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## **The Register, 1993-04-16**

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# THE A&T REGISTER

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University  
Greensboro, North Carolina 27411



Volume 68 Number 12

16 APRIL 1993

## News Scope

### City awaits verdict

The Marines practiced storming a city and South Central was urged to "chill" as a federal jury in a barricaded courthouse continued to weigh the fate of the four policemen in the Rodney King beating case.

The jury was to return for a fifth day of deliberations today. Sgt. Stacey Koon, Officers Laurence Powell and Theodore Briseno and former Officer Timothy Wind are accused of depriving King of his civil rights in the 1991 beating videotaped by an onlooker. They could get 10 years in prison.

### Man shot while fleeing

Raleigh (AP)- A 38-year-old Raleigh man was shot and wounded by police when he threatened an officer with a buck knife, officials said.

Police were trying to serve Ricky Ray Jackson with a fugitive warrant when he fled a residence, said Master Officer S.M. Utley. He said Jackson ran toward him with the knife held above his head and ignored several warnings to stop.

Utley said he fired his 10mm service revolver several times, striking Jackson once in each leg, in one arm and in the abdomen. Jackson was in critical condition at a Raleigh hospital today.

### Young sex

WASHINGTON (AP)- The average American man loses his virginity at 17, makes love once a week and has had seven sexual partners before his 40th birthday a government-funded study says.

Only 2.3 percent of the men reported any homosexual activity in the past decade, and just 1.1 percent said they had exclusively homosexual relations, according to the survey published Wednesday in Family Planning Perspective magazine.

### Jackson reunion

The often squabbling Jacksons- Michael included- are said to be planning a reunion show in December.

The Jackson Family Invitational Music Benefit and Awards will be held in December, said Thomas D. Carver, president of the Casino Association of New Jersey, a sponsor of the event. The Press, quoting an unidentified association source, reported Wednesday that Michael Jackson would take part.

## Faculty senate delays vote on black studies

From Staff Reports

Members of North Carolina A&T's Faculty Forum didn't permanently slam the door on mandatory black studies Wednesday night, but they did guarantee that the door will remain closed until at least next fall.

The Faculty Senate, a group of faculty members responsible for approving all curriculum changes at the University, delayed a vote on the proposed six hours of required African-American studies until next autumn.

Student representatives such as former A&T History Club President Dwayne Patterson, whose group has spearheaded the push for the studies along with the Student Government Association (SGA), accused the faculty of employing delaying tactics in the hope that the issue would eventually lose steam and "die down."

He vowed that student

pressure for the mandatory studies would continue unabated.

Pat Shelton, chair of A&T's Task Force on African-American Studies, a group including students, faculty and administrators, said the task force was in the preliminary stages of making a recommendation but was not ready to announce a decision pending further investigation and discussion.

Just more than a year ago, on April 8, 1992, a Faculty Forum facing the same issue declined to make the black studies program mandatory, adopting instead a resolution authorizing students to take up to 12 hours of African-American studies to satisfy core curriculum requirements: six hours in humanities, six hours in social sciences and free electives.

Members of an N.C. A&T student coalition pushing for the adoption of mandatory studies at the

continued on page 5

## Top of the world

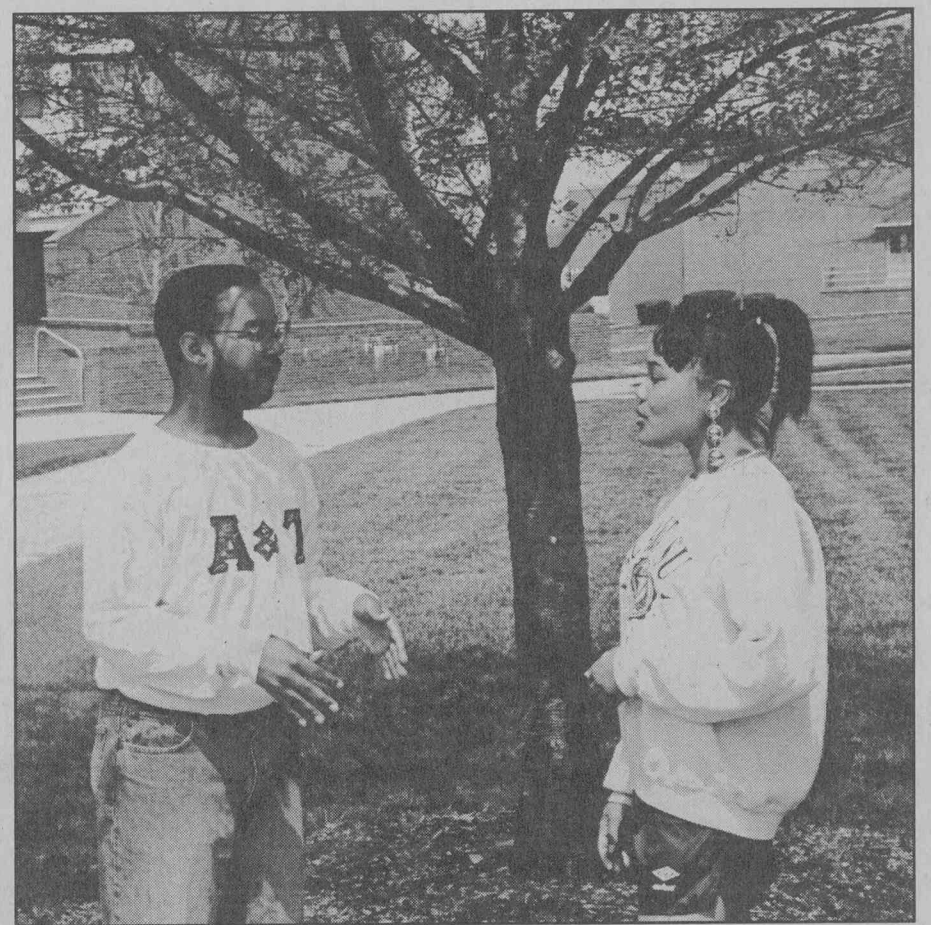


Photo By Lisa Johnson

Power talk: Newly elected SGA President Rodney Boone and Miss A&T, Tangular Graves, chat outside of the Student Union.

