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## March 1995 Aggie-Gram

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"A Mini-profile of A&T State University"

# AGGIE-GRAM

GREENSBORO, NC

VOL. IV, No. 1

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Jibreel Khazan, one of the original sit-in students, and Rosa Parks, "Mother of the Civil Rights Movement," visit A&T's campus.

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## President Clinton Nominates Stevens For General Rank



Dr. Gilbert Casterlow (standing) with some of his high school calculus students.

### Dr. Gilbert Casterlow Teaches Math Via the Information Highway

By Richard E. Moore

Dr. Gilbert Casterlow, describes himself as being "pumped up" about his new teaching assignment at A&T State University. After all, how many teachers can claim that their classroom covers an entire county.

Casterlow, who has won awards for his mathematics teaching abilities, is in the midst of a high-tech revolution taking place at A&T and the Guilford County School System. He has been selected to teach advanced placement calculus to students and teachers of Guilford County over the Information Highway. It is believed to be the first system-wide class in the state.

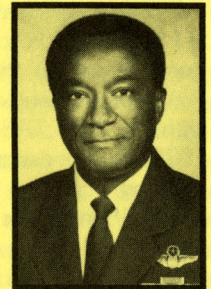
In Casterlow's first venture into distance learning, he is lecturing to 137 county high school students, 18 teachers and one administrator. "I'm pumped up about this assignment," said Casterlow, "because the students are pumped, the teachers are pumped up and the parents are pumped up about the class."

The class on Understanding Calculus is a collaborative venture between A&T and the school system. The class will provide an opportunity for accelerated math students to earn University credit and advanced status prior to actual enrollment in college. The teachers will receive continuing education units.

The collaboration efforts of North Carolina A&T State University and the Guilford County School District in this major telecommunication venture represents a 'break through' in North Carolina's Triad Region. "This utilization of Information Highway technology to beam University advanced mathematics into the classrooms of the Guilford County Schools represents a commitment to joint venturing geared to insure the development of tomorrow's leaders in this world of computers, laser beam technology and the use of the awesomeness of 21st Century inventiveness.

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Col. William E. Stevens, a distinguished graduate of A&T's Air Force ROTC Program has been nominated by President Clinton for the appointment to the grade of Brigadier General. Stevens is the first active duty commissionee of A&T's Air Force ROTC Program to be selected for promotion to General. Joseph McNeil, a 1963 commissionee, was recently promoted to the rank of brigadier general in the Air Force Reserve. Two A&T Army ROTC graduates who achieved the rank of general are Maj. Gen. Charles D. Bussey and Brigadier Gen. Clara Adams-Ender.

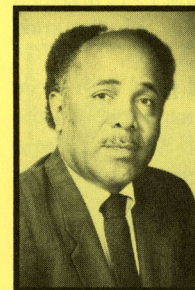


STEVENS

(Continued on page 2)

### Research Center Named After A&T's Chancellor

The A&T State University Board of Trustees recently voted to name the university's new



FORT

Intradisciplinary Research Center (IRC), currently under construction, in honor of Dr. Edward B. Fort, Chancellor. The current phase of the facility will cost \$10 million, but when completely finished, will be valued at more than \$25 million.

The trustees pointed out that Fort in his 13 years at the university has overseen the generation of more than \$173 million in

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President Clinton (continued from page 1)

The Wilson, N.C. native is currently serving as a military assistant to the Principal Deputy for the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. Stevens, an A&T honor graduate, received his B.S. degree in business administration. He participated in the Air Force ROTC program throughout his four years at A&T. Stevens holds a master of arts degree in national security affairs and African studies from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. He also graduated from Squadron Officer School in 1975, Armed Forces Staff College in 1985, and the Department of State Senior Seminar in 1992. The senior seminar is the most advanced professional development program available to the senior foreign policy and national security officials of the United States.

Following graduation from pilot training at Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, Stevens was assigned to the 37th Tactical Airlift Squadron at Langley AFB, Va. He flew with the 37th TAS in Vietnam. In June 1975, he was assigned to the 83rd Flying Training Squadron at Webb AFB, Texas, as a T-38 instructor pilot and flight test officer.

From July 1977 to December 1978 he attended the Naval Postgraduation, Stevens, was assigned to Monrovia, Liberia, as the U.S. Air Force Attache and C-12 instructor pilot with diplomatic responsibilities in six west Africa countries. At that time, Stevens was the youngest Air Force Attache in the Air Force.

