STATE OF THE COLLEGE

Franklin’s Goals Include Increasing Graduation Rate, Raising $125 Million

By Add Seymour Jr.

OVER THE NEXT SIX YEARS, President Robert M. Franklin ‘75 wants to see two-thirds of graduates get advanced degrees, raise overall graduation rate to 80 percent, explore starting a master’s degree program and, most importantly, raise $125 million. “It’s time for Morehouse to step up,” Franklin said during his State of the College Address on April 27 in the Bank of America Auditorium. “It’s time for great colleges,” he said.

Franklin outlined the College’s challenges and plans during his speech, which was sponsored by the Morehouse College National Alumni Association and its Atlanta chapter. “We believe in Atlanta that an informed alumni body is an engaged alumni body,” said Brandon Banks ’06, Atlanta chapter president.

Members of the president’s leadership team – vice presidents Andre Bertrand ’76 (Campus Operations) and Phillip Howard 87 (Institutional Advancement), chief financial officer Gwen Sykes and provost Weldon Jackson ’72 – were on hand to answer questions from the audience.

But the President’s vision of the future dominated the evening. Franklin said international financial research firms have downgraded Morehouse’s financial outlook from “stable” to “negative” because of the tough fundraising climate and drops in endowment and enrollment.

The College’s six-year, $125-million capital campaign will address fundraising and endowment concerns, though Morehouse’s endowment (which is $120 million) is one of only five HBCUs with more than $110 million. Financial research firms have downgraded Morehouse’s financial outlook from “stable” to “negative” because of the tough fundraising climate and drops in endowment and enrollment.

The College’s six-year, $125-million capital campaign will address fundraising and endowment concerns, though Morehouse’s endowment (which is $120 million) is one of only five HBCUs with more than $110 million. Financial research firms have downgraded Morehouse’s financial outlook from “stable” to “negative” because of the tough fundraising climate and drops in endowment and enrollment.

Franklin also said the campaign, along with increased alumni giving, will allow the College to increase the number of faculty-endowed chairs and raise the compensation level for faculty and staff. The President said within the campaign period he wanted to build a new student center, see the Morehouse Male Initiative achieve national stature and perhaps start a new masters degree program in leadership studies.

In the immediate future, Franklin told alumni that the College’s size and character would be the subject of conversations among members of the Board of Trustees. They will talk about whether the College should remain a liberal arts institution or focus on pre-professional programs. They also will consider whether the student body should remain around 2,400 or be increased to as many as 3,500.

Franklin challenged alumni to be part of the “futuring” of Morehouse. “This is what alumni do at great colleges,” he said.

COMMENCEMENT/REUNION 2011

Ifill and Ogletree to Deliver Commencement Addresses

Four years ago during fall 2007, President Robert Franklin ’75 returned to his alma mater to realize his vision of renaissance at Morehouse. At the same time, approximately 500 young men entered the campus for the first as men of Morehouse.

On May 15, Franklin and those same young men – what many call the Renaissance Class – will celebrate a successful four years at Morehouse during the College’s 127th Commencement ceremony.

The class of 2011 includes young men who will work on Wall Street, attend graduate schools such as Stanford and Harvard, and work in their communities.

One of those graduates, Cameron L. Yarbier ’11, will deliver the valedictory address as the top scholar. Yarbier, an accounting major, finishes at Morehouse with a 4.0 grade point average.

More than 10,000 people will fill the Century Campus as journalist Gwen Ifill and Harvard Law School professor Charles Ogletree both deliver commencement addresses.

Ifill is a veteran political journalist and moderator/managing editor of the PBS political roundtable talk show, “Washington Week.”

Ogletree, who is also a veteran civil rights attorney, taught both President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama at Harvard.

Franklin said, “It’s time for Morehouse to address the marketplace of ideas, and thereby honor the legacy of our esteemed former presidents, as well as the shared aspirations of our alumni, faculty, staff and supporters,” Franklin said.

Ifill and Morehouse trustee Billye Aaron will receive the honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, while Ogletree and Morehouse College Board of Trustees chairman Willie “Flash” Davis ’56 will receive the honorary Doctor of Laws.

Frederick D. Haynes III, senior pastor of Friendship-West Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas, will deliver the Baccalaureate address on May 13 in the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel.

The weekend also will be a special one for alumni who return to campus for Reunion 2011. Activities include the Morehouse Commencement Golf Challenge on May 12, the Golden Eagles Breakfast on May 13, as well as the President’s Welcome Luncheon, the Rite of Passage Ceremony and the Morehouse-Spelman Reception.

Also activities include the class agents meetings, Baccalaureate service and the reunion banquet.

See the Commencement/Reunion schedule on page 5.

For a full schedule of activities, go online to http://www.morehouse.edu/reunion/index.html.

President Robert M. Franklin ’75
RITE OF PASSAGE

They transform from Men of Morehouse and become Morehouse Men and join the ranks of brothers who completed the journey before them.

By DAMON PHILLIPS ’96

There have always been rituals that signify a transition from one stage in life to another. Nearly all societies recognize and often hold ceremonies to celebrate this change. These ceremonies help people understand their new roles in society and serve as examples of how people should be treated. These rites of passage contain three main phases: separation, transition, and incorporation.

During separation, young people are taken away from their familiar environment and former role, forcing them to adopt a very different, and sometimes foreign, routine they must become familiar with. Here at Morehouse, that phase is represented by our successful New Student Orientation.

The transition phase is the time that these budding leaders learn the appropriate behavior for the new stage they are entering. This is the time when they learn and grow and prepare to be an independent adult in the real world. Each day, our students do this through matriculation.

