

MOVE

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student newspaper

Any form of art is a form of power; it has impact, it can affect change – it can not only move us, it makes us move.— Ossie Davis

*“... when you step out onto North Avenue ... [you] don't feel safe ...,”
said Freshman Rodrick Johnson.*

A Look Inside Campus Crime

‘Most crimes perpetrated by those not enrolled at Coppin’

By: Kye Philips and LeClerc Darguin

Call it theft:

At Coppin State University, larcenies were up 50 percent, from 23 in 2007 to 46 in 2008. Several armed robberies were reported in the alley between the 2000 block of Ruxton Avenue and Wheeler avenues.

Larcenies citywide were up from 16,742 reported in 2007 to 17,230 in 2008.

The good news:

Everything else— from murder to rape to burglaries— seems to be on a downward trend.

“I think this campus is very, very safe,” said Admissions Counselor Reginald Mcteer.

Coppin Student Chantal Newell agreed. She said despite the fact that her bag had been stolen recently from the library, she doesn't believe that theft is a big problem on campus. Newell said she thinks “most students can be trusted— so I don't have a problem leaving my stuff around,” she said.

(Cont. pg. 4)

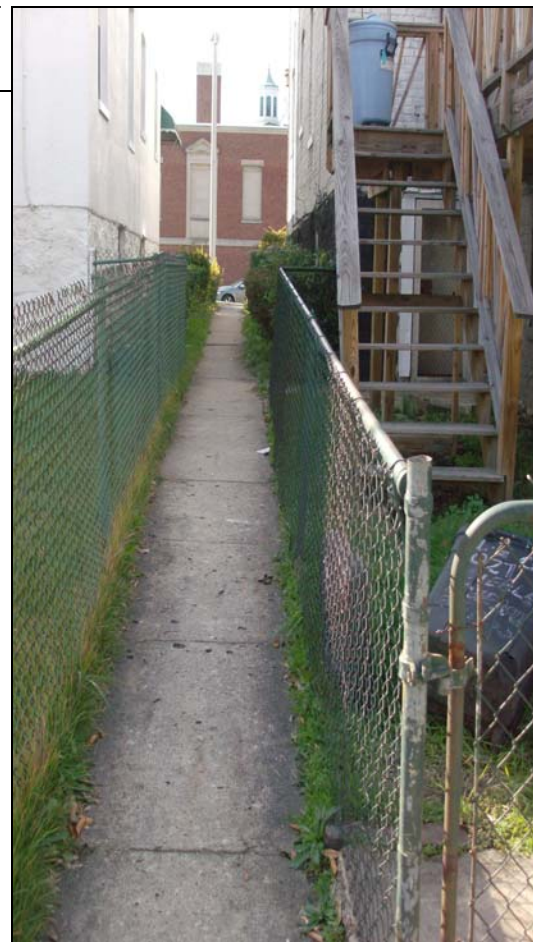


Photo by: Denise Garrett

Between Ruxton and Wheeler Aves, is it safe?

BOOKS OR BUST

By: Chantal Newell

Textbooks are expensive.

The average student spends \$700 to \$1,100 per semester on books, roughly 20 percent of tuition.

More and more Coppin students have decided to save money by buying their books online.

“I bought books online because I save at least \$150 or more, as opposed to the bookstore,” said Lynneeshia Harper, a junior.

Harper isn't the only one.

(Cont. on pg. 4)



Photo by: Denise Garrett

It Isn't Easy Going Green

By: Jennifer Martin

Coppin State University launched its Go-Green initiative, but some students don't know anything about it. Many just don't seem to care.

“I have no idea what you're talking about,” said Sesalie Johnson, a junior.

“I really don't care— for real,” said Student Vince Goldsberry.

Shaunte Cummings added, “... this is the problem with all students; they just don't care.”

Although the University is going green, few are aware of the initiative except faculty and administrators.

(Cont. pg. 2)



Photo by: Denise Garrett

Who's Afraid Of The Big Bad Flu?

By: Timothy Douglas

The majority of students surveyed on campus aren't taking precautions against the threat of swine flu.

“I've been hearing about the virus on the news, but I heard it's mild, so I'm not too worried about it,” said Lauren Davis.

“I don't want to become overly paranoid by the whole thing” (Cont. pg. 4)



Photo by: Denise Garrett

HBCUs enroll nearly one in every four African-American college students.

HBCUs IN THE GRAND SCHEME

By: Sunil Whittle

According to popular vote, HBCUs are not only relevant but also very important to today's young, black scholars.

“HBCUs are relevant because they provide a place for us to come together and learn in an environment that we are familiar with,” says Latrece Pinckney.

(Cont. pg. 3)

What's Inside

Life of an Athlete, pg. 2 : Student athletes have it harder than you think.

