

Students Searched for Possession of Marijuana and Cocaine

Mehruba Chowdhury
Kelsey Gay
Staff Writer

After having their rooms searched by Public Safety, a handful of students stand accused of dealing cocaine and weed on campus. The incident has brought controversial views on drug use to the forefront on Agnes Scott's campus. Most cases for legalization of marijuana lean towards medical use. For example, a bill in Georgia is currently circling the Senate table that would enable parents to get cannabis oil for children suffering from epilepsy.

Legalization of marijuana for recreational use has yet to swoon politicians from either party, but college crowds seem to be more enthused about recreational use than usual, Agnes Scott included. Though Agnes Scott follows in compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, Scotties have revealed a leaning towards legalization and higher tendency to use on campus. In January, a theme house underwent an investigation after drugs were discovered inside the building. Despite the increase of drug-based investigations this semester, Scotties have stayed focused on positive sides of the issue. A Junior Psychology major said, "I feel it should be legal everywhere. Medical marijuana has medicinal value which is why I support it." Though viewpoints like this have been expressed, should it come as a surprise that some students might have been found guilty by Honor Court for abusing drugs on campus?

The rate of Scotties caught and charged for possession has been rising this year at a faster rate than usual. Women have been expelled for having drugs in their possession from marijuana to cocaine. Amber Stapleton, the president of Honor Court, had plenty to say about this issue: "What some students don't realize is that even facilitating drug use, which is the act of allowing others to possess, consume, use illegal drugs/controlled substance in one's presence, is also a violation of the drug policy." Facilitating drug use includes consumption in residence halls and using in cars on campus.

First-year Miriam Chaibi told *The Profile* that her room had been searched for contraband by Public Safety on Jan. 19, the

Honor Court Case Reveals Confusion Around Cheating

Kebreht Walker
Staff Writer

On Feb. 6 2014, 240 Agnes Scott students filed into Gaines Chapel to attend an Honor Court sponsored event that has not happened in nearly 40 years: an Agnes Scott student appealed to the student body to overturn an Honor Court ruling.

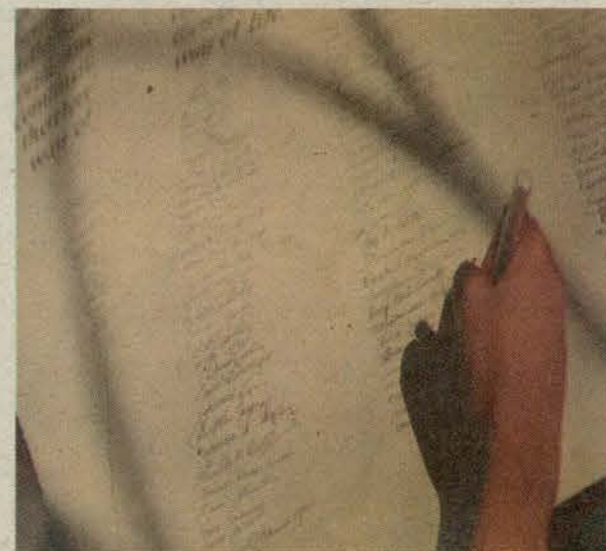
The case was that of Tierra Baker '15, a student appealing to overturn Honor Court's guilty verdict of cheating at the beginning of the semester. Baker needed 230 students to be present at her hearing, though many doubted the level of support Baker would receive; the line that formed at the hearing in Presser quickly grew past the doors.

Students poured into Presser Hall, presenting their student IDs in exchange for a ballot to participate in the ruling and were individually counted by members of Honor Court and Programming Board. Once the quota was reached, the doors were shut and Student Government Association (SGA) President Mariah Cawthorne '14 called the meeting to order along with Honor Court President, Amber Stapleton '14. Before proceeding with details of the case, Cawthorne banned the use of social media or recording devices to document the hearing.

"I'm not worried. I'm excited to see what happens tonight. I want everyone to see that Honor Court is transparent. We are not out to get people, we are here to help, not hinder all students," Stapleton said before the proceedings began. This was the first time the school was holding a public hearing, and many students did not know what to expect.

Cawthorne gave an overview of the case, which entailed that Baker had previously been found guilty of cheating by having her phone out during an exam. Honor Court President Amber Stapleton was given fifteen minutes to explain Honor Court's rulings on the case followed by a 15-minute explanation of the event from Baker's perspective.

Cawthorne explained that once both parties were heard, the student body would be given 30 minutes to ask Stapleton and Baker questions before voting to determine if the



student was held 'responsible' meaning, guilty or 'not responsible' meaning, not guilty in the eyes of the student body.

According to Stapleton, Baker arrived in class the day of the exam and had her phone switched to silent on her lap. During her exam she received a text from a friend with the words "Good morning." in it. She quickly replied and put the phone back on her lap. Not long after, she received an email from Honor Court saying she had been accused of cheating by another student. Baker explained that she called for the appeal to restore her reputation as an honorable member of the student body and not a cheater. She finished her statement by thanking all the students for coming out to the hearing and expressed surprise that 240 students had shown up to support her. Stapleton explained that once the accuser informed her professor of Baker's alleged cheating, the professor handed over the ruling to Honor Court.

Stapleton then read from the syllabus which stated that "any student found with a cell phone on their person during an exam would be considered as cheating." Once Honor Court received all the information and went into their routine proceedings, Baker was found guilty of cheating and the professor not only failed her on the exam, but Baker also received a failing grade in the class.

After Stapleton finished stating Honor Court's ruling, it was then Baker's turn to recount her story. She was quick to state her nervousness and proceeded to explain what occurred by reciting from a paper. (cont'd. 2)

