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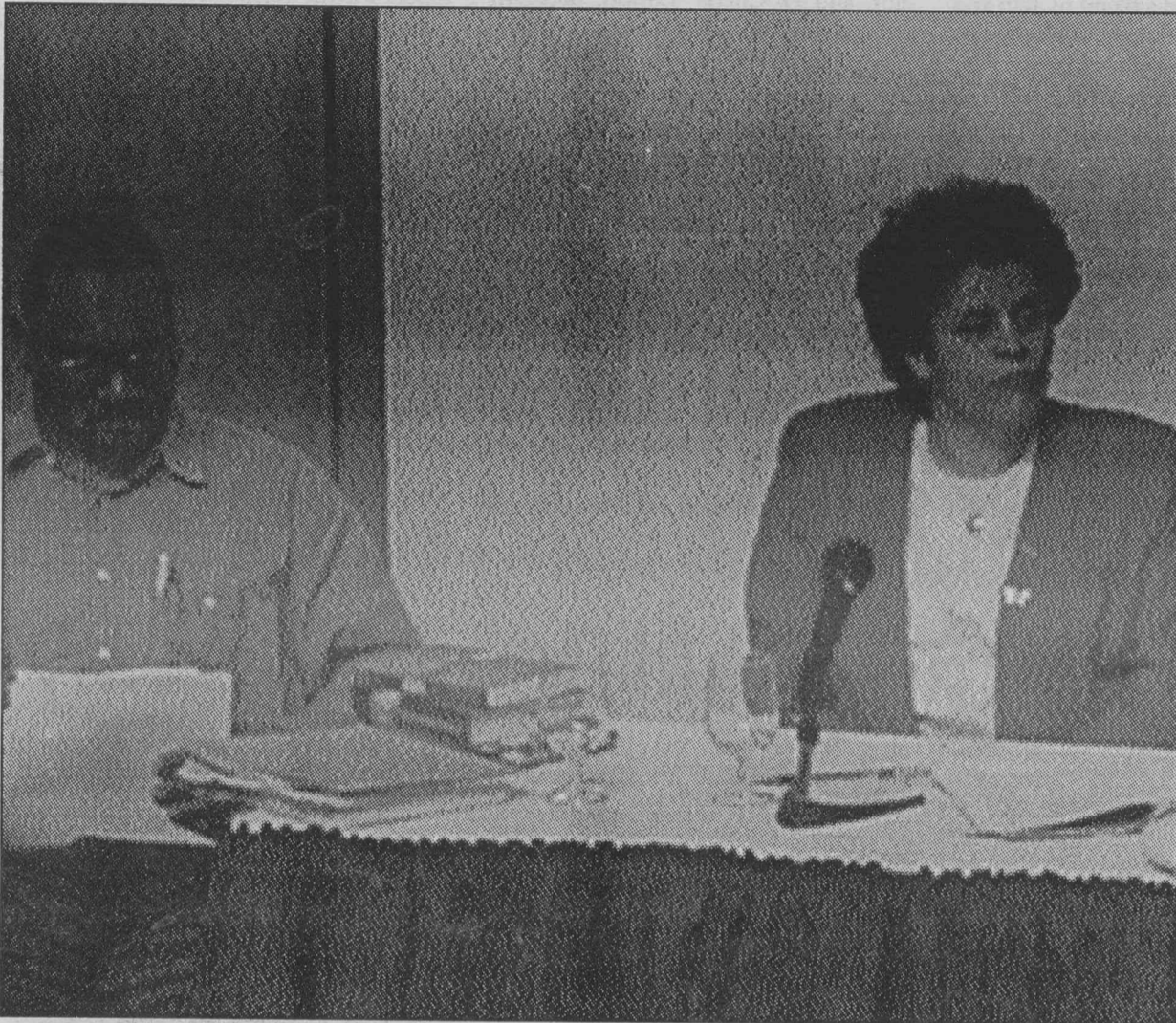
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# THE A&T Register

Volume 74, Number 7

Friday, February 18, 2000

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Randy St. Clair / REGISTER STAFF

Dr. Claude Barnes, Jr. and Joyce Edwards challenge N.C. A&T students to play strong leadership roles in politics, school, careers and in their everyday lives.

## Leading means learning at A&T

BY RANDY ST. CLAIR  
Register Staff Writer

Remembering Yesterday, Utilizing Today, Planning for Tomorrow was the theme for this year's fifth annual Student Leadership Conference.

Students and faculty were on hand to participate in this event, which focused on African-American leadership and ways African Americans can become leaders.

The topics ranged from Ebonically Speaking to the Golden Rule, and HBCU enrollment to Political Issues in 2000.

Dr. Claude Barnes Jr. spoke of Redemptionist politics in the African American society, saying there are five political issues that need to be dealt with among the African American community.

Barnes reserved his strongest comments for one issue: black political disengagement.

"It's time for black Americans to stop backing away from the political realm and start becoming and playing a vital part in politics," said Barnes.

Barnes, a political science professor at N.C. A&T,

has turned his passion for the topic into a textbook, which is used at A&T and features his view of revitalizing the role of blacks in politics.

"Redemptionist politics is just what it is, a resurgence of blacks in politics," said Barnes.

Each of the conference panelists — Joyce Edwards, Rev. Conrad Pridgen, Dr. Claude Barnes and Mozell Weston — attended an HBCU at some point in their education. Each panelist also emphasized the importance of knowing when to step up and be a leader.

A&T students played a vital part at the conference, with a series of questions about leadership opportunities in their everyday lives. What can they do as students to get other students to back up what they stand for, they asked, or how can they make a difference on campus?

Barnes fielded most of the questions. It isn't necessary, he said, for students to revolt to take a stand on what they believe. Students also do not need faculty support, he said, noting the Greensboro Four didn't have faculty support.

