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North Carolina A&T
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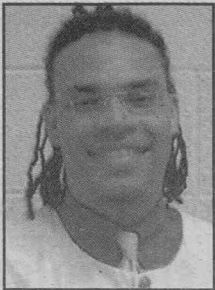
VOLUME 76, NO. 10

MONDAY, JAN. 28, 2002

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Q & A

As SGA president, Greg Drumwright has tried to give the student body of N.C. A&T what he said he would in his campaign and establish a working relationship with the students, but his administration has been hit recently with concerns about budgets and two resignations. In this question-and-answer session, the student body president addresses questions about SGA, himself and the direction he wants to take the students before he graduates.



Greg Drumwright

Q: Why are you SGA president?

A: I am SGA president because I feel that it is my reasonable service to the students of this university to fight for what they want. I wanted to be in a position to make a difference.

Q: Have you been successful in your tenure?

A: I have been extremely successful in accomplishing my campaign promises with the concerns that students have come to me about. But I don't feel like I have been as successful with uniting the student body even though I don't know if I can take all the credit for that because I believe that goes much further. Much further than my title because there are nine other officers and I might be president but we all have one vote. In working with a group of people there has to be a common goal and I don't think that this administration or any administration beyond ours is going to be successful with uniting a student body totally unless they're under one understanding.

Q: Do you feel like you have the trust of A&T students?

A: I really don't know how to answer that because every time that I feel like I don't, there are those that come forth and say, "Wait a minute, you might hear one or two rumors but people really admire what you're doing for this university." So I believe it's just a mixed opinion. I do realize that right now I am in the heat of my presidency and now those who really have it out for me, they're coming forward, but I know that the students will privy

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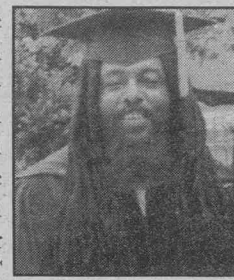
A&T Four immortalized

By RANDY ST. CLAIR
Editor-In-Chief

Forty-two years ago in Scott Hall room 2128, Franklin E. McCain, Joseph A. McNeil, Jibreel Khazan (formerly Ezell Blair) and David Richmond held nightly discussions hoping and praying that their actions would set college students across the nation on fire and move them to action.

On Monday, Feb. 1, 1960 at F.W. Woolworth's, a lunch counter located on

Elm Street, the spark was lit and spread like a wild-fire. The sit-in movement was on its way and the four freshmen would be forever known as the A&T Four, the catalyst



Jibreel Khazan

for the sit-in movement.

Over four decades later, on Feb. 1,

2002, the A&T Four are being honored with a 15-foot monument solidifying their mark in history.

At 9 a.m. in front of the Dudley Building on Dudley Street a ceremony for the unveiling of the monument will be held for the four men who changed the face of the Civil Rights Movement.

Khazan, one of the three surviving members of the quartet, said he was grateful when he first heard of the

Please see HONOR, Page 3

Construction continues



Sharonda Eggleton/Register Staff

Construction on the Merrick-Crosby complex has been rapid since the project began a little less than three months ago. The frame for the million-dollar project is up and completion is set for 2003.

The complex is an addition to the Merrick and Crosby buildings.

Some of its features include a new television studio and new radio equipment for students studying broadcast techniques.

It will also provide more classroom space to relieve some of the overcrowded classes.

The building is a part of the university's master plan that is set for completion five years from now, and a step in the right direction according to Chancellor James C. Renick.



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Writer Omar Tyree meets Aggies at the Aggie Suites. Page 7

Steve Koger tries to get Aggies back on track. Page 10



IN BRIEF

Journal seeks foreign language writing

"Cosmopolis, a Global Journal" is requesting entries for its second issue. Any A&T student, staff or faculty member may send an entry following these guidelines:

- Texts may include research work as well as creative work.
- Texts must be written in French, German or Spanish.

- An average of five pages in length.
- Send entries both in a printed version and on disc in Microsoft Word format.

- Deadline March 1.
- Texts will be published with an English translation. Include that if you can. The deadline for translations is March 20.

Entries should be sent to the Department of Foreign Languages, Room 104 Crosby Hall. For more information, contact Dr. Jose A. Bravo de Rueda at 334-7886, Fax 334-3634 or by e-mail at bravo@ncat.edu.

Winter Ball planned

The Aggie Suites Club and N.C. A&T Teaching Fellows are sponsoring a Winter Ball, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9, at the Memorial Union Exhibit Hall.

Attire is formal/semi-formal. There will be DJ, and refreshments will be served. The cost is \$10 per couple or \$7 per couple with two canned food items, \$7 for single or \$5 for a single with one canned food item. Proceeds will support the Thurgood Marshall Scholarship of the United Negro College Fund and the Greensboro Urban Ministry.

Library open 24-hrs.

The new year and new semester ushered in a significant change at F.D. Bluford Library - 24-hour service. When the library opens its doors each Sunday at 2 p.m. it will remain open until Friday night at 8.

On Saturday, the library will open at 10 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. Look for the crawling banner on Bluford Library's web page. Any variations to the schedule will be posted in the outside display case.

Top student named

Elizabeth Nance was honored during A&T's annual fall commencement on Dec. 15, 2001 as the institution's top achiever.

Nance graduated with a 4.0 GPA. The 31-year-old received her B.S. degree in family consumer science education. A native of Asheboro, Nance did her student teaching at Southwestern Randolph High School. Upon graduation she signed a contract with the Asheboro City Schools. She is married to Clinton Nance and they have two children, Magan and Jessica.

Amponsah attends

Dr. William A. Amponsah was an invited participant in the Africa Knowledge Networks Forum/African Development Forum, Oct. 16-19, 2001, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Amponsah, an associate professor in A&T's Department of Agribusiness, Applied Economics and Agriscience Education, also works with A&T's International Trade Center.

University raising fees, again

By T.J. MOORE
Register News Editor

N.C. A&T's Board of Trustees voted during a Jan. 17 teleconference to increase most of the student fees for the 2002-2003 school year.

If this package is approved, total annual fees will increase from \$1,017 to \$1,094.

A&T is certainly not the only school affected by these hikes; all 16 universities in the UNC system will feel the increase proposals.

"Pretty much all schools go through the same process," said interim budget director Akua Brown. "The Board of Trustees first approves the increase and it (finally) goes up to the board of governors of the UNC System."

The date for approval is unknown, but according to Vice Chancellor of Business and Finance Willie Ellis Jr., the decision could come as early as next month.

"The campus usually receives notification by the (UNC) board no later than

April," he said.

Under the proposal the educational and technology fees will go from \$160 to \$185. This \$25 fee increase in education and technology will be used to pay graduate assistants to staff computer labs and let the university increase wireless capabilities across campus.

Student activities will also increase by \$25. The fees will go from \$203 to \$228; of that amount, \$5 will benefit WNAA and the rest of the money will go to the university's 21 student clubs and organizations.

The board fee for students who live on campus will shoot up by \$225 to \$2,090 next year to help fund Williams Cafeteria renovations. However, there is good news for on-campus students, because the room fee will decrease by \$50 annually. The university also added a one-time-only \$150 non-refundable housing processing fee.

Athletic fees will increase from \$328 this year to \$345 next year. There have been plans to help the athletic department in ways besides the fee increase.

According to Ellis, there has been strategic planning meetings to come up with a category known as "other revenues." This will help athletes by raising game gate receipts, for instance.

"They (board) realize the emphasis is to generate revenue from other sources," said Ellis.

The only miscellaneous fee increase is the shuttle service fee. The service fee will rise from \$35 to \$45 to help pay for a new shuttle bus and build shelters.

The final increase in required fees will benefit campus health services. This \$10 jump from \$165 to \$175 will go toward a new health educator who will visit student meetings and dorms to answer questions and make presentations on preventive health.

The proposed fees were introduced to students and concerned faculty in a forum in the Memorial Union Exhibit Hall on Jan. 10.

Now it's up to the UNC System Board of Governors to make it official.

Recycling makes for a better campus

By CRYSTAL DAILY
Register Contributor

Paper, aluminum cans, glass bottles, cardboard and banana peels - they may all go into the same trash bin at N.C. A & T.

With 2,564 students living on-campus, the amount of trash at A & T is immeasurable. Recyclable and reusable products can be found among the garbage that is collected. Currently, the only type of recycling available to students are bins for aluminum cans and the occasional mixed paper recycling bins located around campus.

Major problem areas on campus that accumulate the largest amount of recyclable garbage can be found in the computer labs, the cafeteria, and students' dorm rooms.

Some of the classrooms have bins that are labeled "recycling" but the contents of these bins are not necessarily being recycled. "The trash cans and recycling bins were being emptied out into the same location," said one A&T professor.

Currently, the temporary cafeteria uses dishes made of polystyrene foam, also known as Styrofoam, to serve students at A&T.

Every day an estimated 350 students eat breakfast, 700 eat lunch, and 1,500 dine in the cafeteria for dinner, totaling approximately 2,550 per day. Each person who visits the cafeteria uses roughly three articles of disposable plastic. That translates into approximately 7,650

pieces of the non-recyclable material being used.

