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TV judge tells of miracle of rebirth

Judge Greg Mathis shares humble beginnings with crowd

BY DEON ROLLE
Register Staff Writer

An audience of students, children, and members of the community listened intently as the Honorable Judge Greg Mathis spoke to the crowd that had assembled in Harrison Auditorium.

They were all looking for the same thing: the story of how someone had come from a life of violence and ended up on a career path of teaching and reforming lives.

Mathis, a former high school dropout and gang member, began his life story by recalling the events of his childhood. "I'm the youngest of 14 siblings," he said. "By the time I was 10, I was a gang member and had my first arrest." He went on to describe his journey from self-destructive behavior to a career in law enforcement and eventually to becoming a judge.

Mathis shared the story of the day he realized he wanted to make a difference through education. "I was locked up, and I was 19 years old," he said. "I was tired of the cycle of violence and I knew I had to do something different." He went on to describe how he began working with children in school systems and eventually became a judge.

"The day that I saw a child's face light up with joy because they were learning something new," Mathis said, "I knew that was where I needed to be."

Mathis continued to speak about the importance of education and how it can change lives. "Education is the key to breaking the cycle of violence," he said. "It is the foundation upon which we build our futures." He also spoke about the importance of giving back to the community and the power of second chances.

"I believe that everyone deserves a second chance," Mathis said. "And that's why I'm here today. I want to share my story with you and inspire you to believe in yourself and your potential.

Education dean set to leave

David Boger expanded regional program

BY RANDY ST.-CLAIR
Register Managing Editor

David Boger, professor and dean of the School of Education at N.C. A&T, announced his resignation as dean this week, effective June 30.

According to Boger, he will join the North Carolina A&T School of Education Faculty as a tenured professor in Curriculum and Instruction for the next academic year.

"My career objective is to be a facilitator of learning," said Boger. "As a full-time professor, I'll be able to work closely with the School of Education faculty and local public schools to enhance our teaching and learning experiences."

Boger's initial goal when he first became dean of the School of Education was to develop a clinically based teacher education program. Now Guilford and Alamance counties have 19 partners because of the program.

"I thoroughly have enjoyed the experiences and challenges in the role of Dean at A&T. I have seen significant growth in faculty output and school-based education. Likewise, our faculty and students have changed the way in which we teach and learn."

School gets grant for buckle-up program

BY ALISHA TOLSON
Register Staff Writer

N.C. A&T has been awarded a $500 grant to spread seat belt safety awareness on campus.

The National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO) and the National Highway and Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) sponsored a national "Buckle-Up America" campaign for Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

A&T was one of the first HBCUs to submit its proposal application to NAFEO and NHTSA requesting the funds to implement seat belt safety on campus. Dr. Dorothy J. Harris, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Development and student volunteers composed the proposal.

The proposal described how A&T would publicize the Buckle-Up campaign, and the tactics that would be used to spread the seat belt safety message on campus.

The A&T students' plan - they're calling it "Aggie Buckle-Up" - week includes the following:

Monday: Flyers & Newsletters; Tuesday: A DJ in the cafeteria with free prizes related to seat belt safety; Wednesday: Distribution of T-shirts with a logo that reads: "Real Aggies Buckle-Up"; Thursday: Buckle-Up
Grads in demand go from tractors to cars, not ‘cows to sows’

By Brian Johnson
Register Staff Writer

Summer activities are important in shaping your future. During the summer of 1997 Augustus Powell did not know that he would be changing his college plans.

A six-week pre-college program changed Powell’s anticipated major from the School of Business to the School of Agriculture.

The program was more than “cows and sows” said Powell. “While attending the program I saw the many facets of agriculture.”

Within the School of Agriculture are four departments: Agricultural Education; Economics and Rural Sociology; Human Environment and Family Science; and National Resources and Environmental Design.

Headed by Dean Daniel Godfrey, the School of Agriculture was founded in 1893 and is evolving from its roots.