See LEADERS on Page 2

## N.J. fire sparks sprinkler concerns

Most A&T dormitories are not equipped with sprinklers

BY LATOYA BEST  
Register Staff Writer

A deadly dormitory fire at New Jersey's Seton Hall University has rekindled interest in fire safety at N.C. A&T, where most residence halls still do not have sprinkler systems.

"Certainly we've been talking about it," said Eugene Backmon, A&T's assistant vice chancellor for facilities. "Obviously, we've been forewarned by this happening again."

Three students died and 62 people were injured in a morning fire in Boland Hall at Seton Hall last month. The dorm had no sprinklers, and there had been a string of false alarms in the days leading up to the fire in the six-story residence hall.

Some A&T students have doubts when it comes to their safety.

"I feel safe and then I don't," said LaShawn Maultsby, a freshman visual arts major from Lumberton. "The dorms are made out of strong materials like brick, but the dorms are very old."

"I don't feel safe," said Latoya L. Brown, a freshman elementary education major from Greenville. "A lot of fires have been going on lately (at other universities) and what would we do if we did have a fire?"

Only two of A&T's 18 residence facilities have sprinkler systems. Holland and Curtis Halls had them installed this past summer. Two more dorms, Haley and Cooper Halls, are scheduled to get systems when they are renovated. Work on Haley will begin late this summer, followed by Cooper next year. After Cooper is completed, Barbee is next.

"Our commitment is to put fire sprinklers in all the dorms," said Harlin Carter, A&T's director of safety and health.

How long it takes to install sprinklers depends on available funds and the size of a dorm. The larger the dorm, the longer it takes. Holland and Curtis Halls were easy dorms taking the course of two summers to complete.

See FIRE on Page 2

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## Family sees no justice in system

BY KARISTON MCPHERSON  
Register Staff Writer

With hurt, tired, yet determined faces, William and Odessa Smith spoke passionately about their daughter, Kemba.

Kemba is currently serving a 24-year sentence for conspiracy, money laundering, and making false statements to federal agents.

Her troubles began with her romantic

involvement with Peter Michael Hall, a man she met while attending Hampton University. Their relationship was also abusive.

Hall was the kingpin of a \$4 million crack cocaine operation that operated from Florida to New York. Kemba had little involvement in this drug conspiracy, and her abusive boyfriend coerced any involvement Kemba did have,

according to her parents.

Kemba plead guilty, they said, in fear of her and her family's life. Authorities could not arrest Hall because an unknown suspect killed him. Kemba was given the harsh sentence, despite the fact that she didn't have a prior record and her involvement was minimal.

See AT-RISK on Page 6

CAMPUS  
BRIEFS

**Financial aid applications due**

Now is the time to apply for financial aid for the 2000-2001 academic year. Students can apply via the Web at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) or by mailing the FAFSA form to the processor. N.C. A&T's priority deadline is March 15.

Additional information about financial aid can be viewed at the university Web site, [www.ncat.edu](http://www.ncat.edu).

**Research deadline soon**

The deadline for students to apply for the CIC Summer Research Opportunity Program is Feb. 25. The program is designed for undergraduate minority students to enhance their preparation for graduate study.

Applications are available to eligible juniors and seniors at the CIC homepage at [www.cic.uiuc.edu](http://www.cic.uiuc.edu).

**Oh la la! Entries needed for language journal**

The Department of Foreign Languages is now requesting entries for its first issue of a Departmental Journal in Foreign Languages. All entries must be written in a language other than English and approximately five pages long.

They must also be saved on a disk (Microsoft Word program). Send all entries to the Department of Foreign Languages, Crosby Hall room 104.

For additional information and criteria, please contact Dr. Nita M. Dewberry or Dr. Jose A. Bravo de Rueda at 334-7886.

**Princeville trip Saturday**

Buses to Princeville are boarding 6:30 a.m. Saturday from A&T's Student Union. All volunteers are welcome to help the flood victims of Hurricane Floyd. For more information, call the Student Government Association at 334-7820.

To volunteer, sign up in the SGA office in the Student Union, room 213.

**ROTC opportunities**

If you are going to be a junior with good grades by August, receive \$700, and qualify for a two-year \$32,000 scholarship with a \$200 stipend if you participate in the five week Army ROTC Camp Challenge.

If you are currently a freshman or sophomore at North Carolina A&T and are earning good grades, you may qualify for an Army ROTC scholarship. These scholarships will pay your tuition, most books and fees, and \$200 for every month that you are in school.

Visit the ROTC department on campus or call Major Davis or Lieutenant Peake at 334-7552 for more information.

**Leading at A&T**

From LEADERS on Page 1

But if you want change bad enough, he said, you'll get people to respond. Joyce Edwards, associate director of career services, had the audience in awe in her speech on ebonically speaking. "It's not only important as African Americans to walk the walk but literally talk the talk," Edwards said. "People will never forget what you say."

**Aggies get their groove on**

By WILLIAM CHARLES DAVIS II  
Register Staff Writer

The video show entitled Aggie Grooves has emerged with the help of students and staff in the Department of Speech, Communications and Theatre Arts.

The show features a blend of Rap and R&B music, plus feature segments on music news and fashion.

Aggie Grooves also will provide a showcase for up and coming local talent. Eboni Davis, Charles Davis, Royce Shockley, Darrell Harmon, Jahi Gorham, Yusuf Pridgen and Thomas Bobbitt are among the students who have dedicated their time and efforts in the video show.

Davis, a freshman majoring in broadcast news, provided the inspiration and vision for the video show and will serve as its host.

"I wanted to begin working to gain experience in my field as a freshman," Davis said. "I wanted to air a video show because I knew it would appeal to North Carolina A&T students. It was

also an innovative way to combine the radio and television stations."