## Argument turns violent: gunshots fired

by Scottie Holloway  
Staff Reporter

An argument between two men — neither of whom was an A&T student — over a female student led to one man pulling a gun on the other and later firing a shot on April 8, police reports said.

Witnesses stated that a black

male, last seen driving a gray Chevrolet Blazer, allegedly pulled out a small hand-gun and pointed the weapon at another male during an argument in a Laurel Street parking lot, police said.

According to police reports, the female stated that while she was talking to another man, the suspect — whom she has known for only two

weeks — approached her and started an argument because she was talking to the other male. During the argument, the man she had been conversing with asked the suspect to leave the female alone. The suspect then allegedly pulled out the gun and pointed it at the male.

Police said the suspect continued pointing the weapon as he

got into his car. While driving off, the suspect fired one shot into the air.

The direction he was traveling in when he left the crime scene is unknown.

The female and witnesses stated that they believed the suspect's motive with the weapon was only a scare tactic and not intended to bring any harm, said police reports.

## "Down to earth" aggie wins Miss A&T

by Lisa Johnson  
Staff Reporter

Tangular Graves, who was elected the new Miss A&T in March, attributes her win to "being a down-to-earth person."

The Reidsville, N.C., native and daughter of Gayle Graves often greets her peers with a unique conversational opener: "What's up, cuz?"

That simple phrase, used repeatedly during her campaign speech, helped catapult her past her Miss A&T competitors with 542 votes. Her nearest runners-up, Ginger Jenkins and Olivia Boone, drew 180 and 139 votes respectively.

"I felt I would be a positive role model for students and a good representative for the University," said Graves, explaining why she ran for Miss A&T.

"Winning Miss A&T was the happiest moment of my life," she added.

The junior mechanical engineering major, who was captain of her cheerleading squad and junior

and senior class president in high school, is involved in several engineering clubs on campus. Graves cited her uncle as the reason she chose this university.

"I came to A&T because my uncle went here," she said. "He is my mentor...He convinced me to come here."

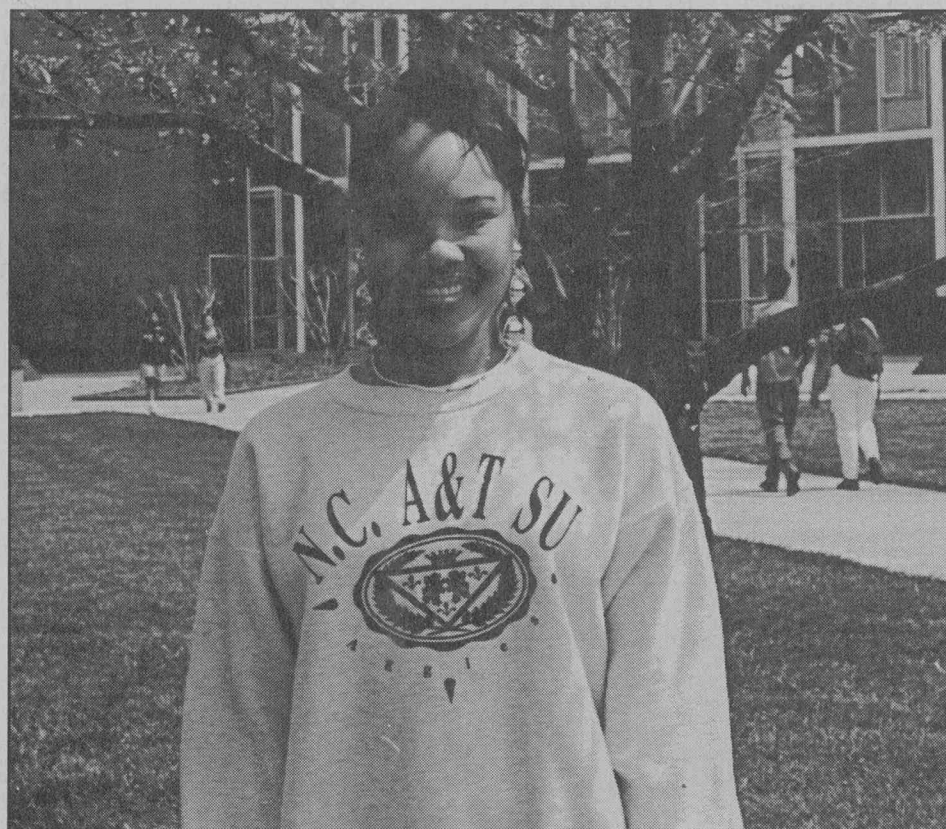


Photo By Lisa Johnson

Tangular Graves

Graves said she would be different from past Miss A&Ts because she would be a "hands-on kind of person, which means visibility."

One of her major concerns is the "disunity among A&T students and our society," she said. "As Miss A&T, my goal is to try and create unity among the Aggies."