FRESH BEATS

William Fitzsimmons *Lions*

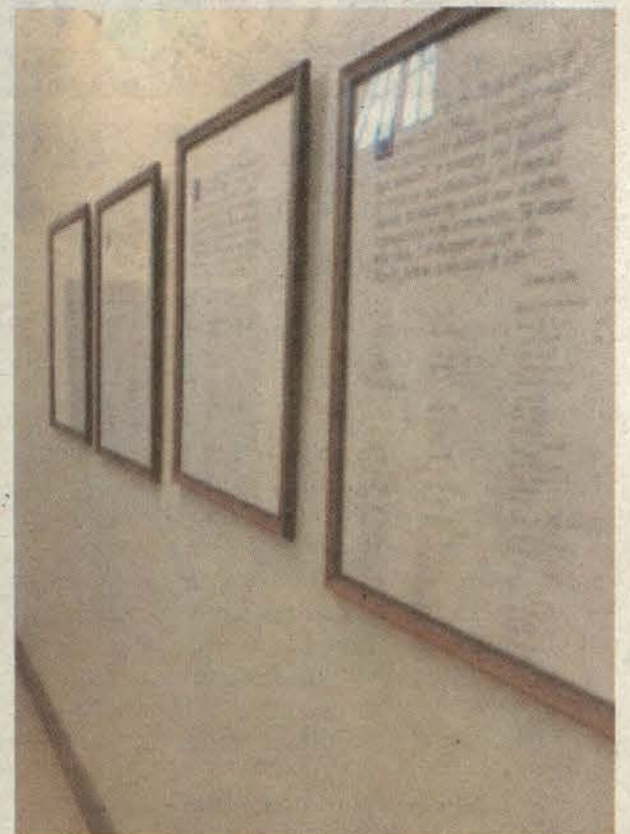
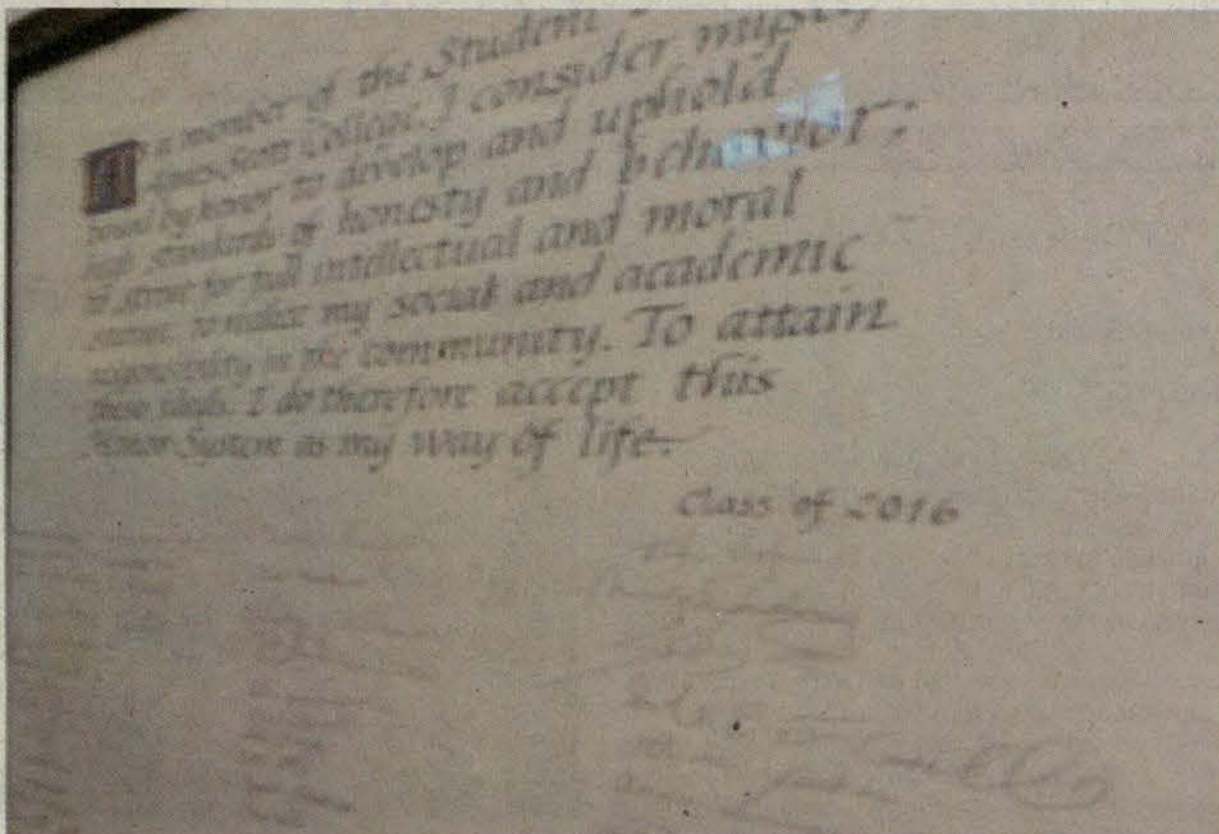
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HONOR COURT CHEATING cont.

Once finished, the appeal was turned over to the student body for the opportunity to question both Baker and Honor Court. Senior Kendra Callaway asked Stapleton if the syllabus had been notarized as an official binding document, which resulted in an uproar of snickering whispers and loud applause. This question became the springboard into other questions about what exactly is considered cheating at Agnes Scott and where students are to look to find the standard consequences and definition of cheating, whether it is in the Agnes Scott Student Handbook or class syllabi. Another student asked Baker whether she had been present or not during the discussion of the syllabus the first day of class, which she replied yes, but also happened to be late that day. Baker also added that she had not signed the syllabus, which muddled the validity of her behavior in class. Though each student signs the Honor Pledge when they arrive at Agnes Scott, syllabi signatures are not necessarily taken as seriously.

"I think I was most shocked and dismayed by the Q&A period of the appeal to the student body. I was really disturbed by the level of ignorance some students had about the honor code in general and what is expected of them as college students. I was also taken aback by the aggressive behavior some (not all) students displayed as well," Stapleton remarked afterwards. Students displayed frustration and impatience towards Honor Court and Student Government officials during the public trial by talking over them or using an accusatory tone.

Honor Court and the administration realize that there is more work to be done in educating students about the honor code and honor court. In the near future when our case load permits, Honor Court says they will facilitate and participate in more educational opportunities for the community. "I want my

fellow Scotties to understand why the Honor Code is and should be the cornerstone of life here at Agnes," says Stapleton.

Towards the end of the questioning period, Baker was asked if she believed that her accuser had wished any ill will against her before this accusation had occurred. Baker said that she had worked with the accuser on a project in a previous class during which a conflict had occurred between them. The accuser's behavior towards Baker since the class had been negative, but Baker never sought to report her.

Students were then instructed to fill out their ballots and hand them into Honor Court to be counted. If any student left before voting or did not return a filled ballot, they were given an Honor Court case. "All I have to say is have faith, and I hope a miracle will happen," Baker said at the end of the appeal.

On Feb. 10, Cawthorne announced that with a two-thirds majority vote. Baker was found 'Not Responsible' for cheating by the student body.

"I think there needs to be more of a universal understanding of cheating," said Stapleton after the appeal. The case also raises the question of whether a conflict of interest has influence on a report. Will Honor Court be able to distinguish legitimate honor court violations from a spiteful attack? Previously, Baker and her accuser publicly admitted to bad blood. based on past incidents, which influenced the accuser's decision to report Baker. Although this case is completed, it does bring up a serious matter of transparency around the rules and regulations around cheating and plagiarism at Agnes Scott College.

"I think the appeal to the student body, even with its negatives, had the positive outcome of

making Honor Court and the administration realize that there is more work to be done in educating students about the Honor Code," said Stapleton.

While some students feel that cheating is ultimately defined in the handbook, some syllabi could lead students to think otherwise. The case has brought attention to a governing system that provides different definitions for cheating and plagiarism. "In my opinion, I think that the policies on cheating is clearly stated but objectively implemented," Merche Osborn '14 remarked.

Tierra Baker could not be reached for comment.

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LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Jessica Mejia
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The Profile looks different because we are different editors, with a different team. We have our own vision for journalism on campus and the woman/women after us will have hers/theirs. Journalism keeps both students and the college honest with each other. It can create transparency and give voice to those who can't otherwise speak. *The Profile* is a vehicle for students to voice their frustrations, find answers, and most importantly, offer solutions. For future *Profilers*: Journalism is what you make it, and if you're willing to take the challenge, the rewards can be quite satisfying. As we end out the school year, we express our deepest gratitude to those that supported us.

It started as just another night. I was walking across the quad after work, the night wind pushed me up the bricks from Walters to Presser, rushing me to the parking lot. As I walked past a well-lit McCain, I came to the sad realization that after May 10th I would never spend another night hogging the second floor group study room or getting reassurance in the writing center. I would never excitedly talk about story ideas with my *Profile* team and Co-Editor Jessica again.

As a first-year, my time here at Agnes seemed infinite, I had forever to decide what I wanted to do and sniff after the big kids in the class of 2010. Today, I'm just hoarding time here, resisting graduation because I've discovered the overwhelming fact I want to do everything. I feel confident in the wide-eyed first-years to carry on business in this office. As long and windy the road at Agnes

has been, I don't want to leave. I have succeeded beyond my expectations here and I have failed miserably here, but I know I'm ready for the next chapter.

My time with *The Profile* has been a long and winding road starting from my first year at Agnes when I worked as a writer under past Editor-in-Chief Kelsey Clodfelter '12, and later as a content editor. As a newly anointed Scottie, I remember passing the Profile office late some nights and seeing Clodfelter working on the newspaper well past midnight. Her endurance and perseverance were palpable; it inspired me and made me think that I too could possibly one day lead our campus newspaper. That thought seemed improbable to me, but only two years later, I was given the chance to make it into a reality.

Today, after one year of being Co-Editor, I now know how it feels to be in *The Profile* room past midnights trying to work the layout or read through stories, while watching people pass by. Nevertheless, I'm very thankful that I haven't had to travel this bumpy, but very worthwhile journey alone- I've had my fellow fox sister Kelsey by my side to help navigate through the criticism as well as through the praise. With our commitment and go-getter attitude, we have been able to resurrect *The Profile* after last year's hiatus. Now it's our time to pass down the paper to someone who will continue the tradition of producing our campus newspaper.

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Letters to the Editors are welcomed and encouraged. The Profile reserves the right to publish letters and/or edit them for clarity, space or libel.