Davis' efforts began with a proposal. She also wrote letters to record labels requesting videos for the show.

Faculty members Mark Stephens, production manager of the television studios, and D. Cherie' Lofton, program director for WNNA, followed up with the necessary phone calls to representatives of Columbia, Tommy Boy, ARISTA, La Face and other record labels.

After the videos arrived, the filming of Aggie Grooves was the next step.

The purpose of Aggie Grooves was to allow students to manage all aspects of the show from concept to finished product. Stephens wanted to follow a model where responsibilities were placed in the hands of the students.

"I have challenged students to come up with an idea," said Stephens. "They followed the proper procedures and I believe the show will succeed because of the work that has been put into it."

Aggie Grooves has provided a train-

ing ground for students in front of the camera and behind the scenes.

"A success is students learning how to put on a successful show. If that's accomplished my job is done," said Stephens.

The video show could serve as a model for future shows.

"When students start seeing something on the channel they can relate to, more people will come up with ideas for others shows," said Stephens.

Jason Peele, a senior broadcast production major and emerging artist in the music industry, was the first local talent to appear on Aggie Groove.

The show, Peele said, could help him take the next step in his music career.

"In anything you do it takes preparation and practice," said Peele. "This video show is a small scale of what I'm going to do in the future. Starting out with this will prepare me for the BETs and MTVs."

The first episode will be aired within the next week. Stay tuned to channel 55 for more details.

**A&T: Dorm sprinklers on the way**

From FIRE on Page 1

Another important factor is whether the dorms need extensive repairs.

Haley Hall was selected to be the next dorm renovated because of more pressing factors in addition to adding sprinklers.

Haley Hall, for example, will probably take much longer to complete because of problems such as a failing heating system, an electrical system that causes problems each autumn, and architectural problems such as doors and windows.

The tallest residence hall at A&T, Barbee Hall, does not have sprinklers and is a six-story dorm like the site of the disaster at Seton Hall. Backmon, however, said there is a major difference between the two.

"The way Barbee is built, if there were to be a fire, once you come out of your suite into the open courtyard you would have two different stairwells to

go down," Backmon said.

"The major difference between Barbee and Bolland is that in the fire at Bolland you had to come out of your room and you're in the hallway that is still in the dorm."

Backmon said that students are at less of a risk for smoke inhalation because they would have fresh air from the open space in Barbee.

Backmon also added that the ability to have safe dorms for fire protection is

not tied solely to the availability of sprinklers.

"There are other systems in the dorms that make major contributions to the safety of people who live in the dorms," he said.

"They include, among others, smoke detectors, fire alarm systems, which ring also in the physical plant, illuminated exit signs, fire extinguishers, and administrative procedures twice a year to have evacuation drills."

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in **The Register.**

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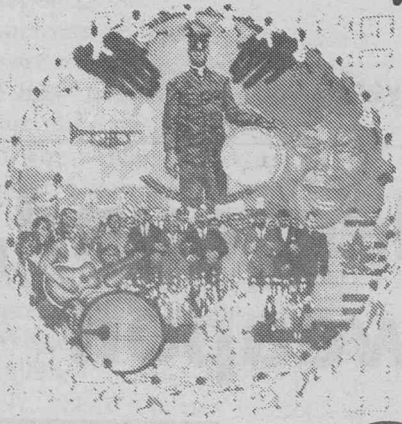
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## True love lasts past February 14

BY KAIRSTON MCPHERSON

What is love? Does anyone know? Of course, everyone has his or her own definitions. With Valentine's Day come and gone, that question comes to mind.

There are different kinds of love: love for your fellow man, love for your family or friends.

Here is my definition of love: Sit down and think of anyone you know. If you can't even imagine living your life without that person, that is love. Love isn't always a lustful, sexual feeling.

Think about your parents or your siblings. If they were taken away from you this very second, what would you do? What about your best friend, the person you share your deepest, darkest secrets with? What if you could never see that person again?

Today we are so quick to say that we are in love with someone, yet so many couples break up for idiotic reasons:

"He didn't buy me the bracelet I wanted!"

"She wouldn't give me none!"

Ladies! Fellas! Get a grip! We are adults now! Think like one! Act like one! We are old enough to know that true love is not how much money he or she has or how good he or she is in bed. Material possessions can easily fade away but true love is everlasting. So if next Valentine's Day your loved one has a legitimate reason for not getting you something, stop and think: If they have been loving and faithful all-year-round, don't get upset. If you truly love that person, having them in your life should be enough. Now, if your boo only shows love on Valentine's Day, that is when you should worry.

*Kariston McPherson is news editor for The Register.*

### EDITORIAL POLICY

Views in editorials reflect those of *The A&T Register* but not those of the university. Views in letters to the editor are those of the writer.

### A&T REGISTER

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Greensboro, N.C. 27411-1200

Send e-mail to: [Editor\\_notes@yahoo.com](mailto:Editor_notes@yahoo.com)

### To our readers:

Do you have problems that you want solved? Such as your boyfriend tripping again or Financial Aid is messing you up for classes? Well, now you can write to us at The Register and we will run your letters and hopefully find some answers.

Just e-mail us at [Editor\\_notes@yahoo.com](mailto:Editor_notes@yahoo.com)

## If love is a battleground, then sex is a weapon

We as women often give ourselves physically to please others. Some of us have been begged consistently to have sex, and then some of us just get caught up in the moment and lose all concepts of self-control and consequences.

Some of us offer ourselves putting up no fuss or fight because we either want to make the guy want us more, or like us more based on the fact that we really like him.

Others of us offer ourselves because we think that the temporary thrill is the answer to whatever problems we are experiencing, or maybe we really need a hug or encouraging word but settled for sex because we knew that it was what he wanted.

