The Register, 2003-03-17

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

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Accused 9/11 planner studied jet propulsion at A&T

By Chris Wallace
Sports/E-Vibes editor

Khalid Shahid Mohammed, a graduate of N.C. A&T and suspected mastermind of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist acts, took courses here in thermodynamics, according to David Klett, a mechanical engineering professor at the university. That branch of physics covers the fundamentals of jet engines, propulsion, chemical reactions and combustion reaction.

"About 30 percent of our mechanical engineering students were from the Middle East and I probably taught him thermodynamics and likely more courses," recalled Klett, who said he was Mohammed's student advisor. "Those things that he learned in thermodynamics would be useful to someone planning an attack. It came as a real surprise to learn that one of our graduates was among the 10 most wanted terrorists on the FBI's list and had a $25 million reward on his head. I couldn't believe it, but obviously it was true."

Mohammed was captured in Pakistan March 1 by U.S. and Pakistani intelligence agents. U.S. officials called

Please see ACCUSED, Page 3

Bid for Miss A&T under way

By Kitara Garner
Register Contributor

With N.C. A&T's Student Government Association elections approaching, most people are running around campus in a frenzy debating who they will elect to lead the campus next year.

All SGA positions are open from president to Miss Sophomore.

Recently, A&T's campus has become plastered with fliers, banners and posters asking students to cast their votes on March 26. But perhaps the most common signs on campus read, "Vote Miss A&T!"

The race to be Miss North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University is always one that is the most talked about. When voting, most students look at the candidates' background, service to the campus and community and prospective platform. But with six candidates running for the crown, the decision is going to be tough.

Last election season, there were only two candidates who battled for the crown. This year is unique because there are six candidates bidding for the crown.

Those candidates are junior electronic media majors, Danya Burch (Virginia), junior agricultural engineering major, Amber A. Bowling (Greenboro), junior business administration/finance major, Jocelyn E. Jacobs (Virginia), junior agricultural engineering major, Nordheime Jones (Maryland), junior fashion merchandising and design major, Cornelia McCombs (Greenboro) and junior marketing major, Kimberly N. With, Soil Sci, (NC).

These ladies cover all aspects of campus life with majors that vary from engineering to agriculture. Each of these students has been running around campus for the crown for at least a month. They have spent countless hours in the Student Union and throughout campus with posters and fliers advertising their wardrobes and platform. They have even been known to lead cheers in the student body. Each of these students has done a great job advertising for the crown and I have no doubt that the winner can lead the campus in the right direction.

For more information regarding the candidates, please see MISS A&T, Page 10

Eunince Dudley, CFO of Dudley Products Inc., was the guest speaker for the Center for Student Success' leadership development and success seminars held March 6 in Hodgkin Hall Auditorium.

Dudley Products' CFO offers students advice

By Tiffany S. Jones
Register Contributor

The spring semester has ushered in a series of Leadership Development and Success Seminars sponsored by the Center for Student Success. These seminars are a part of the Freshman Studies course that is given out through CSS. The coordinator of the Success Seminar Series is academic counselor Anthony Graham.

"This program invites leaders to share their experiences, enforce leadership and empowerment," Graham said.

Remaining seminars are scheduled for each Thursday at noon throughout this week.

Please see DUDLEY, Page 3

Students gain hands-on experience

By Jamesa Porter
Register Contributor

The East Market Street Development Corporation, or EMSCD, and the students of the Construction Management and Safety students within N.C. A&T's School of Technology have teamed up to work on a community project.

Together they will be conduct free home inspections and rehabilitation estimates for houses in the East Market Street corridor.

Jim Donnelly of the EMSCD will be working with A&T students.

Among other goals, they hope to improve the housing stock and increase neighborhood houses around the A&T campus," Donnelly said. He also said the project will be a good learning experience for the students involved.

Plans for the project have been under way since last year. Now, Donnelly said, the students are now writing up the estimates of the repair work.

"We still have a lot of work to do," Donnelly said. "We will be wrapped up [by the end of] this semester, but it is [only] a small piece of the overall housing plan."

"We are real excited about the work that we have done with A&T and we look forward to continuing to work with the university to get the [East Market] corridor back to looking like it was," Donnelly said.

For more information on the EMSCD, please log on to http://www.graphicaweb.com/ems/index.htm.
IN BRIEF

NABJ SHORT COURSE SCHEDULED

The National Association of Black Journalists is bringing its Broadcast Short Course to N.C. A&T for its 11th year! The short course is scheduled for Thursday, March 20, through Saturday, March 22. Also, faculty and staff are invited to sit in on the sessions in Room 111 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday and Friday.