Godfrey a 1962 graduate of A&T, majored in Agriculture Education. There were not many opportunities open to graduates from the School of Agriculture the, he said, and many graduates went on to work as vocational teachers.

“Farm hoppers are reducing, factories and plants are becoming more automated, meaning they can use fewer workers,” Godfrey said.

Education school dean changing jobs

"We appreciate the leadership and direction Dr. Boger has provided since 1994 in the School of Education."

— Chancellor James C. Renick

He was a graduate teaching assistant at the University of New Mexico. He began his university career as an assistant professor and associate professor at Barber-Scotia College and was a high school science teacher in Iredell County Public Schools.

Goger’s academic history includes an undergraduate degree from Livingstone College, an associate’s degree from New Mexico Highlands University and a doctorate from the University of New Mexico.

Boger has produced numerous publications, patents and national presentations.

Last fall, Boger began an appointment on the prestigious National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

Boger serves on the board of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and chairs the National Advisory Committee for Educational Testing Services for Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Boger was president of the North Carolina Association of Colleges for Teacher Education for four years and is on the North Carolina Teacher Academy Board.
A spiritual haven.
Thea House meets students' needs

BY DJON ROLLE
Register Staff Writer

The name Thea House may not mean much to most students since many have no clue as to what it is or even where it is. Yet Thea House has been serving as a spiritual haven for the students of Bennett and A&T since 1992.

The house, located across the street from Harrison Auditorium on N.C. A&T’s campus, is named in honor of the late Thea Bowman, the granddaughter of slaves, who was born and raised in Canton, Miss.

Bowman was a man who during the 1970s and until her death in 1990, served as a leader and activist in the African-American Catholic community. Inspiring and educating many, Bowman particularly took pride in working with children and young people from all races and backgrounds.

Though Bowman had little tie to A&T, Thea House was established in 1992 in her memory.

The director of the house and campus minister Alberta Hairston, assists students not only with their spiritual needs, but with their emotional and personal ones as well. “We’re here to mentor and guide the students here, no matter what their faith is...this house is open to everyone,” says Hairston.

Surprisingly, most students are not even aware of the house’s existence or purpose. Most had hidden or walked by but had never taken the time to go in.

Patrick Dinkins, a sophomore manufacturing major from Monroe’s Swamp admitted “I’ve heard of it, but I’m not sure what it is.”

Tramisha Prince, a sophomore nursing major from Gastonia, said “Sure I’ve driven past it, but I guess I never really noticed it that much. I thought it was just for Catholic students.”

Hairston has done her best to spread the word about Thea House, but feels that the student’s shyness may be a result of some religious misconceptions.

“We’re not here to force feed you any type of religion, that’s a personal choice,” says Hairston, adding that Thea House is not just for Catholic students either.

“We have students from all denominations and backgrounds that come here...this house is a place to study, interact with others, and yes, even worship.”

Some of these students like Nadra Wagner, a sophomore chemical engineering major from Cary, see Thea House as a second home,

“There’s a family atmosphere here...people are open minded and everyone is welcome.”

Genea Mobley, a graduate student in elementary education from Brooklyn, N.Y., also adds: “It’s a break from campus, a positive environment, and a definitively a home away from home especially when you’re from out of state.”

In addition to catering to the needs of students, Thea House also coordinates time and extensive effort to such causes as Winter Walk for AIDS and feeding the homeless every other Wednesday of each month.

Thea House and its services are available to all A&T and Bennett students and the house is open from noon to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Credit limit? A&T gets a purchasing power boost

BY LAKEISHA BYNUM
Register Staff Writer

The N.C. A&T purchasing office has requested and received an increase in its purchasing power. A&T’s “benchmark” – the amount it can spend without advance approval from the state – has increased from $35,000 to $100,000.

Bobby Aldrich, director of purchasing at A&T, applauded the change. “Routing bids through Raleigh can be frustrating,” he said.

Prior to the increase, purchases more than $35,000 had to go through A&T’s purchasing office and then to Raleigh, doubling the processing time.

Aldrich also says that by using institutional procedures the processing time is much shorter.

