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30 Years Later

Spotlight Shines on 'Famous Four'

By LaVonne McIver
Editor-in-Chief
and
Yolande Davis
Staff Writer

When four North Carolina A&T freshmen entered the Woolworth's store on Elm Street in downtown Greensboro on February 1, 1960, most people didn't pay any attention. Three decades later, the 'Greensboro Four' returned to the exact same location and were treated like Hollywood celebrities. Footprints and all.

Anxious journalists and photographers armed with reporter's pads and state-of-the-art video equipment jammed into the five and dime store's lunch counter area ready to capture the historical reunion of the famous Woolworth's quartet.

David Richmond, Franklin McCain, Ezell Blair Jr. (now Jibreel Khazan) and Joseph McNeil, were later honored with a memorial depicting a likeness of the four's footprints on Greensboro's newly formed "walk of fame" in front of Woolworth's.

"I give all credit to Allah," he emphatically stated. "I give credit to him for all ideas seen and unseen. The idea was always there in eternity. Those whose minds are tuned in to an idea and they pursue it, they receive it," he said. Jibreel Khazan

Youngsters stood on the very counter top and stools that once catered to whites only to get a glimpse of the four men who were once refused service there.

"I got their autographs!" exclaimed 9-year-old April Davis after leaning into the limousine that transported the famous foursome.

"I'm so happy that they did it, (sit-in) because now black people can eat anywhere they want to," the elementary school pupil said.

In the midst of the celebration, honored David Richmond said he didn't feel worthy of all the publicity.

"Do not honor me," the soft spoken Richmond requested. "Honor yourselves."

The four men returned to the five and dime store not only to re-enact the original sit-in but to stress the importance of eliminating civil injustices everywhere.

"The problems are the same," declared McNeil. "You still have the haves and the have nots."

McCain agreed with McNeil's sentiments.

"People don't have persistence and commitment, expressed the 48-year-old New York stockbroker. "Making changes is damn hard. People need to commit and be true believers."

Unlike thirty years ago, the Greensboro Four were waited upon, a service long overdue. Joseph McNeil ordered eggs, grits and bacon as did Franklin McCain. Ezell Blair (Jibreel Khazan) requested sliced bananas and David Richmond had his usual cup of coffee.

Proceeding the re-enactment there was much debate over who fathered the sit-in idea. The Carolina Peacemaker, a weekly African-American owned newspaper in its January 5 edition reported that Ralph Johns, a white Greensboro clothing merchant actually fathered the sit-in idea.

When asked if he was agitated by others who tried to claim a stake in the historical event, Richmond conceded: "I have no ego whatsoever," he said as he sipped his coffee, which happens to be the same thing he ordered 30 years ago, but was denied.

"We did it so thousands of others could have the right."

Sit-in participant Jibreel Khazan, the most colorful of the quartet clad in dreadlocks and a tee shirt that read "love is supreme peace," constantly teased the crowd with his playful antics.

"Save the children. The children are the key to the future," he shouted as he hugged members of the crew that had gathered at the side entrance of the historic site.

The 'Greensboro Four' Joseph McNeil, David Richmond, Jibreel Khazan and Franklin McCain pose for photographers while holding a plaque which commemorates their achievements.

Khan refers to the sit-in as a result of divine interference.

"I give all credit to Allah," he emphatically stated. "I give credit to him for all ideas seen and unseen. The idea was always there in eternity. Those whose minds are tuned in to an idea and they pursue it, they receive it," he said.

The civil rights heroes said they were surprised the Woolworth's sit-in caused a chain reaction.

"We were surprised it spread so rapidly," McCain said. "We had no idea it was going to happen."

He said the foursome did receive encouragement from community members.

"There was a little old white lady who came up to us and hugged us," McCain recalled. "She said, I'm so proud of you but it should have been done twenty years earlier."

After the re-enactment, the 'famous four' were escorted to the unveiling of West February One Place, a street named in honor of the sit-in date. A plaque commemorating the event was also dedicated in their honor to be permanently affixed to the outside of the Woolworth building. The former A&T students proudly but humbly looked on as they accepted their rightful place in history.

Richmond left the commemorative service with a plea for unity.

"Let's do something again," he urged. "We need to come together."
On Campus

Dorm Life Has Advantages and Disadvantages

By India Holland
Special to the Register

Dormitory life at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University is not all that it's cracked up to be, according to some A&T students.

Living on what A&T students call "the yard" has its advantages and disadvantages, according to Tonya Richardson, a junior marketing major.

"It's more convenient for on-campus students to get around and we're more informed than off-campus students," she said.

Richardson lives in Barber Hall, the largest female dormitory on A&T's campus. The dorm holds 420 females.

"I like living in Barber because it's divided into suites and we have our own telephone, more privacy, and not as many girls using the bathroom," she conceded.

Dormitory life has become very expensive, especially for out of state students. Chastity Green, a resident of Holland Hall, said she is really feeling the pinch.

"It costs me twice as much as any in-state students and it's not easy for us to get too comfortable so far away from home. We just try to adjust," she said.

Most of the students agree that campus life has its ups and downs, but the majority of the time it's really fun.

For freshman student Kim Young, it is a whole new experience.

"Being away from home for the first time and being on my own really puts a lot of responsibility on me," said freshman Zenda Parks, who lives in Vanity Hall. "Living in the dorm gives me a chance to meet a lot of new people and I enjoy the closeness I have with my roommate."

A lack of privacy is a major disadvantage of living on campus, according to Joel Brown.

"It's hard for me to study in my room sometimes, when there is a party going on down the hall," the Scott Hall resident said.

Famous Quartet Monument

By P. Angelicia Simmon
Staff Writer

A great stride was taken in the fight to abolish racial injustices on February 1, 1960 when four A&T freshmen sat at an all-white lunch counter at Woolworth's in downtown Greensboro.

A&T students took yet another stride to abolish racial injustice on February 1, 1990 by turning out in great numbers to pay homage to the four honorable men, Joseph McNeil, Franklin McCain, David Richmond, and Ezell Blair, Jr. (Jibreel Khazan)--who staged the first successful sit-in.