Secondly, the Triad Black Media Professionals will be hosting a reception for the professionals and participating students at 7 p.m., Friday, March 21 in the Memorial Room of Memorial Student Union. For more information contact Nagatha Tinkins at 334-7221.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN ATELIER HOSTS ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

The African-American Atelier Inc. is hosting its Saturday Enrichment program "Atelier Around the World" for ages 8-16. Sessions are being held through April in the Greensboro Cultural Center, at 200 N. Davie Street. Workshop time is 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The program is designed to build self-esteem through arts and culture among youths; expose them to positive role models in the community; enhance communication skills and teamwork through exploring their culture and creative talents with the use of art activities and exhibitions.

All sessions are free and open to the public. For more information call (336) 333-6815.

Women’s forum focuses on African-Americans

BY KARINA HARDY
News Reporter/Online Editor

Women and men gathered in Stalling Ballroom on March 4 from 6-8 p.m. for the African American Women's Forum presented by the Sociology and Social Work Society and the History Club.

"Each year we change our theme for the forum. Last year the forum focused on domestic violence and this year we chose the theme of an African American women's forum," said Ernest Mordant.

"We wanted the males to be present for this forum so that the males can get a women's perspective on issues from society and the African American community that affect them.

It is important that we reach out to our African American community for ourselves and for the future of our children. This way we can fix the issues we face now so that our children will not have to deal with them later," Mordant added.

Panelist for the program were Monica Hunt, Dandrea Boyd, Shome Williams, Dr. Margaret Barrett and Dr. Rita Lamb. Organizers took careful consideration in picking who they would have as the panelists.

"I came up with the panelist by thinking of who would best represent the community and A&T. Once we came up with those things we then went about finding those who would best suit those roles as panelist," said Najib Muhammad, the president of the History Club.

The forum took place as a question-and-answer format from the audience members to the panelists.

Speakers and participants addressed the issues of relationships, justice, power, unity, knowledge, education and changes that need to be made in today's African American community.

"I think the forum was an excellent way to reach out to young women and men with the university and the local community. It is important to focus on the role of African American women and show their positive contributions instead of focusing on the negative," said Barrett, one of the panelist speakers.

"The forum is taking place at a good time being that it is now women's history month. This is a good way to make a difference in the lives and the community for women," Barrett said.

Students participating in the event gained useful information.

"I thought that the forum was very informative and I feel that it was something that was enlightening to both men and women," said Jo Jeffries sophomore, accounting major.

A REVIEW BY KITARA GARNER

Icy roads and low attendance didn't stop the National Pan-Hellenic Council from putting on its black history program "Through Our Eyes: A Celebration of Passage" to Greek in Black History" on Feb. 26.

During the program, representatives from each organization that makes up the Pan-Hellenic Council recited monologues from famous members of their organizations.

The panel was made up of students portraying such notables as Zora Neale Hurston, John Lewis and Paul Robeson. The first organization represented was Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. LaKeesha Peterman, one of the sorority's members, recited a self-written prayer named "Lord Hear My Prayer: How it feels to be colored next" on behalf of famed writer and Zeta Phi Beta member, Zora Neale Hurston.

Patrick's prayer was an excellent way to start the program as it was very uplifting. Patterson wrote the prayer as if she were Hurston. She also used writing techniques that were similar to Hurston's style.

Next to take the stage was president of the National Pan-Hellenic Council and member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc., Jonathan Rosero. Rosero started his monologues with a song as he began to portray John Lewis.

Lewis was an initiative of the Lambda Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity. Lewis was also a vocal planner and speaker for the famous March on Washington lead by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Lewis earned his B.A. at the School of Religion and Philosophy at Fisk University.

The final person to address the audience was Paul Robeson, played by Derick Outes, a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. Outes portrayed Robeson, a fellow member of Alpha Phi Alpha, by reciting the lyrics to the song "Old Man River," which Robeson wrote.

Paul Robeson is noted as an actor, singer and advocate for civil rights. Robeson was born in Princeton, N.J. and graduated from Rutgers University in New Jersey.

Following the monologues, the floor was opened for a panel discussion. The panelists answered questions as the people portrayed in their monologues. The panelists and audience answered questions such as "How important are Greek organizations today," "Do you think the black community has strived to better themselves," and "What is holding us back as blacks and what can we do to change?"


