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THE A&T Register

Friday, Nov. 13, 1998

Volume 73 No. 5

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People are nasty. We need to get it straight. Editorial, page 8

Aggies come home



Photo by Sonia Clark / A&T Register

"Little" Miss Channing Sierra Jones, daughter of Sylvia Jones (Class of 1987), is starting to understand Aggie Pride.

Homecoming all about Aggie Pride

By Erick B. Wicker
Register Staff

What is this thing that we call Homecoming? For some of us, Homecoming is that one week during the year that it becomes OK for the student body to skip class and hang out with friends. Of course, that is not very logical, but it usually ends up being that way.

We are continuously reminded by numerous professors that Homecoming is not for the student body, but for the alumni who are to return. But even for those of us who tend to agree with

that interpretation, we can't help but ask: If Homecoming is not for the student body, then why is it an entire week of activities?

Most alumni are unable to be here for the whole week because of prior commitments like family and jobs, so it is unreasonable to say that Homecoming is not for the student body. Which leads us to the question: Is Homecoming becoming too commercialized?

Some students seem to think so. "The most memorable thing about Homecoming for me was how different it was," said Chandra Meachem, a junior animal science major. "It

didn't feel the same as other Homecomings, and maybe that's because I completely missed the football game."

"In essence, Homecoming is really nothing but a big fashion show," Meachem said. "It's interesting because no one goes to watch the game, they go to be seen."

"I just could not find the true meaning of Homecoming this year."

Is Homecoming really losing its zeal? That seems to be the general consensus among the student body, including myself.

Rashawn Farris, a senior political

see **HOMECOMING**, page 2

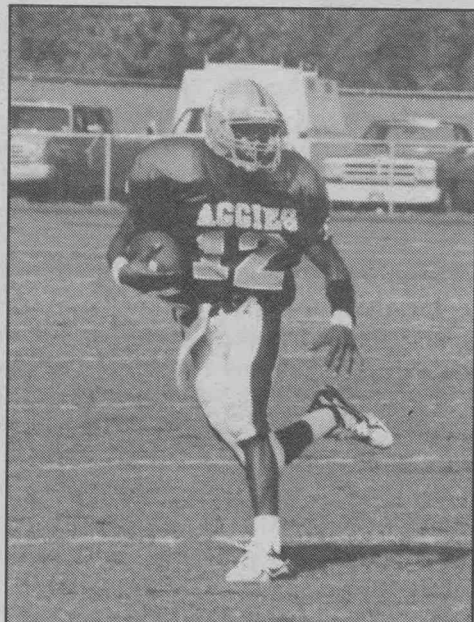


Photo by Yohance Harrison / A&T Register

Rodney Woodruff, shown here scrambling on the field, was arrested for driving while impaired on Oct. 31.

Aggie QB nabbed for driving while impaired

Rodney Woodruff, the football team's starting quarterback, was arrested on Oct. 31 for driving while impaired and running a red light on East Market and Laurel streets.

Greensboro Police arrested Woodruff around 11:00 p.m. and took him to the Guilford County Detention Center. Police Sgt. J. L. Herron said that Woodruff's blood alcohol level was 0.10 when the breathalyzer test was conducted at the jail. In North Carolina, the legal blood alcohol limit is 0.08.

Woodruff played in the homecoming game on that Saturday, but left with a hip injury in the fourth quar-

ter. University officials declined to comment on how the arrest will affect his status on the team.

Mable Scott, the university's vice chancellor for public relations, said "The public information office was not advised of any information regarding this case, therefore, it is very difficult for me to provide a definite answer." Scott said that on homecoming weekend no incidents from the Campus Security Office, the Greensboro Police Department or the Guilford County Sheriff's Office were reported to the Office of Public Relations.

-Register Staff Reports

Homecoming concerts split A&T students

By Semaj Marsh
Register Staff

It was a tale of two concerts on Oct. 31, as A&T students were forced to choose between two different homecoming shows on the same night.

On one side of town, a local concert promoter staged an independent show at the Greensboro Coliseum, which featured many of today's hottest rap artists. Meanwhile, back on campus, A&T's Student Government Association offered a less publicized homecoming show at Corbett Gymnasium, which featured lesser known acts.

When it came time to decide where to party homecoming night, an overwhelming number of A&T students chose to make the trek to the coliseum.

"I supported every other (SGA sponsored) function during homecoming except for the concert," said Jaive Peaks, a senior electronics and computer technology major from Durham. "I just have never seen Jay-Z or DMX in concert before and felt that I could die next week and never get a chance to see them on the same stage again."

Tony Williams (president of Diamond Life Entertainment and the coliseum concert's promoter) estimated that his concert drew a crowd of over 17,000. He said this

see **HOMECOMING**, page 2

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Two concerts split students

TWO CONCERTS *from front*

particular show was probably the largest concert ever held in the coliseum.

Corbett Gymnasium, on the other hand, was only half full by many accounts, with an estimated crowd of 2,000.

Most A&T students who attended the "Hip-Hop Homecoming Convention" — as the show at the coliseum was billed — said they were lured primarily by the line-up of stars.

"I think they had more artists that I wanted to see," said Nakia Little, a senior accounting major from Aurora. "I feel bad because it's my school and I know I should support them, but I didn't like the acts (at Corbett Gymnasium).

Rap artist Jay-Z, who head-lined at the coliseum, has the number one album in the country. The coliseum's other performers included DMX, Outkast, Peter Dinklage and Lord Tariq, Fat Man Scoop, D.J. Cool and local rapper Don Gorgeyone — many of whom have large fan bases.

In comparison, the biggest names on the marquee at Corbett were rappers Noreaga and Cam'ron. Also featured was teen rapper A-plus, R&B group Jagged Edge and new artist Pressha. Although these artists all have hit records, many students didn't afford them the same recognition as the heavyweights at the coliseum.

Precious Ray, who attended the concert at Corbett, said she chose to stay on campus only because she received free tickets. She added that although Noreaga performed well, she didn't really enjoy the show because it was "organized and took too much time between acts."

The debate over the rival homecoming shows first became a hot issue last year, when Williams organized his separate show on the same night A&T traditionally scheduled their event.

According to Williams, Diamond Life Entertainment had promoted all of A&T's concert events for the past 17 years. However, when the two parties could no longer agree on where to hold future homecoming show last summer, he opted to end their business relationship.

Williams said it was his contention that the concert had outgrown Corbett Gymnasium's 5,500 seating capacity and that the facility was no longer safe

or comfortable. "The partnership dissolved when we had a difference of philosophy," said Williams. Williams said that the Corbett facility was unable to generate enough revenue to attract top-named performers.

"A&T can never have a great show with it's financial situation," Williams said. "That particular building (Corbett) can only generate \$75,000 (in profits), where as Jay-Z cost \$35,000 by himself."

Williams added that by continuing to stage the concert at Corbett, thousands of alumni and non-students would be left out. "I'm a firm believer that everyone should be part of homecoming," he said. "We sold 3,000 tickets for our show on the first day [they went on sale]," he said. "If the concert was at Corbett, it would be sold out in the first week."

"I have a problem with the fact A&T wants to be a part of the community when they're trying to receive donations, but when it comes to something like homecoming, then it seems like they don't want to include everyone. You can't just flip the script."

Williams said he informed Arthur Smith (the SGA President at the time) of the need to cater the homecoming concert to everyone, not just his fellow Aggies. "I told Arthur that you have to understand your position," Williams said. "You are not the guest, you're the host. And as a good host your job is to make sure that everyone at your house has enough food, enough seats and they are comfortable."

Williams added that a top-notch facility like the Greensboro Coliseum offers state-of-the-art video screens and production equipment — luxuries not available at Corbett.

"My number one goal is to give the best show I possibly can," he said. "And I can honestly say that A&T students had the best homecoming show in the country this year — not just the state, but the entire country."