The role of the black woman is to be "a positive, out-going person who will be there for her black man," Graves said.

She stressed that she didn't expect to change now that she held an elected student office.

"I feel it is important to be myself," Graves said. "If you believe in yourself, anything can be accomplished."

When asked her definition of beauty, she said, "Beauty is on the inside...It is how you reflect yourself and how others view you internally."

"I want people to remember I am a down-to-earth person, that I'm real and genuine," Graves said.

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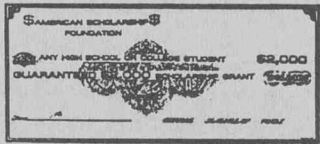
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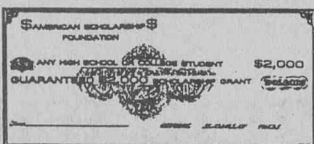
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# CAMPUS & COMMUNITY

## Police round up

by Scottie Holloway  
Staff Reporter

Thursday, Apr. 1:

• Venice Fulford, a resident of Barbee Hall, was arrested and charged with simple assault after allegedly striking another student, police said.

According to police reports, the victim stated that while she was standing outside her car talking with a friend in front of Brown Hall, Fulford and her friends were also standing in the immediate area.

One of the women with Fulford, overhearing the conversation between the victim and her friend, repeated the conversation to Fulford. Agitated by the comments, Fulford then approached the victim and started an argument which led to her allegedly grabbing the victim by the neck and striking the victim in the face with her hands, police said.

As a result of the fight, the victim suffered scratches and bruises on the face and a dislocated shoulder.

The victim was transported to Moses Cone Hospital for treatment and released.

Fulford was later transported to the Guilford County Jail and placed under a \$100 unsecured bond.

Sunday, Apr. 4:

• While two officers were conducting a traffic stop in the Scott C parking area, a suspect allegedly threw a softball-size piece of concrete at one of the police vehicles, police reports said.

Police said the object, which hit the passenger side of the car and caused estimated damage of \$150, was allegedly thrown from a third floor restroom window in Scott Hall.

After seeing a black male looking out of the window from where the object was thrown, one of the officers immediately went to that area.

The man seen in the window by the officer stated that he had no knowledge of the incident and the reason he was in the restroom was that he was watching the officers conduct the vehicle stop. He told police he saw three black males running from the area and was only able to describe one of the suspects, police reports said.

The officer located one of the suspects fitting the description given by the man earlier. The suspect stated he had no knowledge of the incident and the reason he was in the restroom was that he also saw three black males running out and he wanted to see why they were running. The suspect was unable to give a description of the black males.

Police said the suspect appeared to have been intoxicated and spoke in a slurred and incoherent manner during the interview.

Tuesday, Apr. 6:

• A dispute between two roommates in Holland Hall led to a fight, police reports said.

A female stated that when she asked her roommate to turn down her radio, her roommate allegedly began striking her in the face with her open hand and burned her on the left thigh with a hot clothing iron. She said that her roommate also struck her on the head with the iron and a glass bottle.

An officer who arrived on the scene observed superficial scratches on the right forearm and a first-degree burn on the left thigh of the alleged victim which appeared to have been made by the iron.

The female was transported to Sebastian Infirmary for treatment and released.

The suspect told police that after the victim asked her to turn down her radio, the victim allegedly walked toward her. The suspect said she then struck the alleged victim in the face with her hand. The suspect stated that during the fight the victim burned her on her right and left upper thighs and right back leg near the knee with the iron and scratched her on the front of her neck with her hands.

The officer observed superficial scratches on the front of the suspect's neck and several second-degree burns on the upper thighs of the left and right legs, as well as on the right back leg near the knee.

The suspect was transported to the infirmary by a friend for treatment and was later released.

The director of Holland Hall stated that she would separate both parties to prevent future incidents.

## Week dedicated to secretaries

by Towanna Dickens  
Staff Reporter

You see and speak with them so often that you probably take them for granted. They help students set up appointments, help professors juggle their rosters of classes and meetings and type the mountain of paperwork produced by a university like N.C. A&T every day.

They're secretaries, and one week — National Secretaries Week, Apr. 19-24 — will be set aside this month to applaud and recognize their contributions to the University.

"I have been working at A&T for 11 years," said Bonita Winborne, secretary of the Speech and Theatre Department, "and I enjoy working with the students and staff because everyone gets along."

Winborne, whose duties include assisting teachers by typing exams or letters and distributing department mail, said the biggest change she had seen during her time at A&T came with the computerization of student enrollment.

"Now things are computerized, so that students are enrolled in class easier than before," she said.

Delores Dailey, a 17-year veteran of A&T and secretary for the Department of Business Administration, said that although the pay

could be improved, she liked her job overall.

"I enjoy working with the students," she said, "and I don't get any hassles from them."

Dailey admitted that she could use some additional help, however. "I feel I need assistants, because there are over 700 students in one department and about 30 faculty members." Her duties include computer operation, composing letters and assisting students.

Sitrena McLendon has been at A&T for 26 years, long enough to see the civil rights movement grow around her.

A secretary in the mathematics and computer science department since 1966, she said, "I've seen this university go through a lot of changes, and the uprising was really something to get involved in."

McLendon said she sometimes became aggravated by the shortage in personnel, but added, "It's my pleasure to be of service to the faculty, staff and the students at A&T, especially in our department."

Corey Bryant, a biology major, said, "McLendon is more of a mother away from home" than just an administrator. "She takes care of everybody and is always there to guide you in the right way."