The council serves as the governing body for all of the fraternities and sororities.

Campus News
March 17, 2003
ACCUSED
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Mohammed the key person responsible for organizing the attacks, sending hijacked passenger jets into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, killing more than 3,000 people.
One of Osama bin Laden's key associates, Mohammed attended Chownan College in Muhlenberg, N.C., 100 miles northeast of Raleigh. But he left there after only one semester to attend A&T in Greensboro, where he earned a degree in mechanical engineering. In 1996, Muslims and Middle Eastern students were about 30 percent of the students in the engineering department that year, Klett said.
"If I learned about it (Mohammed's terrorist acts) in November, when the Los Angeles Times came to campus trying to find background information about him, and the Los Angeles Times wrote a very detailed article about him. It makes me feel bad that somebody was able to use his education for terrorism purposes," said Klett.
Klett also said that Mohammed was probably a quiet student, as he didn't have a large collection of him. One of Mohammed's colleagues, who lives in Winston-Salem and remembers him well, said "Leon" is a quiet person and said he spent a lot of time in the mosque, according to Klett.
Intelligence experts said they considered Mohammed more important to the al-Qaeda network than Bin Laden, in spiritual leader, because Mohammed had information about all planned attacks, according to news reports.
The March 3 online edition of Newsweek reported that Mohammed and others planned to steal gas tanker trucks and crash them into U.S. service stations, and cut the suspension cables on bridges.
Members of the N.C. A&T communi-
ty weighed in on the news, expressing A&T's reputation.
"I do not believe A&T's image is tar-
nished," said Aaron Wilson, a junior mechanical engineering major.
"That's just one person's misguided mind. They were raised and told to hate the Americans, so they had that in their minds before they came to A&T. A&T had nothing to do with their way of thinking," Wilson said.
"It's not fair at all because they didn't do anything. Just because they are for-
eign doesn't mean that they have links to al-
Qaida," A&T's highly regarded engineering department attracts students from many places, so it is not seen as unusual for
the school to enroll many foreign stu-
dents, as it did when Mohammed graduated in 1986.
Joseph Monroe, dean of engineering said that the university's ability to track and trace are clearly evident and that an education should not be used for acts of terrorism.
"It shows that he was trained excep-
tionally well here technically, but it also shows that we need some humanity in our education in the college of engi-
neering as well," said Monroe. "A good education is valuable but it should be used for the betterment of human kind, not for the destruction of human kind."
Mohammed also said that A&T's image was unblemished.
"At that time, we weren't actively looking or trying to recognize the threat. All of that was left to the Immigration and Naturalization Service," said Monroe.
"There are some [immigration] policies that are coming out, and it shows the power of our engineering program that students are trained very, very well.
"It's negative for our whole education system, not just A&T. I wouldn't con-

demn us at all. There was no reason we would have checked what he was going to do with his education," added Monroe.
N.C. A&T Chancellor James C. Renick, who assumed the jobs in 1999, agreed that A&T and terrorism should not be linked.
"We're all saddened and shocked," said Renick. "We've graduated graduates in the military as well, and it saddens and shocks me that any human being would do something so dastardly. You can link an individual to a universi-
ty, but you can't make that cause-and-
effect relationship because that person acted as an individual. There are exam-

ples that educated people do bizarre things, and I understand that."
News media have speculated about a terrorist cell in North Carolina.
In December, a former Sudanese pilot Mekki Hamid Mekki Hamid Mekki, 30, who drove a taxi for Greensboro's United Yellow Cab and had been a full-
time freshman at N.C. A&T, agreed to a plea deal to three counts of immigra-
tion fraud, the Greensboro News & Record reported.
His arrest in September garnered national attention after the Associated Press, citing two anonymous govern-
ment sources, reported that investiga-
tors believed he had ties to al-Qaida, though he had not been charged with anything related to terrorism.

Kimberly L. Worth
For Miss North Carolina A&T 2003-2004
"Continuing The Legacy of Leadership"
• Professional Leadership Development
• Innovative University Community Development
• Public Affairs and Advocacy
"Shoes IS WORTH Your Vote!"
Vote March 23, 2003 Exhibit Hall Memorial Union 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
http://kimberlyworthtroipod.com/

Wieman visits A&T

The 2003 Nobel Prize winner of Physics, Dr. Carl E. Wieman was the guest speaker for the Colloquium and Nobel Lecture Series. Dr. Wieman is a Distinguished Professor of Physics and Joint institute for Laboratory Astrophysics (JILA) fellow at the University of Colorado of Boulder, Colo.

