such as Morgan State, and we feel like we have a very good one with this institution,” he said. The organization enjoys being relatively close to

the students and finds that to be positive for both parties involved. Though the organizations goals are ambitious, the coalition does not have a neighborhood watch program in place, leaving them and the surrounding Baltimore citizens just as vulnerable to crime as Morgan State’s campus.

The Original Northwood coalition was created to bring awareness of public safety issues to the community. It is located in northeast Baltimore, 25 minutes from downtown and the Inner Harbor. The unit works closely with the northwest Police Patrol every now and then to provide security to the neighborhoods. “The reason I took the responsibility to head this organization was to prevent crimes like what occurred on Morgan’s campus,” Lapointe said. Programs like Original Northwood are just what Morgan State needs.

Active people who hold annual meetings to discuss issues within the community and at least make an attempt to make the area safe for everyone could be beneficial. A spotlight, not only on situations like the recent shooting in the Student Center, but on neighborhood activism designed to prevent such crimes seems essential. Morgan State and the outside community shouldn’t have to be separated with barricades for harmony to exist between the two.

Continued from page 8

Bean gear—logo prominently displayed—appeared a tasteless display of corporate branding and greed.

After all, this was a genuine disaster for huge swathes of the country. Many Morgan students from the affected areas, such as New York, New Jersey and the Maryland shore had no choice but to watch the storm from afar, feeling helpless as the media ran pictures and videos of the devastation. Dasiane Branch, a Morgan State junior, got calls from family and friends in her Brooklyn neighborhood, portions which were completely flooded. “They’re calling you because you’re feeling alone,” she said, explaining she got numerous calls asking how she was doing. “But they’re calling you when the electricity’s off and the phones aren’t working in Brooklyn—and they’re the ones that need help, not me.”

The media also missed some big stories about the storm, such as the under-reported news about Pepco, the DC-based power company which was notorious for its poor response to previous storms. (It took weeks for them to get people’s power back on the heels of the June 29, 2012 storm.) This time, fewer Pepco customers lost power than BGE customers.

Students noticed that Fox News chose to focus on the storm’s impact on the election—sometimes enlightening viewers with useful information but other times offering a biased take on the facts. The O’Reilly Report discussed in detail how President Obama’s campaign was interrupted briefly by Hurricane Sandy with potentially far-reaching consequences for swing states like Pennsylvania. Early voting was postponed for two days and this could keep elderly voters at home, potentially impacting results. And on the Jersey Shore, polls may not even be open by election day due to flood damage. Still, Obama is setting a good example by visiting the state and showing potential voters that he hopes they will make it to the polls next week.

CNN covered the storm well, drawing on reporters working the storm on the ground in 15 states and Canada, offering news-you-can-use like reminders to keep cell phones charged, develop emergency plans and take basic storm precautions.

Some students felt like social media did the best job of covering the storm. Twitter feeds from residents of Brooklyn, for example, were an effective way of getting fast, accurate updates from the scene. “Social media did a better job than most news stations,” says Branch.

“We are too close to the neighborhoods, it’s basically like all of Baltimore lives on Morgan’s campus”

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Brian Furr



Malaika Clements & Kaleb Metaferia



Brian Furr



Desire Onwudiach



MSU Courtyard

Two MSU innovators create MSU Lookbook

MORE THAN A SITE FOR FASHION, IT SHOWCASES UNIQUE STUDENTS

By BRITTANY BUCHANAN
Spokesman Staff Writer

“A beautiful soul can be seen from more than a mile away,” said Tioluwani Ilupeju, one of the creators of MSU Lookbook, a website for what she and co-founder, Malaika Aminata Clements call a catalog for beautiful souls. Founded February 25, 2010, Morgan State University students’ individuality is showcased on the site.

While surfing the internet and coming across a lookbook on a website, Ilupeju and Clements decided that a medium of diversity was missing on MSU’s campus. The two decided to use what was already at MSU and promote diversity through style and individual creativity.

“We started it from basically a style website that we had a membership to when we went to the website and it wasn’t diverse. It was a lot of the same style. There were not many people stepping outside of the box on the site,” said journalism major Clements. “We created MSU Lookbook to showcase people who are comfortable with their own self expression. We wanted to promote that.”

Ilupeju added, “It’s about us. It’s about being who you are and promoting self expression. People shouldn’t be afraid to be themselves. We ask people

to say a quote or statement. It’s more than just photos.”

Clements and Ilupeju do not want the website to be confused with a fashion look book. The website is more than a mere site for fashion. It is an outlet for expressing one’s identity. The message the Lookbook pioneers want to convey is that the site is a place for innovative individuals.

“We decided to capture what is already here on campus. We want to showcase how everyday people express themselves. We cannot pass down what is already established. We can only point it out,” Clements said. “People have to realize the students of MSU have their own identity. People have to not be afraid to showcase their own individuality; their own unique style.”

Photographers, Clements and Ilupeju spend time behind the camera capturing the unique personalities, cultures, and styles that walk around the university’s campus.

“The power of self expression is so exuberant. When you see someone walking down the street, you’re drawn to them. I say it is a warm aurora,” said Ilupeju. “That person is not afraid to be who they are. It’s not just about fashion. It’s about style; the way you carry yourself; the way you express yourself. Fashion isn’t the focus of the website.”

Maryland rapper plans to drop new mix tape

NICK HARRISON'S LEGEND OF THE MOOCHERS IS SLATED FOR RELEASE THIS DECEMBER

By BRITTANY BUCHANAN
Spokesman Staff Writer

Calvert County based rapper, Nick Harrison prepares to drop his new mix tape "Legend of the Moochers" in December.

The 23-year-old musician did not start off rapping. As a child, he performed country music in front of family and friends. "I've always been huge into music ever since I was a kid. I think the first time I ever wrote a rap was in the fifth grade. I was trying to get out of trouble with my mom. So, I wrote a rap song to kind of bribe her out of it and it worked. Ever since then, I have been writing."

Since rapping as early as ten-years-old, Harrison has performed at the Roxy Theater and auditioned for this season's X-factor. His music can be compared to J. Cole and Kendrick Lamar, according to Harrison.

"I would say it's definitely hip-hop; definitely raw hip-hop. I also like to do other kinds of stuff. I like to do an R&B side and a pop side," said Harrison. "I just try to not really limit myself as an artist. I'm diverse. I'm lyrical."

Despite his lyrical and conscious songs, Harrison is different than his on-stage act. The conservative, down-to-earth, creative rapper gets a chance to let himself go and discuss topics he would not usually talk about through his music.