Did you make the list? pg. 2 : A shortage of student housing has Coppin officials talking about a third residence hall.

Through the trauma lens, pg. 3: The effects of childhood abuse can last a lifetime.

Coppin on the street, pg. 4: From football to registration to more majors, students speak out on change.

The Life of an Athlete: You Think You Know— You have no idea!

By: Jennifer Martin

Many people believe that athletes have it made.

They get all the scholarships, they get to turn in work late, and they can miss class whenever they want.

But what other students don't understand is that things are not always as they appear.

"We stress just as much as the next student," says Freshmen Baseball Player Lonnel Bush.

Juggling being an athlete on the road and doing well in school is not an easy task, according to Bush. He says being on the road is "no joke."

"Sometimes I'd rather be at school in class," Bush says. "You miss so much by not being there, and even though you're doing the assignments on the road it's still not the same because you don't understand everything."

Athletic Academic Advisor Angela Taylor says she understands the difficulties student athletes face when they miss classes.

"What we ask the students to do is to get their assignments from their professors," says Taylor. "This way, when we have study hall on the road, they can get their work done while away from the classroom."

Some people might argue athletes knew what they were getting into. But Junior Lakeyah Irving said she wouldn't mind trading places with a regular student.

"They don't know the half of what we go through as athletes," Irving says. "Five [a.m.] practices that last until 7:30. Eight [o'clock] class right after that.

"Don't forget about my 9:30 class after that. Not to mention homework and studying for other classes, and group assignments and projects I miss because I'm out of town."

During the MEAC, one student says the going gets really tough.

Says Senior Brian Chestnut. "You're there on a mission to win the championship, but you're missing mid-terms back at school.

"You pretty much know that when you get back to school your professors are going to work with you," says Chestnut.

"But there's always that one teacher who doesn't care and gives you problems." Ω



"... no school can house all of its students."

Daley Hall, one of three?

Photo by: Denise Garrett

GOING GREEN

(cont. from pg. 1)

We are just beginning as a university," said Dr. Monica E. Randell, associate vice president for public policy and government relations. "What we're trying to do is change the culture of how we do business."

Proposed changes include improved recycling efforts and utilizing green technology to reduce waste and cost expenditures. Randell added the campus is working on making communication "more paperless."

"I print on both sides of my paper, and I go through about 16,000 pieces of paper yearly," said Sports Information Director Roger MacAfee.

"Just about all of the paper is thrown away, but what we're thinking about doing is putting media guides on CDs instead of using so much paper."

According to MacAfee, this year is the first time in four years he's seen recycling bins in the Coppin Center.

The initiative also makes use of bicycles and electric-powered vehicles that leave a small carbon footprint. Campus Police Officer Barnes said he prefers to ride through campus and patrol on a bike.

"Being a bike patrol officer not only contributes to the green initiative, it also enhances the rapport we have with the staff, students, and faculty by increasing our visibility," said Barnes.

"We have a more one-on-one interaction with students than ever before," he added.

Recently, the University installed green tile made out of recycled glass in the Parlett L. Moore library. The new athletic facility is being built to be more energy sufficient.

"Going green isn't just about recycling," Randell added. "In fact, recycling is only a small part."

One student said meetings to raise awareness are needed "to get the students more involved."

But another asked: "If nobody knows, then are we really going green?" Ω

Officials say they are discussing a third residence hall.

Did you make the list?

By: Shane Weaver

Some leave, some find options, others stick it out—Coppin's housing-waitlist has its consequences.

According to Patrick Bailey, director of Residence Life, the campus' two dormitories, Daley and Dedmond halls, hold about 600 students.

"Less than 12 students remain on the waitlist," says Bailey. He added that the University housed more than 99 percent of its waitlist this semester.

But for Asia Adams, the wait was too long. Adams, a returning junior, said she had planned to live on campus this semester. She said all the paperwork was in, but she transferred because of the wait.

Sophomore Tyrell Thomas said he wasn't told that there was anything wrong with his paperwork, either.

Or his financial aid.

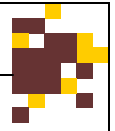
Thomas said after his freshman year, he planned to return. But now he says he's "trying to do online classes."

Kevin Williams, an out-of-state, returning sophomore, said he didn't get a room until September, so he had to find alternative housing.

According to Bailey, returning students get priority. "If a returning student isn't granted housing, 80% of the time that means they didn't do something."

Bailey suggested that returning students meet all deadlines in a timely manner, adding, "I know we're doing better than most other schools ... no school can house all of its students."