The new cafeteria opening in March is planning to use reusable plates, silverware and cups. While less waste should be accumulated in this area, this does not eliminate the other areas of waste at A & T.

"Students who attend A & T should have pride in their school and their campus. By recycling and disposing of our garbage properly, our campus will look nicer and the environment will not suffer," said Alcuin Sanders, a concerned senior.

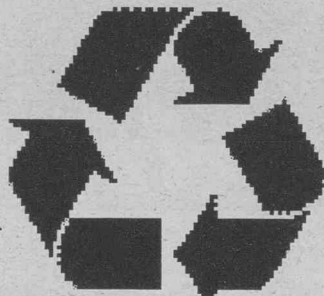
At UNC-Greensboro, a recycling program has been set up since 1995 as a result of a student movement on campus.

Keefe Harrison, a graduate of UNCG, currently works in their Office of Waste Reduction and Recycling (OWRR) as the recycling coordinator and environmental education coordinator.

Harrison has offered to assist A&T in organizing a program but cooperation and support from the student body is a must.

For information about college and university recycling programs, log on to www.earthsystems.org/curc/curc.html. For more information about what products can be recycled or reused, log on to www.uncg.edu/rcy/index.htm.

If you are interested in getting involved in a student-based recycling program, please email ncatsupleaserecycle@yahoo.com with any questions or comments.



New members added to foundation

N.C. A&T Foundation Inc., has named three new members to its board of directors: Shirley Taylor Frye, William Spencer Gwynn and Steve Papa.

"The members of the foundation board are delighted to have these new members join our board," said Obrie Smith, president of A&T's University Foundation.

Gwynn is currently serving as a spe-

cial consultant to Visiting International Faculty in Chapel Hill. In 1995, he retired from the Guilford County School System after 38 years of service.

Papa is co-founder and president of Student Suites Inc. in Blue Springs, Mo. Student Suites is a company that specializes in the development and renovation of student housing on college and university campuses.

Fraternity seeks awareness of homelessness to community

By TASHA PERKINS
Register Contributor

The Eta Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. made a difference on campus and in the community with its 13th annual "Sleep-out for the Homeless."

The 12-hour event took place Friday, Dec. 7, beginning at 10 p.m. on the Sigmas plot at N.C. A&T. Over 40 people took part, consisting of Eta chapter members, Zeta Alpha chapter members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., Alpha Mu chapter members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., A&T students as well as people in the community.

"The purpose for the sleep-out is to bring awareness to the homeless situation throughout Greensboro," stated Brian Roberson, an active Eta chapter member.

To simulate the homeless scene, many participants slept in cardboard boxes on the plot to achieve a greater impact of the issue.

"It was not that cold out there but sleeping outside made me realize how fortunate I am to have a place to call home," said participant Codie Sanders, senior public relations major.

Time and countless energies were spent behind the scenes to ensure the success of the sleep-out. Press releases were released to local newspapers, and public service announcements were drafted for radio stations WNAA 90.1 and 102.1 JAMZ.

Boxes were placed in all dorms so residents could play a part as well. Residents donated clothing items, canned goods, non-perishable items and money to help the event. The Eta Chapter solicited door-to-door through the surrounding community to secure donations. Pledge sheets were also used as a form of donation.

All donated items and proceeds, which totaled over \$1,000, were presented to the Greensboro Urban Ministry the next morning, concluding the event.

The sleep-out also gained attention through the media. WXLI Channel 12 news covered the event that night.

HONOR

Continued from page 1

building of the monument.

"When I first heard that there was a monument being built in honor of what we did I was extremely grateful and humble," said Khazan. "I am grateful to the people who remember us."

The bronze sculpture, created by James Barnhill, is described by many as being larger than life. The monument portrays the men as striding forward for the equality of mankind.

Khazan said that the "monument is emblematic of all our efforts collectively as students."

"It's a humbling experience to be recognized for simply sitting down and requesting equal service. We are truly thankful and I pray that people would forgive us for our imperfections as human beings, because that's all we are, and it's just by the grace of God that we happen to be those persons who history records as being the initiators of this movement."

But what Khazan doesn't want people to do is begin to praise them and forget what the civil rights movement was really about.

"The sit-in movement was designed to challenge racial discrimination in all places of public and private accommodations in the United States of America," he said. "Our act of sitting in improved the quality of life for all Americans. The sit-in movement was the catalyst or the spark, it was the Hail Mary pass for all civil rights and human rights action for the decade of 1960s in America and produced the leadership for the past 40 years of the 20th century."

A&T education professor presents paper

Dr. Rosemary B. Closson, an assistant professor of adult education at N.C. A&T, presented at the 2002 Conference on Interdisciplinary Qualitative Studies, which was held Jan. 3-5 at the University of Georgia.

Her session, "I'd Rather Not Be Heard in My Own Voice: Language as a Race/Class Marker," examined the problem of representation of African Americans in qualitative research studies.

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It took over a year to create the sculptures, which reveal the personalities of each of the individuals. McCain stands the tallest at 10 feet and is the most formal looking, Khazan, on the other hand is more relaxed, and Richmond and McNeil are more intense in their expressions.

The statues were modeled from 6,000 pounds of clay, to be cast in bronze, and sits on a five-foot base.

Barnhill, 41, was 4 years old when the A&T freshmen sat down at the segregated Woolworth's lunch counter to take a stand against for justice and equality. He designed the sculpture from a famous photograph taken by Jack Moebes, who was a photographer at the Greensboro News and Record when the sit-in occurred.

"I was honored to be entrusted with the execution of this piece which carries so much weight," said Barnhill. "It symbolizes the confrontation of a people against racial inequality."

Chancellor James C. Renick commissioned Barnhill to create the sculpture. Renick was looking for way to honor the four freshmen when he saw an article featuring Barnhill. He was so impressed, that he asked him to take in the task of creating the imagery.



Sharonda Eggleton/Register Staff

James Barnhill works on the clay model for a statue for the 15-foot monument of the A&T Four, to be will be unveiled on Feb. 1.

A&T holding Career Day for teachers

N.C. A&T will hold a Career Day for Teachers job fair on Thursday, Feb. 7, in the Corbett Sports Arena.

The program, jointly sponsored by the Office of Career Services and Schools of Education at both N.C. A&T and UNC-Greensboro, taking place between 1 and 4 p.m.

More than 125 schools are registered to talk with students about employment opportunities including representation from systems in Arizona, Michigan, Ohio, New York to Florida.

An entire list of participants can be viewed at www.careerserv.ncat.edu.

Students from other area colleges are invited to attend and are encouraged to bring resumes along with dressing to impress.

For additional information, contact the A&T Office of Career Services at 334-7755.

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Editorials reflect the opinions of the A&T Register but not necessarily those of the university. Views in guest commentaries and letters to the editor are those of the writer.

THE A&T REGISTER

Box E-25, 1601 E. Market St.
Greensboro, NC 27411

Unity and change mark Black History Month

It's more than just about the sit-ins, it's more than just about Martin Luther King Jr., it's even more than the prejudice African Americans have encountered over the years.

Black History Month is about never forgetting the struggle for unity and the fight for change, it's about the tears shed in slavery and the salutation of those that have passed and never got to see their dreams come true.

Their dreams to stand free, their dreams to make a choice, their dreams that the fight would never stop.

In 2002 their dreams still live on.

Yes, the boycotts have ceased, but the song still rises like a sweet smelling savor:

"Lift every voice and sing
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies,
Let it sound loud as the rolling sea."

James Weldon Johnson wrote a song that illustrated perfectly the pleas of a people who longed for freedom, but knew their faith and hope lay in the hands of God.

The sweat and blood that trickled from the backs of our ancestors, the redness of their eyes and the scars that would only disappear the day they slept peacefully will never be forgotten.

The civil rights movement was a showcase, it wasn't an attempt to go down in history, it was an opportunity to live and live freely. No chains, no bars; no restrictions at all. Fighting for women's rights wasn't a demonstration of the quote, unquote weaker sex looking to dominate the "stronger." It was a demonstration of breaking the barriers of inequality at every level.

Black History Month speaks for the torn-down communities in Greensboro like The Grove or Fairmont Homes. It speaks hope, courage and prosperity to

all those who lack it.

This Black History Month is different than all the others that have come before it. Not only because of the year that we're in, but because of the time we're living in. These are

perilous times we face today. War has hit our country, our neighbors and our own homes, jobs have been lost at a record pace and staying above water is getting harder and harder.

But what the month of February signifies is that change is coming. That's what's so great about Black History Month. It's all about change. A change in us (African Americans), a change in perception of us by other ethnicities and a change in our communities.

The marches may not be seen by the naked eye, the cries may not be heard, the boycotts may have ceased, but one thing still remains: Black History Month. And the song still rises like a sweet smelling savor:

"God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places,
Our God, where we met Thee;
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our GOD,
True to our native land."



Randy St. Clair

Would Dr. King be pleased in 2002?

I was sitting in a class the other day listening attentively as a young man asked our professor if King (and I am referring to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.) were alive, what would he say about our generation, about America, and about life in general? Like all good teachers sometimes do, the professor shifted the question to the class.