## Students get dose of reality from NABJ

From Staff Reports

Students, advisors and officials of the National Association of Black Journalists agreed that the recent three-day Student Broadcast Short Course held at N.C. A&T was a success.

"Students from all over the country were in attendance," said Nagatha Tonkins, an A&T instructor and internship coordinator for broadcast students. "The experience the students gained prepared them for what they will experience in a newsroom. It also encouraged our African-American students to go into management positions in the newsroom."

The three-day course featured guest speakers, such as Sheila Stainback, a weekend anchor at WPIX-TV in New York City and Alex Benes, a producer with NBC News. Other guests included a host of news directors, reporters and NABJ executive officers.

The participants gained hands-on experience with story assignments, shooting and editing, Tonkins said.

"The seminar brought real-life situations to

the campus," she noted. "The students actually put together and videotaped a news show. The guests showed us our strengths and areas we need to work on. It was very stimulating."

Greg Williams, a junior broadcast news student, said, "I felt that the professionals were brutally honest and exposed us to real working conditions in the industry."

The guest speakers gave lectures on improving resumes and resume tapes, television news production techniques, and dressing for success and anchor auditions.

"The NABJ officials gave us pointers and suggestions from resumes, dressing and makeup to surviving in the dog-eat-dog media world," said Katriel Tripp, a junior broadcast news student.

Following the seminar, Tonkins received thank-you letters from students and from the participating NABJ officials, she said.

"NABJ was really impressed. It was truly a success. As a matter of fact, on the last day of the seminar, we were so overwhelmed that we were actually crying at the end," said Tonkins.

## Who me?

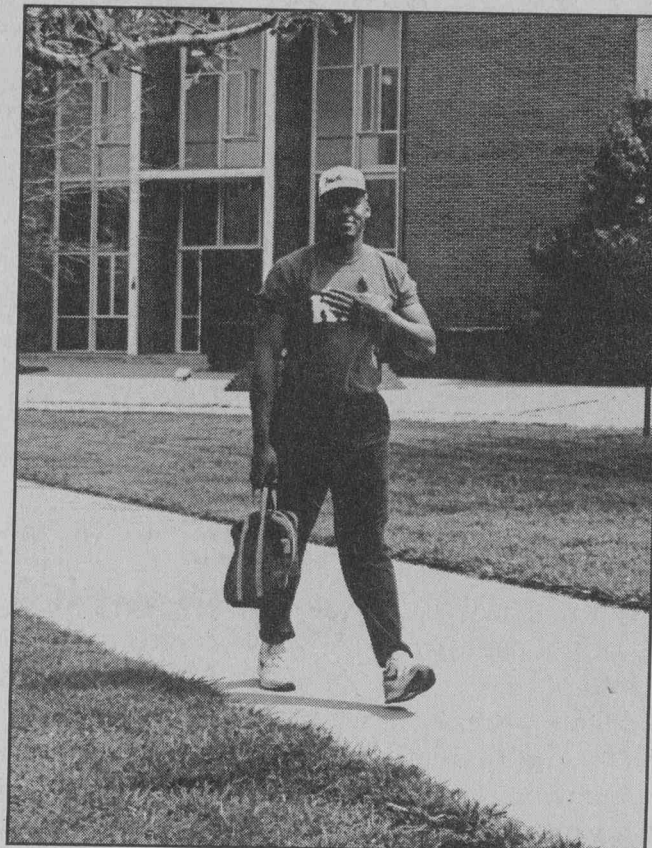


Photo By Lisa Johnson  
• Basketball player Jason Moore takes a casual stroll across campus.

## Renovations set for Scott Hall

by Frank Brown  
Correspondent

Scott Hall will receive almost \$3 million of major renovations this summer as part of a \$5 million plan to upgrade five dormitories on the N.C. A&T campus, said A&T's head engineer.

The Scott Hall project, which should be completed by August, will include improved bathroom facilities such as new toilets, sinks and a new shower room for the male dormitory, said Ronald Gales, the University's senior engineer.

Bathrooms in each section of the dorm will also feature new tile, floors and ceilings.

A new heating system will enable students to control the heat in their own rooms, he added.

Twelve new rooms will be added in the basement section of Scott B so the dorm may accommodate more students, Gales said. The former lounge area there will be converted into eight of the new rooms.

However, new lounge areas will be created on other floors, and additional public telephones will be installed.

## Students selected for foreign study program

by Nichole Cannon  
Staff Reporter

The North Carolina A&T Department of Foreign Languages has selected four students to participate in a foreign study program in Mexico June 24 through July 3.

Lisa Johnson, a public relations major, Serena Lowe, a print journalism major, Nichole Cannon, a print journalism major and Tiffany Ennis, a Winston-Salem State University mass communications major, will attend the Intensive Language Program at Cuauhnahuac, Mexico.

"I am looking forward to this group of students studying at Cuauhnahuac," said Nita Dewberry, an assistant professor of Spanish and the program's director, "especially because of their enthusiasm and future plans as Spanish minors in the Department of Foreign Languages."

The program consists

of six hours daily in the classroom, including three hours of grammar, one and a half hours of cultural classes and one and a half hours of conversation.

Upon completion of the program, the students will have earned three credit hours.

The students will live with local families to enhance the students' experience with both the language and the culture, and excursions to various places such as Acapulco and Mexico City will be offered to the students every week.

"I'm very excited and enthusiastic about learning a new culture and improving on my Spanish," said Johnson.

