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THE A&T Register

Friday, Oct. 29, 1998

Volume 73 No. 4

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Pelshak's struggle paid off

By Semaj Marsh
Register Staff

A&T's defensive end Troy Pelshak is no stranger to obstacles. As the Aggies' leading pass rusher this season, Pelshak constantly surpasses obstacles—mammoth linemen standing between him and a sack.

Yet, even before the 6' 4", 250-pound senior began terrorizing opposing quarterbacks, Pelshak faced a greater obstacle in earning a college scholarship. In his final year at Charlotte Garringer High School, Pelshak was involved in a bitter feud with his head football coach over his desire to play multiple sports.

The coach, Joe Shoeford, wanted him to concentrate solely on football, while Pelshak desired to play basketball and to run track as well. In retaliation, Pelshak said, Shoeford attempted to sabotage Pelshak's chance of receiving a college scholarship by withholding his recruitment letters. The coach also refused to send Pelshak's highlight tapes to scouts, Pelshak said, and told schools he was academically ineligible.

"To this day, I don't know why he did it," said Pelshak.

Pelshak says Shoeford often told him that he lacked discipline and he wouldn't last one year in college.

"Sometimes in the back of your mind you think '...what if he's right,' but then I wanted to prove him wrong so bad I didn't even care," he said.

Luckily, another member of the Garringer coaching staff realized Pelshak's potential and began to put Pelshak's name out. Assistant Coach John Cunningham admits that he engaged in many clandestine attempts to inform schools about Pelshak without Shoeford's knowledge.

"We kind of kept it under cover," said Cunningham. "Everything is supposed to go directly through the head coach."

Then one day, Cunningham, who happened to play football at Winston Salem State under current A&T coach



Troy Pelshak puts the pressure on every quarterback he faces. The Aggies' leading pass rusher, Pelshak is known throughout the MEAC.

Bill Hayes, saw his former mentor at a practice game and told him he had a player worth looking at.

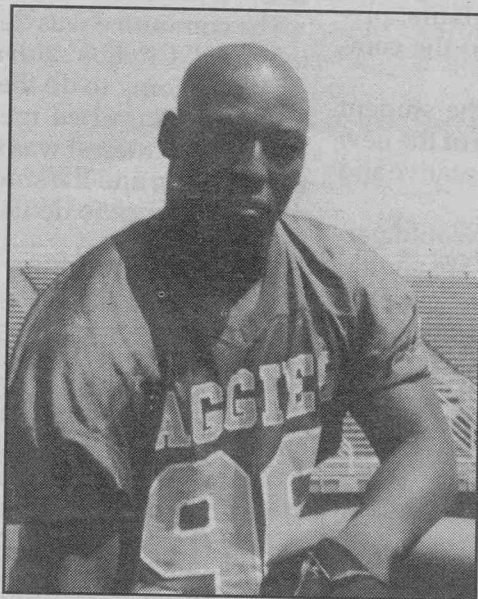
"I told Hayes we might not get that much cooperation from his coach, but from the experiences I had with him, I thought he could play at the next level," Cunningham said. "During his senior year the kid played with a cast on his arm and still lead the area in sacks. For him to be able to do the things he did with a cast on his arm, I knew he was something special."

According to Cunningham, Pelshak's problems with his head coach stemmed from a control issue.

"A lot of coaches want to be in control of their kid's destiny so they can manipulate a kid to do what they want [him] to," he said. Cunningham said he even remembers Pelshak being told that he "would end up flipping burgers."

To his coach's chagrin, the only thing Pelshak was destined to flip was an occasional college quarterback.

After seizing the opportunity to sign him, Hayes installed Pelshak into the starting lineup as a freshman and



Pelshak leads the Aggies with four sacks and four forced fumbles.

got an instant return on his investment. Using his quickness and agility, Pelshak quickly solidified his place among the MEAC's elite linemen with

see PELSHAK, page 2

Black history found outside of textbooks, speaker says

By Jamie Wiggins
Register Features Editor

The year's first Third Thursday Lecture, held on Oct. 15, featured, Dr. Bruce Bridges, the owner of Durham's oldest black bookstore (The Know Bookstore), as the guest speaker. The program was entitled: "The Miseducation of Blacks: Holidays and Economics."

"Whatever you are doing, try to tie it into you and your people," Bridges said. Bridges does just that, by speaking at various colleges. "In order for us to learn, we must step out of the box from what we have been taught," he said.

Bridges stressed that black students should further educate themselves on the roles that black Americans played in history, instead of relying on textbooks for the truth.

Bridges spoke on holidays and their relationships to economics. "We live in a country that capitalizes on taking advantage of the poor, ignorant and oppressed people around the world," he said.

He said that holidays are a planned method of draining poorer ethnic groups, while adding to the wealth of the wealthy. "The holiday season is about commercialism," Bridges said.

Bridges expressed the need for students to know the true meaning behind each holiday, and the role that they helped to play in the holiday. "If you are celebrating something, then you should at least know what you are celebrat-

see SPEAKER, page 2

Chancellor committee calls on consultant

By Crystal X. Armour
Register News Editor

The N.C. A&T Chancellor Search Committee announced Saturday that the Chicago-based consulting firm Heidrick & Struggles has been hired to find a replacement for retiring Chancellor Edward B. Fort.

J. Veronica Biggins, a native of Greensboro and daughter of a former chairman of A&T's School of Mechanical Engineering, is one of two members of Heidrick & Struggles appointed to work with A&T. She was on hand Saturday to answer the committee's questions and receive a detailed description of the committee's expectations.

Biggins' first task is to devise a job description

based on feedback gathered at forums held by students, alumni, faculty, staff and community members.

That promises to be a challenge. The committee has insisted that the next A&T chancellor have, among other things: high visibility; good community and human relations skills; approachability; an ability to relate to today's students; an understanding of the importance of the university's land-grant mission; close ties with the corporate community and minority businesses; good business skills; proven skills working in complex situations; and the realization the A&T is fundamental to the Greensboro economy.