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From Chapel Hill to Private Jets: The Life and Times of Jionti Rench

Jessica Mejia
Co-Editor-in-Chief

In her fifty-six years of living, Jionti Rench, better known as the jewelry lady on campus, has managed to “cram three lives into one,” her latest one bringing her to Agnes Scott. Rench can be seen most days of the week in front or inside Alston by her table of assorted necklaces, ankle bracelets, rings, earrings, bracelets, ear cuffs, and cigarette holders she sells. If she is not sitting down, watching students go to classes, or bird watching, you can see her having conversations with professors and students. Emily Vanchella '15 has known her since her freshman year at Agnes. “When she is upset, it’s because something is legitimately wrong because she has a very calm personality.” Another student, Haley Richardson '15, has been affected by her kindness, “Every time I walk by she always says to me ‘hey cutie pie’ and that always makes me feel good.”

Rench first began designing jewelry after a trip to Savannah. “I was camping with some friends when I saw Jezebel, a dog, wearing a necklace. The minute I saw it on the dog I said ‘Ah-ha!’ I can do that!” When she returned to Atlanta, she began designing her own necklaces by laying different combination of precious stones on a table and seeing which looked good together. “I’m a stickler for high-quality gem stones and I love sterling silver. My favorites have to be amethyst and turquoise,” she said. After looking the designs over, she puts tape on the ends of the strings and if she still likes it by the next day, clasps it. The whole process could take anywhere from three hours to three days.

Besides making jewelry, she has a flair for designing clothes. “I gave my designs to different tailors and they both ran off with them. I never saw them again. I had so many fashion dreams,” she recounted. Her usual attire of a grey vintage-fur coat, and long overlapping bead necklaces speak of her love of fashion. Her style “tends to be hippy/gypsy” or what she is attracted to and can afford. “A body is a living sculpture so I try to adorn myself as if I were making a sculpture,” she said.

Originally from Racine, Wisconsin, a small town north of Chicago under Milwaukee on Lake Michigan, Rench grew up wanting to be a firewoman, but that career choice was not open to her. “My teacher told



me I couldn’t be one and that my only options were housewife, teacher, and nurse,” she said. Raised by parents who owned a company of making organic-made cleaning compounds for carpets and walls, her first job out of school was as her father’s personal assistant. “I could not stand sitting still in that room. It had no windows,” she said. “I quit about 9 times.” To support herself, she took up random jobs such as landscaping, and photography at Six Flags. Afterwards, she enrolled in Converse College, a women’s college in Spartanburg, South Carolina or “Sparkle City” as she calls it. She decided to transfer to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to partake in a new experimental program called interdisciplinary studies, now known as the liberal arts.

At the age of thirty-three, she moved to Jamaica for six months as a way to combat a really bad cold. In order to get well, she had to travel somewhere warm so she called a friend of hers who happened to be a travel agent and asked where the best destination would be. “You want to go to Jamaica,” her friend said. And so she did. To sustain herself, she took a job at a bungalow and bar near the beach. “I was considered the boss lady of the boat bar,” she said. “The previous year my boss had bought hydroplanes, but hurricane Gilbert took them all except for one boat, which was turned into a bar.” After a few months of the native Jamaicans stealing every piece of beautiful clothing she had, she decided to leave the island and head back to the States. “I wanted a big city, but I didn’t want Dallas or Miami, so Atlanta was the next one.”

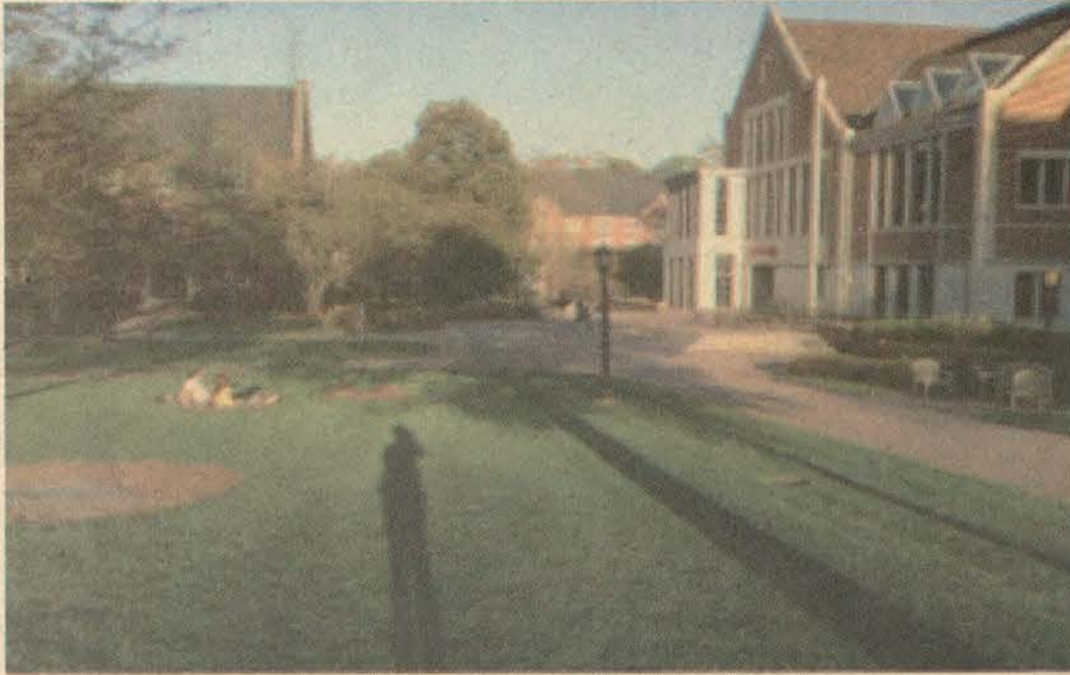
When she isn’t selling jewelry at Agnes, she is out in Atlanta promoting reggae concerts, which she also used to do in Jamaica.

“I came here with the intention of spreading the beautiful word about reggae music, that it’s very conscientious, well, used to be. I was sad no one knew about reggae music. Everyone had heard about Bob Marley, but he or she might only know two songs of his,” she said. In her youth, she was an avid listener of Rock N’ Roll. Some of her favorite artists included Joni Mitchell, Bob Dylan, the Grateful Dead, David Bowie, the Rolling Stones, and Herman’s Hermits who were all up-and-coming during her era. And yet she said, “I was too young to be a hippie and too young to go to Woodstock.”

As she reminisces, she starts recounting a brief but exciting encounter she had with a folk music star when she was working as a photographer for the yearbook at Chapel Hill. “I was taking pictures of Harry Chapin at his concert there and I said ‘Hey, can I come with you?’ (he was flying to New York) and he said sure so I got to fly back in his private plane.” When they got in his car with his crew, “he played me a song that he hadn’t released yet. When we got to New York, he gave me enough money to get on the subway and see my friend.”

All of Rench’s experiences have led her to Agnes Scott, where an alumna referred her. “I was with a friend of mine and I had admired her earrings. She was a graduate from Agnes and she said that I needed to come here to sell my jewelry.” Seven years later, she still refers to Agnes as “an oasis of intelligence and integrity.” “I love the students. I call them my ladies, I always have. I love everyone from the staff to the deans, students, and dog walkers.” The school, she says, is the only reason she’s still here in Atlanta.

Students' Rooms Searched For Marijuana and Cocaine cont.



weekend after winter break. A series of anonymous tips from students sent to Dean Onorato, suggested a list of names of students suspected to be selling or consuming marijuana, cocaine, mushrooms, and alcohol in the Winship dorm. Chaibi's name was apparently, on the list along with a handful of others. Chaibi was notified of the search after it occurred by Dean Onorato, as she was not on campus or aware that it was happening, or of the anonymous letter that Dean Onorato received. Her roommate's side of the room was also searched, though she had no involvement. No drugs of any kind were found in Chaibi's room but she was still charged with a case from Honor Court. Chaibi wasn't the only first-year charged after the search. An anonymous first-year said that the letter targeted her friend group accused five students of also dealing cocaine and marijuana. Her room was searched but no drugs were found. The first-year said she believed she was targeted because of her boyfriend's frequent visitation. "What upsets me about the whole process is that they did not inform us so we could have a chance to speak for ourselves, but went on petty rumors," the accused told *The Profile*.