Over 100 spectators gathered in front of the Memorial Student Union to get a peak at a monument of the famous quartet.

Student leaders addressed the excited Aggie crowd.

Ponce Tidwell, president of the Student Union Advisory Board said that the 'famous four' set a good example for all African-Americans. "It takes a proud, strong-willed, courageous person to decide to shift gears. We must know when to shift gears in order to make change."

David Miller, president of the Student Government Association said that students must play an intricate role in the struggle for equality.

"America has a heart condition and it needs an open-heart surgery. We as the students must be surgeons and give America the open-heart surgery it needs," the 22-year-old business education major said. "We will take the next step!" he asked.

Jibreel Khazan and Joseph McNeil unveiled monument of the 'famous four'

Murals Depict Scenes From A&T's History

Two elaborate oil paintings in the form of murals which will be dedicated today, will depict two important historical periods in the life of A&T State University.

The 8 ft. by 20 ft. handsome murals by Greensboro artists, Eva Hamlin Miller and Vandorn Hinnant, will be unveiled at 3 p.m. in the commons area of the F.A. Williams dining center in a ceremony open to the public.

"I thoroughly enjoyed completing this work," said Miller, a retired A&T art professor, "because it represents a part of the life I lived while on the campus."

"I am pleased with the results," echoed Hinnant, and because I had been away from realistic imagery for 10 years, it was a challenge to me."

He is a 1981 graduate of A&T.

Miller's mural depicts scenes and images of the 1960's and 1970's, especially the era of the civil rights movement. It includes what Miller refers to as those "magnificent marches," and the lunch-counter sit-ins.

Hinnant's portion of the mural depicts such images as Ron McNair, the university's astronaut; A&T's new buildings, Jesse Jackson's candidacy for the U.S. presidency, and A&T's Mars Mission program.

The two artists said they planned and worked on the murals for over a year.

According to Andre James, director of Auxiliary Services at A&T, the artists were commissioned to do the murals because "we were pleased with their concept of the murals and their prior work. We wanted something that would be decorative as well as carry messages for the students."

Miller, who taught at A&T for 17 years, has been recognized as one of the nation's foremost black artists.

She has served as a guest curator for the N.C. State Museum of Art, and has operated her own studio and gallery. Miller holds the B.F.A. and M.A. degrees in art education from Columbia University. Her works are in a number of private homes in the east, North Carolina Central University, the Weatherspoon Gallery at UNC-G and the H.C. Taylor Gallery at A&T State University, as well as the American Savings and Loan Association of Greensboro and the Johnson Publishing Company in Chicago.

Hinnant has worked as a graphic artist in New York, and has appeared as a guest lecturer at Bennett College, Guilford College, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and the Greensboro Center for Creative Arts. His work is in private collections at 50 art connoisseurs in the United States, Canada and Italy.
Lifestyles

Richmond Recalls Woolworth's Sit-In Days

By LaVonne D. McVear
Editor-in-Chief

Fears forced even the bravest into submission.

But not David Richmond, one of the now-famous “Greenboro Four.”

“I had hoped somebody would back out so I could, because I was scared to death.”

Yet, he endured along with three other likely conspirators.

In fact, the four A&T students didn’t tread a step backward when the eventful Monday evening as they walked down Market Street, headed for the downtown Woolworth’s store, where on February 1, 1960 the story of the sit-in movement began.

Frightened by his own courage, Richmond says he didn’t have the slightest clue that the four youth would make history when they demanded the same service as white customers at the all-white lunch counter.

Ezell Blair Jr., Joseph McNeil, Franklin McCain, and Richmond were just four ordinary freshmen who were tired of sitting back and talking about the segregated South.

“We decided to do something. We had no idea it would catch on the way it did,” he says, as he shifts his long, frail body. “But in hindsight it could of happened anywhere.”

But it didn’t happen anywhere. It happened right here in Greensboro.

The scenario had been well-rehearsed. The four young men would walk to a downtown store owned by white merchant, Ralph Johns on Sunday afternoon to get some money for purchases they would make the following day. They would leave campus at about 4 p.m. Monday, and arrive at Woolworth’s at about 5 p.m. After buying some items, the 17-year-olds would proceed to the whites-only counter and asked to be served.

“We don’t serve coloreds here,” they were told by a waitress.

Richmond says while waiting to be served he was paralysed with fear.

“If someone would have said ‘boo,’ I would have died.”

But, instead of leaving the students remained and in the process dealt a knock-out blow to segregation.

“There were two police officers and some managers there. But they didn’t do anything. They just watched us,” Richmond recalls that the closer the students got to the store the more fear-struck they were.

“It was so tense you could cut through the air with a knife. We hardly said a word the entire walk there.” In fact, sit-in leader Dr. King once told Richmond, “it was so quiet, I could literally hear my heart beating.”

The five and dime store closed 15 minutes early that day and the four 17-year-olds who entered the store terror-fraught left with bulldog courage.

“We went back to A&T determined to organize and go back the next day,” Richmond says.

And that’s exactly what they did. The news traveled fast and before the sit-in members reached campus grounds the student body was absorbed in an unprecedented fervor. The “Greenboro Four” organized the entire campus and on day two they arrived at the store with 16 accomplices.

“We gradually increased the number of students until Saturday, when the store closed because of a bomb threat,” Richmond says.

The students continued the sit-down protests on Monday. Their actions triggered similar protests throughout the South. When it was all over on July 26, 1960 hundreds of students had been arrested.

“I can remember looking for my wife,” Richmond says, “and she had been arrested also.”

Richmond’s life has taken many twists and turns since his sit-ins days.

He is divorced and is expecting his first grandchild in 2 months. The 48-year-old spent the past decade caring for his ailing parents, John and Morellic Richmond.

“I hardly ever left the house. I cooked, cleaned and fed them,” he says in a fading tone. “I really don’t want to talk about it, it brings back to many memories.”

Sit-in member, David Richmond says first day was frightening.

