EDITORIAL

Let me first start by saying welcome to the re-issue of the student run, bi-monthly magazine, the Hilltop Trumpet. This magazine will showcase the talents of Northern Caribbean University’s Students. We aim to keep our students writing, reading, informed and lightly entertained. The Hilltop Trumpet seeks to keep NCU students and anyone affiliated with the institution abreast with what is happening with NCU’s students on and off campus.

Each issue of the Hilltop trumpet will feature articles from current affairs viewed through the eyes of our students. We will feature achievers where possible, profilers are a must; everyone and anyone can be a profiler. NCU is our University, our profilers are persons who deserve the right to shine, and hence, they will always be phenomenal men and women with a difference. Fashion tips, finance tips, comics, what is happening in the United Student Movement’s (USM) office, vox pops and definitely candid shots are features that we hope to maintain as flagship features.

The Hilltop Trumpet will bring interesting articles from various clubs on campus. In this issue articles from our key writer, Ricardo Campbell, encouragement from Joel Jumpp, candid shots from Keisha Francis, the major profiler. These are all creatively packaged by the expertise of our magazine designers and producers, Mr. O’Shea Morgan and Mr. Wentworth Kelly, who all worked as key organizers, with the supervision of the USM PRO, Miss. Kerry-Ann Irving and the Hilltop Trumpet’s Chief Editor, Mrs. Rosette Salazar. The Hilltop Trumpet is crisp, highly palatable, new, and has a little something for everyone. It is expected to give your face an intriguing appearance, splashed with a bit of “picking your brain” and aims to cause self-examination whilst causing you to burst into spontaneous laughter, and eagerly anticipating the next issue.

The Hilltop Trumpet looks at things differently. It will “visualize the prospects and seek to execute the change”.

Regards,

Kerry-Ann Irving
EDITOR
kirving@stu.ncu.edu.jm
The United Student Movement (USM) Council is the only governing student led and run organization on the campus of the Northern Caribbean University. Represents students on all levels on various matters, and bring about student-led change. Each member of the USM sits on a particular board, or is represented at various meeting ranging from the Administrative Board meeting of the University, to the meetings of the various clubs on campus. Our major aim is to promote transparency and to be the eyes, ears and mouth of each student, from the student’s perspective to the highest authority on campus.

EVENTS

» Inauguration ceremony September 9, 2010
» Debates Workshop
» USM chapel October
» Debates October 29 - November 30, 2010
» Chaplaincy seminar Friday October 29, 2010
» Visitation of the Projects Team to Windsor home for girls
» Negotiations for library shelter
» Negotiations for extended computer labs
» Negotiations for improved University security
» USM scholarship fund
» Launch of Hilltop Trumpet
» Inter Collegiate Badminton (continues)
» Jamaica Intercollegiate Basketball Championship Open league male 2010-11 continues
» Intercollegiate netball league 2010 (continues)
» Inter-col table tennis 2010 continues
» Debates continues (see posters for specific dates)
» Re-launch of the Hilltop Trumpet magazine (in all e-mails November 1,2010)
» Parliamentary committee meets this Friday
» “Under the Gazebo-Air Your Concern” Tuesday, November 10, 2010
» VP of Academics will be presenting at an International Students Day at Vere Technical November 17 , 2010

NB. SEE YOUR E-MAILS FOR MATCH DATES OR VISIT THE USM OFFICE

On Sunday, October 24, 2010, the United Student Movement’s Projects team ventured to the muddy hills of St. Ann. We were accompanied by our sponsors Miss. Sally-Ann Corrodus; Media personnel, inclusive of Miss. Keisha Wright, Miss. Anjuii James and Miss. Kensuki Hanson; representatives of CCMPR namely Mr. Orville Morgan and Mr. Jason Thomas; and the USM President, Mr. Darren Murphy. Our visit to the site was an exciting and fulfilling one. Zelecia Smith led an inspirational and entertaining devotional segment under the theme ‘Friendship’. A short skit was done by members of the projects team, emphasizing the message “do unto others as you would like them to do unto you – you have to be a friend or friendly so that you can have and keep friends.” Immediately after, introductions were made and the girls of Windsor Home were assigned a “big brother” or “big sister” for the day. Time was allotted for the USM team to get further acquainted with their charge, establish a greater bond with them and provide well needed encouragement and ministry. Bonds were further developed in the different gaming activities planned for the day. Ring games, musical chairs and team oriented games such as treasure hunting all brought joy, fun and laughter, and it showed even the USM members, the joy of working together.

