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The 50th Sit-In Movement Anniversary Breakfast Celebration "A Spiritual Thanksgiving"

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

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NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY

50th Sit-In Anniversary Breakfast Celebration

"A Spiritual Thanksgiving"

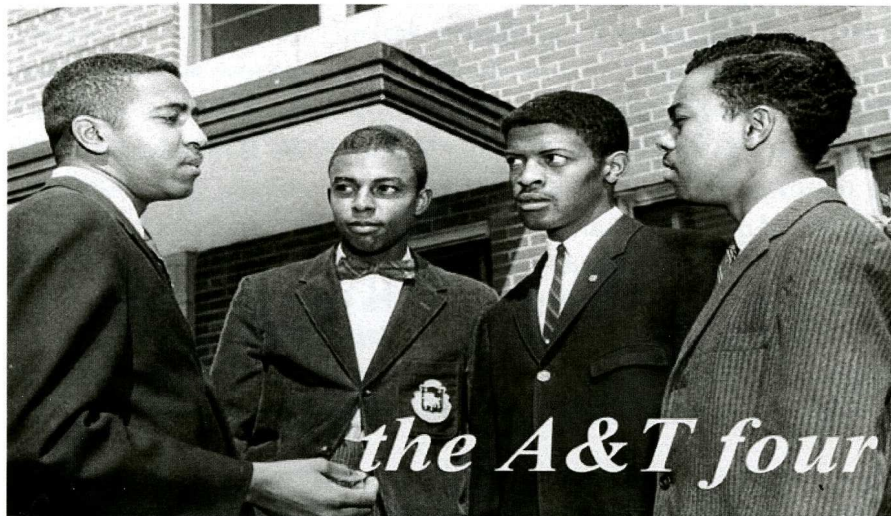


Photo by Charles Watkins

From left to right: David Richmond, Jr. (son of the late Dr. David Richmond); Dr. Franklin McCain;
Mahaji Apostol Dr. Jibreel Khazan (Ezell Balir, Jr.); and Dr. Joseph McNeil

February 1, 2010
Greensboro, North Carolina
The Division of Student Affairs
Dr. Sullivan Welborne, Jr., Vice Chancellor

The Significance of February 1, 1960



The Observance of the 50th Sit-In Anniversary celebrates the trail-blazing "sit-down lunch counter protest" at the F. W. Woolworth in Downtown Greensboro, N.C., on Monday, February 1, 1960, by the A&T Four. As A&T freshmen students in 1960, Blair (later known as Khazan), McCain, McNeil and Richmond requested service at the segregated lunch counter of the F. W. Woolworth's store in downtown Greensboro, North Carolina. After being refused service, they sat at the lunch counter until closing. The next day twenty-five other students from A&T and other Greensboro colleges and universities joined them. During the next ten days, students across the state participated in similar sit-ins. By the third week of February 1960, demonstrations had spread to other states throughout the South. The "Sit-In Movement" spread to at least 250 major cities and towns in America in which over 400 demonstrations took place by the end of 1960. Millions of Americans joined this movement for equal rights. This led to: (1) The passage of the 1960 Civil Rights Bill; (2) The interstate commerce commission ruling in September, 1961, against racial segregation on interstate carriers and terminals and, (3) The first National Public Accommodations Act in 100 years (Khazan, 2004). By the end of July 1960, the "Greensboro Four" had succeeded. Woolworth's was desegregated. Dr. Jibreel Khazan recounts:

On Sunday night, January 31, 1960, we decided we were going to request equal service for all Americans at F.W. Woolworth's lunch counter on Monday, February 1, 1960. We thank our life giver, Rabboni Yashua Al-Masih, our Parents, Relatives, and Teachers. Friends, Believers in our life giver, Bishop Apostle Marcelino Manoel Da Graca, Mahatma Gandhi, Mrs. Rosa Parks, Drs. King and Abernathy, Their Families, SCLC, NAACP, Ms. Ella Baker, SNCC, Core, The Labor Movement, the Martyrs, I.B.P.O. Elks of the world, Prince Hall Masonic Lodge, F. & A. M., A. E., A. E .A .o. -Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, and millions of Americans for "Helping to set the captives free." God sent us. We fulfilled the prophecy. All praises and thanks are due to our life giver for "Gods amazing grace."