Professor Pens Book and Software Package

By Yolande Davis
Staff Writer

When it comes to business savvy, Dr. Meadea Gibbs has cornered the market. At first glance, she personifies the image of the elite female executive of the 90’s as she exudes self-confidence, assertiveness, brains and brass through a sheer vail of charm and refinement.

This unique combination of “leather and lace,” has allowed her to hold on to her position as chairperson of the department of business education and administrative services for nearly 16 years.

Besides the hectic unremitting hours spent serving as chairperson, Gibbs has also spent her time to pen one book and one software package within the past year. Driven by the challenge to present, Gibbs undertook the tasks head on and now looks on the experience as a pleasant one.

“I thrive on a challenge,” she said enthusiastically. “It was pretty easy, though the challenge was working within the time frame I was given.”

The books, entitled “Study Guide for Use with Business and Administrative Writing Text,” and “Wordperfect Applications,” both published by the Richard D. Irwin Publishing Company, in Homewood, Ill., were written as supplementary materials to accompany the main textbook.

Both guides include extensively detailed exercises necessary for problem solving situations in business communications and are to be used as resources to, “complement” the main text.

While writing on the study guide, Gibbs says she made a conscious effort to emphasize the information presented in the main text by author Dr. Kitty Locker in “lay persons” terms.

“My basic concern was to make sure that I captured what the writer of the main text deemed important,” she said. “I felt good about how it turned out because in collaborating with her I learned that many of her thoughts and ideas were similar to mine.”

Since her publishing debut, Gibbs has future plans involving the printing press.

‘I’m making efforts to publish other things,” she said confidently. “I’m not sure if it will be a main text of supplementary materials.”

Gibbs is a graduate of University of Wisconsin at Madison and holds the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees. She is chairperson of the teaching methodology and concepts committee of the International Business Communication Association. She also serves on the Board of directors of Family and Children Services of Greensboro.
Re-enactment Eye-Opening Experience

by Mark Ausbrooks
Managing Editor

I did not know what to expect on the 30th anniversary of the Greensboro Four sit-ins. My favorite professor, Jacqueline Jones asked if I would serve on the media staff for the event. I knew this would mean getting up around half past five in the morning but I thought it might be well worth it. And it was.

This was the biggest one day media event that I have ever witnessed from behind the scenes. It was spectacular! There were over 150 media people in one cramped corner of a room trying to make a living. They shoved microphones and cameras in the faces of the famous four for over an hour.

If you read the event on television or read about it in the paper I'm sure you enjoyed it. The people who wrote the stories and produced the videos have a very hard time relaying the information to you. I loved being in the midst of it all and I can't wait until the day I can receive a check for covering a major media event. There is just something about reporters elbowing one another back and forth like Patrick Ewing and Rick Mahorn that I like. I guess it's just thrill of competition. Things can get very diverse and I think I'm just the man for the job.

I now know what to expect when I have to cover my first major media event as a professional. This can be credited to my favorite teacher. To her I say “thank you very much,” and I promise that I will continue to try to help others whenever I can.

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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Greek Alphabet

Sometimes pledging was brutal, but brutality was not a major part of pledging. Brutality was not a sought end, but at times crept into the process leading to the end. Today, however, this is not the case. Now, we as members of Greek-lettered organizations are faced with evaluating the traditions that have been passed down through the years and deciding which of these traditions will be omitted or retained in an effort to conform to America's attempt to totally eliminate "hazing" as well as conforming to the ideals of our organizations.

"Hazing" is a tricky word, according to North Carolina statutes, "hazing" is defined as "to annoy any student by playing abusive or ridiculous tricks upon him or her, to frighten, scold, beat, harass, coerce, threaten, or torture him or her, or to subject him or her to personal indignity." According to this interpretation, most students on this campus are either hazed or do haze daily! Where do we draw the line?

People interested in joining Greek-lettered organizations today do not realize the importance of the pledge process. To pledge is to promise a lifelong dedication to the ideals and purposes of your organization. Through pledging or being "on line," one also has the potential to develop life-long friendships, greater respect and trust among the brothers, an in-depth knowledge of self. It also gives exposure to another facet of the college experience. The ultimate benefit of becoming a member of a Greek-lettered organization is that it allows access to a network of international contacts.

The way things are now the pledge process will not only be rid of all the negative things about pledging (such as hazing), but also most of the genuine aspects as well which are extremely positive.

The pledge process should be built upon not only doing away with hazing but also keeping certain traditions which are helpful and rewarding to the pledges. It seems as though there has been more attention focused on the negative aspects with no regard for the positive.

I have two major goals for this year. First, I would like for all members of A&T's Greek-lettered organizations to become one big family. Secondly, I am determined to eliminate "hazing" on A&T's campus. We, the Pan-Hellenic Council, pledge to work with administration and the student body to have a smooth and fun-filled pledge process for all of those who are participating directly and also for those who will be looking on and supporting their friends.

Robyn Murphy
Pan Hellenic Council President
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Greek Alphabet

Columnist, Managing Editor

A&T Register
Camera Corner

What person or event in African-American history made the greatest impact on your life?

"The greatest event in African-American history which made an impact on me was the 'Greensboro Four' Sit-In. This event makes you remember everyone is equal. The only thing an individual needs is a chance to excel in life."  
Nina P. McNair  
Junior  
Early Childhood Education

"Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. not only fought for the equality of the black people but for all people. Also he fought for our rights in a peaceful way. He could have easily used violence just as other movements have."  
Monty Hickman  
Freshman  
English Major  
Winston-Salem

"Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. because of his loyal and brave efforts to unite mankind as one. I think that's he was a true example of a man of God and a leader."  
Sammy Ponder  
Shelby, N.C.  
Speech Communications

"Ron McNair because his contribution to the A&T engineering department made me decide on following my dreams of being an architectural engineer at A&T instead of N.C. State. To know he achieved his goals from a black university like A&T gave me the hope of achieving my goals at A&T."  
Patrick Woods  
Architectural Engineering  
Sophomore

"Rosa Parks, because it was who would not give up her seat and because of her I don't have to give up mine today. She was strong like many of us should be today."  
Thomas W. Connors Jr.  
History Education  