Drawing nearer to a close, prizes and surprises were presented to each girl of the home, and contribution in kind was given to the supervisors of the establishment. Two young ladies gave heartfelt vote of thanks. To which the projects team’s sergeant-at-arms, Mr. Sanjay Gibson, and the President of the USM responded by expressing their gratitude for the hospitality, extending apologies for having to leave so soon, and promising to return. Finally, numbers and sad farewells were exchanged. While the girls set off to have their lunch, we made our way through the gate and on to our long journey back home. At the end of the day we all thought the experience was one that was very fulfilling and thus conclude that, “memories will forever light the corners of our minds, misty water colored memories of the way we were”.

Sincerely,
The heart of the USM Projects Team
Through the years fashion has changed so many times and it has also reoccurred. The members of the East Jamaica Conference Club think it would be interesting to discuss a few trends that we have seen on campus. The opinions on these observations vary from sincere hatred to absolute adoration. So, we have observed:

1. **The Women with Weave**
   
   Now nothing is wrong with extensions, they can look fashionable. However, our top observation is that some of these women emerge with bangs that fall into their eyes. These bangs are an obvious obstruction to self and others.

2. **The Winter Wear**
   
   Jamaica, to my knowledge, has never experienced snow. Yes, Mandeville can be cold but we don’t know about the snow boots and scarves in the very hot sun. We are assuming we’re following Kanye with the scarves? Totally unnecessary.

3. **Pretty Eyebrows for Guys**
   
   How do we approach this one? Guys, it’s okay to be neat, women love you to be neat, but we really don’t want to have to compare the shape of your eyebrows to female. No and No.

4. **The Chemical Coolies**
   
   We propose to the guys that if you don’t have naturally curly hair just get a nice hair cut and brush your hair everyday- it will succumb. And for the dudes with the straight hair...Kat Williams is funny, but he’s not cute...neither is Snoop. Sorry.
As much as we have observed we give allowance to the phrase “to each his own”. Never let the trends that you follow, or can’t afford to follow deter you from fulfilling your purpose. Keep in mind your aim upon this noble hill. Achieve it, and if you can, do it with your own version of fashion and ignore these feeble attempts at criticism.

Love,
The East Jamaica Conference Club.

5 The Guys With Those Awesome Sneakers
We stand half and half on this one. Some say tone it down, the shoes are too loud. The rest say rock on!! We love how you wear your shoes.

8 Guys & Skinny Jeans
STOP! Please.

6 The Big Bag Fad
A few of us, including the writer of this article, are guilty of carrying around really huge handbags. Some choose to defend these mini suitcases! There are very important documents in them including: accessories, books, food, shoes, tissue, a fan, dresser, closet, etc.

9 Black Eyeliner on Eyebrows
Ladies, shave or let your eyebrows gracefully grow out. Thank you.

7 All the Gadgets
An American was shocked that Jamaicans had BlackBerries and iPhones (sounds really lame nuh true?). At NCU, BlackBerries are so common. We are nowhere behind when it comes on to technology.

10 Colorful Attire
Pink top, purple belt, blue skinny jeans, multicoloured sneakers- all worn together-fashion. We’ve got nothing to say, some of you wear it well, and the others...well...

The Guys With Those Awesome Sneakers

Guys & Skinny Jeans

The Big Bag Fad

Black Eyeliner on Eyebrows

All the Gadgets

Colorful Attire
The best way to control the world is by controlling you
the way you see it
the way you react to it
your level of discipline

Seek God’s Peace
Draw from the INFINITE
to do battle with the FINITE
Draw from the SINLESS
to deal with the SINFUL
From understanding this never cease
Don’t overstress emphasize people because
LIFE IS A GAME OF CATCH AND RELEASE

- Joel Jumpp
The plug was pulled on the popular talk show ‘Ragashanti Live’ recently. Quite literally also because mid-program, there was a switch to R&B music which continued throughout the final hour and a half of the three hour program. ‘Ragashanti Live’ was aired from nine in the morning to midday, Mondays to Fridays, and was hosted by Dr. Kingsley Stewart, ‘the king of mix-up’. His voice was no longer heard on this his last day of work, as it had swiftly faded in the wind.

Listening to the program for some months now, I grappled to distinguish the entertainment value from the utter garbage expressed by Dr. Stewart. I literally grew nauseated at times as I listened to his raucous and slack public discourse, conversing with callers on mainly sexual topics. Dr. Stewart invited this odyssey with callers who for some reason found it entertaining to talk in detail about their relationships. Be it was homosexual (man with man, woman with woman) or heterosexual. I was appalled.