The last phase, incorporation, takes place when the participant formally begins their new role. This month, we celebrate this phase with graduation.

In our Morehouse community, we further celebrate the transition of our students as they join the ranks of 15,000 living alumni around the world. Students go from being men of Morehouse to Morehouse Men, joining the ranks of brothers who completed the journey before them.

Fittingly, the College’s commemoration of this point in their lives is our Rite of Passage – the culmination of hours, dollars and wisdom invested by family, friends, alumni and staff, all focused on the success of the student.

The Rite of Passage is the introduction to the world of a new Morehouse alumnus who is ready to embrace all the rights, responsibilities, expectations and privileges that accompany such a title.

On that day, the institution celebrates the maturation of young men who are now charged with changing the classrooms, courtrooms, churches and communities around them.

Howard Thurman, valedictorian of the Morehouse class of 1923, once said, “Don’t ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs are people who have come alive.”

The Rite of Passage celebrates new Morehouse Men coming alive.

Damon Phillips ’96 is the associate director of Alumni Relations, Annual Giving Programs and Special Events.

‘It is never just about us, it is bigger than us’

By LYDIA A. WOODS

I stood in Hurt Park five years ago, nervous and excited. It was my first 5K road race, the Downtown Dash for Diabetes. I was new to running. But I have type II diabetes and my donation would go to a good cause. You never realize how hilly downtown Atlanta is until you have to run it. I was worn out by the time I reached the top of a hill and turned a corner. In the end, I was discouraged with my performance and time.

After the race, my husband asked if I was staying for the awards ceremony. Tired and frustrated, I said, “Why would I stay for some award that I’m not going to win.”

He said, “I think maybe you may have won something, because I was watching the finish and I didn’t see many women in your age group come across the finish line.”

But then I heard the announcer say, “Lydia Woods, third place with a time of 36 minutes.” Shocked, I shook my head. I felt like an ant as I walked back towards my husband holding my award. Then I heard the small still voice of the Lord. He said softly to me, “Keep running, do your best, be encouraged, I am with you.” That was March 2006, and by the end of that year, I had won 105 medals, a gold medal at the USA Masters Track & Field Championships and had set an American record in the 4x100 relay with my Atlanta Track Club teammates.

In 2010, I taught two walking/jogging classes at Morehouse and invited my students (and offered extra credit) to participate in the 2010 Downtown Dash for Diabetes. Only three students took the offer, yet all three won medals in their age categories, as well as myself.

As we posed for a photo, I heard the voice of the Lord speak to me again: “You see, this thing is bigger than you.” I then realized that for next year, I would make it a requirement for all my activity classes.

So at the beginning of this semester, I told my students we would be competing in the 2011 Downtown Dash for Diabetes 5K as a course requirement. Jonathan Howard stayed after class to tell me that his Spelman sister, Adrienne Bauduit, passed from diabetes in January. I decided my classes would make money in Adrienne’s memory. We could possibly win the team plaque and send it to her mom and raise money for a good cause.

How proud I am of the three students in the 20- to 24-year-old age group who won medals by finishing first, second and third place, as well as the student who finished second in the 15- to 19-year-old age group. What a special day for my students.

We all can be used to make a difference in the lives of others. Adrienne Bauduit has made a difference in my life and many others. As we focus our energies together, we can make a difference in our communities and the world.

More than 100 of my students donated $2,105 to the Diabetes Association of Atlanta in Adrienne’s memory. What will Morehouse students be able to accomplish next year?

March 19 was a proud day for me at Hurt Park as I saw so many Morehouse students preparing to run that 5K. I reflected on my first race as we posed for the picture that I would send to Adrienne’s mom. It is never just about us, it is bigger than us. I could not have foreseen this future from that day in 2006.

Lydia Woods is an assistant professor in the department of Kinesiology, Sports Studies and Physical Education.
Vince Baskerville, multimedia developer, has been featured in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution and on CNN as a co-founder and chairman of product experience for a three-month-old local startup web company called TripLingo. The company won Best Project for Start Atlanta, a competition where entrepreneurs have a weekend to start a company. Two weeks later, it won first place at Startup Riot, another Internet-based startup competition.

Daniel Black, instructor of English, was the keynote speaker during Paine College’s 2011 Spring Writers’ Conference in Augusta, Ga. on March 17.

Lawrence E. Carter, dean of the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel, delivered the keynote address at Coppin State University’s Honors Day on April 25.

Hana Chelikowsky, web developer, graduated with a master of science in information design and communication from Southern Polytechnic State University on May 7.

Julius E. Coles ’64, director of the Office of Global Education and the Andrew Young Center for International Affairs, is the Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow at Wilberforce University. He spoke on globalization and careers in foreign service during presentations at Wilberforce on March 22 and 24.

Samantha Crouch, administrative assistant in Academic Affairs, graduated cum laude from DeVry University with a bachelor of science degree in business administration, focusing on human resources, on Feb. 27.

Daniel Hummer, assistant professor of psychology, is the primary investigator for a $200,000 grant from the National Science Foundation titled “RIG: Role of Sustained GAGA in Light-Induced Shifts of the Cicadian Pacemaker.”

Nathan Nobis, assistant professor of philosophy, and senior Abubakarr Sidique Jarr-Koroma co-wrote the article, “Abortion and Moral Arguments From Analogy” that appeared in The American Journal of Bioethics.

Eight Morehouse Employees – Jasmine Gibson, Melissa Bailey, Minnie Jackson, Sharon Baker, Lisa Gunter, Maureen Williams, Margaret Jackson and Barbara Gillson – were among the winners during the College’s 2011 Administrative Professionals luncheon on April 27.

