SGA meeting marked by infighting

By T.J. MOORE
Page Editor

Bickering between the Student Government Association and a few members of the Aggie Live Wires over budget-related masters overshadowed a heavy agenda for the full body monthly meeting, Nov. 26 in the Memorial Union Exhibit Hall.

Tempers flared as the Live Wires accused the SGA of not following through with promises made to the group. The SGA did not fund all requests for the entire group of 160 to go to the Peach State Classic in Atlanta.

In defense of the SGA Executive Board, President Greg Drumwright, adviser for the Live Wires, asked them to voice their complaints to their liaison and SGA Vice President of External Affairs Chester Williams and ask him why the group was not in the budget.

Drumwright accused Williams, who was not present, of not fulfilling his proper duties as VP of external affairs and advised the Live Wires to look to the state constitution to show the group how to voice a complaint.

Williams could not be reached at deadline for comment.

Alleged half-million-dollar construction billing scam did not harm university

By T.J. MOORE
Page Editor

N.C. A&T officials said that a scam to bill the university for a half-million dollars of work that allegedly never done has not hurt the university or its construction projects.

"The university did not lose one brown penny, not one cent," said Internal Auditing Director Reginald Wade.

Former A&T telecommunications engineer Melvin A. McLaughlin was charged Nov. 14 with helping a local contractor falsely obtain more than $500,000 from Capital Partners USA Inc., a California-based financial company.

The arrest is the conclusion of months of investigating by the university's construction office, county, and the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI).

According to agent Melinda Collins, this case was not even in the SBI's original jurisdiction. "We became involved in this case at request," she said. In this case, the request was made by the Guilford County District Attorney's Office.

As reported in the News & Record, McLaughlin is accused of billing Capital Partners USA Inc. that contractor John David Watford had installed over a half a million dollars worth of cable and serving equipment between December 1999 and April 2000.

In paperwork filed in the Guilford County Courthouse, the university claims that the work in question was never done.

The court records also state that Watford was paid nearly $411,000 by Capital for his work in university telecommunications projects. Capital Partners then billed the university for $574,990, the amount mentioned in 15 of Watford's invoices.

Watford, who was in business as Triad Communications in Winston, was charged Sept. 12 with felony obtaining property by false pretense. Watford is free on a $50,000 bond.

The official charges on McLaughlin are felonies of aiding and abetting someone obtaining property by false pretense in excess of $100,000 and with one count of conspiracy to obtain property by false pretense in excess of $100,000.

McLaughlin, who likewise has been released on bond, resigned from his university post earlier this fall.

The case is pending and will come to trial on Jan. 8, 2002.

Gibbs Hall meeting heated as activist criticizes U.S. invasion

By RANDY SCCLAIR
Editor-in-Chief

On Nov. 28, the fifth meeting to discuss America’s War on Terrorism ended in students as well as faculty of N.C. A&T proclaiming that the US invasion on Afghanistan wasn’t and isn’t needed.

Ed Whifield, community activist for the Beloved Community, was the main speaker for the meeting in Gibbs Hall room 123. He started things off with a commentary he wrote to SNCC (Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee) where he challenged America’s way of living. The main point in his commentary was that America should tend to its own business and leave foreign business alone.

In response, SNCC member Bruce Hartford, called Whifield a Stalinist who is actually on the side of those who terrorized New York, D.C. and Pennsylvania. Hartford also accused Whifield of siding with the Taliban and Osama Bin Laden.

From that point on Whifield’s question to the audience of almost 30...

Please see Gibbs, Page 3
Register staff honored with eight BCCA awards

By T.J. Vinson

The department of animal sciences at A&T will offer a 3-credit course in horse production beginning Jan. 8. The course will cover a survey of the equine industry in the United States, breeds and registry associations, husbandry, breeding, feeding, nutrition, general care and management of the horse. The course requires no animal sciences prerequisites and is open to all majors.

The course will be taught in 207 B.C. Webb Hall on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30-9 p.m.

