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Health alliance, nursing group promote organ donation

BY KARINA HARDY
News reporter/Online editor

The Historically Black College/University Health Promotion Alliance and Telcoa (Student Nurses Association) will hold an organ donation contest Feb. 14 at 12 p.m. in the Student Union Exhibition Hall.

The project is funded by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Resources.

The HBCU Health Promotion Alliance Project is a partnership among four HBCUs and three state agencies in North Carolina. These partners include colleges N.C. A&T, St. Augustine’s College, Fayetteville State University, and North Carolina Central State University, along with the agencies North Carolina Office of Minority Health, the Division of Medical Assistance and the Office of Rural Health.

The goal of this project and partnership is to improve the health status of African-Americans by examining the use of health care services provided under the Medicaid program and to remove barriers in order to increase the use of health services.

This program has worked towards building community assessments to learn why health care services are not being used by Medicaid eligible African-Americans. “Many African-Americans cannot afford health care and they go without the treatment that many of them need,” said Rachel Jones, who attended the function.

So far the service has been working towards planning community Medicaid initiatives to increase Medicaid usage and partnering with local services providers and community centers to ensure it, and providing information to state health agencies to facilitate the enhancement of health care services.

The purpose of the organ donor awareness contest is to promote health awareness. The entries were won in a poster format that Contest centered on the theme, “Giving the Gift of Life.” The theme was to be incorporated into the design of the artwork as an original piece to illustrate what individuals should know about the importance of organ donation. The 14x17 to 22x28 designs were created in ink, pencil, colored pencils, markers and paint.

“The artist at the contest looked like they put a lot of work into their illustrations,” said Janelle Branch, who also attended the function.

“Many of the pieces of artwork had a lot of detail and connected the importance of organ donation,” she said.

All those who participated in the project received a certificate for their participation in the project and a discount at A&T’s bookstore.

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Stage opens to all poets

KARINA HARDY
News reporter/Online editor

The Paul Robeson Theatre will hold its first annual Poetry Slam March 27-29 at 10 p.m.

The poetry slam will be part soul, part hip-hop and part funky street poet in an intimate theatrical environment.

There will be a contest for the best poet in the house that night and the audience will vote on the best performer.

“This is the first time that I have heard of a poetry show where you could vote on the winner. I think that will add a twist to the shows and will give some incentive for people to come,” said Kesha Williams.

This will be no ordinary poetry show.

In this poetry contest, poets, singers, rappers and other artists, all N.C. A&T students, were screened in February to ensure top-quality performances for the show.

“If there are lyrical limitations with expression it will still have the same effect. It will be good to see the best performers at A&T rather than seeing talents, poetic hopefuls that you see at some shows, who just need to sit and be spectators,” said Tony Morris.

Organizers and staff members that helped put the program together are

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Symphony continues
search for conductor

A REVIEW BY BRANDON JOHNSON
Regular Contributor

The search for a conductor continues for the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra.

The fourth installment of the Masterworks Series took place Feb. 6 and 8 at the War Memorial Auditorium adjacent to the Greensboro Coliseum. Guest conductors are coming from all over to be rated by the audience. The goal is to find a permanent conductor who is liked by the symphony, the Board of Directors and the public.

Anticipation was building as the audience waited for the arrival of the fourth conductor candidate, Dmitry Sitkovsky. A violinist with an extensive resume with some of the best orchestras in the world, the Russian native is also well known for guest conducting. Currently he is principle conductor and artistic advisor of the Ulster Orchestra as well as founding director of the NES Chamber Orchestra.

Sitkovsky is most known for his current multi-record project with the Ulster Orchestra for BMG music and Conifer Classic FM radio station.

Sitkovsky walked on stage and was met with a resounding applause from the audience and stood tapping from the orchestra members. Immediately his fierce conducting presence was made known as Sitkovsky raised his arms and in his downward motion the orchestra began with its first piece of the evening, “The School for Scandal Overture” by Samuel Barber.

The hypnotic movements of Sitkovsky’s arms as he conducted the Greensboro Symphony added to the melodic music being played.

Two other pieces, Rachmaninoff’s “Piano Concerto No. 2” and the “Symphony No. 2 in D major” by Jean Sibelius, followed the piece by Barber. The final selection by Sibelius was a fitting way to end the concert, but another guest stole the show.