As I heard several answers ranging from impressed to disappointment, I pondered about the question myself. What would King say if he were alive? Surely, we've made advancements. I'm a 21-year-old black woman attending college, graduating no less, and am sure I could compete in today's world without

falter. My associates, friends and colleagues all speak their minds to what is allowed by law (which, of course, is measured by the individual's government). We have opportunities, technologies and discoveries. But, would that impress Dr. King?

Sadly, I don't think so. It is my opinion that too many of us are seeing the King holiday as another opportunity to lounge in the bed and do nothing. The call of unity and brotherhood seems limited to days after terrorist attacks and then, after the initial shock and a few weeks, we're once again an egotistical and condescending people.

How many of us walk down the halls

at A&T daily and stare in the face of another individual (regardless of color) and walk right by without greeting? How many of us judge a new individual's entrance with critique rather than acceptance? How many of us would rather listen to opinions spoken than search for unknown truth? A lot of us.



Shakinta Johnston

Letter to the Editor

Most college graduates join a company... I joined a movement

BY BILLY KEARNEY
CLASS OF '93

By the time they are 9 years old, children growing up in low-income communities are already three to four reading grade levels below children growing up in more affluent communities. And, children growing up in low-income communities are seven times less likely to graduate from college than their more privileged peers are.

From the fertile and tenacious soil that is our beloved A&T State University, I made a conscious choice to invest in my future...I chose to empower, to influence, demand, to inspire, change, to serve, ignite, to develop, enrage, to instill, cry, to accept some defeat and to win, to be victorious, to prosper, to free.... Yes, my Aggie Family, I CHOSE TO TEACH!

I graduated with a degree in Industrial Engineering. I was a campus leader (from president of S.U.A.B. to significant fraternity involvement to chief of staff for S.G.A.), about five job offers to decide amongst, and a belief based on societal standards that because of all this, I had arrived as an African American Man in America. What I was encouraged to believe was that I was headed onward and upward with no need to really look back. Thankfully, I've always had the spirit of discernment that fuels my intuition. I am the one to ask the follow-up questions at an attempt to get beneath the surface answers. I am the one who values history and the perspectives that go with it. And, above all that, still I am the one committed to breaking down negatively influenced stereotypes and perceptions about what can be accomplished in communities of color, especially those in low-income areas.

Too many college graduates and other "successful" people today, the idea of the living the American Dream doesn't seem as farfetched as it was some 20 years ago. We see ourselves defined "successful" just because we are getting a college education. Some of us are enjoying the kind of wealth, stature, and popularity today that has been the ultimate dream deferred for so many of the generations who have come before us in this country. We are at a point now where one could arguably defend that there is (finally) a well-oiled machine set to crank out generations upon generations of middle- to upper-class black Americans. Future generations that

would be even more connected reaching higher heights, and making even greater strides than we are right now. So, what's wrong with that you might ask? Nothing if you (we) can be so



Billy Kearney

bold as to retract the knowledge that a lower class exist. In other words, this machine is not designed to reach back and lift up!

Unfortunately, to black children (born and growing up in poverty), their ability to attain such stature or even care about attaining it, is no where close to their realms of possibility. Culturally, racially, etc... no such lifestyle exists for them. So, for them (I believe) we need to take more honest inventory about where we are and where we are not on the great American Dream continuum. The reality is that all children, regardless of race, growing up in poverty are deserted/stranded culturally, politically, etc...from the other side of the class divide in this country.

There is something inherently disconcerting about this reality that ushers a spirit like mine to want to know and do more. So, I joined a group of concerned and committed leaders who taught for at least two years in low performing schools throughout the country. I joined a community in Washington, DC, who defied society and realized their collective and individual worth. I joined 600 students (200 each year for three years) who taught me to believe in them as much as I taught them to believe in me. I joined a network of professionals compelled and determined to build the bridges that endeavor to see all children growing up in poverty realize their dreams and truest potential. I joined a mindset that will do whatever it takes to ensuring every child has the opportunity to attain an excellent education. I joined a MOVEMENT...I joined Teach For America!

Now, I am the executive director for Teach For America in Atlanta and I am hosting an Information Session/Luncheon, Feb. 5 in the Memorial Student Union Ballroom.

I welcome the opportunity (from one leader to another) to share with you more about the powerful work we do.

It's not to say that we intentionally degrade ourselves when we appear on television shows cursing over mismanaged relationships. It's not to say that we mean to show racism to our own race when we label ourselves light-skinned and blue-black, or assume that those lighter than ourselves have bourgeois tendencies while those of the darker complexion seem to drift toward a blue-collared lifestyle.

What would Dr. King say indeed? Dr. King was a man who stood for integrity. Do you possess that quality? He stood for family. Dr. King stood for peace. I know that there is a legacy, a dream and a motivation.

Program honors late astronaut Ronald McNair

N.C. A&T will sponsor its 15th commemorative program honoring the late astronaut, Dr. Ronald E. McNair, at 9 a.m. Monday, Jan. 28, in McNair Auditorium.

The keynote speaker for this event will be Dr. Julius M. Earls, deputy director of the Glen Research Center in Cleveland.

Along with the memorial program, the university will sponsor several other activities honoring its alumnus.

The activities include:

11 a.m.-Noon - Faculty and student research poster presentation (Memorial Union Lobby)

11 a.m.-Until - Interactive multimedia presentation on concepts of science, mathematics and space travel for K-12 students and teachers (Marteena Hall - Physics Laboratories and Planetarium).

Noon - 1:55 p.m. - The Ronald E. McNair Memorial Luncheon. The keynote speaker is Carl McNair, brother of Ronald McNair (Stallings Ballroom - by invitation only).

2 p.m. - 2:25 p.m. - "The Ronald McNair Symposium on Science Frontiers: The Role of HBCU's in 21st Century Higher Education."

McNair, a graduate of N.C. A&T, died in the explosion of the space shuttle Challenger.

YOU WANT TO CHANGE THINGS.

INFORMATION SESSION
Tuesday, February 5, 2002 • 12 Noon-1:30pm
Student Union Ballroom (Side B)

TEACH FOR AMERICA IS THE NATIONAL CORPS THAT CALLS UPON OUTSTANDING AND DIVERSE RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATES TO COMMIT TWO YEARS TO TEACH IN URBAN AND RURAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND BECOME LIFELONG LEADERS IN ENSURING THAT ALL OF OUR NATION'S CHILDREN HAVE AN EQUAL CHANCE IN LIFE.

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'Dirty South' Hip-Hop on its way to the top

Atlantic recording artists, Nappy Roots evolve into a campus craze as they visited A&T on a tour around the country promoting their debut album

As the single goes "Aw Naw, Y'all done up and done it."

Atlantic recording artist, the Nappy Roots came to A&T for a meet and greet in Memorial Student Union on Jan. 18.

They welcomed Aggies with pictures and autographs as they travel the country promoting their debut album, "Watermelon, Chicken and Gritz" on Atlantic Records.

Trina Logan with A Look At the Stars

Gritz," you may ask?

According to the group, watermelon is a symbol for being refreshing, chicken is a symbol for being good for you and grits is a symbol for sticking to you.

The name Nappy Roots is explained by Skinny on the interview sampler off their promotional CD.

"Nappy Roots meaning the real and un-tampered with. Nappy it sticks together and roots meaning original," said Skinny, "You need strong roots in order for a tree to grow. Nappy Roots are the roots of Kentucky in regards to rap," said Skinny.

"I was cutting Deville's hair and my clippers broke. His hair was nappy and the word spread. We figured, if you gone be nappy, why not be to the roots," said Clutch.

The Nappy Roots consist of Scales a.k.a. Big Bud, Skinny Deville a.k.a. Saan, Big V (for the guys to call him

a.k.a. Valentine (for the ladies to call him), R. Prophet a.k.a. Galloping Ghost, B. Stille a.k.a. Black Stilleon and Clutch a.k.a. Ron Clutch.

"I have been with Nappy Roots from the beginning. We are mad cool. We have to be close and communicate. We just getting started and it feels good meeting and seeing people," said Skinny.

The Nappy Roots came together during the mid '90s. Most of the members met at Western Kentucky University.

"I have been with the Nappy Roots since '97. I met with Skinny while playing basketball and doing radio production," said Scales.

"I met with the Nappy Roots in '96. I didn't take rap serious until college," said R. Prophet.

"I came across Skinny at house parties and freestyle sessions. I feel like our time is due. We don't really hit a lot of clubs because we are more hands on with the people," said Big V.

The Nappy Roots used to have a music store called "Everything's Tight" and also a studio. The name was known through Kentucky by putting the name Nappy Roots in different colors on t-shirts for various Greek fraternities and sororities. Those shirts managed to spread their name before the album.

"We have had several previous albums. 'Sess' and 'No Combs, No Brush, No Fade and No Perms.' We took 'Country Fried Sess' and started selling it. Atlantic then came to us," said Clutch, "We have struggled but we have also stay prepared and stayed humble."

Feb. 26 is the date set to release their first album. They album has collaborations with artists such as Jazzy Pha from Atlanta and the Bar-Kays.

The Nappy Roots premiered on the "South Park" soundtrack, which went

gold, and also the "Osmosis" soundtrack.