Communities helped

The N.C. A&T Cooperative Extension Program has placed computers and printers in three eastern North Carolina locations ravaged by Hurricane Floyd. Through a grant from the Rural Emergency Crisis Fund of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Cooperative Extension Program placed computers in the Princeville Community Center in Princeville, the Battleboro, St. Luke’s Church in Princeville and Pines Chapel Baptist Church in Pines.

“We know that there are many needs in the area as it recovers from the devastating impact of events and we’re pleased to help wherever and whenever we can,” said Dr. Ellen Smoak, director of the effort and a

A male student reported that an unknown person(s) removed a speaker box from his vehicle while it was parked in the Aggie Suites parking lot.

Larceny

A male student reported that an unknown person(s) removed his yellow gym bag from the stadium parking lot. There are no suspects at this time.

But Removal

VanStory Hall dorm director reported that a bat was found on the first floor. Several students removed the animal.
GSO Blue: Learning about life on the streets

Editor’s Note: Reporter Phoebe Bruce rode along with Greensboro police officers on a recent afternoon to learn about their work.

PHOEBE BRUCE
Register Correspondent

Nov 24, 2001, I arrived at the police station around 2 p.m. I am here to learn what it’s like to be in the policeman’s shoes.

I signed a Citizen Ride Along form that had all these restrictions: You cannot touch police equipment, weapons, guns, or drive the police car. After signing the form I waiting on the next available officer.

At 3 p.m., Officer A.W. Reed walked into the room and was ready to go. Inside the black Ford police car, I saw the computer and all the buttons that operate the lights, siren, and the radio. Reed had been a policeman for 12 years and works in District 1, around the English Street area, not too far from A&T.

We started riding downtown East Market Street and turned on English Street. We rode through this apartment complex that he said was a bad area. Not too much was going on, not too many people were outside.

As we were riding he showed me a list of all the stolen cars that were reported. He said the list was pretty long this month.

"The list had Jeeps, Hondas, Ford, etc. He ran the license numbers of some Jeeps that were parked, but they did not turn up on the list."

We continued riding around looking for suspicious suspects and waiting for a call.

"What does he do when it’s a slow day and nothing really is happening?"

"You never know what will happen from day to day. Some people have a reputation and you know to look out for them and other times you just look for things out of the ordinary, he said."

We rode for about an hour and then he took me to Maple Street, where the base for District 1 is located. Officers can check e-mail and run reports there, without going all the way back to the downtown police station.

They had interview rooms and profiles of wanted criminals hanging up. Some officers were on the computer looking at guns and military equipment. In the line-up room, first-shift officers meet with second shift to discuss what happened.

After the quick tour I had to switch officers.

Officer J.T. Heinrich was going to be my next officer. He was a young officer, a rookie, he said: “I’ve been on the force for about 3 years.”

He went to college in Arkansas and taught middle school for a year and then came to the police department off a dare from his brother.

“My brother told me that the police department was hiring and he said I bet you won’t get the job. I was like, well see and then I got it,” he said.

Heinrich was in District 1 as well and we started back towards East Market Street.

He received a call about a car that had been pulled over and we thought we were going to have something until they called back saying they had the car.

“Everybody is pulling somebody over; I guess we need to pull someone,” Heinrich said.

I thought that was so funny, but he wasn’t playing.

We got to the light at English Street and a guy in a truck outside was smoking.

Heinrich rolled down his window and said, “Let’s see if we can get a whiff of this guy is smoking.”

Unfortunately the wind was blowing the wrong way so he couldn’t smell it, but

usually he can tell if it’s marijuana.

The truck pulled off and he looked at the tag and said, “Hey we got one, expired tag.” He put his lights on and the truck pulled in the parking lot.

The driver got out and Heinrich told him to get back in the truck. He asked me if I wanted to get out of the car, I said yes.

Heinrich came back to the car walking backwards with his hand on his gun. He told me it was for safety.

He showed me a paper listing all of the arrestable offenses; surprisingly you can be arrested for not having your license.

They can arrest you for minor things, but they don’t usually do that because it takes them off the streets for hours over minor situations.