Guest pianist Jeffery Biegel played the Rachmaninoff concerto. Renowned for his presence at Carnegie Hall, his “fresh interpretation of standard repertoire” and a real audio/video cybercast piano recital, Biegel is a breath of fresh air for the classical community.

The piano concerto is a mix of solos from the pianist, principle flautist and cellists. Biegel's performance of the intricate piece was breathtaking. Graceful key strokes intertwined with powerful string accompaniment. The manipulation of the piano by Biegel, the warm sound he produced, left the audience to believe that the instrument was an extension of his hands.

A two-minute standing ovation followed the end of his performance, and the symphony staff showed its appreciation when a little girl came on stage and presented Biegel with a dozen roses. He returned to the stage to introduce the encore due to the resounding applause by the audience.

The next installment in the guest conductor series will be April 10 and 12. Students may obtain "student rush" tickets at a reduced rate immediately before the concert.

For more information about the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra or to purchase tickets call (336) 374-5423.

Apply early for financial aid

The Student Financial Aid Office (located on the first floor of the Dowdy Administration Building) reminds students to apply early to improve their chances of receiving the maximum aid to which they are entitled.

Now is the time to begin the application process for the upcoming school year. Pell Grants, loans, other grants, work study and various scholarships are not automatically renewed.

Submission of the Free Application for Aid (FAFSA) is suggested before March 15. You may also apply on-line at (www.fafsa.ed.gov). In order to complete a renewal you must make sure that you have submitted your request for a Personal Identification Number (PIN) from the U.S. Department of Education (www.pin.ed.gov)

The following is required:

1. Complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

2. Must be a degree-seeking student.

3. Qualifying males must be registered with Selective Services, (www.sss.gov).

4. Most satisfactory academic progress cannot be in default on a federal loan or receive other federal aid at any other college or university.

5. You must provide the requested documentation to the Financial Aid Office (i.e. parent and student’s 1040 tax forms, verification worksheets, etc.)

Charles Watkins/A&T photo

General Dynamics Network Systems vice president of human resources Nathan Sanders (center) signs $30,000 check to create scholarships for N.C. A&T’s Diversity in Engineering Program. Looking on (from left) are A&T Chancellor James C. Renick; Bill Reedy, national program manager for General Dynamics Network Systems and Carolyn Nangle, manager of college relations at General Dynamics Network Systems.

March 3, 2003


date
Mary’s House to hold fund-raiser through antique jewelry sale

BY DIANE AKAGHA
Register Columnist

Mary’s House, a faith-based ministry located in Greensboro, prepares for an upcoming fund-raiser event. It provides transitional housing, life skills training and a supportive community for homeless women in recovery from substance abuse.

Mary’s House is named for Mary Magdalene, a woman Jesus healed and befriended.

The program at Mary’s House is statewide and one of the few in the United States that allows women to raise their children while in treatment for addiction.

In 1996, Mary’s House was just a dream for New Creation Community Presbyterian Church. When they shared their dream with the Greensboro community, it soon became a reality. Mary’s house is a beautiful eight-bedroom, six-bath home for mothers and their children.

“Funding for this organization can be a challenge, but with the help of the community and various churches, financial needs are met,” said Craig Thomas, assistant director of Mary’s House.

A charity jewelry sale later this year will benefit Mary’s House. This fundraiser features selections of new and used pieces, fine and costume jewelry through Bubbles and Beads.

This year’s sale will be held on Friday, May 2, and Saturday May 3, at West Market Street United Methodist Church. A preview reception will be held Thursday, May 1, where special guests will enjoy food, entertainment and the opportunity to buy early.

Dozens of leaders in the women’s faith communities in Greensboro help make this event a success by publicizing the event in the community, hosting pre-events in their homes to collect jewelry donations, cleaning and pricing donations and making plans for the big sale weekend.

“We expect to attract hundreds of shoppers the weekend of the sale,” Thomas said. “And our pre-event will include more than 100 community leaders - members of the Mary’s House Board, public officials, active church leaders, volunteers, as well as financial supporters.”

