Back from Iraq!
Senior Otis Beck returns from Tour of Duty
By Kevin A. Evans

When I pitched this story to my fellow newsletter colleagues something occurred to me. The great, career-making, breaking news stories usually don’t have happy endings; they usually revolve around disturbing news, deceit and downfall. That’s just the business of reporting, but I’ve come upon something that is none of those. There are politics in the Iraq war and controversies and investigations. But there is another side. It is one of inspiration. Otis Beck, an HSSU senior majoring in Criminal Justice, is an inspiring young man; just ask any member of the Honda Campus All-Star Challenge Team. Throughout the 2005 season they were mindful of their team mate and the tremendous sacrifices he was undertaking upon being deployed to Iraq.

December 16, 2005, was a very special day for Dr. Eileen O’Brien, sponsor of the Honda team. Those who know her are well aware of how she feels about the students on her award-winning Honda Campus All-Star Challenge Team. She calls them her babies. On this day she welcomed home one of her babies, Sergeant Otis Beck.

I had the pleasure of accompanying Dr. O’Brien and Harris Stowe State College alumni Mark Stepney in welcoming Otis home. We waited patiently for over an hour for the 145 members of the 892nd Transportation Company during which time we were treated with cookies and punch all while we were being told that they will be arriving shortly. Sitting on the bleachers at Southwestern Illinois College located in Belleville, Illinois, I sat among much homework. Here are some general facts. Xavier University’s campus is like a small island because all the businesses around us are still closed. We have to travel far just to get the basic things we need. I do realize that they have made a lot of effort to get to where we were before Katrina.

We finally got ATMs! There used to be a fence around Xavier, but it is now gone. I am so happy for that because I felt like I was in jail. Another good thing about

My Life After Relocation
Katrina Student Finds Her Way
By Natasha Meredith and Kevin A. Evans

In the first issue of the HSSU View we did a cover story on the students who were affected by the devastation of hurricane Katrina. One of the students, Natasha Meredith, a senior at Xavier University, was featured on the cover. She has kept in contact with HSSU View staff members via e-mail since returning to New Orleans to resume her studies. She was kind enough to act as correspondent for the newsletter.

February 1, 2006 2:56 a.m.

Whatzzzup! I really don’t have a lot of time but I can try to get you some detail of what’s going on. I have so
Imagine yourself in an area marked by camouflaged structures, dark corners, the latest hip hop music, and colorful lights dancing off the ceiling. No, you are not inside a nightclub. The area I am talking about is the annex at Harris-Stowe State University, and the game is Laser Tag.

Chris Lloyd of the Smith Agency based in Grand Rapids, Michigan transformed the usual student hangout into a playground designed to provide entertainment for those interested in competing in this fun and exciting game of Laser Tag. Students were divided into two teams, the Red Team and the Green Team.

All of this took place on January 18. Students had the option to attend the afternoon games or the evening games. Each one was equally enjoyable by all those who participated.
A thleti c s: Str on g Fou ndation Yields Strong Team

By Justin Mosley

The HSSU men’s basketball team enters its third season using the Emerson Performance Center as its home floor. In the past, since we did not have a suitable gymnasium for practice, our teams had to travel to hold team practices. Now with the proper facilities, the 2006 version of the Hornets are as competitive as ever thanks to an enthusiastic staff, talented players and a state-of-the-art facility.

As the Hornets play on a strong foundation, they look to build on a strong foundation of returning players. The Hornets return four of their top five starters including 6’3” guard Joe Barker (13ppg and 43% on 3pt FG’s), 6’3” guard Dustin Fox (13ppg and a career high 29pts), 6’1” guard Melvin Martin (12 ppg and team leading 3.24 apg) and 6’9” center Aaron Jones (1 0.8 ppg and 9.1 rpg, which is second in the conference and 12 in the nation).

Harris-Stowe is, however, losing 6’4” guard/forward Kelvin Mosby Jr. who is currently leading the team in scoring with 15.33 ppg scoring average and 6.38 rpg. Both of those totals rank top 100 in NAIA Division 1.

Don’t look past the Hornets this year though. The Hornets are 1-4 in conference play with a recent win over Williams Baptist and only one of those conference losses was by double digits. The Hornets took a ranked Missouri Baptist team into overtime and are averaging a remarkable 91.5 ppg over their last two contests. In the victory over Williams the conference tournament. Look for the Hornets to make some noise the rest of the season, especially in the AMC Conference tournament starting on February 28.