Aaron Childs Wins 2011 King Essay Contest

Freshman international studies major Aaron Washington Childs is the winner of the 2011 “Reading, Writing and Remembering King Essay Contest.” Students wrote a 3-to-5 page essay discussing the themes of Martin Luther King Jr.’s book, Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?

Placing second was senior M. Louis Dear II, an early childhood education major, who won $300. Third place was senior business major Nathaniel Gouldborne who won $200.

New Hires

Yvon Accilien, security officer, Campus Police
Ali Benai, security officer, Campus Police
Evans Robinson, security officer, Campus Police
Eric Bolton, dispatcher, Campus Police
Ezekiel Bell, security officer, Campus Police
Michael Henson, security officer, Campus Police
Bryan Jenkins, senior audio/visual technician, Telecommunications
Cortesia Oxford, receptionist, TRIO Programs
Mina Rasheed, research associate, Center for Telecommunication

Samantha Simon, administrative assistant, Division of Science and Mathematics
Rhonda Peterson, administrative assistant III, Division of Science and Mathematics
Tonyka Jackson, program manager, Public Health Sciences
Marcellus Cooper, corporate relations officer, Office of Institutional Advancement
Shondreika Lamb, program manager, Division of Science and Mathematics
Corey Lumpkin, research coordinator, Public Health Sciences
Kelley Jackson, grants writer, Office of Institutional Advancement
Robyn Crittenden, general counsel, Office of the General Counsel
Respect the Creation, Jones Says During Science and Spiritual Awareness Week

By ADD SEYMOUR JR.

Respect for a higher being goes hand in hand with respecting the earth, environmentalist Van Jones said during the 2011 Science and Spiritual Awareness Week. “The way you show you love the creator is your respect for the creation,” he said. “Do not live in a society of eco-apartheid anymore.”

Jones’ speech was one of several events during the annual celebration of the union of science and spirituality at Morehouse. This year, the focus was on the spiritual connection between renaissance and vocation, said Lawrence E. Carter Sr., dean of the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel. “We’re coming out of a time in history where people have viewed their career choices in a very limited way,” Carter said. “But the interrelatedness and interdependence of all humanity require everyone to think of their vocation in moral cosmopolitan terms, in terms that transcend all boundaries. We have got to think in terms of the effect that the decisions we make have beyond our immediate surroundings.”

University of Washington humanities professor Michael Honey spoke about the part labor unions played in the civil rights movement and their continued need today. “I’m not sure why they are trying to destroy the unions,” Honey said during his talk in the African American Hall of Fame. “But if you take the unions out of the picture, we’re going to be in deep, deep trouble.”

Twelve alumni preachers and current Chapel assistants gave speeches on the themes “Hearing the Call” and “Answering the Call” and “Nurturing the Call.” Twenty-nine preachers, laity and scholars were inducted into this year’s Martin Luther King Jr. College of Ministers and Laity. Board of Sponsors and Collegium of Scholars, including Jones, who delivered the keynote address.

The final event of the 2011 celebration was the Easter Sunday address by the Rev. Joseph E. Lowery. Lowery and his wife, Evelyn, were honored for their work in the civil rights movement with the Gandhi-King-Ikeda Community Builders Prize and a new oil portrait that will hang in the Hall of Honor in King Chapel. Next year, the week will have a new name: the 27th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. College of Ministers and Laity. It will be the first reunion of the Morehouse College alumni clergy, former chapel assistants and the MLK Jr. Board of Preachers, Sponsors and Collegium of Scholars.

“By establishing it next year as the 27th assembly, we are able to build on our tradition of inducting clergy, laity and scholars,” Carter said. “Continuing this annual program as an event for those three groups during the school year gives us an opportunity to enhance the quality of the programming for our students.”

CLA Journal Needs New Resources, Says Mills

By ADD SEYMOUR JR.

NEW RESOURCES WILL BE NEEDED for the 54-year-old, Morehouse-based CLA Journal (College Language Association) to thrive in the future, said Terry Mills, dean of the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences.

The Journal, which is housed at Morehouse and led by editor-in-chief Cason Hill, is funded by the College Language Association. Former Morehouse President Hugh Glover founded it in 1957. The CLA Journal is a selective, peer-reviewed humanities journal that fosters professional development and cultivates student achievement and creativity at historically black colleges and universities.

The Journal, which has an international readership, publishes contributions from leading scholars in literature and the humanities. “In order to sustain this legacy at Morehouse in the 21st century, the Journal must expand its staff and increase its funding,” Mills said. “An expanded budget would allow for summer stipends, which would bolster the editorial leadership of the Journal.

“Increases in funding would make it possible to extend the CLA Journal’s national and international footprint—and lead to a new status as a periodical that emphasizes African American and Africana literary studies, as well as interdisciplinary contributions,” he said. For more information or to support the CLA Journal contact Dean Terry Mills at tmills@morehouse.edu.

Tyrese Encourages Students To Get Rid of Negative Influences

By ADD SEYMOUR JR.

SINGER AND ACTOR Tyrese Gibson told a group of Morehouse students that when they saw him portray a black man, minus the violence towards women. Now he wants young black men to understand like he eventually did — that there is much better in stores if they work hard and keep a circle of five positive friends. “The problem I see in black men...is we’s all about profiling,” he said to a group of sophomores and juniors in the Bank of America Auditorium on March 18. “We’re all about trying to prove something to everybody so they don’t look at us like we’ve changed...and so you dummy yourself down. You devalue yourself to keep it real with people who don’t matter anymore.”