Last year’s event raised over $44,000 for Mary’s House. This year’s goal is $20,000. Mary’s House is taking a new approach with the fund-raiser. This year the organization is encouraging celebrities to get involved. Mary’s House has informed celebrities from Cameron Diaz to President George W. Bush. All donations are welcome, tax-deductible and can be left in the Mary’s House basket in the West Market Street church office. Many people who attended the fundraiser last year really enjoyed themselves.

“This is a fun and family-oriented event. I purchased jewelry that I couldn’t find in antique stores,” Tiffany Jones, a Greensboro resident and volunteer, said. For additional information, please contact Craig Thomas at Mary’s House (336) 275-2260.

HEALTH
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Those who were among the top 20 entrants will be on display in the Student Union during the month of February and will later have their work shown during a traveling exhibit to other HBCUs’s beginning in March and on to May.

The top entry will have their design placed on the back of A&T’s winter 2003 schedule catalog and will be awarded an engraved plaque.

A&T, EMSDC COLLABORATE ON HOUSING PROJECT

The students in N.C. A&T’s Residential Construction Class in the department of construction management and safety are collaborating with East Market Street Development Corporation (EMSDC) to do free home inspections and rehabilitation estimates for houses in the East Market Street corridor. A&T professor Robert Pyle is teaching the class. Using the inspection data, students will complete detailed estimates to identify the cost of necessary repairs as part of this class’ laboratory assignment.

To that end, EMSDC has been awarded a $25,000 grant from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation to assist with housing rehabilitation and repair work in the East Market Street corridor.

POETRY
Continued from page 1

Did you know that you can reduce the interest rate on your student loans and thousands of dollars by consolidating your student loans after graduation?

The Higher Education Act, established by Congress, allows any graduate (or parent with PLUS loans) to consolidate their student loans by combining all eligible student loans into a single loan issued by a new lender. Graduates who do this immediately after graduation (while they are still in their non-repayment period) are able to reduce the interest rate on all their eligible loans by 0.60% potentially saving themselves thousands of dollars.

There are several other benefits associated with Student Loan Consolidation and these include:

• The ability to reduce your monthly interest repayments by up to 54% by extending your repayment period. This may help you in matching your income level to your repayment obligation.
• Fixing the interest rate on your loans to take advantage of the historically low interest rates that are currently available for the life of your loans. Your existing loans are variable and could rise over time making your interest rate rise.
• Consolidation can ensure that this doesn’t happen.
• Deal with only one monthly loan repayment from one lender can make your life easier.
• Save even more on your repayments by taking advantage of ‘borrower benefits’ that can reduce your interest rate by up to an additional 1.25% by making electronic and on-time repayments.

Does it Matter When You Choose to Consolidate?

Yes. If you are about to graduate (or have recently graduated) timing is critical to maximizing the amount that you can save with consolidation. If you wait too long to apply for consolidation, you might miss out on the opportunity to reduce the interest rate on all your loans by 0.60%.

What Does It Cost to Consolidate?

There are no fees or credit checks, nor is there any penalty for early repayment of your consolidation loan. Note however, that you can only consolidate once and consolidation can affect certain deferment and cancellation benefits associated with loans.

Are you about to Graduate?

Act now by registering with the Student Loan Consolidation Program (SLCP). It is free and involves no obligation. SLCP will simply provide you with information on what consolidation is all about and contact you after graduation to remind you of the opportunity to reduce your interest rate by consolidating early.

For more information, call a loan counselor at 1-866-311-8078 or click on our ad at www.nctaregister.com to see if you qualify for these savings.

While visiting the paper online, be sure and sign up for the email edition. It’s the best way to stay informed beyond graduation, and it’s free.

STUDENT LOAN CONSOLIDATION PROGRAM

www.console.com

Gardening Seniors save up to $750 on a new car just for making it through college.

A T Register has teamed up with CarsForGrads.com to help graduating seniors find rebates on their favorite cars. Visit www.carsfortiger.com and click on our ad for more information.

While visiting the newspaper online, be sure and sign up for the email edition. It’s the best way to stay informed beyond graduation, and it’s free.
What’s up with TV networks?

What is going on with television lately? No black people were represented at the Grammys, there are only about six black sitcoms and every time you turn on the TV you see poor Michael Jackson.