Heinrich drove around looking for a place to do his paper work; officers keep a logbook of everything they do.

“Here is so much paperwork involved that you wouldn’t imagine,” he said.

On the way back to the police station I asked if he liked his job.

“I like my job, I really love the benefits, I have so much vacation that I don’t even need, I would rather work,” he said.

GIBBS

Continued from page 1

"I am the treasurer’s report, Hunter said the Senate’s findings are not true. She showed where the SGA earned and spent money from events throughout the semester.

Hunter first showed the allotment that the SGA was given at the beginning of the school year, $124,392. Then, she showed the earnings from events such as the gym jams, Homecoming concerts, comedy shows and fashion and talent shows. Hunter also showed what was actually spent in connection with those events last year.

Hunter later told "The Register that the resolution has not been approved and she returned her signed. When asked about the resolution, Hunter said she sensed a breakdown in communication, "I see it as a miscommunication," Hunter said. "They [Senate] didn’t understand how the budget works."

N.C. A&T helps charter school students with language skills

BY KARL WALKER
Register Correspondent

North Carolina A&T has been active in the community again, helping two French-speaking students from the Imani Institute to learn English and communicate better with others.

A&T’s foreign language department, led by Dr. Emmanuel Regis, the inter- um chairperson, has made it possible for two students from the Imani Institute to learn English.

Dr. Guy Loftin, an A&T alumnus and chief executive for the Imani Institute, arranged for Vanessa and Serge Fondomogou, the children of Bernard and Claudine Fondomogou originally from Togo in West Africa to learn English.

“They are making a lot of progress in mastering the basic grammatical skills to perfect their language skills, said Loftin.

Caroline Wallace from the English Department is in charge of teaching the students. The class starts at 10:30 a.m and ends at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

This session will end at the end of the semester.

"Here at the Imani Institute we are very excited about the program, we encourage our students to have diversity and we look forward to working with N.C. A&T in the future," said Loftin.

The Imani Institute is a public charter school, founded in 1998 with 100 stu- dents. The institute is a middle school for sixth- to eighth-graders. Its academ- ic guidelines are the same as other North Carolina schools, teaching math, science, social studies and language arts.

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at (888) 923-3238, or visit www.campusfundraiser.com


20 QUESTIONS

By DION ROLLE
Regular Contributor

1. Aren’t we glad that the IRC is back open...finally?
2. How many of us know that we need to break down and buy our own computer?
3. How many people are still trying to remember their logs to get into McNair computer lab?
4. What did people who still owe money on their student account think— that they were going to get a check on the 15th?
5. How many of us waited in the check line any way...only to get embar-
rassed?
6. Why can’t they just take what you owe out of your check and give you what’s left over?
7. Whatever happened to ‘Zhane’ A.K.A. “The girl that rocked fade huarotst before it was cool”?
8. We know we’re late on this one but...did anybody see that Michael Jackson special?
9. G.K. ...did anybody tape it?
10. How many of us are still mad because we had to work on Thanksgiving?
11. Why are some people still at home chiilin’?
12. Why is the Bernie Mack Show so hilarious?
13. Why are some people “fuud” for no apparent reason?
14. Aren’t we tired of seeing all these chicks weating braids over their ears as a certain R&B singer? (For the slow people we’re referring to Alicia Keys)
15. Why doesn’t President Bush just ask Miss Cleo where Bas Laden is hiding?
16. How many of us remember when there were maybe two streetlights on cam-


opinion

Christmas Day?

17. What’s up with these big school buses riding through campus lately? Can you say “Get em’ while their young”?
18. Why is there always one that a group of bad kids hollering out the back was-
dow?
19. Did any black folk go see “Harry Potter” at the movie theater?
20. How many of us even know who “Harry Potter” is?

20 QUESTIONS

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Home Remedies: onion, potatoes, and honey. Oh my!

By Shaiknta Johnston

A splash of lemon juice, a teaspoon of mustard, but water to fill the container and sugar to taste – sound like an impossible recipe? It's not, but moreover, one of many home remedies used by N.C. A&T students for various illnesses and afflictions. In this recipe, there's a cure for a sore throat.