"As a person I'm a little more sheltered in a sense. In music, I let everyone see a different side of me. It's a quote on quote alter ego. I restrict myself, but as a rapper I just let myself go and talk about things I really wouldn't talk about on a regular basis. I wouldn't say I'm shy, but I'm conservative. When I get up on stage, a different part of me comes out. I just

do my thing. I'm definitely influenced by Eminem, J. Cole, Little Brother and producer 9th Wonder."

Harrison has had other music endeavors, but "Legend of the Moochers" is his biggest mix tape yet.

Jerron Collins, graphic designer, dj and Morgan State alum is confident in Harrison's music endeavors.

"I am his dj and graphic designer. We created verse of the week and YouTube and have been going stronger since then,"



said Collins. "We've known each other for awhile and I support him."

Harrison added, "I finally have a team that's really down for me. So we're basically in the beginning process of really starting to push the music. We are slowly on the come up. Our progression is small right now, but it's definitely going to be pretty quick."

Harrison can be found on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube.

Rap mogul Jay-Z goes all out for Brooklyn

By JADA VANDERPOOL
Spokesman Staff Writer

Barclay's center opened on Sept. 28 with partial owner and rap mogul Jay-Z performing eight consecutive sold out concerts. Each night 19,000 fans rocked hard to the rap stars' classic hits. Jay-Z invested \$1 million into the Barclays Center nine years ago, but that amount holds nothing to the earnings he receives from it today.

Shawn "Jay-Z" Carter earns less than 1% (one fifteenth of one percent) of the Nets, yet his overall involvement in the center surpasses that small mark that had some questioning his role in it. The night before his opening concert, the rap mogul opened a new extension to his franchise, the 40/40 club and restaurant in the arena. On Sept. 28, he opened yet another one of his chain businesses: his

Rocawear clothing store; which lies on the exterior of the center.

Jay-Z was also hands-on with the setup of the NETS apparel. He helped design the team's logo and black and white color scheme. According to the New York Times, Jay-Z even mentored arena executives on their music selection, and suggested to play less "jersey music" and more from artists like SantiGold.

Additionally, he is the executive producer for the basketball videogame NBA2k13. Aside from the visual setup of the game, Jay-Z selected all 24 songs on the soundtrack (including five of his own hit songs).

On Tuesday, Oct. 9 Jay-Z released an eight-track digital EP, "Live in Brooklyn," showcasing his "christening" concerts at Barclays Center. The Brooklyn native ended his finale concert with a surprise guest performance from his wife Beyonce.

EDITORIAL

Family values

By VANCE BRINKLEY
Spokesman Staff Writer

From the days of break dancers and DJ scratchers, hip-hop has been a culture that has flourished on family values. The popularity of music collaborations that were present in the 90's, brought together great groups like the Wu Tang Clan, De La Soul, a Tribe Called Quest and many more.

The family dynamics and structure that hip-hop has formed over the years has been tested. Although there are hip-hop groups and "families" like Maybach Music Group (MMG), G.O.O.D. Music, and YMCMB, the industry has only these groups being the headliners to answer this troubling question: is there still a family in hip-hop?

Fortunately, these music groups have shown that the love is still alive. A lot of Hip-Hop heads on Morgan's campus see the distinct difference that makes the collaborations and features different from the golden ages of hip-hop to today.

"I think there is a family environment in hip-hop, people can tell which ones are organic and which ones are not real," said co-

host of WEAA's Strictly Hip Hop, Florida Henderson. "Chemistry is an important key to a family...to be successful. It's one thing to play around and flirt like what Drake and Nicki Minaj do... (rapping) but it gets kind of annoying because you know it's a gimmick."

Although the family structure is not a strong factor in the hip-hop industry, it's still present. From the mainstream to the underground, there are numerous collaboration and compilation albums being released. MMG's "Self Made Vol. 2" and G.O.O.D. Music's "Cruel Summer" released as albums from the big groups, but up and coming artists do collaboration and compilations similar to how it was done in the old days.

Recently, Domo Genesis, a member from the California based group Odd Future, released "No Idols," a collaboration mix-tape with Alchemist. This was one of the few artist-producer mix-tapes that was released this year. Whether the songs are gimmicky are not, hip-hop has not lost its family values, it just lives through music groups.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF BRITTANY BUCHANAN

Tony Award winner directs “For colored girls...”

ORIGINAL “LADY IN RED,” TRAZANA BEVERLY WORKS WITH
MSU STUDENTS TO PRESENT OBIE AWARD WINNING PLAY

By BRITTANY BUCHANAN
Spokesman Staff Writer

Tony Award winner and original “Lady in Red,” Trazana Beverly directs Ntozake Shane’s Obie Award-winning play *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/ When The Rainbow Is Enuf* at the Gilliam Concert Hall in Murphy Fine Arts Center. Performances will be from Oct. 25 through Oct. 28 and Nov. 1 through Nov. 4.

Tickets are on sale to MSU students and the public at Ticketmaster locations as well as the Murphy Fine Arts Center’s box office.

Beverly, an actress, writer, keynote speaker and Baltimore native, comes back to direct Shane’s play at Theatre Morgan after being on a national tour and directing her first opera. She lends her expertise as she works closely with MSU theater students, lecturer: Jan Short and coordinator: Shirley Dunlap.

“It is an honor to have Ms. Beverly in our department and working with our students. So many talk about Trazana’s kindness and her ability to inspire and draw out the best in them,” Short said. “It is beautiful to see someone so accomplished to be so humble and to not only love their work, but the people with whom they work.”

The 1974 play is a series of 20 poems performed by seven nameless women, represented by the seven colors of a

rainbow. The play is considered a chore poem as it is accompanied by dance and music. According to Beverly, Shane’s play encompasses the struggles of African American woman: abortion, rape, domestic violence and self-worth.

“I treat this experience as a professional opportunity to create. With regards to *For Colored Girls*, when I came off the national tour, I directed the play twice at the Group Theater in Seattle and the Mixed Blood Theater in Minneapolis. It’s really refreshing to come back to the play with fresh eyes. It’s quite an honor. I’m really happy to do something with Shirley Dunlap and Murphy Fine Arts,” said Beverly.

With an updated version by the playwright, Ntozake modernizes the story of Beau Willie, WHO??? returns from the war in Iraq to deal with the HIV/ AIDS epidemic in the African American community.

“Every woman should see it. It is a woman’s right of passage. Every mother, aunt, sister, and friend should bring their daughter, niece, and baby sister. There is so much in it for young women to feed and reflect on,” said Beverly. “[Ntozake] really holds a microscope up to the various situations we find ourselves in as black women: how we deal with ourselves, our self-esteem, and lack thereof. It is not an anti-male play, but it is a pro-female play. This is a great play. Everyone should see it, especially women.”