Black musicians were seen at the Grammys, but rarely heard! Outside of Nelly, Kelly Rowland, Ashanti and the occasional black presenter, you wouldn’t have known that we existed in music in the last year. I am shocked, appalled and downright upset that all we saw on the Grammys were the people we were tired of seeing.

Whatever happened to black sitcoms? Don’t black people have comedy in their everyday life situations? UPN has what is known as “Black Monday,” because that’s when they show black shows and that’s when they have black viewers tune into the network. The other day of the week is Wednesday when “My Wife and Kids” airs on ABC and “The Bernie Mac Show” and “The Cedric the Entertainer Show” airs on FOX.

Black shows have always been few in number, but among the ones that do air, I take offense to the shows that have a plus-size black woman strolling a man who runs from her, and that have black people doing sketch comedy that parodies and often belittles black people.

Last, but not by any means least, there’s Michael Jackson.

Did we not understand before all these specials that he was strange looking? Michael Jackson’s skin lightens and his nose get narrower about every five years, so what was the purpose for the NBC special, aptly titled, “The Many Faces of Michael Jackson?” Did we not know before the ABC special that he was crazy?

In 1993, he was accused of child molestation, a matter that was settled out of court for a large amount of money. Now, laterly with cases concerning artists and their sexual activity, setting the case out of court seems to be equivalent to admitting guilt. So, why were we so shocked when it was found out that he had a child sleeping in bed with him? We have all seen the movie “The Jacksons: An American Dream,” so we know that Joe Jackson did not play. We know that he used to “beat” the children as their punishment. How many of us got “beatings” from our parents or, as many people say in the country, “killings” – from not only your parents, but also teachers, grandparents and anyone else who felt like you should have been chastised?

I know I did, sometimes two or three times a day. I turned out fine, and I am sure you did too. We aren’t running around killing and beating at one with our pets, we don’t live in an amusement park and we don’t cover or hang children over hotel balconies.

I said all that to say, we knew he was crazy before these specials, he was crazy during these specials, and unless he gets some help, he will be crazy long after these specials. All we can do is pay no attention to him.

We need to boycott these networks that refuse to have blacks represented on them. CBS should be boycotted for the lack of black people on the network, not just the Grammys. The other networks should be boycotted for the poor representations of black people on the networks, and we need to stop worrying about how many surgeries Michael Jackson has had and start worrying about why our president is about to declare war for no reason.

Tiffany Jones
Think you have what it takes?

The Register is looking for a 20 Questions writer. If you think you have what it takes, show us what you’ve got. You may submit a sample to The Register via e-mail at register@ncat.edu or by mail to N.C. A&T State University, Box E-25, 1601 E. Market St., Greensboro, NC 27411. All samples must be signed and should include an e-mail address and telephone number.

Aggie candidates prepare for polls

Many Aggies who are running for positions as class officers, Student Government Association representatives and the title of Miss A&T have begun hanging signs and flyers all over campus. This array of campaign literature was spotted in Crosby Hall.
E-Vibes

“August Snow” by Reynolds Price brings a Carolina love story to the Triad Stage, through March 16. Call 272-0160 for information.

March 3, 2003

R&B artist Marques Houston goes solo

Trying their hand at a solo career seems to be the “in” thing for lead singers in boy bands. For instance, R&B male singers Sisqo and Justin Timberlake have achieved success from a solo career so far.

Interscope Records recording artist Marques Houston, a.k.a. Batman of IMX, is about to showcase his talent with his debut album “MH.” The 21-year-old soulful singer wants people to really feel his solo album.

“I’m very nervous about the album and I wanted to make a great album for my fans. IMX fans don’t break into tears just yet because there could be an album in the future,” said Houston. “It’s not a break-up thing because we’ve accomplished a lot as a successful group. Who knows what well do in the future.”

Houston has also starred in roles for the television series “Sister, Sister” and the classic “House Party 3.”

“I would like to do action or drama movies. Right now, I’m working on a movie called ‘Dance’ with B2K,” said Houston.

Houston has been extremely busy working on an album and touring with teen recording artist B2K and Bow Wow. The hardest part about being an entertainer is being in the studio. You have to stay up late hours recording and that’s when I drink green tea for my voice,” says Houston in regards to touring and recording.