All members of Nappy Roots have similar goals for the group and for themselves.

Scales would like to do a huge tour and be accepted around the world.

you flunk out come back and use your resources. Get the freshman coming in to sell your book up front whether that's the current edition for the class or not," said Skinny.

The Nappy Roots have a lot of upcoming projects, including stops at



Photo courtesy of Atlantic Records

The Nappy Roots visited A&T Jan. 18 to promote their album.

"I would like to find and complete the reason why I was put on this Earth. I would like to find the purpose and conquer it," said Scales.

The Nappy Roots left the Aggies a few words of wisdom.

"Keep persistence and apply all knowledge and wisdom," said Clutch.

"Freshmen, do as good as you can coming in," said B. Stille.

"Keep it Nappy and stay in school. If

Winston-Salem State and UNC Charlotte. They will also perform at the Superbowl Pre-Party show, not to mention working on the soundtrack for Ice Cube's upcoming movie "All about the Benjamins" and a video for a the new single "Head's Up."

In their own words, "Them country boys on the rise, with them big fat wheels on the side."

What's goin' down in the Triad

Phi Beta Sigma will be sponsoring their third annual step show, Saturday, Feb. 2, at 7 p.m. in the Aycock Auditorium on the campus of UNCG. The costs will be \$10 general admission and \$7 for UNCG students.

The foreign language department of A&T will be hosting three movies for Black History Month. "Black Excellence: The Entrepreneurs" on Feb. 7, "The Ivory Coast: Country of Hospitality" Feb. 14 and "African American Leaders of the 20th Century," Feb. 21. All movies will begin at 1 p.m. in Crosby Hall, room 319. For more info contact the foreign language department at (336) 334-7886.

If you missed it at A&T, you can see the famed play "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf," presented by the Inner Village Arts-South at the Broach Theater in Greensboro. The play will be Feb. 8-9 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 10 at 3 p.m. The cost is \$20 and the subject matter is not suggested for children under 18. For more info call (336) 378-9300.

Actor/historian Barry Scott will be performing Friday, Feb. 15, at 8 p.m. at the High Point Theater. The costs will be \$12 for adults and \$6 for children. For more info call (336) 887-3001.

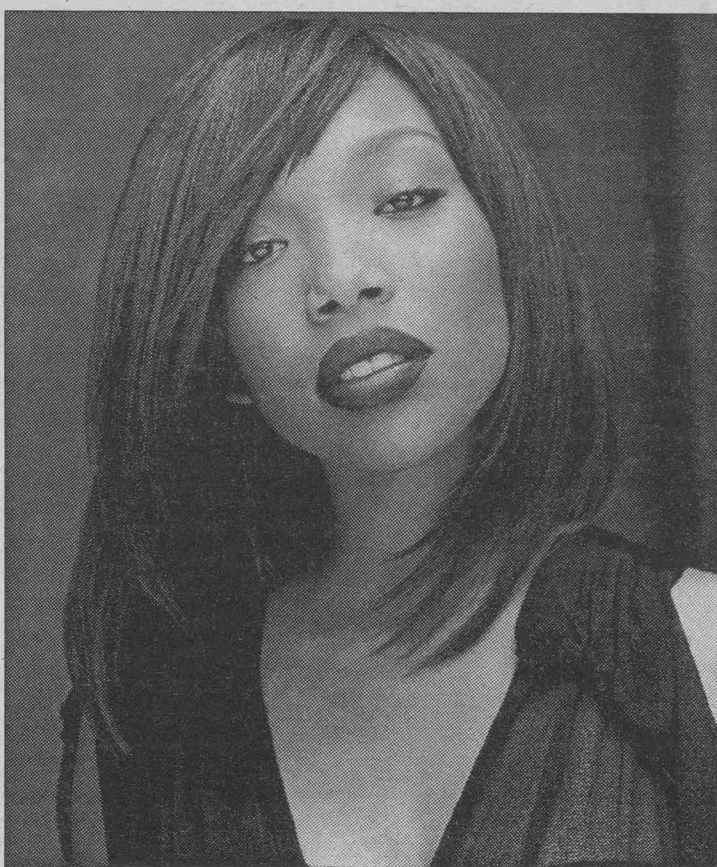


Photo courtesy of Atlantic Records

Check it out - Brandy's back!

On March 5 and coming to record stores near you is "Full Moon," the long-awaited album of R&B star Brandy.

Brandy kicked off her acting career starring on "Thea" and UPN's "Moesha."

As a multi-talented performer, Brandy also starred in the Disney production of "Cinderella," alongside legendary singer, Whitney Houston.

The Grammy Award-winning singer found herself acting in her debut film, "I Still Know What You Did Last Summer."

The soon to be 23-year-old star has now released her third album entitled "Full Moon," which comes after a three-year drought. The album focus mainly on relationships and includes a duet with her brother Ray J., and the vocals of pop star Michael Jackson on the track "I'd Die Without You."

This album follows two successful albums. Her first was self-titled, "Brandy" and her second, "Never S-A-Y Never."

Brandy has numerous hit singles including, "I Wanna Be Down," "The Boy Is Mine," "Have You Ever?" "Top of the World" and "Almost Doesn't Count."

Brandy is also featured in the latest edition of Sister 2 Sister and In Style Magazine.

Omar Tyree is guest at first Aggie Suites book club meeting

By TRINA LOGAN
Register Contributor

The Aggie Suites started the new year with a bang by sponsoring a new literary experience, a book club.

At "An Evening with Omar Tyree" on Jan. 23, students had a chance to listen and speak with the author "up close and personal."

This Philadelphia native has published 12 books and is a recipient of the 2001 NAACP Image Award. He came to A&T promoting his latest novel, "Just Say No," which is about the music industry.

Nataki Smith, a psychology major and resident assistant at the Aggie Suites, said "Just Say No" was the first book she had read by Tyree, who lives in Charlotte.

"We had to do programming at the suites, and I thought that it was something that a lot of residents would be interested in. I was surprised at Omar Tyree. I never knew that he was so passionate and real."

Tyree went to the University of Pittsburgh before attending Howard. He said he was not an avid reader nor writer — instead, he was more of a football player and boxer but he liked watching movies. He began to find his passion for writing books while attending an English class at Pittsburgh.



Tyree's latest book.

His first book, written while he was at the University of Pittsburgh, was "Battle Zone." However, he is best known for his second book, "Fly Girl."

"Fly Girl" was a blessing and a curse right now because that's all some people want to read and talk about," Tyree said during a question-and-answer session.

"I was a teenager in the '80s and we had what we called fly girls," he said.



Sharonda Eggleton/Register Staff

Tyree is honored by students Nataki Smith and Angelica Smallwood (left).

"They were the type of women that I could not afford at the time. I actually could not afford them but I didn't want to. They wanted Gucci shopping sprees and all kinds of accessories. If you didn't want to give it to them, they would call you cheap and move on to the next cat. But you wanted them fly girls because they were exotic and if you had one of them fly girls you felt like a king. So I said, well since I can't afford them why not write a book about them."

Tyree started putting his own books out for the world to read in the '90s. Publishers wanted to sign him to bigger deals after "Fly Girl" was released.

His next book didn't see the success of "Fly Girl."

"As soon as I got my contract with the big boys, I wrote a book called the "Do Right Man." It didn't get much publicity because women love the drama, people love the drama, and it didn't have any drama in it. Immediately, they labeled it as boring, the book was slow, he didn't do this, he

didn't do that. By me being the conscious writer that I am, I try to put out books that mean something in the community."

In 1997, Tyree put out "Single Mom."

"The reason why I wrote 'Single Mom' was that if you were a fly girl and you didn't have a do right man, you ended up a single mom. You wanna talk about the drama in our community but you don't want to talk about the solutions to the drama. We want drama instead of education."

Tyree's next book was "Sweet St. Louis."

"I said, since we have these fly girls, who don't want a do right man, now they are single moms," he said. "What we need to do is get some understanding on what black on black love is. So I wrote this book called "Sweet St. Louis."

The next book club meeting is planned for Feb. 8, and will feature "The Miseducation of the Negro," by Carter G. Woodson.

Attention all Aggies ... read all about it ... in 'All That Jazz'

By PHOEBE BRUCE
Register Contributor

The College of Arts and Sciences has begun accepting creative writing submissions for the sponsored annual journal, "All That Jazz."

The journal features everything from poetry, short stories, art, pen and ink pastels to position papers, experiments, and functions from students and faculty.

Bryon Turmon, professor of African American Literature, is in charge of the program and says this year's focus is to get more students to submit their work.

"All that Jazz' is an outlet for creative minds," said Turmon.

Turmon attended A&T for his undergraduate and graduate studies.

This is Turmon's first year as senior editor and is looking forward to students' writing. His personal favorites are short stories, but he said they accept anything that is not obscene.

There are blue and gold submission boxes located in Gibbs, Barnes, Hines and Crosby halls, as well as the Student Union.

Submissions must be received before or on the March 28 deadline.

For the first time since its history, the journal will be on sale at Borders and Barnes & Noble bookstores with the profits supporting A&T.

"This is an opportunity for students to express themselves through art, poetry and prose," said Turmon.