Lowe and Cannon were recipients of a \$250 grant to study in Mexico.

The program is open to students from various colleges and universities. In previous years, students from Bennett College and Winston-Salem State University have attended the A&T-sponsored study.

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# FEATURES

## What's up Nikki?...

What's Up, Nikki?

What's Up, Nikki?

I have problems with my roommate. No, actually, my roommate has the problem, and she is really getting on my nerves! We have had problems since the beginning of the semester, and I have always been the one to work things out.

But now, we have not been talking to each other for almost four weeks. I tried to reconcile with her by trying to talk with her because we do live in the same room. But do you know what she did? She rolled her eyes at me — like a little kid!

So that's when I decided that I had had enough. Every day, it seems like she does something to get on my nerves (just out of spite), like slamming the door every time she enters the room, turning her TV up very loud to drown out mine and turning on the fan when it's already cool.

I could easily voice my thoughts to her, but I cannot have a decent adult conversation with her.

I'm tired of trying to be the friendly one. I have arranged at least three meetings with the dorm director to try to improve living conditions, but they seemed to worsen conditions instead. I am dealing with a very childish person, because now she has convinced her friends not to speak to me.

Do I care? No. But I do feel I should have some respect from my roommate. What can I do or what should I do?

— Tired of Trying

Dear Tired of Trying:

Living with someone in such close quarters is not easy, even with the best of friends. I can imagine the tension is not healthy, either. You should consider yourself the mature one of the two, as you've been the one attempting to keep communications open.

Personally, I feel you should try again to sit down with your roommate in private to discuss the situation. If you are unhappy with the results of the discussion, then make this your last offer.

Sometimes it is difficult to live with an individual, and if this is the case, then at least come to a compromise. You are both adults now and should act accordingly. If this does not work — and it might not — remember that the semester is almost over, and do the best you can.

What's Up, Nikki?

I am real upset! I took my senior pictures back in October and they are not back yet. I have less than a week of school left and no word.

When I call Mrs. Bailey (the student affairs director), I get the old famous A&T runaround.

I paid for my pictures in November and the man cashed the check in November and still no pictures. The thing that really makes me mad is that this man has taken our pictures for several years and each year the same situation happens. The photographer is really giving black businesses a bad name. What is one to do?

— Feeling Ripped Off

Dear Feeling Ripped Off:

I am a senior also going through the same problem and as I try to get information on our pictures, I have gotten the same A&T runaround. Mrs. Bailey has now taken a leave of absence. Maybe she got tired of giving excuses for the man, but every time I did ask about the pictures, she would give me a date that turned out to be just wishful thinking.

After talking to the Register's former staff photographer, it is my

understanding that our portrait photographer has bitten off more than he can chew, since our school is such high volume.

When I called the portrait photographer, all I ever received was someone to take a message or an answering machine that spoke of being glad to work for the community; and no response from either.

I know there are some bad apples in every bunch, but

don't let this man ruin it for other black businesses that are out there. The latest word is that the photos will be back at the end of the month.

I hope Mrs. Bailey will find someone in the future who is more dependable. Remember: you get what you pay for.

Are you having trouble relating to the female population because of how you dress? Do you feel your boyfriend is slipping away into someone else's arms? Okay Aggies, you asked for it and it's here, your own personal advice column at the *A&T Register* called *What's Up Nikki!*. A question and answer column designed to help our readers with their problems. If you need Nikki's advice please follow these guidelines: Send all letters to *What's up Nikki!*

A&T Register  
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Give name or code names  
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Or drop your letters off in the mailbox outside of the Register house. Maybe your problem might be solved next!

## "Point of No Return": a remake worth seeing

Finally, an action movie for women (and men)

by Renee Nixon  
Arts Reporter

Rating system:

- Full Price — Great
- Matinee — Good
- \$1 House — Okay
- Rent — Bad
- Cable — Horrible

"Point of No Return." Rating — Matinee

Stars: Bridget Fonda  
Four Season Cinema

This movie is for those who love action movies with an actual plot. The best part about the movie is that the action hero — for once — is a woman, and she is not weak by any means.

Maggie (Bridget Fonda) is a drug addict who gets involved with a robbery. When the police come and try to arrest her, because she is totally stoned out of her mind, she shoots and kills an officer in cold blood. After confessing to the crime, she is sentenced to death by lethal

### A Critical Thought

injection, only to be saved at the last minute by shadowy government officials.

She is given a choice: become an assassin for the government or die. What

would you do? Maggie takes the job as an assassin. For three years, she is trained how to kill, how to speak a number of foreign languages, and to operate computers in order to become the perfect assassin.

What goes wrong, you ask? Well, after training, she moves away, gets a new identity and falls in love. When called to duty, she handles her assignments professionally — until her boyfriend, who is in another room, accidentally witnesses

her at work.

When Maggie wants to get out of her government contract, her bosses say no, telling her that her assignments are more than a job; they're her life. She makes a deal with her boss that she will do one last hit and then retire. But the assassination goes so badly, the government dispatches a "cleaner" to eradicate the mess she's made, including her.

This was the beginning of one of the best action sequences of the

movie. It wasn't "edge-of-your-seat" action, but it did keep me guessing.

"Point of No Return" had a lot of great fight scenes; the action was almost non-stop. Although the ending seems to leave open the possibility of a sequel, it would have to be very good to top the original.

This movie shows all those men who think that a woman can't kick butt that she can. And she doesn't have to be suffering from PMS to do it.