DUDLEY
Continued from page 1
spring semester.

The recent seminar featured the
financial officers of Dudley Products Inc., Dudley Dudley Products Inc. is a multi-million dollar hair care and cosmetics company head-
quartered in Kernersville.

Dudley and her husband, Joe Dudley, Sr., began their careers after Fuller Distribution, the company that employed them, experienced problems. They began making their own products to supply their customers' needs.
We "made the products in our kitchen and our children put the lids on the jars and I read the labels," Dudley said.
She and her then-husband purchased hair product formulas from a man who was going out of business in Richmond, Va.

After forming Dudley Products in 1969, they went on to purchase their first beauty college in Greensboro in 1971. Dudley Beauty College now has four campuses, in Greensboro, Charlotte, Kernersville and Chicago. The school combined graduate and undergraduate to 1,000 students each year in all areas of cosmetology, including hair care, skin care and nails.

Dudley advised students to make good decisions about their career paths.
"Take internships even if they don't pay," said Dudley. "It's a great experience and most companies will pay you.

Upcoming seminar speakers include Amos Quick and Basta Brown of WMJH 101.2, Joyce Welles of 90.1 and Om F. Armstrong of the Hayes-Taylor YMC.
For more information, contact the Center for Student Success at (336) 314-7875.
A&T shouldn’t be linked to terrorism

Chris Wallace

A&T shouldn’t be linked to terrorism

Doing a story about a former student at N.C. A&T being arrested and accused of acts of terrorism was difficult. 
Breaking down walls to get a story together and fighting other obstacles to have it published were even more challenging. But it was something that had to be done because I am a journalist, and this is what I’ll likely be doing for a living. Yet I hope no one who reads the national news media comes away associating N.C. A&T with terrorism.

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University is one of the nation’s elite historically black colleges and universities, according to “Black Enterprise” magazine.

Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, a 1986 A&T graduate said to be the mastermind behind the terrorism of Sept. 11, 2001, was just one of tens of thousands of A&T students who went through the prestigious engineering department, earning a degree in mechanical engineering.

An engineering degree from A&T is one of the nation’s finest degrees and will take you a lot of places.

What Mohammed’s degree took him places far beyond our wildest imagination. Let’s be honest here. Though Mohammed did graduate from A&T, the professors at the school did not teach him how to commit acts of terror. They helped him get an undergraduate education, and he was taught the same things that every other engineering student was taught — engineering.

A&T can’t control someone’s mind or actions, especially since Mohammed likely had banked in his heart for Americans even prior to attending A&T. He didn’t show any signs of it, though, according to a classmate of his from the mid-80s.

Additionally, it was the government, not A&T, who led this man into the country. A&T admitted him only to the university, the way it extends a hand to many foreign students who want an education. And what a great place to go to earn an engineering degree, especially if you’re a minority.

So to think “from A&T to al-Qaida” would anger me and the entire A&T family of 9,000 proud students, many faculty, staff and alumni and a proud chancellor who together make this university one of the elite.

N.C. A&T should not be linked to terrorism, nor does it stand for terror. It stands for North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.

A&T will continue to move on from this situation. As our motto says, we “Expect Success.”

BRIEFLY STATED...

Jessica Santillan, 17, died on Feb. 22, two days after her second heart-lung transplant. Doctors at Duke University Medical Center declared her brain-dead and stopped giving her medication and life support had been keeping her alive. Gradually her heart slowed until she died.

Santillan’s family traveled from a small town near Guadalajara, Mexico, to the United States, so that she could receive the medical care that she needed that would not be available in Mexico.

Santillan spent three years on the organ waiting list before she received her first operation, which is astonishing because nearly 80 percent of patients waiting for organ transplants die before receiving an organ transplant.

However, the organs that were transplanted into her body were of the wrong blood type and her body rejected them. After finding the mistake, doctors tried to correct the problem by giving her a second set, but there was high risk that she would suffer brain damage.

She died as a result of human error that could have been avoided if the right people would have done their job matching up the organs to her blood type properly.

If the transplant team and organ agency had double-checked blood types, the first set of heart and lungs could have gone to a patient who needed them instead of being a waste.

April 4, 2003

AGGIES TALK BACK!!!

How do you feel about the recent arrest of A&T graduate Khalid Shaikh Mohammed?