Rosheta Webster, a junior English major, is considering submitting work to the journal.

"I think that 'All that Jazz' is a good idea because it lets young writers display their work," said Webster. "It also shows that Aggies are talented in all areas not just sports and band."

There are other activities that feature poetry and creativity for students, such as College Poetry Nights.

More information about "All that Jazz" can be found online at www.alldat-jazz.com.

Allen Payne gives insite to the question and play 'Why Men Cry in the Dark'

By TRINA LOGAN
Register Contributor

Take a seat, don't bring refreshments and turn off all cell phones as you prepare for the hit play "Men Cry in the Dark."

The play, based on Michael Baisden's book, ran a preview run at the Greensboro Coliseum Jan. 19-21.

Derrick Reed, who is the publisher for "Happily Single's" magazine, was por-

A Review

trayed by Allen Payne, who has starred in movies such as "The Perfect Storm," "Jason's Lyric," "The Walking Dead" and BET's original movie "Commitments." Not forgetting his role as "G Money" in "New Jack City" and regular roles on the "The Cosby Show" and "A Different World."

The play also stars Rhona Bennett, Richard Roundtree, R&B singer Monifah and Jay Delay.

The set design featured a projection

screen to add flavor to certain scenes of the play, which was also very creative. The stage setup consisted of silver bars on the top level of Derrick's apartment.

The bars also linked to stairs that dropped down into the living room. During some scenes, a movable radio station obscured the kitchen and you immediately felt like one of the callers on a live radio talk show.

The overall setting represented Derrick's bachelor-type crib. There were leather couches, crimson silk curtains, flowers, coffee tables and also a view of the city.

The show opens with Derrick and his father discussing the reason why Derrick quit his job. Throughout the production, Derrick constantly tries to convince his father that "Happily Single" is a wonderful opportunity for him and his career. Regardless of Derrick and his father's disagreement over career goals, his father looked into his heart and comforted him when it came to women.

Derrick goes through the next struggle

on air with different women while promoting his magazine. The topic on air is "Why Do Men Cheat?"

When he starts the conversation off with "Men cheat because women allow them to," everything hits the fan. Well, that is until "Ms. Westside" turns his world upside down.

The biggest struggle, however, was not Angela, his father or his friends. "The Clean Up Woman" that portrayed to be Angela's dear friend was Derrick's weakness.

She stirs up trouble all over the place. Her character received a lot of "ooh's and ahh's" as she proved to be confident in her trap for Derrick.

The biggest scene that caught my attention was when Derrick's friend Mark came to rescue Derrick from his depression.

Mark went into his crib and treated him like a good friend should. He cleaned up his crib, helped him up and gave him a lecture. The song titled, "Go and Get Your Lady" got the crowd really into it.

He sung his heart out and picked up Derrick's things. He placed them in Derrick's hands and opened the door so that he could handle business and get his woman back a positive way.

Do men really go through emotional damage? To each his own with that question, but at least I know now that there is a possibility that some men do suffer as much as some women.

I think that the production did an outstanding job of depicting the book.

"The difference between doing shows and doing theater is...[the] medium," said Payne. "The hardest role I ever had to prepare for was "The Perfect Storm."

Payne's next project is a movie titled "Thirty Years to Life."

Delay plans to do theater for a while, and possibly film.

"It wasn't hard working on this play because I am doing what I do," said Delay.

The show hits major cities across the country. Remaining tour dates are online at www.lovelustlies.com.

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Wednesday, January 30, 2002

Memorial Student Union, Exhibit Hall

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

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Q&A

Continued from page 1

to the accomplishments of this administration. Did I have the trust of the students and administration? Yes. But I understand that it's the other things that shouldn't be a part of the equation that students have fallen into. Such as, I'm constantly hearing about me driving a Benz and that the school has bought this car for me, and then it gets to everyday type things. Like the SGA is having a financial strain because of my car or because of my clothes, none of which comes out of the SGA budget. It seems like those materialistic things that I am blessed with, which I had before I became SGA president, has factored into the students' perspective of who I am.

Q: Do you think people misunderstand you? If so, why?

A: Yes. I don't know, because I say things very directly and I'm just a straightforward personality and I'm also a businessman. I have owned my own production company for five years and I have many accolades and I have worked in business America as a young person. So I come from a different perspective when students come to me. When students come to me with their concerns I don't just jump out and say, "Whoa we're going to do something about this right now." No. I ask the question, have you done your part and if you haven't done your part then you have to go back and do your part before I can help you. Somehow it comes back to me like, "Oh, he didn't know how to talk to me and he refused to help me." Those things shock me every time I hear it because I'm a very approachable person, and I don't beat around the bush when people ask me questions. So I don't understand how they misunderstand me, but from what I've heard I would have to say that they do.

Q: What do you think your greatest attribute is?

A: My integrity. Because that forces me to always consider the people that I represent and their best interests. It forces me to always maintain the highest level of honesty and morality in a political arena. I always tell my officers, my friends and the people I minister to, that I don't see faces, I see the issues, and you can be my best friend but if you're wrong you're wrong and if there are consequences or repercussions that come from that decision that you made, you have to suffer the consequences and I think that's always a problem for people that are close to me.

Q: As a student and as the voice of the student body, what is it that you want students to remember you for?

A: Well, my integrity and honesty. Remember me for standing up for your rights and for being a very actively involved person. I receive a lot of coverage and it seems like the students are more privy to the SGA president this year as opposed to the years before me. Even though I can't do anything about what people say, I want students to remember me as the person that went to bat for them, that accomplished my campaign promises, that stood up for their rights, and because I have stood up for students' rights from day one it has made me a very unpopular person in administration, and I realize that but I'm doing what I've been charged to do by the student body.

Q: What kind of problems has SGA had to deal with this year?

A: The first problem that we had to

deal with was the vision of what was supposed to be a united board or decision-making board. That was the first thing we sat down and talked about. We addressed that during the campaign that there were things that you said about me and things that I said about you. Now that I'm president and now that you occupy the office that you occupy, where do we go from here? Are we going to work together for the common good of the students or are we going to maintain this negative relationship? Secondly, one of our major problems was that there were so many areas that the SGA lacked in and we haven't quite cleaned up and in playing catchup we had to restructure our working relationship with the administration. If you are used to working with a group of people on one level and now there are new people in office, then the dynamics are going to change, and the administration from the onset was very supportive -- since then that has changed. I stand behind what I say, and the reason why I make such a candid statement is because I receive phone calls from members of administration telling me to be careful. You know, I'm a student, a young person, I didn't come here to upset anybody or throw anyone off track. I just ran for SGA president and the students said they wanted some things and those things that are reasonable are the things that I fight for. Somewhere along the line my name has been slandered and discredited for the accomplishments of this organization.

Q: What are some of your goals outside of being SGA president?

A: Every day I wake up and I pray. I ask the Lord to bless me to be a successful and prosperous person. Whatever it is that I do for a living, as a professional, I want to be happy, mentally. I've been blessed to experience many things in my lifetime that many people twice my age have not. What I've learned from that is it's not about what you have, accolades, accomplishments or the relationships you build with people, it's just about being happy with yourself. That's my first goal. I hope that I find that happiness and that prosperity through being financially stable. I want to be a millionaire by 25. I feel like I have the potential to accomplish that goal. I thought about where I've come from and where I am and it wouldn't make any sense for me not to be. If I didn't reach that in three years from now it's probably because I wasn't focused all the way, or I let some opportunities slip through my hands. I'm not, by any means, a person that equates success and prosperity through wealth. I like to help people and in order to do that it takes finances. I spend a great deal of my resources now helping people and I love it. I feel like I've been called to help people and I want to be able to do that in a greater way.

Q: Why do you think that Chester Williams and Beverly Jones decided to leave SGA?

A: I know that for both of them it was personal reasons why they left the SGA. It had nothing to do with me as president. There were issues that they were faced with in an untimely fashion that forced them to have to step down. They both will be missed, and despite what people had to say about Chester I really liked Chester Williams. I like every last person that I work with. There are people in this office that refuse to speak to me and they don't know that I really like them. I'm a people's person so it's hard to turn my heart against someone. That's just the God in me. The thing that I'll miss most about Chester is his consistency and his dedication. When no one else was in the

office, he was. Chester handled his business. If I wasn't around I would feel comfortable giving him charge because I know he would get the job done. Chester loved his job and his departure from SGA was unexpected.

Q: How would you describe your relationship with the remainder of the SGA staff or board members?

A: Candidly, there's no trust. As much trust as I think that I've built upon there's always something that happens that negates that. It's very unfortunate that I feel that way, and that's something that I haven't yet worked through. I would be lying to you if I told you otherwise. However, from the time that we took office to now I can see how we all have grown. Knowing how to maintain a business relationship even though you may not trust me or like me but you learn how to deal with me. But some days I feel like they love me as much as I love them and then other days I feel that everything about me they dislike and the only reason why they deal with me is because they have to.

Q: Have you made any mistakes as SGA president?

A: Of course.

Q: Do you think that you were given a fair chance to succeed as SGA president?