"Malcolm X, because he was bold enough to stand up to white America in such a turbulent time and say, 'I'm not afraid of you, I'm not afraid to die.' Also Malcolm X preached black awareness and pride. In the 1960's that took a hell of a lot of character."  
David Miles  
Sophomore  
History Education

"Rev Jesse Jackson, made an impact on my life because he represents a positive role model for blacks. As graduate of A&T he shows excellent leadership ability and the willingness to help others. One day I feel he will succeed in his dream to become the 1st black president of the U.S. and then that will be one of the greatest historical events ever."  
Gloria Wims  
Junior  
Washington D.C.  
Computer Science
Dizzie Gillespie Concert Scheduled

GREENSBORO - The A&T Student Union Advisory Board in conjunction with the United Arts Council, will sponsor a concert by internationally recognized jazz performer, Dizzy Gillespie, and his group on Friday, February 2 at 8:30 p.m. in Harrison Auditorium. According to Ponce DeLeon Tidwell, president of the SUAB, there will be only limited seating for the public concert. Tickets at $15.00 each may be secured from the A&T ticket office in the Student Union, and from Ticketron outlets.

John Birks "Dizzy" Gillespie, trumpet player, arranger and singer, was born in Cheraw, South Carolina, October 21, 1917. His father, who died when Dizzy was ten, was an amateur musician; through him, Dizzy obtained a working knowledge of several instruments. He started on trombone at 14, took up trumpet a year later, studying harmony and theory (but never trumpet) at Laurinburg Institute in North Carolina. From 1935, he lived in Philadelphia, playing his first major job with Frank Fairfax, sharing the trumpet section with Charlie Shavers.

Dizzy was in those days emulating the style of Roy Eldridge, whose place he took in the Teddy Hill band early in 1937, visiting France and England in the same year. After freelancing around New York in 1939 and working with Mercer Ellington, he joined Cab Calloway in the fall of 1939. During the next two years he was one of the three instrumental stars prominently featured with Cab's band (the others were Chuck Berry and Cozy Cole). By this time his style had developed some of the characteristics later known as bop, he worked with big bands led by Ella Fitzgerald, Benny Carter, Charlie Barnet, Luck Mullinder, Earl "Fatha" Hines, and Duke Ellington, among others.

In June of 1944, he joined Billy Eckstine's new big band. Later that year Gillespie's name and the word bop acquired great prominence among musicians, and by early 1945, after fronting a combo in New York, Gillespie toured with his first big band. As the bop language matured in the years immediately following, Gillespie travelled widely at home and abroad with groups both large and small, a pattern that persists even until today. Recently, his autobiographical reminiscences titled "To Be or Not to Bop" have aroused great interest.

Although it has been the subject of much dispute whether Gillespie of the late Charlie Parker was the primary influence in shaping the bop revolution in jazz, the truth seems to be that their ideas and those of several others were interdependent and that each fed upon the other's ingenuity. The result was a melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic advancement of jazz, the incorporation of many subtleties that called for a more developed technique than had hitherto been at the disposition of most jazzmen.

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By Lavonne D. McVer
Editor-in-Chief

To many blacks in Greensboro, especially those old enough to remember the Civil Rights Movement, the five letter acronym, NAACP symbolizes the victories won and sometimes lost in the battle against racial discrimination.

The association, born out of a small New York City apartment in 1909, has become synonymous with black progress in the twentieth century.

Over the decades, the organization has compiled an impressive record of legal victories in the fight for racial equality, including the landmark Brown v. Board of Education decision.

However, as the NAACP celebrates its 81st year as a pioneer in the fight against racial violence and injustice, it faces criticism that it is out of step with the present generation of blacks.

C. C. Draughn, director of the Greensboro Branch of the NAACP says he thinks the criticism stems from a misunderstanding of contemporary forms of racism. He recalls that in the early days of the Civil Rights Movement blacks had nothing to lose and a lot to gain by joining the NAACP.

"Years ago it was overt now it’s subtle. When I was young, as far as I could look there was racism … as far as my arms could reach, there was racism. We lived with it more than they. It’s hard for them to identify it. Today it comes in a pin stripped suit, a bow tie and a smile," he explains.

Draughn, who supervises the daily activities of the branch says the visibility of civil rights organizations depend on the severity of problems in the community. He said that race relations in Greensboro are fair to good and that might account for the lack of black participation.

The NAACP has about 480,000 members in its nearly 2,200 local branches, youth and young adult councils and college and prison chapters. Yet, the Greensboro branch has not been successful in recruiting young members.

B. J. Battle, former president of the Greensboro branch says young people don’t seem to be that interested. "It goes back to leadership and you have to have one or two strong young people in college chapters to be the leaders."

Students at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, the only predominantly African-American university in Greensboro, say that the student chapter on their campus is not visible.

Matthew James, a senior Industrial Technology major at the university says, "to tell the truth I didn’t hear about them until this year. They weren’t highly publicized. And I can’t recall them sponsoring any programs other than voter registration."

Mark Ausbrooks, senior, communications major, who is a member of the student chapter says, "I think it is a lack of leadership in general on the campus and people vote for certain individuals without looking at what they can do."

The president of the student chapter could not be reached for comment.

Some students on the campus choose to join less traditional human rights groups because they think the NAACP has lost its fervor. The History Club, arguably the campus’ most controversial of these groups attacks civil rights issues from a different perspective.

Glenn Wilson, president of the club argues that the NAACP’s let’s work through the system attitude discourages youth involvement.

"The system wasn’t built for black people. The same people they run to, to correct the system created the system and that doesn’t make sense. The NAACP deals with band-aid approaches to the problems, like drugs, they will suggest building more jails or stiffer sentences instead of dealing with the problem. If you for the most part feel good about yourself you won’t take drugs. The NAACP should fight to change conditions," Wilson said.

"What’s so enticing about non-traditional groups is that they offer logical solutions to the problems facing African-Americans. The NAACP, the Urban League and the rest of those so-called civil rights organizations have ‘sit-down’ philosophies."

Carolyn Coleman, director of voter registration for the Greensboro branch disagrees.