If it were left up to me, I would have Dr. Stewart hunted down and arrested for poisoning the minds of young people and our children who were exposed to this downright travesty, whether by commuting to school in buses or taxis or by the roadside where the program was put on maximum volume in corner shops. How could the Broadcasting Commission allow ‘Ragashanti Live’ to get away with murder? When I dug deeper in research, I found out that this utter nonsense emanated from the campus of the University of West Indies (UWI). I was flabbergasted. I will hasten to say, that I spent some of my childhood and young adult years roaming the campus of the university with my older cousins and aunts so I have much respect for the institution. I also have friends and colleagues there now currently engaged in varied studies. The problem may have resided in the fact that the station which aired ‘Ragashanti Live’, Newstalk 93 FM, was owned in part by the Breakfast Club and the management of the university. When the program was discontinued, UWI had just acquired full share ownership of Newstalk. Dr. Stewart must have seen the writing on the wall anyway. As he one day said publicly in a rather uncouth and unprofessional manner on air “dem (the university management) nuh like mi, suh any kyaad can play any day”. The rhetoric of Dr. Stewart was repugnant, undesirable, disgusting and very disturbing. I am surprised at well-thinking Jamaicans, activists and parents who allowed this program to have such a long run time. This illicit, loose, demeaning behavior should have been discontinued a long time ago. I strongly believe that Jamaica can do without any syndrome associated with as he puts it “bun an nuh get ketch” which we all know exponentially increases the risks of HIV AIDS and unwanted pregnancies. Dr. Stewart missed out a remarkable opportunity to heal the wounds of so many Jamaicans scarred by relationship turmoil and anguish. If only he had administered the craft of reconciliation and restoration to his flurry of callers.

So now he is gone. To the UWI management I say, “Tambarine!” In his TVJ interview however, after being thrown in the barrel and rolled down the hill, ‘the king of mix-up’ stated that another station had already agreed to air the program and will be coming back on radio soon. To this I say, let all well-thinking minds in Jamaican arise to combat the ills of society who plan to pollute the minds of young people, our children and the general air waves of Jamaica land we love.

Ricardo Campbell
Poetry

Heartless Sky

They just float by, gliding gently on the wind, the more you stare the more captivating they become.
And time slows down for that brief moment allowing my mind to paint that perfect picture,
And at that very moment the secret of life was revealed in that painting.
But so fragile was that painting that it shattered the very instant it was created, and I smile.
I smile at them but they don’t smile back.
They stare at me, beyond me, to my soul, and I tremble, not with fear but with shame.
And they cry tears of pity into my eyes, and I cry,
I cry tears of pain while they shout and scream.
And as my tears fill my heart and body, my soul screams in terror as it drowns in my pain and their pity,
My soul reaches out to them and they just float by.
Noel Malcolm

A Psalm of Ricardo

Hasten thy steps to help me O God
My enemies surround me round about
I recall them even in the night season
Their faces I see continuously in my sleep
Long have I experienced extended peace and rest
To bask in your pleasure and delight
Yet still with sword and shield I march on
All the day my enemies to fight
Great are the plans you have for me my King
But far they seem to be right now
Come nigh to me with thy sweet scent
And your umbrella of joy I pray
In this time O God, show me your favour
Which you promised me from the womb
Send to me your glory and pleasure
And let your tender kiss everlasting
Give me goodwill above them who oppress me
Let them also see and run away
Make thy glorious presence comforting to my bones
That I may ever more lift my hands in praise to you.
Ricardo Campbell
rcampbell19@stu.ncu.edu.jm
Name: Ramon N.D. Gordon
Age: 21 yrs.
Country: Jamaica
What do you like most about the world?:
I like...Thus...Umm! I need to rephrase. The world seems to have all the different moods, one day it's sunny the next day is rainy.
Status: Check facebook
Major: Mass communication
What is a normal day like?:
Well I normally get up at 9am to try to get to my 9:30 class. LOL! I know right!
At school I try to get all my work out of my way then when I'm free I sit and chill with my peeps until its time to go home to my wife.
Philosophy: Do your thing!
Angry and frustrated, Orane, the name I call him, vented without considering the consequences. Yes, it was public and he wanted it heard.