Who you share your heart, your time and space with is a direct reflection of who you are,” he said. “There are so many different ways of having who you are, your dreams, your vision, your ideas from surrounding yourself with the right circle of five friends. It’s about change.”

Make yourself better. Help introduce me to a better version of you. That all goes back to the circle of five.”

Mills was a stop on Tyrese’s tour of HBO/def to talk about his new book, How to Get Out of Your Own Way. The book talks about how to become a strong black man by not allowing mistakes to become long-term excuses. “I was excited someone...chose to provide some level of insight and inspiration to a generation that seldom reads books,” Johnson said. “It’s about who’s willing to take whatever spirit and energy they have and share it with the world. So it’s been an honor to be with Tyrese on these stops, especially at Morehouse.”

Tyrese said it was an honor for him to be at Morehouse.

During his inaugural address in February 2008, President Robert M. Franklin ’75 shared his vision of a renaissance for the College. This “rebirth” of proven traditions would be married with all the latest advances of 21st-century teaching. The offspring of such a powerful union: Renaissance Men.

The 500 men of the class of 2011 are the first to matriculate all four years under Franklin’s tutelage. They are Franklin’s Renaissance Class, and emulate the president’s five wells: well-spoken, well-read, well-traveled, well-dressed and well-balanced.

Here we introduce you to a few of them. As you will read in their brief profiles, they have all been inspired to go into their corner of the world and make a difference. They speak earnestly of their desires to help others, serve as role models and uplift their communities.

They have taken to heart the words that Franklin spoke when they were freshmen, just starting to realize that the vision for their future was even greater than they had imagined:

“Let us make men—men who in the face of fear and temptation embrace the words of C.S. Lewis: ‘that courage is not one of the virtues, it is the form of all the virtues at the moment of testing.

“…Men, confident, in the words of the poet Goethe, that ‘at the moment of commitment, the entire universe conspires for your success.’

“…Men who heed the words of Rabbi Hillel that ‘the world is equally balanced between good and evil and your next act will tip the scale.”

“Up, you mighty men, become co-creators of a better world!”

Here is a small sample of the men of the President Franklin’s Renaissance Class.

Luke Yancy Jr.
HOMETOWN: Southfield, Mich.
MAJOR: Computer Science
AFTER GRADUATION: Entering into a doctoral program in biomedical informatics at Stanford University

CAREER GOAL: To become a researcher, study diseases that affect minority populations

“Coming to Morehouse has been one of the greatest decisions that I have ever made. It has opened my mind not only to research, but also to the social and ethical concerns associated with scientific research. Sometimes you have to look at the smaller problems that may not be as well funded or appreciated, but in the long run it will help benefit someone. Morehouse also instilled in me the idea of making sure that I help someone and not just work to make the big money and be famous.

“(After being named Man of the Year by students) I was truly humbled by it. I wasn't expecting it all. I felt like my mom would be proud of me because of it. I hope it's not just about me. I hope it's a testimony to somebody else to realize that although you face adversity, you can get through it all and still do things and go on to be great.”

Gerren Gaynor
HOMETOWN: Brooklyn, N.Y.
MAJOR: English
AFTER GRADUATION: Attending graduate school at the Columbia University School of Journalism

CAREER GOAL: Becoming a writer and owning his magazine catering to the black intellectual

“Becoming a Morehouse Man means being the crime of the crop, being the best that you possibly can but not in a sense of being arrogant. If you are a man who goes back into his community and shows he really cares; wants to uplift and change the trajectory of African American men, especially in education; giving black youth hope and letting them know that their goals are very obtainable and they don't have to be an athlete or a rapper. They can become a doctor or a lawyer or a writer. If you have people to support you and you have the determination to get through college, it is definitely obtainable.”

Jacques A. Pape
HOMETOWN: Port-au-Prince, Haiti
MAJOR: International Studies
AFTER GRADUATION: Entering the University of Michigan to pursue a masters of science in engineering and nuclear engineering

CAREER GOAL: To become an international energy consultant for governments

“If I could sum it up, I would say being at Morehouse was impactful and outstanding, just because I have been able to do a lot. The support has been unparalleled. That was one of my main reasons for coming to Morehouse in the first place—basically because of the brotherhood and the academic and faculty support that I would get, especially after what happened in Haiti with the earthquake.

Efrain Gallegos
HOMETOWN: Los Angeles, Calif.
MAJOR: Spanish
AFTER GRADUATION: Opening his own restaurant

CAREER GOAL: To teach underprivileged or high-risk students

“Morehouse taught me the true meaning of persevering. That’s what HBCUs do. I was locked up four times and even faced a life sentence. Now I’m going to have a Morehouse degree and I’m doing something positive. I want people to learn from my story that anyone can make it, regardless of their skin color, their ethnicity, their race.

Anyone can man up, or woman up, and take responsibility for their actions and eventually be successful in life. If I can do it, anyone can do it.”

The Top of the Class of 2011

Valedictorian
Camron Jarel Yarber
Business Administration
4.0 GPA
Hometown: Pittsburgh, California

Salutatorians
Lemario Jamal Bland
Psychology
3.92 GPA
Hometown: Macon, Georgia

Emmanuel Dominique Marish
Biology
3.92 GPA
Hometown: Dallas, Texas
Tshepo Moshoaliba  
HOMETOWN: Hillside, N.J.  
MAJOR: Business marketing  
AFTER GRADUATION: Working for a marketing firm  
CAREER GOAL: Working in international marketing with a focus on emerging markets

“This institution has taken me when I was a young man who was lost and confused and turned me into a man who is striving for my goals, striving for excellence every day and actually becoming a role model by helping others. I never saw myself as a role model as a kid growing up in New Jersey, but after coming here, it’s just become a completely new positive experience for me.”