At the time of the search, Chaibi was in the process of moving back in after changing her decision to transfer to another college. She's currently rethinking her decision. Public Safety found no drugs in the first-year's dorm room, but did find a pipe, charging her with facilitation of drug use. For clarification, even if one is not in possession of drugs of any kind, paraphernalia is strictly prohibited and is grounds for an honor court case. For instance, hookahs need Residence Life approval to be present in one's room, but reports or suspicions of drug use are grounds for a case.

In the case of Chaibi and other accused members on the anonymous letter, how can administration distinguish a legitimate tip from a rumor? And how can students defend themselves against false allegations?

After an interview with Amber Staple-

ton, Agnes Scott's Honor Court President, we can conclude that some of these students may not have abused drugs themselves, but were actually guilty of "facilitating" this abuse. Students bystander drug activity, according to Stapleton, are also held responsible for a violation. Students choosing to abuse illegal substances on campus, in their dorms or campus buildings, are finding themselves at greater risk for an honor court case.

It seems the campus is transitioning to the harder stuff now. In several cases, it wasn't just marijuana that was used. Hard drugs, such as cocaine, were also involved in a few cases. Drug use of this magnitude is usually found in a rambunctious fraternity, not at an all women's college.

For confidentiality purposes, Stapleton could not give more information on the exact number or status of the cases that are being handled currently. However, she says that "the number of drug cases have definitely increased to a troubling amount," meaning: enough for administrators to take notice. Earlier this year, an e-mail was sent out to the student body clarifying the student's handbook policies on drugs and alcohol, a not-so-subtle reminder that the college discourages drug use. So what could be the reason behind this increase? Could it be that academic pressure is too much to handle for some students and they believe that drugs provide the gateway to relaxation on a Friday night? Marijuana has been clinically proven to help ease cramps, headaches, nausea, depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, and bipolar disorder. A Psychology major from the class of 2015 guessed that most students smoke marijuana to, "get away from the hectic hustle-and-bustle of Agnes life and classes."

Maggie Blackwelder '16, a Public Health major, expressed her opinion saying, "Some of the Scotties are not aware

of the policies and so it's really important to get the message out there." She also said, "Some people are hard-headed and think they are not going to get caught so they think, why not do it?"

Stapleton agrees with Blackwelder, "More work [needs to] be done on the part of Honor Court and on the part of the administration in educating students on the importance and seriousness of the drug policy."

As on-campus students face many experiences at ASC, how the administration can keep these experiences positive, is the question that remains.

Photocredit Johnny Green



Photocredit:Newport Dispatch



Immigration Bill Targets Georgia's DACA, ASC Student Fights Back

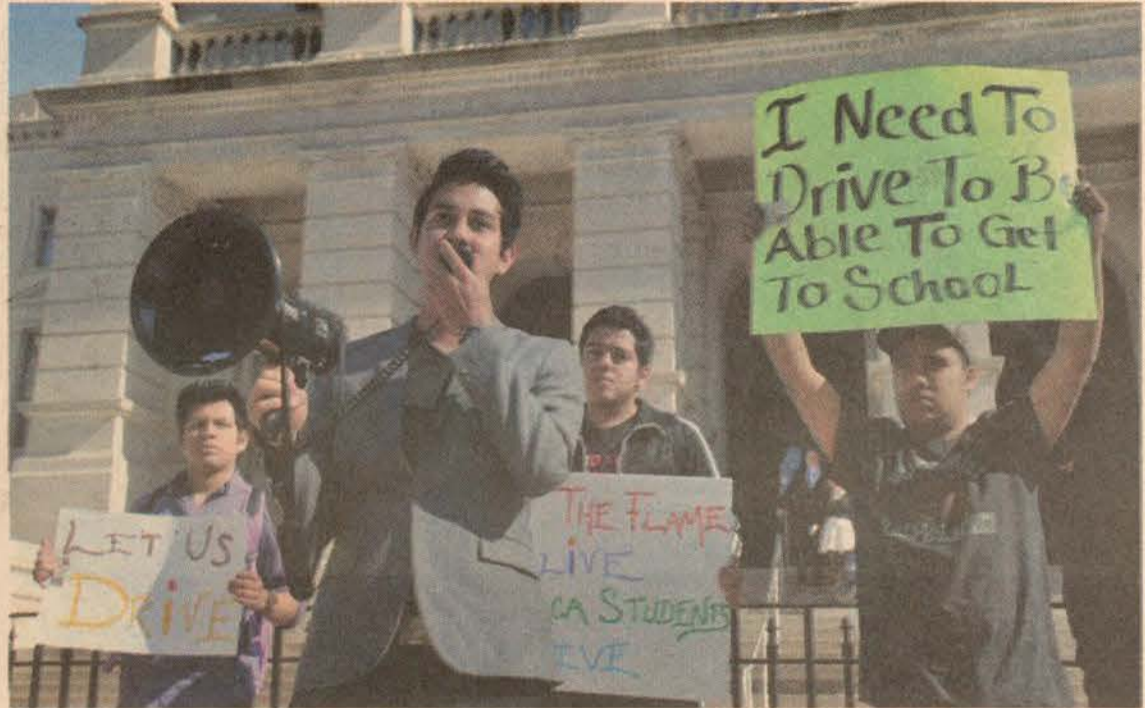
Kelsey Gay
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Republican state senators attempted to keep Georgia's undocumented youth from obtaining driver's licenses last month despite the federal government's grant of temporary status given to Georgia's DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) population in 2012. With over 16,000 DACA candidates in Georgia, the proposed Senate Bill 404 would keep young immigrants out of cars and potentially out of work. The bill fizzled out on its path to the Senate in the middle of the week after facing much protest from Georgia's DACA population and its supporters.

"I am tired of seeing legislators' bullying and xenophobic tactics," says Agnes Scott student Yehimi Cambron. "State bills like SB 404 give Georgia a reputation of being unwelcoming and attack people who are trapped in this country's broken immigration system," said Cambron. For young 'Dreamers' like Cambron, DACA lets her take her family to the grocery store and doctor's appointments conveniently. "DACA has allowed me to stop living in constant fear," said Cambron.

Senate Bill 404 was quietly tabled in late March after the second Senate reading. Georgia Dreamers organized that Wednesday on Capitol steps to protest their right to hold a legally obtained driver's license. 2012's DACA bill signed under the Obama's administration provided two years of amnesty to undocumented immigrants who arrived illegally before their sophomore year of high school. The bill defers official immigrant status for young folks planning to serve in the armed forces or go to college. DACA applicants can begin applying for renewals this year.

The Georgia GOP's pressure for more anti-immigration policy has been gaining random momentum since 2010. Georgia House Bill 87, an aggressive anti-immigration bill passed under Gov. Deal's watch in 2011, features longer prison terms and larger fines for immigrants using fake IDs to secure employment. If Senate 404 had passed, Dreamers seeking employment may resort to using a fake ID, putting them at risk for immediate deportation or incarceration. GOP representatives insist that their feverish construction of anti-immigration bills for the past four years is focused on relieving taxpayers rather than backing undocumented immigrants against a wall. Comparisons have been made



DACA Candidates Protest At the Capital. Photocredit: AJC

between Georgia's anti-immigration bills and Arizona's, which goes about five times harder on undocumented workers.

Criminal Defense Attorney and self-proclaimed republican Doug Rohan had bold words for the GOP, saying the "lack of leadership and willingness to educate their base is letting a vocal minority dictate policy." Rohan employs six people at his law firm, three of which are DACA Dreamers. If the bill had passed, he would be forced to lay off half of his workforce.

Rohan says immigration reform has to start from the federal government and the Georgia GOP arguments for anti-immigration bills are "slaps in the face."

Immigration reform doesn't have to go against the current of a weak economy says Rohan. "There are roughly 11 million undocumented immigrants here and they're not going anywhere. We have to see who's here first."

In terms of immigration reform benefiting the economy, Rohan also suggests fines, but not the astronomical hundreds of thousands that the GOP wants. "You want to boost a sputtering economy? Fine 11 million immigrants \$5,000 and watch it take off."