In theory, the increase will allow A&T to be more responsive to the needs of students, staff and faculty, and better able to meet demands for big-ticket, time-sensitive equipment purchases.

The Board of Governors approved the increase on November 19.

The purchasing office is responsible for providing procurement and travel services in support of the university’s mission. In short, it is responsible for buying all supplies, materials, equipment and services – and is under strict price and state compliance guidelines for all of these purchases.

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The Register

At these prices, it’s too bad we don’t sell cars.

Maybe one day we will sell cars, food and everything else you need. But right now, it’s great deals on textbooks every day. You can save up to 40%, and you’ll get your books in 1 to 3 days. Not that you would, but don’t sweat using a credit card. VarsityBooks.com is 100% guaranteed secure. Try saying that about a new SUV.

SAVE UP TO 40% ON TEXTBOOKS.
True thugs make truly sad choice

By WILLIAM BOONE

Naim Akbar describes a thug as an individual who has given up on life. Shujah was a thug. John Gotti was a thug. These individuals have something in common; they are all no longer active participants in a civilized society.

Oftentimes, a college education is privilege. Often times, this privilege is granted in exchange for blood, sweat and tears. Many parents have struggled a lifetime in order to send a child off to school. This honor takes on an added dimension when an individual is a first generation college student. These students have an added duty and responsibility to be fruitful in their scholastic endeavors.

So, one might ask what is the primary element that leads to the manufacturing of these modern-day thugs? Some argue that hip-hop music is partially responsible for the "thugged out" persona many young men have adopted. However, it is unlikely that music alone is responsible for this epidemic. Blunt ignorance and low self-esteem, in all likelihood, are probably the major culprits responsible for this type of psychosis.

In my lifetime, I have seen few true thugs within the university community. Although many young, young African-American College students claim to be thugs, most--at best--are carbon copies. The truth of the matter is that most true thugs never have the opportunity to attend college. Most true thugs would kill to go to college. Many are products of their own environments. Limited choices and poverty are more readily identifiable characteristics of the thug lifestyle. Those thugs that are exposed to college make a conscious decision to give up on life. The key word being decision. For those that have chosen this route here at North Carolina A&T, they too have an option: life or death?

In the 21st century, young African-Americans will have to re-examine their purpose as it relates to their environment. African-American men, in particular, will have to either stand up or lay down.

For every aspiring thug in America, there is a correction officer and/or musician that can bring these aspirations into fruition. The question then becomes whether or not an individual is prepared to pay for his/her transgressions.

Unfortunately in the real world thugs are rarely able to emerge from their spiritual and physical depravity. Many go through life in a constant state of regret and/or self-denial. Being a man has nothing to do with being a thug. A real man or woman knows his/her place in any given society. This sense of purpose is derived from a thorough understanding of one's self in relation to one's environment.

Furthermore, it is unlikely that any thinking person would argue the fact that college is not the place for these hoodlums.

Hence, there are only two places where a true thug is appreciated. Neither destination calls for a university degree. Hopefully, in the future, self-proclaimed thugs will make the correct decision and opt not to go to college. But if these individuals somehow make their way onto the college campus, it is the job of the university community (i.e. the student body) to denounce this type of behavior and see to it that these cultural barbarians are ostracized. For the only haven for a thug, whether real or phony, are prison and/or the mugue.

Ultimately, for those individuals that choose higher education, they too will be forced to make a choice.

William Boone is a professor of English at N.C. A&T.

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

Aggies Talk Back:

Have you liked your first year at A&T?

"It's a great learning experience. It's the first time I've been away from home, first time I'm responsible for all things I do, and has given me the opportunity to get to know and learn about people. It's a life long experience that I'm making the best of, and I'm fortunate to be here."

DANIELLE RAMSEY,
BROADCAST NEWS

"As far as education is concerned, there's nothing that has surprised me such as a lot of work and mandatory studying. Learning to use your time wisely is key during college and especially during times of exams."  