WEAA celebrates Romare Bearden’s centennial

By BRITTANY BUCHANAN
Spokesman Staff Writer

On Wednesday Sep. 26, art lovers, young and old, travelled up and down the hallways of WEAA for an art exhibit titled “A Celebration of Romare Bearden’s 100th Birthday.” Curators Beverly Hill and Lewis Hudnell hosted the opening night reception. The exhibition, which ends Nov. 2, includes posters of Bearden’s artwork that are on sale to the public along with pottery.

Great niece and co-director of the Bearden Foundation (a non-profit organization established to preserve and perpetuate Bearden’s legacy), Deidre Harris-Kelly, was the guest speaker for the event.

“We knew there were a lot of people who love Bearden. Bearden was one of the greatest artists. He died in 1988. We [the Bearden Foundation] are protecting his legacy,” Harris-Kelly said to a room full of onlookers. “A park in Charlotte will be named in his honor. You rarely get a park named after an artist.”

Bearden, a man of many talents, created oil paintings, cartoons and collages. He used textures, colors and aspects of urban scenery in his works. The North Carolina native received his education from New York University. Over the course of his education, Bearden studied in Paris. With a special connection to Baltimore, he began his career as a cartoonist for The

Baltimore Afro American newspaper in 1935. In addition, he painted “Baltimore Uproar,” a mural in the Penn-North subway station located at the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and North Avenue. Bearden used cut glass and tile to portray a jazz band performance with a female singer in the center.

“I really like his work and his art. I heard about the exhibit and decided to come,” said Kelli Williams, co-founder of a Baltimore based art studio, Rift. “Bearden is one of my favorite artists.”

The art exhibit has more than 10 pieces of Bearden’s works. One of his most renowned artworks, “The Lamp” is featured in the two-month exhibition. Bearden created “The Lamp” to commemorate the end of segregation in the public school system. The United States Postal Service used this piece of art as a stamp in celebration of civil rights.

More than an artist and cartoonist, Bearden was a writer, social worker, and poet.

“Bearden was prolific. He was a jazz musician, he painted, and he illustrated books. Some of the past history said he was a mathematics major. We are excited to celebrate Bearden’s life,” Hill said. She later added, “Next month, we will host another exhibit with local Baltimore crafts. There will be weaving, doll makers, jewelry, sculptures and other artworks. We are always looking for artists.”



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Maya Milan: The voice of MSU

By JAHPIA GRIFFIN
Spokesman Staff Writer

Over the past 2 years, if you have visited a few events on campus you may have heard about the soul-singing protégé Maya Milan. Prepping for her upcoming 1st EP Album “Milan Mode” and after just finishing her Homecoming Pep Rally performance, she graciously stopped by to chat with the Spokesman.

Reigning from Prince George’s County, MD, MSU Sophomore Milan has taken the campus by storm with her voice. Starting her tenure here in 2010 as a Music major concentrating in vocal performance, she realized that there were so many opportunities to take. “It all started with the CASA program, seeing all the people that I can reach with my voice,” said Milan. After evaluating the possibilities here at MSU, she took full advantage. She began singing at 15 and grew a passion for performance. Milan started entering competitions by word of mouth. Being the youngest of contestants during many singing competitions like the “PG Extreme Teens” she felt “very nervous and incompetent but determined at the same time.”

Close friends and family were excited for her success in singing competitions and her passion for music but were hesitant because of her age. Her mother was very happy for her, but was cautious and wanted her to still stay focused and put school first. So far she is enjoying her time at Morgan. “Coming here at first it was about building a name for myself, and now everywhere I go I’m known as the girl who sings.”

Being featured as the key performer and competition winner in schools’ events like “The Voice: MSU Edition” and this past Homecoming Pep Rally performance really has shown her that hard work and passion for what you love pays off. In what seemed to be a misunderstood performance at the Pep Rally, she is still determined to get her point across expressing “I don’t care about industry stuff like a fake image or being MJ famous, I just want to do what I love to do.”

This Virgo who gets most her of musical inspiration from personal experiences with her family and friends, distinguishes herself musically by describing her sound to fit in a genre between Pop and R&B rather than a typical one. Students here at Morgan love her for her covers of song ballads, including her most recent for Kelly Rowland’s “Ice,” which she debuted on her YouTube page and brought in more than 5,000 views. Although soul is where her heart is she also shows an interest in the more performance and writing aspect of it all rather than just her voice. What is Milan’s biggest dream? “Planning and having a huge concert where everything is just amazing, that will be the day that’s like lighting the candle,” said the songstress.

Overall, the Miss Maya Milan has never stopped striving to accomplish her goals. She has not only influenced her audience here at Morgan but is also creating a buzz in the industry. She has an upcoming show in Manhattan Oct.19 Hosted by Ashanti and her album “Milan Mode” that features Alumni rap artist Sunni Mone is already being waited for by her loyal fans but new mentors in the industry such as Lil Mo.

Twitter: @MilanMusic | **Youtube:** TheMayaMilan

Downloads: mayamilan.com and camp.com | soundcloud.com (search Maya Milan)



PHOTOGRAPH BY ZAHARA JOHNSON

Chronicles of a sneakerhead

By ZAHARA JOHNSON
Spokesman Staff Writer

“Sneaker-head” culture came about in the late 1980’s and continues to thrive and grow in the twenty-first century. Many of its followers believe sneakers are more than an accessory, but a deep form of expression. Keenan Woods of Morgan State is a devoted follower in this market.

Woods, a senior psychology major at Morgan State University, has had an interest in sneakers since he was a small child. He never comprehended what it was about shoes that lured him in, but once it did, there was no turning back. “It’s the mystique of the shoe that’s just so different from any other article of clothing,” said Woods. “Honestly, it’s really hard to explain.”

Growing up, Woods had no male figure to glorify. His idol quickly became the Fresh Prince, a main character in the 90s sitcom “Fresh Prince of Bel-Air” played by Will Smith. “He [the Fresh Prince] was my role model growing up. My mom is from West Philly so all she would do was watch the Fresh Prince of Bel-Air all the time,” said Woods. “I wanted to be like him because I didn’t have that many male role models in my life and he just had all types of dope sneakers.”

Those who are not into collecting may think it is an aimless and money-wasting hobby that takes up essential space, but for Woods collecting is a way of life. “The

art of collecting sneakers is much deeper than the naive human mind can first comprehend,” said Woods.