A: No. Because the people that spoke of impeachment before I was even announced have maintained that negative regard towards me. The people that dislike me then have sought to make my way hard. Many of whom I've sat down with and said let's just throw everything aside and move on. People have to choose to be real and be objective. Of course I've made mistakes -- this is a learning process. I've been the president for many organizations but never SGA. There were bound to be mistakes and I don't think that these mistakes could have been avoided. Before making decisions I seek the Lord and I really ask the Lord to help me and direct me. The day before the elections a fear came over me. I feared that I was going to do something wrong and the Lord said to me, "But I have chosen you for this time. So whatever comes let it come." He knew the mistakes that I was going to make, but I thank God that I've learned from them.

Q: How has dealing with the issues of SGA affected your personal life?

A: It has caused me to be a less trusting person. I feel like it might have stripped me from virtues that I had before I became president. Like, being very personal with people and now I'm a very private person. I've learned you can't trust everybody. I live in a glass house -- everything I do, people see it. Everything I say, people hear it. People know every car that I drive, every garment that I wear and people are really critical about all those things and the one thing that people don't know is the me. They see it from a distance, they hear it from a distance, they form an opinion out of an ignorance. I know it sounds like I'm really bitter but these events have caused me to be on guard.

Q: What are your goals these last four months as SGA president?

A: I want students to understand their government a little better because half of these four months are going to be spent with new officers. I'm not worried about me or my administration. I want students to trust the SGA better. Has this administration lost money? Yes, we've lost money. The one before us lost money, the one before them lost money. We're not in the business of making money. We're a government.

We haven't lost money on the extreme that the student body has heard. I want to bring Aggie Fest back under that title. Despite what students think we have initiated more events than administrations in the past, which is one reason why our finances are where they are. But as much as we've done I feel like we haven't done enough. I want to do more and I want students to enjoy a wonderful spring celebration. I want students to be more involved and I want to lift their spirits. I'm praying for the Lord to bless this administration with some type of massive healing so that we can lift the spirits of the student body, because the SGA is a wonderful thing.

Q: What were the real issues surrounding the SGA budget?

A: I don't expect students to understand the inner workings of the SGA. Every single thing that we do costs. The SGA is hit with a tremendous amount of costs for providing the services that we provide for each student.

Q: Have you or anyone else on your staff taken money out of the budget for their personal use?

A: No. That's not even feasible. I think that the students think that I sit up here with a checkbook and that I just write checks out of the organization. If there's an expenditure from one dollar to a thousand dollars, that expenditure is drawn up through the treasurer of the organization, then it seeks my signature then the treasurer's signature. After a review from the executive board it then goes to our financial advisor. He has to sign off on it, then it goes over to the personnel in Dowdy and they have a long process. That's not possible because every expenditure has to be reviewed and has to be ruled necessary before it can even move forward. There's been no personal use of money.

Q: Has the relationship between you and SGA officers been severed?

A: No. That would be going too far. We work together. We have accomplished a great deal.

Q: If I talked to any of the SGA officers, what do you think they would say about you?

A: They would say that I was very aggressive, very strong-willed. Flashy. Sometimes I question what do they really think about me. Do they say nice things from the heart or are they just saying it to say it? If it were me I would tell you straight up what it was and what it wasn't. As a minister the first thing you learn is servitude. People see the glamour (for what it is) of my lifestyle. What they don't understand is I serve on a great level.

Q: What things do you like to do?

A: I love to travel, I love to shop. I like spending time with my peers, my mentorship that's the greatest thing that I like to do. Music is a big part of my lifestyle. I'm a church boy so I spend a lot of time preaching, counseling, those are the things that are very dear to me. Often times you'll find me singing any time of the day.

Q: Are you a good SGA president?

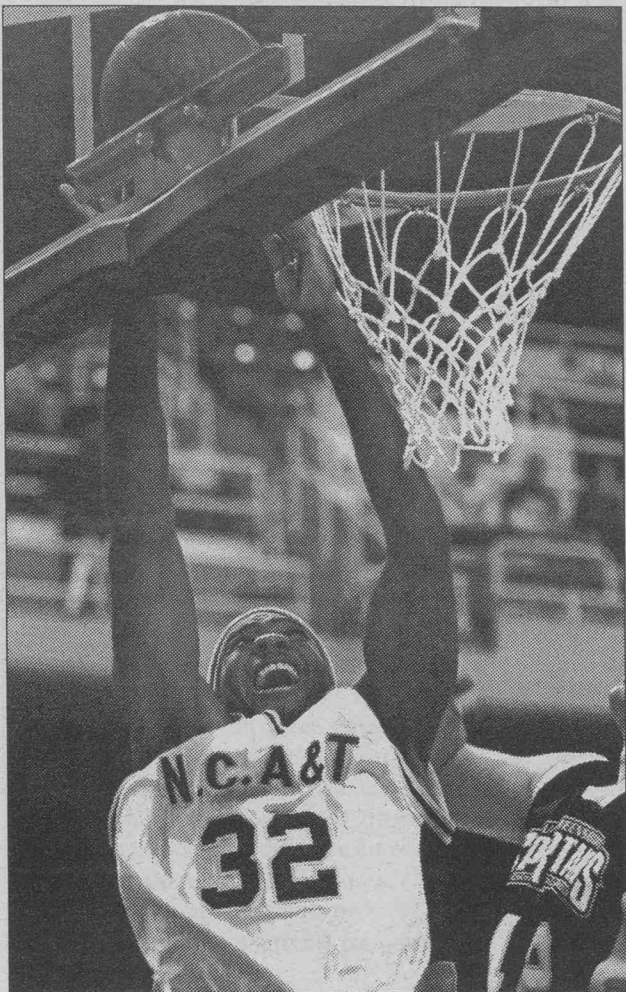
A: I believe that I am. If I wasn't I wouldn't have been able to do the things that I've done because I didn't do them to brag. I did them for the students.

Q: After this experience as SGA president do you think that you will serve in another political position again?

A: My mind would tell me not to but my heart would disagree.

Interview done by Randy St. Clair, editor-in-chief.

A&T's two-headed monster carrying load



Charles Watkins/A&T photo

Bruce Jenkins skies for one of his MEAC-leading rebounds.

BY CHRIS WALLACE
Register Sports Editor

Finishing last season on a strong note gave the Aggies high expectations for the 2001-2002 season, and having entered the season with the conference's preseason MEAC Player of the Year Bruce Jenkins, the expectations grew even greater. This season, up to this point, it may be safe to say that the Aggies are far

short of their expectations. However, there remains a ray of hope as the Aggies have won two in a row for the first time this season, and still have a dynamic duo of what many call the Aggies two-headed monster; senior forward Bruce Jenkins and freshman guard Steve Koger.

Jenkins, a 6-foot-6 forward from Silver Spring, Md., has lived up to every bit of his preseason Player of the Year selection as he's almost single-handedly kept the Aggies in many ball games this season.

"I take a lot of pride in rebounding, and I'm trying to perfect what I do as best I can," said Jenkins. "It's all a matter of staying active and beating people to the ball."

He currently heads all MEAC players and leads Division I in rebounding averaging just under 13 boards a game, and leads the Aggies in scoring, averaging just over 18 points a game.

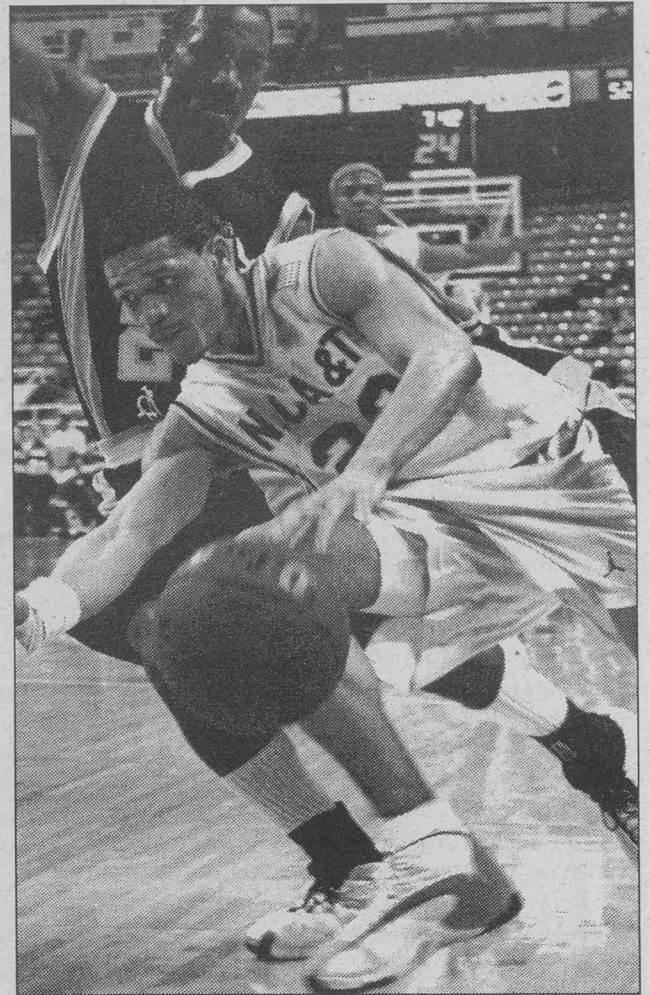
Every season since his freshman year, Jenkins has elevated his game to new heights and leaves everything on the floor. A&T head coach Curtis Hunter has come to expect that and more out of his perennial all-MEAC performer.