Biggins will present the official job description during a conference call on Oct. 29. The job announcement will then be published in trade jour-

nals and posted on the Internet.

One major concern raised at the meeting was the role of students in the chancellor selection

see CHANCELLOR, page 2

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Brief notes and news around A&T

SPRING REGISTRATION

Registration for the spring semester is approaching. Here's the schedule:

- Nov. 2-6: Early registration advisement
- Nov. 12: The last day to withdraw from the university without a grade evaluation.
- Nov. 9-11: Early registration
- Jan. 5: Last day to pay before classes are cancelled.
- The Aggie Access Telephone system will be available Nov. 9 to Jan. 21. Late registration will begin Jan. 7. Registration is conducted in your major department.

WASHINGTON TRIP

N.C. A&T is sponsoring a trip to Washington D.C.'s Holocaust Memorial Museum. A bus will depart from Greensboro on Friday, Nov. 13, 1998. The cost is \$105 per person, with quad occupancy. For more information, contact Dr. Cliff Lowery at 336-334-7727.

MUSIC SEMINAR

WNAA's 2nd Annual Fundraising Music Seminar, at Embassy Suites Hotel from Friday, Oct. 30 to Sunday, Nov. 1, 1998. Scheduled sessions include:

"3,2,1 Contact: Making the Right Ones," "Legally Speaking: Contracts, Music Licensing, and Copyrights," "The Other Side of the Game: Producing, Photography, A&R," and a breakfast roundtable Q&A.

FITNESS CENTER GROUNDBREAKING

The groundbreaking ceremony for the new Fitness & Wellness Center will take place on Saturday, Oct. 31 at 7:30 a.m. Participants should gather near the Aggie Stadium's scoreboard. For more information, call Dorothy Copeland at 336-334-7905.

HOMECOMING ACTIVITIES

Welcome to A&T for homecoming activities. Here's a schedule:

- The Homecoming Parade begins at 9:00 a.m.
- The Homecoming game against Bethune-Cookman, in the Aggie Stadium, begins at 12:30 p.m.
- The Homecoming Superjam '98, featuring Noreaga & Jagged Edge, Doug E. Fresh, John Forte, Pressha, A-Plus, and Refugee Camp, will take place in Corbett at 8:00 p.m. Student tickets are \$12, \$15, and \$10. For more information, call 336-334-7749.

Media workshops expose high school students to career

By Chad Hill
Register Staff

While most Aggies were at home on fall break, a group of high school students came to N.C.A&T for the university's first High School Media Career Workshop. Fourteen different high schools were in attendance, some from as far away as Fayetteville.

The one-day media workshop was held on Oct. 13 and hosted by the Department of Speech, Communication and Theatre Arts and the North Carolina Scholastic Media Association.

The purpose of the career workshop was to expose students and advisers to various career opportunities in the media profession. It also served as a way to inform them of issues confronting media professionals today, to answer questions and concerns and to give students a chance to network with others of similar career interests.

Dr. Linda F. Callahan, the chair of the

see *MEDIA*, page 2

CHANCELLOR

from front

process. Kendra Janila Hill, Student Government Association vice president of internal affairs, presented a letter and a list of questions to the committee.

Her aim, Hill said, was to ensure "the student body is actively involved in the selection of the new chancellor ... beyond one student representative and one student forum."

Though she is not sure more students would participate if given the chance, Hill said, "We should have a choice."

The Rev. Howard Chubbs, chairman of the search committee, said that the "first meeting established that students will not have any say-so in the process."

The committee was devised for "optimum effectiveness," Chubbs said, and will not change.

"We're going to do the best job we can," he said.

Other committee members assured Hill that A&T's best interest was the focal point of the selection process, and the students should give the committee a chance to do its job.

The job postings will start running in November. By the end of January, Heidrick & Struggles is scheduled to narrow the applicants to 18 finalists, eight of whom will be selected as semifinalists and interviewed by the committee.

From those eight candidates, three finalists will be submitted to A&T's Board of Trustees. The final list - and the final choice - will go to UNC System President Molly Broad.

"We are looking forward to climaxing this with a mutually satisfying chancellor," Chubbs said.

SPEAKER

from front

ing it for. We need to know where we fit into the picture," he said.

Bridges explained the origins of Halloween, Christmas and Thanksgiving, but encouraged students to research his information for themselves. "Don't take my word for it," he said.

He also encouraged students to support black-owned businesses during and after the holidays. "If you are going to spend money, at least spend it on your African-American people."

Students left the lecture with a greater

knowledge of the need to educate themselves on their roles in history and society. "We truly don't know anything until we know about ourselves and where we fit into society," said freshman Greensboro native Niketta Jones.

Another student agreed that Bridges' lecture was enlightening. "Tons of notes! Dr. Bruce Bridges was a wealth of information," said Reidsville native Nikkita L. Mitchell.

"I learned that holidays are centered around capitalism," said Melinda Whitted, a freshman from Fayetteville.

PELSHAK

from front

his steady play and team leadership. This season Hayes rewarded Pelshak's play by naming him senior captain.

"We found out about him very late," said a grateful Hayes. "He was sort of like a diamond in the rough. Frankly, I was glad a lot of schools didn't find out about him so that we could grab him."

This season Pelshak again ranks as one of the top players in the conference and a nemesis to quarterbacks everywhere. Going into the Howard game, he led the Aggies with four sacks and four forced fumbles. Against Morgan State, Pelshak helped seal the victory in the closing minutes by tackling the Bear's quarterback for a loss on fourth down.

Ironically, Pelshak credits his current success on the football field to the negative atmosphere he had to overcome in high school. "I get inspired when people say I can't do something. I've been told everything from I couldn't play football to I wouldn't last one semester in college. I take everything in one ear and out the other," Pelshak said.