His concert generated so much wide-spread attention, said Williams, that he was forced to turn down several major artist-like Redman and Method Man, who volunteered to perform for free.

Current SGA president Nathan Ingram, however, had a different take on the circumstances that led to the break-up. According to Ingram, who then was vice-president of external affairs, the SGA chose to discontinue its ties with Diamond Life after what it deemed as "dishonest business practices" on the part of Williams. Ingram said that during negotiations for last year's concert, Williams attempted to play both the university's administration officials and the SGA against one another. Williams, who denied those allegations, countered that many members of A&T's administration understood his viewpoint, but were nevertheless subject to the whims of the SGA.

"The (A&T) administration likes to allow the students the ability to make decisions concerning the homecoming show and they just hope they make the right one," said Williams. "(The SGA) thought that putting on a concert was easy, but obviously they found out differently."

Dr. James E. Sibert, A&T's assistant vice chancellor for student affairs and the adviser to the SGA, did in fact concede that Corbett Gymnasium may no longer be a feasible concert site.

"Our student body has outgrown Corbett," said Sibert. "During the step show last week many people complained that it was too hot. We've been lucky that we haven't had any real mishaps there yet."

Concerning the debate over continuing to have the show in Corbett, Sibert reminds critics that the same question was asked in last year's SGA elections and the majority of students voted to keep the concert on campus.

"When students vote that they want to keep the concert on campus, but then go to the show at the coliseum, that sends mixed signals," he said. "At some point we have to come to grips with the fact that if the students are going to be at the coliseum then we need to be over there too. Don't set us up and say you want a concert on campus and then go to another place."

Ingram agreed. "If the students say one thing, we just can't do the opposite."

He added that he had no regrets about keeping the concert at Corbett, despite the fact it was dramatically outsold by the Diamond Life event. "We're

servants of the students and we have to act accordingly," Ingram said. "(In last year's student election) many students made the argument that having a show on campus was a better idea."

Although Ingram acknowledges that certain factions—including officials in A&T's administration—may criticize his decision to keep the concert on campus, he insists that it is necessary for students to have a hand in planning their own events.

"I believe the students should run the concert," said Ingram. "Student cultures and attitudes are very dynamic and I think they should have peers [in decision making positions] that are in touch with their wants."

Ingram believed many of the students who attended the concert at the coliseum were underclassmen "who haven't been here long enough to develop a strong school loyalty."

In the weeks leading up to the homecoming weekend, another controversy arose over the unequal amount of publicity given to the two concerts. Local radio station 102 Jamz ran numerous commercials advertising the "Hip Hop Homecoming Convention." The A&T concert received little mention. To some listeners, it seemed as if 102 Jamz—normally a major sponsor of A&T events—had chosen to affiliate itself with the Diamond Life Concert.

Brian Douglas, program director at 102 Jamz, contends that while his radio stations sold advertisement space to Diamond Life, and allowed on-air personalities to host the concert, the station was never a sponsor for the event. In fact, Douglas said, 102 took a neutral position.

"By no means did this radio station want to show a lack of respect towards A&T's homecoming concert," said Douglas. "I hope there's a realization of how things work and that we were not in a position to benefit except for (selling) commercials."

Douglas added that both concert promoters were given the opportunity to buy advertisement space, but for whatever reasons, A&T's concert organizers chose not to.

However, Walter Johnson, who replaced Williams as A&T's concert promoter, refutes Douglas claim. He said he made numerous attempts to secure commercial spots for the A&T concert, but was constantly stonewalled. Eventually, Johnson said, officials at the station told him that they had already decided to work with Diamond Life and would not be able to serve him.

As a result of the disparaging media, A&T students knew little about the SGA concert. Some students claimed that, besides seeing the fliers in the student union, they hardly realized that a concert on campus was even planned.

In retrospect, Ingram acknowledges that the SGA's annual homecoming budget played a part in their head to head competition with Diamond Life. According to Ingram, the SGA only had \$40,000 to coordinate all homecoming events for the entire week. He said the SGA spent around \$4,000 for radio commercials—mostly on A&T's WNAA radio station—and various other advertisements for their show.

It seems unlikely that the SGA will ever have enough in their treasure chest to compete with the deep pockets of Diamond Life. Future options for A&T's homecoming concert include rescheduling the homecoming show on a different day (as not to compete with the Diamond Life concert) or scrapping the idea of a concert completely.

Tony Williams, for one, said he hopes the two groups can mend their differences and return to offering fans one great concert in the near future. "A&T's homecoming show has a history of having the best acts in the country," said Williams. "When A&T and Diamond Life were together we were the Chicago Bulls of concerts."

Williams admits, however, that since he has shown that he can hold a successful concert on his own, "some serious financial re-negotiation" will have to take place before there can be a new partnership.

"We've shown that we put together a concert by ourselves," he said, "and that's something (A&T) should not have wanted us to find out. But if we ever team back up, it's going to be like New Edition teaming up again," he said. "It's going to be huge."

Is Aggie Pride still strong for A&T students?

from front

science major, came away from Homecoming '98 with mixed feelings.

"My most memorable thing about Homecoming '98 was tailgating and socializing with friends who are Aggie alumni," Farrior said. "But I also enjoyed the step show. It wasn't the greatest, but it was memorable."

"In past years, the stepshow was a lot more intense and competitive. This year there was no competition. It was more like an exhibition show."

As for Homecoming fashion, Farrior said: "Homecoming is the biggest event of the year, and fashion is the most important part. Yes, Homecoming is a fashion show, but in a positive manner because it shows that we as a people enjoy the finer things in life. I feel that the students and the Alumni should go all out."

All in all, Homecoming is a time of year that Aggies old and Aggies new can come together and share those memories and experiences that have shaped them into the successful people that they are today. These ties that bind the generations are rooted deeply in the spirit of love. The very essence of the word "Homecoming" suggests that it is for the alumni, but we must be aware of the fact that there is an immediate burden on the entire student body to prepare for the return of past Aggies, and to make them feel that "Aggie Pride" associated with this world-class university.

Homecoming memories for 1998

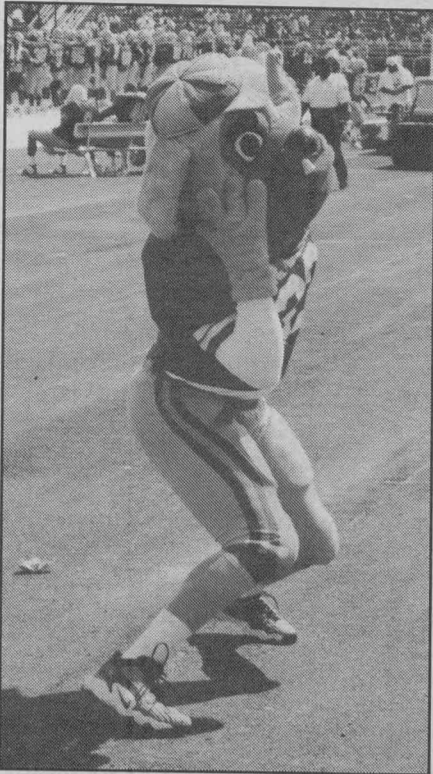


Photo by Creighton Farrington / A&T Register
The Aggie mascot cheers the crowd on during the homecoming game.



Photo by Sonia Clark / A&T Register
Delta Sigma Theta sisters Kathleen Harrell (graduate), Leslie Beatty (graduate), Imani Bailey (junior), Christie Lyles (senior) and Jacqueline Koonce (senior) enjoy the homecoming gathering.