"Bruce is one of the best on the boards," said Hunter. "This season, he's become even more of a scorer, but he still has things to work on. Playing consistent defense and finding ways to get teammates more involved will help us become a better team," Hunter added.

There is no secret about this team's mishaps early this season as they've found themselves in an uphill climb, but again, there still remains hope.

"Turnovers and free throws are hurting us badly," said Jenkins. "We just have to keep coming with the same intensity and find ways to execute at crucial times during games."

The other part of this two-headed monster is freshman guard Steve Koger. This "diaper dandy," as the well-known Dick Vitale would say, is a star in the making. Koger is a pure shooter with great touch and superior range. However, those aren't the only facets of Koger's game. He finishes around the basket extremely well, as he showed by exploding baseline against Hampton for two thunderous dunks, and his defense isn't bad either.



Charles Watkins/A&T photo

Freshman Steve Koger has been a spark for the Aggies.

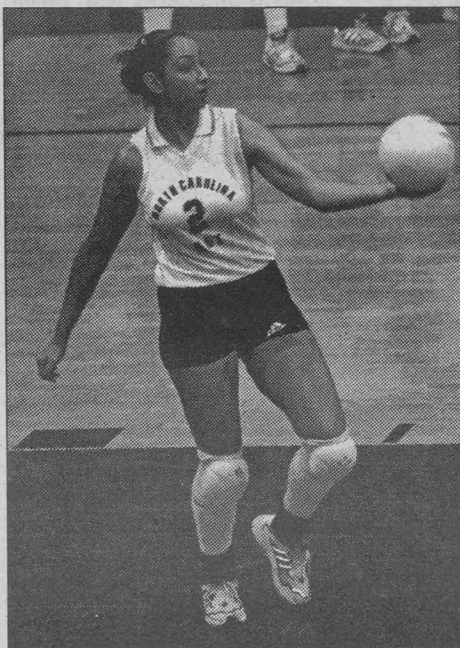
Koger is among the MEAC freshman in scoring with his biggest performance coming just a few weeks ago in a loss to Hampton. He scored a career-high 23 points in the game on 9-of-17 shooting from the field.

Koger is very optimistic about the team's immediate future and looks forward to it. "Coach is doing everything he can," said Koger. "There is still time for us to turn things around, but everyone on the team has to believe that."

Padilla honored as MEAC rookie of the year

BY DONNA COLTRANE
Register Contributor

Have you ever heard of an entire family that can sing? Maybe you've heard someone say, "It's in the blood?" Well, for freshman volleyball player, Amanda Padilla, athleticism must be in her family's blood.



Charles Watkins/A&T

Amanda Padilla gets ready for action against a MEAC

Padilla is this year's Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Rookie of the Year, as she helped lead the Lady Aggies to a third-place finish in the MEAC.

Her athletic excellence is no surprise to those who know her family, because all of them are athletes.

"My mom played basketball, and my dad ran track," says Padilla. "My younger brother plays everything." She tried her talents at other sports but found her place with volleyball. "I tried playing basketball and running track but it wasn't me," she says.

Growing up, Padilla dreamed of playing a college sport and now that dream has come true. However, living your dreams comes with challenges, and there were challenges for her to overcome.

In addition to being a freshman and dealing with freshman pressures, Padilla comes from a small town in Texas named Brownsville, where 90 percent of the population is Hispanic. "I really like A&T, but I had to get use to the weather and the way of living here. Everyone is so friendly," she says.

The most memorable experience she can recall since coming to A&T happened at the Mercer University Tournament in Atlanta last season.

"I hit a shot and someone in the audience yelled, 'Not bad for a brown girl!'" says Padilla. "Hearing that comment gave me push harder to win, and we did."

Racism is not the toughest battle Padilla has been faced with in her life. When she was 10, her 3-year-old sister, Maegan, was diagnosed with cerebral palsy, a disease that cripples the body.

"We were no longer the perfect American family. My brother Tiger and I had to make sacrifices," she reflects. They could no longer play summer sports and didn't receive as much attention from their parents because of visits to the doctor.

Through it all Padilla says her sister, who is now 9, has been an inspiration to her. She is close to her sister, and even wants to change her major at A&T from marketing to fitness and wellness

because of her sister's fight against cerebral palsy.

Overall, this six-foot Texan, who enjoys shopping and spending time with her teammates, is enjoying her experience as a member of the famous "Aggie Family."

She left this message to the family, "Aggie volleyball is at a completely new level now. Next year our fellow Aggies should come out and watch."

Aggie Sport Notes

Basketball

The Aggie men and women basketball teams are a combined 3-28 this season, with the men 3-13 and the women 0-15. Lady Aggie head coach was subsequently fired following her two-plus year tenure.

Football

Maurice Hicks, Marcus Bryson and Quasim Mitchell were all named to the All-American team. Hicks also was named SBN Offensive Player of the Year.

Baseball

Baseball season began on Jan. 26 as they look to best their record-setting performance from a season ago.

Bowling

The bowling team will participate in the Brunswick Coca-Cola tournament in Las Vegas, Feb. 2-3.

Other sports featured next week.

Lady Aggies KO'd by Spartans

By T.J. MOORE
Register News Editor

When you're losing games like this year's winless Lady Aggies, there's nowhere you can go but up. Demoralizing is a word to describe the Lady Aggies' loss at the hands of UNC-Greensboro, 88-45 in the first game of the Wild Pepsi Challenge Jan. 16.

Latoya North led the way for the Lady Aggies with 11 points and 11 rebounds while Camille Akins chipped in with nine points and three steals.

Second-point opportunities and points off turnovers are two of the many factors for this loss. UNCG beat A&T in second chance opportunities 20-6 and also dominated in points off turnovers (40-15) and fast break points (18-0).

Another reason for this loss may be the fact that the Lady Aggies couldn't shoot their way out of a paper bag. In the first half, A&T shot 37 percent from the field while UNCG shot a blazing 61 percent. In the second half, the Lady Aggies hit 8-37 for a woeful 21 percent from the field. To make matters worse, UNCG robbed the Lady Aggies of the basketball 21 times and out-rebounded them considerably.

However, the Lady Aggies are preparing for a brighter future. A day after the Coliseum loss, Head Coach Karen Hall was reassigned to other duties within the athletic department.

"We wanted to give the team a chance to get flowing, but the flow never occurred. So we decided to make a change."

Dr. Alphonso Scandrett
A&T Athletic Director

"We wanted to give the team a chance to get flowing," said Scandrett. "But the flow never occurred. So we decided to make a change."

Scandrett is only the interim coach and they are now looking for a permanent coach for next season. Scandrett knows what kind of coach that can be beneficial to the program.

"We are looking for those who have a college background and we are looking for people who can recruit," Scandrett said.

As for the present, the Lady Aggies say that they will continue to play hard.

"The Ladies are playing well together and there's a lot of enthusiasm and we are looking forward to the rest of the season," added Scandrett.

Did Hall deserve the ax?

After nearly three dismal seasons as the head honcho of the Lady Aggie basketball team, coach Karen Hall was given the ax, relieving her of her head coaching duties.

Did she deserve this? In a short answer, probably so.

Hall does, however, still have a job within the athletic department, but sometimes, you do what you

have to do in a program.

Winning means the world, especially when winning is ultimately what determines whether you'll keep your job or not. Obviously, Hall's record was not a great record. It's not even a bad record. It was just horrific, at 9-63, and the Aggies felt it was time to move in a different direction.

Athletic Director Alphonso Scandrett stated in a short interview earlier this week the department's plans for their future coach.

"We are looking for those who have college background, and we are looking for people who can recruit," he said.

Maybe this move should have taken place earlier as the Aggies have been stalemating in the MEAC over the past couple of years. They had arguably the MEAC's top player, Malveata Johnson, and could not manage to scratch their way from the bottom of the pack during Hall's tenure.

This season, the Lady Aggies are a lowly 0-15, and it doesn't get much easier.

Was there ever any doubt that Hall was on the hot seat?

Also during Hall's tenure, several players allegedly took a leave from the team due to her "military-like" coaching ways. What does activity like this do for recruiting?

The Lady Aggies basketball games are drawing a few handfuls of people a game. Hey, that many people visit the café during lunch each day.

What about this? The Lady Aggies lead the MEAC in turnovers per game and have the lowest field goal percentage among all MEAC teams.

It was evident that the Aggies were going nowhere with Hall at the helm, but that's not to say that Hall isn't a good person and coach. This opportunity was just one that the Aggies had to take back for many reasons.

Most of all, the Aggies did it for the best of their program.



Karen Hall

Aggie men blasted by UNC-G; rebound for two victories

By T.J. MOORE
Register News Editor

Ugly is the only word to describe the Aggie men's basketball team's latest defeat at the hands of cross-town rival UNC-Greensboro.