His accomplishments are even more impressive, considering the absence of last year's All-

American defensive end Chris McNeil. A&T's best player a year ago, McNeil recorded a MEAC record 19 sacks last season while Pelshak finished second with 10. With McNeil no longer around, Pelshak has become the number one target for opposing blockers.

"I see a lot more double teams now," he said. "With (McNeil) there, we were able to even it out some. Sometimes (opposing defenses) would double on me, then other times they would double-team him. Now they just come straight at me."

After this season, Pelshak hopes his next major obstacles come on the playing fields of the NFL. Coach Hayes says pro scouts have been to many of the Aggies' practices this season and that Pelshak is a possible prospect. Pelshak himself believes that he has the tools and mental strength to produce at the next level.

"I feel I have as good a chance as anyone," he said. "The only thing that stops you is not keeping focus and not keeping a level head."

To further assist Pelshak's NFL dream, maybe Hayes should consider using a little reverse psychology. Instead of giving his senior captain words of encouragement, Hayes might be better off casting doubts concerning Pelshak's playing ability. Judging from recent history, that ploy has only worked wonders for him.

THE A&T Register

North Carolina A&T State University

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A&T Register

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Dr. Linda Florence Callahan, chairperson

Processed sugar a harmful substance

By John Perkins
Register Staff

Processed sugar is perhaps the most harmful substance in the human diet. It appears in many forms, such as table sugar, powdered sugar, high-fructose corn syrup, or powdered sugar. Many people think that brown sugar is natural, but it is simply table sugar with molasses added for flavor and color.

Most people are aware that the processed sugar in "junk foods" promotes tooth decay, exacerbates skin problems, and leads to hyperactivity (especially in children). However, many are not aware of its truly villainous nature.

Processed sugar is highly addictive. There are few people who have not walked past a water fountain to spend their last 50 cents on a soda or iced tea because they just had to have it. Some people are not aware that they are addicted, because it is so abundant in the American diet that most people get

their 'fix' in the foods and drinks they consume.

The average person in the United States consumes 130 pounds of sugar per year. This figure may seem astonishing but the amount in everyday foods and drinks is more surprising. For example, just one 12-ounce can of soda contains nine teaspoons of processed sugar. Most people have some type of sugary drink (like tea, soda or fruit drinks) with all their meals. Sugar is unnecessarily added to foods such as grits, beans, and cereal.

Like most addictive substances, abrupt cessation from sugar often leads to withdrawal symptoms. Some of these symptoms are fatigue, depression, moodiness, and headaches. William Duffy says, in his book *Sugar Blues*, "The difference between sugar addiction and narcotic addiction is largely one of degree." This addiction entices people to eat whenever the craving calls. It leads to snacking in between meals and eating junk food

late at night even though we are not really hungry.

A major problem with processed sugar is that it is 'nutritionally naked.' This means that it has virtually no nutritional value. A look on the back of a bag of white sugar quickly verifies this fact. Due to processed sugar's nutritional hollowness, the body must borrow vitamins, minerals, and other nutrients from the body to metabolize sugar from its own tissues.

This causes weakening of the bones and muscles. Cavities are not primarily caused by the sugar on the teeth, but by the lack of calcium within the weakened teeth. Heavy sugar intake also leads to intense food cravings and eating binges. This is the body's attempt to replenish lost nutrients.

Unprocessed sugars, such as fructose (in fruit and honey), lactose (in milk), and maltose (in grains) are natural substances with nutritional value. If you must satisfy your appetite for

this substance, good substitutes are blackstrap molasses or pure maple syrup. A good way to beat the intense craving for sugar is to snack on grapes, oranges, or bananas. These foods are also healthier than anything in the snack machines.

Processed sugar is a dangerous substance that is industrially produced and is not found in nature. It is not fit for human consumption. However, processed sugar should not be confused with the sugar that is found naturally in plants. All energy in food comes from the sun's effect on green plant life.

The plants convert the sun's energy into sugars and starches. Since the human body cannot convert the sun's energy, it relies on the energy derived from plants. Sugars are a type of carbohydrate.

Nutrition scientists suggest that carbohydrates provided 50 to 55 percent of required energy. Plants should supply sugars—not factories.

Cheating? It's against the rules, but people still do it

By Erick B. Wicker
Register Staff

How many times have we, as students, been faced with the knowledge that we have a test the next day, and that we have not studied for it all? Despite knowing about this test for one week or in some cases one month, we find other things that take precedence over studying.

Which brings us to the question at hand: How far will the average student go to obtain a good grade on a test?

For some us, the very thought of academic dishonesty is enough to make us fearful of the consequences. To others, cheating is an art of survival that is second-nature and pertinent to academic success and matriculation at this World-Class University.

The policy for Academic Dishonesty is laid out very plainly in the student handbook. It is specifically de-

efined as cheating, plagiarism and unauthorized possession of examinations.

Anyone caught committing these acts will be subject to disciplinary action which can include expulsion, community service, and of course failure of the course. Knowing this, why do so many feel so compelled to risk everything they have accomplished for cheating?

This is a question that has long plagued the halls of academia on campuses around the world. In a recent conversation with a friend who shall remain anonymous, we discussed his motivations for and methods of cheating.

His methods include writing on his hands or forearms, placing cheat-sheets in his socks and writing answers on the inside of a baseball cap.

Unfortunately, these methods appear to be successful - and this student is not plagued by any ethical or moral dilemma.

When asked if he felt guilty about

his past acts of dishonesty, he replied: "No, you got to do what you can nowadays to stay ahead of the next man."

Is this the philosophy of every student that cheats these days? What ever happened to students developing good study habits and preparing themselves for academic success?

Then, he said: "Everybody can't cheat because everybody don't know how, but you go to do what you got to do."

"One thing is for sure: If you do cheat, do it right or you'll regret it later."

