America on the rise
Life six months after the Sept. 11 attack on America

This is a memorial that will go up in the next few months, depicting the hardhat construction workers. The memorial is located near Ground Zero on Broadway and Fulton streets. The writing states, "In honor of our forgotten hardhat workers."

A different America

By Randy St. Clair
Editor-in-Chief

Almost six months ago, America was shocked as a war was started by a group of terrorists still little known today. The suspected killer and mastermind behind the Sept. 11 attacks is Osama bin Laden and his al-Qaeda terrorist group, but neither he nor all of his group has yet to be found.

Since then N.C. A&T’s history and political science departments have held weekly sessions to discuss the aftermath of the events and what the government plans to do in future months.

Along with the war, the nation has seen its economy headed in a downward spiral as America was hit with its first recession in over a decade.

But six months later Alan Greenspan reports that there are signs that point to the ending of the recession. Those signs include the increase in consumer spending Greenspan hopes that those signs will continue to prove true and eventually put a halt to the campaign of cutting short-term interest rates.

Organizations on campus made it a point for students to talk about friends or family members who may have lost their lives in the World Trade Center attack or who were strongly affected by it.

The Metro Aggie club and the NY/NJ club also have had meetings to discuss the future of their states.

Shortly after the attacks, President George W. Bush launched an all-out war on terrorism. He pointed the finger directly at Bin Laden and his terrorist group and began to bomb them after giving him and his group the opportunity to surrender.

This war on terrorism wasn’t just targeted at the terrorist bases in New York. It was a war on terrorism.

INDEX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>News</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opinion</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bruce Jenkins is named to the first team All-MEAC.

Halle Berry stars in "Monster’s Ball" showing now.

Afterthoughts of 9-11-01

For many, Sept. 11 was a day of sadness, turmoil and confusion. The disappearance of the World Trade Center towers and the damage to the U.S. Pentagon could be overcome, but the lives of over 5,000 civilians will be greatly missed.

But today, almost six months after the horrifying deaths and act of terrorism, America has confronted issues of safety, terrorism and unity.

Among the issues facing the government, security has been one that many citizens have criticized.

"I think that the security of the nation is still the same. It’s just tighter for people going overseas."

-Simone Cornigars, senior, political science

"If security was as tight before like it is now, after the Sept. 11 attacks, then maybe those events would not have happened."

-Tasha Fullwood, freshman, nursing

"The security changes depend on where you go. The airports are tighter but in other places security is not as tight."

-Courtenay Stith, junior, business management

"I feel like the state of the nation is more cautious now. Overall the nation is still headed in a positive direction. We are just more aware of what could happen."

-Dwayne Deloatch, junior, economics/transportation logistics

"Ever since 9/11 everybody has a greater sense of pride. We are taking greater precautions to make sure we are safe as we travel in and out of the country."

-Millicent Robinson, junior, biology

"The state of our nation is not as good as it needs to be. The economy is down and progress for this nation will be gradual."

-Robert McNair, internationa director
Pioneers of black history showcased in art exhibit

BY JASON BOYD
Advertising Manager

Langston Hughes, Guion Bluford and Bill Cosby are all pioneers in their field. These men also belong to the same fraternal organization. Their brothers honored these three with the exhibit, "Omegas in Black History Awareness: The Three". The exhibit was held on Feb. 26, in the first floor conference room of Murphy Hall. It was sponsored by the N.C. A&T Mu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.

The exhibit was in honor of Black History Month and it even featured the life of the man who is credited with the creation of the observance, fellow fraternity member Carter G. Woodson.

"We don’t glorify ourselves, so a lot of people don’t know about the men,” said accomplishments Omegas make,” said Quentin Brown, junior occupational health and safety major and treasurermember of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.

Allen Ingram, senior chemical engineering major and also a member of the fraternity, explained that Omegas have always played an integral role in black history.

"These men have done great things. Accomplishments of Omegas Psi Phi can be found throughout black history”, said Ingram.

Non fraternity members were displayed in the exhibit as well. One piece of artwork is an original photo acquired by Army ROTC instructor and fraternity member May McClure Fisher. The photo is from May 9, 1914, and it depicts the African-Americans who helped build the Panama Canal.