Woods isn’t like a typical shoe shopper. He doesn’t wait in long lines to buy sneakers, nor does he agree with the current trends that buying sneakers has plagued on the urban community. “It’s not what it used to be. It’s almost disgusting. People are waiting outside for like two days before a shoe comes out. It’s like; you don’t have work, kids, or school to go to? It’s sick when a culture thinks that it’s okay to miss work or school for a product,” said Woods. He has never waited outside for the release of a shoe. Instead, he orders exclusive footwear online or seeks out what he wants at sneaker conventions.

Although his love for sneakers is no secret, conversations limited to the latest sneaker releases are not ideal topics for Woods. “People come up to me to have conversations about sneakers but honestly, I don’t really want to talk about that. I just want to talk about other stuff.” Woods jokingly added. “When I see people I ask, ‘Hey what’s up? How’s your mom?’ And they always bring up shoes! I’m like; you don’t want to know how my mom is doing? Do we really just have to talk about sneakers?”

Woods currently owns around 80 pairs of shoes and insists that he still has a long way to go. “Real sneaker-heads and people who have been doing this for a while, to them, even 100 pairs is still small.”

Head barb Nicki Minaj takes on American Idol

By JASMINE DIXON
Spokesman Staff Writer

Self proclaimed “Head Barbie” and wig crazed Nicki Minaj has announced that she will be taking on a new role as a judge on the popular entertainment and contestant show American Idol.

Although there is much speculation as to whether or not the 29-year-old hip-hop artist is qualified for the position, American Idol is sure that she is the perfect pick. According to CNN.com, the official announcement from American Idol noted, “Minaj became the first female solo artist to have seven singles simultaneously on the Billboard Hot 100 chart.” Minaj, who is signed to Cash Money record label, “is someone who represents a different side of the music industry, who has now crossed into mainstream culture with her unique artistry, style and flair,” it continued.

Minaj, who is known for her confidence and outgoing personality, was surprisingly on the fence about joining the cast for American Idol. However, she quickly realized that what she feared was what got her where she is today. “Of course I had doubts but I had to realize that my fears of doing the show came a lot from what I thought people would say. I had to really think and realize that a lot of decisions I’ve made in my career, people thought I was f***king crazy and I made them, and I continue to make the hard decisions. I continue to make the decisions that people don’t have the balls to make and that’s what separates me from everybody else... this is just gonna’ be another tough decision that Nicki Minaj makes... I’m very, very excited. I can’t wait for my Barbz to watch,” said Minaj in an interview with MTV News.

American Idol’s twelfth season debuts January 2013. Other hosts include Mariah Carey, the bestselling female recording artist of all time; Randy Jackson, a Grammy Award winning producer; and Keith Urban, a four-time

Grammy Award winner who has sold more than 15 million albums.

Although rumors have been surfacing that Minaj and Carey had been beefing on set, the two stars were quick to deny any allegations. “How are we gonna feud in two days? Let the feud take a little longer to spread out,” joked Carey in a press conference. “It’s fun. It’s music. It’s singing. It’s laughter,” she added. Minaj reportedly nodded her head and agreed.

Nonetheless Minaj is happy to have the opportunity to serve as a judge on American Idol but makes it clear that she would not be able to act as a contestant. When asked if she was starting out today would she try out for American Idol, Minaj said, “No, I wouldn’t. It’s very very difficult to be picked apart. I have to give it to the people that do these shows -- it takes a lot of heart, it takes guts, that rejection thing is heavy.”

In her interview with MTV News, Minaj said, “It’s a milestone for me. It’s a milestone for hip-hop. It’s a milestone for young black women. Has there ever been a black woman judging on the show? This is a show that 20 million people watch so I feel like we should be represented on that show and I’m very proud of my decision to do it.”

Yet TMZ obtained footage of the divas Minaj and Carey in a heated argument during auditions in Charlotte, North Carolina on Oct. 2. In the video Minaj is heard shouting, ‘I told them I’m not f**kin’ putting up with her f**kin’ highness over there.’ After the video aired, Carey went on the Barbara Walters show, stating she did not feel comfortable after hearing Minaj made gun threats. The rapper took her responses to Carey on Twitter. “Hey yAll. Lets just say nicki said smthn about a gun. People will believe it cuz she’s a black rapper. Lmao. I’ll then hit up Barbara n milk it,” said Minaj in tweet. The two plan to continue their run on American Idol for now.

Morgan fosters relationships with the community

By MANYI ABANGMA
Spokesman Staff Writer

With a continued effort to grow the future and lead the world, Morgan State University has partnered with residents, businesses, public officials and other investors in the community to bring change to the Northeast Baltimore region. On Saturday, Oct. 27, members of the university along with Northeast Baltimore neighborhoods gathered in the Calvin and Tina Tyler Ballroom in the University Student Center to kick-off the

leader from each of the organizations and businesses in attendance led the discussions and asked participants what their thoughts and concerns were. After three rounds, each station was brought back as a whole to communicate the findings.

Discussion topics included Healthy Families, Public Safety, Workforce and Economic Development, Education and Youth Development, Sustainable Environment, Livable Viable Neighborhoods, and Culture, Art, Recreation and Entertainment. Among those topics, some of the issues that came

“This is a real opportunity for the community and Morgan to really maximize this effort to improve the Northeast Baltimore community”

Morgan Community Mile. Morgan State University President, David Wilson, opened the event by explaining the strategic plan for the Morgan Community Mile initiative. “Our continued growth has to be married...to the growth, vibrancy, stability, productivity, competitiveness, and the way we live the good life in our neighborhoods. And that’s what this is designed to do,” said Wilson. He went on to outline five strategic goals for building the Morgan brand and reiterated the importance of having the community involved in the process.

Mary Anne Akers, Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning, followed the president’s remarks by describing the impact that the plan would have on those involved and addressing the school’s hopes of being a model for other institutions to follow. A raffle was played, before opening the floor to discussions. At each end of the room were different stations named after the general topics that were up for discussion in the strategic planning process. A community

up were communication and awareness of available resources, building unity and opening the lines of communication between communities, and taking into account the life that children in the Northeast are living in order to make improvements.

“This is a real opportunity for the community and Morgan to really maximize this effort to improve the Northeast Baltimore community,” said Linda Stewart, a resident of Northwood, in response to what she got out of the event. “There are so many great assets here at Morgan, that I think need to be uncovered and by working together... I think we can just be stronger in how we improve the quality of life here.”

The event, hosted by Community and Economic Development Director, Ellis Brown, included a community fair, faculty and student project displays, and allowed for a dialogue covering the critical issues within the Morgan Mile. The day kicked-off a series of many more meetings set to take place before the unveiling of a concrete plan in the spring of 2013.