Paul Parker  
HOMETOWN: San Antonio, Texas  
MAJOR: Business administration  
AFTER GRADUATION: Going to graduate school  
CAREER GOAL: Becoming a vice president for marketing for a major firm

“Morehouse has brought a whole new dynamic to my life. It has shown me that there are going to be problems in life, but if you can keep focus, you can obtain your goals. Morehouse also has shown me that it is more than how you portray yourself. You have to be able to back up what you are doing. Playing football gave me that, camaraderie and a chance to connect with brothers on a playing field that we all loved. It gave me a chance to connect with people and fellowship with them as we also had a chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.”

Daniel Davis Edwards  
HOMETOWN: Denver, Colo.  
MAJOR: Sociology  
AFTER GRADUATION: Working for the United Way for a year before going to graduate school in London to get a Ph.D in sociology  
CAREER GOAL: Becoming a filmmaker and a social scientist

“I think if people see the world through film instead of just seeing it or hearing about it, it shows how telling stories of the world can be impactful. Even just small isolated stories that people never hear about can change entire mindsets about ideas. It could about family; it can be about sex; it can be about gender. It could be about all of those things. But if you put it together the right way, you can impact people's minds in a very positive way. 

“Morehouse prepared me by providing support. And I’m compelled to give back because of that.”

Senior Writes Children’s Book About Morehouse

Earl Cooper  
HOMETOWN: Wilmington, Del.  
MAJOR: Political science  
AFTER GRADUATION: Joining the Peach State Professional Golf Tour  
CAREER GOAL: Looking to join the Professional Golf Association’s top tour

Earl Cooper’s aunt once saw a children’s book about Penn State University. She asked Cooper why there wasn’t one about Morehouse. “So I contacted the publishing company and we ended up working on it,” he said. The result is Hello Maroon Tiger, an illustrated children’s book that follows a day in the life of the Maroon Tiger mascot as he walks through campus on his way to a football game. On his way, he introduces young readers to campus landmarks, buildings and historic areas. Cooper wrote the text while sophomore Chase McKesson illustrated the book.

The book is slated for publication on May 20 and available at www.mascotbook.com and eventually at the Morehouse College Bookstore. “I like the book because it’s teaching kids at a young age about Morehouse,” Cooper said. “It’s planting the seed. It’s also a recruiting tool. I have a six-year-old nephew that I can’t wait to see read the book. “Morehouse is such a unique and wonderful place,” he said. “Now I feel like that’s my job – to tell the youth about it and let them know there is a great place in Atlanta and they are doing wonderful things and its geared towards black men.”

Cooper said Morehouse has been instrumental in his immediate future goal of being a professional golfer. He was a member of Morehouse’s three-time Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championship golf team.

“Morehouse has helped me tremendously,” he said. “We have a golf program that is outstanding. The chemistry with the team has been wonderful. As far as brotherhood, they’re challenged me in the golf course, as well as in the classroom. It’s really helped me to be well-balanced as far as handling my academic work and on the golf course. I really appreciate Morehouse.”
Ping and Karume Talk About the Future for Africa and Relationships With the U.S.

By ADD SEYMOUR JR.

Jean Ping

"OUR GOAL IS A NEW AFRICA," SAYS PING

WITH HELP from the African Union (AU), Africa can become a more united, peaceful and thriving group of states, said AU Commission chairman Jean Ping.

"Our goal is a new Africa in a reformed international system that we have compelled to be more democratic [and] just," Ping said during his April 2011 speech at the Bank of America Auditorium. "Our purpose is renaissance. The Africa that will come, and we must strive for, is one in which the AU plays its rightful role as the engine of the develop-
mament agenda.

Ping was in the United States to attend the Organization of African States conference in Washington, D.C., but took the time to make his first visit to Atlanta. Ping's Morehouse appearance was pre-
sented by The Office of Global Education and the Andrew Young Center for International Affairs, led by Julius Coles '64.

The African Heritage Foundation, a non-
profit group dedicated to elevating and pro-
moting Africa's image and profile in the U.S., co-presented Ping's speech, which was streamed online.

"Our trip to Atlanta is sort of a home-
coming for us to come together with our brothers and sisters in the diaspora to dis-
cuss the future of our motherland, its union and our future as Africa people in the rapid-
ly changing international landscape," Ping said. "It is doubly significant that this dis-
cussion is taking place in this location, in this great institution."

Karume

"WEST SHOULD OPENLY STAND FOR TRUE DEMOCRACY"

"WEST SHOULD openly stand for true democracy," says Karume.

Former Zanzibar President Amani Abed Karume said the United States and other Western nations have to support democratic ideals if they really want peace in North Africa. The West should openly stand for true democracy and stop supporting regressive regimes for short-term gains," Karume during his April 2011 lecture in the Executive Conference Center. "Stable democratic regimes ... will opti-
mize the interests of those people and those of the Western world."

Karume's lecture was sponsored by The Leadership Center. "The model is based on three points: character, civility and community. The theory is that we have to be intentional on focusing on boys and young men of color... but you have to have the infrastructure in place to make this happen."

The initiative's early stages have been funded by The California Endowment, which presented the College with $150,000 during the Morehouse College Glee Club's February concert in L.A.; a $100,000 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation; and a $15,000 grant from The Weingart Foundation.