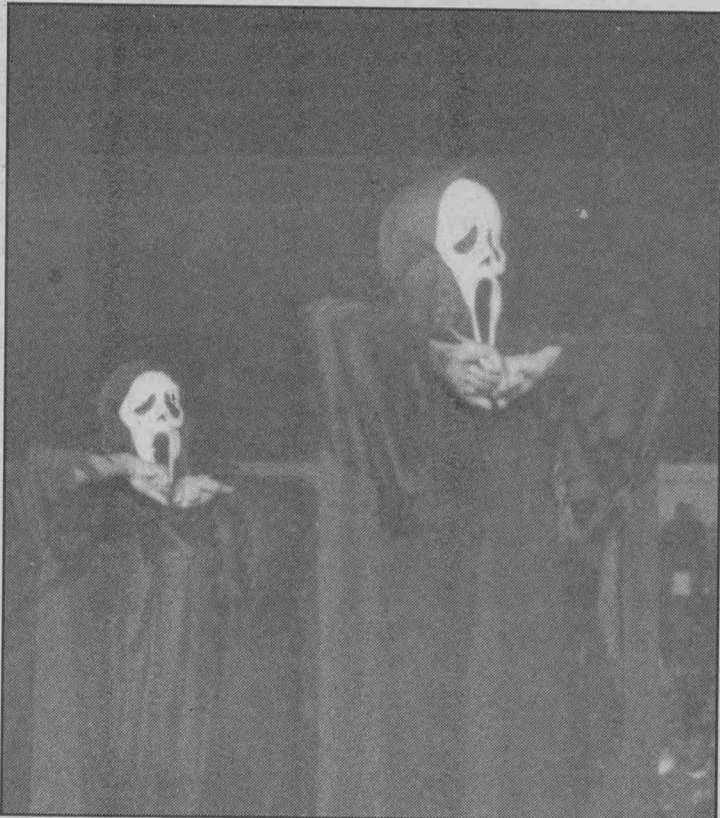


Photo by Creighton Farrington / A&T Register
Alpha Kappa Alpha competed in the homecoming step show dressed as the killer from Scream.

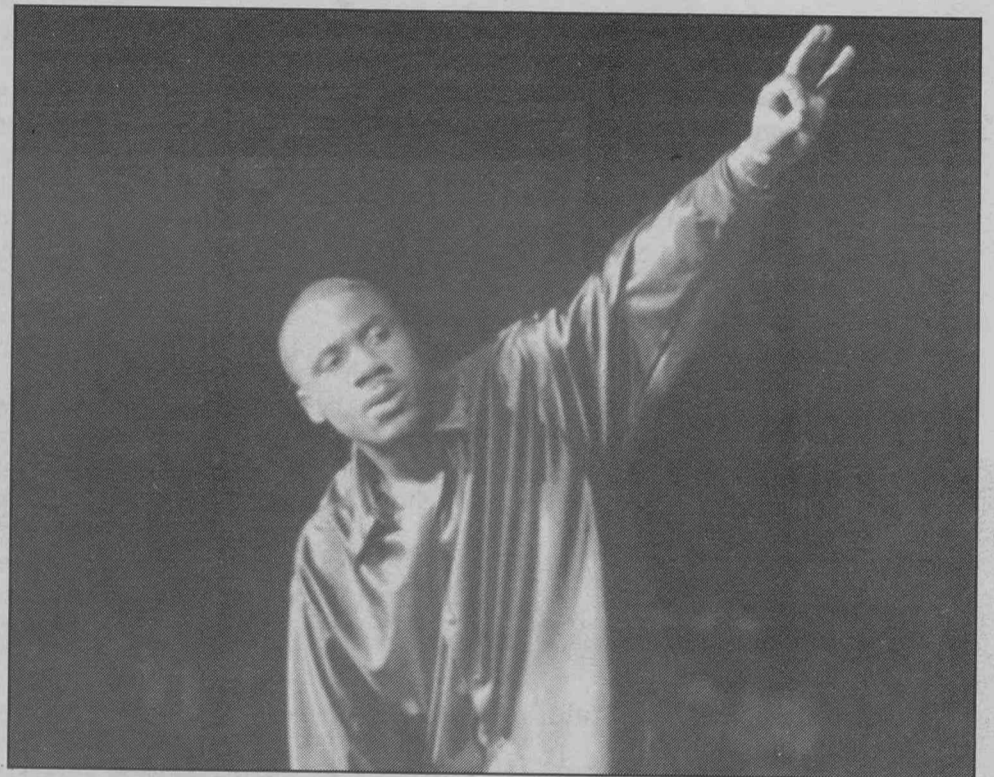


Photo by Creighton Farrington / A&T Register
Jerry Heath, of Kappa Alpha Psi, makes a move to the crowd. KAPsi won the Homecoming Step Show for men's fraternities. Delta Sigma Theta won for the women.



Photo by Creighton Farrington / A&T Register
The Aggie Pride band had a lot of fun at the homecoming game — of course, they always have fun at games.



Photo by Creighton Farrington / A&T Register
Some future Aggie cheerleaders strut their stuff at the Aggie Homecoming parade.

Keep your eye on credit debt

By Chad Hill
Register Staff

With all of the stress and strain of being college student, who needs another bill? Upon coming to college, many students make the mistake of getting one or more credit cards. Many of these students have no previous credit history or even a steady job.

Most students get credit cards for financial "emergencies" or just because everyone else has one. Few students are knowledgeable of interest rates, finance charges or how credit card companies make their money. Before coming to college, most people are warned about everything except credit cards. For many, these cards have become a resource for extra income during their college years. The problem occurs when students use them irresponsibly.

Shannon Stewart, a junior transportation major at A&T and one of many students who got a credit card their freshman year said, "I got one because it was there and because of the free gifts. After re-

ceiving the card, I just started spending," she said.

Knowing that students are easily lured into the credit card game with "free" bonus checks, cheesy gifts and persuasive tactics, many credit companies prey on college students. How could a student that does not own anything or even have a source of income make credit card payments?

Most students cannot, and the companies are aware of that. Meanwhile, interest and finance charges continue to build and the student continues to owe the creditor.

These companies are betting that students will be future income producers and have the salary with which to pay these bills. Many students never even take the time to carefully read the contract when they are applying for a card. If students actually read the terms of the card before signing on the dotted line, they would see the credit cards have between 18-21 percent interest rate on their balance.

Every year, credit card solicitors recruit hundreds of students with their "Buy Now Pay Later" tactics. Nationally, 65 percent of undergraduate students own at least one card that was obtained during their freshman year. Statistics show that 20 per-

cent of all undergraduate students own four or more cards. The average credit card debt for a college student is \$2,226.

Credit card debt on top of debt from a student loan can become a nightmare for undergraduate students.

In such situations, some college students have been able to work themselves out of debt. Some are rescued from the sea of debt by good ol' mom and dad. Others have been forced to seek help from the credit doctor, consumer credit counseling services, or (as a last resort) file for bankruptcy.

Used properly, credit cards can give a person financial flexibility. Cloreese Carr, a sophomore animal science major at A&T said, "My credit card has allowed me to pay for my books and school supplies without stress."

They can also allow students to purchase something today and make payments as they can. However, this can only occur if students learn to avoid putting that unneeded, expensive outfit on their cards.

Using credit cards wisely and sparingly (only in dire situations) are the only ways to avoid an endless mountain of credit card debt.

Fashion is everywhere, especially on campus

By Meishia Hunter
Register Staff

Wherever you go on campus, name brand labels such as Polo, Bebe, Ambercrombie and Tommy Hilfiger seem to smack you in the face. It causes one to wonder: is A&T just a fashion show?

By all means says Jamar Price, a senior occupational safety and health major from Enfield. "I think it is a fashion show if you compare it to UNC-Chapel Hill, N.C. State and other colleges like that. At those schools, people acknowledge you for what you're trying to accomplish and not by what you wear. At A&T, the first thing people notice is the way that you dress. It seems like our school is

known for everything except its academics," says Price.

N.C. A&T has built a solid reputation for having fashionably conscious students. Face it—designer labels are here to stay.

Some say that on all black college campuses there is an ongoing competition to see who is the best dressed. Sophomore therapeutic recreation major Janelle Mallette says, "I think any black school is going to be a fashion show, especially at homecoming. I personally dress for myself. If you pay attention to a certain group of people that dress up all the time, you would think that A&T is a fashion show."