Rohan has been serving the Hispanic community as a criminal defense attorney for nine years and has seen cases where undocumented workers are deported over shoplifting as little as \$10 of merchandise. "I've always been active whenever it

comes to issues concerning the Hispanic population, the anti-immigrant rhetoric targets a specific group of people." In this case, those pursuing college or serving in the armed forces.

This election year has propelled GOP representatives into an anti-immigration frenzy, swiping welcome mats from under undocumented immigrants as young as 11. At this point, no one would be surprised to see another anti-immigration bill surface in the house. Until then, Georgia's GOP will be heading back to their worn-out drawing board. According to Rohan, the bill would not attain "the type of press, or attention the state of Georgia or the Republican caucus wants to attract." S.B 404 was tabled after the Rules Committee determined the bill's language was 'unconducive' to the party.

For students like Cambron, immigration reform is an extremely urgent issue. She says, "It's safe to say that the time for a humane and inclusive immigration reform on the federal level is long overdue."

Global Village School Shepherds Young Daughters of Immigrants



Jessica Mejia
Co-Editor-In-Chief

The Global Village Project, a private middle school located inside Decatur Presbyterian Church, has served young refugee girls for five years by giving them a free education tailored to their needs. Thirty-three teenage students from Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and other areas of the world currently attend the school. It was founded in 2009 by a group of volunteers at a middle school who realized that some girls were not enrolled in school.

A typical day of school for a GVP student starts at 9 A.M. and ends at 5 P. M., easily a full workday for adults. The school's core curriculum revolves around ESL and mathematics in the morning, and then literacy, science, and social studies in the afternoon. For lunch, the students eat a free meal at Evans Dining Hall on campus. After school, the girls attend an enrichment program where they choose from an array of activities such as band, yoga, drama, and even Girls Scouts. Most of the students live in Clarkston County, a diverse place where fifty countries are represented, and live with family.

Sustained entirely through private donations and fundraisers, GVP operates with a staff consisting of five teachers, one for every ten students, and one hundred volunteers who serve as tutors and mentors for every subject, while also helping with art and music activities in the afternoon. The students participate

in one-on-one-study sessions with volunteers to work on reading.

Many of GVP's students have gone to public school first before attending the private school. Either way, there have been difficulties in helping transition students to American studies mainly because some didn't have formal schooling or they had gaps in schooling. "So many kids are so smart, but they don't have the tools to succeed," said Rachel Stanley, the program coordinator. Nonetheless, many have graduated from the school and some have gone on to walk the halls of Agnes Scott.

Agnes Scott has played a part in making sure the Project keeps running. Our very own President Kiss is on their board, and in the past month, the African and West Indian Students Association on campus presented the One Step Benefit Concert to raise money for the school. Also, many students volunteer or intern at the school. Eva Newbold'16, an Agnes Scott student interning since mid-January under volunteer management had her first encounter with the project when she was paired with a few girls at lunch from the school and was able to talk to them about their experiences.

From that encounter, she decided that the Global Village Project is where she

wanted to intern. "Something that struck me as I ate lunch with them was how much they were like me at that age. [But], we aren't the same; they have been through experiences that I can't even imagine, but they are still young girls who think about a lot of the same things I did...we talked about things like High School Musical and Justin Bieber, and it made me realize that even though they are refugees, they are people too, and are just trying to navigate school and life in a new place" said Newbold'16.

As part of their fundraising campaign, GVP will be having their second annual "Connecting communities: A Walk for Refugee Girls' Education" event on Saturday, May 10, 2014 at 10 A.M. Participants will be walking 4.4 miles from the Clarkston Community Center to Decatur Presbyterian Church, symbolizing the distance traveled by GVP students from where they live to where they attend school. The 15 dollars registration fee will go towards scholarships for the refugee girls.

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Emory and GA Tech Deal With Sexual Assault, Stalking and Dating Violence on Campus



Kelsey Gay
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Health specialists at Emory University are running ragged trying to decrease the likelihood of sexual assaults reported on their campus. Students, scholars, and sex-ed activists poured into the Dooley University Center's Winship Ballroom Friday to jump into RespectCon, a day-long dialogue organized by the Respect Program. If anything the conference was timely, two police-reported incidents took place in February, a forcible fondling at Sigma Nu fraternity and an incident of rape near Emory Village, put the school in the spotlight.

The liberal arts university was ranked third among schools with most forcible sex offenses by Rehabs.com (like GrubHub but for rehabs). In 2012, Emory found a spot among a handful of Ivy Leagues: Princeton and Brown taking the top spots, while Yale and Stanford took sixth and seventh.

The RespectCon conference was organized for the first time last April by Emory's Respect Program, a division of Emory's Office for Health Promotion. Among the Respect Program's resources, members of sister universities' health service programs came to share their insight. Randolph Macon College senior Sean Smith focused on engaging men and fraternities in reversing a campus culture permissive of violence against women. Fraternities seem to be a prime location for sexual assault at universities, at least in Georgia. Last Friday, Georgia Tech's Phi Kappa Tau fraternity was

disbanded after several violations indicated a "pattern of sexual violence that... suggests a deep-rooted culture within the fraternity that endangers women." The PKT members and pledges were required to memorize and sing several songs featuring extremely grotesque and violent lyrics towards women. This is the second major incident involving sexual violence at this fraternity. In November, former President Matthew Peterson sent a mass e-mail entitled, "How to Lure Your Rapebait". The fraternity has been asked to vacate the premises by the end of the week.

Emory's Associate Director for Media Relations Beverly Clark released a statement to the AJC saying, "numbers do not tell the whole story. We want our students who have been affected by issues of sexual assault to get the support they need." Lauren Bernstein, Assistant Director for The Respect Program says the biggest challenge is sexual violence prevention. For Bernstein, "supporting survivors and changing campus culture to be intolerant of sexual violence" is a long-term process. The Respect Program aims to reverse the philosophies instilled by fraternities like Phi Kappa Tau, which normalize violence towards women.

Students and victims often express doubts about whether their university's

system will work in their favor, affecting the frequency of reports. University responses to reports should also take into account the victim's unique identity. "How our culture views race, gender expression, sexual orientation, class, and disability, influences how we craft our interventions," Bernstein said.

Clark gave nod to The Respect Program and noted that most victims report incidents informally to campus personnel like Resident Assistants or Health Services.

The Respect Program continues to hold discussions on consent, stalking, and rape culture. Their schedule is packed with campus events for April, which is Sexual Assault Awareness month.

Boondocks Takes Final Bow for Fourth Season Without McGruder

Kelsey Gay
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Boondocks cast. Photocredit: mrmagnummusic.com

After a four year hiatus, Aaron McGruder's animated comedy series "The Boondocks" will return to Adult Swim later this month—but without McGruder. McGruder's absence as the wunderkind behind the series probably won't affect viewership of the series' last season as the show's resurgence has peaked viewer's interest. Shrugging off McGruder's vacancy as writer and creator, Adult Swim is now relying on their characters to get "Boondock" fans hype. McGruder had this to say on the split with Adult Swim, "The Boondocks pretty much represents my life's work to this point. Huey, Riley, and Granddad are not just property to me. They are my fictional blood relatives. Nothing is more painful than to leave them behind."