The first single, “That Girl,” is already getting steady rotation on BET’s television show, “106 & Park.” The video shows a young guy in a relationship that looks at other women when he’s with his girl. But when someone else tries to hold her, he takes control and explains to her that she’s the only girl for him.

He admits that one song in particular has a special place in his heart on this album.

“The song that means the most to me on this album is ‘Alone.’ It’s about a personal break-up,” said Houston. “I just got out of a relationship, so I’m single.”

If you were able to catch BET’s “How I’m Livin’” and MTV’s “Cribz,” you can tell that the man has plenty of style and enough love to give any woman in his LA home.

“I really like to stay at home, cook, watch movies and take walks on the beach when I’m not touring or recording,” said Houston.

I don’t know about you but I will always be the biggest Immature/IMX fan at heart. I think that he will achieve much success as a solo artist. Ladies, a quick reminder, he’s single. It’s OK to have a crush on a man who sings, cooks, shrimp scampi, takes walks on LA beaches and actually stays at home for you. I’m sure that all of you fans out there will agree.

Check for Marques Houston this summer on the “Pandemonium” tour with B2K after his album release.

A&T author Jaeyel Imes has published his new book entitled “So many tears” and he hopes that his success as an author continues.

A&T author writes new book, “So many tears”

BY ALEXANDRA GRAY

Junior business management major and author Jaeyel Imes has published yet another book with his latest project, “So many tears.”

“So many tears” takes place in Denver, the author’s former hometown, and the plot is centered on a young man named Second Chance, who struggles to piece his life together after the death of his mother. In the midst of all of this, he (Second Chance), must choose which relationship in his life holds the greatest importance, the one that will ultimately change his life for the better. His options are the relationship he has with his three half-brothers or his relationship with his female companion and mother of his child.

Imes said he was motivated to write this novel due to academic frustration.

“I was upset because my grades weren’t at the point that I felt they should be,” said Imes. “Never too much had its run and the three projects that I had previously completed weren’t as ready as they could have been. I wasn’t happy with a lot of things that were going on in my life.

“But on Homecoming Day, my main character basically sat me down and said ‘Look, this is my story and this is how I want you to write it.’ That was it,” added Imes.

The young author said that the plot unveiled itself to him as if he were watching a movie. Similar to his constantly evolving characters, Imes has also evolved as a writer.

“I think I’m more aggressive in how I am pursuing my projects now than I was a few years ago,” said Imes.

Imes, born under the name James L. Imes, is not only an author but an entrepreneur. He owns his production-turning-publishing company named RBANWRTR (urban writer). During the transition from an earlier collaboration, he spoke with Brandon Massey (author of “Thunderland”), Robert L. Anderson (A&T alumni and author of “Finding Safi”) and his mentor Brian Egnor (author of “Granddad’s Diet & Whippings,” “Switches & Peach Cobblers”) who gave him advice that could make his company better while still balancing his career as a full-time student.

“In my education process, I found that in this day and age, it would be cheaper for me to operate as a publishing firm that is receiving all of the profits than to operate as a production firm getting a royalty,” said Imes.

The young author uses print-on-demand technology to publish his books. However, they are also available on Amazon.com, ordering them by title, author name and ISBN at Borders and Waldens Books, or by visiting Jaeyelimes.com.

Balancing the roles of student and entrepreneur has been a struggle for Imes. Most of the work he does for his firm is done over weekends and breaks in the semester. However, he spends two to three hours a day answering emails and checking book orders. What he found most difficult about trying to own and operate his firm was not having a “full-time” job to support it financially. However, there is positive side to his situation.

“The best part of all of this is that I OWN everything,” said Imes. “The ISBN belongs to me, then inventory belongs to me until it’s been paid for, and I have the final say on what goes into and does not go into my books.”

Currently, the student-author is in the process of completing his fourth book entitled “Great day n da morning” and “People just doesn’t understand,” a fictional hip-hop memoir. Interested readers can also log on to OrthelloStreet.com on May 12 to catch the second season of his web drama, “Orthello Street.”
Williamson, Bison light up Aggies 105-81

BY CHRIS WALLACE
Register Sports E-Venue Editor

Last time these two teams met, Howard guard Ron Williamson lit up the Aggies for a school-record 52 points and 11 three-pointers in a lopsided 107-70 victory. On Monday, Feb. 24, Williamson made sure that the result would be no different.