SPORTS

NBA 2K13 reigns visually in the video game market

By ANTONIO MARTIN
Spokesman Staff Writer

It's that time of the year again. As school settles in, fall coats come out and cuffing season creeps in on every single person's mind, guys need something to manage their competitive spirits. Whether it is a recreational league or casual game console playing, men need something divergent from the usual sport teams trash talk.

One of the most popular games hit the market last Tuesday, NBA 2K13, giving fans and students a reason to miss class for a day or two. All jokes aside, the game is justifiably anticipated, with production from rap icon, Jay-Z, and 2K sports' viable efforts to model the sport many couldn't live without.

NBA 2K13 rules as such because of the fluid graphics, stunning presentation, solid broadcast team and a plethora of game modes it presents for the audience. The idea behind any successful sports game is to mirror, as best you can, the real-life sport being showcased. In doing this, developers convince the fan that their experience reflects what is seen in the league's action today.

"I value a game more when you can recognize that the creators honestly designed critically a game that can serve in place of the happenings in a professional game situation," said Malcolm Higgins, an avid game player. "You don't want to waste your time and money with a game that is extreme fantasy."

Last year game's debut was overshadowed by the National Basketball Association lockout that lasted throughout the summer and ended in early December, on Christmas Day. This year the basketball season will certainly

begin as scheduled, and this game is needed to heighten excitement or at least hold people over until the real games are under way.

Three of the world's most talented athletes and unique specimens grace the cover, together, leading the charge for a new age of superstars. Blake Griffin, Kevin Durant and Derrick Rose all display their signature finish on the face of one of the most anticipated games of this decade.

From the shoes of your favorite player, to the sweat of his arch nemesis, this game can serve as a great getaway from an afternoon of studying or be the perfect replacement friend for a rainy or dead night in the dormitory. While playing the game, the user is sure to recognize the adjustments 2K sports developers made to elevate the experience.

With songs like "Run this Town", Kanye West "Mercy" and "Ima Boss (instrumental version)," Jay-Z gives the game a true club vibe that encourages you to keep on playing. There's also the additional, highly debated flopping button that sends loyal users and fans into an uproar in an instance.

"I understand you want to depict the actual game as much as possible," said Keenen Orie, a Morgan State student and past supporter of video games. "But adding the art or act of unnecessary flopping gives me a reason to stop playing as much as I would without it."

NBA2K13 serves as a great appetizer to one of the most anticipated basketball seasons ever. Fans of the game should prepare for a "super team" driven season with stars aligned together, much like the cover, for an epic finish.

Crown the king

By NICK BEDFORD
Spokesman Staff Writer

For the first time in 45 years there has been a Triple Crown winner in Major League baseball. Miguel Cabrera of the Detroit Tigers placed his name in the record books with the closing game of the season becoming the 15th player in major league history to win the Triple Crown.

Cabrera lead the American League with a .330 batting average, 139 RBIs and 44 homeruns. For those who are unfamiliar with the term, the Triple

locker room following the game. "I was very thankful for the fans here in Kansas City and it was a great moment in my life."

The title was cherry on top of a phenomenal regular season put together by Cabrera—and he's not done yet. The Detroit Tigers have clinched the American League Central and look to ride the bat of their slugger into the playoffs. He now has his focus squarely on winning his second World Series ring, which would be his first with the Tigers.

The Tigers' star is also in a dead heat

"I was very thankful for the fans here in Kansas City and it was a great moment in my life."

Crown is accomplished when a player leads his league in batting average, home runs, and RBIs.

It is one of the most difficult things to do offensively in a 162 game seasons. That's why we rarely see it done. Cabrera joined the likes of Hall of Famers Jimmie Foxx, Frank Robinson, Ty Cobb and Mickey Mantle to win the title in the American league. He is the first player to win it since Red Sox Hall of Famer Carl Yastrzemski did in 1967. In fact, Cabrera's numbers were even better than Yastrzemski's; he batted .326, with 121 RBIs and 44 homeruns.

Crowds gave Cabrera a standing ovation in Kansas City and teammates embraced him as he walked into the visiting dugout in the 4th inning of the season's last game. "It's unbelievable, I can't describe how I am feeling right now," said Cabrera to reporters in the

with Angel's rookie phenom Mike Trout for the A.L. MVP award. Trout finished the year with a .326 average, 30 homeruns and 83 RBI. He also led all rookies with 49 steals. If Trout were to win the award, Cabrera would be named with baseball Hall of Famers Lou Gehrig, Ted Williams and Joe DiMaggio as Triple Crown winners who did not win the award in the same season. That's still some pretty good company.

Justin Verlander, the Tigers' ace pitcher, had nothing but the best to say about his teammate after the game: "We are all kind of in shock. It was an honor to be able to watch this season. I think some of us had to tell him how big of a deal it was. He's the best player on the planet."

Whether Cabrera wins the MVP or not, his name will remain in the history books forever for having one of the best offensive seasons of all time.

NBA early season top five

By NICK BEDFORD
Spokesman Staff Writer

1. Miami Heat- LeBron James and Dwayne Wade look to repeat as champions this year coming off a remarkable run last June defeating the highly talented OKC Thunder in the NBA Finals. James is coming off one of the greatest summers in NBA history having won his first NBA title, earned his third NBA MVP award and an Olympic gold medal. The Heat have made essential off-season moves acquiring shooting guard Ray Allen from the Boston Celtics and Rashard Lewis from the Washington Wizards. With the Heat adding Allen and Lewis, their bench got a much-needed boost. They will make another strong run at an NBA championship as King James looks to steam roll his way back into the finals for a third straight season.

2. Los Angeles Lakers- The Lakers made a splash this offseason acquiring the best big man in the game Dwight Howard from the Orlando Magic. They also added two time NBA MVP Steve Nash and former NBA sixth man of the year Antwan Jamison. This offseason could not have been any better for Kobe Bryant entering his 17th season in the league. This year is championship or bust for the new look LA Lakers.

3. Oklahoma City Thunder- The Thunder, who held the second best record in all of the NBA last season, came up short to the dominating Miami Heat in the Finals last season. The defending Western Conference Champions have a chip on their shoulder after losing (4-1) to the Heat last year. They return last years NBA scoring champion Kevin Durant and the electrifying Russell Westbrook but were unable to re-sign last year sixth man of the year James Harden. The Thunder traded Harden to the Houston Rockets in a six-player deal which sent Harden to Houston and guards Jeremy Lamb

and Kevin Martin to OKC. Hopes of a championship may be out of reach now losing such a key player to the young core of the Thunder.