As winter rapidly approaches, noses are running, fevers are raging and pocketbooks are bare. Many students areLinks to more money or no money in these pockets are opting to home remedies in search for a fast and effective cure. And the results may surprise.

"I know a girl who ate a raw onion whenever she felt a cold coming on," said Keturah Taylor, junior English major.

Apparently the onion would fight the approaching cold and destroy the cold's hold on its victim. But Taylor is not the only one utilizing the amazing curing powers of the onion.

Anita Freeman, also a junior English major, recalls onion therapy for her personal use via her grandmother.

"My grandmother used a raw onion to take a fever away," said Freeman. "It would be raw when she started, but would be cooked when she finished and the fever would be broken."

Onions may sound like a rather funky approach to an equally distasteful situation, but supposedly the bulbous plant works wonders. But don't be fooled. The onion isn't the only garden resident being utilized for medical powers.

"White potatoes work, too," said K-Mart employee Shwanta Parker. "My grandmother would use them when I was younger and very sick. She sliced them halfway, tied them to my head and body with a bandanna, and when she took the bandanna off, the potatoes would be dark. The fever or cold would be gone."

Onions and potatoes to treat fever seem pretty far fetched, but a host of A&T students swear by these and other home remedies. But many of those students may be surprised to know that some medical doctors agree with them.

Don R. Powell, a medical doctor listed on the website Medicine.com, acknowledges the use of home remedies and even recommends salt water gargles for sore throats and chicken noodle soup for clearing nasal passages and fighting the cold virus.

Other website gurus such as presci

Psychologist tells students to recall past struggles

By Owen Bowser Jr.

Dr. Na'im Akbar, a nationally renowned black psychologist, told students on Nov. 1 that they "need to remember the struggle of what got us where we are today." Akbar, an Afro-centric scholar from Florida State University, spoke as part of a lecture series by the Center for Student Success.

He began by telling students that the reason members of the African American community have trouble solving their own problems is that they do not know who they are.

"Everyone in America knows who they are. Blacks are the only ones who don't know who they are. We are always lost," said Akbar.

"We are the origin of human life on this planet, yet we have trouble finding who we are."

"We were the first mathematicians, scientists, and engineers," he said. "We should inherit these talents from our ancestors and carry on the great name for future generations."

He believes there is a conspiracy to not tell African Americans the truth about their history.

"America wants us to believe that all we can do is slam dunk a basketball or break the law. They fail to tell us that we can also slam dunk mathematics and science and that we were the originators of all," said Akbar.

It is because of slaves who died for the cause of freedom that African Americans can now attend prominent institutions of higher learning, Akbar said.

Today's African American generation is the first to be able to do as it wished. However, people take that for granted.

"We are descendants of survivors of slavery. One hundred million slaves lost their lives for us," said Akbar. "We were never supposed to be citizens of this country."

"We were supposed to be a part of the working class, picking cotton and cleaning bathrooms, but because of our ancestors, we are victorious."

"How dare you take for granted what our ancestors have done for us? We go to school and sleep through opportunities to learn."

"We have no right to refuse to learn and mud while our ancestors wanted to and couldn't, how dare you," asked Akbar.

He thinks that today's African Americans play into the scheme to hold blacks down.

"We are the strongest, brightest, and most creative. We have incredible power; the world is influenced by African Americans, yet we laugh at it," said Akbar.

He says that today's generation is all about trying to fit in and being cool.

"Hip-hop is a revolution, not a way to be cute. Do you think wearing clothing labels makes you a man or wearing gold makes you a man?" asked Akbar.

African Americans must keep the doors open, he reminded. They cannot afford to waste resources.

"We must continue to build and construct institutions so that our children can have power," he said. "We must tell our story; how we were able to survive lynching and our women being raped by white men."

African Americans should serve as a model for the world.

"Our spirit transforms people. Spirit is our greatest power. We have a testimony that we need to tell the rest of the world," he said.