The legacy of our four heroes proves the true potential and appeal of nonviolence. It was their protest that became the model and inspiration for later civil rights, anti-war, and women's liberation movements. Their courageous actions contributed to a chain of events that changed the destiny of Americans.

The A&T Four

Dr. Jibreel Khazan (Ezell Blair, Jr.)

Dr. Jibreel Khazan (Ezell A. Blair, Jr.), one of the **A&T Four**, was born in Greensboro in 1941. He received his basic education from the Greensboro Public Schools. As a member of the Crown and Scepter Club and National Honor Society, Dr. Khazan received an academic scholarship to attend North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. During his tenure, he served as President of the Student Government Association and was an honor student. Dr. Khazan graduated in 1963 with a Bachelors of Science degree in sociology and social studies. He has studied at Howard University Law School, Massachusetts University in Dartmouth, Massachusetts in the field of education and also studied voice at the New England Conservatory of Music. He received the honorary doctorate of humanities degree from North Carolina A&T State University.

Dr. Khazan has served as a tutor/counselor for Rodman Job Corps Center, a minority history teacher at OIC (Opportunities Industrialization Center) in Boston, Mass., programming coordinator for Boston area construction trades program – AFL/CIO, skills teacher/counselor for CETA, taught a pilot course on Afriyqaan American history for the New Bedford, Mass. Public Schools, and worked as program assistant for adults who are developmentally disabled. Dr. Khazan is a Mass-Star Story teller, Oracle, Oral Historian, and Lecturer.

Dr. Franklin Eugene McCain

Dr. Franklin McCain, one of the **A&T Four**, currently a resident of Charlotte, N.C. retired from the Hoechst Celanese Corporation Headquarters in New York, N.Y. and Charlotte, N.C... He held a number of positions in the technical and marketing/sales divisions, progressing from development chemist to division executive. Dr. McCain received the honorary doctorate of humanities from North Carolina A&T State University. He graduated from A&T with a B.S. degree in Chemistry and Biology. He did further study and training at N.C. State University, Princeton University, Farr Associate, Clemson University and American Management Association, New York, N.Y.

Dr. McCain has remained extremely active in his community while holding leadership positions in the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc., Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, the Bond Campaign for Mecklenburg County, and the National Conference of Christians and Jews, to name a few. Dr. McCain is an Elder at Memorial Presbyterian Church and formerly sat on the Board of Visitors of Bennett College and the Board of Trustees at North Carolina Central University. He is past member of the Board of Trustees at the Nivens Center for the Retarded, McCCorey YMCA, and the Charlotte Business League, among many others. Dr. McCain is presently a member of the UNC Board of Governors and also holds membership in the A&T State University Alumni Association. He is a man with many honors and awards. He and his wife, Betty, have three sons.

Dr. Joseph Alfred McNeil

Dr. Joseph McNeil, one of the **A&T Four**, has enjoyed waived professional career interest. Following graduation, he served active duty in the U.S. Air Force as a flight navigator. Thereafter, he worked in investment banking and financial management, consulting services. He retired from the Federal Aviation Administration in May, 2002 located in Jamaica, New York. Mr. McNeil served for over 15 years and was the head of the Flight Standards Division for the Eastern region of the United States.

Dr. McNeil retired from the United States Air Force Reserve in February 2000 with the rank of Major General. General McNeil served for over 37 years and was involved with efforts in Desert Storm and Vietnam. He retired as the Mobilization Assistant to the Chief of the Air Force Reserves, and previously served as a Wing Commander and Numbered Air Force Commander. He received the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal upon retirement.

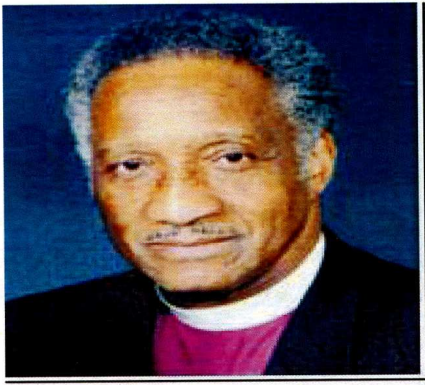
Dr. McNeil has been awarded honorary degrees from St. John's University in Jamaica, New York and North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in Greensboro, North Carolina. Dr. McNeil graduated from North Carolina A&T in 1963 with a degree in Physics. He and his wife Ina, have five children and nine grandchildren.