In 1985, Stevens was assigned to the 37th TAS, Rhein Main Air Base, Germany, as an instructor aircraft commander and chief pilot. In 1990, he became the Chief of Middle East, Africa, and South Asia Plans, Directorate of Plans, Deputy Chief of Staff Plans and Operations, Headquarters in United States Air Force.

He became the 89th Operations Group Deputy Commander in June 1992 and took command in August 1992. He assumed his current duties in 1993.

Stevens is a command pilot with more than 4,000 hours flying experience in the C-130, C-20, C-12, T-38, T-37 and UH-1N aircraft. This includes 144 combat hours in Southeast Asia. His military awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, and the Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters.

Stevens is married to the former Carolyn Ames of Norfolk, Va. They have four children, William III, Saundrell, Kayle, and Camille.

## "Mother of Civil Rights" Visits A&T

By Nettie Collins Rowland

History was made February 1 at North Carolina A&T State University when the "Mother of the Civil Rights Movement," Rosa Parks, and Jibreel Khazan, one of the original sit-in students recently visited the campus. The 81-year old Mrs. Parks and Khazan received a standing ovation as they spoke at a press conference to an enthusiastic crowd in Harrison Auditorium about the Civil Rights Movement.

The audience sat in awe as Parks said, "People say the Civil Rights Movement is dead and something of the past. But I think we should make an ongoing effort to see our young people in the future and in the present have a good life, be prosperous and free. There should be freedom for all people regardless of race, color or religion."

Khazan, one of the original sit-in students, described Parks as a living memorial. "She is our heroine," said the jubilant Khazan, who later in the program asked the audience to sing Happy Birthday to Parks who turned 82 years-old on February 4. Khazan said that what Parks did in 1955, inspired him and the three other A&T students to do what they did.

Keith Bryant, A&T's Student Government President, along with other campus and city officials welcomed Parks to Greensboro. "The civil rights struggle isn't over but still alive," said Bryant. He thanked Parks for the role she played in making things better for him and other young people. Bryant wasn't the only person who thanked Parks for her contribution. "God

Bless America for Rosa Parks," said City Councilman Earl Jones. "I would like to thank Rosa Parks for giving me the opportunity to serve as a Greensboro City Councilman. If she had not sat on that bus, I would not be the lawyer, politician, or historian that I am today."

Parks told the audience that it was God who inspired her. "I know He has inspired me to do my best," said the petite Parks. "We can always live in hope regardless of challenges and obstacles we face. The woman who started the Montgomery bus boycott 40 years ago, said she plans to continue participating in the struggle as long as she is of sound mind and has the physical ability.

After the Press Conference, Parks promoted her book, "Quiet Strength" and signed autographs. Phyllis Harding, an A&T alumnus waited patiently in line for Parks to autograph her book. The 1975 A&T graduate was very excited as she waited for Parks' signature, "Mrs. Parks was a person who made my dream come true," said the Pleasant Hill, North Carolina native. "When I was seven years old, I was out shopping with my mother and needed to use the bathroom, but my mother informed me that I could not because of my race." The outspoken Harding said on that same day she told her mother, "One day, mom, you will see, we will not have these injustices." Harding said her dream became a reality on the day Rosa Parks decided not to give up her seat on the Montgomery bus.

## Aggies Earn 9th Appearance In Tough NCAA Tournament

For the ninth time, the A&T men's basketball team will be going to the "Big Dance," the NCAA playoffs that is.

A sensational rally against Coppin State in the finals of the MEAC Tournament, gave the Aggies a 66-64 win. Despite their 3rd place regular - season finish, there was little doubt that the Aggies would have to be reckoned with in the tournament. They knocked off Howard in overtime and they dismissed S.C. State before meeting Coppin.

The Aggies were led by Tournament MVP Phillip Allen with 17 points while teammate John Floyd finished with 19 points. Tariq Saunders paced the Eagles with 22 points. Stephen Stewart, the MEAC Player of the Year, was held to just 12 points by the Aggies' Anthony Jones.

The Aggies finished the season with a record of 15-14 while the Eagles dropped to 10-9. For the second consecutive year the Coppin State Eagles came into the MEAC Tournament top-seeded but failed to advance to the NCAA.

"In any situation where one game means everything, it puts a lot of pressure on a coach and players. Turnovers in the last two minutes of the game really hurt us," said Eagles head coach, Ron "Fang" Mitchell.

Asked to explain the Aggies' mystique in capturing 9-of-14 MEAC championships since 1981, first year head coach Roy Thomas said, "It's Aggie Pride, Tradition, Character, and Discipline."

The Aggies played Wake Forest in the NCAA's opening round.