“I don’t like the fact that the media is basically broadcasting that he went to A&T. What is the importance of that? What are they trying to say?”

Chimeeka White

senior, chemistry major

“I don’t think it’s anything to make a big deal of. It could have been anybody. I don’t think it reflects poorly on an institution, what a graduate does after he or she graduates. People pay tuition to get an education. It doesn’t make a difference where he graduated from.”

Julian Dodson

junior, history major

“I think it’s unfortunate that he is an Aggie. However, his involvement with 9/11 disproves the myth that historically black universities don’t offer a good education. He used his education for destruction, but think of how powerful A&T students can be if we used our knowledge for good.”

Kia Ervin

junior, public relations major

Letters to the editor are welcomed by 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. Letters must be signed and should include an address and telephone number.
Are You Interested in Making a Difference?

If so, you should consider becoming a Resident Assistant at the Aggie Suites, NC A&T's premier residential living facility.

The Aggie Suites will be holding an Open House for Resident Assistants for the 2003-2004 school year.

When: Monday, March 24
Where: Aggie Suites Building E/1st floor
Time: 7:00pm

There will also be an Open House for individuals interested in working as Summer Conference Assistants.

When: Tuesday, March 25
Where: Aggie Suites Building E/1st floor
Time: 7:00pm

Refreshments will be served

To the Editor:
I just wanted to send a note to tell you how proud I felt upon reading the article regarding the march to February 1 Place.

As a citizen of Greensboro and the grandson of Warnoth T. Gibbs, president of A&T College at the time of the Sit-ins, I was very aware of the importance this historic event had, not only on our local community, but on the nation as a whole. And until I left Greensboro, I was a regular attendee of the February One Society lectures held on campus. Often, I would be serving as an escort to my grandfather.

Let there be no mistake. The Sit-ins were an integral part of the civil rights movement. If nothing else, no time before had black students put themselves in the danger these four pioneers did. And this served as a springboard for sit-in demonstrations around the country.

I am proud to have an indirect link to the Sit-ins. Maybe next year I could even attend any events that may be held in their honor.

Wilmote D. Gibbs
Maricopa, Ariz.
Theater program receives honor

By Karina Hardy
Registrar Online Editor

The national award-winning Richard B. Harrison Players, who were the Paul Reolben Theatre were chosen by the Alpha Psi Omega National Theatre Honourary Society to be honored by the induction in "Playbill."

"Playbill" is one of the oldest theater publications in the United States, which has served theater since 1884. It is distributed to students, faculty and libraries in over 900 colleges and universities.

"This is an honor for the Richard B. Harrison Players to be included in Playbill. We have been recognized in Playbill other times with the plays Black Nativity, Colored Girls and a few others," said senior theater major Zonya Johnson.

For the Richard B. Harrison Players, this honor is one that gives them recognition in a rather hard market. The "Playbill" magazine helps us to get some recognition because we are not in the well-known theater area like California. Since we are in a unknown town, it gives us some recognition," said David Watkins, senior theater major. Alpha Psi Omega and its sister organization Delta Psi Omega are the largest theater honoraries in the world with over 60,000 members, and publish "Playbill." Alpha Psi Omega is an honorary theater organizations that has been active since its start on Aug. 12, 1925, at Fairmont State College in Fairmont, W.Va.

Throughout the country, Alpha Psi Omega has been involved in the formation of theater honor societies in high schools and junior colleges, with the aim of encouraging dramatic production at every step in an individual's academic career.

This accomplishment adds to the numerous accomplishments that the Richard B. Harrison Players have acheived. A&T's theater program is nationally recognized and respected as one of the top undergraduate BFA programs in the country. The Richard B. Harrison Players have won numerous titles and competitions along with the national title of the Kennedy Center and American College Theatre Festival.

The Richard B. Harrison Players performed at the Kennedy Center in 1983 with "Zootman and the Spy!" and 1999 with "David Richmond," which was a revised version of this powerful and moving play about the origins of the Woodward six-ins.

Students of the theatre department are elated about the news of the inclusion of A&T's Richard B. Harrison Players into "Playbill."

"It is an honor for us to be in the magazine. This helps to get our name out there for everyone to see our accomplishments," said Johnson.

'American Idol' turning into American nightmare?

Commentary by Karina Hardy
Registrar Online Editor

It was not enough that the TV talent show, "American Idol," kicked off semifinalist Frenchie Davis from the show for posing nude on an Internet porn site. Now "American Idol" faces another hopeful contestant dismissed.