(The late) Dr. David Leinail Richmond

Dr. David Richmond, one of the **A&T Four**, was born in Greensboro, N.C. and graduated from James B. Dudley High School. He entered North Carolina A&T in the fall of 1959 and majored in business administration and accounting. After leaving A&T, he became a counselor-coordinator for the CETA program in Greensboro, a position that permitted him to assist disadvantaged youth and adults. Dr. Richmond died in Greensboro on December 7, 1990. He is survived by two children. David Richmond's life was celebrated with the play, *David Richmond*, written in 1998 by Dr. Sam Hay, former A&T faculty member and former executive director of A&T's Paul Robeson Theatre.

Dr. Richmond received the honorary Doctor of Philosophy in Humanities degree posthumously from North Carolina A&T State University at his funeral services on December 12, 1990.

Drs. McNeil, McCain, and Khazan were awarded the honorary Doctor of Philosophy in Humanities from North Carolina A&T State University on May 5, 1991.



BISHOP CECIL BISHOP
Senior Bishop, Retired

Bishop Cecil Bishop is a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Knoxville, College, Knoxville, Tennessee; Master of Sacred Theology Degree, Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC; Master of Divinity Degree, Howard University ; Doctor of Humane Letters, Clinton College, Rock Hill, South Carolina; and the Doctor of Divinity degree from Livingston College, Salisbury, NC. He pastured churches in North Carolina, Maryland and Washington, DC.

After twenty years of Pastoral service, the General Conference of 1980 elected **Bishop Cecil Bishop** the seventy-eighth Bishop in the line of succession in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. Within the United States, he served the church in Alabama, Georgia, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, and Georgia. Internationally he served in Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, South Africa, Barbados, Guyana, Trinidad-Tobago and Jamaica.

Other Episcopal responsibilities included serving as Chairman of the Board of Trustees - Livingstone College ; Chairman of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and Chairman of the Board of Directors at Faith Partnerships, Inc., just to name a few of his many involvements.

At the 1996 General Conference, he became Senior Bishop of the A.M.E. Zion Church and after twenty four years of Episcopal service he retired at the 2004 General Conference.

Bishop Cecil Bishop is married to Marlene Y. (Shelton) Bishop, J.D. They have two children, Jason Ryan and Dana Elizabeth and reside in Charlotte, NC.

50th Sit-In Anniversary Breakfast Celebration
Empire Ballroom (Downtown Greensboro)
Monday, February 1, 2010

Presiding - Mr. Austin James
Mister North Carolina A&T State University 2009-2010

5:30am -6:30am

Sit-In Breakfast

6:00am

Musical Interlude (Civil Rights Hymns) NC A&T University Choir

6:20am

Posting of the Colors NC A&T State University Army and Air Force ROTC

6:30 am

PROGRAM

Welcome.....Dr. Judy Rashid, Committee Chairperson

Prayer.....Student Minister Taurean Walston

Black National Anthem.....Ms. Chelsea Davis, Freshman, Graphics Communication Major

Greetings

Mrs. Pamela McCorkle Buncum, Chairperson
N.C. A&T Board of Trustees

Mr. Melvin "Skip" Alston, Chair/Board of Directors
International Civil Rights Museum and Founder Sit-In Movement, Inc.

Ms. Denyqua Rodriguez, SGA President
Bennett College for Women

Recognition of Special Guests.....Mr. Michael Green, President of the A&T Council of Presidents

Introduction of Guest SpeakerMs. Ngozi Opara, Miss NC A&T State University 2009-10

Guest SpeakerBishop Cecil Bishop, Senior Bishop (retired),
A.M.E ZION Church

Presentation of the Human Rights Medal...Chancellor Harold L. Martin, Sr.

Introduction of the A&T Four.....Mr. Syene Jasmin, President
N. C. A&T State University Student Government Association

Commemoration Announcements.....Chancellor Harold L. Martin, Sr.

Retrieval of the Colors

Event Announcements and Dismissal.....Mrs. Leonora Bryant, Executive Director of Alumni Affairs

11:00

**ADORNMENT OF RICHMOND, MCCAIN, BLAIR, AND Mc NEIL HALLS / LAYING OF THE MEMORIAL WREATH
(AGGIE VILLAGE RESIDENCE HALL QUAD AREA)**

SINGING OF THE ALMA MATER..... A&T GOSPEL CHOIR

11:30

BURYING OF THE TIME CAPSULE (FEBRUARY ONE MONUMENT)

12:00

COMMEMORATIVE MARCH (FEBRUARY ONE MONUMENT)

Human Rights Medal Award

The Human Rights Medal, designed by Charles E. Watkins, is awarded annually by North Carolina A&T State University to recognize individuals who have endeavored to correct social injustice and have significantly contributed to the betterment of the world. The design features The A&T Four as they appeared as freshmen, a dove with an olive branch in its mouth, and four stools and a torch, all encircled by the name of the university.