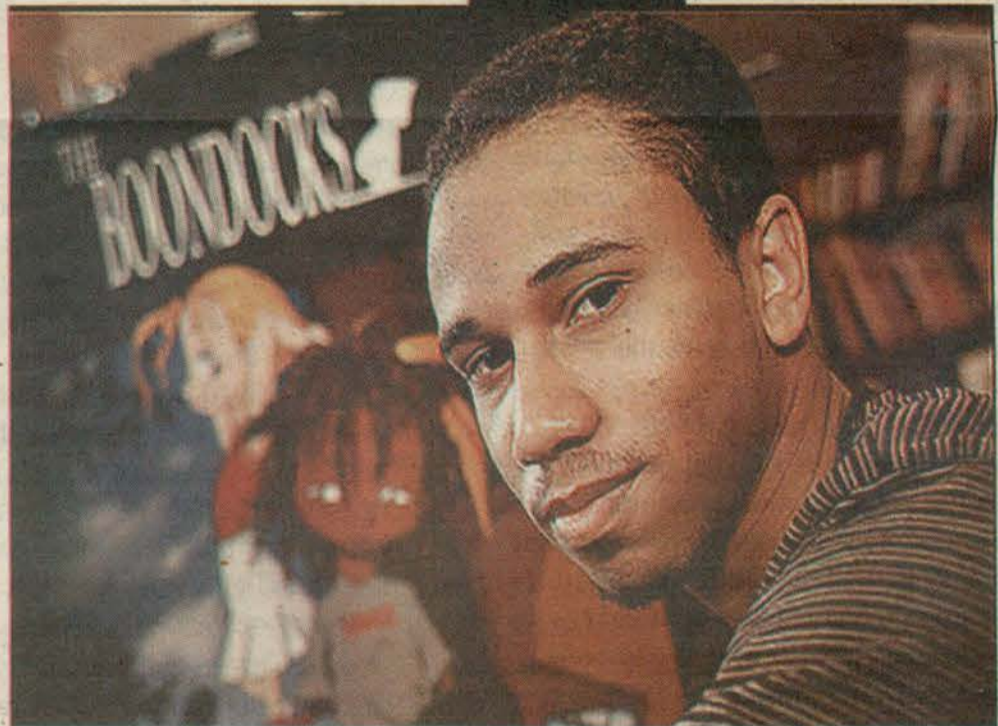
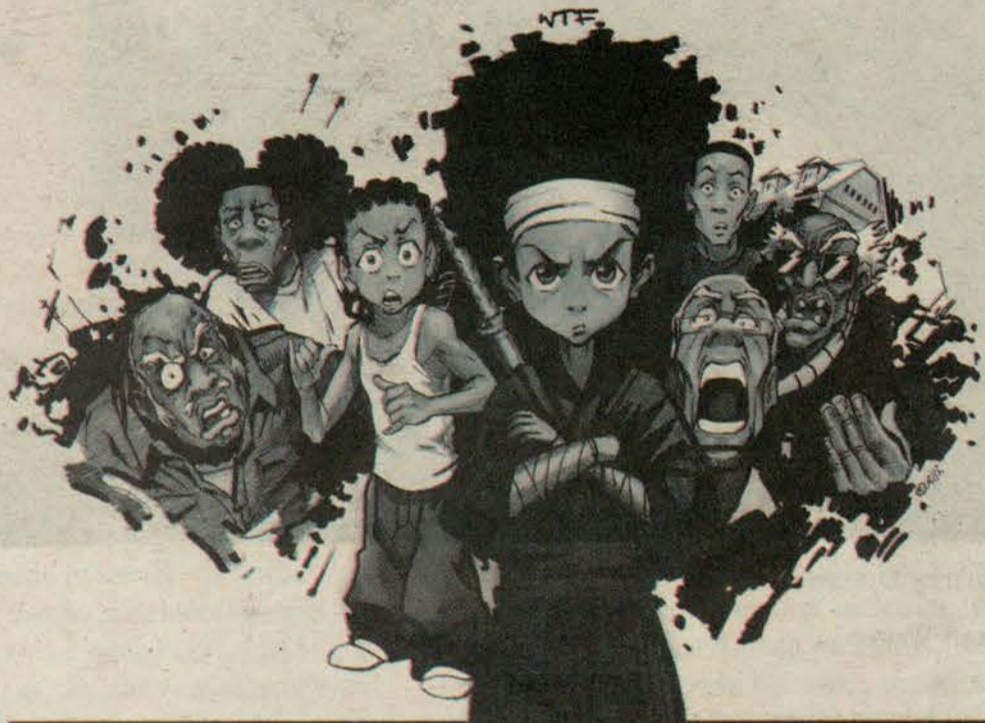
Adult Swim and McGruder couldn't find a convenient production schedule to wrap up the series for good, so AS continued without him, citing scheduling conflicts. McGruder wrote or co-wrote every episode since the show's inception in 2005. He created "The Boondocks" comic strips for six years before it got picked up as an animated series for a then brand-new Adult Swim block on Cartoon Network. His new show with Adult Swim, 'Black Jesus' set to premiere this summer, will give viewers their regular dose of McGruder antics.

"Boondocks" follows 10-year-old black militant Huey and his brother Riley, both voiced by Regina King and their Granddad Robert played by John Witherspoon. The show is known for putting the ignorant, the excessive and the insane on blast with both subtle and open-handed bitch slaps, mainly targeting black culture, music and television. The show's unapologetic views are its signature brand as well as the source of highly-enjoyable media hissy fits.

'The Boondocks' boasts unfiltered jabs at influential entertainers including episodes featuring a 'Tyler Perry type' character as a closeted homoerotic cult leader. "Boondocks" has satirized BET as a cultural wasteland of a network, earning belly laughs from viewers and complaints from media execs and hyperpolitical folks like Al Sharpton. The brow-raising controversy is point of pride for McGruder, reflecting on the experience on his Facebook page, he says, "It was important to offend, but equally important to offend for the right reasons."

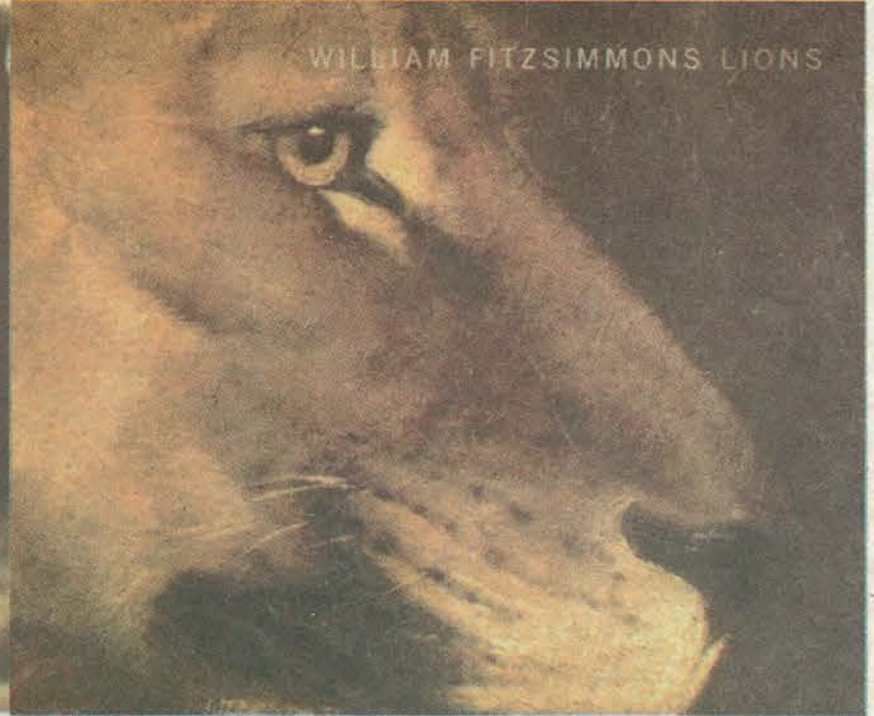
"It [the controversy] was not perfect. And it definitely was not quick. But it was always done with a keen sense of duty, history, culture, and love." McGruder took the opportunity to announce his new show, "Black Jesus", which he sarcastically muses, will put his days of "controversy and troublemaking" behind him.

Even with McGruder out of the picture, fans are still expecting the same humor and hutzpah to light into current events and close out the series. "The Boondocks" fourth season airs on April 21.



Was Aaron McGruder snubbed out of the Boondocks? Photocredit: MadameNoire.com

PROFILE IS NOW HIRING WRITERS, EDITORS, PHOTOGRAPHERS, CARTOONISTS, AND GRAPHIC DESIGNERS FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR, SEND 2 WRITING SAMPLES AND A PORTOFOLIO TO ASCPROFILE@GMAIL.COM BY MAY 10 TO BE CONSIDERED!