Pat Holding, an electronic technology major from Durham, describes a fashion show as a competition to see who has the strongest dressing capabilities, or the most fashionable wardrobe. "Usually, other students judge and observe other people's dress styles. If they like the way a person dresses, they sometimes try to dress like that person," Holden says.

On the other hand, some students do not see A&T as an ongoing fashion show. Jarian Collins, an occupational safety and health administration major from High Point, says that just because some people wear designer labels everyday does not mean that everyone else is caught up in it. "Some people are out here trying to be themselves. You should never dress for the approval of others. Dress for yourself. If you dress for the approval of others, you can never be true to yourself," Collins says.

Sophomore psychology major Tyon Harris agrees that some students dress for others instead of themselves. "A&T is not a fashion show, but a frontin' show. You have people trying to overdress everyday, like they are at a social club. Then you have those certain few that think that their dressing style is good, but it really looks a mess. What is supposed to be a fashion show brings a lot of playa hating," says Harris, a Maryland native.

THE A&T Register

North Carolina A&T State University

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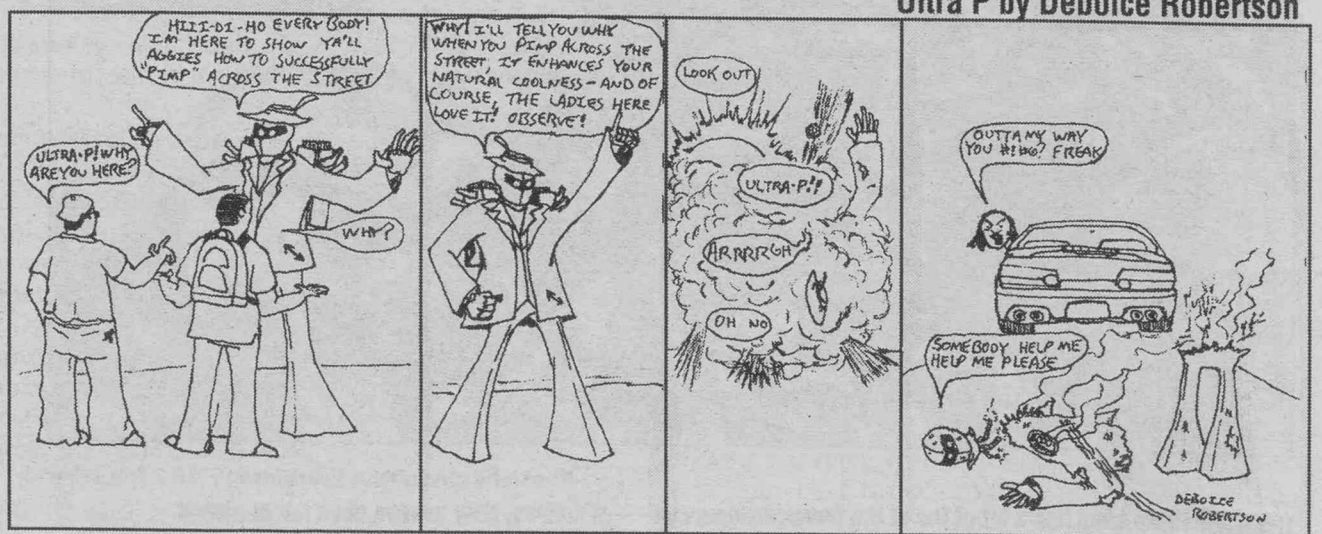
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A&T Register

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Overworked students juggle school, work

By Meishia Hunter
Register Staff

Students throughout the country are faced with the dilemma of having to work and go to school. N.C. A&T students are no different.

Because some students receive little or no financial support from their parents, work is the only alternative. After all, bills have to be paid, and households have to be upheld. Students may find themselves making work their first priority and school their second.

However, putting school on the backburner can have a devastating effect on an individual's grades. But it does not end there. On top of working and attending school, some students try to stir in an active social life. It can be a dangerous mix if it is not handled properly.

Owone Moore, a junior communications major, finds working and going to school difficult at times.

"Good time management skills are the key. You have to make time to study. I find it almost impossible to have a social life now that I work and attend school full-time," said Moore. Moore represents many students that still make school their top priority.

Then again, there are exceptions to every rule. Some students said that they find it fairly easy to work and go to school. Michelle Littlejohn, a sophomore nursing major, said, "It depends on the person. Some people get off track easily, but I don't. I have good time management skills and I do my homework before I go to work at 5 p.m. My school work comes before my social life. I contend with my social life on the days that I am off work. My friends are easily distracted...I strive hard to be different from them."

In many cases, a student can lose focus on their schoolwork. Jeff "Funk" Smith, a senior social work major knows all too well. He said that once he began working and going to school, he soon forgot his whole reason for being in Greensboro.

"At first, it was hard because my financial situation was challenged. I lost focus on school. I soon realized that I had to base my job around school, which caused me to work third shift. This shift allowed me to work and attend classes. I would go to work at 7 p.m. and get off at 7 a.m. and manage to complete my school assignments while I was at work. I also have time for a social life because of the flexibility of my shift. It's all good if you want the finer things in life legally," Smith said.

Not all students work out of necessity. Some choose to work just for spending money, or for the



Photo by Jaimee Canty / A&T Register

Owone Moore, a junior communications major, works at Target on Wendover to help pay for college and living expenses. "I find it almost impossible to have a social life now that I work and attend school full-time," Moore said.

expansion of their wardrobe. Demisha McDowell, a computer science major, said that she could not have imagined working and going to school while she was staying on campus. Once she moved off campus, however, it was inevitable.

Rhonda Coates, a psychology major, agreed. "I feel overworked, but I have to pay bills because I stay off campus. I really saw no need to work until I moved off. I can handle it, because I work Monday through Friday from 4 to 8 p.m. I get home early enough to do my homework, and what I do not finish, I do during the gaps between my classes. I don't go out during the weekdays. My social activities is an excellent way for me to manage them both," said Coates.

North vs. South: Aggies find a clash of cultures at college

By Jason Powell
Register Staff

North Carolina A&T is a bowl of culture. Everywhere you turn, you see people from places all across the country and even the world.

One thing is for sure: This University brings Aggies together from all parts, as a family. We learn to set aside our different backgrounds and become friends - and sometimes, the very things that make us different make us interesting to each other.

Growing up in the South is a wonderful experience as is growing up in the North. However, it is the differences that need to be discussed.

One thing that is different of course is our accents. We can tell where someone is from by how they talk - right? Not necessarily. Some people from the south live in an urban area where they actually talk that way.

People from the North often have a hard time getting use to the slow-paced lifestyle to which most Southerners are accustomed. Travel is another difference that Aggies are not used to facing. If you do not have a car in New York City you can always take the subway or catch the bus. In the South, where mass transit leaves something to be desired, you really need a car to get around. In

addition, things tend to close much earlier than in the North.

Tia, a sophomore English major here at A&T, has noticed many differences about the South compared to her home in Maryland.

"One thing I have noticed here is that the people here speak more openly to each other and are genuine as far as attitude," she says. "People also seem a little scared to associate with us because of stereotypes, that we might be too 'ghetto.'"

Kasey, a junior broadcast news major, sees a different side of people from the North.

"People from the North seem to be more confident and bold than people from the south," she says. "I notice that they will also not give you any eye contact when passing by going to class."

That is where the northern ways clash with the southern. A person who is raised in the South is taught to be friendly and courteous to strangers, but a person from the North is taught the opposite. They teach that eye contact with strangers will be taken as staring, which is disrespectful and may result in a confrontation. This is why people from the South and people from the North get the wrong impression of each other, by differences of values.