"There is no other civil rights organization in Greensboro that sells memberships. We are a viable organization. If you (blacks) are not a member of the NAACP you are not a member of anything," she said.
February One

Permanent Reminder
The famous quartet gather around a plaque that will soon be mounted on the Woolworth's building.

Same Path
A&T students and Chancellor Edward B. Fort march toward Woolworth's to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the February 1 sit-in.

The Whole Gang
The 'foursome along with Woolworth's representatives addressed students at a ceremony in front of the Memorial Student Union.
February One

Student Support

Members of UNCG's NAACP student chapter display a sign in honor of the 'Greensboro four'.

Luncheon

During a commemoration banquet honorees take time out to give thanks.

Famous Footprints

The likeness of the Greensboro Four's footprints were unveiled after the re-enactment of the famous sit-in.
Sit-in Waitress Victim Of Racial Climate

By Mark Ausbrooks
Managing Editor

Although she says she did not like it, Ima Edwards did not serve African-Americans on February 1, 1960.

Edwards, who has worked for Woolworth's for 37 years, witnessed the first sit-in as a waitress.

The four A&T students, Excell Blair Jr., Joseph McNeil, Franklin McCain and David Richmond who staged the first successful sit-in came approximately two hours before closing, according to Edwards.

"They sat in the back counter and ask to be served. The waitress refused, and thirty minutes after sitting down they said they would return tomorrow," said Edwards who scratched her head as if trying to recall the incident.

I wasn't their waitress, but I would have told them that I couldn't serve them," said Edwards in an aprehensive tone.

The four A&T students were very peaceful, according to Edwards.

"There were never any problems inside the store, but hecklers asked them what they were doing stirring up trouble,"

Edwards said that her and her co-workers were just victims of the racial climate in the South.

"We didn't know what would take place because back then they had separation between blacks and whites," said Edwards.

African-Americans and whites worked at Woolworth's during the sit-in demonstrations, according to Edwards. But African-Americans could only buy carry-out food and had to stand up and eat it.

"It was not fair that blacks spent the same amount of money, but couldn't get the same service," said Edwards.

The Casio fx-7000G $89.95*. It's the world's first programmable scientific calculator with a graph display. It can grow from one figure, instantly drawing graphs that depict your formulas and calculations.

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With its 822 step memory and 188 functions--including linear regression, standard deviation and computer math—the fx-7000G lets you perform computer functions, without sacrificing computer knowledge or incurring computer costs.

If you're already considering additional capabilities, there's the fx-7500G ($149.95*). It has a larger memory capacity, 188 functions, 4,066 memory steps, instant graph enlargement or reduction feature, plus a convenient horizontal printing format.

"They (co-workers) all basically felt the same in that we accepted both whites and blacks," said Edwards, who was 27-years-old when the sit-in took place.

Edwards said that her and her co-workers were just victims of the racial climate in the South.

"We didn't know what would take place because back then they had separation between blacks and whites," said Edwards.
Exhibit Features Fifteen Black Artists

GREENSBORO- "The 2nd Annual Art Exhibit; A Celebration of Black Artists in the Piedmont Triad" will feature a variety of two- and three-dimensional art works from 15 area black artists in the Irene Cullis Gallery of the Cown Humanities Building January 14 through February 7.

The artists are Alma Adams, Francis Baird, Arencia Davis, Edward Hale, LeRoy Holmes, Vandorn Hinnant, Frederick Jones, James McCoy, James McMillian, Eva Miller, Floyd Newkirk, Henry Sumpeter, Roland Waits, Cleveland Wright, and Gilbert Young.

Gallery hours are Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m.

The Shaw Players and Company of Shaw University will perform "The African-American Experience: And You Say Forget," Friday, Feb. 9 at 8:15 p.m. in Odell Auditorium. The original musical and dramatic production, directed by H.B. Cable, chronicles the African-American experience from African enslavement to contemporary America. Cable intertwines his own provocative poetry with musical numbers from "Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope," to negro Spirituals, African dance and the drama of African-Americans into a bold collage of exciting theatre.

The Greensboro College Jazz Band, under the direction of Dr. Jane McKinney with guest artist saxophonist Neil Clegg, will present "A Tribute to Black Jazz Musicians of North Carolina," Thursday, Feb. 22, at 8:15 p.m. in Odell Auditorium. The program will feature the music of African-American jazz artists John Coltrane, Billy Strayhorn, Grady Tate, Jimmy And Percy Heath, Thelonius Monk and Dizzie Gillespie.

Professional storyteller, Joyce Great will perform Friday, Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m. in Leo Center in Main Building. An actress and teacher, Great tells tales characteristic of the world of Black Africa and stories from Black traditions in the New World including African and African-American myths, legends and folktales. She was the featured storyteller at the National Festival of Black Storytelling in 1988. She will also present a workshop on storytelling at 3 p.m. in Sternberger Cultural Center. The Touring Theatre Ensemble will present "Down a Lonesome Road," a dramatic production of three short stories by Alice Walker Thursday, March 15 at 8:15 p.m. in Annie Sellers Jordan Parlor Theatre.

All the events are free and open to the public as part of the Black American Arts Festival produced by the United Arts Council of Greensboro with sponsorship from Miller Brewing Company, WQMG Power 97, American Express, N.C. Grassroots and the Greensboro News & Record.

For more information about Greensboro College events, call 272-7102.

Greek Letter Organizations Display Unity

By Sherry Rogers
Campus News Editor

The Pan Hellenic Council has initiated a campaign to project positive images of its eight Greek-letter member organizations.

Robyn Murphy, president of the Council asserts that the focus is on unity. Several strategies have been devised to achieve the goal.

One plan evolving from this new spirit of togetherness is the solidarity banner displayed in the Student Union announcing fraternity and sorority "Rush-Week" activities.

"It's time to put an end to the negative publicity that we are given," explains Murphy. The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority member continues, "We are striving to show the public that we do things other than party and that we do get along."

According to Dorothy Harris, dean of Student Affairs and also a member of a Greek-lettered sorority organization, the banner project proved that cooperation among the organizations can occur.