A breakfast was held in Los Angeles in April to intro-
duce the ELLC to nearly 20 community organizations. From that group will come the five -- selected by ELLC leaders -- that will be trained at Morehouse.

"This is an effort to take seriously an opportunity to develop and cultivate a new generation of leader-
ship in the greater Los Angeles and Southern California community," said Ridley-Thomas, who has two sons who went to Morehouse. "Morehouse repre-
sents something rather unique: the investment that is placed in this in constant of ethical leadership, which is quite promising as it relates to what can and should happen in the greater Los Angeles area."
Morehouse and Howard Renew Rivalry in Nation’s Football Classic

By ADD SEYMOUR JR.

Approximately 30,000 football fans are expected at RFK Stadium in Washington, D.C., on Sept. 10 when the Morehouse College Maroon Tigers and the Howard University Bison do battle for the first time since 1997.

The two teams will renew their rivalry in the first Nation’s Football Classic, presented by the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) and the Washington Convention and Sports Authority (WCSA). The game will be played each of the next three years at RFK Stadium.

“The Morehouse community is very pleased about the renewal of football between Morehouse College and Howard University in the much-anticipated Nation’s Football Classic,” said President Robert M. Franklin ’75. “Alumni and students from both legendary institutions are excited.”

Morehouse hasn’t faced Howard since 1997. But despite who won or lost, each Howard-Morehouse contest would produce sold-out crowds in Atlanta and Washington, D.C.

“The game between Morehouse College in Atlanta, my hometown, and Howard University, where I attended both college and law school, represents the best of both worlds for me,” said Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed. “There are no losers with this matchup. As Mayor, I am excited about the renewal of football between Morehouse College and Howard University in the much-anticipated Nation’s Football Classic,” said President Robert M. Franklin ’75. “Alumni and students from both legendary institutions are excited.”

“Both school were founded in 1867 and we share many institutional goals,” Franklin said. “For years, we’ve engaged in friendly, mutually enhancing competition, on and off the gridiron. The Classic will include a great game and an important national dialogue about the future of higher education and black male achievement.”

The weekend will feature a number of events, including a Fan Festival, a step show and tailgating. UNCF will hold an important education component, its HBCU Empower Me Tour. “The UNCF HBCU Empower Me Tour communicates to students the importance of college and career readiness, as well as service to communities and the country, which is a long tradition and critical component of an HBCU education,” said UNCF president and CEO, Michael L. Lomax ’68.

Tickets for the game range from $25 to $60 and are available at www.ticketmaster.com. For more information about the game, go to www.nationsfootballclassic.com.
President Franklin Believes New Leaders Will Come From the Arts World
By ROM THOMAS and PHARISI SLAUGHTER

“NEW LEADERS WILL COME from the artists, musicians, the rap- pers,” said President Robert M. Franklin ’75 said. “The question is, where will they lead us?”

Franklin said artists like Sean “P. Diddy” Combs, Jay-Z and acclaimed filmmaker Spike Lee ’79 are our potential leaders.

Why will leadership spring from the artistic side of society?

“I think there is widespread skepticism about the effectiveness of tradi- tional political and religious leaders, and there is a hunger for voices of authenticity who express the real concerns of people and their aspira- tions,” he said.

“I see that among filmmakers, musicians, writers and poets. And I believe there is an opportunity for those leaders to step forward and provide public leadership, not only public commentary on events.”

Franklin was speaking on March 17 as a guest lecturer in the course “Ethical Leadership: The African-American Moral Tradition.”

His 40-minute lecture was based on his book Crisis in the Village, which expresses concern for three anchor institutions in the black community: families, churches and HBCUs. The book is required reading in the course.

Franklin paced forward and back, gestured with his arms, jabbed with pointed fingers for emphasis, and passionately raised and lowered his voice.

“I draw energy from students and from an atmosphere of inquiry and curiosity, of intellectual synthesis,” he said. “And in that environ- ment, I think I really come alive.”

Melequina King, interim director of Leadership Studies, had invit- ed Franklin to set a precedent in her course.

“I know of no other Morehouse president who has lectured in a class,” she said.

Walter Fluker, founding director of the Leadership Center, attended the lecture, along with California Endowment program manager Robert Phillips and Mark Ridley-Thomson, the supervisor of the Second District in Los Angeles County.

Thanks to grants totaling $265,000 from The California Endowment, the Kellogg Foundation and the Weinberg Foundation, the Morehouse model of leadership will be piloted in Ridley-Thomson’s district to develop community leaders, then replicated in national and international locations.

Ron Thomas is the director of The Journalism and Sports Program. Pharishi Slaughter is a junior at Morehouse.

HBCU Graduates Do Better In Labor Market Than Non-HBCU Graduates
By ADD SEYMOUR JR.

The long-term returns of earning a baccalaureate degree from an HBCU relative to a non-HBCU, “…suggest that HBCUs continue to have a compelling educational justification, as the labor market outcomes of their graduates are superior to what they would have been had they graduated from a non-HBCU,” according to their article.

“Our results lend support to the idea that HBCUs continue to have a compelling educational justification, as the labor market outcomes of their graduates are superior to what they would have been had they graduated from a non-HBCU,” according to their article.

Price, and the two other economists, Howard University’s William Springs and Emani Savion, also “…suggest that HBCUs continue to have a compelling educational justification, as the labor market outcomes of their graduates are superior to what they would have been had they graduated from a non-HBCU.”

As such, our results lend support to the idea that HBCUs have a comparative advantage in nurtur- ing the self-image, self-esteem and identity of graduates, which theoretically matters for labor market outcomes.”