Northerners and Southerners also have different

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Aggies love/hate their roommates

By Teketa Mitchell
Register Staff

Disdain, discovery and disillusion. Fun, fights and fake smiles. Good friends and gruesome enemies. Though these words seem to make no sense together, they describe the love/hate relationship that Aggies have with their roommates.

It's 5 a.m. Saturday morning, the sleep is getting good, and all of sudden the phone rings and rings and rings. Does your roommate answer it? No. Is it for your roommate? Yes. But the key question is: can you go back to sleep? Probably not.

Or better yet, it is a Thursday night and you have a midterm the next day. You are trying to study when you are suddenly surrounded by a medley of Jay Z on the stereo, the Wayan's theme song blaring on the television and the blow dryer buzzing away.

Everyone may not have the misfortune of having a terrible roommate. Even if you are not living this scenario, there is always somebody you know who is. It seems strange that students can be placed with another student who is a total stranger. That individual may practice a different religion, have a different definition of clean and be your complete opposite.

On the other hand, roommates can be exact duplicates. However, just because roommates have a lot in common does not mean that they will become instant friends. And the fact that roomies are total opposites does not mean that there will be constant conflict.

One Aggie said, "When you think of a bad roommate, you should think of mine. I know I've only had one roommate, but she is the worst anyone could have. She eats my food and even tries to wear my clothes. She stays on the phone 24-7. I never thought I would have a roommate this terrible. I can't even tell you half of the stuff that she does because it wouldn't be fit to put on paper. I would tell her name, but I don't want to call her out like that."

Some people, like computer science major Tnitra King, said that sometimes it is better not to have a roommate. "You don't have to put up with ignorance and elementary stuff. You

also avoid awkward situations, like walking in on private interactions or opening the door while your roommate is undressing," King said.

King also realizes that roommates can serve as a source of companionship. "Having a roommate can be cool, because sometimes you get bored by yourself," she said.

Students agree that respect plays a major role in determining a good or bad roommate. "There must be equal respect for one another and a consideration of personal property and space," said Denise Crowder, an accounting major from Wilson.

Steve Henson, a chemical engineering major from South Orange, N.J. said that lack of respect and selfish-

ness equal roommate conflict. The number one quality in a roommate, according to electronics and computer technology major Monticus Taylor, is cleanliness. "Being clean is a part of being a good roommate, while being nasty makes a bad roommate," Taylor said.

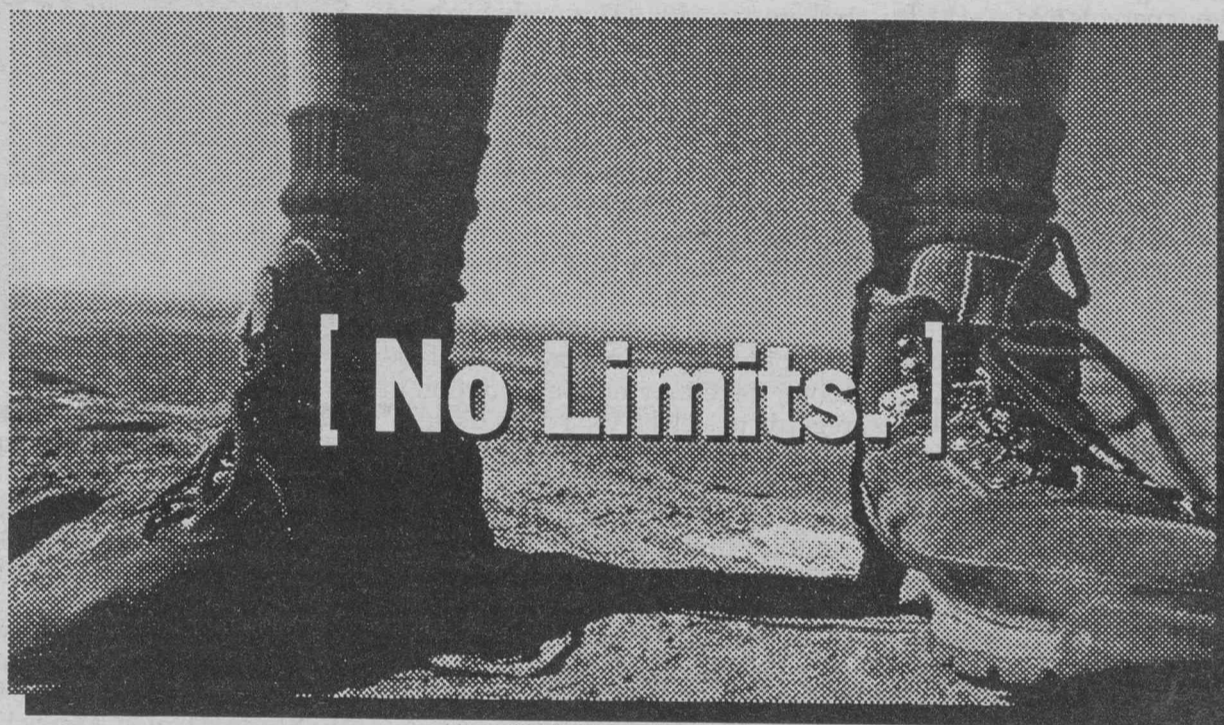
So how can we make the roommate experience more tolerable? There is a way to make the situation work; through communication and interaction with the roommate. "Talk out your differences. Nothing but built up frustration comes from silence," said Crowder.

Unless you are like Jerrod Merrill, a Wilson native who says he has never had a bad roommate, then you have

to decide on some rules that you and your live-in classmate can abide by. Merrill said, "It helps to get somebody you know [as a roommate], because you already know you and the person can get along."

Students admit that there is not such thing as the perfect roommate, since no two people see eye to eye on everything. "Either way, you're going to have conflict, because you are different," said Merrill. Henson agreed. "Two people are never totally compatible," Henson said.

Whether your dorm room is "Jerry Springer" or more "Little House on the Prairie" style, living with another person can be one of the most memorable experiences of college life.



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NORTH

from p. 6

styles of dress. Girls have noticed that the northern female wears her clothes more tight-fitting than a southern female. Males have noticed that a northern male wears boots year-round, even with shorts. They are also different in the slang that they use. Even with the new hip-hop era, and the growth of a universal type of slang passing through music, we still use words differently.

Even with all their differences, Northerners and Southerners find a way to befriend one another. Through differences in fashion and taste, they are finding ways to close the gap and make it better. After all, only through communication can we as a people work together for that one common goal: a degree.

Clean it up: Your mama ain't here

By Sonia L. Clark
Managing Editor

For many, college is their first time away from home—the place where one was reared and possibly lived all their life. While at home, most should have received some sort of guidelines and rules on how to conduct themselves at and away from home.

Some have even been blessed with extra instruction at church—per chance it was a stare across the pews from Mother Washington. Or maybe there was extended family in the neighborhood, say Mrs. Brown, from down the street, who saw everything you did. These rules and guidelines are known as home-training.

Home-training can be defined as the things your parents told you to do. Or, in some instances, what not to do. The following are a few examples:

- Do not beg or ask for anything when you go over to other people's homes.
- Say yes ma'am and no ma'am.
- Don't act up in church.
- Don't burp out loud.
- Say "please," "thank you," and "excuse me" when appropriate.
- Don't chew with your mouth open.
- Don't talk back to your elders.
- Keep your feet off the furniture.
- When you go into the store, don't touch anything, don't act up and don't ask me to buy anything—or simply 'behave.'

One rule that is just a given and does not necessarily fall under "Home-training" is "clean up after yourself." Unfortunately, some Aggies have a rough time with this one. When we, the staff of the A&T Register, distribute the newspapers to their respective stands, we ensure that they are placed there neatly.

However, within a day or so, as students pick up a copy of the paper, they leave a mess that would make Oscar the Grouch earl. If you come from a civilized home, then chances are, folks there cleaned up behind themselves. So is the staff of the Register to assume that some Aggies come from uncivilized households and are therefore uncivilized?