At 12:20 p.m., Orane got number one thirty one, while he waited at finance. He left the campus to return at an ideal time to hear his name called within ten minutes or so. Upon returning however, he was told that his name had passed and he had to wait on a second list of two hundred names to be called before his name could be called on the prior list. “Yow mi ago bun dung NCU!” Orane said in hot fury. Everybody laughed. His remark was partly humorous to me. Should Orane have carried out a revolt of that nature, there would be no classes for me to attend, which would be detrimental to my future. With terms such as ‘hotskull’ and ‘madhead’ being used nowadays in relation to people, one just cannot take some things lightly.

Orane was seriously vexed, with nose raised, teeth hissing and eyebrows tightly knitted. His general facial expression was not similar to one seen on a sunny Saturday evening picnic. A last utter of “Dem sin ting yah mek man, cho” then he marched off to the chapel where the names were being called.

Everyone laughed, including the security guard who gave him this information in the first place.

The academic year, I agree, commenced with turbulence as any other major activity. I truly conclude however, that the registration process was rather immensely arduous and must be revamped. This will most definitely avert such outbursts of frustrating anger and also put a more pleasant welcome face on the university for new students. On the other hand, being a freshman, I have successfully completed five weeks of classes already. I have observed students relating to lecturers amicably, students relating to students and I must say as I would to Orane, try as much as possible to let cooler heads prevail. As students, it is not just an act but a mandatory obligation to think through any situation one may encounter before acting. This is just not the time for making rash decisions. As freshmen and sophomores alike, we have come from different backgrounds, socio-economic states, parishes and even countries to achieve one single goal, earning that fancy BA, BSc, MSc or so behind our name. Let us therefore exercise positive thinking in all situations. Experiencing the campus on fire is an activity I would really not delight to see.

I have seen Orane on campus with, for the most part, a pleasant demeanor. There was no report of a fire to my knowledge either. The heat of the sun was indeed blistering that day, so maybe it was the different lists, the delays, the many redirections from Finance, to Career, then miles away to pick up acceptance letters, then to another area and back and forth, which put Orane on edge. Or simply, maybe it was just the intense heat of the sun seeping under his skin.

Ricardo Campbell
NAME: Shadeika Roberts
AGE: 22 years
D.O.B: December 18, 1987
NATIONALITY: Jamaican
FAVORITE COLOUR: Purple (lavender)
MAJOR: Medical Technology
YEAR: Sophomore

WHO AM I?
I am a very ambitious, highly driven individual who is always on the path to self improvement and empowerment; whilst magnetically pulling others along the way. Yes, I am a Christian young lady; so you know I am a pentagon of virtue with beauty and brain to the booth. I may be described as being eclectic, an extremist, call it what you will as I am comfortable with my personality. I am comfortable on the social scene (extravert) friendly outgoing and out spoken.
WHAT MAKES ME SHADIEKA-LICIOUSLY INTENSE?

- My zest for people especially for family and friends.
- My belief in making one’s presence felt positively.
- My eyes
- My unique visionary
- Passion for looking at life differently

HOBBIES:

- Dancing
- Sign language
- Reading and writing short stories and poem
- Socializing; yep hanging out with friends

LIKES:

- Outgoing persons
- Food (chocolate, rum and raisin ice-cream, rice and peas with fried chicken, fish)
- Loves to dress
- Stilettos (heels)
- Fabulous music (country – Carrie Underwood and Taylor Swift; absolutely loves Fergi )

DISLIKES:

- Snobs
- Pork
- The nickname Buk-buk

IF I COULD CHANGE ONE THING ABOUT MYSELF IT WOULD BE....:

Well it’s a toss between my Oral prowess and my height; I am 4’11
THE Vybez Kartel GENERATION

In the summer, I stood in the departure line entertained by the English accent of two Jamaican born sisters, now UK citizens. Before me however, was a young chap, looking, if I may say so myself, oh so “swaggerific”. He caught my eyes quickly because I like white clothing. “Mr Swaggerific” before me was in full white. Polo shirt with gothic designs at the back, extra large fruit of the loom underwear, Ralph Lauren jeans and a pair of Nikes.

Throughout the last year or so, I have seen publicly some parts of men which I really did not need to see. In internet speak, we call it ‘t.m.i’ meaning too much information. The social conundrum which is today’s Jamaica, I believe stems from the medias’ unreserved showcase of dancehall music. One such entertainer and the most popular right now, is Adijah Palmer aka Vybez Kartel. I have nothing personal against ‘di teacha’. In fact, checking my music library you will find some of his tracks because there are about two, three or so fairly good ones. There is nothing positive and uplifting in ninety five percent of his songs.