Then some of us do it because we think the guy is cute, but he does not think we are so having sex with him is the only way we can have him around and close by.

For whatever reasons we have sex before marriage, the bottom line is that it produces a temporary joy for some, but when it is quiet and we are alone we cry because we know that we shouldn't have done it. If we were to go through the list of men that we have done it with there would undoubtedly be a sense of shame and regret of ever doing it.

Think about it, you ended breaking up and in retrospect saw that having sex was the only thing he wanted from you. Then that leaves you with the baggage that accumulates with having sex such as getting burned by your partner, getting pregnant, or just the inability to look in the mirror and be proud of what you see.

Next time after having unordained sex and your body is gone, take the time to think about what has just happened.

You should feel a difference in your body, which goes to show that there are additional emotional and spiritual affects that go along with that initial physical pleasure.

Be warned, these feelings are difficult to "deal with

and heal with." Some symptoms of this war being waged inside of you are the following:

- Low self-esteem
- Not wanting to be around people in your own religion because of regret and shame
- Having a false definition of showing love to a man
- Becoming jealous about things that we never thought we would be jealous of

So, I urge you as the student body president, a woman, and a 21-year-old senior in college, to resist with all your soul all temptations that lead to giving up your beautiful self outside the realm of marriage. Because every time we do, we are left with the deposit of a many which make it harder to resist him the next time or to cut him off if you know he is no good.

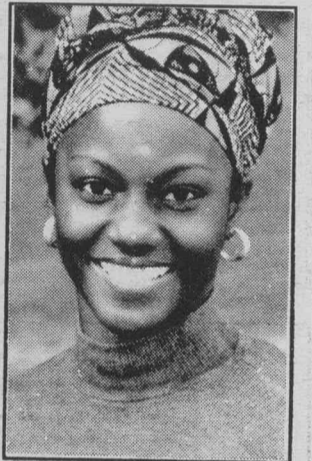
Besides if he really cares for you, he will fight his urges as well, and resist.

Even though they say they have to have it, it does not kill them if they don't get it.

God loves us if that is what we are seeking for. God will encourage us if that is what we need. God will preserve us if we feel all used up.

God will give us escape routes every time we are faced with the decision to have sex, and every time we escape, we are drawn closer to God's purpose and will for our lives.

*Kendra Hill is president of the N.C. A&T Student Government Association. Her column appears here regularly.*



*Kendra Hill*

We've got your Aggie Pride right here, every week.

**The Register.**

# A&T ROTC leader heads for higher rank

By **DIJON ROLLE**  
Register Staff Writer

Recently Army ROTC staff member and N.C. A&T alumnus Major James Davis, was selected to attend the Command and General Staff College (CGSC) in Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

The school is a five-month long training course on military operations, training, and policy.

Fifty percent of United States Army officers are selected annually for admission to this program, 10 percent of whom are minorities. Graduates of the program are usually selected to receive the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army.

Davis, a 1986 graduate of A&T, received a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in business administration from Webster University in St. Louis, Mo., in 1995.

In 1997, Davis returned to A&T at

the request of Lieutenant Colonel Robert Weeks and former A&T Chancellor Dr. Edward B. Fort to serve as battalion executive officer, in charge of cadet recruitment, instruction, and advisement for the Army ROTC department.

Davis, who is known for his motto "Consistent Goodness Leads to Greatness," learned very early on in his life that he would have to rise above what was expected of him and virtually create his own path to success.

Raised by his great-grandmother Mamie Womble, Davis was taught to avoid the strong temptations of street life that so often claimed the lives of so many young black men.

"I knew that opportunities existed and I had no intentions of falling behind," Davis said. "It was either do or die."

While Davis is thrilled about his

acceptance to the CGSC program, he believes that there is a secret to his success.

"I believe that success is measured by favorable results and contributions, taking care of people and demonstrating a 'can do' attitude in any endeavor," he said.

Davis also stresses visualizing your goals.

"If you can visualize it you can do it," he said. "Map out your goals, and gather information from significant others and mentors."

Unfortunately, Davis' appointment also means his departure from the Army ROTC department at A&T.

"My time spent here at A&T has been an enjoyable and rewarding experience," says Davis. "I would like to thank my co-workers for their support, especially Lieutenant Colonel Larry

Burnett, Master Sergeant Cannon McFarley, Mr. James Basnight, Mrs. Geraldine Warren, Staff Sergeant Dickerson, Chancellor Renick, and the entire Army and Air Force Cadre Staff.

"May God Bless all of you in your future endeavors, Aggie Pride!"

During his two-and-a-half year tenure at A&T, Davis contributed to the establishment of an Annual Army ROTC Hall of Fame Induction, the Annual Black and Gold Drill Meet, and the Pershing Rifle Alumni Association.

After completing his time at CGSC, Davis plans to return to his native Fayetteville to work on a law degree and hopes to open up his own law practice.

Davis is married to the former Evetta Lawrence who is also a graduate of A&T, and the couple will depart for Fort Leavenworth, Kan., in June.

Your campus newspaper. Twice a month.

**THE A&T  
Register**

## ATTENTION ALL GREEK ORGANIZATIONS

We, The Register, are opening a section to GREEK letter organizations. If you have any upcoming events you would like to have posted or an event that you want covered, submit them to us at [g\\_line00@hotmail.com](mailto:g_line00@hotmail.com)

For more info, call 706-5565

### IOTA PHI THETA NEWS

In order to accommodate students wishing to root the Aggies on to victory over Howard, The Brothers of Iota Phi Theta have postponed their first Sony PlayStation Madden 2000 single elimination tournament. On Saturday, February 26th you are invited to come flex your skills and compete for the chance to be crowned A&T's Madden King. A trophy will be awarded to the winner. Sign up now at the Memorial Union info desk. Participation is limited. All are invited. Refreshments will be served. Tournament begins at 12 noon SHARP. For more info call 378-9378 or e-mail: [IOTA@NCAT.EDU](mailto:IOTA@NCAT.EDU)

## Ross reveals Black Greek history

'Divine Nine' have legacy of love for community

By **LATOYA WILSON**  
Register Staff Writer

Lawrence Ross Jr., a newspaper journalist and author, opened an on-campus speech February 8 with the remark that he is "incredibly impressed with A&T."