Other artwork includes a painting of the 1995 Million Man March retrieved from the National African American Leadership Summit, a picture of Duke Ellington by Girolamo Ramelli and the painting “Birth of Omega” by Sidney Carter.

In addition, the brothers of the Mu Psi chapter created photo collages of prominent Omegas in history. There is even a painting called “Captain Buffalo” by Don Stevens, which is a portrait of the 9th and 10th U.S. Calvary otherwise known as the Buffalo Soldars.

“If you want a real painting of the Buffalo Soldiers, then you need to buy one painted by Stevens. His paintings come with a certificate of authenticity and they appreciate over time,” said fraternity member and Army ROTC instructor Fisher.

Students like John Branden, senior marketing major, felt the exhibit was an educational and valuable experience. “It was an opportunity to learn a lot about our black history, if you didn’t already have that knowledge,” Branden said.

The exhibit also served as an outlet for one of A&T’s own to display his artistic talents.

On display were two original pieces, one a painting and the other a drawing of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The art was created by Charles Watkins, fraternity member and A&T’s official university photographer.

I was inspired to create the pieces about Martin Luther King Jr. because of the impact of the civil rights movement and the social impact he had on society,” Watkins said.

Bowden serves on A&T board

BY T.J. MOORE

Bold, intense and confident are a few words that describe attorney and N.C. A&T Board of Trustee member Rodney Steve Bowden. Bowden has been a member of the university’s Board of Trustees since 1979. He was appointed to the board in July, 1995. Since then, Bowden has served as chair of numerous committees within the board, such as the building and ground committee. Currently, Bowden serves as chair of the Athletics Committee. As chairman, Bowden voices concerns of the Aggie Athletic Department and keeps up with the latest developments within the program.

However, Bowden’s association with A&T started way before he was appointed to the board.

“I’ve been involved with A&T since 1979,” said Bowden, “going to athletic events, cultural activities and just watching—well, the universe grow.”

A Liberty, N.C., native, Bowden attended Wake Forest University from 1968-1971. At Wake, Bowden majored in communications and started as a reserve back for the Demon Deacons. On the field, Bowden was a member of the unlikely 1970 Atlantic Coast Conference championship team (Wake was picked to finish last during that football season), and was selected as an All-ACC selection in 1971. Bowden acknowledges the role that God and family play in his success.

"I’ve been good in everything I do, because my family would not let me settle for second best. I’ve just been blessed,” he said.

After graduating from Wake Forest with a B.A. degree, Bowden’s road to becoming an attorney took a slight detour. He taught for two years.

After teaching, Bowden attended Campbell Law School, where he received his Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree in 1979. Bowden then began his law practice in Greensboro.

“I practiced in a building on Mural Boulevard for about 10 years, and I built a building on East Market Street and stayed there for 10 years before moving to and remodeling this location,” said Bowden.

His place of work now is a spacious, meticulous office located off Summit Avenue, decorated in black and gold. His office also has a steam room with showers and a weight room, which can ease the stress of an important business deal.

SGA meeting focused on student relationship

BY RANDY STCLAIR

The Student Government Association meeting on Feb. 25 had little to do with what was going on within the organization but more to do with student involvement.

SGA President Greg Drumwright and members of the executive board addressed questions by audience members that included how he and the rest of the organization felt about its relationship with the students.

"It’s the students’ fault why there’s no communication with SGA,” said Wanda Hunter, treasurer. “Students need to wake up and stop crying about this and that.”

She referred to a comment made earlier by Rashon Robinson, a newly elected executive board member, who said that members of SGA cannot hold a gun to students’ heads and make them get involved with SGA.

Drumwright then intervened and stated that SGA could do more and will do more to better serve the students, but those in the audience still pressed the president and the e-board members about why students weren’t involved.

One student asked why there weren’t any other organizations involved with SGA.

"Other organizations would rather not be involved with SGA because of the rumors that have spread about this organization,” said Drumwright. "If I believed those rumors I wouldn’t want to be involved with SGA either.”

Among other things that were discussed in the meeting, Hunter gave a record of the total receipts, $46,616.02. Hunter also reported that SGA had spent their budget by $35,651.10.