Gillespie Hall’s Pre-Leasing, Fall Semester ’06

By LaQuita Johnson

Get ready for a great experience while seeing history in the making. The four story 235-bed facility is now accepting applications to reserve rooms for its grand opening this fall. The new residence hall will be leasing two- and four-bedroom suites. One price will take care of everything, including rent, electricity, water, phone, cable and internet.

Inside the suites students will be able to enjoy all the comforts of home. Each suite will contain numerous amenities such as a microwave, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher and garbage disposal. The bedrooms are fully furnished with a bed, dresser and desk. A laundry facility is also furnished for your convenience.

The new student center is loaded with awesome features. It will be the only place on campus with wireless internet hot spots. The student center will be a place where the students can go to relax, exercise, study, do homework, have meetings or play games.

For more information or to reserve your place visit one of these websites (www.gillespiehssu.com or at www.leasing@gillespiehssu.com) or call (314) 340-3331.

Several key men’s basketball players are returning this year.
TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2006  9:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

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‘Knock Me a Kiss’

By Kevin A. Evans

Those who attended for the Harris-Stowe State University Players’ production of Charles Smith’s play *Knock Me A Kiss* on December 1-3 witnessed fine performances by six very talented individuals. Each night of the performance actors played to a capacity crowd at the Bank of America Theater inside the Emerson Performance Center. Students from Jennings Senior High were privileged to a matinee at 10 a.m. on the December 2.

Kudos goes out to all those who aided in this very exciting stage play. The most notable performance throughout the play was Cheryl Jones’ scene-stealing portrayal of the character Lenore. Atara Estes who played Nina Dubois, wife of NAACP founder W.E.B. Dubois, in one scene gave an emotionally powerful performance. Her makeup, costuming and performance were so convincing she genuinely appeared to be an elderly woman. As always, veteran actor Ervin Williams gave a solid performance as W.E. B. Dubois. Darren Mclemore in the role of Jimmy was perfect casting; he seemed to understand the character and was truly committed to the role. Michelle Dallas in the lead role of Yolanda seemed to mirror what her character was going through. Derrick Howell in the role of Countee Cullen held his own and gave a credible performance.

For theater director Beverly Brennan and her support staff working behind the scenes, what you have done with this production was indeed outstanding.
“What do you think about Superbowl XL?”

“It’s great that Pittsburgh won the Superbowl. It has been a long time.”
De’Andre, Junior

“It was a good game. I am glad to see Jerome Bettis leave on a good note and that the Steelers won.”
Tyra Scott, Sophomore

“Just as I predicted! I would have liked to see Seattle score at least one more touchdown.”
Ryan Lane, Junior

“I really enjoyed the commercials and the Jerome Bettis retirement speech after the Steelers won the Superbowl.”
Shanise Lewis, Freshman

“I didn’t watch the Superbowl, but I knew that Pittsburgh would win.”
LaShonda Chapman, Sophomore

“I feel that Seattle should have won the game. There were a lot of bad calls from the blocking penalty that cost Seattle a touchdown to the Pittsburgh touchdown that didn’t break the plane.”
Michael Thomas, Cafeteria

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**Keys to Academic Success**

**Open Doors to Employment Success**

*By Michelle D. Dallas*

“Are you an A or B compared to the surrounding universities in the State of Missouri? Why would an employer pick you?” Don Johnson, Director of Counseling Services, poses these questions to the students of Harris-Stowe State University. His primary concern is that students realize how diverse and competitive the job market is today.

To equip students to succeed in college, and subsequently in the rest of their lives, Johnson suggests students follow 10 Ways to Succeed (see below).

“I was motivated to come up with Ten Ways to Succeed after reading Elliot Battle’s book, *Letters to Young Black Men: You Won’t Find A Role Model on the Streets.*” Johnson said. “Success is important because we live in a world whereby our success is measured by material possessions.” These ten ways inform students about what it takes to be a candidate – “an open commodity” – in this competitive global job market.

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**TOP 10 INGREDIENTS FOR SUCCESS**

*By Don Johnson, Counseling Services*

1. Do not miss class. Arrive early and participate.
2. Have a definite regimented study time.
3. Sit in the front of the class.
4. Make school your top priority.
5. Associate with others who see the value of a good education.
6. Read the newspaper two or three times a week to stay informed.
7. Use Academic Support early and frequently.
8. Do not make excuses; be prepared.
9. Know the proper use of the library and its resources.
10. Perseverance, determination and hard work produce great accomplishments.
All Jokes Aside
An Interview with Rob Moore
By Chasma Smith

East St. Louis native Robert Moore, or “Comedian Rob” as we at Harris-Stowe commonly refer to him, has hosted numerous events around campus keeping us all gasping for air as he pokes fun of real life situations. He auditioned for BET’s Reality comedy show Coming to the Stage last fall and was one of the final 15 out of about 250 aspiring comedians to be featured in a showcase at the West Port Funny Bone.