4. San Antonio Spurs- The Spurs had the best record in the NBA last season and seems to get better with age. With point guard Tony Parker and Manu Ginobili still playing at a high level, the Spurs should make some noise in June as they look to compete for another NBA championship.

5. Boston Celtics- The "Old" Celtics got a lot younger this offseason. The Celtics, who lost to the Miami Heat in seven games in the Eastern Conference Finals last season got younger and more athletic. The Celtics drafted Ohio State power forward Jared Sullinger and picked up veteran guard Jason Terry through free agency. Boston also added the very versatile guard Courtney Lee who adds depth to the Celtics bench. This may be Kevin Garnett and Paul Pierces last stab at a title run before they are enshrined into the Basketball Hall of Fame.

Sleeper Pick: Los Angeles Clippers

The Clippers are no surprise anymore this season returning arguably the best point guard in the game Chris Paul and the "Blake Show" Blake Griffin. The Clippers have re-acquired former L.A. Laker Lamar Odom to put more weapons around CP3. The Clippers also picked up veteran guard Grant Hill who should help out tremendously on the defensive side of the ball as well as add depth to their bench. I'm predicting "Lob City" to meet the new look Lakers in the Western Conference finals. The young Clippers are no longer the laughing stock of the NBA. They have proven that they are serious contenders in the Western Conference.

EDITORIAL

The new look NBA

By SAM OFORI
Spokesman Staff Writer

After King James and the Heat's royal season, NBA franchises have been in a frenzy to maintain balance in the league. With the addition of sharp shooters Ray Allen and Rashard Lewis (although some may disagree with Lewis) the Heat are still getting a lot of praise this season.

However, the Lakers looked to spoil that repeat by bringing a superhero to Hollywood. Dwight Howard, also known as Superman, joined the Lakers this season, pushing the team's defense into high gear. It seems like the Lakers are looking to dethrone the champs with veterans Steve Nash and Antawn Jamison, who have also been added to the roster.

With all the hype surrounding the Lakers, the Thunder have been flying under the radar. As James Harden has taken his talents to Houston in exchange for Kevin Martin and Jeremy Lamb, many think the Thunder have taken a step back. I'm sure Kevin Durant and Mr. Westbrook will have something to say about that.

The Knicks and the Nets are two interesting cases as well. The Knicks have revamped their roster with the acquisitions of veteran players Marcus Camby, Jason Kidd, Ronny Brewer, Raymond Felton, Kurt Thomas and Rasheed Wallace. All of these men provide capable leadership for the Knicks. But at the end of the day the Knicks will only go as far as Carmelo can take them. This is the year that he must earn his superstar title.

The Nets are a little different. They added Joe Johnson, who's been an underachieving star in the opinion of most. By pairing him with all-stars Deron Williams and Gerald Wallace, many expect the Nets to make some noise in the East.

Teams like the 76ers, Nuggets and the Pacers are all scary teams in the NBA. The 76ers have added Andrew Bynum, which gives them a top two center to patrol the paint. They have also quietly added depth to the wing with the addition of Nick Young and Jason Richardson. Pacers are bringing back the same team as last year, and with one year of chemistry they'll look to make an Eastern Conference Finals run.

Depending on the progression of JaVale McGee,

Denver could be a top three team in the West. Since the Nuggets are one of the deepest teams in the league, the addition of Andre Iguodala not only bolsters their perimeter defense, but it adds athleticism and veteran leadership to their squad.

Both the Spurs and Celtics are the same age as the NBA, and still both will contend in the playoffs. The Celtics added Leandro Barbosa, Courtney Lee and Jason Terry, providing legitimate depth in the team's backcourt.

The Clippers and Grizzlies will both compete in the West, and the Grizzlies have brought back the same team as last year. With their core being together for some years now, it's put up or shut up time for them. On the other hand, the Clippers have revitalized their roster, adding Grant Hill, Jamal Crawford, Lamar Odom, Willie Green and Ronny Turiaf. They will be looking to make a strong finals push this year.

Teams like Minnesota, Golden State, Houston, Cleveland and Atlanta are all making playoff pushes this year. My finals prediction is Lakers beat Miami in 7 games. Since I'm a Laker fan, some may call that wishful thinking. Let's see what this season brings!

HOMECOMING



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF MSU STUDENT MEDIA

Homecoming thriller: Bears lose in final seconds

By SHANELL STARLING
Spokesman Staff Writer

The crowd went crazy, the band played louder than ever before, but yet another game came down to the last seconds. Morgan State played on defense and tried to stop the North Carolina Central Eagles. In 4th down, the eagles decided to go for the win.

With 25.6 seconds left, what appeared to be a homecoming triumph turned into a homecoming defeat in a blink of an eye. NCCU scored a touchdown and took the 24-20 lead.

The energy and attitude that the players had coming into the game was unexplainable. This is biggest games of the year, and one of the biggest stages they will perform on during the regular season.

Chris Flowers, who was named National Kickoff Returner of the Week by the College Football Performance Awards the week before homecoming

game, predicted the atmosphere on Saturday afternoon would be live and full of energy. "It's going to be live, we're ready to get this W and continue on this winning streak." said Flowers prior to the loss on homecoming day.

Coming into the homecoming game both teams had a MEAC record of 2-0 and an overall record of 3-2, so from kickoff there was no doubt that this game wasn't going to come down to the final possession and seconds.

In the 2nd half is where the struggling and adversity were displayed for the Bears. They came out only scoring a field goal in the 2nd half, compared to scoring two touchdowns in the 1st half.

With minutes left to play in the 4th quarter, everyone had faith in our bears, even alumni players who came to the game to support the team. Captain Micah Ramseur, who was a member of the Morgan State football team in 2000 and the graduating class of 2002 had no doubt that his bears were going to pull this win off. "It's was a

close game, I thought we were going to be able to pull it out, the defense played really strong so, I thought if they could've held the last series we should've been able to win the game, at least by a field goal," said Captain Ramseur.

During NCCU's last offensive possession that lead to a their victory, it took them 7 plays, 47 yards and only 2:01 minutes in to score a touchdown. Eagles quarterback Jordan Reid had a sensational game completing 28 of 38 passes and throwing for 261 yards.

Bears running back Travis Davidson also had a solid game, rushing for 105 yards and scoring two touchdowns with just one fumble. Davidson is now averaging 103 yards per game.