"Budget cuts and serving more students is why we’re over our budget," said Hunter. “There were 8,300 students registered in the fall semester and in this semester 8,000 of those students returned, which is great, but our numbers never increased.”

A discussion of Aggie Fest and its production was given by the new vice president of external affairs, John Everett IV. He was also introduced to the public for the first time.

Aggie Fest will take place on April 15-21," said Everett. "There will be a number of events that students can take part in. There will be a Hip Hop Peace tour, fashion show, comedy show, Vibe Ride Tour and many other events to take part in.

Everett mentioned that there wasn’t a set budget yet for Aggie Fest and the entertainers had not yet been finalized. Black College Day will also be a part of the Aggie Fest. Thousands of high school students will visit A&T and several surrounding HBCUs and get the opportunity to see what life is like at an HBCU. This event will take place on April 21.

Jennifer Feinmeit, Miss A&T, and William Dudley, vice president of internal affairs weren’t at the meeting because they were attending an association of student government programs.
AMERICA
Continued from page 1
Afghanistan and its Taliban rulers, but may move to other foreign countries.
America made allies with France, Great Britain and other foreign countries in an effort to get Bin Laden. The United States now has troops in the
Afghanistan area to get to where Bin Laden may be hiding, and just recently government officials have sought samples of Bin Laden's DNA.
Many people are opposed to the war, saying that it made no sense, but Bush vowed never to rest until he brought to justice those who were responsible for
"these horrible acts."
Even now Bush has begun an anti-terrorist assistance campaign in the former Soviet Republic of Georgia and will soon begin training several Georgian
battalions to counter what defense officials believe is a growing terrorist threat in the country's mountainous area. It is the government's goal to see to it
that nothing like Sept. 11 happens again. The unexpected events on that day has turned government's face toward the security of our public places such as
ports, bus stations and any place that brings in a crowd of people. For example, the Super Bowl had over 40,000 troops manning the entrances and exits of the Superdome in Louisiana.
Airport security has definitely beefed up. Some airlines suggest that passengers go to airports two to three hours before their flight because of the intense security that each passenger must go through.
All this to provide the security needed and desired so that no lives will be lost at the hands of terrorists.
Governmental officials have sought diligently to see who may have been involved in the attacks. They pressured on while making sure that this nation and its
citizens knew that unity was the bond that would help them overcome the evil acts by the terrorists.
John Walker Lindh was one of the People that government officials have arrested and charged with being directly involved with the attacks. Lindh is an
American that was fighting for the Taliban. He's been indicted on 10 charges including conspiracy to murder United States nationals.
America truly is different now, fighting a totally different enemy, but resting assured that justice is done.

Noted historian speaks
at Guilford College

BY T.J. MOORE
Editor Staff Writer


During the lecture, Franklin will be discussing his upcoming autobiography entitled "Vintage Years: Pages from an Autobiography."

Franklin has authored at least 12 books over the past 50 years concerning the study, research and documentation of African-American history.

Duke University opened the John Hope Franklin Center for Interdisciplinary and International studies last year.

The center's goal is to promote trend setting approaches to research and teaching on race, equality as well as other issues of social life and tolerance.

Born in Rentinville, Okla., in 1915, Franklin has served on many commis-
sions and received many accolades.

Among his most impressive honors, however, is the 130 honorary degrees he has received from colleges and universities.

Franklin was also a history consultant for "Amistad" and a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom Award in 1999.

Franklin earned his bachelor's degree from Fisk University in 1935 and earned his master's a year later at Harvard University. Franklin earned his doctorate at Harvard as well, in 1941.

He has served on several faculties including St. Augustine's College, North Carolina Central University, Howard University, Brooklyn University and the University of Chicago.

This event is sponsored by Guilford College's history department and is free to the public.

The program begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Data Auditorium on the Guilford College campus.

EYE ON CRIME

Compiled by TAMiKA HUDSON
Sports Editor
N.C. A&T University Police reported the following incidents Feb. 19- Feb. 25.

Harassing Phone Calls
A Barbee Hall resident reported that she received a total of 12 phone calls from a female concerning a male they both know.