ZACH STIR DAVANT,
INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING

"I think I've had a very good first year. I've learned the do's and don'ts of college life. Based on my freshman year, my sophomore year should go real smooth."

RUDY WRIGHT,
BROADCAST PRODUCTION

"I like it here for the most part. I know a lot of people here because I'm from Greensboro. The only problem I have is that our dorm rooms are too small, and there is not a restaurant within reasonable walking distance like UNC-G has."

MONIQUE LEVETTE,
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

"I've enjoyed my first year here so far, but this is not as much of a party school as people make it out to be."

ELROY STANLEY,
COMPUTER TECH

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

Box E-25, 1601 E. Market St.
Greensboro, N.C. 27411-1200

Send e-mail to: Editor_notes@yahoo.com

THE A&T REGISTER

North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro

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Brian Tomlin, adviser

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Judge Mathis overcame crime, prison

From MATHIS on Page 1 again his past cases into question. Fortunately voters were not swayed, and Mathis went on to become one of the youngest judges in the state of Michigan.

This led to his current television show, which entices immediately blended for its content and the outrageous cases presented. Mathis maintains that all of the cases on his show are real and the participants on the show are not actors and the cases represent true to life instances occurring in society. "This is a real part of America," said Mathis. "So don't attack me or the people who come on my show; attack the conditions that create the poverty, the immorality, and the crime."

Mathis went on to discuss the state of the black community and the rate at which black males are being incarcer-ated.

"Blacks make up 60 percent of the prison system and by the year 2010 the majority of black men ages 18 to 35 will be locked up," said Mathis. "We are trapped in a struggle and the prison system is just another form of slavery."

Mathis told the audience that the only solution to end this problem was to reject the negative influences of drugs, violence, and crime and instill a high sense of self-esteem and value in their children and in themselves.

"We may have failed our children," said Mathis, "but our children must not fail." Mathis, a father of five, credited his mother for always trying to support him and boosting his self-esteem. He also urged African-Americans to con-tinue to fight against discrimination and the injustices that continue to exist in society. "I thank God for the freedom fighters who led the way for us, but we must remember that by no means are we done fighting." His last piece of advice to the crowd gathered before him was to simply "Keep the Faith" and stay in church.

Greg Drumwright and the Magnificent Voices of Praise and The A&T Gospel Choir provided uplifting musical selections throughout the evening and Mathis answered questions from the audience and signed autographs afterwards.

Mathis expects his television show to run for at least five years, after which he says that he will continue to work in public service.

Judge Mathis' television show can be seen on the UPN Cable Network weekdays Monday through Friday at 2 p.m.

Aggies will bring the word: Buckle up

From SEAT BELT on Page 1 commitment sign-up and workshops Friday: Pep Rally and Step Show.

The $500 stipend will go toward the cost of T-shirts, entertainment and more.

Along with the fun, Aggie Buckle-up week is also intended to inform stu-dents, staff and faculty of the very real facts and statistics regarding seatbelt use, and the message is especially prevalent.

The African-American community is rated low for seat belt usage.

According to a NHTSA national survey, observed seat belt use among African Americans is more than 10 per cent points lower than the national average.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for blacks through the age of 14.

A recent survey of hospital emer-gency room visits showed that motor vehicle crashes accounted for 779,000 visits per year for African Americans, at a rate of 24 per 1,000 people, com-pared to 14 per 1,000 for whites.

A&T was among 13 HBCUs rep-resented at a NAFEO and NHTSA host-ed an HBCU Buckle-Up workshop last month in Washington, D.C. Chameeka Smith, a junior, OSHA major who was among the A&T con-gregant, said the workshop was informative.

"I was unaware that the non-use of seat belts was the No. 1 leading cause of death among youth ages 0 to 14," she said.

"We plan to do everything that we can to insure the safety of our Aggies through seat belt safety.

"The Aggie Buckle-Up week is one tool we plan to use to stress the impor-tance of buckling up."

"The money received from NAFEO and NHTSA is just a start to help A&T promote seat belt safety, campus of-ficials say.