It is not just the newspapers strewn all over the place. Aggie uncleanliness is evident everywhere. The classrooms, hallways, cafeteria, parking lots and gymnasium locker rooms reflect the nastiness that has taken residence here at this "world-class" university.

We are not talking about the janitors and janitresses. Contrary to popular belief, the people hired to help keep the campus clean are not our personal butlers or maids. (This probably hard to take for some of you Buppies, whose ancestors were never slaves). No, this is about students taking responsibility for their actions.

Often, those classroom snacks leave crumbs, and a sticky residue on the desks. When one does not take the time to "Do The Right Thing" and clean up behind themselves, this is unfair to the next student who uses the soiled desk. In a crowded classroom, there may not be an option in regards to a clean vs. a dirty desk.

Yeah, sure, everybody is in a hurry to go somewhere. But what if it were you that sat down to a dirty desk or couldn't find a decent table to eat at in the cafe? You would probably be wishing that the last person who sat there had taken the time to think about the next man. This is supposed to be home away from home, not the HBCU Hilton, where we wait for someone to clean up behind us.

Recently, I heard a member of SGA comment on how disappointed she was that Lindsay Street was so filthy



Photo by Sonia Clark / A&T Register

A&T students often leave the newspaper racks across campus in poor shape. Here is a stack of disheveled Registers in McNair.

the day after Homecoming. My response was, those vendors were only treating our campus the way they see us treat it.

We have thought of discontinuing the paper in certain places. The stands that are trashed the worse are the Student Union, Merrick Hall and McNair Hall. But why should all suffer for a few?

Instead, we'll wait to see if we can all work to turn this thing around. We

talk about Aggie Pride all the time. So let's put our money where our mouth is. If we really have this pride, we'll keep Aggieland spotless, instead of like a pigsty.

Whether at the newsstand, in the Union, at the cafe, in the dorm or in the library—Clean up behind yourself And if you see a fellow Aggie making a mess, ask them "Where is your home-training?!"

Bobby

doesn't feel "underserved."

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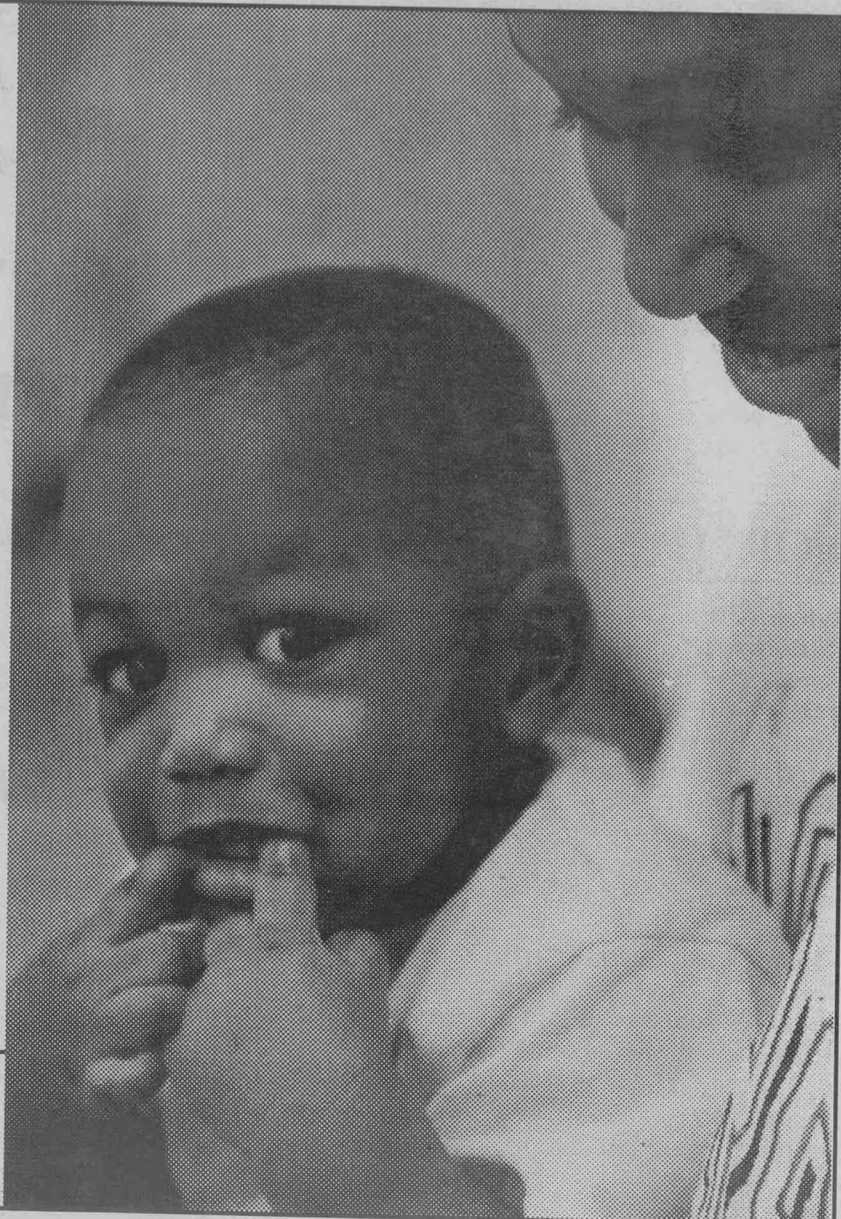
Like Bobby and his mother, millions of Americans live in communities without access to adequate health care. If you are considering a career in health care and would like to help a community like Bobby's, the NHSC has competitive scholarships that can help you reach your goal.

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You can't fear failure, speaker says

By Shawanna Bendolph
Register Staff

One of today's leading public relations entrepreneurs, Terrie Williams, was on hand at WNAA 90.1 FM's Fundraising Music Seminar over the homecoming weekend. Williams is an author, a lecturer and the CEO of one of the most successful public relations firms in the country. Williams was the keynote speaker at the seminar, which was held at Embassy Suites.

She also hosted a breakfast roundtable and a book signing. In her book, "The Personal Touch," she gives helpful advice on succeeding as an entrepreneur. It's a user-friendly guide that tells how she began her powerhouse agency with Eddie Murphy and Miles Davis as her first

"You can't be afraid of failure. You should learn from others and just go out and pick yourself up and try again."

Terrie Williams
Public relations entrepreneur

clients:

The diva of the business world said that her clients include Miles Davis, Janet Jackson, Jackie Joyner-Kersey, Sally Jesse Raphael, AT&T, Sean "Puffy" Combs and Master P. The Terrie Williams Agency has been in business for a decade and is still going strong.

Williams encourages other would-be entrepreneurs to step out on faith and start their own businesses as well. "You can't be afraid of failure. You should learn from others and just go out and pick yourself up and try again," she said.

Williams also works with rap artist, Master P. "He has a sports management company and has just signed two players to the NBA," she said.

She advises A&T students to network with professionals in their perspective career fields. "It's very important to get to know people outside of your circle... hold offices, learn how to play golf—you need to step outside of your comfort zone. Relationships with people is what makes you. People will work with you if they like you," she said.

According to Williams, people

should never allow small obstacles to stop them from reaching their goals. "Power is in you to do what you want to do. Don't let race or gender stand in your way."

William's tips for career success:

1. Know that your reputation is valuable
2. Do what you say you are going to do
3. Return phone calls
4. Know your profession—be visible
5. Develop a knack for remembering names
6. Create a "small talk" notebook
7. Send a follow-up note
8. Go through your Rolodex periodically—just to stay in touch
9. Selectively donate your services
10. Remember to say "Thank you."
11. Read at least one newspaper a day

Enjoy 'Summer Vacation': It's a movie couples should watch together

By Jamie Wiggins
Feature Editor

The film "How I Spent My Summer Vacation" explores dating dilemmas among African-American college students. "How I Spent My Summer Vacation" was written by 24-year old writer-director John Fisher, a recent graduate of Howard University.