Calvin Grimes ’62 Was Instrumental in Educating a Generation of Morehouse Musicians
By VICKIE G. HAMPTON

When Calvin Grimes ’62 earned a doctorate from the University of Iowa back in the 70s, none other than revered professor and musician Wendell P. Whalum ’52 exclaimed: “That’s one of my children, and not just any Ph.D.—a Ph.D. in music theory!”

The proclamation was a herald into a royal musical passage for the House, a lineage where Kemper Harrell begot Whalum, Whalum begot Grimes, and Grimes became the progenitor to a new line of many accomplished Morehouse musicians, including current chair of the Music Department Uzoee Brown ’72.

“As my theory teacher, in spite of his no-nonsense demeanor, he was thorough, methodical and in every way inspir- ing,” said Brown. “He opened my eyes to the wonderful creative aspects of theory as they relate to practical applications that give birth to real musical ingenuity.”

On April 7, 2011, Grimes died of congestive heart failure at his home in Atlanta at the age of 71. He was professor of music the- otry and immediate past dean of the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences. A 30-minute musical tribute was held prior to his funeral on April 16 in the Ray Charles Center for Performing Arts.

Grimes earned a bachelor’s in music from Morehouse, and a master’s degree and doctorate in music theory from the University of Iowa.

He joined the Morehouse faculty in 1977, and served as chair of the music department for 12 years. He became division dean before returning to the music department to teach music theory.

The music educator’s career also involved stints as a chorus director for area public schools and, for eight years, and as a music professor at Clark College, now Clark Atlanta University.

He also became widely engaged in regional and national scholarly panels, symposia, workshops, and lectures.

Appointed by former governor Roy Barnes, he was a member of the Board of Directors of the Georgia Humanities Council. He was also organist-choirmaster emeritus at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Atlanta.

“Anyone who had the pleasure of knowing such a capable colleague as Calvin would welcome his probing and sagacious intellect to their faculty,” said Brown. “He was outstanding in so many ways that made a difference in the lives of those around him.”

Kin of Morehouse College Namesake to Share Family History
By Add Seymour Jr.

A YOUNG LADY in a Morehouse shirt in mid-April walked up to students and faculty members to say hello and get their thoughts on the College. But when she introduced herself, they were more interested in taking a photo with her.

Why? Her name is Christal Morehouse. Yes, that Morehouse.

Christal Morehouse

She is the great, great niece of Henry Lyman Morehouse, the namesake of Morehouse College.

A senior project manager in migration and inte- rnational locations.

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“Anyone who had the pleasure of knowing such a capable colleague as Calvin would welcome his probing and sagacious intellect to their faculty,” said Brown. “He was outstanding in so many ways that made a difference in the lives of those around him.”
If you’ve ever wondered what ‘going viral’ really means, think about Antoine Dodson.

He is the man whose responses to a reporter’s questions about the attempted rape of his sister was turned into the “Bed Intruder Song,” an auto-tuned, music video by the Gregory Brothers that became an Internet cult classic.

Within 30 days, Dodson became a star. The video had more than 10 million views on YouTube, and its YouTube versions of the song and Dodson T-shirts became big sellers.

Among the plethora of buzzwords regarding the Internet, the phrases ‘going viral’ and ‘viral marketing’ are popular, but also abused in many conversations. Most of the times the terms are used with loose, if any, context.

The term is taken from the literal concept of a virus — its ability to begin with a small footprint and become a widespread infection that replicates itself rapidly. Viral applies this notion as taking some type of promotional material and watching it grow feverishly through various social network mediums, such as Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Vimeo and Digg.

Basically, ‘going viral’ means the ability to spread awareness quickly — no strategy meetings, media buys or special online advertising, just organic viewership.

It also means surrendering control. There is no special formula for creating instant viral hits. Organizations try different ways, but whether they’re professionally polished, humorous videos, unpolished “faux-personally” recorded videos or stunts, they usually fail.

For something to go viral, it must spread from each individual voluntarily, be self-sustaining and spread without incentive. If you have to spend more time on the project to promote its growth, it’s not viral. If you’re paying influential people to help spread your ‘viral’ piece, it’s not viral.

If any of these are successful, what you have is a triumphant marketing campaign — not viral marketing. However, if you can set it and forget it, and if it spreads like the common cold, that is going viral.

After all, it worked for Antoine Dodson and the Gregory Brothers.

Vince Baskerville is the multimedia developer in the Office of Communications.
Golf Coach Featured On CBS Sports’ Television Special

MOREHOUSE GOLF COACH BILL LEWIS was one of the PGA professionals featured on CBS Sports’ show “Sunrise to Sunset: A PGA Professional’s Life” on May 1. Lewis was lauded for leading the Maroon Tigers golf team to last year’s Division II national minority golf championship and being the primary teaching pro for Atlantá First Tee Program, the PGA’s initiative to get more minorities to play golf.

“It’s a huge success for me [to see] these kids develop,” he said on the show. “And then just to have somewhere for them to enjoy and play the game. It’s not how well they play the game, but the character that’s been built.”

Two of Lewis’ former First Tee students now play at Morehouse; two-time SIAC Player of the Year Olajuwon Ajanaku and freshman Cameron Givens.

SIX IN A ROW!

The 2011 spring sport season saw Morehouse’s golf, tennis and track and field teams reign supreme over the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference as each squad again won conference titles in April.

By ADD SEYMOUR JR.

TRACK AND FIELD

THE FLYING MAROON TIGER track and field team won its sixth consecutive title – the program’s 17th overall – during the SIAC Track and Field Championships on Edwin Moses Track at B.T. Harvey Stadium.