Larceny
Male resident of Vanstory Hall reported the theft of two textbooks from his room. His roommate had visitors during his absence. One book was recovered from a trash can in damaged condition. The second was located at an off-campus bookstore.

Motor Vehicle Accident
A vehicle operated by a male student struck a vehicle operated by another male while backing from a parking place in the Student Union lot. Total damage estimated to both vehicles was $800. There were no injuries reported.

Larceny
A male resident of Scott Hall C reported that his vehicle was entered and both his personal property and property belonging to a UNCG student were taken. He reported that damaged locks allowed entry.

Confiscated Property
A resident assistant of Cooper Hall confiscated two knives and several shotgun shells during a room inspection.

Vandalism
The custodian in Merrick Hall reported that paper towels and toilet paper had been stuffed into the commodes and spread around on the floor requiring extensive cleanup. There was no permanent damage.

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AGGIES TALK BACK!!!

Is the SGA doing a good job of meeting your needs?

Brooke Steele
By kristi lewis, a freshman, political science. “As far as I can see they are. We’ve hardly seen our senator, but I guess that is partly our fault. As long as we have been here they have been meeting our needs.”

James Fleming
By kristi lewis, a junior, broadcast production. “I feel SGA is doing a pretty good job despite circumstances. They try to keep people informed of what’s going on.”

Shana Reynolds
By kristi lewis, a senior, animal science. “I feel that the SGA is doing a very good job through the campus calendar on the Internet and the A&T Register.”

Michael Smith
By kristi lewis, a sophomore, civil engineering/construction management. “SGA is meeting my needs. Whenever we have a problem at our school they come up with a way to fix it.”

C r y s t a l Arrington
By kristi lewis, a freshman, journalism. “Personally, I see them around campus and I feel it is important for us to participate.”

Jamal Payne
By kristi lewis, a sophomore, broadcast production. “I feel SGA is doing a pretty good job despite circumstances. They try to keep people informed of what’s going on.”

Yohanze Daves
By kristi lewis, a junior, broadcast production. “I hope SpringFest will be live and come through in April, then SGA will be meeting our needs.”

Melvin Kearney
By kristi lewis, a freshman, political science. “SGA is meeting my needs. Whenever we have a problem at our school they come up with a way to fix it.”

BY JESSICA DE VAULT
magazine editor

Six months ago the public watched in horror as CNN played and replayed the attack on the World Trade Center and The Pentagon.

What was the world coming to? Planes were falling out of the sky and smashing into buildings, and the media wasn’t afraid to show innocent victims pleading from the windows trying to escape the flames and gasoline fumes.

Anyone who watched those terrible clips that day was sure to be disturbed and enraged at the same time. The American people wanted justice.

Perhaps the people even craved revenge as they applauded President Bush the day of his announcement to go into war. The media’s mission: to find Osama Bin Laden and his henchmen, better known as the terroristous al-Qaida.

Perhaps, if America took time to view the war from the military perspective, it would reconsider its desire to obliterate Bin Laden’s troops. Innocent soldiers, many of them barely in their 20s, are sent to Afghanistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan. Though the media illustrates the soldiers appearing jovial and healthy it may not be the reality, as it may seem.

Sgt. Smith (name silenced), who is stationed in Uzbekistan, said, “I work in the medical division, and we aren’t really

There’s no need to fear Muslims, Arabs or any race

As spring break approaches and we all take flights to our various destinations we should be wise in not fearing Muslims and Arabs. It seems as if more and more people fear people with people from these groups because they think all these people are suspect. Of course, it’s easy with what happened Sept. 11. But let’s ask ourselves why. Are we at the maturity level where we punish an entire group of people based on the senseless acts of a few a few.

When the Unabomber came out, when Oklahoma City was bombed, when a bomb went off at the Olympics in Atlanta, when the erratic and mental- ly disturbed serial killers Ted Bundy, Jeffrey Dahmer and Charles Manson were committing heinous crimes and when the horrible events happened at Columbine High School, did we fear white people? Many of us didn’t. I’m not saying it’s okay to fear white people and not fear Arabs and Muslims. I’m saying it makes no sense to be that judgmental.

Truth be told, many of them are afraid to be on a plane as we are because of what happened that tragic Tuesday.