Reminiscent of both "Annie Hall,"

"She's Gotta Have It," and the recent "Have Plenty," the movie follows two squabbling sweethearts, Perry (Ron Reaco Lee) and Stephanie (Deanna Davis), who agree to separate after two miserable years together.

The story focuses on Perry's inability to accept the end of a two year relationship with the woman he loves. However, Stephanie has had enough of Perry's cheating and refuses to take him back. Throughout the movie, both

characters give their feelings from the female/male perspective, adding insight and reality to the movie.

"How I Spent My Summer Vacation" is the type of film couples should rent and view together. It shows how confusion, lack of communication and unnecessary drama can ruin a relationship. It starts off a little slow and awkward at first, but as the movie develops it becomes a truthful and comical treat.

Freshman troubles can be avoided if you listen to upperclass advice

By Albert Perkins
Register Staff

College is often times thought of as the best years of a person's life, but it is also one of the most difficult learning processes a person can go through.

Many students find it hard to adjust to college life after being under the watchful eye of their parents. Freedom can be exhilarating - or one of the worst experiences a first-year student will endure. The key, some upper classmen say, is to learn the tough lessons early - and who better to learn from than the upper classmen themselves?

"As a freshmen I didn't do my school work nor did I seek the proper advisement from professors in my department," says Serelyn Johnson, now a senior at N.C. A&T.

A common freshman mistake is that they do not take college life as seriously, and find themselves in academic trouble before their first semester ends. "Studying to me as a freshmen was going to Bluford Library and having social two hours instead of doing my work," said Johnson. In the eyes of some freshmen, socializing is more important than any other aspect of college life. After a rocky start, freshmen find that taking advice from upperclassmen (that have gone

"As a freshmen I didn't do my school work nor did I seek the proper advisement from professors in my department."

Serelyn Johnson
A&T Senior

through the same thing) becomes an important asset.

Upperclassmen tend to agree that they socialized too much as freshmen. "I may have done a little to much partying as a freshman!" said David Price.

Going to the club, for what could be the first time for some students, could have a lasting effect on their first year at college. Many students get used to it, and it can become a way of life. "My freshmen year consisted of going to gym jam after gym jam, all types of clubs, and most of the functions sponsored by SGA," Johnson said.

The key to avoiding that trap, Price said, is "...to learn good study habits upon his or her arrival and learn to manage time wisely." Time management is vital to the college student's existence. Sometimes there is too much of it. It can make the difference between getting off to a great start academically or finding oneself on academic probation.

"I feel that going to a smaller college then transferring here helped out a lot, because had I come to North Carolina A&T State University straight out of high school I may not be in college now," said a student who asked not to be identified.

Leaving school after a first semester or first year is not an uncommon occurrence on this college campus - or any other for that matter. "I needed to sit out a semester after my first year to figure out exactly what I needed to do with myself," said Angela King, who started out as a freshman at A&T. "And, after sitting home pondering over different thoughts I realized that I needed to just go to a smaller college with less distractions." For King, the change made a difference. She graduated from Mars Hill College and now works for IBM in Raleigh.

As crazy and tumultuous and upsetting as their freshmen years were, upper classmen came to a common conclusion: They wouldn't change a thing.

Freshman life was a truly unforgettable experience, they said, and it left each of them with their own special story. That, they said, is what the college experience is all about. "Being here for four years has been wonderful. To say I'm graduating in the spring is a great accomplishment for me after a rough start," Johnson said.

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Aggie bowling team rocks the lanes

By Semaj Marsh
Register Staff

In a perfect world, A&T's women's bowling team would be considered the most popular athletic team on campus. Team photos and scoring averages would appear regularly in the local sports section and on the evening news. Die-hard fans would even tailgate for hours outside of the bowling alley before matches.

In the real world, however, things are not so perfect.

Although they have been the university's most successful sports program (in recent years), the bowling team has failed to gain much notoriety. In the two seasons that the program has competed at the division-one level, the Aggies easily captured back-to-back MEAC titles. Before this season, A&T had not lost a single match in conference play.

In spite of their dominance on the lanes, gaining respect from the student body has been difficult. "We still don't get the respect we deserve," said junior Danice Turner, who leads the team with a 190 average. "They [students] still don't know we have a bowling team here at A&T. We've been undefeated in the MEAC for the

past two years and I still meet people who are shocked to find out that there's a bowling team."

While many A&T sports fans have not taken interest in the women's bowling team, it has quietly built itself into a regional powerhouse. Coached by legendary bowling guru Vernell Stallings, the Aggies are now regarded as the MEAC's version of the Chicago Bulls. This year, they return all but one player from last year's championship squad and again present the most feared lineup in the conference.

Joining Turner are Crystal Bailey (sophomore, 182 average), Taura Barnes (senior, 180 average), Shayla King (freshman, 167 average), Monette Frederick (junior, 163 average) and Chandra Smith (senior, 140 average). With such a talented roster, Coach Stallings said that his main goal is to instill discipline and make sure his team plays up to potential.

"I really don't have to teach too much with this group," said Stallings, now in his 20th year at the head of the bowling program. "Generally, I just coach them through certain situations and help them make minor adjustments. I try to instill in them the idea that bowling is a sport, but it is also fun. I want them to un-

derstand that when we go on road trips, win or lose, we are a team," Stallings said.

The Aggies, who play in the MEAC southern division along with South Carolina State, Norfolk State and FAMU, were stunned this September when they suffered rare losses in the season's opening tournament. According to Bailey, the team had a lack of concentration in those matches and took the other schools for granted. Bailey ensures, however, that their sluggish performance was only an aberration and opponents should not get their hopes up.

"We're still coming home with rings," Bailey said of her team. "The only way we'll lose is if we don't have the mandatory five bowlers."

Turner agreed that the early season losses were only a minor setback and said it was just what the doctor ordered. "Everybody has to lose eventually. I guess it was just our time to lose a couple of matches," said Turner, the self-proclaimed team motivator. "We were too comfortable at being number one and we slacked off a little. I think that losing has now helped to make us a stronger team."

In their next tournament, the Aggies quickly returned to their form of old with a dominating 3-0 sweep. Those

victories improved the Aggie's record to 4-2 overall, with the final tournament remaining at Florida A&M on Nov. 13-14. After the regular season is completed, all eight teams in the conference will converge in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 22-24 for the MEAC Championship Tournament. In D.C., the Aggies will again be favored to win it all.

"I think this team is even better than the one we had last year. I just feel confident that we're going to bring back the trophy," said Bailey.

Stallings attributes the program's current success to the fact that A&T already had an excellent intramural bowling team before it was made an official sport. Stallings said women's bowling was upgraded to the division-one level in 1996, to comply with the Title-IX ruling. The ruling obligated college athletic departments to offer an equal number of male and female scholarships in their sports programs. To close the gender gap, A&T now offers five full scholarships for members of the women's bowling team.

"If we continue to grow as we have, I think A&T can qualify for the national tournament in the next five years," said Stallings. "Bowling is a fast-growing sport and I expect it to be played as an Olympic sport one day."

Editorial: Football team not pulling their weight

By Earnest "Moe" Wallace
Sports Editor

Marvin Gaye said it best; what's going on? The Aggies have lost yet another homecoming in overtime.

The football team has utterly disgusted and embarrassed the Aggie faithful. Wasn't the Florida A&M debacle of A&T enough humiliation? I guess not, because we continue to lose; and to make matters worse, we lose another homecoming.

The football program is sliding down that razor blade into that all too familiar alcohol river. Homecoming was a disaster for the Aggies. There was a time when Bethune-Cookman was considered an easy homecoming win, but the tide has turned.

The Aggies have re-introduced themselves as the new pushover and Bethune-Cookman as the new bully. Bethune-Cookman defeated perennial powerhouse Hampton this past Saturday and may land themselves a spot in the division I-AA playoffs with a win over Florida A&M.