But Evens Louis, senior resident adviser at Dedmond Hall, said the waitlist could have more serious consequences, including "[reducing] Coppin's retention and graduation rate." Ω



On fried chicken Wednesday — every student with a meal plan is in the Cafeteria.
Photo by: Denise Garrett



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HBCUs in the Grand Scheme (cont. from pg. 1)

Sophomore Shanel Williams agrees. “I think HBCUs are relevant today because they are becoming as competitive as other school and producing successful members of society,” she says. “It gives us something to be proud of

“Historically Black Colleges/Universities are very relevant because of our history,” says senior Anthony Lynn. “Our cultural background— if kept and passed down— the struggle and where we come from is not lost so that we can have pride in our heritage.”

Today, there are 105 HBCUs in America. Founder of Coppin State University, Fanny Jackson Coppin was also one of the founders of the Philadelphia Institute, which was the forerunner of Cheney University, the first HBCU in existence.

Professor of Applied Psychology and Rehabilitation Counseling Dr. Elaine Howell says, “This is where we get our strength and rich culture. In addition, HBCUs provide a nurturing environment for African Americans to excel.”

Dr. Cynthia Neverdon-Morton, professor of History and Global Studies, says the way in which “material is presented puts the student at the center of the discussion” and helps them to “navigate from that viewpoint.”

Some international students, however, question the relevance of HBCU’s to students who aren’t African American.

Ana Sebescen said she felt they “serve to intensify the racial divide,” adding that HBCU’s might prevent Black students from “experiencing different cultures.”

International Student Christal Boxill said HBCUs “do not prepare students from predominantly black neighborhoods for the real world.”

History Professor Dr. Ibrahim Kargbo, a product of HBCUs for both undergraduate and graduate degrees, disagreed. He said HBCUs don’t cater to the African-American community. He said they also “host people from the Caribbean and as far as Eastern Europe.”

In a 2008 article on the subject, Michelle J. Nealy reported that despite accreditation and financial problems, low graduation rates, HBCU’s are “growing in popularity” and cites a study by the Thurgood Marshall College Fund.

According to the report, in 2002, public HBCUs enrolled 206,000 students; that number increased significantly by 2006, totaling 235,000.

Nealy said that although HBCUs comprise only 3 percent of American colleges and universities, they enroll nearly one in every four African-American college students. Ω

CORRECTION:

In the Spring 2009 issue the story “Like Serving Time” appeared to indicate that student residents are entitled to overnight visitation. This is incorrect. Residents are not entitled to overnight visitation

“Failure to thrive is a real problem that many victims encounter,” said Resident Counselor Christopher Thomas.

THROUGH THE TRAUMA LENS

By: Sunil Whittle

The machete whistled through the air, an extension of my father’s rage charting a very short course toward my head. I’d like to say that my life flashed before my eyes, but I was lost in the dark”

I am a college student, one month shy of my 25th birthday, and I wonder: When will I have my life figured out?

This is what college life is about, isn’t it— the opportunity to ‘find’ myself?

The question I think plagues many victims of child abuse throughout their lives is: When will I finally have it all figured out?

Resident Counselor at the University’s Center for Counseling and Student Development Christopher Thomas said, “A child under this kind of attack views life through a trauma lens.

“As such, they may try to express themselves in destructive ways since they are used to negative attention.”

So where does this leave the student on the journey of continuous improvement?

Physically I was no longer that little boy that ate fists, feet and fury for breakfast.

In my mind, however, I still felt like him: just out of the shower, that little, chubby boy in a threadbare towel that was just too small.

For a student who’s suffered child abuse it may mean a very hard time.

According to Darlene Barriere, a violence and abuse prevention educator, a major emotional effect of physical abuse is “the refusal to try anything new for fear of failure, and therefore [the individual] avoids receiving even more negative messages about themselves.”

Thomas parallels Barriere’s views. “In an effort to protect themselves from rejection and failure, some victims of child abuse do not lend themselves to new experiences,” he said. “While this behavior might not be rational, it’s a common means of self-preservation.

“Failure to thrive is a real problem that many victims encounter,” said Thomas.

In his piece entitled *Child Abuse: An Overview*, published in the Find Counseling.com mental health journal, learning specialist C.J. Newton said the effects of child abuse can include academic as well as other difficulties.

“Victims of child abuse carry around deep scars,” Thomas added. “This can make forming relationships difficult and can adversely affect academic performance.”

Although child abuse has major effects on persons all the way into their adult lives, there are methods of not only surviving, but thriving.

Some include: finding a counselor, a mentor or someone that can give positive support; making use of child abuse hotlines; and talking to someone.

“The most important thing is education,” said Thomas. “Then the abused will not develop the stigma that they are bad and at fault.”

Familiar thoughts pierce the peace of the morning, like the dorsal fin of a shark streaming through dark waters.