He’s done a movie with B2K’s Raz B premiering February 18-21 in Chicago and continues to host and star in numerous shows around St. Louis. While he can easily have your side hurting from laughing too hard, there is more to him that just giggles.

Moore works three jobs, is the President of the Collegiate 100, was Theatre Director of the Educational Talent Search Program for two consecutive summers— all while maintaining a 3.7 G.P.A.

When asked, how do you balance working three jobs and school? He answers, “Staying focused and having priorities set. If it wasn’t for my focus I could get caught up in a lot of things young men my age do. With the Collegiate, I had them make two lists, one of short term goals the other of long term goals, to let them see what they wanted to accomplish and keep them motivated. On top of that, I pray a lot.”

His presidential inauguration was held on Tuesday, November 1, 2005. As President he is responsible for overseeing all events, recruiting, composing a plan for the year, a detailed plan for each semester, and developing a budget plan—all to be submitted to the 100 Black Men of St. Louis.

Moore speaks very highly of the Collegiate 100 saying, “I love the Collegiate. It’s more than an organization, it’s a family. Those guys have been through a lot, we have a strong bond that’s unheard of in other organizations, and you can see the difference we make. Our presence is definitely felt.”

Moore was also Theatre Director of the Educational Talent Search Program for the summers of 2004 and 2005. He says, “The program helps kids be dramatic and explained that there are several other aspects of the entertainment industry. Everyone doesn’t have to be an actor or a singer. I really liked it because I felt the kids really learned something.”

After college he plans to “start two clothing lines, Identity and Trebor MoorY, maybe be a MTV VJ, hosting, acting and in every aspect of the entertainment industry. I want to be a household name.”

With three successful years in college, remarkable motivation and a strong focus of what he wants to achieve in life, it is clear that Robert Moore is no joking matter.

Iraq, from page 1

newlyweds anxiously awaiting their spouses and babies getting to meet their daddy for the first time. There we were, waiting patiently holding a sign that read “welcome home Otis” that was very artistically done by the daughters of HCASC Team Captain Jada Boykin.

Stepney was approached by a reporter from KMOX radio and gave interview about his friendship with Sergeant Beck. For the men and women of the 892nd it was a very warm and brief reception. During their tour of duty in Iraq, they drove more than 700,000 miles delivering food, water and ammunition throughout the country.

It is not difficult to imagine that while doing this they were targeted by insurgents’ roadside bombs. What they have accomplished is indeed historic. They have supported a mission that made it possible for free elections to take place. This was all done in effort so that the Iraqi people could have a fully sovereign government. For Sergeant Beck the ravages of war are not the things that you come away with after talking with him. When asked about his experiences in a foreign country I found out that Sergeant Beck used this as an opportunity to learn about other cultures. In talking with other coalition forces he learned to speak several different languages including Dutch, Arabic, Polish, Italian, Spanish and Romanian.
Katrina, from page 1

After months of cleanup, debris is still evident. Life is only slowly returning to normal. Photo courtesy of Irving Johnson, Xavier University in New Orleans.

post-Katrina is that public buses are now free until March. Before Katrina we had to pay $1.70 one way. In some areas around us you can still see the effects of Katrina – fallen palm trees, stalled water marked cars and unopened businesses.

I’m very lucky to be able to send this e-mail to you because our power has been going on and off frequently, and internet connection has been very shaky. In some areas the power is still off. We are still determined to succeed and move forward!

- Natasha Meredith

Hurricane Katrina struck Xavier University on August 29, 2005. Many students evacuated with the belief they would be gone only a few days. However, the floods proved much worse than anticipated, and the levees broke leaving Xavier, and most of New Orleans, under water and in a state of disaster. An estimated 18,000 college students from the region were either relocated to other schools, dropped out or left college to help with families.

Five months after the hurricane, nearly 3,000 students have returned to Xavier. University staff, city and state officials, and emergency personnel from every imaginable relief agency have assisted in the effort to restore the university and its students to their normal routine. Harris-Stowe and other colleges have been proud of the opportunity to assist a few displaced students during this time of need.

