Public Enemy Urges Student Awareness

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After much criticism surrounding their Homecoming pre-dawn appearance, a controversial dance, Public Enemy, who recently topped the charts and empowers through the song “Fight the Power,” encouraged students to be conscious of their performance at the Homecoming.

Public Enemy entertains an excited A&T crowd. Friday, at A&T’s Homecoming Pre-dawn dance, the group challenged students to be socially and politically conscious.

Speaker Urges Teachers To Nurture Students

Robin B. Alston
Special to the Register

The Afro-American community is constantly “losing ground” said the president of Bowie St. University, James E. Lyons. While speaking at the 98th Annual Founders Day Convocation, Thursday, October 5, Lyons encouraged blacks to continue to strive for the things that make them successful.

“We may be falling behind straightway by the direction started by our founders,” Lyons said. According to Lyons, many African American youth focus on the wrong issues.

“Your problem is that you are suffering from the Big Daddy Kane, Kool Moe Dee syndrome,” said Lyons. “That’s why we are loosing ground.”

Lyons said that teachers must aid students if students are to be successful. “The faculty must plan for the future and put in the time to help students avoid pitfalls,” said Lyons.

"Lest we lose ground and fall behind, we better get back on the slick," said Lyons. "And go to the things that make us strong." "There are other Ron McNairs and Jesse Jacksons that can be nurtured and brought along," said Lyons. "It's up to the faculty to bring them up like these great leaders."

Lyons also said that alumni should give more than money to support their institutions. "The alumni must support the institution with time, energy and direction and not just financially,” Lyons said. "We have the resources to support our institutions. Lyons who is the second president of Bowie State University is from New Haven, Conn.

He has been involved in numerous academic pursuits as well as with administrative services.

He served in the Peace Corps and also in the public school system.

He was once the vice-president of Barber Scotia College and Delaware State University. At Kentucky State University he served as the vice-president of academic affairs.
Focus

Outrage Over Group Sparked by Ulterior Motives

Wasn't Elvis a Racist?

Public Enemy's performance Friday on our campus stirred it's share of controversy.

Foremost I would like to clarify a statement I made which appeared in Thursday's edition of the Greensboro News and Record. I was asked whether or not I thought the students at A&T would be affected by anti-Semitic remarks made by a member of Public Enemy. I said no and that I thought the students were mainly interested in the groups performance.

After making the statement I was called insensitive and a host of other adjectives that might make some people think that I condone anti-Semitism. I do not condone anti-Semitism.

In Friday's edition of the Greensboro News and Record, an editorial compared Public Enemy to the Ku Klux Klan. I thought this comparison was quite absurd and an attempt to cloud the real issue. The KKK is a politically motivated hate group and Public Enemy is a consciousness-raising rap group, whose main purpose is to motivate blacks to learn more about their culture.

Mr. Griffith's anti-Semitic remarks were unfortunate but the groups overall message is quite positive. I was forced to wonder if all the stink was over Mr. Griffith's remarks or Public enemy's pro-black message.

It amazes me how white people pick and choose what is racist. I haven't recently read anything about the bumperstickers that are often paraded on cars that read "Lee surrendered I didn't" or people who walk around wearing Confederate Flags-should they not be considered racist too or at least insensitive? Or are they exempt from such criticism?

Wasn't Elvis Presley the guy who said that all blacks could do for him was "shine his shoes and buy his records?" If he were alive today, do you really think that a white university would not allow the "King" to perform because of the statements' insensitivity? I seriously doubt it.

It is not racist to tell young blacks that they should learn about their culture.

Public Enemy's message is much needed in the black community. If blacks are to better their condition they must begin with the youth. Public Enemy is able to reach the black community's youth because their message of black awareness and power is enveloped in a very inviting package for rap music lovers.

The groups method of delivering their message is subject to criticism only when you do not fully understand why they do the things they do.

For instance, I often wondered why members of the group carried guns during their performances and whether or not the guns were a confirmation of violence. During an exclusive interview with a member of the group, I was told that the guns symbolized the fact that blacks were brought to this country by force. There may be better ways to illustrate this but at least the groups way of illustration makes you think.

In other words, in the case of Public Enemy, I think the end justifies the means.

Public Enemy

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music has accomplished? Allen: Because (Note: In Mr. Allen's response to the question that refers to the song "Channel zero," he is referring to a refrain in the song which says, "She watch channel zero.")

Register: Why do you the wings for Public call yourselves Public Enemy? Enemy? Do you feel you are Allen: You'll have to a catalyst for change? wait and see.

Break The Hold

Bread The Chain Of Pain

Have a safe Fall Break. Look for the next edition of The A&T Register on Oct. 27

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FAMU Clip Aggies in Homecoming Game

David Pickens
Chief Sports Writer

Over 18,000 fans jammed Aggie Stadium for an exciting homecoming game against Florida A&M University Saturday.

The Rattlers narrowly escaped Aggie stadium with a 24-20 victory over the Aggies. The only score in the first half by the Rattlers came when Rattler quarterback, Antoine Ezell ran a 7-yard touchdown. In the second quarter Rattler halfback, Amir Rasul was put in the game for short passes on first down situations.

“They like post corners and deep routes,” said A&T head football coach Bill Hayes. Rasul chalked up 18 carries for 138 yards. In the third quarter the Rattlers connected on their first three passes. The first coming at the hands of Rattler receiver Reggie Schofield who caught a 21-yard touchdown pass to cap an 80-yard drive. The next scores by the Rattlers came on a 23-yard run by Rasul and a 34-yard field goal by Jimmy Virtuno.

Knox Thompson No. 99 brings down defender as Reggie White No. 99 looks on.

The Aggies defense stops No. 32 as three A&T players tackle the defenseless Rattler to the ground.

Maynor Makes Adjustment To A&T

David Pickens
Chief Sports Writer

A&T quarterback, Connell Maynor is a man of many talents and interests.

Maynor, a sophomore transfer student from Winston-Salem State University is presently involved in his most notable talent, football.

As a freshman at WSSU, Maynor lead the Rams to a CIAA championship in 1987.

"That was something that doesn't happen to you everyday," said Maynor. "I will treasure that for the rest of my life." The Business Administration major from Fayetteville, NC was recruited by Coach Bill Hayes while he was at Winston-Salem State.

According to Maynor, while at E.E. Smith Senior High School in 1987 he was recruited by several schools.

Maynor received offers from the Citadel, Virginia Military Institute, and Wake Forest.

"Wake Forest invited me to a quarterback camp, but didn't want to sign me to a scholarship," said Maynor.

That's when Bill Hayes saw the opportunity to grab this young talent.

"I was told that I would get to play baseball in the spring," said Maynor. "And what really pulled me was the off-season program at A&T."