With the resources available as a result of the new information age, one may find that it is very easy to prepare for a test, and pass it easily without the temptation of cheating. But, we all know that since the beginning of time, man has been guilty of giving in to temptation. So the next time you decide to cheat, think about everything that is at stake and ask yourself: Is it really worth it?

MEDIA

Speech, Communication and Theatre Arts Department, a major force behind the project said, "We're providing the forum for the students to come in and exchange ideas."

Following the greeting and welcome, a panel of distinguished media professionals spoke to students about various jobs, opportunities and problems in the media field. The panel included Robin A. Cheeley, coordinator and public relations person at Durham Regional Hospital; Reynard A. Corley, vice president and general manager at WXII News Channel 12; Bob Buckley, a senior reporter at WGHP TV Fox 8; and Betsi Robinson, assignment editor at the *Greensboro News & Record*.

After having their questions answered, the students broke off into individual workshops of their choice that were conducted by A&T's journalism professors, as well as media professionals in newspaper, radio, television and public relations. The sessions included workshops on: newspaper writing, layout and design of newspaper and yearbook, photojournalism, radio, television

and film. There was even a workshop for advisers. Each workshop ran twice, which gave students the chance to attend at least two of the seminars.

A helper at the career workshop, Yashica Jackson, a broadcast journalism major at A&T said, "I was impressed by the students. They knew more than I thought. I found out that they have a lot of the same things at their schools that we have here."

Towards the end of the workshop, a catered luncheon was held. Keynote speaker of the luncheon was the Rev. Dr. Barbara Reynolds, author of the new book "No I Won't Shut Up."

After the workshop, Callahan said, "It turned out to be a tremendous success. I said that if we have at least 75 students show up, I would be happy."

She and other A&T professors got their wish. The number of high schoolers in attendance were around 225. The High School Media Workshop is the first of many more to come.

The project was funded through a grant from The Freedom Forum.

from front

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Alcohol, pot most popular drugs

By Meishia Hunter
Register Staff

National studies show that alcohol is the most widely used drug on college campuses throughout the country. These studies also reflect that marijuana is the second drug of choice to alcohol at most universities.

Alcohol and marijuana usage has been a key contributor to an array of negative events on many college campuses. These events include: date/acquaintance rape, assault, unprotected sex, sexual promiscuity, drug and alcohol related arrests and academic failure.

A companion survey of 5000 students conducted by the National College Survey in 1996 found a similarity between alcohol and drug usage and poor academic performance in 11 colleges. The survey says that "A" students consume about two and a half drinks per week. "B" students consumed three and a half drinks per week and "C" students averaged more than six drinks per week. Students who normally acquired "D"s and "F"s have a little less than six drinks per week.

Just like on other college campuses,

alcohol and drug abuse is a problem at NC A&T. Many students on campus admit to smoking marijuana and/or drinking regularly.

Keisha Broadaway, a junior mechanical engineering major from Maryland, said that when she lived on campus she knew a lot of students that abused drugs and alcohol. "I do not use drugs but I am a social drinker," said Broadaway.

She represents a large amount of students that drink at social gatherings and events. Kevin Gilchrist, a senior electronics and computer technology major from Durham, said that the use of drugs and alcohol on campus cannot be controlled.

"Everybody is doing it. You do have those people that just drink and smoke socially, and then you have the others that get high and drunk on a regular basis. Some students look at drugs and alcohol as a way out. I personally do not condone either one," said Gilchrist.

Statistics show that over 50 percent of college students have experimented with drugs and alcohol. It is also reported that many college students have not used drugs or alcohol prior to their freshman year.

Andre Weinbar, a senior marketing

major from Jacksonville, agrees that most students on campus have experimented with drugs and alcohol.

"Drug and alcohol use is definitely prevalent on campus. Some students try to use drugs and alcohol as an outlet from the stress and worries of college life. Aside from an escape or release, some students use alcohol and drugs because of friends and peer pressure. I am not saying that drug use has increased since I came to NC A&T in 1995, but it sure has not declined," said Winebar.

Many students who choose to smoke in the dorms on campus face the consequences of losing their housing. Al Daye, a junior psychology major from Durham, admits that he was kicked out of Scott B his freshman year, because he just happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.

"I was in someone else's room when the dorm director discovered one of my friends smoking. There was no way to prove my innocence," said Daye. He believes that marijuana usage is a lot higher than alcohol usage on campus.

"I am a reformed marijuana user, so I know people that smoke everyday. People think that smoking makes them cool but it doesn't. If you smoke

or drink, you have to balance it in with your school work. If you begin lacking academically you need to cut down or stop," said Daye.

He added that he does not necessarily advocate a drug-free atmosphere, because he knows that college students do not want to hear that.

On the other hand, a few students were oblivious to the drug and alcohol usage on campus. Cedric Bass, a senior agricultural business major from Oxford, said that drug abuse on campus is not widespread at all.

"I don't think its much of an epidemic at all, due to stricter and tighter security from the campus police officers. The dorms are now having more frequent unannounced room inspections which makes the students have second thoughts about drinking and using drugs. Students now fear getting kicked off the yard as well as the other disciplinary actions he or she may have to face," Bass said.

STDs a serious matter

By Shawanna Bendolph
Register Staff

Are you at risk of contracting a sexually transmitted disease? If you have ever had sex before, then the answer is yes.

The number of reported AIDS cases in Guilford County surpassed the state rate in 1989, and has remained high ever since. According to the Guilford County Health Department, in 1996, there were three reported cases of HIV infection (in the city of Greensboro) among white males between the ages of 20-29. During the same year, minority males in the city between the ages of 20-29 reported a total of seven cases of HIV Infection.

No cases of HIV infection among white women of any age in Greensboro were reported to the Guilford County Health Department in 1996. However, among minority women, between the ages of 20-29, there were seven cases reported to the department in 1996.