To learn more about Xavier University and its restoration process, visit their web site at www.xula.edu.

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MLK Kickoff Celebration

By Leonard Tewolde

On January 7, 2006, Harris-Stowe State University hosted the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Year 2006 Kickoff Celebration for the State of Missouri. This year’s theme was “Celebrating 20 years of Embracing the Vision and Fulfilling the Dream.”

The ceremonies began by the Mistress of Ceremonies, theater director Beverly Brennan, introducing the pre-program concert by The Jazz Edge, The Sheila Rabbitt Dancers and The Cameron Youth Chamber Orchestra.

Brennan then introduced the Co-Masters of Ceremonies Vicki Newton (KMOV-Channel 4) and Russ Mitchell (CBS Evening News, CBS News Correspondent and CBS Sunday Morning). This was followed by the invocation done by Rev. Dr. Martin J. Rafanan, the posting of the colors by the St. Louis Fire Department Honor Guard, and the singing of Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing which was sung by Charles Glenn.

Following these introductions, Dr. Henry Givens, president of Harris-Stowe State University, gave the opening remarks and introduced commission members and special guests. Givens noted, “Harris-Stowe has held every Dr. Martin Luther King Kickoff Celebration for the State of Missouri since the commission was started.”

Among the many special guests were William “Lacy” Clay, Jr., U.S. House of Representatives, First Congressional District; Peter Kinder, Lieutenant Governor; Maida Coleman, Minority Leader, Missouri Senate, Fifth District; Robin Wright-Jones, Missouri House of Representatives, District Sixty-three; Francis Slay, Mayor, City of St. Louis; and Charlie Dooley, County Executive, St. Louis County.

Following the speeches there were several performances including the Fuerza Salsera Dance Company and Harris-Stowe State University’s Concert Chorale rendition of “America the Beautiful” in which the choir received a standing ovation.

After the performances, keynote speaker Andrew Young shared his journey with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King during the Civil Rights Movement, the time he was the mayor of Atlanta, Georgia, while he was the Ambassador to the United Nations, and chairman to many boards and organizations.

Following Andrew Young’s keynote address there was an awards ceremony honoring many from the St. Louis area. Some of awards included: Distinguished National Journalism Award: Russ Mitchell; Distinguished Civil Rights Award: NAACP-St. Louis Chapter; Distinguished Education Reporter: Sharon Stevens; Distinguished Columnist Award: Sylvester Brown; Distinguished Local Media Award: Alvin Reid; and Distinguished Black History Recognition Award: Lois Conley.

Student Leadership Forum

By Leonard Tewolde

Four Harris-Stowe students were selected to attend the Governor’s Student Leadership Forum in Jefferson City on January 3-5, 2006. The students were: Stacy Shaw, Ms. Harris-Stowe, Leonard Tewolde and McFarlane Duncan. During their trip they met students from colleges across Missouri, visited Missouri’s Supreme Court and spoke with the current Supreme Court Chief Justice of Missouri, Judge Michael A. Wolff or Judge William Price. They also visited Missouri’s Capitol Building and met Lieutenant Governor Peter Kinder, Representative Rodney Hubbard of the 58th district, and Governor Matt Blunt. The HSSU students were honored to go to the Governor’s Mansion to have dinner, went to a bonfire and played ping-pong with the governor while watching USC Trojans lose to Texas Longhorns in the Rose Bowl. The student leaders participated in several community service projects in Jefferson City including visiting the state penitentiary, a special needs school and seeing a home built by Habitat for Humanity. The students heard from several prominent speakers, notably Catherine Hannaway, U.S. District Attorney for Eastern Missouri. They also met with David Steward, the founder of WorldWide Technologies, which was named the largest black-owned business in United States by Black Enterprise Magazine in 2004.

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SGA’s New Administration

By LaQuita Johnson

It’s time to make a new start. “Fresh faces and fresh ideas may be just what the university needs.”

Extra, extra, elections are coming! Don’t miss out on your chance to be a part of this exciting and challenging opportunity.

Students it is time for the Student Government Association to start their election process. This organization is designed to give the students a voice. Student government is a quorum that consists of elected officers from every classification plus an executive board and a parliamentarian.

There are five branches of SGA. Each office has a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. All students of Harris-Stowe are student government members-at-large. The officers of SGA are leaders elected to represent the student interest in general.