# SPORTS

## Team places second in competition

by Katriel Tripp  
Staff Reporter

Although the N.C. A&T men's basketball team came back from the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) Tournament empty-handed, Aggies did have greater success on the sidelines.

Aggie cheerleaders won second place in the first annual MEAC cheerleading championship last month.

Two three-year veterans of the squad, co-captains Christy Hyman and Jerome Surles, won First-Team All MEAC cheerleading honors.

"The competition

was a good thing," Surles said. "It gave us something to look forward to at the end

of the year, since our sport is year-round."

Surles said the accomplishments of cheerleaders were usually overshadowed by the coverage given to sports such as basketball and football.

"We are not a revenue-generating sport and cheerleading is not the all-American idea of what college athletics is all about," he said. "When in reality, we work just as hard (as players in) other sports, and longer."

Surles said the

cheerleading season started with tryouts, practice, camp and the Greensboro Youth Carnival, which the A&T squad participates in annually.

"Cheering is very challenging," said sophomore Allison Hayes. "It's fun traveling, meeting people, and we've had our ups and downs."

Referring to the team's second-place finish, she noted, "Unfortunately, we started to improve a little too late."

She emphasized that being part of the A&T squad required commitment. "To be an Aggie cheerleader, you've got to love it."

## Cheerleading tryouts begin

From Staff Reports

North Carolina A&T cheerleader and mascot tryouts for the upcoming 1993-94 men's football and basketball seasons began Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in Holt Gymnasium, across the street from the Corbett Athletic Center.

The tryouts will run through Apr. 27, with final cuts made on Apr. 28, at 5 p.m., on the Aggie football field. The rain site is the Corbett Sports Center at the same time on the same day.

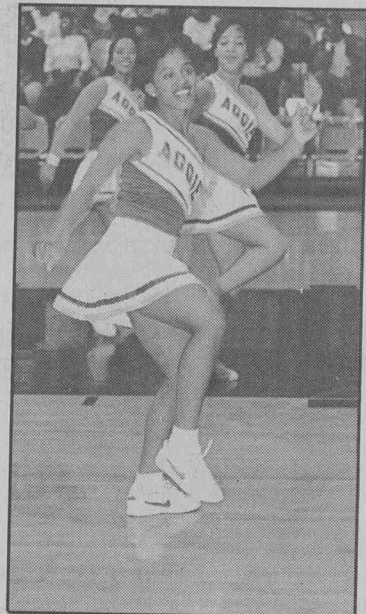
All men and women interested in becoming a part

of the award-winning Aggie cheerleader team should come to the tryout sessions dressed in practice clothes and "ready to cheer," said cheerleading coach Mellonie Keaton in a prepared statement.

"Coach Bill Hayes, (A&T Athletic Director) Willie Burden, along with area high school and college coaches will be among the judges," Keaton's statement said. "This is expected to be a big event."

All A&T students, faculty and fans are invited to attend. Interested applicants can get more

information at the A&T athletic department at 334-7686.



**Black Studies from page 1**

University had cited A&T's faculty as the principal roadblock to the speedy implementation of a black studies program at a press conference last Thursday.

Speaking at the Know Bookstore on Market Street, members of the Student Coalition for Black Studies (SCBS) announced they had called for Wednesday's Faculty Forum in response to what they perceived as delays in evaluating the studies.

A prepared statement released by the group said that faculty foot-dragging in addressing the black studies

issues motivated members to stage the press conference.

Members of the student body cast ballots during annual school elections Mar. 31 indicating whether or not they supported a mandatory program, said the statement released by the SCBS.

"Students passed the black studies program, but 113 faculty members opposed the proposal for a mandatory black studies program," the statement said. The statement did not indicate how many students had voted in favor of the studies, and a spokesperson

at the press conference did not have the figures available. The figures were still unavailable at presstime.

The mandatory black studies issue has polarized student and faculty opinion since it emerged as a bone of contention last semester.

After more than 400 student protestors marched on the Dowdy Building, which houses A&T's senior administrative offices, last October, Chancellor Edward Fort affirmed his support for the studies but stressed that "curriculum changes are a faculty responsibility, and that the students should

follow an orderly mechanism for the expression of their concerns to the faculty."

"My position has not changed," said Fort following the October 26 protest. "It's important that although we are a black campus, it should not be used as a basis for pulling for the institutionalization of racism against other students who come to this campus."

He added that he felt the issue would not be resolved through demonstrations.

However, demonstrations at University

events as diverse as basketball games and the recent Honors Convocation have become the preferred tactic of student black-studies advocates, who typically chant "Black studies now!" at preplanned moments.

A&T alumnus Jesse Jackson, Jr., keynote speaker at the convocation, echoed their call when the now-familiar chant was heard during Fort's introductory remarks.

"The only difference between the Haitian (boat people seeking asylum in

American) and black people in this country is the boat ride," he said in reference to the ship rides endured by slaves a century ago. "We got off in Charleston and they got off in Haiti. Black studies prepare students to deal with the real racist world."

Activist and former rap star Professor Griff, a former member of the rap group Public Enemy, has also spoken at the University on behalf of mandatory black studies, arguing that African Americans were victims of "mental genocide, a higher form of killing."

**Groups honored at reception**

From Staff Reports

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A recent N.C. A&T-sponsored reception honoring North Carolina's U.S. Congressional delegation and the N.C. Black Caucus drew more than 140 people, according to a report released by the University's public relations office.

Sponsored by A&T's Office of Development and University Relations, the event also attracted more than three dozen officials from federal agencies, as well as a

36-member delegation from A&T that included deans, vice chancellors, department heads and faculty.