In spite of efforts to educate students about the responsibilities that come with sexual activity, STDs still pose a problem on campus. Sebastian Health Center's educator, Janet Kandie Lattimore said, "STDs remain constant on this campus. There is not an epidemic here; no more than [at] any other university. We always seek to educate students to allow them to have more knowledge. It [knowledge] will allow them to protect themselves."

Most students have had some experience, whether directly or indirectly, with STDs. When she was a freshman, junior business management major Sharon Wilson knew someone that had herpes.

"She was always out there with different guys. You could tell when the infection was back, because she would always get in the tub and soak and she would get real sick. It was a real

AIDS and HIV by RACE

	AIDS*	HIV*
White	7.5	4.5
Black	41.9	59.2

*numbers are rate per thousand people

SEX DISEASES by CITY (1996)

	Chlamydia	Gonorrhea	Syphilis
Greensboro	964	910	193
High Point	386	336	41

shame," Wilson said.

In Guilford County, incidence rates for syphilis, gonorrhea and chlamydia are much higher among minority residents than among whites. According to the county health department, in 1996 minority males aged 20-29 reported 228 cases of gonorrhea alone. In 1996, minority females in Guilford County (in the same age group) reported more cases of chlamydia than any other group, with a total 248 cases reported.

Students have their own standards when it comes to practicing safer sex. "I think as long as you wear a condom during sex and it does not break...and you have oral sex with protection; you will be fine. But a lot of people have sex and use a condom, and have oral sex without using anything...They might as well not have used a condom," said Steve Brooks, a senior electronic and computer technology major.

Despite warnings about the benefits of practicing safer sex, some individuals chose not to heed the warnings. Wilson said, "The reason people practice unsafe sex is because they don't know what they can catch, and a lot of people say they can't feel anything

when using a condom."

"I think students are miseducated and misinformed...We in our twenties feel like we have immortality. [As if] We can't be infected by these diseases," said junior communications major Angela Ervin. Ervin also said that preventive measures, like education can slow the rise of STDs. "Don't be caught being ignorant," she said.

Some blame the spread of STDs on the lack of honesty in relationships. "...No one is open about their sexual history. When you have a new partner, they don't want to tell you if they have contracted an STD," said junior public relations major Marcia Johnson.

Sexual promiscuity and irresponsibility also play a part in the the passing of STDs. Janine Bineyard, a junior public relations major said, "Males and females don't think about the consequences [of sex]. Most of the time they are out to have sex, not thinking about who they might hurt."

Lattimore said that they (at the student health center) are pleased that there has been a decrease in STDs on A&T's campus from the 1995-1996 to the 1996-1997 school year. Lattimore offers one-on-one counseling for STDs and other health-related issues.

TELEPHONE INTERVIEWERS

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Relationships need responsibility

By Latoya Best
Register Staff

Sweethearts sharing a kiss. A young couple walking hand-in-hand. A male and female embracing in a tender hug. Everyone has seen these public displays of affection on campus at one point or another. No one will deny that it feels good to be in love. On the other hand, each A&T student has an opinion when it comes to relationships.

Sophomore electronics and computer technology major, Catrena Scott, said that students are happier when they are involved in a relationship. "For the most part, students feel they need someone to spend time with and to be there for them," Scott said.

Then there are students that can survive without a romantic partner,

but acknowledge the benefits of having someone special. Cynthia Lucas, a sophomore broadcast news major from Wilson, said, "It's not that important to me. I don't have to be in a relationship, but it is nice to have someone to spend quality time with and to be there for you."

Students that are in relationships have to maintain the relationship, fulfill academic obligations and (for some) work. If a student concentrates solely on one area while neglecting another, problems can and will arise. "The key part in making a relationship successful is time management," said Kerrick Forrest, a sophomore psychology major from Kernersville. Forrest added that he concentrates on school first and the relationship last.

Chicobie Ashford, said that she has no difficulty in juggling her love life

and her other responsibilities. Ashford, a sophomore child development major from Charlotte said, "I try to finish all my school work during the week. Then, I call or go see my boyfriend every other weekend."

Lucas said that students have to be more responsible if they chose to have a boyfriend or a girlfriend during their college years. "A relationship hinders your school work only if you let it. If I was seeing someone, I would finish my work before he came over," she said.

While some students want and even need to have a significant other, some students would rather not have a relationship. "Actually, I feel happier not being in a relationship. I don't have to put up with arguments or petty jealousies," said Tyree Farrow, a sophomore broadcast news major from Chapel Hill.

Computer science major Kala Barnes agreed. "In college you need to focus attention on your studies," said Barnes, a Woodsbridge, Va. native.

Relationships, and all of the ups and downs that come with them, are a major part of college life. However, many students said that getting an education is their top priority. Each person must decide for themselves whether or not they want to have a mate or remain single.

"It depends on the individual involved in the relationship," senior business education major Latasha Moore said. "I feel that if both have a clear understanding that their main focus should be on their education and they can distinguish social time from their education, then it shouldn't pose a problem."

Love and marriage: Aggies consider 'the big step'

By Chaundra Norman
Register Staff

Marriage is a big step, and it's a step that many students begin thinking about while in college.

But thinking is one thing, apparently, and doing is another. N.C. A&T students who considered the question came back with a resounding: NO.

"I'm too young," says Andrew Thompson, a freshman from Asheville. "I still have a lot of growing to do."

"That's very encouraging to hear," says David Cameron, a licensed marriage and family therapist from Family Reconciliation Services.

Cameron says that statistically the best time to begin considering marriage is in the late 20's for a number of different reasons.

"The ages of 18 to 25 are a time of great change," he says. He explained that this is a time of exploration. Many people are trying to get established within a job and within themselves - and their tastes and interests change in the process.

Even after marriage, Cameron said, it is common for couples to pass through stages. When couples first get married they go through a romantic period, a sort of disillusionment. By about the second or third year, this phase has worn off. When it does, people become aware of things that they may have ignored or never really knew. They begin to question whether or not they made the right decision by getting married.