One question, what did Muslims and Arabs cause such a fear in the airline industry? If there is anything to fear, fear the incompetent people that cannot get children to their correct destinations, fear the airplanes that don’t do routine security checks, therefore endangering the lives of their passengers.

Again, I don’t want to make those already fearful people any more fearful, but I do want to make a point. Let’s call it what it is - prejudice. If you are having opinions on people based on their religion, I challenge all of you closed minded people to cease your fear. Remember that fear doesn’t warm people’s hearts, love does. So put all of your energy that you are putting in fear and replace it with love and spread a little sunshine in someone’s life.
Family Health Day set March 9

BY TARAH S. BOLLAND
Associate Editor

The Alpha Mu chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. is encouraging the entire community to join them in their International Day of Service during Black Family Health Day on Saturday, March 9.

The Deltas are collaborating with the Delta Greensboro Alumnae chapter, Sickle Cell Disease Association of the Piedmont, the city of Greensboro and N.C. A&T Sebastian Health Center in sponsoring the event.

The event will feature free health screenings for diabetes, hearing loss, high cholesterol, HIV/AIDS, sickle cell disease, as well as dental and fat analysis and a variety of other health-related services.

Delta Sigma Theta has a National Service Day each year to promote awareness on A&T’s campus and within the community. This year’s focus is spreading awareness about HIV/AIDS and ways to combat the disease in African-American communities.

Also in the continent of Africa which has an overwhelming number of people plagued with HIV and AIDS.

“Raising awareness of health issues in African-American communities plays a key role in detection and early treatment of diseases,” said Linda Wilson, president of the Delta Greensboro Alumnae Chapter.

“Once a disease is diagnosed, early treatment can mean the difference between life and death. Free screenings serve as a foundation for establishing awareness and healthy lifestyles within African-American communities and families,” added Wilson.

The International Day of Service will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Windsor Community Center located at 1601 E. Lee St., at the corner of Lee Street and Benbow Road.

“HIV/AIDS affects the African-American community is such a way that could affect the fabric of the foundation of our being, and that is why education in colleges, middle and high schools is important,” said Harriet Davis, director of alumni affairs and advisor of the Alpha Mu chapter.

“Delta Sigma Theta recognizes that the increasing number of people who are HIV positive or have AIDS, threaten the stability and longevity of Africa and African-American families,” said National Delta president Gwendolyn E. Boyd.

On Tuesday, March 5, A&T’s WNAA, 1390 AM will telescast a call-in panel discussion from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. to field questions and comments about HIV/AIDS awareness and other health issues affecting African-American communities.

Dr. Bob Davis of WNAA will host the panel, accompanied by Wilson and Gladys Robinson, executive director of SCDAP.

Sigmas and Zetas give back in annual Kid’s Day

BY BRIAN BEST
Register Contributor

Music, sports, good food, rousing laughter and of course, younger folks were all at Moore Gym on Saturday, Feb. 23, at the Psi Beta Sigma’s Kid’s Day.

“Kid’s Day is a national event for the Sigmas, we do it to give back, we try to educate them (the kids) and have a little fun,” said Bryan Sutrie, senior Sigma.

“We have black history posters and before we played musical chairs.

“We don’t do this for recognition or to be in the paper, we do it because we feel obligated. I know if I didn’t have someone to help me, I wouldn’t be here.”

They definitely showed they were there for the kids, and took great pride in it. One Sigma humbly bent down on his knees to be at the level of one kid while playing basketball. Two Zetas were unfazed at how adorable the kids were and mingled with the kids.

After very tiring games of volleyball and basketball -- in which the kids insisted they were better -- the young students went on a campus tour.

Concerned for the kids, the sponsors did a head count twice and went on their way, escorting the kids like a bodyguard to a celebrity.

The kids toured the new union and were given a brief history lesson on the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. They also toured Scott Hall (from the outside of course) and were given a history lesson on the revolt that left bullet holes on the dorms, which still remain today.

The children toured different buildings from Murphy to McNair and sites such as the different fraternity and sorority plots and The A&T Four statue.

The children were taken to the Sigma-Zeta plot where they were given a history lesson on the organization.