Students, who nearly filled Harrison Auditorium to hear the renowned speaker, felt the effects of the message.

"I thought Dr. Akbar was a powerful speaker. He speaks the truth about African Americans. We need to work together to keep our great name alive," said Tony Fields, a junior majoring in chemistry.

DMV has online site

By Steve Shepp Sr.

Have you ever lost your driver's license or moved and had to change your address on your license? You have to clear out part of your day and head down to the Division of Motor Vehicles. After you wait in line forever, or so it seems, the actual procedure you went in for takes no time at all.

If only they had a way to avoid the long lines and the wait.

Well, now they do. N.C. Transportation Secretary Lynda Tippett said that citizens changing their address or requesting a replacement license may now do so over the Internet. This new service does not apply for applications for original drivers licenses, renewals or learner's permits.

The department website is at www.dot.state.nc.us. Click on "Motor Vehicles" and then "Drivers License." After the process is complete, customers should expect to receive their updated license in the mail within two to three weeks.

"More than 300,000 citizens visit NCDMV offices annually across the state to change their addresses or to request replacement licenses. From now on, citizens with Internet access will be able to request these routine services from the convenience of their homes," said Tippett.

The prices are the same for this new service; duplicates or replacement licenses are $10.
Christmas events are filling the calendar, including the Greensboro Jaycees Christmas Parade, noon-2 p.m. Dec. 8, a Christmas open house at the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Historic Site in Sedalia, 1-5 p.m. Dec. 9, and the Greensboro Symphony’s Holiday Concert, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 14 at the Coliseum. Admission to the latter event is free with canned food donation to the Salvation Army.

Calling all ladies! Maxwell will be in Concert at the War Memorial Auditorium on Tuesday, Dec. 11, at 8 p.m. Tickets went on sale Nov. 2 and prices are $3.50 and $10. Get jazzed up and head to the Classic R&B Tour that will arrive Dec. 21 at the War Memorial Auditorium. The show will begin at 8 p.m., and will star Tyrone Davis, Shelley Brown and The Love Doctor. Tickets are $25.50 in advance and $28.50 the day of the show.

Disney’s enchanting story of Beauty and the Beast will debut next spring at the War Memorial Auditorium, March 26-31. Most shows will be at 8 p.m.

John Forte leaves trial to find success in the ‘Big Apple’

By TRINA LOGAN

When you’re sitting in the audience at a Venge fashion show, you’ll want to scream “DANGERS!” when he steps on stage. Tall, nice complexion, flaming red hair, truly defined abs and ladies imagine the “unmentionables.” He can be described as caramel, 6’5 with brown eyes, smile like, well you know the rest. The fella yell “John” or “that’s my dog.” The ladies make noises, scream compliments and yell various vulgarians. But there is more to him than just what you see.

That 2-year-old Winston-Salem native is a current member of Venge modeling troupe and a manufacturing systems major. He has two brothers and two sisters. You might have had the chance to sneak a peak into one of his brothers in this fine piece of the recent Venge show. If you were in that section, you immediately knew who his brother was by the height and signature red hair.

“My big, little brother is my best friend. We bonded the two become a lot closer this summer. I learned a lot from him,” said Forte.

Forte has not always received love from his peers.

“Whenever I was younger, I didn’t want them. I got teased everyday. I used to cry to my mother and ask her to dye my hair black. After a couple of years in high school, I started playing football, running track and playing basketball. I started getting accepted by my peers then,” he recalled. “The girls did not pay attention to me until the 10th grade in JohnL.”

Forte got his start with Couture modeling troupe before moving on to Venge. “I really thought I was modeling until my sophomore year at A&T,” he said.

Since working with Venge, Forte has a lot to put in his portfolio. He did a commercial last year for Zanam’s, located here in Greensboro. He also performed in shows at other colleges such as Livingston and St. Augustine, as well as Durham’s hot spot, “The Power Company.”

In 1999 Forte was a first-place winner at a state competition in Raleigh, not to mention, Forte traveling to Atlanta with Mercer Modeling Management.