A&T, apparently, is equally impressed with Ross.

Ross was on hand to promote and explain his book, "The Divine Nine," which explores the history of African American sororities and fraternities.

"As a regular student, I found the history of sororities and fraternities quite educational," said Rehka Patterson, a junior public relations major from Red Springs.

"I think that Black sororities and fraternities will always have an impact on the lives of Black children."

Shakeema North, a senior computer science major from Orange, N.J., said: "I thought it was helpful in helping one understand what sororities and fraternities are about. He kept it real with his information."

To keep it real about all nine African American Greek organizations, Ross had to forget — rather than remember — his own roots.

"I had to compile information from many sources," said Ross, a member of Alpha Phi Alpha.

"I looked through closets of photos, archives, had to call national directors of these organizations and scoured libraries," Ross said.

"I had to wash myself metaphorically of being an Alpha."

The nine African American Greek organizations — each with chapters all over the world — were formed at the turn of the century, Ross said, and their purpose was to assist African Americans with economics, education and other facets of life.

The early history of these organizations showed how they had to face many obstacles.

At White and Black institutions, they

were disliked because of the secrecy and hazing, and many became isolated from campus life at White institutions.

And there is a difference, Ross said, between White and Black Greek Organizations.

"White sororities and fraternities involvement is for housing and social acceptance," he said.

"African American organizations involvement is centered around helping the community and the race."

Organizations such as Kappa Alpha Psi were responsible for creating the "Kappa League," and helps young Black men.

Sigma Gamma Rho, is responsible for the "Big Book Bag," which provides books for needy kids. Delta Sigma Theta sponsors "Shower of Love," which is geared toward senior citizens.

Ross encouraged Greeks to take a closer look at their organizations and self-involvement in their organizations. He stressed that brotherhood and sisterhood end when someone breaks the rules.

"Brotherhood and sisterhood are not created by pledging. It is a short-term solution to a long-term investment," said Ross.

Everyone who is a member of a sorority or fraternity must take pride in a grand legacy and should not have false pride, he said.

"Your organization attracts those that reflect your organization."

Ross began his career in the catering business, moved from there to Internet provider RBG (Red, Black, and Green) and is now a reporter with the Los Angeles Independent Newspapers.

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**The REGISTER.**

# Amel Larrieux gets up with solo debut

**Amel Larrieux**  
*Infinite Possibilities*  
Epic/Sony Music

The lead singer of Groove Theory has gone solo.

Amel Larrieux who some of us can remember from "Tell Me" the single that skyrocketed up the bill board charts with the group Groove Theory has taken her classic sound to a project all her own in the CD entitled *Infinite Possibilities*.

She makes this attempt with a mesh of sounds that allows her to please the ears of all who are willing to listen. Through her words you hear the sound of almost a self spirituality that makes you check your inner soul for peace, wholesomeness, and love.

Amel experiences all of these in her CD with songs entitled "Sweet Misery," "Searching for My Soul" and "Make Me Whole." Her single "Get Up" has already hit the stores. It charges people to get up and take charge in their lives.

Sista has her own thing that makes everyone literally want to make better decisions about their lives, where they are going, and what road you are going to take to get there.

**J-Shin**  
*My Soul, My Life*  
Atlantic Records

New R&B singer J-Shin has found out that many things don't go according to plan. With his single "One Night Stand" featuring Latocha Scott (formerly of Xscape) he discusses how a one-night stand led to a pregnancy. J-Shin (pronounced Jay-shin) opens the eyes to many as they realize what can

happen to someone after unprotected sex.

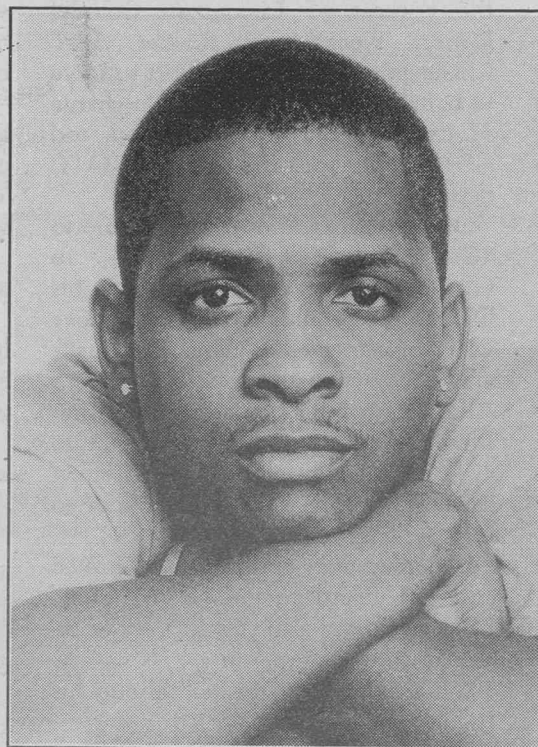
J-Shin has done some protected sex commercials and has greatly set the pathway for many R&B listeners to take responsibility for their actions. He said that "Sex is Not" the only thing on his mind, and that he is just keeping it real by talking about real things that goes on in everyday life.