"The Office of Student Development hopes to get the message across the campus on the importances of buckling up their seat belts," said Regina Aliche, administrative assistant in the Office of Student Development.

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

Check out news about the Aggies on the football field. Or on the basketball court.

Learn about the student athletes who make A&T a formidable foe.

The Register.
Johnson lonely star for Lady Aggies

By CHRI$ WALLACE
Register Staff Writer

The N.C. A&T Lady Aggies basketball team had high hopes entering the 1999-2000 season. Everything has not turned out for the Aggies as they have compiled a 2-23 record this season. Despite the record, they are still hopeful as the MEAC Tournament approaches.

Although the Aggies have struggled, they have a diamond in the rough, and her name is Malveata Johnson. Johnson, a 6 foot, 3 1/2 inch from Dover, N.C., has again been named to the All-MEAC first team as well as being named to the All-Academic Team.

"It's a great honor," said Johnson. "I didn't get the award that I wanted, but I'll work harder to get it next year." Johnson ranks among the league's elite in several categories. She's second in scoring (19.4 PPG), leads the MEAC and the nation in rebounding (13.6 RPG) and leads the MEAC in shot blocking (2.79 RPG).

After being named MEAC Player of the Year last season, Johnson had another outstanding year but was short of winning Player of the Year this season. Along with her accomplishments on the court, Mal (as her teammates call her) is sporting a 3.01 grade point average and majoring in Architectural Engineering. She is the perfect definition of a "student athlete" that a lot of coaches drool for.

"It's very important to take care of academics first," she said. "I had a 3.8 GPA last semester and making the All-Academic Team was one of my goals. Last year, I struggled a bit with all the accolades for basketball and not getting the academic award kind of put a damper on everything.”

Johnson is also very optimistic about her and her teammates' chances in the MEAC Tournament. They are really looking forward to the challenges. Other awards and accomplishments that she has received include Freshman Female Athlete of the Year, Female Athlete of the Year, Dean's List, All-MEAC Academic Team, Most Valuable Player, All-MEAC first team honors, and MEAC Player of the Year honors.

Johnson also puts a lot of her success in the hands of her head coach Karen Hall as coach has taught her the art of determination, strong will, and tremendous effort. Although Johnson looks as if she's a woman among girls on the court, she wasn't always into basketball. "In high school, people told me I was tall so I should try out," stated Johnson. "I really didn't like it because I was a softball girl as I was growing up, but it has turned out to be a great experience for me."

Johnson has a lot of direction in life and realizes that she's modeling herself into a role model that people look up to. A model citizen as well as an excellent student-athlete, Johnson feels that her parents are the true role models to her. "My parents are my role models because they have instilled in me many valuable life lessons." As Johnson and the lady Aggies get tuned up for the tournament, we all know what kind of team we are dealing with. "Of all these ladies are model citizens and have worked very hard."

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Experienced Aggies have high hopes for 2000

Coaches Jones has seasoned team she's been waiting for

By LATISHA WILSON
Register Staff Writer

The 2000 N.C. A&T women's softball team is working toward a conference championship and according to Coach Latisha Jones it's well within reach. The Aggies have 10 players returning from last year, so they're long on experience and consistency.

It is, said Jones, the veteran team's biggest asset waiting for their season to begin.

"I have the talent and consistency," Jones said. "I have players that are being shifted to other positions and they are learning their new roles."

Pitcher Jennifer Jones and Jennifer Hambrick, both sophomores, will be counted on to turn the position from a question mark into a strength. "The key is for every pitcher to pitch," Jones said. "Right now we are not throwing as hard or strong because of injuries."

"As long as my pitchers stay healthy we will have a good season."

Hitting is a solid spot, led by sophomores Latasha Ford, Crystal Wimble, and senior Jennifer Cauden. Team speed is another asset, along with an outfield that has been solid for the last three years.