“I’ve done a lot of things, it’s always good to New York with Venge that gave him the most inspiration.

“The Venge trip to New York was enough to let me know that I wanted to go back there (to New York) and model part time. I liked going into the city,” he said. “That trip also gave me a chance to get to know the new ‘Verge.”

John Forte is the female model from Venge to actually go to New York and obtain a professional contract. He will soon venture out and take the spring semester off to try his luck at modeling in New York. Forte is considering several modeling agencies such as the one Forte will travel to New York to pursue his modeling career.

Gray and Request, but is currently with Thompson Modeling Agency.

“I was a walk-in for Thompson, but my manager can now book me to different agencies,” said Forte.

With his successes in modeling, Forte has never forgotten his priorities in life.

“My friends and parents are proud of me. They parents support me in anything that I do. I made a promise to myself that I would put God first and ask him to guide me. Regardless of the outcome, I will still complete school,” said Forte.

Photo courtesy of John Forte

John Forte

John Forte leaves trial to find success in the ‘Big Apple’

Greensboro, take heed to the Queens

By STEVE SHIPP SR.

Many students that stay on the yard feel like they have nothing to do during the week.

As in most college cities, Thursday night is considered “College Night” for the local clubs, but many A&T students are too young to go as they please or do not have transportation.

However, Thursday nights can be special here on campus, when poetry and song join together for Soul on Ice.

Soul on Ice was described by Annette Plummer, a freshmen business manage-
ment major and a performer at the Oct. 4 show, as “a talent show where you can perform without permission, or auditions.”

Plummer lives in Charlotte but is from New Jersey, and on Sept. 11 she lost five people in the tragedy. She sang “I Know Who Holds Tomorrow,” her favorite song, in tribute to the loved ones she lost.

The MC, who prefers to be called Hannahil, is a junior from Kansas City. He did a wonderful job keeping the crowd in the program, even pulling out one of his own rhymes to keep the crowd going as the next performer was getting ready.

Three years ago, it started out a part of the History Club, then eventually broke off into Soul on Ice,” said Hannahil. “There is more to A&T students than what meets the eye and Soul on Ice shows it.”

Phil Mihoue, a senior from Chicago, recited two of his poems: “My Black Woman” and “Word to the Wise.” He says he has performed at Soul on Ice since the beginning.

“It’s cool that A&T has something that is not mainstream, leaving a comfortable feeling, plus it gives students something to do and to look forward to,” he said.

Members of the audience performed the praises.

“This is my first time out and I love the crowd,” said Uolong Effings, a freshmen industrial engineering major.

Hannahil, who has been the MC of Soul on Ice for the three years, says he was trying to get UNC-G’s student body involved.

“We want it big enough that we have to hold Soul on Ice in the auditorium,” he said. “It’s a beautiful thing.”

Performances are held downstairs in Memorial Student Union. Dates and times for the spring have not been set.

Aggies express themselves in poetry, song through Soul on Ice

Top albums of the week

Invincible-M. Jackson, Bulletproof Wallets-Ghostface Killah, Indecent Proposal-Timbaland & Magoo

December 3, 2001
A season that could have been

By Chris Wallace
Register Sports Editor

After recording 11 of its first place votes in the preseason to win the MEAC, the Aggies took on that responsibility with passion and did not disappoint...until the injury bug bit. The Aggies, who virtually coasted through the first eight games, which included whoopings of Florida A&M 55-23, Howard 76-30, and Norfolk State 43-0, looked invincible at times, but in the third quarter of the Aggies 42-35 victory over Jackson State, all momentum balled due to a fallen star.

Tailback Maurice Hicks, clearly the better back in the MEAC and arguably the best player in Division I-AA, went down with a torn ACL, ending his season and the Aggies hopes of the national title. The injury devastated the Aggies’ program and sent a wave of vulnerability amongst the Aggies throughout the MEAC.

After the Jackson State game, the Aggies stood tall at 7-3 overall, first place in the MEAC, rated number 12 in the Division I-AA poll, and ranked number 1 in the Sheridan Poll.

