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# THE A&T REGISTER

"COMPLETE AWARENESS FOR COMPLETE COMMITMENT"

Homecoming

Supplement

Volume LXII Number 6

NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY, GREENSBORO

Wednesday, October 11, 1989

Exclusive Interview

## Public Enemy Urges Student Awareness

LaVonne McIver  
Editor-in-Chief

and  
Shermonica Scott  
Staff Writer  
After much criticism

surrounding their Homecoming pre-dawn appearance, a controversial dance.

rap group incorporated a Public Enemy, who message of black empowerment through with the song "Fight the awareness into their Power" encouraged students performance at the to be conscious of their curriculum and to know whose making the decisions about the books they are required to read.

They also encouraged students to be pro-black, "and not anti anyone."

James Allen, a member of the group spoke with The A&T Register Editor-in-Chief, LaVonne D. McIver and Staff Writer, Shermonica E. Scott in this exclusive interview.

**Register:** Why do you carry guns during your performances? Is this advocating violence to the youth?

**Allen:** No. We see violence everyday. If you understand what the uzis represent--the way we were brought over here - under bondage and with guns.

**Register:** Why do you think that white America is

afraid of you?

**Allen:** Because, if you notice, in our shows we do our steps in order. We are synchronized. This means that we represent order in our schools, hospitals and in our communities, and with order we can change things. That's what scares them.

**Register:** In the song "Channel Zero" the group expresses its perception of a disillusionment on the part of blacks. Would you explain?

**Allen:** Well, "Channel Zero" means we watch foolishness on T.V. None of it has significance to our everyday living. The reason we say she is because if we get the black woman we will get the black man. She will tell it to him.

**Register:** What is Public Enemy trying to accomplish through its music?

**Allen:** We're trying to raise at least 5,000 black leaders in this country. We're trying to

raise the consciousness of black people.

**Register:** How do you see the future of blacks in America?

**Allen:** I see us coming together, and the only way we will come together will be through chastisement.

**Register:** How do you see the black male in America?

**Allen:** The black man is in a shallow grave. He is almost conscious and all it takes is a doctor who can apply the right medicine.

**Register:** What is the source of the material for your lyrics?

**Allen:** From the books we read. Like "Message to the Black Man" by Elijah Mohammed and "How Europe Under-developed Africa" by Walter Rodney. There are so many other books.

**Register:** What, if anything do you feel your Public Enemy cont. on p. 2



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 losing 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 loose ground and fall behind, we better get back on the stick," 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 pusuits 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 its 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 to blacks? 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.

The lead column on the opinion page is written by the editor-in chief of The A&T Register. It does not carry a byline. None of the columns on this page necessarily reflect the opinion of the entire staff.

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

## Public Enemy

Public Enemy from p. 1

music has accomplished?

**Allen:** Well young blacks used to wear thick gold chains but now they wear (African) medallions. We have raised their conscious levels.

**Allen:** Because "public enemy" in a way. Yes.

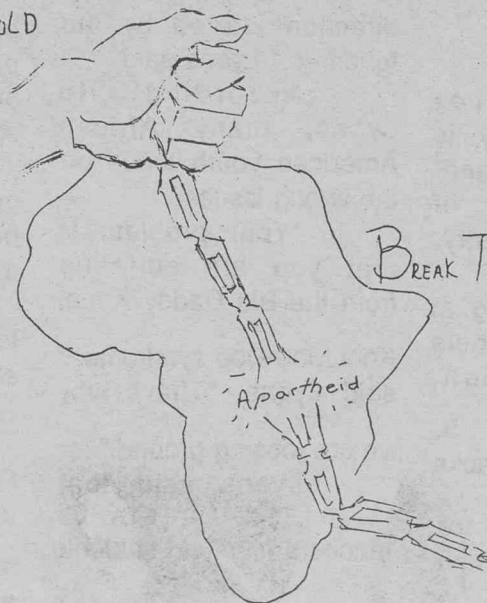
**Register:** What is it the wings for Public

**Register:** Why do you call yourselves Public Enemy? Do you feel you are a catalyst for change?

**Allen:** You'll have to wait and see.

(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.")