After the tour, it was back to Moore for lunch. The spirit of the kids seemed to have rubbed off on two Zetas as they joyously played the popular kid’s handclap game, Ms. Mary Mac.

The spirit of the day also affected one of the older kids, who helped one of the younger kids get a drink from the water cooler.

The Sigmas then treated the kids to a charming step show.

Afterwards, they broke the kids into groups and taught them some basic steps. They quickly learned their steps and were ready to perform in front of an audience.

Each group performed a routine under dubbed names that range from “The Untouchable” to “The Little Blue Ones.”

The day ended with the tired Sigmas and Zetas closing the gym, while the still-energized youngsters playfully ran around.

After all the history lessons, fun and food, the Sigmas accomplished their goal of giving back to the kids.

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**Aggies reveal talents at Poetic Groove**

**By JESSICA DEVAULT**
Registered Contributor

Though a small turnout compared to past meetings, the Aggie Sistes lobby was filled with students crowded on couches and standing as they waited for the Poetic Groove meeting.

The atmosphere immediately presented a connection or bond between the students which made the event less like a showcase, and more like an evening of sharing experiences and relating to one another through rap, song and poetry. Erin "Hannah" Logan, the current director of Poetic Groove, approached the podium to read her poem.

"I rap and I do poetry also. I always open the floor with a rap or poem. I write a lot of different types of poetry from sex, to love, and to black thoughts," said Logan.

Poets, singers and rappers had the opportunity to perform their individual pieces. In each artist’s own way, raw emotion was exhibited and the students nodded their heads as if they were feeling everything each individual expressed.

There were several highlights to the event. One performer who went by the name of Jonathan, definitely caught the attention of the students with his poetic style. His poetry was deep, and melodic, yet soulful. The brother must have attacked a therapist because his new emotion was displayed eloquently through words and phrases that many people would have not been able to form or conjure up.

Another notable performer was Derrick Boyd, who rapped a song, "A House Is Not A Home" by Luther Vandross. His passionate song definitely left an indelible mark on people’s minds.

Poetic Groove has been in care for the three years. Logan was a member of the history club and it used as a way to promote and recruit new members. The original members soon graduated, leaving Logan to continue the program on his own.

When asked if he saw any potential Jagged Edges, Whitney, or Maya Angelou's, he responded enthusiastically. "Do It Yes! A&T is filled with a lot of talented people. I'd like to say that they're on their way."

**Williams adds Aggie appeal to Broadway**

**By TARAH S. HOLLAND**
Managing Editor

Talent within the theater program at NC A&T is becoming more recognized in local and national venues. Aggie alumni Natasha Williams is making a name for herself on Broadway, which landed her a performance at the Kennedy Center in New York City.

Williams has been touring with the Broadway production of "Cinderella," which garnered her the opportunity to work with a long-time actress Eartha Kitt.

"I have been involved in the up-coming Broadway production of "Cinderella" since October 2000. I started Cinderella's first after my performance of "Mabelia" at A&T. The Kennedy Center was the second stop on the tour," said Williams.

"My role in Cinderella is Grace, one of the step-sisters. Eartha Kitt plays the Fairy Godmother, and Cinderella was played by Jamie-Lynn Sigler, who also plays Monnow in the HBO series, "The Sopranos." She left the show to continue taping the series."

Williams got to know Kitt on a personal level through her experience in the play.

"I was excited to be working with Eartha Kitt because she is such a well known person. She was the first black Carowoman. I got to ask for advice about the business, and I felt honored to have the chance to work with her," said Williams.

Williams is seeing success from all angles, but has not forgotten what it was like not being sure of her future.

"There were times when I did not feel like succeeding, but not to the point of stopping," said Williams.

Williams graduated from A&T in 1992 and went on to graduate school at Michigan State. She taught at Westover High School in Fayetteville before pursuing her acting career. Through it all Williams has used lessons from A&T's theater program to help her reach her goals.

"Discipline has been the most important thing that I learned in the program at A&T. It really outlined all other things," said Williams.

Professors who remain in the theater program at A&T remember Williams for her talents and her personality.

"She is very talented and committed to her craft. She is determined to make it in this business," said Frankie Poetic Groove, coordinator of the theater department.