The infield took the hardest graduation losses - shortstop and second baseman Tiffany Fallin along with third baseman Cynthia Bullock. The Aggies will fight those and other obstacles, but Jones is optimistic.

"We have had academic problems, a rearrangement of the lineup which has made things harder but we can still contend for a championship," she said. "I am depending on all returning players and all nine positions have to work hard in order for us to be successful."

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ATTENTION ALL GREEKS!

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.line0@hotmail.com

For more info, call 706-5565

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Beat-down Aggies have battled back

BY CHRIS WALLACE
Register Staff Writer

The N.C. A&T men’s basketball team has had an up and down season to say the least. It was not long ago that the Aggies looked destined to finish far behind in last place, but with hard work and leadership, they have battled their way up in the ranks of the MEAC.

Beginning the season 2-9, the Aggies were criticized and put down but over their last 14 games, the Aggies have compiled a 10-4 record including some very key conference wins over the MEAC’s elite teams. During this up and down season, a star has risen for the Aggies.

This 6 foot, six-inch, 205-pound forward from Silver Springs, Md., has grown in a quick way to lead the Aggies. The MEAC coaches selected Bruce Jenkins as an All-MEAC second team member earlier this week. This super sophomore ranks 10th in the MEAC in scoring (14.3 PPG), ninth in the MEAC in field goal percentage (.500), and fourth in the MEAC in rebounding (7.3 RPG). This kid not only brings his game to the floor. He also has grown to provide leadership and has helped the once lowly Aggies battle their way back into contention. Some people may be surprised that this kid is only a sophomore, but he plays and possess a positive attitude like that of a senior.

Jenkins commented on his All-MEAC selection.

“First of all, I put God first above all things. I feel like we worked hard as a team and played well together so I owe it to my fellow teammates, coach, and my family.” His is thrilled above being named All-MEAC and is clearly optimistic about his team’s chances in the MEAC Tournament. “I feel that if we play together like we’re capable of, we’ll win the MEAC title; no doubt!”

The Aggies will probably be the number 6 seed in the tournament if all other things hold up. The MEAC Tournament will be held March 6-11 in Richmond, Va.

Recruits running to top-dog Aggies

BY JAVARO HAMPTON
Register Staff Writer

It doesn’t seem to matter what year it is for the N.C. A&T Aggies football team. They keep coming back, season after season, to challenge for the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference championship.

The 2000 season should be no different.

The Aggies have grown into one of the top Division I-AA programs in recent years, and being on top has its perks. Success, say coaching staff members, has made it easier to snatch blue chip recruits from bigger, Division I programs.

The Aggies had signed 16 players as of February 2, including an outstanding local talent in Chuckie Reed. Reed, a 5-foot-9, 170-pound running back from High Point Central, was also recruited by Virginia Tech and most of the ACC schools. He racked up 2,050 yards and 34 touchdowns for High Point Central’s state championship team, and boasts speed of 10.3 seconds in the 100-meter dash and 4.38 seconds in the 40-yard dash.

A&T rallies to 4-point win over FAMU Rattlers

BY CHRIS WALLACE
Register Staff Writer

The N.C. A&T men’s basketball team used a furious second half rally to stun the Rattlers of Florida A&M, 77-73.

The Aggies almost shot themselves in the foot in the first half of the Feb. 21 game as they fell behind by 16 points at the halftime mark. After an early second half spurt, the Aggies made the game close and then pulled away with a four-point victory.

Junior forward Tarell Robinson led the way for the Aggies as he scored a team high 17 points and grabbed 9 rebounds.

“I’m pleased with the way we came down and came back,” said Aggie head coach Curtis Hunter.

The Aggies were very inconsistent in the first half as they turned the ball over and made a lot of critical mistakes. Hunter went in at halftime and put it to his team. They responded in the second half as they shot a sizzling 60 percent from the field and stormed past the Rattlers to earn the four-point victory down in Florida.

Florida A&M’s head coach was visibly shaken and upset. “We played well enough to win and should have won. They earned it through and there’s nothing else I can say.” The win left the Aggies at 11-12 overall, 9-6 in conference play, and contention to get a higher seed for the MEAC Tournament.