Their content span from girls, drinking, partying, girls, cars and girls. Wait, did I say girls? For the most part, the individuals who crave his music are likely to become potential deviants with plaited hair, pierced ears, ‘cut off foot jeans’ and of course, their blue, black, green and varied coloured underwear showing. From my experience, I witnessed a young man searched, personal belongings ransacked and shoved on his way. On the other hand, me, standing two feet from him was not searched but instead was given a ride to my destination by the police officers. According to them, “this is no place to be at ten o’clock in di night man, it jus nuh safe”. Oh, did I fail to mention that “Mr. Swaggerific” was escorted off by two Norman Manley Airport officers accompanied by a female attendant wearing latex gloves? That was after of course, he had the audacity to ask “Is this some form of profiling?” Vybez Kartel and other popular artistes thwart the minds of our young people with lyrics they convey on a daily basis. Have you ever listened to one of their interviews? I am entertained every time. Especially when I fail to find some of the words they use in the English, Spanish and even French dictionaries. They lead astray a group which at this time in Jamaica can create the metamorphic change that the country needs. Engineers, architects, medical practitioners, psychologists and the list cannot be exhausted.

Call it a plea from the heart or just plain good old common sense but I ask, young men, quit the bleaching of your face, the ‘thuggy thug’ attitude, the ‘gangster for life’ mentality and for heavens sake, pull up your pants because quite frankly, I am tired of this Vybez Kartel generation.

Ricardo Campbell
The above phrase is spoken by at least 89.9% of students. From tuition fees, to textbooks, rent, plus daily expenses; TIME JUST HARD! In order to survive our daily financial strain we as university students need to practice money management. In Jamaican terms money management is stretching the little that we have to compensate for expenses we incur. We need to realize that whether we worked for our money or got it from various persons (parents, guardians, friends, or family) the money in our pockets did not come easy, and we need to practice proper money management in order to survive university life.

By practicing money management, we will be helping ourselves survive the daily hassle of life. Always remember that God help those who help themselves. Practice makes perfect “suh save yuh money!!!”

**BASIC MONETARY TIPS IN SURVIVING UNIVERSITY LIFE**

1. Prioritize: By doing this we place our needs before our wants. Therefore; “Nuh buy KFC with the rent money when mackerel deh a yuh yard!”

2. Find other alternatives: through this practice, we satisfy our needs at little or no cost at all. For instance buying the text book for $10000 is not necessary when we could have rented it for $2000 or free from a friend.

3. Budgeting: By budgeting, we are basically designing a plan as to how we utilize our money daily, weekly or monthly. When we do this we will be able to save a little for a “rainy day” or treat ourselves as we feel.

4. Live below your means: Not everything satisfactory to us we can afford. Sometimes we need to close our eyes to luxury and comfort because “skool a nuh fashion show”. So ladies, forget about your $3000 nails and $5000 fancy hairstyle, and guys, forget about your $10000 Desert Clarks as yuh USM president seh, “Don’t worry about what others can afford, wear weh yu have”

5. Be on top of your Game: In such a time, we need to ensure that our academic work is always at its best because “Nuh money nuh deh fi resit nuh course!”
Inquiry is the inclination of the learned. Whatever your major – whether religion, education or mass communication – the demands of a tertiary education and some aspect of your study requires critical thinking. This overused term – which literally means thinking ABOUT thinking – originated long before Aristotle and Plato sat on the isles of Greece pondering life’s deeper meaning. It is part of our nature as human beings to question ‘Why?’, part of our wiring to intuitively wonder, and part of our God-given mindset to seek answers.

Haven’t you ever wondered why you yawn when someone else does? Or what actually makes the sky such a beautiful blue as opposed to say...the black of outer space? Have you ever marveled at the intricacies and amazing detail of the miracle of childbirth? Then you know exactly what I mean!

This is the nature of science. Not lab coat-clad crazed Einsteins or fancy mushroom-shaped explosions. Science is all around us – in the air we breathe; the pens we write with; the food we eat. It is this life-enterprise that the Northern Caribbean University Science Students’ Association seeks to explore and that Nursing, Med. Tech., Environmental Science, Biology, Biochemistry, Dietetics, Dental Hygiene, Mathematics and Engineering uncover every single day. This is a part of our life, and we wish to make it come alive to you.

Danielle Thomas, President
Northern Caribbean University Science Students’ Association

Science Majors
Come out and support your club on Wednesdays at 2 in the Lecture Room 1 by the pond. Everyone else – we still love you. And be reminded that every student of life, is a student of science.