While going out to celebrate at Blue Ribbon Grille in Pennsylvania for his position as a semifinalist on the show, news reports said Jared Andrews was involved in a bar fight that resulted in a man's death. The owner of the Blue Ribbon Grille in Pennsylvania claims that the fighters were friends and were drinking at his establishment when an argument broke out outside.

According to authorities, Thomas E. Blakeley, 39, of Sharpsville, died because he fell and hit his head on the sidewalk after being punched. Andrews allegedly hit Thomas Blackley in the face knocking him on the sidewalk. Blakeley was supposedly semiconscious on the pavement, but allegedly was kicked repeatedly by Andrews, 24, who appeared on four episodes of the series.

The show producers kicked off Andrews without explanation on Jan. 30. He remains under $5,000 bond and could get up to a year in prison if he is convicted. Andrews's next court hearing will be March 14.

I think "American Idol" has had its ups and downs, but with recent discoveries about the contestants, producers should get the hint. They need to perform better background checks and investigations into contestants.

If background checks are required to get a job, then it should be required to do the show. Singing is a job, as any vocal performer would attest, just like any other job. It requires hard work, long hours in sometimes stressful environments. Before allowing the contestant to go on stage they should interview them to get a feel of who they are and what they have done this will help the show to avoid any problems in the future for the show. What's next? Will there be a serial killer in the top five contestants? I guess we will just have to wait and see.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding the entertainment section, please address them to register@ncat.edu or call (336) 334-7700. Stories and story ideas are also welcomed. Include your name and contact information.

Wayne Wonder not holding back

By Tiffany S. Jones
Registrar Contributor

Wayne Wonder has been on the music scene in Jamaica since the late 80's, but he just recently earned his first number one hit of his career with "Not Letting Go."

But the album that this song was re-recorded on, "American Idol," was not Wayne Wonder's first hit. In his native Kingston, Jamaica, he began his singing career at a young age singing in church and school. He collaborated with Dave Kelly, known for his work with Penthouse Records. The pair had a stream of hits including, "I'm Only Human," "Baby You and I," in the late 80s and "Saddest Day," which was re-recorded with Foxy Brown on her "Broken Silence LP."

This album is pure fire. It is kind of vague as to what genre of music his music belongs. The first single "No Letting Go" shocked fans and left them waiting to hear more from Jamaica's newest sensation, Wonder sought the help of underground reggae artist Elephant Man on his track "Crazy Feeling." The album includes "Friend Like Me," and "Nobody But Me," which are sure to be radio hits.

The album is full of reggae music while it has R&B vocals that blend together to form a wonderful album that can take you from the islands to the dancehall. This album presents Wonder as an artist who has the potential to make as big an impact on R&B music as he has made on reggae music.

Making news in the entertainment world

Commentary by Trina Logan
Entertainment Reporter

NASDAQ will now receive a little bit of hip-hop style on the tracks. Grammy award-winning rapper Nelly was to bring a Cashman Truck team to the Darlington Raceway on March 14.

The truck will show a new paint scheme and showcase Nelly's Yoki clothing label. It's good to see that rappers are trying to own more than just cars, jewelry and women.

The St. Louis rap star is known for such songs as "Hot in Herre," "Air Force Ones" and "Country Grammar."

Ludacris, Pepsi still at odds

Well, the drama has been partially resolved between rapper Ludacris and Pepsi. Ludacris' contract with Pepsi is still dropped but an agreement has been made. Pepsi has agreed to donate a generous amount of money to the "Ludacris Foundation."

Ludacris was dropped allegedly because of his bad language, but Pepsi went out and hired the "figures" subsequently. Rapper Cashauna, a spokesperson for Pepsi, describes why Ludacris was dropped from the contract.

"We heard from a number of consumers who were uncomfortable with the artist," said Cashauna. "The agreement is an extension of what we have been doing."
Benzino vs Eminem: More than idle words

By D.M. Becton
Black College Wire

Not wasting time, Eminem went into the studio and crafted two response records, "The Sauce" and "Nail in the Coffin." "The Sauce" questioned The Source's credibility in judging rap records. Benzino has been accused of advertising more for some rap records and less for others, making the magazine's coveted "Record Report" and "Mic Rating" columns questionable.