"This was a tremendous opportunity for members of the A&T family to interact with the North Carolina Congressional delegation and the Congressional Black Caucus," said A&T Chancellor Edward Fort.

"We were privileged to express our gratitude for these groups' continued support, and to brief these distinguished public servants

on the University's stewardship to the state and the nation," he said, "and our willingness to assist them in future economic development."

N.C. Congressmen at the reception included Rep. Charlie Rose (7th district), Rep. Tim Valentine (2nd district), Rep. H. Martin

Lancaster (3rd district), Rep. Howard Coble (6th district), Rep. Eva Clayton (1st district), Rep. Melvin Watt (12th district) and Rep. Cass Ballenger (10th district).

**Former queen to speak at celebration**

by Arneice Bowen and Sharon Edwards Correspondents

A former Miss A&T who went on to become a university librarian and professor will speak at the F.D. Bluford Library on Apr. 23 at 9 a.m. as part of A&T's National Library Week celebration.

Jesse Carney Smith, university librarian and the William and Camille Cosby Professor at Fisk University, is consultant to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and has served as consultant to the Office for Civil Rights in the desegregation of higher educational institutions in Florida, Kentucky, Missouri

and North Carolina.

The author of numerous journal articles, her most famous book is "Notable Black American Women," a biographical work featuring five hundred outstanding black women. "Epic Lives" is her latest work.

Smith's most recent honors include the National Coalition of 100 Black Women's Candace Award in Education in 1992, the Black Caucus of the American Library Association's Professional Achievement Award in 1992, "Sage" magazine's Anna J. Cooper Award and the Women's National Book Association award, both also in 1992.

She has also written

successful grant proposals and directed training programs sponsored by the U.S. Office of Education, the National Endowment for Humanities, the Tennessee Arts Commission and the Tennessee Humanities Council.

Besides her undergraduate degree from A&T, Smith has master's degrees from Michigan State University and Vanderbilt University, and a Ph.D. degree in library science from the University of Illinois.

Faculty, staff and students are all invited to attend and participate in all National Library Week activities, a department spokeswoman said.

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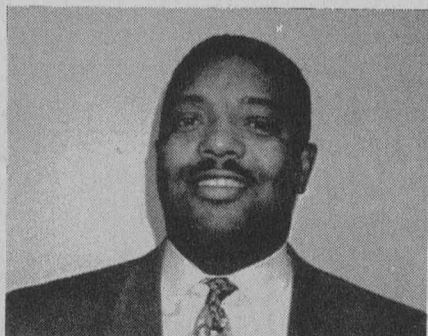
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# OPINION



**Greg M. Williams**  
A&T Register  
News Editor

## The calm before the storm?

One of the top stories in most newspapers and on most newscasts is the possibility of a "riot" if any of the police officers are acquitted in the Rodney King trial in Los Angeles. The police, the National Guard, and other military organizations are on alert for what might be "a repeat of last years riot."

I saw one newscast where white people were lined in a gun shop to purchase weapons. Business owners have also been quoted as saying they were buying guns to protect their property.

A cloud of fear has cast an ugly shadow on Los Angeles and on black communities across the country. A popular saying has been "no justice-no peace," and white people are scared. I was even asked by a white person if I was going to riot if the decision is unfavorable. I told them that if turning a police-car over and lighting it on fire would help the cause of justice, I'd do it twice.

But instead of the acquisition of justice and equality, fear widens the gap of disparity. What other recourse do we have? Marching with signs and singing old negro spirituals won't help, yet the condition in South Africa shows that black on black and black on white violence gives their white minority ruled government the justification needed to keep the black South Africans in inferior and powerless positions.

To add fuel to that fire, earlier this week, Chris Hani a South African Leader, was murdered by a white man in South Africa. Hani was regarded as a savior and was said to be second only to Nelson Mandela in regards of influence and popularity in South Africa.

Rioting and attacks on whites and the police were sparked by the assassination. Will these actions help them or hurt the cause of ending Apartheid and injustice in South Africa? Neither side will prosper, but the black people have nothing to lose and much to gain.

Oscar Ngoma, a striking construction worker said, "This is the start of the war." A report also states that over half of the six million workers went on strike to mourn the death of Hani. The white government leaders are frozen with fear and are asking the striking South Africans for peace and order to continue apartheid ending talks; but talk is cheap.

Whether peacefully or not, the battle for justice and parity for blacks around the world will continue to be fought. Worldwide, blacks are refusing to turn the other cheek, but sometimes self-defense is confused with reckless violence.

How does burning down black neighborhoods, looting, and killing innocent people defend ones rights. On the other hand what is the response to police brutality that happens more often than what is shown on the evening news?

If there is a riot, and all of the people who bought guns are prepared to fight any intruders, will this be the start of a war? Will this war lead to a race war?

Hopefully the conclusion of the trial will not lead to violence. If justice is as blind as they say, the jury will reach a verdict of guilty. But if the racially farsighted justice system operates as it did a year ago, the verdict of "no justice-no peace" will ring throughout the streets. I hope they do the right thing. Peace.

### EDITORIAL POLICY

Editorial views expressed in this paper are those of the writer, and do not reflect the opinions of this university. Our readers are encouraged to submit their opinions in the form of signed letters to the Editor. All letters must be legible and no more than 350 words in length. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters that are libelous or in poor taste. Send your letters to Box E-25, Greensboro, North Carolina, 27411.

## AIDS and teens; the alarm is sounding

by Donald Wesson, M.D.  
Guest Columnist

It is a crisis that is already upon us.