When will I cast off this burden?

When will I be back in step with the world?Ω



A Look Inside Campus Crime

(cont. from pg.1)

From the University's Public Safety Office, Officer Kenneth Barnes said because the campus is nearly enclosed, it "enjoys a lower-than-average incidence of crime, which is good for being in the hood."

Barnes added, "Most of the crimes committed on campus are perpetrated by those not enrolled at Coppin."

In 2008, 10 burglaries on campus were reported, compared to 11 in 2007. But burglaries reported in the city have spiked, up from 7,381 in 2007 to 7,832 in 2008.

The University reported two forcible sex offences since 2007—one of which occurred on campus— though 46 registered sex offenders live in the Coppin Heights area, extending from North Fulton to Hilton Parkway and from Gwens Falls to Easter Wood Park.

This compares to the University of Maryland, College Park, which reported 16 offenses in 2007.

"A sex offender would have to go above and beyond to get away with that here," said Mcteer, who said he once worked for he sex offender unit at the Woodbourne Foundation.

The University's figures reflect a larger downward trend. The FBI reports that murders are at their lowest level since 1999. Baltimore reported 234 murders last year, compared to 282 the previous year. Rape was down from the 146 reported in 2007 to 137 last year.

The University's website cautions students to be aware of their surroundings and to park in a well-lighted area. Students are encouraged not talk on a cell phone until they arrive at their destination.

"I don't think we have a crime issue on campus, but when you step out onto North Avenue, then, yes. I don't feel safe ...," said Freshman Rodrick Johnson. Ω

BIG BAD FLU (Cont. from pg. 1)

"Everyone should be taking as many precautions as possible."

The Centers for Disease Control said its expecting to see a large number of cases of the virus this flu season, starting October 4. The latest reports anticipate the U.S. to see about 9,000 cases this winter.

According to a spokesperson from the University's Community Health Center, as of Oct. 22, no students had come to receive the flu shot. But the Center said it's prepared, having registered with the CDC to give out vaccinations if needed.

"We have already prepared for what could possibly happen," said Alise Davis, a clinic manager.

The University also has supplied buildings on the campus with hand sanitizers located at the elevators. In the Health and Human Services Building, masks are available as well as tissues and gloves for anyone displaying flu-like symptoms.

"To help cut down the chance on contracting the virus everyone should beef up their hygiene and stick to old-school remedies to keep our immune systems healthy," said Annette Knight, nurse practitioner.

Although most students don't seem concerned, a few are taking the virus seriously.

"Everyone should be taking as many precautions as possible," said Whitney Lowery, a student and pharmacy technician. "It's no joke out here. I have stopped shaking hands and hugging people. I don't want to get sick."

A few students said they've had flu shots administered elsewhere.

"My mother made sure me and my siblings got flu shots, and I have started to take vitamins to pump up my immune system," said James DeVance, a senior.

A report from AARP said vaccination will be administered in two separate doses and will require at least two separate visits.

A tip from the Center is for all students to consider themselves "contagious" and to get checked out for even the smallest symptoms.

The virus first infected humans in the 1918 Spanish Flu Pandemic. It is estimated that between 50 and 100 million people died.

Since 1918 more outbreaks of the virus have been recorded, including a small outbreak on Fort Dix in 1976, the Russian Flu in 1977, and an outbreak in pigs in 1998.Ω

COPPIN ON THE STREET

What would you change about CSU?

The registration process and finding information is very difficult. Departments need to be in sync to help advise students effectively.



Sharon Bass—Junior



Add a football team. Football is the American Sport.

Add a football team . I'm tired of going to other schools for football. I want to support my own.



Natalie Scott—Sophomore

There are no fun activities on campus



Devon Henderson—Freshman

For real, parking! I've had more than one incident with my car as a commuter. There also needs to be more majors to choose from like Fashion and Art.



Zakiyyah Shah— Senior

Photos by: Denise Garrett

BOOKS OR BUST (Cont. from pg. 1)

Senior Marilyn Scott said this is the first year she's bought her textbooks online but "would do it again" for the savings.

The cost of textbooks has gone up at least four times since 1994. That has caused Congress to take notice.

Today nearly a dozen states have stepped in with legislation aimed at reducing textbook prices.

The 2009 Maryland General Assembly approved and the Governor signed into law The College Textbook Competition and Affordability Act of 2009. The purpose of the new law is to control the costs of college textbooks.

Although online purchases are cheaper, some students like Tyresa German said they "prefer the bookstore because I receive vouchers."

Vouchers backed by financial aid are one way to get textbooks when students need them. Other students have found more creative alternatives.

"I reuse books, ask my teachers and ask friends to borrow books from other students," said Sophomore Shane Weaver.Ω