One of Eminem's lyrics stated, "No more Source for street cred/Them days is dead/Runaway get AKs painted at Dave May's head/Every issue there's an eight-page Made Men spread," a reference to Source co-founder David May. Eminem said that when he was trying to start his career, he couldn't get a record because he was white. Now, he said, the irony is that he is being criticized for becoming successful.

The song "Nail in the Coffin" hit Benzino twice as hard, stating, "I would never claim to be no Ray Benzino/an 83-year-old fake Pacino," and "What you know about being bullied all your life/oh, that's right, you're half-white." Yet, the line that made Eminem reply was, "If you were really selling coke/what did you stop for?/Dummy, if you strew some crack/you'll make a lot more money than you do from rap."

Benzino wrote the third installment of the diss-series with a song called "Die Another Day," that begins with a taped conversation between him and Eminem's manager, Paul Rosenberg, who seemed to call for a resolution of the conflict. But Benzino clung to his position to "bring hip-hop back to the streets," calling Eminem "the rap David Duke, the rap Hitler," and himself "the rap Huey, the rap Malcolm, the rap Martin."

These remarks, along with the February issue of The Source, show that Benzino is not backing down. In that issue, an article aimed at Eminem, "The Unbearable Whiteness of Emceeing," claimed that Eminem is "the refinement of white supremacy."

From the other side, Em spoke to WQHT-FM New York's Angie Martinez about the Benzino situation, saying, "You can't play two sides of the fence. You can't be a rapper and own half of a magazine, because then what happens is you call rappers that you like and you want to make guest appearances on your album, and they don't want to do it because you suck... Just gonna take you out his magazine."

So the battle between Ray Benzino and Eminem has been raised to a higher plateau. Benzino is playing the race card. Em, on the other hand, is trying to trump it as "an underground emcee that rose on rap skills, not color." We'll have to wait and see how Eminem replies in the February issue of XXL magazine. This battle is far from over.

D.M. Becton is a student at Xavier University who writes for The Xavier Herald.
**Track teams fourth in MEAC Indoor**

**Athletes** from high school, college and the professional ranks work long and hard during the season to become better. They also work long during the off-season to become stronger and faster for the season.

Players are working hard every day either to make the team, to start or to keep their starting positions. When all of this happens, some athletes will try to enhance their body with energy supplements. Most of the supplements that the players use can be found at any regular store, and sometimes athletes do not know what they are putting into their bodies. They don't even know what is in the supplements, and it sometimes can be deadly.

The most recent supplement linked to death among athletes is ephedrine.

Ephedrine is a legal stimulant that is used for weight loss, increased energy and to enhance athletic performance. Also, ephedrine is offered in a variety of brand names like Xanadine RFA-1.

Ephedrine speeds up the heart to help lose weight, but it has lots of side effects. The main side effects are heart attack, heat stroke, seizures or even death.

Baltimore Orioles’ pitcher Steve Bechler collapsed during spring training and died of heart attack. Subsequently, the Orioles organization found Xanadine RFA-1 in his locker.

Major League Baseball has not banned ephedrine as of yet and will not do so until the toxicity test comes back to prove that ephedrine was in his system.

Northwestern football safety Rashard Wheeler died Aug. 3 during practice; and the cause of the death was bronchial asthma. However, toxicity results determined that ephedrine was in Wheeler’s system at the time of his death.

The National Football League, NCAA and the IOC have banned ephedrine. Carolina Panthers’ Defensive Rookie of the Year Julius Peppers was suspended for the final four games of the 2002 season for taking an energy pill that has ephedra-like substances.

Athletes sometimes are not fully aware of the consequences of the supplements that they are using or used. Everyone has to take responsibility on his or her actions, and players should be aware of what they should not be taking.

Everyone needs to help out each other to save players’ eligibility and most importantly, their lives.

BY CHRIS WALLACE
Regular Co-Editor

The N.C. A&T Aggie men’s and women’s track teams competed in the 2003 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Indoor Championships, with both garnering fourth-place finishes overall.

Men’s track star Everett Bruce, who has already earned a provisional invite to the NCAA Indoor Championships, won his first Championship in the triple jump with a mark of 15.71 meters. Tim Walls and Chronie White both finished second in their events. Walls finished second in the 60-meter dash with a time of 6.68 seconds, just missing his NCAA provisional qualifying time of 6.67 seconds. White finished second in the long jump with a mark of 7.61 meters.

“I though it went pretty good,” said White about the MEAC Indoor Championships. “We put forth a real good effort, but things just didn’t go as we planned it to go. We’ll come together as a team, and we’re training as hard as we can to get ready.”