However, in the weeks following the loss of their star, the Aggies were dominated on both sides of the ball for the most part in a rare 23-7 home loss to Hampton. A week later, South Carolina State shocked the MEAC by upsetting the Aggies 15-14, subsequently ending Hampton’s run at a title. The Aggies did win the season finale over Delaware State by a score of 36-30, ending their two-game losing streak.

Of course the Aggies had more firepower than any other team in the MEAC and the offense still had a lot of weapons, but they were forced to

B-Ball team starting off slow, faces Delaware State Dec. 3

By Chris Wallace
Register Sports Editor

The Aggie men’s basketball team has gotten off on the wrong foot this season as they’ve dropped their first three games.

In the season opener against Elon, the Aggies squandered a seven-point lead with three minutes remaining and lost in overtime by a score of 92-91.

Bruce Jenkins scored 17 points for the Aggies while Marque Carrington added 16. Branden Bowell paced Elon with 23 points.

In the second game against Creighton, the Aggies fell 72-61 after committing 20 first-half turnovers and shooting poorly from the field.

Jenkins, again, led the Aggies with 18 points and 12 boards, and Landon Beckwith added 11 points for the Aggies.

Last time out, the Aggies stayed competitive but fell to Nebraska by a score of 69-57.

Anthony Deleo led the way with 16 points for the Aggies while Jenkins picked up another double-double with 15 points and 13 boards.

Tailback Maurice Hicks ran over and through defenses prior to his injury play musical chairs amongst the other tailbacks after Hicks’ loss. Take nothing away from them because this team was loaded with talent, but how do you replace 1,125 yards and 15 touchdowns in a little over seven games? Are you looking for an answer? Well, you can’t replace that type of player with those types of numbers, and it seemed as if the Aggies could not recover from that.

Even after missing the final three and a half games of the season, Hicks still led the MEAC in rushing, scoring, and ranked 11th in the nation in rushing. Leading the MEAC in scoring (36 PPG) and rushing (228 yards per game), the Aggies were only able to muster 22 points and did not produce a 100-yard rusher in the two consecutive losses before putting up 36 points and 17 rushing yards on Delaware State.

The Aggie defense stayed consistent, but many times, they had to stay on the field too long due to the inconsistency of the offense.

Quarterback Damien Phillips did a marvelous job stepping in as a starter and leading the team this season, but a late-season injury caused him to be sidelined, handing the quarterback duties to

Senior forward Bruce Jenkins rises for a shot in recent action.

By Lakesia Benum
Register Contributor

Brad Holmes! At 6’3” and 275 pounds, he has been a key contributor for the Aggies’ defense and leaves a big space to fill with his graduation.

Born on July 29, 1979, Brad’s childhood was spent with parents Melvin and Joan Holmes and his sister Tara Holmes in Tampa, Fla. As the son of a former Pittsburgh Steelers defensive guard, Holmes says his father’s career was the biggest inspiration for him to play football.

Brad Holmes began playing baseball and took an interest in football when he went to visit his grandparents in South Carolina. “Eating Grandma’s cooking put a little weight on me, so I decided to go for football in my,” said Holmes. Although a native Floridian, he turned down scholarship offers from Florida A&M and Bethune-Cookman to attend A&T.

Commonly known as B-Holmes by his teammates, Holmes maintains a good reputation on and off the field. “Brad is a real down-to-earth guy,” says wide receiver Steve Stipp. “I first met Brad in 1999 and we’ve been pretty good friends ever since.” But his career hasn’t been trouble-free. While home in Tampa for Christmas break of 1999, Holmes was involved in a car wreck. He suffered a ruptured diaphragm when a Lexus sport utility vehicle hit the Honda Accord he was driving on the driver’s sidehead-on.

After his arrival at the hospital, Holmes went into a coma and suffered a stroke prior to having emergency surgery. Three days after the accident, Holmes had to have a second operation because the first operation did not go well. The stroke left him partially paralyzed on his right side and his speech was garbled. During his three weeks in the hospital, Holmes had lost nearly 30 pounds.