On Jan. 16, the Spartans opened the game with a 15-2 run en route to an 85-67 victory at the Wild Cherry Pepsi Classic in the Greensboro Coliseum. A&T took a while to compose themselves and managed to play respectable basketball for a few minutes in the first half. The Aggies closed the Spartans' run, cutting the lead to nine points (29-20) with a bit over six minutes left in the first half, but UNC-G closed the half with another 15-point run.

After halftime, the Aggies continued to sputter while UNC-G went on another tear. This time it was a 23-9 run that lasted well over seven minutes. The root of the Aggies problems seems as if they couldn't buy a basket, shooting 24-71 (34 percent) from the field, 8-23 (34.8 percent) from three-point territory.

Despite this poor display of shooting, senior forward Bruce Jenkins scored 18 points and snagged 14 rebounds, notching his 13th straight double-double this season, while Koger added 15 points and six assists.

After the game, a frustrated Curtis Hunter summed up things. "They made plays and we didn't," said Hunter "It's about players making plays."

Hunter also mentioned the players' discipline and desire. "I should not have to make them go out and shoot free throws in practice," he said.

Despite the grim outlook, Hunter is clinging to optimism. "Hopefully, their lights will come on. I still believe that we can win a few games to build on for next year."

That glimmer of hope was realized four days later at the Legacy Classic in Charlotte. The Aggies raced past North Carolina Central 63-57 to boost their record to 2-13 for the season, and Jenkins was named the game's MVP with 21 points.

The Aggies added another impressive victory over UMES on Jan. 21, 79-67.

Hicks, Bryson, Mitchell garner All-American honors

By CHRIS WALLACE
Register Sports Editor

Despite missing the final three and a half games of the season due to a torn ACL, Aggies star running back Maurice Hicks has been selected as the 2001 Sheridan Broadcasting Network Sports Black College Offensive Player of the Year along with being chosen as a Division I-AA All-American.

The 6-foot, 205-pound senior entered the season being heralded as perhaps the top running back in all of Division I and II, and he didn't disappoint.

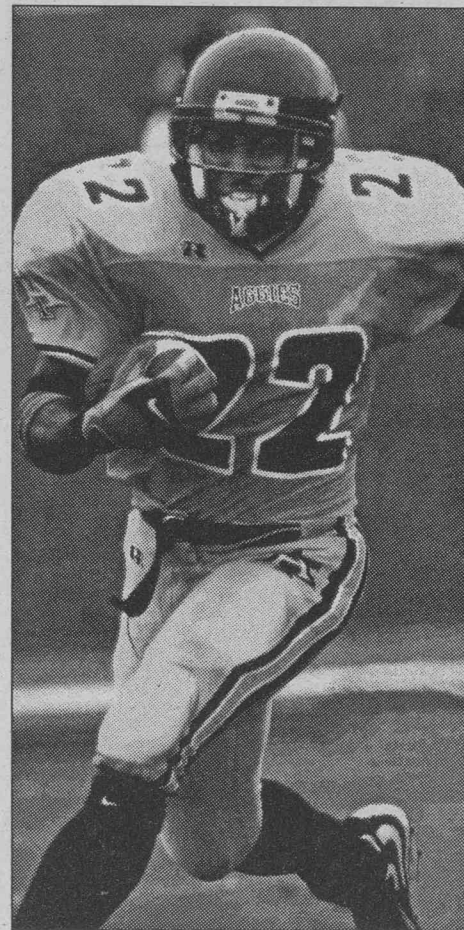
Hicks, the Aggies all-time leading rusher after only two seasons (2,812 yards), paced the MEAC rushing for 1,325 yards and 15 touchdowns in only seven and a half games while setting several Aggie records along the way.

Hicks' most special game, however, came on Oct. 6 as he rushed for an NCAA Division I and II single game record 437 yards against the Morgan State Bears, and then followed it up with three consecutive super performances against Florida A&M, Howard, and Bethune-Cookman.

Hicks' 2001 superlatives include being named MEAC Offensive Player of the Week three times, Don Hansen Player of the Week, Sports Network I-AA Player of the Week, 2001 MEAC Player of the Year, and a 2001 first-team All-MEAC selection.

Other Aggies joining Hicks on the All-American team were tight end Marcus Bryson and offensive lineman Quasim Mitchell.

Bryson, the MEAC's premiere tight end, hauled in 24 receptions during the season for 471 yards and four touch-



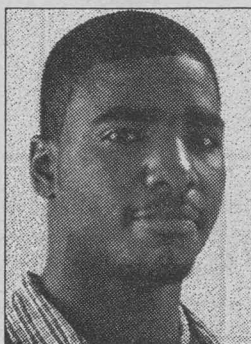
Charles Watkins/A&T

Aggie tailback Maurice Hicks added to his postseason accolades by being honored as the 2001 Sheridan Broadcasting Network Sports Black College Offensive Player of the Year.

downs. Bryson's receiving numbers have risen each season, and he was also a gifted blocker.

Mitchell, a 6-foot-6, 350-pound guard, anchored an offensive line that led the MEAC in scoring (34.0 PPG) and helped to pave the way for Hicks and other Aggie backs.

The 2001 SBN Sports All-American team will be honored Feb. 23 at the BCCA 28th anniversary banquet, in the Ritz-Carlton in downtown Atlanta.



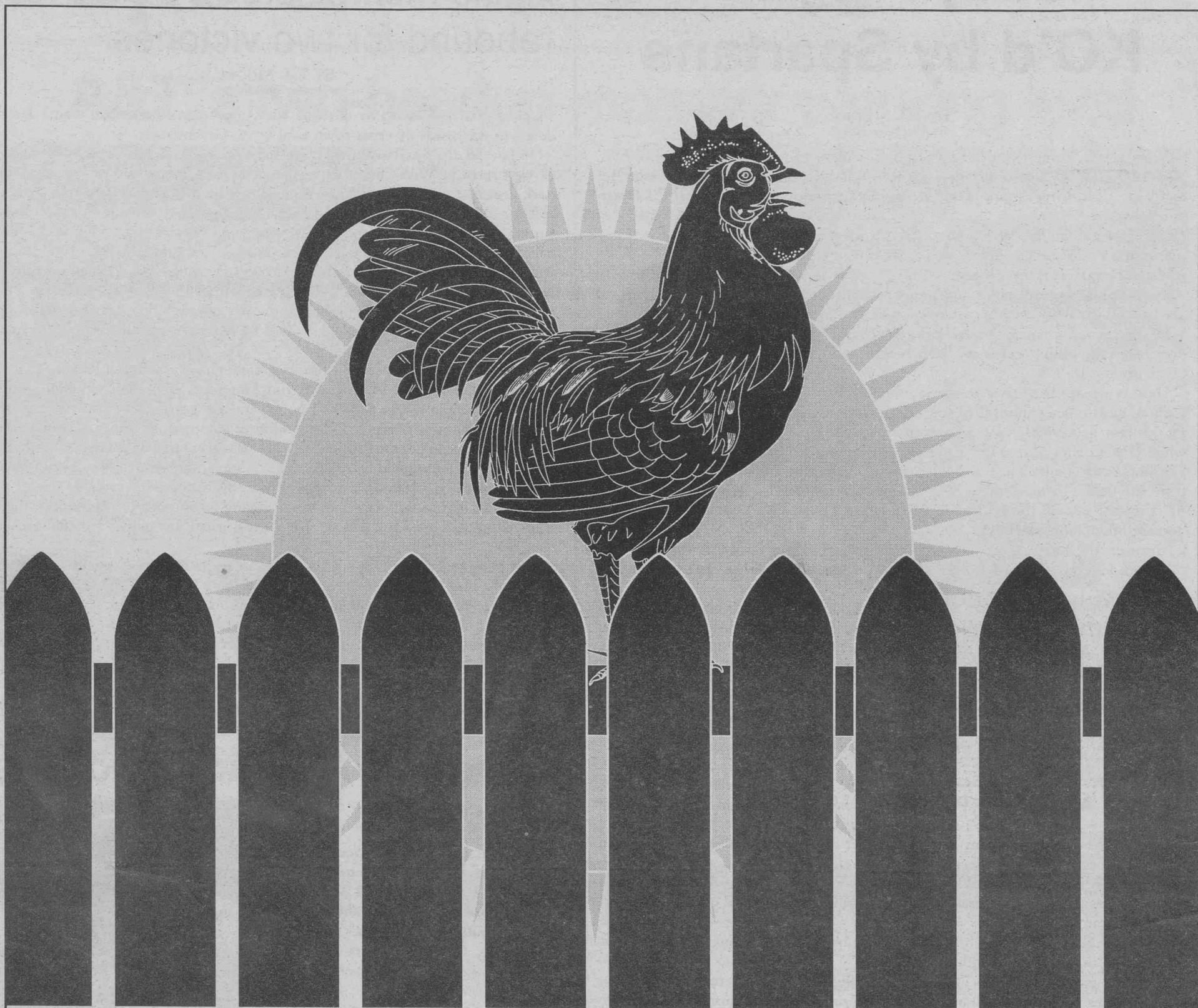
Sports View
By Chris Wallace



Mitchell



Bryson



It used to be the end of a great night.
It could soon be the start of a great day.

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