"The banner was an effort to bring Greek organizations together, spear-headed by Robyn Murphy, to show that everyone is working together," says Harris.

Despite the fact that the section designated for Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity was discarded, the effort proved successful. Dr. Harris explains, "It was not Phi Beta Sigma, but it was an individual in Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, who erased it because it had an erroneous date on it. He went about it in the wrong way. I can't erase what he has done, but he will have his chance to explain later. We are working hard to resolve the problem and get the answer."

Other members of the Pan Hellenic Council have expressed concern regarding the unification of the various organizations. "As we have a negative image in the student eye in terms of Greek unity, it was most essential that we come together and collectively create a banner symbolizing a step toward a more unified Pan Hellenic Council," remarks Arthur Parks, a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and Sgt at Arms of the Pan Hellenic Council.

Christina Pryor, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. comments, "It's about the best thing that happened for Greeks in a long time because not only did we come together on one accord but we showed the university that we are unified."

Each year the Council sets aside a week to recognize services provided by the various organizations. "During "Greek Week" we make a concentrated effort to inform the public and campus/community about the Greek-lettered organizations through seminars and lectures," says Murphy.

The Pan Hellenic Council will sponsor its annual "Pan Hellenic Summit" and "Ball" on February 16 in the Memorial Union. The Summit is designed to bring members of Greek-lettered organizations together to discuss pertinent issues that affect them.

The key-note speaker will be Dr. Henry Ponder, president of Fisk University in Nashville, TN. Ponder is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Invitations to the events have been extended to Pan Hellenic member organizations from across the state.

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The A&T Register
Staff
Remembers
The 'Greensboro Four'
Coach Corbett

Thanks Fans For Support

By David Pickens
Chief Sports Writer

After Don Corbett's Aggies won their third straight home game, Corbett reined back in his seat and eagerly talked to the press about the win over the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

As he started talking, Corbett mentioned names like Taggart, Humphries, and Spady. But as Corbett got toward the end of his interview he started to praise a different group.

Corbett gave a lot of credit to the fans that come to see the Aggies play. "Our fan support has really been great," said Corbett. "The students have been coming out getting behind us."

According to coach Corbett it really means a lot to have students giving his team the moral support that every team needs.

While the turnstile readings indicate that about 3,000 people attended the Aggies last three home games, Bill Covington, assistant ticket manager says that he thinks more people attended the games. "The turnstile readings could have been off," said Covington.

According to Covington there are definitely more fans in attendance at these games than the actually show. During the A&T v NC Central rivalry on January 18 the turnstiles counted 4,919 people in attendance.

But wild as they may seem these fans display that true "Aggie Pride" and will cheer their basketball team from start to finish!

Humphries Tops Blocked Shots

By David Pickens
Chief Sports Writer

When you look at the MEAC standings you won't see the A&T Aggies at the top of the list. But one Aggie is a front runner in blocked shots.

According to the junior college transfer, Jimmie Humphries, blocking shots is a specialty for him. "Yes it is," he said. "Every since high school when I lead the state in blocked shots."

Humphries enjoyed a successful high school career at Glad's Central High School in South Bay, Fla. From Florida it was on to Selma Junior College in Selma, Alabama. But Humphries said he came to A&T because he wanted to play for a black coach.

"I had a thing about playing with black coaches," explained Humphries. "They don't just use you and throw you away after the season is over."

A&T head basketball coach, Don Corbett speaks highly of Humphries. "He has done a great job for us," said Corbett. "We look to him as well as point guard Glen Taggart for that leadership our team needs."

Humphries was the center of attention when he was pushed by a North Carolina Central basketball player in a non-conference rival game on Jan. 18. This triggered a big brawl which soon gained national attention.

"To me it was frustration on his behalf," said Humphries. "I was scoring and he wasn't. He checked me all night." Once things settled down after the confrontation with NCCU, Humphries and company put together a three game winning streak over Delaware State.

Cargill

Cargill, an international agricultural and industrial processing company, offers a wide range of career opportunities. Our businesses range from commodity merchandising to poultry and beef processing, and from flour and steel mills to feed, seed and fertilizer sales.

Cargill will be on campus:

- Feb. 2
  Kelly Hill will interview students for Molasses Division internships
- Feb. 5
  Rich Gallant and Lamont Futrell will interview students for sales & production positions with the Feed Division
- Feb. 12
  Wayne Tiddy and Ron Scarborough will interview students for commodity merchandising positions
- Feb. 13
  Matt Hankes will interview students for computer science internships
- Feb. 15-16
  Terri Miller and Eric Gray will interview students for accounting internships

Cargill reps will discuss career opportunities during a special information session at 3 p.m., Feb. 12 in the seminar room in Barnes Hall. All students are welcome.
Basketball Fan Disappointed

Letter To The Editor:

My definition of "Aggie Pride" is obviously not the consensus of my peers that were at the Central vs. A&T basketball game on Thursday January 18. When the fight between an Aggie basketball player and a Central basketball player occurred, my first thoughts were cordiality; what is a Central player doing hitting an Aggie?

As I noticed the fight expanding from two people to several, I became frightened. From the bleechers, I watched the chaos. Guards, basketball coaches and parents tried to disperse, and save students from injury or possibly killing each other. As I looked to my left, I saw a man lift a chair to the height of his judgement, that would enable him to smash it against his brother's body, with all of his power. Then, I was terrified.

Disgust, and anger are not enough to describe how I felt when I heard my peers chanting amongst the violence, "Aggie Pride."

I thought Aggie Pride represented the many ideas and concerns that Patricia Russell McCloud addressed on Jan. 13, at the Martin Luther King Jr. Day convocation. Education, motivation and achievement in any area of study is my idea of Aggie Pride. Were those Aggie Pride chanting people at the convocation?

As I was walking away from Corbett Sports Center I heard gunshots. Soon the chant would have been "Aggie Died."

Funny? Not. An acquaintance of mine tried to debate the rationale behind chanting Aggie Pride amid violence. He said, "Where is your Aggie Spirit? Your being too serious."