The only way A&T can make the post season . . . well . . . actually . . . they can't make it.

It's just that simple.

A&T cannot even defend their own field. Death Valley should be changed to Sweet Valley and the Blue Death should be the Sweet Valley High Dance Team.

The quarterback position is the one that I am concerned with. It's a little

see FOOTBALL, page 11

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AT THEATRES THIS NOVEMBER

Aggie player has basketball fever

By Albert Perkins
Register Staff

Basketball fever is in the air once again, and for the N.C. A&T men's team, it means hard work, determination and a more positive outlook on the season to come.

After last year's 8-19 season, each member of the team had to go back and try to evaluate exactly what went wrong and focus on changing these things for the better.

Being one of the 15 team members who went through the agony of a season like last year, I decided to take time and look closely at myself to see if there was something I could do to make this Aggie basketball program the powerhouse that it was in the past.

Talking with the three coaches, especially head coach Roy Thomas, helped me to see what they wanted from me and what they thought I could do as a team member.

With last season being probably the worst season of my life, I was willing to do just about anything to make

I placed great emphasis on being stronger and being able to push people around like I was pushed around last season. I made goals for myself, foremost among them to come back to school in the best physical condition possible.

myself better and make the team better at the same time. Each coach pretty much had the same thing in mind, and that was for everyone on the team to focus on the body during the offseason. For them, that meant making sure weight training was a part of a summer workout, as well as conditioning and working on individual skills. All of these aspects would be important because, as we learned the hard way last year, every other team in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference had the upper hand on us in most of these departments.

After a short summer of focusing on basketball and almost nothing else, I

knew that all of my hard work would pay off, and I soon found that the same pain I felt was shared by all of my teammates. The result is a new and different attitude. The players are approaching the coaches, each other and basketball in a new light.

I placed great emphasis on being stronger and being able to push people around like I was pushed around last season. I made many goals for myself, foremost among them to come back to school in the best physical condition possible so that I could handle just about any pre-season conditioning that could be demanded of me. The three-days-a-week program was not so hard after working out over the summer. Now, that's behind us, and the beginning of a new season is ahead.

We have gone through two weeks of practice and, with the exception of three freshmen and one transfer student, the new and improved Aggies are ready for any obstacle that can be put before us this year. The new members of the team have heard about last year, but they haven't lived it. They do not know first-hand the effects a sea-

son like that can have over the mind, body and soul of a person and a team. Nonetheless, we are unified. At the start of practice, each coach explained the importance of this team becoming a family and working together to uphold the expectations that people set for us and, most importantly, the expectations we set for ourselves.

A change for the better has been made in our program in the course of one summer and one preseason, and the feeling of being winners is in the air. Yes, the students at North Carolina A&T State University will soon have a team they can be proud of once again. There should be no more talk of the team not being worthy of wearing the Michael Jordan emblem, because we are back and in rare form. We are ready to show ourselves as well as others that we are a top-notch basketball team.

The new-minded Aggie squad played its first game last night at the Corbett Center.

The next game will be Nov. 20 at the Corbett Center. The women's game will start at 5 p.m. and men at 7:30 p.m.

FOOTBALL

from Page 10

Team not pulling their weight

late to be concerned, though. We do not have an adequate quarterback. Remember the days when we used to condemn Maceo Bolin? Now I would give Chancellor Fort's right arm to have him back.

The quarterback is horrific. Where does Coach Hayes get these scrubs from? Samuel (Butchey) Rogers came to A&T a highly touted quarterback, but somewhere in the mix, Coach Hayes moved him to defensive end.

He is by far the best quarterback on the team. I can write about the inconsistencies of the quarterback spot, but I choose to be nice. I'm sorry I can't be nice today; it hurts too much.

A&T has a great crop of receivers and an excellent backfield, but no field general can get them the ball. Why do we all have to suffer? I can't take any more jokes about our football team from students at other schools. Is this the demise of Aggie football? Only time will tell.

Submit poetry to The Register House, located across from Graham Hall. Include name and classification. Entries will be published and not returned to owners.

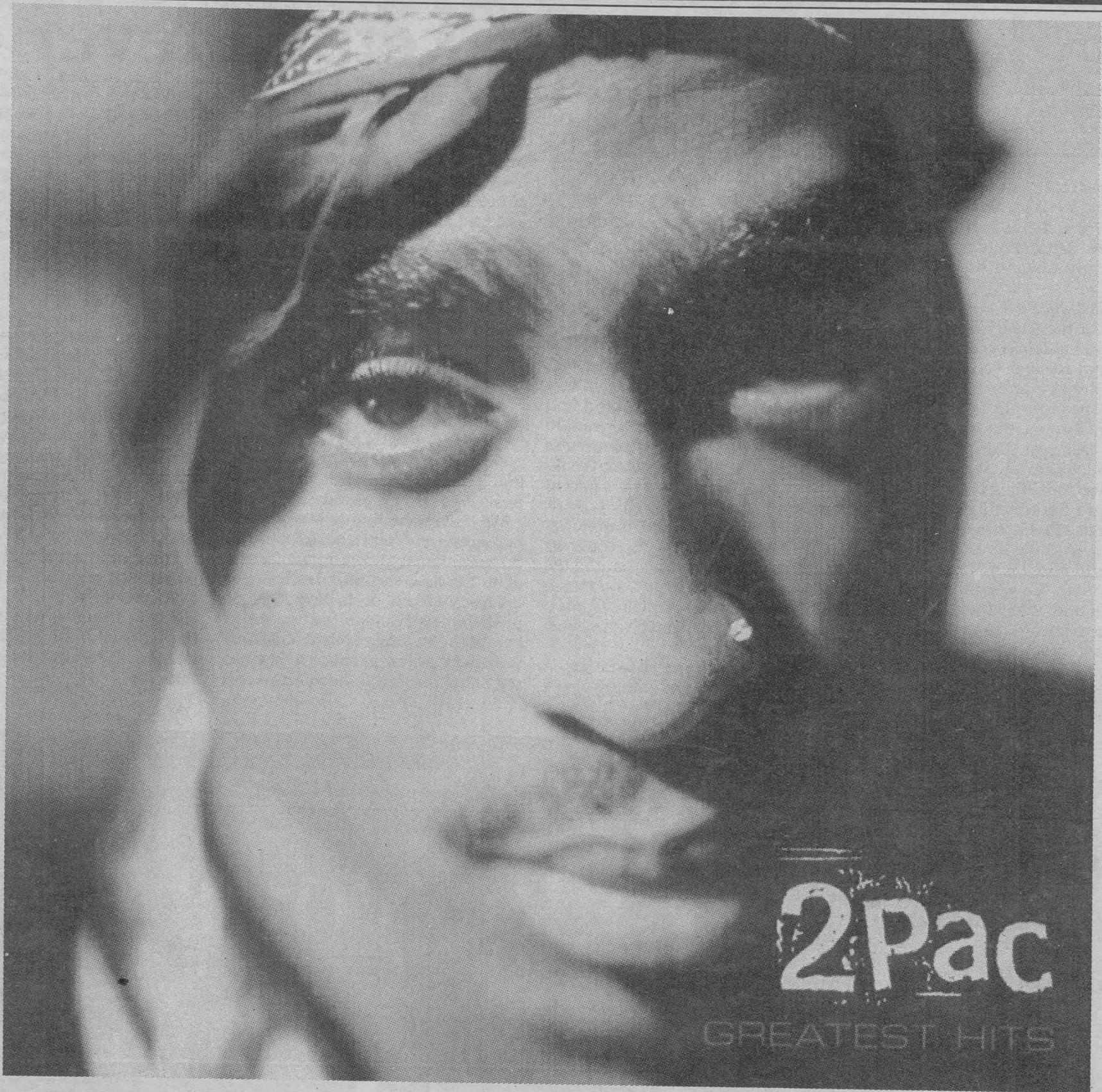
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