"Younger couples may have a hard time persevering through this stage due to their maturity level," says

Cameron. "They feel like things should be wonderful all the time."

Ashley Robertson, a freshman from Bedford, Va., has been married for seven months. Though hardly a veteran, she already has identified some things you should do before saying "I do."

"Think real hard and make sure you are ready to give up a lot," Robertson says. "Make sure that you and your mate establish good communication skills."

"And be sure that marriage is really what you want to do."

Her seven months of marriage have been hard, Robertson says, but she's still glad she took the big step.

"The hardest thing right now is trust," she says.

Since she lives on campus, she says, her husband has a hard time trusting

her.

"I know that is something we should have worked out already," she says. "We are young but we are working on it."

With an age difference of almost 10 years between Robertson and her husband - she's 18 and he's 27 - there are a few maturity differences.

"Right now he is in the settling down stage in his life and I am in the find yourself stage," she says. "But the best thing is knowing that you have someone there with you who will be there through everything and help you get through."

Robertson says the best advice she can give is "make sure you talk things out and listen to one another. Also fun, make sure that you have fun."

"Marriage is a big step. Just make sure you are ready for it."

How to survive a semester off

By Nichole S. Fate
Register Staff

Students who plan a college career don't often plan to sit out for a semester - but it happens. For one reason or another, they're faced with a crisis, or a need to re-evaluate themselves and their goals.

The interruption that follows is almost always traumatic, but the damage can be minimized. Many have survived a semester off, and some even return wiser for the experience.

Finances are often the reason for leaving school, but sitting out doesn't necessarily solve the problem. Self-supporting students may find it impossible, even with a full time job, to pay their bills and save money for a return to school.

Enlisting in the U.S. Armed Forces - thanks to aggressive educational incentives ranging from \$19,000 to \$40,000 - is an option. But the military lifestyle is not for everyone.

Robert Jones, an A&T alumnus, gave it a solid thumbs up.

"The military is an excellent way to become disciplined, and it is a great experience," Jones said.

Manquel Ford, an A&T senior and

military veteran, had a different experience.

"I went into the military after leaving school and was enlisted for two years," Ford said. "I could not wait until my time was over."

Nonetheless, Ford said, his decision to leave school was a good one. He wasn't focused on his schoolwork, he said, and his friends were not influencing him in a positive manner.

Returning, he said, was a snap.

"It's probably easier to re-admit than it is to apply for admission for the first time," Ford said.

For N.C. A&T senior Tarik Ledbetter, the prospect of having children made the decision to return to school an easy one.

"It is hard enough trying to raise a child and steer them into the right direction in today's society, without adding onto your problems the lack of a good education," Ledbetter says. I returned to school because I want to have kids someday, and I want to be able to provide for them better than what I had.

"The child did not ask to suffer because I wasn't man enough to complete my education. Doing this now is enabling me to prepare for my future and the future of my kids."

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Winfrey's 'Beloved' tells heart-wrenching story of slave and her children

By Joey Tatum
Register Staff

"Beloved" (4 stars)

With the captivating film "Beloved," Oprah Winfrey returns to the big screen in order to share the emotional stories of Sethe, Paul D, Denver and the movie's namesake Beloved. Oprah stars alongside Danny Glover, Kimberly Elise, Thandie Newton and Beah Richards in this engrossing tale borrowed from Toni Morrison's novel "Beloved."

Winfrey portrays Sethe, a runaway slave from Kentucky who crosses the river into Ohio in order to start a new life. Her happiness does not last long. Sethe is constantly tortured by a shocking secret from her past.

Danny Glover co-stars as Paul D, an old plantation friend of Sethe's, who visits her. Paul D eventually learns of the secrets that she has been sheltering for so many years. Kimberly Elise, who gives a convincing portrayal of Denver (Sethe's daughter) is caught in the middle of her mother and her dead sister Beloved. Denver's embattled spirit must break free from the "crippling grasp of her mother's choices."

Thandie Newton, who plays Beloved, gives the audience the full effect of her devastating existence that almost destroys the balance of Sethe and Denver's survival. Newton, a virtual unknown, electrifies audiences with her powerful portrayal as Beloved, "who represents hope, survival and



Danny Glover and Oprah Winfrey

future generations."

"Beloved" combines supernatural horror with the mundane cruelties of the slavery system. Katie Couric, of the Today Show, asked Winfrey who she wanted to please in making the movie. Winfrey said, "You know what my biggest fear was, would Toni Morrison approve (you know) in the end? Would she say well done? And she did."

Ghetto Music

Is it real, or is it just really ignorant?

By Crystal X. Armour
Register News Editor

"Who dat is?"
"Where?"

"The man right here."

"Oh, that's just my baby daddy."

Have you ever had a conversation that sounded like that? If so, you just might be a ghetto superstar. Or maybe you're a fan of Master P, the No Limit Soldiers and other rappers and rap groups that stretch the boundaries of ebonics.

"It's not ebonics, it's e-ignorance," said Melvina Thomas, a senior psychology major from Charlotte. "Whenever those songs come on, I just turn to 97.1."

"People might buy the first and second albums, but 20 years from now, no one is going to be listening to that ignorance."

Though these so-called "ghetto" songs do not always convey a positive image of black people, some people do like them.

"It's entertaining," said Larry Evans, a junior history and political science major from Greensboro. "But if you're looking for proper English diction, you shouldn't listen to this music."

Evans does admit, however, that the music

"doesn't always portray the position image that black people need today."

Crystal Gaskill, a junior communication major from New Brunswick, N.J., said, "It's (ghetto music) OK, but I don't buy it. It all has the same beat."

The ringleader for this recent surge of ghetto-glorifying music appears to be Master P. He and his posse, the No Limit Soldiers, dominate the charts with their ebonics-laced rhymes and choruses and P's infamous trademark "UUNGH!"