It was not a matter not having Aggie spirit, its a matter of outraged people, national exposure and detriment not only to A&T's reputation but black colleges all over the nation and the "animallistic" image that the media engraved in viewers minds as they repeatedly displayed the violent scenes.

My body was determined to find the humor in the situation as she saw the puff of smoke above my head" but my mind was focused on how unfocused and insensitive we are as a people. As I strive to someday own my own business, raise a family, grow old and enjoy my life, will I be brought down by the other man or my brother man? By Vendra Martin

Moral Decay

Letter To The Editor:

Psychologists, physicians, journalists and even our very own surgeon general has told America's youth that it's impossible for abstinence to occur - so just try safe sex. "Safe sex" is a risy colloquial expression which gives America's youth, namely African-Americans the O.K. to have sex before marriage. The morals and standards that once was the foundation of this school, state and country has become a joke in the minds of many college students.

Students have set in their minds that there is no way anyone these days can wait until they get married when in fact they can wait. Social pressures lock many into snare that sex is a necessity before marriage. Whatever happened to respect, integrity, love and those expressions like, "if you love me you'll wait." The 'safe sex' idea promotes promiscuity and immorality. The situation has now led up to a discussion about placing condoms in our dorms. This issue has gone far enough.

AIDS, that deadly sexually transmitted disease that's killing thousands each day is what the generational gap is all about. What we are going to be faced with is more and more of the same old story.

Faculty Forum

Student Involvement Means Cultural Awareness

BY P.D. Kemet Muhammad
Speech and Theatre Art

The commemoration of the 30th Anniversary of the Greensboro Sit-In is a time for international celebration. This landmark occurrence represented a turning point in the Civil Rights Movement and spurred student involvement in the struggle. A tidal wave of young cadre of activists helped redefine the movement from one of parochial social justice to one of international human rights and "Black Power."

The premiere four A & T sit-in partners set the precedence for students taking an active part in world affairs by retrieving the lofty democratic concepts of the classroom and taking them in the streets to make the power structure either comply with its social ideology or show itself to be hypocritical.

Last year's sit-in at Howard University in Washington, D.C. to rid its Board of Trustees of the likes of Lee Atwater, chairman of the Republican National Committee and the author of the racist "Willy Horton" political campaign in the 1988 presidential race; and student protests against dictatorial oppression in Burma; and last summer's Bejing's Tiananman Square incidents along with student rallies in Eastern Europe are the most recent examples of students moving to inject their aspirations into the restructuring of the status quo.

However, African-American students who initially spotlighted the electrifying effects of "student energy" have not extensively in the past decade tap this source.

Students do not understand from where their power is derived, therefore, they neglect to impose their influence upon pertinent global issues. They do not comprehend that their power derives from a deep cultural commitment which comprises belief in the oneness of God and the moral strength of family and community. These ideas are as old as the ancient African peoples which lived by them. Unfortunately, the student descendants of the builders of civilization are very ignorant of the cultural connections. They do not realize that success stems from self-esteem and confidence in one's potential. If the student measures his or her aptitude for success by SAT and ACT scores and prospective earning power than they allow themselves to be defined by European economic interests which are incompatible with their cultural patterns.

Unity Ultimate Goal

Letter To The Editor:

February 1, 1960. What does this day mean to you? This was the day that four A&T freshmen decided to take a stand for their people. This was the day that four A&T freshmen would go down in history as a major part of the revolution for equality and liberty.

Franklin McCain, Ezell Blair Jr., David Richmond, and Joseph McNeil all had the courage and the character to demand their inalienable rights, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The 'Greensboro Four' fought the forces that were denying them these rights. The forces still exist today and still need to be fought by us, the youth.

1990 is a brand new year, the start of a brand new decade with a brand new century coming soon; and with the same old ignorance, the same old mentalities and the same old racism. Where do we stand as a people in the quest for equality in 1990? What is the difference between today and 1960? Today in 1990 we still are not truly free.

In 1960, the 'Greensboro Four' fought for the right to be treated with respect regardless of their skin color or physical characteristics.

Today the fight is for knowledge. We will never be equal and truly respected until we are free. True freedom, true independence consists of a free body and mind. The only way to free our minds is to learn our history. We must start from our origin, Africa. We must also understand the many aspects of slavery. Only then can we understand why we act as we do. Only then can we come together, work together, and love together. Unity is the ultimate goal. We need unity among ourselves in order to be totally free.

We must break the cycle of self-hate and realize that black is black. It doesn't matter what complexion you are or where you are from we are all the same boat. Thirty years ago the Greensboro Four took a stand against the conditions in which they lived. They took an active part in the revolution for liberty. Now is the time for us, the youth of African people in America, to take an active part in the revolution. We must work together to change the conditions in which we find ourselves. Thirty years from now in the year 2020, where will we stand in the revolution for liberty? The answer to that question is left totally up to us.
Green Hill Presents Three-Program Series

The recent American episode of African history has left the student population deprived of the cultural gift which helps an individual define the priorities of life and establishes short and long range goals for wholistic progress. Even though "Black Studies" courses are offered at most universities students fail to take advantage of the knowledge that they provide. Howard University is the only Historically Black University at which a 'Black History' class is mandatory for graduation. Perhaps this cultural foundation is the reason why some of its students are able to define their future and devise successful strategies for obtaining their stated aspirations and are willing to pledge their support for a liberation project until the fulfillment of that particular segment of the struggle.

The purpose for attending a university has over the past two decades evolved from wanting knowledge to help the masses of the people to landing that perfect job. Dress for success today must mean only what is on the exterior of the body while excluding the mental preparation for meeting the challenges of an anti-African controlled world system.

Culture functions for a society, a group of people, much in the same way that the skin does for the body. Culture is that protective envelope that secures a society from the attacks of foreign elements and it allows the salient and intelligent aspects of the individual comprising the group to grow and prosper. The contemporary status of the educational system and family structure does not incorporate a curriculum for addressing the cultural needs of African-American youth who are under constant attack in the media and in the classrooms.

The only weapon that a people have to fight the thoughts on their intellect is with cultural information about themselves. Armed with such knowledge a person can conquer any foe. But without such artillery, the group succumbs to pressure and develops into a warped caricature of the dominant society.