Sadly, teen-agers are one of the fastest growing age groups for new AIDS cases.

The toll taken has been proportionately greater in the African-American community, adding to the urgency for black teens to learn to decrease their risk of becoming infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

Startling data based on a Baylor College of Medicine study dramatizes this urgent need.

In a study following 565 females ages 12 to 20, the majority of black teens showed a greater fear of contracting AIDS than their Hispanic or white counterparts. They also felt they were more likely to be the kind of person to get AIDS than Hispanics or whites.

The Baylor study further revealed that black teens have higher rates of sexually transmitted diseases, and that approximately 20 percent of AIDS patients are in their 20s. This suggests that they acquired HIV as teen-agers, since HIV typically has an incubation period of several years.

Other studies have shown that seven out of every 10 females and eight of every 10 males in the United States have sexual intercourse by age 20. A Centers for Disease Control survey says 21 percent of high school students report they had had sex with four or more partners, making the chances of contracting HIV great.

Already, more than 50,000 Americans have died of AIDS and a much larger pool of Americans is infected with HIV, but have yet to develop symptoms. Since all ethnic and age groups are at risk for becoming infected with HIV, it is crucial that everyone — including teens — learns and practices behavior that will minimize risk.

People are infected with the HIV virus through contact with infected bodyfluids or tissue. Most commonly, the infection is acquired through unprotected sex or by use of a contaminated needle when abusing intravenous drugs.

In navigating the course to adulthood, adolescents frequently explore different lifestyles without the adult perspective of the potential consequences. Modern-day tolerance of unrestricted sexual activity and easy

access to intravenous drugs increases the likelihood for teens to engage in such activities. The tragedy of these preventable deaths from AIDS is made worse by the youth and innocence of the victims.

Effective strategies must be developed to instill responsible behavior in elementary school-aged children to ensure that they make responsible decisions and choices as adolescents. When teens are confronted by their peers, they should keep in mind the following:

- Look at all the reasons to say "Yes" or "No."
- Consider the consequences.
- Make your own decision.
- Use common sense to avoid situations where you have to say "No," such as spending time with people who participate in unhealthy behaviors (like using drugs), or being alone with someone you cannot trust.
- Say what you mean. Say "No" quickly, directly, firmly and clearly.
- Do not apologize for protecting yourself.

Straight-forward, factual information about HIV and AIDS must be provided to middle school-aged children so that decisions made by them are informed ones. Scare tactics with exaggerated or non-factual information is

ineffective at best and counterproductive at worst. Those who can provide this guidance include families, schools, churches, community organizations and health care agencies. No available avenue should be left unexplored.

The Alpha Mu Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. Presents Getting To Know Survivors of HIV/AIDS Co Sponsored by Minority AIDS Taskforce and Sebastian Health Center NCA&T April 23, 1993 Student Union Ballroom 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. For more information contact Ms. Janet Lattimore at 334-7880 Open to the public

## Reality: Growing up

by Eric Short  
Staff Reporter

Growing up is often a difficult task. When faced with the challenges of progression often many of us back away, losing faith in ourselves and our abilities. Those who grow realize that difficulties are a point of perspective. It could be argued that obstacles are nothing more than stepping stones for success.

How do we perceive the trials that we encounter? Do we back down, choosing to run from ourselves?

Do we make excuses that only lead to our own delusion? Or do we develop the inner fortitude to meet our problems head on and learn to deal with obstacles along our path?

According to Corey Stephens, developing inner strength is not an easy task. During his career at North Carolina A&T, Corey has developed a formula that has worked for him.

"You have to be focused", he said. "If you do your work and keep your goal in mind, sooner or later you'll come out on top."

It's okay to party and have fun but education comes

first. I've learned how to focus my attention and energies on what I need to take care of.

That's how I stay on track and take care of my business."

Also Corey's family helps to keep him on track. At 23, he is married to Francina and a father of a 1-year-old daughter, Ashley.

"With these types of responsibilities, you have no choice about working. I've got mouths to feed, you know?"

The support I get from my mother, my in-laws and my wife makes the difference for me. There's no way I would be in college without the strength of my mother.

My father-in-law is a successful businessman and has allowed me the chance to learn from him on that end.

My wife is supportive of my ventures, and respects what it takes to make it. My relationship with my wife is important to me.

Our relationship has grown past petty arguments because we try to communicate with each other. And of course, you know I love my daughter. All of these factors keep me motivated."

Motivation has sparked Corey into many business ventures. He sponsors

bus trips for hometown clubs during semester breaks.

Also he is the director of marketing for Sun-One Productions, a student owned and operated clothing company.

In addition to working towards graduation in May, Corey is a full-time employee of American Express Services.

This summer he plans to solicit area churches for sponsored bus trips and work at expanding Sun-One Productions.

"I've got big plans for the summer. I'm all about entrepreneurship. That's one thing the business department needs to concentrate on more.

Instead of pushing students to go work for someone else, they should be teaching us how to go into business for ourselves.

That's the reason I majored in Marketing. Then I saw all the politics and favoritism and decided to go out on my own and create something."

A native of Brooklyn, New York, Corey has plans to settle down in Atlanta a few years from now. "I love New York, but you can't raise a family there.

Hopefully my family can get established in Atlanta

and get to the point where our business and community involvement can stop some of the madness going on out here.

As college students, we are the future leaders of our communities. We have to give back to those less fortunate because if one of us fails, we all fail."

### THE A&T REGISTER STAFF 1992-1993

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