This isn't the first thing that J-shin has realized wasn't part of the plan for him. He is the only R&B singer on his newly developed Slip and Slide label under Atlantic Records. He started out writing and singing a chorus on a Trick Daddy Track. The Miami native then saw this as his shot to show off his talents to the labels' producer Funk Boogie. It wasn't planned for him to be signed that very night after the executives heard his music.

J-Shin is also helping to fill the void for male R&B singers for Atlantic Records. Atlantic prides itself on having had such outstanding female R&B singers as Brandy and Aaliyah, but took note that J-shin was helping to bridge the gap for male singers.

**95 South**  
*Tightwork 3000*  
RCA/BMG Entertainment

They put the South on the map in 1993 with "Whoot, There It Is," Now, AB and Carlos — known collectively as 95 South — are back on the set with



J-Shin

*Tightwork 3000.*

Still keeping with the Orlando bass with songs entitled "Boon-Key Drop" and "Trickin' 2night," has people shaken their bon-bons' in the clubs. Still keeping with the war of the sexes "Don't Call Me" continues the male feud with Destiny Child's "Bills, Bills, Bills" and TLC's "No Scrubs."

They decided they were ready to get back in the game and signed with RCA in 1998, becoming the first bass group to sign directly with a major label.

This time, 95 South has a mission to fulfill. This time having their stuff on

lock meant keeping it real, or tight as the title indicates.

**Drama**  
*Causing Drama*  
Atlantic Records

The opening scenes begins. The intro starts with a soldier who skips camp Missing in Action (MIA). The next scene has officers marching to their own drum.

Sounds like the beginning to a good movie right.

Well, actually it's the beginning to a CD. Atlanta records new commander of rap Drama has hit the radio with his infantry chant "Left, Right, Left."

He has now blasted the radio with his new CD entitled *Causing Drama*.

Born in the so-called dirty south, Drama (Drastic Retaliation Against My Adversaries) experienced a hard upbringing with a father as a kingpin Drama quickly learned the ropes of how to be a thug. After landing in jail, he learned from a friend how to get it together. While serving his debt to society he then started writing and developing his style.

Drama has added a slight militant success to his music that makes everyone want to move to his march.

Drama in a sense tells the story of a man. With tracks labeled "Double Time" "The Plot" and "Lets Go To War" he makes the street soldier come to life.

Trust me this is one episode of Drama I don't mind having around.

— Reviews by Mia Ross

## Kemba Smith's parents strike chord at A&T

From AT-RISK on Page 1

Kemba was 23-years-old and pregnant at the time. She is currently serving time in the Federal Prison of Danbury, Conn.

Kemba's case has been heard nationwide and has accumulated celebrity supporters such as Chico DeBarge, Jada Pinkett Smith, Missy Elliot and Sistah Souljah. The NAACP Legal Defense Fund has taken over the case.

"Kemba was abused by Peter Hall," Odessa said tearfully as her hands trembled when she held the microphone. "She is also being abused by the justice system."

The Smiths were the keynote speakers at the Youth at Risk Tour that took place at North Carolina A&T's Memorial Ballroom on Feb. 9. William,

an accountant, and Odessa, a high school teacher, are the founding members of the Kemba Smith Youth Foundation. They are currently raising Kemba and Peter's 5-year-old son, Armani.

With A&T staff as well as local high school students in attendance, the Smiths criticized harsh mandatory drug sentencing and how it can affect youth. They also addressed the symptoms, statistics and solutions to an abusive relationship and peer pressure.

William Smith also offered his words of advice for anyone who may be in a situation similar to theirs and Kimba's.

"Seek counseling whether it's with a school counselor or a pastor," he said. "And just pray."

"I had heard that service saves lives, but I didn't expect it to be so literal."



After finishing school in California, Sean Whitten

joined AmeriCorps to do something different and to learn more about himself. He built houses, taught kids—and even saved a life. While on assignment in the Smoky Mountains, Sean rescued a hiker who had been lost for four days in below-freezing weather. "Through AmeriCorps, I learned it's impossible to help others without realizing the impact it makes on you."



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# Poetry

## Attitude

The attitude you take at the start of the day  
Will determine the rewards that come your way.  
Whether it is positive or negative  
Depends on the method that you use to live.  
One cannot exist without the other  
You must decide which one to cover.  
Take advantage, the choice is yours.  
The vibe you give radiates from the pores.  
Analyze situations from a different perspective.  
You do not have to be a private detective.  
But in a sense this is what you become.  
Checking yourself from the toes to the thumbs.  
Attitude sustains your course of direction.  
It is contagious like many infections.  
It is the one thing we control on our own.  
Carries the mood and sets the tone.  
Attitude will predict the height of your ride.  
Attitude and altitude go side by side.  
Attitude is more influential than pride.  
Because your attitude is something you just can't hide.

— Troy Whitehurst

## Yes, you see it in my eyes

May I love you if I may  
So my feelings for you will never go away.  
And sometimes your fear of love just hides your heart.  
My love for you was strong from the start  
Yes, you see it in my eyes!  
Though the beauty of your skin is like a rose  
To be sweet as you are, one can never strike a pose.  
I handle your love; taking it a day at a time.  
As others put anger and sorrow in your mind.  
Yes, you see it in my eyes!  
Most nights when I'm asleep, alone in my bed,  
Still having thoughts of your feelings rolling around in my head.  
Perhaps I love you too much.  
But not loving you is a feeling I could never touch.  
Yes, you see it in my eyes!