Williams lives in Port Chester, New York, with her husband. She hopes to continue on Broadway and also TV.

"I would love to audition for "The Lion King," a TV series or a sitcom, though most of these types of shows are in L.A. But the next thing for me is my music," said Williams.

**HIV/AIDS plague black community, youth**

Your very first time, how many of you remember your very first sexual experience? How many of you can remember you most recent sexual experience?

Many young adults are failing to take the dangers of unsafe sex seriously.

Reports of HIV/AIDS cases among African Americans are staggering.

The HIV/AIDS epidemic is having a dramatic impact on the city by African American communities.

According to www.worldaidsday.org, there are more than 600,000 reported aids cases, with more than 80,000 cases annually.

HIV/AIDS cases continue to increase disproportionately among African Americans and destroy families and communities in the process.

The Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) reports that there are an estimated 800,000 to 900,000 people currently living with HIV in the U.S., and 40,000 new HIV cases occurring every year. They also report that more than half of new HIV infections occur among African Americans, although we only represent 13 percent of the U.S. population.

These numbers are devastating, but unfortunately don’t get better when discussing youth cases. Many young people that have died from AIDS were likely infected in their teens and 20s.

HIV infection has been the leading cause of death since 1991 for African American men in this age group. In 1998, HIV infection was the third leading cause of death among black women 25-44 years old.

Of course there is no true cure or means for preventing the HIV virus or AIDS other than abstinence. And there is no rule saying that you cannot practice intercourse if you are no longer a virgin. Sex is by no means a trend that any one must follow. At this time abstinence is wise, safe and the best choice. However keep in mind that you should use precautions if you choose to have sex, especially condom usage.

According to www.thebody.com, consistency in using condoms and correctly using condoms from start to finish each and every time you have anal, oral or vaginal sex is extremely important in preventing contraction of the HIV virus.

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Henson Student Union Theatre Hall
Jenkins, Koger honored; Hampton takes top honors

**By Chris Wallace**

On Feb. 25, Aggies stars Bruce Jenkins and Steve Koger were honored by the Mid-Eastern Atlantic Conference’s coachess and sports information directors for their accomplishments during the 2001-2002 basketball season. Jenkins, a senior 6’7” forward from Silver Spring, Md., was named to the All-MEAC first-team after averaging 19.1 points per game, third in the MEAC, 11.9 rebounds per game and 22 double-doubles, both of which led the nation. Koger, a freshman guard from Louisville, Ky., was named to the MEAC’s All-Rookie team after his stellar first season. The Hampton Pirates swept all of the major awards as they virtually cruised through the MEAC this season going 16-1. The Pirates’ Tommy Adams was named MEAC Player of the Year, while head coach Steve Merfeld was named MEAC Coach of the Year. Also, the Pirates’ Trevor Green was named MEAC Rookie of the Year. Joining Jenkins and Adams on the first team were Howard’s Kyle Williams, Bethune-Cookman’s Richard Toussaint and Delaware State’s Andre Matthews. Second team All-MEAC selections were Delaware State’s Mike Davis, S.C. State’s Andre Rivers and Dexter Hall, Howard’s Ali Thomas and Hampton’s Isaac Jefferson.

Chris Wallace

Register Sports Editor

**7 Sports**

A&T tennis player Damon Martin placed first in the singles competition this past weekend.

**March 4, 2002**

**Seniors shine in home finale, 85-72**

**By Chris Wallace**

On a day when seniors were honored at halftime, four of them stepped up big, but two stepped up huge.

On Feb. 23 at the Corbett Sports Center, seniors Bruce Jenkins and Marques Carrington left memorable moments on the floor, taking over the game down the stretch en route to the 85-72 victory over the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore.

Jenkins and Carrington, both integral parts to the Aggie basketball team’s resurrection, combined to score 21 of their team’s final 24 points in the game helping to escape possible disaster in the final minutes.

“We’ve got to play smarter basketball at times,” said Aggie head coach Curtis Hunter. “We can’t afford to play like this when the conference tournament is only two weeks away.”

Hunter, who was visibly upset about his team’s second half performance, was also very happy that his team got the victory after the near meltdown.