Charity Outlaw

Staff Writer

Well known for his indie-rock, bluegrass inspired treatment of Katy Perry's 2008 pop hit, "I Kissed A Girl," William Fitzsimmons is entrancing in his seventh studio album, *Lions*, a gorgeous summery indie album. Fitzsimmons has the beard of a biker in a motorcycle gang, but the voice of an angel. And though his voice draws similarities to Samuel Beam, Iron & Wine's folksy crooner, *Lions* is truly a mesmerizing piece of work that solely belongs to Fitzsimmons.

The album starts with the beautifully placid strumming of the guitar of "Well Enough." Fitzsimmons sings the lyrics "I hope I made you well" with a wistful yearning that reaches within the very depths of your being and touches every cell within your body. His relaxed tenor voice resembles the way a father sings a lullaby to his child. It is warm and inviting, but retains an air of mysterious cool. "Josie's Song," a comforting ballad, has an alternative sound resembling Death Cab for Cutie's calming indie ballad, "I Will Follow You Into The Dark." There is a thick plucking of the strings with the sudden entrance of the glorious piano. In the background there is the sound of desperate female echoes that give a beautiful contrast to the overall warm and liquifying sound of the acoustic guitar instrumental.

The third song on the album, "Brandon" is much cheerier than the first two songs. It is the first of the many summery sounding pieces of *Lions*. The funky acoustic trills of

"Brandon" will make you think of the wonderful in-between stage of summer and fall. The ongoing ascending and descending of notes is like that of the falling leaves in the crisp autumn wind. "Took" is the second most divergent song on the album. It retains the overall placidity of the album, but it does it in a way that is rather peculiar. The beginning of the song is commenced by the gutsy rhythmic pairings of the drums. The nineteen-eighties-esque feel is played in a steady, enduring pace that gradually crescendos to mark the beginning of what seems like nothing. It is a delicious suspense that leaves you wanting more. As Fitzsimmons lulls, the background seems to scintillate like lights in a vast city's twilight.

Quick-paced guitar harmony, a driving tempo, the splendid harmonic duet of Fitzsimmons and an anonymous female voice characterizes "Fortune." In "Blood/Chest," a classically influenced and dream-invoking instrumental, it leaves the listener so bewitched they'll be disappointed when the song suddenly ends. Fitzsimmons sings *Lions*' eighth track, "Hold On," with a subtle robustness accompanied with the semi-complicated rhythm of the guitar. In "Took" the second most divergent song on the album, *Lions*' next track, "Centralia" is the most divergent. It begins with an uncharacterized electrifying sound, resembling punk. The magnetic sound is then interrupted by the harp-like trill of the acoustic guitar. Yet, the song retains the lurking rumble of the grainy electricity from earlier.

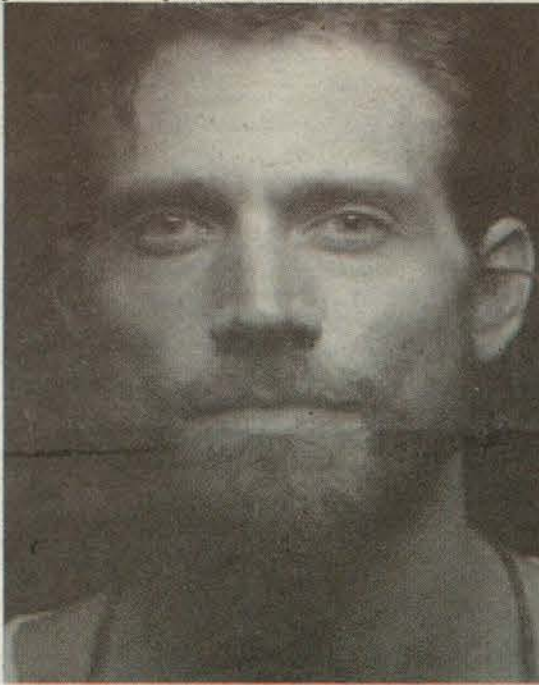
The next song, "From You," a circus-like waltz, is a brilliant layering of sound: drums, Chris Walla from Death Cab for Cutie's guitar, and delicious harmonies. If there was ever a film on Claude Monet's life and if they're just so happened to be a montage of him going through his "water lilies" phase, Fitzsimmons's "Sister" would be the score to accompany it. It is an aural oil painting marked by the constant rise and fall of volume along with the haunting vocals of female voices. Their voices are haunting like mother goddesses of the moon. The title song of the album, "Lions" is a refreshing song that utilizes the gutsy musings of yet again another anonymous voice that this time actually resembles the lead singer of the 1980s New Wave band, The Eurythmics's Annie Lennox's head voice. The album's finale, "Speak" is a short ballad that is an eerily gripping piece with a haunting piano and wind-whistling as Fitzsimmons longingly repeats the lyrics, "I will never speak your name again." It is, again, a song that ends too soon.

That seems to be a recurring aspect on *Lions*. The songs are seemingly too short. Yet, almost all of the songs on the album are the typical length. Perhaps it is the pacifying guitar and vocal musings of William Fitzsimmons that leaves the listener wanting more. After listening to this album, you will surely leave feeling at peace and comfortable, but still wanting to hear more from this indie-rock treasure.

Ben Taylor Gets "Dirty" at Eddie's Attic, Covers Kendrick Lamar

Jessica Mejia
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Last Tuesday, at Eddie's Attic in Decatur, Ben Taylor, the 37-year-old singer-songwriter who is the son of legendary musicians James Taylor and Carly Simon, gave an intimate performance of songs from his 2012 folk-rock album "Listening" with up-and-coming London singer Sophie Hiller. In the past, the music venue has launched several successful artists, such as Agnes Scott alumni Jennifer Nettles, and John Mayer. Though Taylor released Listening in 2012, he'd been working on the project for four years.



The dimly lit venue, which houses a bar, an array of round tables for parties of four, and bleachers for those to sit who are single or in pairs, was a full house of a mostly middle-aged crowd. It was half past 8 P.M. when a singer dressed in a black cowboy hat, black attire, and red bandana tied in a knot around her neck took the stage to perform a few folk songs from her debut album. After warming up the audience, she introduced the main act, Ben Taylor. As soon as Taylor hit the stage, he wasted no time



and dove right into playing one of many songs on his dreadnought acoustic guitar.

The first string of songs were acous-

tic renditions of popular rap songs, such as Kendrick Lamar's "...Don't Kill My Vibe". By their laughter, and applause, it was evident the audience enjoyed his tongue-in-cheek humor. Not normally known for singing lyrics with vulgar content, Taylor told the audience he hoped no one got the wrong impression of him. He continued to showcase his humor by singing a song about lusting over a girl who was taken. Throughout the song he mentions how beautiful her eyes are and how her hair shines, but the only thing keeping him away from her is her boyfriend. The song had a twist in the end; the narrator realizes that it wasn't the woman, but the man who he was lusting over. The audience laughed in hysterics. As a disclaimer, Taylor said that he considers himself to be a heterosexual man, but that he is not prejudiced against other's sexual orientation.