Morehouse finished with 236 points, far ahead of second-place Benedict (155 points) and third-place Stillman (125). Novian Middletown was named Most Valuable Track Performer after winning the 5000-meter run, was second in the 10,000-meter run and was third in both the 1,500-meters and the 3,000-meter steeplechase.

Turner Coggins and Matthew Tuffuor were both named the Most Valuable Field Performers. Coggins won the hammer throw and the shot put and was second in the discus throw. Tuffuor won the decathlon after posting first-place finishes in the javelin and discus throws along with the shot put. He also won the overall javelin throw title.

Other notables were Courtland Walls, who won the 100-meter dash and was third in the 200-meter dash; Karthon Mitchell, who won the 1,500-meter run and the 3,000-meter steeplechase; David Lee, who won the long jump; and Justin Oliver, who won the high jump.

Coggins was named the 2011 SIAC Field Athlete of the Year. He also was named to the conference’s Track and Field All-Conference Team, along with four other Maroon Tigers: Courtland Walls, Novian Middletown, Turner Coggins and Matt Tuffuor. Mitchell, Karthon Mitchell, David Lee and Justin Oliver were named to the second team.

The Maroon Tigers also were awarded the 2011 All-Academic Team Award as eight Morehouse athletes were named to the team: Lemario Bland, Jeremy Tinsley, Jamal Harris, Jabari Redd, Matt Tuffuor, Jan-Michael Coke, Terrance White and Kyle Moore.

Coach Willie Hill was named SIAC Coach of the Year.

GOLF

LED BY THE SIACS’ two-time Player of the Year Olajuwon Ajanaku, the Maroon Tigers won their third straight conference title in the SIAC Golf Classic in Augusta, Ga.

The Maroon Tigers shot a combined low score of 595 – 312 in the final round to oupace second-place Benedict and third-place Kentucky State.

Ajanaku, who was named the tournament MVP, shot a low score of 224 over the three-day event. Ajanaku also was named first team All-Tournament and All-Conference.

Earl Cooper, Bryan McElderry and Thaddeus Hill paired Olajuwon on the All Tournament team. All four also were named to the All Conference squad. Olajuwon and Cooper will be turning pro this summer.

The Maroon Tiger golf team won the SIAC’s All-Academic Award with a combined grade point average of 3.72 ranking first among all golf teams. Hill (3.51 gpa) and Malcolm Parish (3.94) were named to the All Academic team.

Coach Bill Lewis was named SIAC Coach of the Year.

TENNIS

IN A DRAMATIC matchup that went down to the wire against top seeded Stillman College, the Morehouse tennis team won its third straight SIAC tennis title.

Just as in 2010, the Maroon Tigers were seeded second headed into the conference tournament held at Morehouse. Led by the tournament’s Most Valuable Player, Michael Thomas, and senior captain Tony Martin, the Maroon Tigers advanced into the finals against Stillman. The teams were tied at four until Jordan Bailey won his singles match to give the Maroon Tigers the championship.

Martin and Thomas were both named to the All-Tournament singles team, while Thomas and his partner, Noah Terry, were named the All-Tournament doubles team.

Martin also won a first-team singles pick for the SIAC’s 2011 All Confer-ence Team. Senior Mario Escud and sophomore Michael Cuten made the second team. Martin and Escud also were named to the doubles All-Conference Team.

Coach Terry Alexander was named the tournament’s Most Outstanding Coach.

FIRST PITCH

John Williams ’69, dean of the Division of Business Administration and Economics, threw out the first pitch before the Atlanta Braves’ exhibition game against the Minnesota Twins at Turner Field on March 30.

Members of the Maroon Tigers Tennis Team with their 2011 SIAC tournament trophy.

Members of the Maroon Tigers Track and Field Team with their 2011 SIAC tournament trophy.
**What I Do**

I am a single-person office, but what I try to do is make sure the campus is accessible to students with physical disabilities that’s physical as well as academic and social. There are 85 different disabilities that are representing here and over 200 students who are registered. The largest group is from ADHD, but we have students who have heart murmurs, asthma – you name it.

Depending on what the requirements the students have, I look at the documentation they bring and help get in place what they need, such as a standard time on an exam, retrofitting a dormitory room, accommodating a wheelchair, or putting up a sign or enlarging lettering for the visually impaired. It’s to have the campus to be accessible for the student.

It’s not an easy job. It really involves a lot of multitasking. It may take about 20 calls to make things happen. It requires a lot of activity and a lot of it is behind the scenes. They bring and help get in place what they need, such as a standard time on an exam, retrofitting a dormitory room, accommodating a wheelchair, or putting up a sign or enlarging lettering for the visually impaired. It’s to have the campus to be accessible for the student.

It’s an easy job. It really involves a lot of multitasking. It may take about 20 calls to make things happen. It requires a lot of activity and a lot of it is behind the scenes.

But it really is rewarding. There could not be a better job. I become like the surrogate mother to students and they become my children, so I am proud. I’m proud of all the students. When I come in and see 500 to 700 young men in the graduating class, I’m proud. It’s just so moving. It’s very rewarding because we see people of the same hue moving forward. I even march at the graduation because I want the students to know that I am a part of that, too. I try to be intertwined with the entire fabric of campus.

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**Name:** Carolyn Walker  
**Title:** Coordinator of Disability Services  
**Tenure at Morehouse:** 6 years  
**Hometown:** Atlanta  
**Something not commonly known about Carolyn:**

“I’m an equestrian. I train and raise quarter horses. During this kind of weather, it’s fabulous and then during the fall, when its crisp and you’re riding through the hills, there is nothing better.”