The road to recovery was not smooth for Holmes. He had to receive speech and physical therapy. He started slowly, but eventually his garbled speech was gone, and he wasn’t able to walk longer distances.

Once Holmes recuperated, he worked at the University of South Florida’s physical education department part-time, assigning equipment and checking students in the school’s athletic facility. He was able to get back in the weight room and do more than running.

“When the doctor gave me the green light, I lost all my weight again, I did,” said Holmes.

In May 2001, Holmes’ doctor released him to play football. He began practicing with his teammates in off-season workouts. “He recovered extremely fast,” says Stipp. “He has the heart of a lion — never giving up.”

Holmes is currently a senior public relations major. He maintains a 3.6 grade point average and looks forward to graduation. “When Brad graduates I will remember the quiet reserved student who sat in the rear of my class,” said professor Jacqueline Jones. I will also remember his presentation style and oratorial ability to get his audience attention.”

“I’m not sure if I will work for a corporation, a public relations firm or a non-profit organization,” says Holmes. “Whichever I choose, I’m going to be successful.”

If there are questions or comments about the sports section, please contact Sports Editor Chris Wallace at register@ncat.edu or call (336) 334-7700. Thank You.
Hicks, Mitchell nab top MEAC honors; Five other Aggies selected to first team

By Chris Wallace

The Aggies football team finished 8-3 overall this season, good enough for third place. Despite their downward spiral toward the end of the season, the coaches and players were impressed enough to select seven Aggies to the first-team All-MEAC.

Heading the list of Aggies is senior tailback Maurice Hicks, who was named MEAC Offensive Player of the Year and made his second consecutive appearance on the first-team All-MEAC.

In the 2001 season, Hicks established himself as the greatest running back ever to wear an Aggie uniform as he posted 1,325 yards and 13 touchdowns in only seven and a half games. He season was cut short due to a torn ACL.

Hicks passed former Aggie James White (1990-1993) in career rushing yards in only two years of action. Along with his top honors, Hicks was also named MEAC Player of the Week three times, Don Hansen Player of the Week, and Sports Network I-AA Player of the week.

Aggies offensive lineman Qasim Mitchell grabbed MEAC Offensive Lineman of the Year by helping to open up holes for one of the top rushing teams in the league. Mitchell, a junior, will be returning next season.

Other Aggies joining Hicks and Mitchell on the first team were offensive lineman Dwayne Hammett and Karem Sanders, who, along with Mitchell, paved the way for Hicks as well as helping the offense lead the league in scoring. Tight end Marcus Bryson, who caught 24 passes for 471 yards, punt returner Curtis Deloatch, who set a NCAA Division I-AA record with five punt return touchdowns this season, and cornerback Montrell Pittman, who was one of the MEAC leaders with four interceptions.

Lady Aggies off to 0-4 start

The Lady Aggies have dropped four consecutive games, the most recent a 63-53 home loss to Gardner-Webb.

They opened the season with a 55-45 defeat at the hands of Savannah State. The Aggies trailed by only three at the half, but shot only 28 percent in the second half. Latoya North led the Aggies with 12 points and five rebounds. Aggie newcomer Kelly Reid added eight points and eight rebounds for the Aggies.

In the second game of the season, the Aggies fell to Morris Brown by a score of 50-42 in the second day of the Savannah State Tournament.

Against conference rival South Carolina State, the Aggies fell behind early and never recovered as they lost 76-61. The Aggies were led by North's 12 points and seven rebounds, but shot only 32 percent from the field overall and 59 percent from the foul line.

In their most recent outing, the Aggies were not able to overcome 68 percent shooting by Gardner-Webb in the second half as they dropped their fourth straight 63-53.

The Aggies trailed by only a point at the half, but Gardner-Webb put together a 26-7 run to put the game away in the second half. Kelly Reid led the Aggies with 12 points and six rebounds while Darren Brooks added 10 points and six rebounds.

The Lady Aggies basketball team has dropped four straight to open the season. In recent action at the Corbett Sports Center, they dropped one of their early-season home games.

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