Officers in place currently have mixed feelings about the fact that their positions as SGA representatives is coming to an end. Most believe the new elected members will be able to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of their preceding officers. Some thought fresh faces and fresh ideas may be just what the university needs. Others welcomed the change and can’t wait for the election process to begin. Nevertheless, the elections are coming.

As SGA’s Freshman Class Secretary, student government gave me the opportunity to help people in the community and the university as well.

As a member of student government I was able to participate in life changing events that will have an impact on me for some time. Events such as Feed the City and the Red Cross Blood Drive and hospitable embracement of the hurricane Katrina survivors were just a few things I had the honor of participating in. Being an officer of student government gave me something important – the power to help and the determination to make a change.

When you become a member of the Student Government Association you will be responsible for overseeing a multitude of tasks. As a member of this organization you will need to dedicate yourself to the needs of the students in a genuine manner.

Come to the SGA Meetings

When
Every Second Wednesday, 12 Noon
Every Fourth Wednesday, 4 p.m.

Where
Cafeteria Annex
HSSU Remembers Coretta Scott King

By Leonard Tewolde

Coretta Scott King, the first lady of civil rights and widow of the slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., died on January 30, 2006, in Rosarito Beach, Mexico.

Harris-Stowe State University honored her memory after her passing by lowering the flags to half mast. Students, faculty and employees fondly remembered the role she continued playing in the civil rights movement after her husband’s passing.

One of Coretta Scott King’s first major initiatives was the starting of the Freedom Concerts to raise money for the SCLC. In 1962, she was a delegate to the Disarmament Conference in Geneva, Switzerland, on the behalf of the Women’s Strike for Peace.

She opposed the Vietnam War and addressed a 1965 anti-war protest rally at Madison Square Garden in New York, while working as a liaison for international peace and justice organizations.

After Dr. King’s death in 1968, she began attending Ebenezer Baptist Church every January 15. She fought eighteen years to make it a national holiday, then she attended the ceremony in which President Reagan signed Martin Luther King Day into legislation. In 1968, King created the King Center to carry on Dr. King’s legacy of non-violence, equality and peace.

King was one of the founders of The Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy, which started in 1957. She also fought for women’s rights, homosexual rights, HIV/AIDS prevention and animal rights. She strongly opposed capital punishment and the 2003 invasion of Iraq.

King made her final appearance in public on January 14, 2006, in Atlanta at a dinner in honor of her late husband.
Tips to Keep you Safe

By Chasma Smith

With the recent developments on campus and the increasing enrollment size, students often forget about their own safety. Harris-Stowe’s Chief of Campus Safety Glen E. Williams had some valuable advice to prevent crimes and to be safe on campus.

He explained that the most common issues on campus are due to items that are left unattended or forgotten and generally invite crimes of opportunity. He says, “People have left keys in their car doors, but fortunately we are often able to return them.” He goes on to add, “because it is a family atmosphere here, people feel comfortable leaving belongings, but this isn’t home and things can be gone when you come back.”

Williams believes these issues can be avoided simply by not leaving your property unattended. “Students often lay books and coats down so they don’t have to carry everything around.” He advises students to “lock things in a locker, which can be obtained from Student Activities, room 003, and if you leave valuables in your cars keep them out of sight.”

When asked if he thought the addition of the new Gillespie Residence Hall would cause an increase in safety issues, he answered, “I don’t think so. If we inform the new students and they use common sense, like walking with someone at night and keeping their things locked up.” Williams wants every student to feel safe on campus and to know that Campus Safety is on-call 24/7, are friendly, approachable, cordial and willing to see student safely to their cars.

In addition to Campus Safety Officers there are Student Patrols around campus available for assistance. Safety brochures are located at all the high-traffic areas around campus such as the bookstore, cafeteria and main hall.

Williams adds that, “Harris-Stowe State University is a safe campus, and we all want to keep it that way by avoiding common mistakes.”

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Safety tips

- Public Safety numbers are 340-3366 (office) and 280-9971 (on call number)
- Make it tough to get your personal property – don’t leave things unattended
- Don’t go alone if you don’t have to – Travel with friends or take advantage of the campus Public Safety Offers and the bus shuttle
- Use ATMs in busy, public places and try to avoid going at night
- Lock your cars and check that you have your keys
- Obtain a valid parking sticker and student I.D.
- Report crimes immediately

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Valentine Word Search

ARROW    HEART    RED
BE MINE   HONEY    ROSES
CANDY     LACE     SWEETS
CUPID     LOVE     SWEETIE
FLOWERS   PINK     VALENTINE
FRIENDSHIP