After A&T led by as many as 15, 51-36, with just over 16 minutes remaining, UMES quickly went on a 10-1 run, cutting the deficit to six, but UMES head coach Thomas Trotter Sr. was called for a technical foul after bickering about a missed call. That seemed to inspire the Hawks, because they continued to dig into the Aggies’ lead.

With A&T holding on to a seven-point lead, the Hawks’ Newson hit a layup and Trotter Jr. followed with two free throws making the score 75-70 with 2:20 remaining. However, A&T would answer in a big way.

As the shot clock continued to run down, A&T’s Carrington drove against two defenders, hit a difficult shot and was fouled on the play. He completed the three-point play, giving A&T a 76-70 lead.

“There were only eight seconds left on the shot clock and we were already in the one-and-one situation so I had already made up my mind to drive to the basket,” said Carrington, who ended with 16 points and eight rebounds.

“Once we get the lead back to six, it was all a matter of playing solid defense and limiting our free throws.”

The Aggies did indeed nail their free throws down the stretch as they connected on 10 of 12 in the final minute. The game was still up for grabs late, but the Aggies’ Jenkins would close the lid soon after.

At the “Hawks’ Trotter Jr. drove to the basket, he flipped up a shot that seemed to be going in but Jenkins made an emphatic block sending the crowd to its feet. Shortly thereafter, the seniors left the game to a several-minute standing ovation for their performances.

Jenkins finished with his 22nd double-double of the season scoring 24 points and grabbing 10 rebounds, while Jafar Talib had 17 points and eight boards and Anthony Debro had 14 points.

A&T shot a scorching 52 percent from the field while UMES shot a dismal 32 percent, including a 7-for-27 performance by their leading scorer Thomas Trotter Jr.

The win secures at least a fifth-place seed for the Aggies (10-7 MEAC, 11-15 overall) in the MEAC Tournament and keeps them out of the play-in round. UMES falls to 7-10 in the MEAC and 11-16 overall.

North’s career shines its end as Aggies top Morris Brown, 59-54

**By Chris Wallace**

On an emotional Feb. 23 senior night, the Lady Aggies, led by motivated seniors Layota North and Camille Akios, rallied late in the second-half to defeat Morris Brown by a score of 59-54.

North, the only senior for the Aggies, was showered with going away gifts from her teammates at halftime of the men’s game and then returned the favor, posting 16 points and a game-high 15 rebounds in the victory.

The Lady Aggies (5-23) jumped to top of the Wolverines early and led by as much as 12 in the first half. However, the Wolverines fought back late in the game to take a 52-47 lead with 4:03 remaining.

The Lady Aggies would respond as they tied the game at 52 and then would take the lead for good on Tawanda Jackson’s go-ahead three-pointer with 1:10 remaining in the game.

Four Lady Aggies scored in double figures, led by Akios’ 17 points and North’s 16 points. Tawanda Jackson and DaVenna Brown added 10 points each for the Aggies.

The win gives the Lady Aggies a 3-8 record since the mid-season firing of their former head coach after an 0-15 start.

**LEADING SCORERS**

**NCAT-Camille Akios**-17 points

**Layota North**-16 points

**Morris Brown-Tawanna Thomas**-21 points

Note: Special thanks and wishes go out to Lady Aggies basketball senior Layota North for her accomplishments and off the court.

**Men’s track team places second in MEAC Indoor Championships**

**By Chris Wallace**

Recently, the North Carolina A&T State University men’s track team came within points of winning the MEAC Indoor Track Championships, which were hosted by the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore.

In a good showing, the Aggies took home a second-place finish and trailed S.C. State, who finished first, by only three points. It was the third such finish for Roy Thompson’s indoor team.

Nickie Peters of Coppin State was named most outstanding performer while Ernest Tibe of S.C. State took home the most outstanding coach honor.

Cherone Wright will continue his quest for All-American status as he’ll compete in the NCAA Championships on March 8-9 in Little Rock, Ark., on the campus of the Arkansas Razorbacks.

If there are any questions or comments, please contact Chris Wallace, Sports Editor at (336) 334-7700 or via email at register@ncat.edu.
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