BREAK THE HOLD



BREAK THE CHAINS OF PAIN

*John F. Smith*  
©



# AGGIE SPORTS

## 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 Rattlers 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.

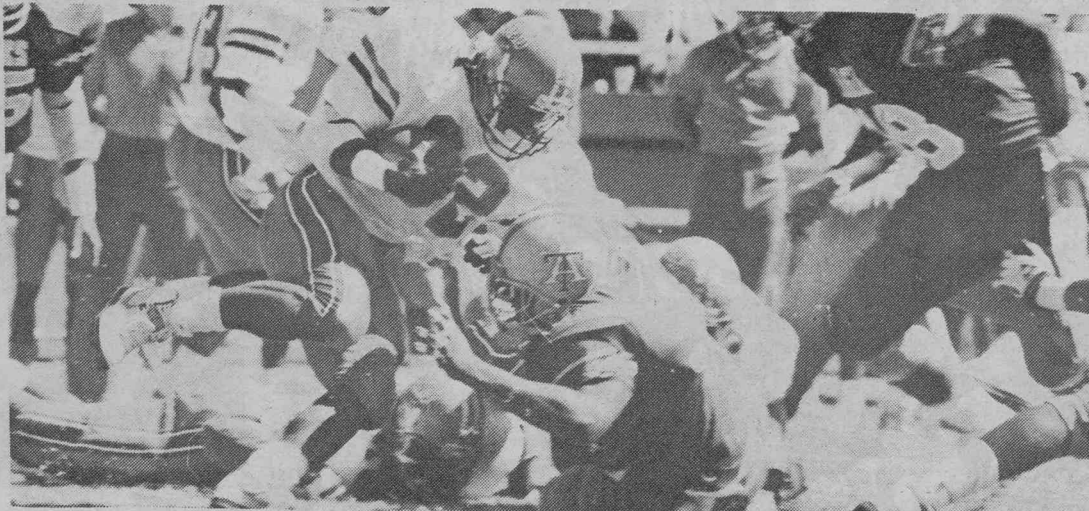
In the third quarter the Rattlers connected on their first three passes.

The first coming at the hands of Rattler receiver Reggie Sehofield 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.

The Aggies got on the scoreboard in a rather unusual way. Connel Maynor on the Aggies 25

yard line found receiver Laton Jackson at the FAMU 10 yard line. As Jackson caught the ball and started to run he tripped and the ball rolled into the endzone



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.

where Steve Prince jumped on it for a touchdown.

In a second unusual play the Aggies offense was

on the Rattler's 26 yard line threatening to score. Connell Maynor received pressure from the FAMU

defense as he dropped back to pass. Before going down Maynor somehow dished

the ball of to tackle Craig Holloway, who ran in a 20-yard touchdown.

When the Aggies had an opportunity to score again Maynor missed Laton Jackson on a third

and ten situation.

Jackson went down on the play and coach Hayes walked out on the field and was called for unsportsman like conduct. The A&T camp felt that Jackson had been ruffed by an FAMU defender.

"My kid is down and I'm going to see about my kid," coach Hayes said.

In the fourth period Maynor also suffered an injury.

"He was winded and shook up," said Hayes. Back up quarterback Anthony Parker came in the game to keep a drive alive. He completed two passes for 26 yards.

Trailing 24-20 with 2:18 left in the fourth quarter A&T had to kick off. What seemed to be a successful on-side kick by A&T kicker Vince Maynan was not.

"It was right there," said Hayes. "It was a perfectly executed kick off."

The officials ruled that the ball did not travel the required 10 yards.

The Rattlers had possession for the rest of the game.

"I don't have a lot to say about this one," said Hayes. "This team is improving every week."

## 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 led 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.

team."

While in high school Maynor also played basketball. But basketball is now just a recreational sport for him.

According to Maynor, he was influenced by Hayes to make the switch with him from Winston-Salem State to A&T.

"I was told that I would get to play baseball in the spring," said Maynor. "And

Winston-Salem State doesn't have baseball," said Maynor.

Maynor said that being a highly visible person on campus and being a student is not a problem for him.

"I try to keep a cool head," said Maynor. "When I introduce myself, I don't say hi, I'm Connell Maynor the football player. I just say hi."