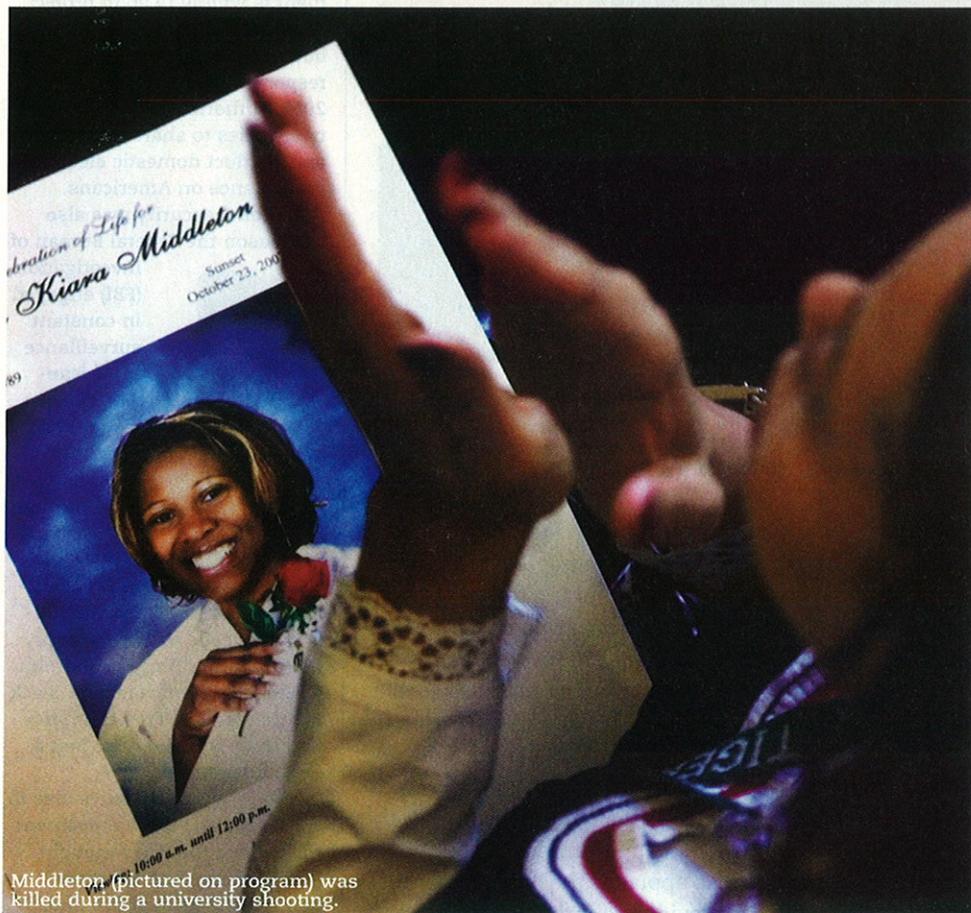


headlines



Middleton (pictured on program) was killed during a university shooting.

out of control

AFTER ANOTHER UNIVERSITY SHOOTING, INTERNET GUN SALES GET CAUGHT IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Northern Illinois University gunman Stephen Kazmierczak and Virginia Tech shooter Seung-hui Cho both purchased weapons from online gun and accessory dealer Topglock.com, which does not conduct background checks but does require purchasers to have a Federal Firearms License.

Despite a history of mental illness that included a stay at Chicago's Thresholds-Mary Hill House, Kazmierczak was still issued a firearm owner's identification card which he used to purchase guns used in the shooting from a Champaign, Ill. dealer.

Opposition from Second Amendment

advocates like the National Rifle Association has silenced even the most basic gun legislation. The only notable attempt to regulate Web gun sales was the Internet Gun Trafficking Act of 1999, which was tabled in May of the same year.

In a statement published on his site, Topglock.com owner Eric Thompson says gun control laws are not the answer; licensed citizens should protect themselves. "It's time for our political leaders to stop pretending that murderous madmen, like Cho and Kazmierczak, will obey a feel-good edict like the gun-free school zone laws," he said.

—Tiesha Henderson

brotherly love

BLACK LEADERS INTERVENE IN KENYAN CRISIS

SECRETARY OF STATE Condoleezza Rice, presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.)—whose father was Kenyan—and others have made efforts to mediate peace in Kenya after the elec-



tion involving Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki and opposition leader Raila Odinga led to violence and civil unrest late last year. Odinga, who said in media reports that he would not participate in national unity talks without international mediation, supports the intervention.

According to the *International Herald Tribune*, Sen. Obama urged Kenyan leaders to "call for calm, to come together and start a political process to address peacefully the controversies that divide them."

After 25 years of stability, the African country entered a period of massive violence following the contested reelection of Kibaki amid claims of discrepancies in vote tabulation. Reports estimate that uprising has caused 300 to 500 deaths and the displacement of hundreds of ethnic groups.

—Tomika DePriest