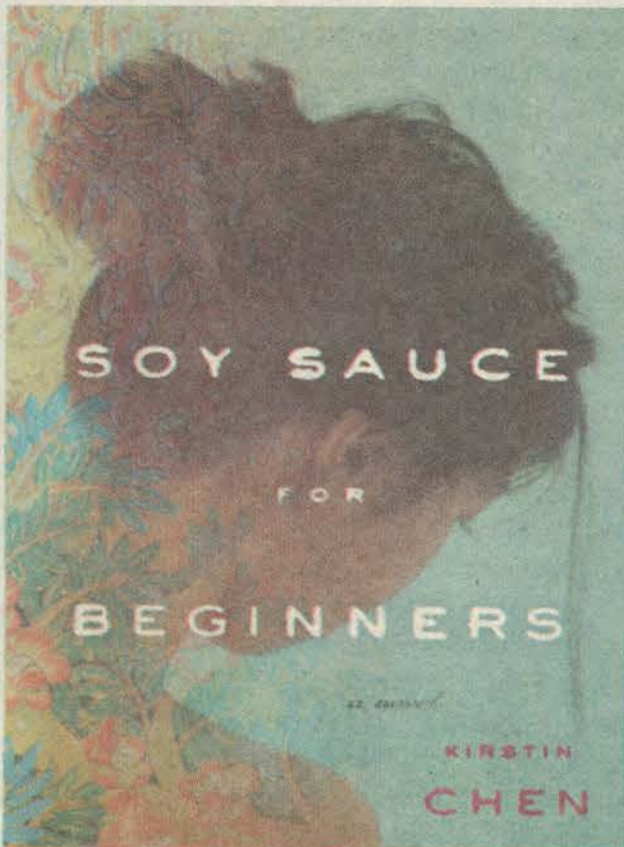
After the last sustained chord ringed out into the audience, he invited Sophie Hiller, a one time back up singer for Tom Jones, on stage with him. Her soulful voice and Adele-like raspy vibratos blended well with Taylor's airy, tenor voice as they sang his original scores, "Dirty", "Worlds Are Made of Paper", "America", and "You Can Close Your Eyes", a song featured in Carly Simon's album "Into White", but originally performed by James Taylor. Before singing "America", a song that describes his homeland's tragic love story with white men, money, and violence, he attempted to connect with the audience by targeting his raunchy humor at Hiller, who was wearing a low-cut black jumpsuit. He stated that even though her appearance seemed clean and collected, she was *dirty*. His over-pronunciation and repetition of the word made it clear that he meant it to be understood in a derogatory way. In "You Can Close Your Eyes", a song released in James Taylor's 1971 album "Mud Slide Slim and the Blue Horizon", Hiller and Taylor sang in a slow-paced harmony, their voices tinged with melancholy.

In between songs, he gave the audience a glimpse into how it was like being raised by two legendary rock and roll artists. He recounted how his mother, Carly Simon, best known for her song "Your

So Vain", a song penned after an ex-boyfriend whose unknown identity has garnered much speculation from the media since the 1970's, helped him develop his first love songs when he was a teenager. When he was a child, he and his older sister Sally would climb out of bed at night and attempt to spy on their parents. Simon would scare them by smearing red lipstick all over her face. Sally also followed in her parent's footsteps and pursued a musical career. Their father, James Taylor, a five-time Grammy award winning singer-songwriter and guitarist who broke through the music scene in the 1970's with his songs "Fire and Rain" and "You've Got a Friend", probably his most popular work, would often be found on the sofa at night bobbing his head to music in his head, when it was completely silent. Music critics have enjoyed Taylor's albums, including his 2003 debut "Famous Among the Barns," Taylor has found success in his talent, but NPR's Michael Martin even said he feels sorry for him, as "one of the few artist who probably always feels he has to live up to his lineage."

Taylor closed the show by remixing his parent's songs "Fire and Rain" and "Your So Vain" together. While on tour in Germany, he encountered a fan that, in a thick accent, asked Taylor if his parents were Carly Simon and James Taylor, to which Taylor responded guilty as charged. The man then proceeded to ask Taylor if he was going to sing some of his parent's songs, specifically "Your So Vain" and "Fire and Rain" at his concert. Taken aback, Taylor said he didn't think so, but that he might one day. The German man then gave him the idea of mixing both songs together. So for the first time ever, Taylor began to record and overdub his vocals to his parent's songs in front of the audience. He then invited Sophie Hiller back on stage, along with two friends who were monitoring the sound booth to help layer the track by playing mini-electric keyboards. The show ended well past 11 P.M.

SOY SAUCE FOR BEGINNERS, A JOURNEY BETWEEN SINGAPORE AND THE STATES



Kelsey Gay
Co-Editor-In-Chief

Kirstin Chen's *Soy Sauce for Beginners* is a fiction novel narrated by a thirty-year-old Chinese-Singaporean transplant who moves back to Singapore from San Francisco to help her family's soy sauce company while divorcing her American husband.

I know you're tempted, but don't assume from the description alone that this novel is about harpy, bitter, single women. It kind of is, and then it's really not. The protagonist, Gretchen Lin, doesn't bawl in corners but expresses herself with a surprisingly sober clarity, being as stable as a ball on a table. A good deal of Chen's novel is actually about the charming island of Singapore and the unsung condiment: artisanal soy sauce, and food; which is why I slapped it on my Kindle.

Speaking of, next time you're at Nakato or somewhere top-notch sauce is at hand, mix dark soy sauce and Sprite for a full-bodied steak marinade. Or drink it straight. You're welcome. Chen molded the story around the fermented condiment because of its ubiquity. "I was just searching for a business that was realistic and even somewhat mundane," Chen told *The Profile*. "I knew nothing about it. I thought soy sauce was this salty black liquid in a plastic bottle. But real soy sauce—the kind that's aged in jars for months or even years—isn't even black. It's a translucent amber-brown and

much less salty." The more you know. Chen's first novel is a quiet, fluttery entrance into the literary world though the novel's central conflicts are consistent and loud.

Gretchen Lin, is caught between two dilemmas: her crumbling American life and dysfunctional family in Singapore. Stateside, Gretchen finds that her post-doctoral husband Paul would rather nurse an affair with his twenty-year-old research assistant, causing an embarrassing quake in their marriage that exhausts them both into calling it quits. Gretchen packs her bags and high-tails it to Singapore to work for her father's soy sauce company.

In Singapore, legal troubles leave her father's company on shaky ground despite his exquisite soy sauce. Her father struggles to meet the American demand for soy sauce. Her mother gets a little too friendly with bottles of gin, creating a health crisis her family flaccidly tries to subdue.

Despite the drama, Chen's flavorful command of food writing will make you want to run down Buford Highway, "barbequed stingray coated in fiery, pungent shrimp paste to Hokkien *mee*, a mixture of yellow and rice noodles, fried with-eggs and braised in rich, savory prawn stock." Dammit, where are my chopsticks?!

Singapore features a masterful mesh of Asian foods; Indian, Malaysian, Chinese, and Taiwanese are all offered on the same level of natural expertise and down home grit. My memories of Singapore involve expertly-crafted dishes, whether plucking at noodle bowls from food stalls on Queen Street or nibbling on red bean cakes after midnight.

In Chen's novel, food is far more than a convenient symbol of indulgence and nutrition in *Soy Sauce*. Food is a mediator, a religion, a communal event. Chen writes instinctually, "Chinese families believe all problems can be solved over food." Chinese cuisine imagery spills into life in Chen's *Soy Sauce*: marriages are overcooked, friendships too salty, business needs a little more Sriracha...though the meal is on point, everything else is a little off. "Govern a family as you would cook a small fish," Chen writes, "Very gently."

A fragmented family holding itself together over a table of sweet curried rice noodles requires expert storytelling, and

Kirstin Chin has it.

The looming externalized dilemma Gretchen faces is whether to stay in Singapore or return to the states. Internally, Gretchen is confused about her identity. Her story is a conflict of assimilation; whether to return home to her roots or continue building an Asian-American life in California. "One of the biggest challenges she faces in returning to Singapore is having to re-frame her view of her birth land as not just a part of her past and someplace she can swoop in to visit--but as a place of permanence," says Chen.

What's initially frustrating about *Soy Sauce* is that there aren't any death-defying feats or any intense, climactic moments of self-realization. Every character is irritatingly passive, personal change is an coincidental afterthought.

Ba, Gretchen's father, has no control over his wife's alcoholism or his stubborn cousin. Gretchen, the most passive character in the book, sleeps with handsome, awful men who kick her out if she dares disagree with them. She constantly stares at her cell phone for her ex-husband's number to pop up, perpetually glued to a see-saw of indecision. Moping in Mercedes and limos, she's indifferent to her executive friends and their executive privilege. Gretchen's an Ivy-Leaguer and accomplished musician, realistic and honest in a way that perfectly imitates a reasonable train of thought, but to the reader, she's unhinged. All the characters simply trudge through their issues, back-stepping multiple times. Trying to find a place to fit and come clean. Perhaps it's frustrating for me, the reader, because it's honest and brutally true to life. For all the graduating seniors getting ready to embark on the next chapter, *Soy Sauce* does a great job exploring what it's like to still be confused, conflicted and maybe still a little foolish—even at thirty.

Stanford grad and Singaporean Kirstin Chen explores "ways in which we create our own notions of home" in *Soy Sauce For Beginners*, for \$5 on Amazon.