"Master P is a drug dealer with a lot of money and a lot of free time," said Gaskill. "It's sad that people with money and education are trying to emulate him."

When listeners of an Atlanta-based radio station were asked how they felt about Master P's music, the responses were overwhelming.

"I like music, and that's not music," said one irate listener.

"He's a genius," said one male listener.

"That music is garbage," another man said.

"P keeps it real," a woman said.

"Master P sucks," said a female listener.

"Master P is the realest rapper out there," someone said. "He's from the ghetto, and he stays true to the ghetto."

Undoubtedly, Master P and ghetto music are popular despite opposition and negative reactions.

Why?

One radio listener said: "Master P is a multimillionaire and we (black people) are mainly buying his stuff."

"What does that say about us?"

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CAMPUS INTERVIEWS

November 13, 1998

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BB&T

Correction: In the Oct. 16 issue, in a story titled "SUAB sponsors Roundtable talk," the author should have been listed as Chad Hill.

the poetry page

We want this to be a regular page. Please submit your writings to the black box of the Register House, located across from Graham Hall. Call 334-7700 for info.

"I am a Black Woman"

I am a Black Woman
Not just a woman
Because of the color of my skin
Is an issue
An issue I can't deny
Not that I would try
For it cloaks me in its arms
Like a mother's love
And a man's charm
I am a Black Woman
Can't you see
My hair is long
But kinky
My body is curved
Not linky
My lips are full
Not thinly pulled
I am a Black Woman
years have passed and my
role remains
Strong
Intelligent
Lovingly I proclaim
I am a Black Woman!
I give birth to a
Beautiful people
I praise the true and
Living God
I love and receive love
In return
I nurture my sons and daughters
and make them strong
I sing the songs of angels gone:
my ancestors voices I, and I hear
Alone
I am a Black Woman
That fact is evident and clear
Tied to my existence,
sowed to my fate
It equates who I am, and fosters
the success
I must make

-Jamie Wiggins

Invisible

Over my eyes there lies an
undermining microscope
Can you see through me?
In every ear there is a drum
Does everyone follow
the same beat I move to?
With every touch I have
a meaning
Through my voice can you
hear the pain, distress, and
discomfort or does your drum
have a different cadence?
Each motion I take is like the wind
soft, swift, and silent
Every step I take the oceans bow
and the earth trembles
If you look hard enough you can
see the sun when I smile and
stars in my eyes
Behind the sun lies a full moon
I change from day to night
Underneath the stars is a
black hole
Only darkness can be seen
through it
yet, somehow, light can come out
Who am I you ask?
I am Invisible.

- Eboni C. Duke

The Queens We Are

Beautiful, Black, Nubian, The
Essence of the earth
These are just some of the
words that describe our
beautiful, chocolate skin, modeled
body and sensuous lips
I dare black men to down us
Call us female dogs and label
us as whores
We will rise as one going against
every odd because we are the
queens who created you
Upon our body we carry a
womb that creates beautiful
offspring
Creating life without us is
impossible
The love we give cannot be
measured. So sweet, so respected,
so good that you can't help
but to go down on bended knees
We demand respect, We are
beautiful, We are black, We are
Nubian and the essence of earth
Don't treat us like the Queens
you want us to be
Treat us like The Queens We Are.

-Eboni C. Duke

Moving On

Continually the pain proceeds,
Slowly combining the wants and
needs, Contentment cleanses one's
soul for but
a moment
Then a memory from love lost
comes and steps right on it,
Tears flow continually as thoughts
of happy times,
Brings reality that one would like
to forget sometimes,
And even a new love cannot
possess, The feeling of elation and
togetherness,
The heart stands at a crossroad
with no backtrack,
Feeling helpless at the ambush of
sadness taken aback,
But all must be expected in the
game of love,
The time to walk away and the time
for a hug.
Pieces of a shattered heart must be
used to build,
A bridge over the problem made of
steel, When love lost brings tears
and means of distress,
And even relief cannot be found in a
caress. The thought that every rough
time brings one to be strong,
Helps in the hard task of moving on.

- Nalita Campbell

The Lemonade Stand

I set up a lemonade stand three years
ago. I was selling lemonade for 5 cents
a cup. A low price considering what
others sell their lemonade for. The
prices at the other lemonade stands
were 50 cents, even a dollar.
They made a huge profit. They also
had a lot of customers. It seemed as if
they didn't mind paying the high
prices that other lemonade stands
charged. At my lemonade stand my
price was low. For a cup of great
tasting lemonade it only cost 5 cents.
But nobody would buy my lemonade.
I got advice from my friends about

Shredded Dreams

Life has new meaning now that
we're apart,
Though I never thought it would
happen, it did, and broke my heart.
More than a simple tear than can be
glued back together,
But more like dreams torn to the
point that they sever.
All of the smiles and I love yous are
now in vain,
Closed behind the heavy door of
disappointment
and pain, These dreams that we had
were once seen
in dreams far away,
Now the only thing I want to do is
wish the pain away,
There was once a time I could
picture your face and smile,
Now I can hardly remember a thing
about you that is worthwhile,
But as long as I know pain is a stop
on love's highway,
I feel better knowing my life's on to
a better day,
My dreams are shredded for only
but a minute.
The pain you gave that lived here
briefly, only rented
Through I may go through much
pain and strife,
I feel better knowing that you are
forever out of my life.

-Nalita Campbell

Give and Take

He gives us the rain.
Then he gives too much
So we hate it.
He takes it all away.
Then it is gone too long
So we miss it.
He gives us a tree
Then it stands in our way
so we cut it.
He lets the growth span our life.
Now we are choking and can't
breathe So we need it.
He gives us the mountains.
Then they get too high to climb
so we dread it.
He takes away our youth.
Now we are yearning to climb a hill
so we regret it.
He creates the world.
Then He gives it to humans,
so we destroy it.
He prepares it to end
but we don't remember His name
so as for ours, He ignores it.