Although some people may be disappointed with the way the result of the game ended, this isn't the end of our season. We have much more challenging teams to take on if we want to grab that MEAC championship title.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF MSU STUDENT MEDIA

Ronald K. Bethea, CEO and Founder of The Black Sports Legends Foundation, Shows off commemorative plaque of legendary coach Earl Banks, which he donated to Morgan State University from the 1993-1994 SBN Black College All-American Commemorative Plaque Collection.

Acknowledging our history, to build a better future

By SHANELL STARLING
Spokesman Staff Writer

Ziggy Marley recorded a song in 1989 called "Tomorrow People," and in this song he said, "If you don't know your past, you don't know your future." People do not understand how relevant this quote is in today's society, especially for African Americans. Everyone is so consumed with technology and social acceptance that they don't take time to make the important things important.

Not only is this a problem everywhere

around the world, but most importantly it occurs right here, on our very own campus. This year, homecoming was full of different and exciting events. One event that was taken place during homecoming was the Black Sports Legend Foundation Film Festival. This event was held in the Student Center Theater on Saturday, October 13th, at 10:30 am, a few hours before the homecoming football game. The purpose of this event was to remember, honor and celebrate the history and legacy of the CIAA and MEAC championship

football team.

During this festival there were special tributes and memory greetings for the black legends that came from Morgan State, including Eddie P. Hurtt, Earl C. Banks, Benjamin Eaton, Earl Davis and a great deal of other tremendous athletes.

There were also legendary football films and game highlights shown during this film festival, like the 1968 Morgan vs. Grambling Game, "Papa Bear- Earl C. Banks Story" and "The Ten Bears" film highlights. It was a great site to see the alumni come out and enjoy this event, especially when the highlights were being shown. Some of the alumni football members were playing in those specific games.

Although it is important that the alumnus were in attendance, they are already aware of the history of different sports at Morgan State. The people who weren't in attendance that should have been were current students and student athletes. They should want to learn more about the athletes that came before them and the different accomplishments, so that they can strive for greatness.

Ron Bethea, who is the founder of the Black Sports Legend Foundation, was disappointed in the turnout of students who came to support the film festival during homecoming week. What's the reason for low student participation? "History has no value," said Mr. Bethea.

Black Sports Legend Foundation is very passionate about bringing the history of HBCU sports to the public, and with his persistence and determination it will get done. "All of our schools have a story to be told, and the Morgan story will be told," said Mr. Bethea.

Ron Bethea and his foundation have a great deal of things planned for the future. They look to collect \$150,000 worth of donations from numerous corporations in order to make their visions realities. For future film festivals they intend on making it a 3-day festival which would be free and include meet and greets, bringing huge sports legends back, hosting a banquet and a plethora of other wonderful ideas.

With the help of some sponsors, and the support of the HBCU families, there is no doubt that they will get it done. If students and athletes would support and help the foundation progress, it will help us, as students create our tomorrow.

Morgan spirit drives Homecoming

By INAYAH KHALIFAH
Spokesman Staff Writer

"It was a good game," said Dennis Edghill, 69, who graduated from Morgan 45 years ago and drove all the way from Brooklyn for Saturday's Homecoming game. "Morgan played until they were exhausted." Despite Morgan's loss, Edghill left with a look of pride on his face.

The game was close. It was tied at 20 with 25 seconds left, when North Carolina Central's tight end, hauled to the end zone. He refused to go down, evading tackle after tackle until making it to the end zone at Hughes Stadium. The final score was 24 - 20.

"They were tired and it showed," said Morgan State junior Ayanna Sharif, who showed her support showing by wearing the orange and blue colors. "They got too excited with the three point lead, and got relaxed and loss the game."

Still, even post-game, the atmosphere was one of excitement. The homecoming crowd was distracted from the loss by the many vendors and the visiting alumni. "Morgan is my school," said alumni Khady N-Diaye who was enjoying his day back on campus. "I show support no matter what. I am proud that I graduated from here, and I always come for homecoming."

The crowd remained for hours after the game ended. In fact, many people came after the game ended in order to share in the festivities of Homecoming and stayed until sunset. For Morgan students, family and alumni, Homecoming is about a lot more than the game.

The streets overflow with orange and blue at the Homecoming parade

By ODESSA MOHABEER
Spokesman Staff Writer

The crowd grew larger and larger as students, faculty and family gathered to proudly march down The Alameda for Morgan State University's annual Homecoming parade. The Morgan pride was apparent. Even children were dressed for the occasion in face paint and orange and blue. All student organizations along with a few local high school marching bands lined up with excitement to begin the parade.

The universities Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) Bear Battalion started the parade, marching ahead of all other participants. "I've been attending the Morgan State University Homecoming parade with the ROTC Bear Battalion going on three years now and it is always an exciting experience," says junior Andresa Turner.

The highlight of the parade, as it is every other year, is the royal court float. The float was decked out in orange and blue bleeding Morgan pride. Mr. and Misses Morgan State University alongside the relative members of the royal court waved to the crowd gently with their bright smiles. The neighbors from the surrounding area came out to support Morgan and were very receptive to the passing parade. As every organization passed, they waved

and smiled just as enthusiastically as the Mr. and Misses of feature organizations. "The parade was very well executed and it was my first experience," said junior Jordan Jackson, Miss's of the organization Females United To Uplift, Reshape and Educate (F.U.T.U.R.E). "Although it was early, it made me excited and happy that I went to Morgan."

The parade ended back at the MSU library on Cold Spring Ln. As each organization rode by, the royal court, the Student Government Association (SGA), along with the President David Wilson and other faculty applauded them. The marching bands from the local high schools and middle schools performed for the crowd. There were various vendors lined up selling food, drinks, t-shirts, and jewelry.

At the end of the parade, the crowd was able to mingle with the students and faculty who participated in the parade and continue different activities and prepare to attend the Homecoming football game. "I liked how everyone within the organizations came together with creativity, and the float with the royal court was really nice," explained Freshman Lamoni Taylor. It was her first time experiencing the Morgan Homecoming parade. "The parade was very good! I enjoyed it!"

Morgan daze

By ODESSA MOHABEER & JADA VANDERPOOL
Spokesman Staff Writers

Following Morgan State University tradition, the MSU Homecoming kicked off with the coronation of the Mr. and Misses Morgan State University. For the 2012-2013 academic year, Kaddeem Myrie and Tieshema Morgan have been crowned the Mr. and Misses of the university. "This is a moment I've been waiting for...after three years, a lot of work and support, it finally came true," said senior and Mr. Morgan Myrie.

Both Myrie and Morgan have played an important role in the royal court since their entry into the institution. They began as Mr. and Miss Freshman, and since then, they've moved up the royal court ladder, leading them straight to the titles they hold today.