A movement is only determined when the group decides to join together and go forward toward a goal of their choosing and for their benefits.

This is a cultural-based decision and thus has been arrived at certainly not tool for punishing the ruling society for not opening its doors to African-American persons.

Students and young Africans everywhere wishing to initiate a modern movement must realize that the first step is to take an inward look at themselves and to find the ideologies of the ancient ones. From this vantage point the struggle becomes one of transforming the world by re-forming the African personality.

Facility Forum is a weekly column opened to the views and expressions of the faculty and staff.

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In the United States, we have experienced phenomenal growth. In the past three years we have grown from 4,000 employees to more than 40,000 with business in 65 locations throughout the country. We are active, aggressive, and are committed to being one of the best known leaders in the power field through state-of-the-art engineering and business applications.

The opportunities that exist are exceptional... . . . for Engineering graduates in Electrical, Mechanical and General Engineering and for holders of the MBA.

Because we are young, yet have over 100 years of business success, we need professionals who can help us define our new direction. In fact, we often say, "our future has not yet been created."

About 50 percent of our business worldwide is power related. In electric generation, transmission and distribution, we are involved from Maine to Florida and from Pennsylvania to California. Our transportation technology is built into modern rail and transit systems throughout the U.S., and our emphasis on environmental control systems will answer the needs of American consumers and business planners for decades to come.

We will be conducting interviews on the North Carolina A&T University Campus February 27

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If you cannot visit us on campus, please direct your resume, in confidence, to: Director, College Relations, Asea Brown Boveri Inc. 2975 Westchester Avenue, Purchase, NY 10577, ABB is an equal opportunity employer.

Richmond cont. from p. 3

aware of the plights of the past. "Some of them take for granted that this is the way things has always been. That is why we have obstructions, to remind them how things were so we won't go back to the way things were," he says.

Safe Sex cont. from p. 13

transmitted disease has caused many to use drastic measures to have sex only with commitment a way of life. These condoms in our dorms will reduce our respect for ourselves, reduce the black males respect for black females and let outsiders know that we are an unruly people that can't control ourselves. Condom machines will be a constant reminder that "safe sex" is here. No one has stood up for the rights of those who want to maintain self-respect, integrity and good morals.

If you've ever talked to an AIDS patient then you wouldn't want to use a condom or anything else. Most patients insist that if given another chance they wouldn't have committed the sexual act at all. While everyone is searching for the ultimate solution it seems to me it is staring us in the face. Yes, that word that no one wants to hear: abstinence is the best cure.

Mary Eicher
### Calendar

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<td>Exhibit of paintings by James Melvin, Taylor Art Gallery, thru Feb 24</td>
<td>8:00 p.m. Drama, &quot;Sister's,&quot; by Tomandi Productions, Harrison Aud.</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. and Noon-Movie &quot;Cotton Club,&quot; Audiorvisual Center, F.D. Bluford Library</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. Sigma Chi Beta Chapter, Chi, Eta Phi Sorority presents panel discussion on Black History, Noble Hall Aud. Noon -6:00 p.m. Videos on &quot;Black Culture,&quot; African Heritage Center 6:00 p.m. Convocation for Upward Bound students, 123 Gibbs Hall</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. 4:00p.m.-Career Day for teachers, Corbett Center 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and noon-Movie, &quot;Malcolm X.&quot; Audiorvisual Center, F.D. Bluford Library Dick Gregory, activist will lecture on February 8 in the Student Activities Office on the campus of Winston-Salem State University</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.-4p.m. Student Union Advisory Board Valentine Ball, Memorial Union Ballroom</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.-4p.m. Freshmen Class display on &quot;Carver: G. Woodson and the Collection of Source Materials for Afro-American History,&quot; Student Union</td>
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<td>WNA will air a complete run-down of the days symposia, workshops, lectures and exhibits for Black History Month happening around the Trial Monday thru Friday at 7:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>The Winston-Salem Urban League, will sponsor a workshop by Dr. Marie Williamson, on &quot;The Black Family: The Adolescent&quot; at The Winston-Salem Urban League from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. and noon-Movie, &quot;Eyes on the Prize,&quot; (part 1 and 2) Bluford Library 4:00 p.m. Opening of new exhibit, &quot;Woman,&quot; African Heritage Center 8:00 p.m. SUAB lecture by Dr. Yoses Ben Jochannon, Harrison Auditorium</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.-Black History Quiz Bowl, 123 Gibbs 12 noon-6 p.m. Videos on &quot;Black Culture,&quot; African Heritage Center</td>
<td>9 a.m. &amp; 12 noon-Movie &quot;Eyes on the Prize&quot; (Parts 3 &amp; 4), Audiorvisual Center, F.D. Bluford Library 7:30 p.m. W.T. Gibbs Lecture by Dr. Daniel C. Littlefield, professor of History, University of Illinois, Harrison Aud.</td>
<td>9-11 a.m. Sophomore Class display on &quot;Woodson: The Educator and Prophet&quot;, Memorial Union 1-11 p.m. State Physical Education Majors Workshop, Corbett Sports Center 7:30 p.m. Annual Pan Hellenic Summit, Memorial Union</td>
<td>9 a.m.-1 p.m. State Physical Education Majors Workshop, Corbett Sports Center 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Fourth Annual Pan Hellenic Summit</td>
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<td>The Rev. John and Sara Mendes will lecture on &quot;The Black Family The Church&quot; from 7:30-9:00 p.m. at the Winston-Salem Urban League.</td>
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<td>9 a.m. &amp; 12 noon-Movie &quot;Eyes on the Prize,&quot; African Heritage Center</td>
<td>12 noon-6 p.m. Videos on &quot;Black Culture,&quot; African Heritage Center</td>
<td>9:11 a.m.- Junior Class Display on &quot;The Woodson Institute,&quot; Memorial Union Lobby</td>
<td>9:11 a.m. &amp; 12 noon-1 p.m. Movie, &quot;Ethnic Notions,&quot; Audiorvisual Center, F.D. Bluford Library</td>
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