The award was established to honor individuals whose courageous actions are a reflection of the extraordinary action against social injustice that was demonstrated by Dr. Jibreel Khazan (Ezell Blair Jr.), Dr. Franklin Eugene McCain Sr., Dr. Joseph Alfred McNeil, and the late Dr. David Richmond Jr. Their bold move to lead a group of students to take a stand for justice by sitting down at the lunch counter of the local Woolworths "five and dime" store initiated a wave of similar sit-ins by college students across the South.

Honorees include:

- Mr. Lewis A. Brandon, 2001
Civil Rights Activist
- Mr. Vincent G. Harding, 2002
Civil Rights Activist,
Co-Founder, *the Veterans of Hope Project*, Author
- Mrs. Rosemarie Freney Harding, 2002
Peace and Reconciliation Activist,
Co-Founder, *the Veterans of Hope Project*, Author
- Mr. J. Kenneth Lee, 2004
Attorney and Civil Rights Activist
- Dr. Julius Chambers, 2005
Attorney, Leader, Educator, Civil Rights Advocate
- Dr. Alvin Blount, 2007
Physician and Civil Rights Activist
- Dr. George Harrison Evans, 2008
Physician and Civic Leader
- Dr. Diane Nash, 2009
Civil rights and peace activist, author, educator

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Candidates for this award are selected from nominations submitted to the Committee for Awards, Honorary Degrees, and Founders/Honors Day. The membership of this committee is appointed annually from N.C. A&T faculty and staff. The committee adheres to the criteria listed below when reviewing candidates. Following the committee's review, the Chair of the committee sends recommendations to the Chancellor who announces the honoree.

ELIGIBILITY

The Human Rights Medal is presented to an individual who has had a positive impact on correcting social injustices and other humanitarian activities. Other humanitarian activities might include human welfare and social reform, acts of heroism, promotion of fellowship, dedication to technological discovery, academic advancements or contributions, diplomatic endeavors, and community contributions. Candidates for this award may be locally, nationally, or internationally recognized. Nominees for the N.C. A&T State University's Human Rights Medal are evaluated according to the need fulfilled and actions demonstrated by the individual and the scope of his or her contribution within the community.

For over 12 years he has served as God's servant at Greenleaf Christian Church DOC, Goldsboro, NC. Many souls have been saved, lives transformed and more than 32 ministries have been birthed or strengthened to bring glory to God

By the grace of God, Rev. Barber has actively worked with our youth and has proven to be an inspiration. His diligence and devotion led to the development of several noteworthy programs that support our youth's welfare and education. He developed project YESS: Youth Energized for Service and Success, a program designed to enable students who are failing at the sixth through the eighth grade level to achieve academically. Rev. Barber was instrumental in organizing a program termed "Anonymous WE for Education," an educational policy watch group which he serves as Chairman. He also developed a Religious and Political Leaders Public Policy Seminar. He leads as Chairperson of a non-profit organization called "Rebuilding Broken Places," which is a community development initiative born out of a vision from God to build affordable single family houses, senior citizen housing, job training, affordable child care, and inner city revitalization in Goldsboro. Through this effort, Rev. Barber has helped to develop homes for flood victims, first time home buyers, led the effort to secure a low moderate income senior citizen's complex, and the construction of a community development resource center. To date this has resulted in more than 5 million dollars of community development initiatives. Rev Barber has written one book entitled, "Preaching Through Unexpected Pain", several articles, hosts two radio shows on WSSG (Praise with a Purpose) and WPMC (Catch the Fire) and has been featured in two national publications and on several television programs.

Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II is the President, North Carolina State Conference of the NAACP. Since becoming President he has led the North Carolina NAACP State Conference to national recognition by being the recipient of the 2006 Juanita Jackson Mitchell, Esq. Award for legal activism. The highest award in the NAACP for Legal Redress for Advocacy Instrumental in NAACP efforts, which include:

- Fighting and securing over 100 million new dollars for low wealth and disadvantaged students
- Joining with Center For Civil Rights filing an amicus brief to the NC Supreme court and the US Supreme court to protect minority legislative districts
- Leading in the organization of People of Color Legislative Day and a coalition of over 77 organizations
- Securing more than 2 million new dollars to address Health Disparities
- Securing more than 19 Million new dollars for affordable housing
- Winning a moratorium on landfills in NC.
- Helping to secure a bill on Fairness and Sentencing
- Presenting a final address the 1898 Wilmington Riot Commission and laid out a clear agenda for redress and reparation.

Additionally, he has been awarded keys to the cities of Chattanooga, TN., Dunn, NC, Lagrange, NC, Fayetteville, NC, Hickory, NC and Clinton, NC.

At heart, Rev. Barber is a country preacher with a conviction for social justice, prophetic ministry, deliverance, and a heart of love for all those in need of the good news of Jesus Christ.

50th Sit-In Anniversary Celebration Committee

Dr. Judy Rashid, Chairperson
Mrs. Leonora Bryant, Co-Chairperson
Mrs. Nettie Rowland, Co-Chairperson

Ms. Shelia Allen
Dr. Ceola Baber
Mr. Calvin Bonaparte
Mr. Donald Brandon
Mr. Lewis Brandon, III
Mr. Gary Brown
Mr. Ralph Brown
Ms. Tiffany Brown
Ms. Shekeitha Burnett
Ms. Deloris Chisley
Ms. Arnita Floyd – Moody
Mr. Michael Green
Ms. Samantha Hargrove
Mr. Travis Jackson
Mr. Austin James
Mr. Syene Jasmin
Mr. Mason Jones
Ms. Jennifer Kennedy
Mr. Kenny King
Mrs. Marian Lee
Mr. Ryan Maltese
Minister David J. Miller, II Pastor
Mr. Dexter Mullins
Chief Glen Newell
Ms. Peggy Oliphant
Dr. Maria Palmer
Mr. Wendell Phillips
Ms. Penny Torrence
Mr. Taurean Walston
Mrs. Wyndon Wilkie-Knight
Ms. Crystal Williams
Mr. Kevin Wilson

A special thanks to Chancellor Harold L. Martin, Sr.
Dr. Sullivan Welborne, Jr,
Mrs. Pamela McCorkle Buncum, Chair
of the N.C. A&T State University Board of Trustees, and
Dr. Velma Speight-Buford, past Board Chair
for their participation and support of the committee.

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**Alumni-Foundation Event Center
American Sign Company
Bennett College for Women
City of Greensboro
Division of Business and Finance
Division of Development and University Relations
Division of Information Technology
DBM Specialties
Greensboro Police Department
Guilford County Commissioners
Guilford County Schools
Howard University
International Civil Rights Museum
N.C. A&T Alumni Association
N.C. A&T Army and Air force ROTC
N.C. A&T Council of Student Presidents
N.C. A&T Student Government Association
Office of Legal Affairs
Office of the Chancellor
Office of the Provost
School of Education
School Of Journalism and Mass Communication
Sherry Poole Clark
University Choir
University Events Center
University Gospel Choir
University Police Department
North Carolina Legislative Black Caucus
North Carolina Office of the Governor
Office of U.S. Congressman Mel Watt
Sit-In, Inc.
School of Education
SODEXHO
The A&T Register**

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift ev'ry voice and sing, Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, Bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way with that tears have been watered;
We have come, treading our path thro' the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past, Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from places,
Our God, where we met Thee;
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, May we forever stand.
True to our GOD, True to our native land

Alma Mater

Dear A. and T., dear A. and T., a monument indeed,
Around thy base with grateful hearts behold thy students kneel,
We bless the power that gave thee birth to help us in our need,
We'll ever strive while here on earth all loyalty to yield.

Refrain

With joy, with joy, dear A. and T., thy students turn from thee
To spread thy trophies year by year from Dare to Cherokee.

II

Dear A. and T., dear A. and T., the signet thou shall be
Set by our great old common wealth, proud boaster of the free;
She'd have the record of her worth on granite not inscribed-
Nay let the children of her birth proclaim it by their lives.

III

Dear A. and T., dear A. and T., henceforth our aim shall be,
By precepts wise and deeds more sure to bless the State through
thee;
The arts of industry to wield against an idle foe.
A harvest rich from ripened fields of what thy students sow.