— Tyvon Petway

## How can I show I've changed

So many mistakes I've made not knowing the price I'd have to pay.  
Not seeking your face only brought me disgrace.  
How can I show them that I've changed?  
So much joy installed within; no weapon formed will win.  
I have the power over all things that come my way  
How can I show them that I've changed?  
When the devil's at my throat feeling as if I have no where to go  
Climbing this mountain I've reached an all-time low.  
How can I show them that I've changed?  
My situations are deep, never to keep me from praising his name  
How can I show them that I've changed?  
I'm living my life according to his will I have no problems for he pays my bills  
Tithing uncontrollably, letting me see, by faith I can do all things.  
My relationships I place in his hands knowing he'll never lead me astray  
How can I show them that I've changed?  
You know my old man true indeed, I hope you believe he's no longer me.  
My heart has been made pure I've been given the patience and strength to  
endure (Colossians 1:11)  
How can I show them that I've changed?  
I'm not looking for your acceptance that I don't need  
For I've been accepted by the king.  
My apologies to all those I've hurt  
I haven't given up I'm still going to make it work.  
My words come from my heart  
Something God has filled and will never depart.  
If you ever get tired of running just call on his name  
Read Romans 10:8-13 and your life will be changed.  
Continuous reading from the book that is true (the Bible)  
You don't have to show them that you've changed  
For God has already done that for you.

— Randy St. Clair

## Twenty Questions

1. Did you spend Valentine's Day with someone else other than your significant other?  
2. Why is it that the person you love is usually in love with someone else?  
3. Did you hook back up with an old boyfriend or girlfriend just because it was Valentine's Day?  
4. Don't we all remember those little Valentines we used to buy and take to school back in the day?  
5. Why do some people act brand new when they get a man or girl?  
6. Were you up all night listening to the "Quiet Storm" just so you could have a tight slow jam tape for Valentine's Day?

7. Did you have to literally pay your roommate to leave the room?  
8. Did you have to remind your boyfriend or girlfriend that it was Valentine's Day?  
9. Did you buy your mama and your girlfriend the same thing for Valentine's Day?  
10. Are you still upset about a tacky gift you received last year?  
11. Why do some people wait until the day of Valentines to buy their gifts and can't we tell the ones who do?  
12. How do "playas" not get caught on Valentine's Day?  
13. Is it because they're "true playas"

after all?  
14. Do the employees of Howard Johnson, SuperEight, And The Holiday Inn all know you on a first name basis?  
15. Did you get a discount this time?  
16. Did you break up with your boyfriend or girlfriend right before Valentine's Day just to keep from spending money?  
17. Did you get your feelings hurt for being so cheap?  
18. Did you finally get up the nerve to call your "secret crush" only to hang up when they answered?  
19. Were you embarrassed when they star 69 you right back?

20. Which of the following excuses have you used to break up with someone or even had used on you:  
1. "I think we just need some time apart"  
2. "It's not you, it's me"  
3. "Things are moving too fast"  
4. "I just need some space"  
5. "You deserve so much better than me"  
6. "It's the new millennium"

Got a suggestion for the next Twenty Questions? Send it to MizRolle @Hotmail.com or drop them by room 309 in Crosby.



# Lady Aggies living with best, worst

By CHRIS WALLACE  
Register Staff Writer

The N.C. A&T ladies basketball team has hit rock bottom this season. The Aggies are a lowly 1-20 and have showed some signs of promise this season but not much consistency.

Despite their low points, they have probably the best player in the MEAC. She is a 6'3 center by the name of Melvetta Johnson. This junior is ranked in the top five in the MEAC in

scoring, first in rebounding, and first in shot blocking. She also leads the nation in rebounding.

"Melvetta is a very good player and leader for this team," says Coach Karen Hall. "We just need to be more consistent."

Johnson's numbers alone are not enough as the lady Aggies have fallen and fallen hard. The lady Aggies only have four seniors on their roster and look for a brighter future.

*"Melvetta is a very good player and leader for this team. We just need to be more consistent."*

COACH KAREN HALL

Freshman guard Anne Bondon has shown signs of promise this season as she is ranked second on the team in scoring behind Johnson. Although the lady Aggies have