In front of a modest crowd at Corbett Sports Center, the Bison of Howard University cruised to a 105-81 victory over the winless Aggies, leaving them remaining as the only winless team in Division I basketball.

The Bison (9-7, 11-14) jumped all over the Aggies early, taking a 20-5 lead after scoring on eight of their first nine possessions, led by Williamson. He hit his seven of 10 from three-point land in the first half, including a buzzer-beating three-pointer to put Howard ahead 56-40 at the half. Williamson finished with 39 points, outscoring Maryland-Eastern Shore's Tess Trotter for the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference scoring lead at 22.8 points per game.

“He's quick,” said A&T freshman guard Mike Kirkpatrick of Williamson. “He can take you off the dribble and take it to the basket or get a shot off.”

Williamson began the second half just as he ended the first, scoring 10 of Howard's first 14 points, extending the Bison lead to 70-45 just minutes into the second half. Howard led by as many as 20 in the second half and cracked the 100-point barrier for the second time this season against the Aggies.

The Bison outrebounded the Aggies 46-27 as A&T played without the MEAC's leading rebounder, Chato Ferguson, who missed practice on Feb. 23 and was subsequently suspended by head coach Curtis Hunter. A&T was also without starting point guard Tyrece Green, who broke his hand just weeks ago.

The Aggies (5-15, 0-23) were led by Landon Beckworth, who broke out of a slump with 26 points, and Kirkpatrick, who surpassed his career high with 22 points.

The loss assures the Aggies of going into March winless.

Winthrop defeats A&T

BY CHAD ROBERTS
Register Contributor

The Lady Aggie softball team hosted a doubleheader against Winthrop on Feb. 24, losing by scores of 2-1 and 5-2.

In the first game, the deciding run scored on a throwing error to first base, spoiling the great pitching effort of freshman Latronda Anderson.

The temperature at game time was around 42 degrees.

"Nobody performs well in cold weather," said Aggie head coach Mammie Jones.

In the second game, pitcher Cheretta Stevenson gave up five runs and five hits in seven innings, and Sharmaine Murphy hit a two-run homer in the sixth inning, but A&T could not overcome the early deficit, losing by a score of 5-2.

"We made a few errors, and that cost us, but overall we played a respectable game," said Jones.

Shanonda Eggleton/ Register Photographer
The Lady Aggies look to rebound after a 1-5 start this season.

Lady Aggies fall short to Howard, 82-67

BY GREGORY BOND
Register Contributor

This game was definitely a game of runs, and the Lady Aggies ran exhaustion. The Howard Lady Bison were able to overcome a 10-point deficit and 24 turnovers to defeating the Northwest's N.C. A&T Lady Aggies by a score of 82-67.

Dahila Hicks and Courtney Kirk each scored 16 points for the Lady Bison (11-5, 11-14) while Laura Askew added 13 points in the victory.

"We knew that they would be tired," said Lady Bison junior forward Shauna Ruggles. "They have six players, and we have about 11 or 12 players on our team. We just kept rotating people in and out.”

A&T (6-9, 6-18) was hurt by Howard's full-court pressure during the first half, causing a lot of costly turnovers, and Howard wanted to take advantage of A&T's lack of players.

After leading 39-38 at halftime, A&T came out fighting in the second half with an 8-2 run. Tawanda Jackson led the surge and ended with a game-high 28 points, but it wasn't nearly enough. The Lady Bison went on a 19-5 run, sparked by their defensive pressure that held A&T to 35 percent shooting.

"The offensive scheme always has to do with personnel," said Howard head coach Cathy Parsons. "I think we got (Laura) Askew open a lot more. I think that (Courtney) Kirk was able to go to the hole more. When she started to go to the hole and scoring that way, then you have to play inside and out.”

Howard's full-court pressure visibly wore down the Lady Aggies as they were forced to use up most of their energy just crossing the mid-court line.

"A&T has six kids who can all contribute at any program," said Parsons. "The difference is that they are going to run out.”

Everyone on the Lady Aggie's roster played at least 28 minutes. Shareka "Miss" Glover added 13 points while LaTasha Holloway chipped in with 11 points for the Lady Aggies.
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Look beyond the numbers.