Read us for campus news

The Register
A calm is rising

My fall has come
And rested wholly upon my heart.
Like so, the rising calm shall do.

Much like the peace of many a day before,
Resting arms and dying rage take place,
Of the years unto which I never lived,
Yet still day.

By destiny is fate extinct.
Come what may with the foulest thought,
But hold on to what is true.
The beauty’s life of her soul,
The gentle breath of winter’s sky,
Found inside a whisper’s poem.
In love and in light, forever I will stay.

My heart is slowing...
With the calm still rising...
Yet I still live with every breath.
In my words the calm will stay.
As it will with the deepest soul of many men.

My eyes shall see,
In beauty’s grace,
My destiny.

— Scott R. Moore

Black woman

More beautiful than the ocean that meets the sky.
More beautiful than the stars that shine up high.

Nice round hips and nice thick thighs,
Smooth silky skin and deep brown eyes.

The mother of life, a vision of beauty and much more,
Without the black woman what would I live for.

More precious than life itself and I know that’s true,
Without the black woman there would be no me or you.

The mother of creation and the goddess of beauty,
A strong attractive lady full of grace and dignity.

When I look in her eyes, diamonds fade away,
And the beauty of her smile makes ivory a pale shade of gray.

Smart, intelligent and full of knowledge and women’s intuition,
In my eyes, you’re all queens of women in high position.

I believe your pretty hands should never do anchor,
Like I said without the black woman what would I live for.

— Herman Bright

Who am I?

I am one of God’s greatest creations,
Designed in his image and likeness.
Blessed with the gift of imagination,
Presenting the truth to the righteous.

Who am I?

Whatever I want to be.
The only limitations are instilled by me.
Destined for the highest peak of self-actualization
Not until God is the head of my nation.

Who am I?

I am the beginning and the end.
The body is a case to support what’s within.
Matter is something that cannot be ignored.

Who am I?

I am the same as you.
It wouldn’t make a difference the race or who.
Open your eyes to observe the clues.
Before it’s too late and you are singing the blues.

Who am I?

I define myself.

Refuse to be regulated by material wealth.

My name is the representation of a symbol.

I am Self-Knowledge Elevating Everything Being Original. (SKEEBO)

— Troy Whitehurst

Twenty Questions

1. Why does Hines have brand new windows when we need a brand new building?
2. How many of us would have been ready to fight if the ‘hackers’ had attacked all the email sites?
3. Why does the cafe seem to open 10 minutes late and close 15 minutes early?
4. How many times have you almost gotten caught by the police to cross the street between Holland Hall and the ticket office?
5. Aren’t we ready for Spring Break, even if most of us are too broke to go anywhere but home anyway?
6. Will some of us be lucky if we can scrape up enough money to even get home?
7. Why is it so much fun hatin’ on Puff Daddy? Can you say “16 to 20”?
8. Why don’t we have pizza on the weekends in the cafe?
9. Why does Shaq have a TV show?
10. Are you still holding on to those drizzled roses from Valentine’s Day even though they should have been in the trash ever since last week?
11. Why do some people hang out their windows like “extras” from “227”?
12. MizRolle didn’t just call herself out did she?
13. Speakin’ of “227”... whatever happened to Calvin?
14. Why do grown people (with no kids) order “Happy Meals” and front like they’re still not hungry later on?
15. Why do some folks lose their mind when the sun comes out?
16. Do we need a sign that says “no shorts or tube tops until spring”?
17. Why do some people blame everything on the new millennium?
18. As much as we love us some DeAngelo... why do most of the songs on his new album sound so much alike?
19. Why do some people wear their “Durangos” with everything, including sweatpants?
20. We tried to leave this one alone but... when did “dressing all” (unless you’re a twin) become cool again? (Last time we checked it was played out.)

Got a suggestion for the next Twenty Questions? Send it to MizRolle @Hotmail.com or drop them by room 209 in Crosby.