

Backstage shuffle before Hampton U. homecoming concert

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By Jennifer Hunt and Evan Winston

Hampton University's homecoming celebration hit a speed bump after the headliner for Thursday's homecoming concert, "The Royal Show Out," canceled at the last minute, according to school officials.

This year, students voted for Memphis-based rapper **Yo Gotti** to entertain at homecoming festivities. However, he backed out.

"That was on his end, and it had nothing to do with the university," said Anzell Harrell, assistant director of student activities. "The common courtesy would have been to drop out long before the week of our homecoming concert. We had to pick up, move on, and try to rectify the situation. I think we have some artists that the students will like."

In Yo Gotti's place, Atlanta hip-hop artists **Rich Homie Quan** and **Migos** were slated to perform.

Rich Homie Quan and Migos are known for their summer hits, "**Some Type of Way**," and "**Versace**."

"We're just looking forward to a great rest of the week," said Harrell. "I'd like to see a good student turnout and have them enjoy the concert."

Some students who were interviewed preferred the new lineup over Yo Gotti. Other students alleged that Hampton University does not invite well-known artists for homecoming.

"I don't care about our lineup; I wish we had put our money into one good artist rather than two no names," said Darius Johnson, a senior biology major from Atlanta.

"I feel like I'm going to a concert that I can listen to on my iPod," said senior Jarrod Neal, a biology major from Newport News, Va.

Brandon Theo Dorsey, a junior broadcast journalism major from Houston, said he looked forward to at least one of the acts: "I'm not too high on Rich Homie Quan, but Migos is one of the hypes artists out there. He has the best bangers, and is the epitome of turning up, which is what homecoming is all about."

While the concert turnout is expected to rise, the hype and interest remains at a low with some of the student body, especially Onyx 9 member who have seen the lineup go from artists such as Rick Ross and Wale in 2010, and Kendrick Lamar, Meek Mill and Miguel in 2011, to artists who some students label as one-hit wonders.

The concert venue is the **Hampton University Convocation Center**. The performance begins at 7 p.m. and tickets are \$12 for students and \$22 for

the general public.

*The writers are students at the **Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications.***