-J. Southerland

That Aggie Mentality

To live the day and life of an Aggie
Is a wonderful experience to have
To actually live a day as an Aggie
Is a dream that many people can't grab
The trials and tribulations that an Aggie
encounters; It's hard and tough to see
But once you experience a walk in
Aggieland; You'll see why we chose
A&T; As you walk from Merrick to
McNair You'll see why other colleges
can't compare; With the high moral
standards of an Aggie's mentality
That is way above the normality
Other Colleges and Universities try to
compete ; With the characteristics that
they constantly fail to meet
Because we represent wherever we go
Just to make sure that everyone knows
that our university is
definitely the best
Leaving nothing but jealousy to the rest
The ones who decided to go else where
Where the faculty, administrators and
students don't care
I'm sorry that they've been abused
By those lying recruiters who tried to
use; Their name recognition to attract
them in; And now they realize that the
recruiters really weren't their friend
All they wanted was their tuition
And they didn't think twice about their
ambitions
But that was a choice that they made
Because they thought they would get a
better grade
With Job Scouts and Big time recruiters
But guess whose making the BIG
CAHOODAS!
Who can sit back and set his/her mind
free
Because they chose a school who cared
And not a school where everyone was
weird
Red, Blue, Green and Orange hair to
match
Now tell me who stayed intact
Who got the chance to shed the tears
From graduating on time
While others sit back and say I wish that
school was mine
Yeah Aggies do sit back and brag about
their school knowing it's definitely a
dime
Remember to keep that Aggie Mentality
and you will be sure to see
Everyone knows that A&T has the best
there ever could be
We have the best students a university
can produce
Now what university really has the
juice?

AGGIE PRIDE!

-Latosha "Lala" Dozier
class of 2000

towel. But then I don't want to give up
on my business because hopefully one
day someone will come along and buy
a cup of lemonade from me and
hopefully that person will become a
regular customer if not a life-long
customer.

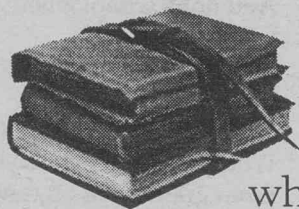
My best friend says that I should not
give up. She says that it is better to
have one quality customer than a lot of
counterfeit customers like most of the
other lemonade stands have. I know
she is right. But until that quality
customer comes along, I'll just sit by
my lemonade stand while everyone
keeps passing me by.

-February L. Johnson



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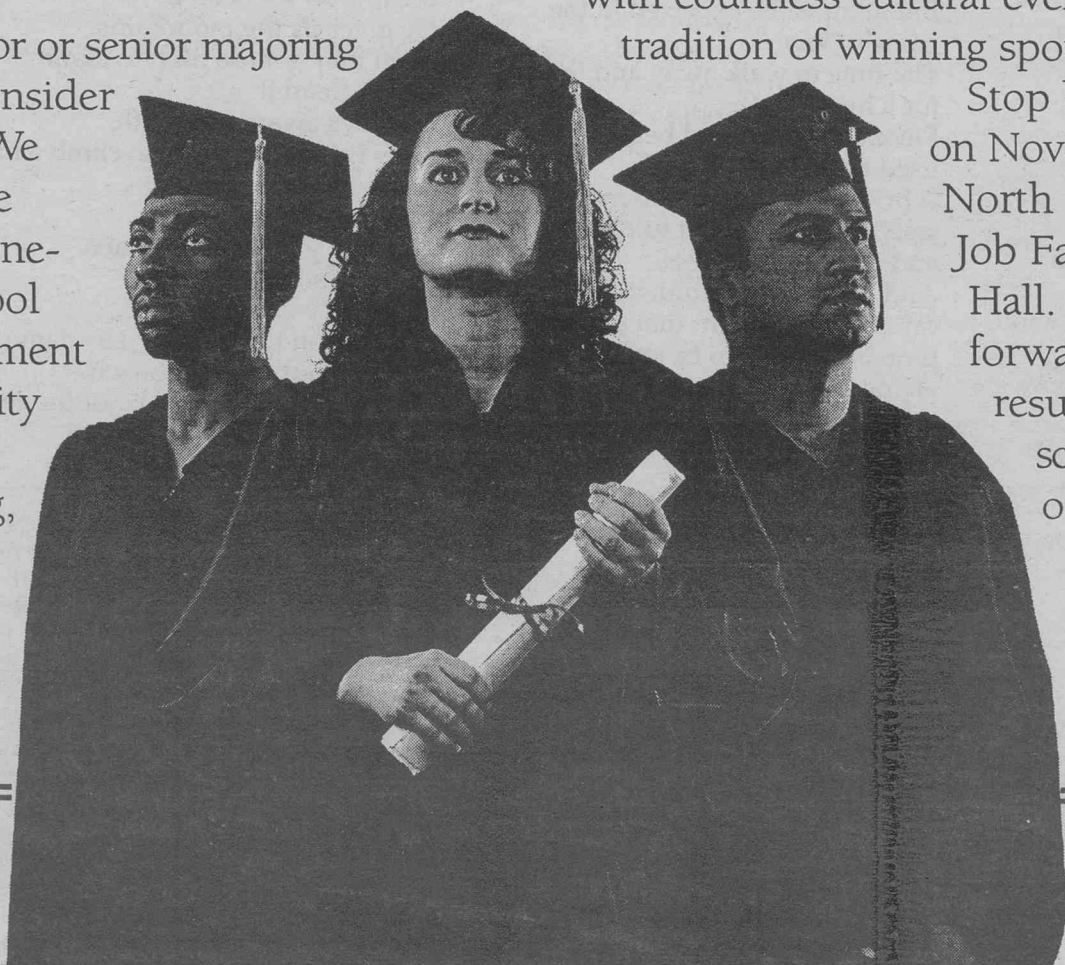
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