Creating a coronation requires ideas and themes from the Mr. and Misses. This year, the coronation was titled "Morgan Daze," inspired by Spike Lee's 1988 movie School Daze. This year's theme was successfully brought to life with the help and dedication of Natasha Lewis, Akeem Croft, Shakema Cyrus and Gabrielle Cruz. "It was a wonderful experience for me," said Cyrus. "I was able to work with my peers and staff that I never worked with before." Cyrus was the assistant director of the coronation. Along with Lewis, she planned the remainder of the event, including the entrances of the Mr. and Misses, the organizing the dance rehearsal and arranging the participation of all student organizations involved.

The Morganettes opened the coronation dressed in MSU football jerseys. They reenacted the movie's popular scene "Good or Bad Hair."

"Performing was the best part," says

Morgan State sophomore Evelia Miller. "We finally got to show the audience the hours of practice [we did]. Everyone came together for one cause and was very supportive."

The show continued with the introduction of the royal court: Mr. Freshman Dimitri Callwood-Jackson and Miss Freshman Jillian Curry; Mr. Sophomore Marcus Patterson and Miss Sophomore Jasmine Garret; Mr. Junior Monzona Whaley and Miss Junior Isatu Samura; and Mr. Senior Joseph Harrison and Miss Senior Trinette Gross. The Mr. and Misses of all clubs and organizations followed them.

Morgan spirit was at a high as students cheered on the football team, the band and the cheerleaders before their big game weekend. Myrie walked onto the stage after a dance and band performance to Kanye West. Morgan then entered the stage after an act from the praise worship dancers.

Royal court assistant, Chante Webb, helped Miss Morgan run errands and planned the coronation ball alongside Brian Stewart. Overall she was happy with the final product. "I definitely think that this year's coronation reflected the personalities of Mr. and Miss Morgan," said Webb.

Students in the audience enjoyed the performance as well. "It was a very entertaining and well put together show," said Morgan State junior Darrel Walker. "It was a rewarding experience to see my line brother be crowned as Mr. Morgan."

For Miss Morgan it was a night to remember. "My vision was to have a fairytale coronation and it was definitely made into a reality," she said. "It was great to see all of my family and friends as well. Coronation night was absolutely amazing!" and friends as well. Coronation night was absolutely amazing!"

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The OBAMA Stance

By JADA VANDERPOOL
Spokesman Staff Writer

In this election, there are various issues that affect Morgan students. Take a closer look at where the newly elected President Obama stands on issues.

Jobs: Since in office, Obama has worked on the growth in jobs for the middle class. For 31 consecutive months there has been job growth and 5.2 million new private sector jobs. Moving forward, Obama plans to continue increasing jobs. This includes decreasing overseas outsources and bringing jobs back to the U.S., increasing manufacturing and exports and rebuilding America. He plans to eliminate tax breaks for companies that ship job overseas so that it is easier for like companies to hire Americans. He also wants to offer tax incentives for businesses to bring jobs back to America. Similar to Romney, Obama wants to open new markets for American goods and services.

Abortion: President Obama is pro-choice. He believes that a woman should be able to make her decision about abortion regardless of the reason, the ability to pay and the stage of pregnancy.

Same Sex Marriage: In May 2012, Obama changed his views on gay rights and same sex marriage and now supports it.

Marijuana Legalization: Despite speaking on his experience with marijuana as a young man in his autobiography, Obama made it clear that he did not believe legalizing marijuana would do anything for our economy.

Student Loans: Obama proposes to lower student debt. Under his plan in 2010, college graduates will pay back 10% of non-discretionary income on loans and are granted forgiveness after 20 years.

Health Care: In 2010, Congress passed the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare), which reforms national health care legislations in attempt to help more americans get insurance. It will take until 2014 for these reforms to be fully implemented. In Fall 2013 there will be a more competitive insurance marketplace where small business and individuals can buy affordable and qualified health benefit plans. In 2014, tax credits will become available for people with income between 100% and 400% of the poverty line who are not eligible for other affordable health coverage. If elected another term Obama will continue with his plan of affordable insurance for all.

Immigration: President Obama has sought to improve the immigration system in several ways. He has cracked down on undocumented immigrants and moved forward with deportation. He also has doubled the number of border patrol agents and extended the fencing on the border of Mexico to more than 600 miles. Yet in June 2012, the Obama Administration stated that the Department of Homeland Security would no longer seek the deportation of most illegal young immigrants. Under new policy, in August 2015 undocumented immigrants who are under age thirty and have been in the U.S. before age sixteen will not be deported. They will be eligible for two-year work permits which can be renewed. The president also stands for the passing of the DREAM Act (Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors). This bipartisan legislative act would grant citizenship to children of undocumented immigrants who are in college or went into the military and are of good moral character. Obama also supports E-Verify systems, which lets employers determine the citizenship status of possible employees, and higher penalties on employers who consciously hire undocumented employees.

Continued from page 1

he can implement his plan." The president had a tough time getting his agenda implemented due to Republican control of the House.

According to CNN reports, after the polls closed in key states the President had a 30 percent lead among young voters. Prior to elections, even some college campuses in Maryland showed support for the 2012 elections by hosting election events. On September 25, Coppin State University held a voter registration trying to generate interest and enthusiasm among young people, and registered hundreds of new voters. SGA Vice-President Rodrick Johnson says the "Rock the Vote" campaign was just the kickoff of events that led to several organizations on campus organizing voter registration drives up until the days approaching the election. Johnson said that during the Rock the Vote campaign student leaders at CSU used sample ballots to guide new voters through the voting process as well as hosting info sessions on how to better understand the ballots. Congressman Elijah Cummings delivered a speech during the event that also served as a pep talk to get young voters to the polls.

Chisa Copland, biology major at Towson University didn't seem to lose her enthusiasm in this year's election. In fact, she believes this is the most important election of her lifetime. "Everyone's vote matters at this point. Romney wants to change everything that is beneficial to minorities... I am voting for Obama because I feel like he can get this country back on its feet."

The Mailbox

Dear Morgan,

Why is it that students constantly have to sit and deal with the disgusting food being served to us in Rawlings Dining Hall? I mean is there really no actual way of improving the food choices provided to us besides giving us a canteen, Subway, and the new installation of Auntie Anne's? Speaking of which, it is already giving itself a bad name by making and serving undone pretzels. The prices are too darn high for them to serve some pretzels that aren't even all the way done. Overall, I just want to know why there is no Chick-Fil-A or Chipotle. I think many students can agree that there could be better food selections and a huge opportunity for the university to make some more money. Food for thought.

Signed,
Confused Calvin

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