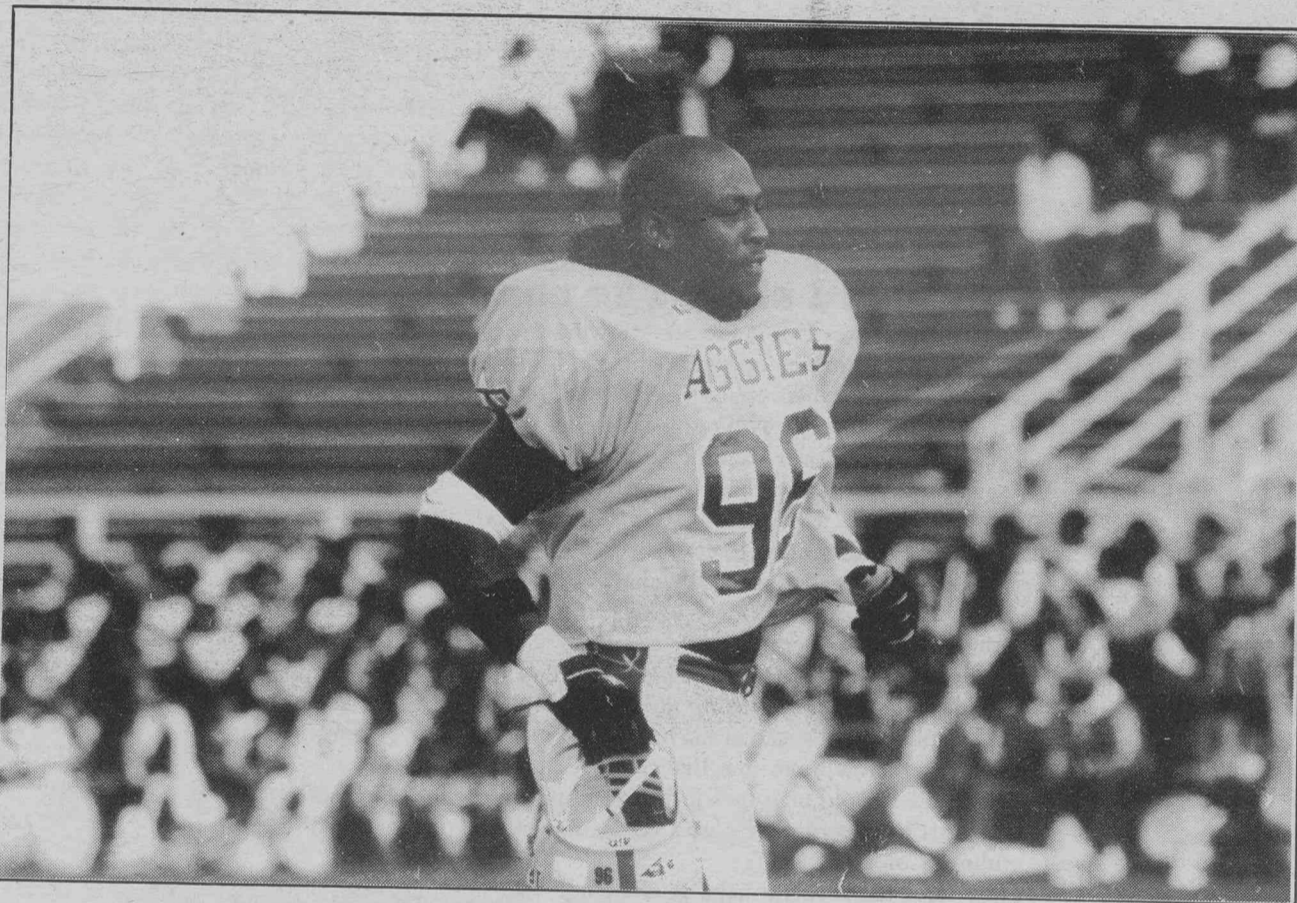
looked good at times, they haven't played with much consistency at all and seem to lose concentration and focus fast.

Turnovers have been the most staggering number this year for the lady Aggies.

They are averaging more than 20 per game this season.

"Melvetta Johnson is the best player in the conference but the lady Aggies are the worst team in the conference," stated a scout.

## Shak's still Super.



Former N.C. A&T star Troy Pelshak takes the field for an Aggie game in 1998.

### Former Aggie hits big time with Super Bowl champion St. Louis Rams

By ALISHIA TOLSON  
Register Staff Writer

Tell anyone who will listen: One of ours has hit the heights and earned a ring as a rookie for the St. Louis Rams in Super Bowl XXXIV.

The Rams didn't risk a draft pick on Troy Pelshak, signing him as a free agent instead — and it paid off. A defensive end and alternate outside linebacker in his first year as a Ram, Pelshak played in nine games and made the Super Bowl trip — and will wear the accompanying ring.

Pelshak started his football career at Garringer High School in Charlotte. He achieved many things while at Garringer, not only athletically but also academically. Playing football at Garringer opened doors for him, and the first one was to A&T.

Pelshak says his success has not spoiled him. That he has a level head, and that hasn't changed. He's neither conceited nor snobbish, he says, and he remembers where he came from.

He remembers the people at A&T who coached him and played by his side.

"It feels good being where I am, because I am representing my boys and the people that helped me get to the level that I am today as a professional football player," he said.

Darius Helton, Pelshak's former teammate and neighbor from Charlotte, shared the joy in Pelshak's achievement — as a fellow Aggie and as a friend.

"Troy was another in a long line of great Charlotte football players," Helton said. "I was surprised that his

team made it to the Super Bowl, but proud to say that I have a fellow Aggie in a successful position in life."

Pelshak spirits soared when the Rams clinched the Super Bowl berth with a win over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

"This was something words can't describe," he said. "It felt good to be in that situation. It felt like I was on top of the world."

One week later, on the sidelines for the Super Bowl in Atlanta, he rose even higher.

"Standing there on the sidelines, I looked back on all the years I played football," Pelshak said. "I felt my dreams had come true."

After three quarters of St. Louis dominance, the big game grew to be worth watching. In the end, one yard was all that separated the Rams and the Tennessee Titans from going to overtime.

"When the clock ran out it was a utopia of accomplishment," Pelshak said. "I had to savor the moment for only that moment. It made me hungry, because I know I have to make it back again."

Pelshak's formula for success is simple: Hard work, long hours — and good friends.

"I still feel that all those years paid off," he said. "I thank Space (A&T track coach "Space" Thompson) for helping all those football players who came to A&T, such as myself, with ambitions and dreams to make it to the NFL."

"I want to thank (former A&T player) Toran James for taking his time out and sharing his dreams and helping me achieve my dreams."

Pelshak's family was also involved in his dreams.

"I thank my mother and father for being supportive to me, even the times I was being a knucklehead," he said.

"My quote for life is, 'These are the fruits of your labor.' I worked hard for it."

## Aggie nine improved

Despite opening loss, baseball team looks forward to better year

By CHRIS WALLACE  
Register Staff Writer

The N.C. A&T Aggies men baseball team opened their 1999-2000 baseball season last week against the UNC-G Spartans.

Although the Aggies lost the game 6-3, they looked impressive especially after a nightmare season a year ago.

Last season, the Aggies finished last in the MEAC and had a dismal overall record of 11-41. They look to do a lot of improvement this season.

The Aggies are a very young team and seem to have depth at the most important position on the field, pitcher. Although they look to be pitching rich, their soft spot may be hitting. In order for the Aggies to contend, they must pitch and hit.

"The Aggies are a young team looking to gain respect," stated a scout.

They are hoping to get an early jump on the season and open up some eyes.

No one  
has more  
Aggie Pride  
than us.

The Register.