

# up front

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## laugh it up

THE BOONDOCKS INVADE BOOKSTORES...AGAIN

Capturing all the controversial and laugh-out-loud moments of his infamous comic strip, cartoonist Aaron McGruder's new book, *A Right to be Hostile: The Boondocks Treasury* (Three Rivers Press, \$16.95), is a collection of his best comic strips from the last four years.

"The strip vocalizes a lot of what black people say in the privacy of their own homes," he says. "This shows them that they aren't the only ones who think that way."

An admitted news junkie, the 29-year-old jokes about the lack of reading in urban communities but points out that the problem is bigger than one race. "It's unfair to lay that indictment just on black people. The lack of reading is a generational thing. Younger people just don't read as much as older peo-



ple. Every generation reads less, especially newspapers."

McGruder, who got his start at the University of Maryland's student paper and then gained national notoriety in *The Source* magazine, has a show in development with Fox, a feature film based on *The Boondocks*

and a separate work of fiction on the way.

"I tell jokes with the purpose of pointing out the folly of the world to everybody else," he says. "I use hyperbole, and I exaggerate things only to point out how ridiculous real life has become."—P. Frank Williams

## leading ladies

SHE CARIBBEAN CELEBRATES ISLAND JEWELS

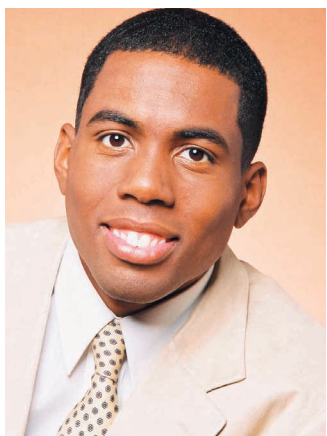
THIRTEEN YEARS ago, Mae Wayne was enjoying her job at one of the nation's largest fitness magazine publishers but dreaming of publishing something of her own.

Today Wayne's five-year-old magazine, *She Caribbean*, which targets 25-to-45-year-old Caribbean women, has successfully expanded from its St. Lucia home base, where Wayne now lives, into markets in the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States. "I didn't expect the magazine to grow so big," says the San Diego native.

*She Caribbean* readers are undoubtedly drawn to the quarterly's focus on their lives and loves. "Women are the success story of this region," explains Wayne. *She Caribbean* is committed to giving these accomplished women, many who are never recognized, their props. —S.A. Fuller



AARON MCGRUDER: DEBRA LANDFORD; ROB REDDING: REGGIE ANDERSON



## speaking out RADIO HOST HAS HIS SAY

"People are pretty much on political plantations," says Rob Redding, the host of the nationally syndicated radio show, *Redding News Review*. "What the hell does being a democrat or a republican mean and why does it [matter]? What matters is the old lady down the street who needs hot water and the child that needs a good, safe school."

Redding is evolving into one of the most respected names in media. He was named one of the 100 most important talk show

hosts in America by *Talkers* magazine, along with Rush Limbaugh and Dr. Laura Schlessinger. His forthrightness pulls in millions of listeners, and *reddingnewsreview.com* logs almost 50,000 hits daily.

"My goal is to give a voice to the voiceless," he says, "to those groups that are inadequately represented in mainstream media and society—minorities, gays, people with disabilities—and to deliver hard news from an unbiased perspective." —Nneka Logan