Walls and White are both provisional qualifiers for the NCAA Indoor Championships.

Other notable finishes for the men were Enita Olokoko, who finished fourth in the 400-meter dash with a time of 51.09, and Jedd Fields, who finished third in the high jump with a height of 1.98 meters. Teammate Dominique Cannon finished fourth in the high jump with a jump of 1.93 meters.

On the ladies’ side, Twanna Norman continued her dominance in the long jump, breaking the championship record of 5.21 meters.

Tiffany Parham led an array of other Lady Aggcy winners as she won the triple jump with a leap of 12.19 meters, while teammate LaSonja Collins won the 200-meter dash with a time of 24.87 seconds and also finished fourth in the 55-meter dash with a time of 7.10 seconds.

**Softball team wins Seahawk Invitational**

Elvin Bethea, a two-time NCAA Small College All-American while at N.C. A&T, was one of four former athletes selected for enshrinement into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Bethea, a defensive end, played 16 seasons, all with the Houston Oilers. He made the Pro Bowl eight times and led the team in sacks six times, finishing his career with 116. He joins Marcus Allen, James Lofton, Joe DeLamielleure, and Hank Stram in the class of 2003.

The 39-member selection committee consists of media representatives from the league’s 32 franchises. There is one voter representing the Pro Football Hall of Fame and six at-large voters. Enshrinement of the class of 2003 is scheduled for Aug. 3 at the Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio.

However, the Aggies fell to conference foe Delaware St. 7-3.

The Lady Aggies had been in a season-long offensive slump, scoring only seven runs in their first six games. During that stretch, the Lady Aggies went 1-5. During the tournament, however, the Lady Aggies scored 19 runs in four games, ending with a 11-1 record and improving their season record to 4-7 overall.

A&T will play four out of its next five games at home, including a March 19 rematch against UNC-Wilmington.
Ex-coach works to give athletes a Bill of Rights

BY ALICIA JOHNSON
Brock College Wire

When Bob Timmons retired from coaching track and field at the University of Kanass, he had one thought: Who will protect the welfare of student athletes? At a time when colleges and universities are making a great deal from star players, Timmons wondered who would speak up for the student athlete. Timmons founded the National Student-Athlete Rights Movement last May. Its major goal is to establish guidelines and rules that will affect the welfare of all student athletes participating in NCAA activities.

"I think the NCAA does a wonderful job," said Timmons. "But there are ways to improve upon it for student athletes."

The "student-athletes bill of rights" is a set of 10 principles, similar to those in the Constitution, that aim to benefit student athletes everywhere. Among the principles: "Each student-athlete shall have the right to work and receive earnings up to a full grant plus a reasonable, but limited, amount above that grant for the semester or term."

The "bill of rights" also looks to protect athletic programs from being penalized when a violation is committed by an individual. Incoming freshmen would be protected from penalties.

Student athletes would be free from discrimination and are protected from harm while participating in NCAA sanctioned activities.

It might seem that Timmons' movement is looking to eventually replace the NCAA, but Timmons maintains the opposite is true. "The NCAA is a very important organization and should not be ended," Timmons said. "I want all these changes to be done within the confines of the NCAA."

The reaction of many college and university officials has been less than satisfied, in the view of Timmons' supporters. "I sent out about 2,200 publications of the bill of rights to college presidents, the executive board of the NCAA, various colleges associations, and student-athletes committees," Timmons said. "And I haven't heard back from any of them." Timmons attributes many college presidents' silence to intimidation and a desire to stay on the good side of the NCAA. "College presidents are not going to go out on their own when that might cause the school to lose out in an NCAA tournament competition," Timmons said.

At schools in the District of Columbia, knowledge of Timmons' movement was limited. "No, I am not familiar with the organization," said Josh Copp, head golf coach at American University. "But I agree with what [Timmons] is trying to do. The NCAA doesn't seem very responsive to student athlete needs."

As interest in college athletics increases, so does the financial benefits that result. It is in that arena where NCAA policies come under the most scrutiny, and where the National Student-Athlete Bill of Rights movement seeks change. "Something must be done. Athletes are being taken advantage of," Copp said.

"The schools are making a lot of money off athletes' jerseys and (the athletes) don't get any money," said Steve Jennings, head coach of field hockey at American University, disagrees.

"There are a lot of benefits in college," Jennings said. "Student athletes are taken all over the country, given a lot of gear, and obtain a free education. I don't think they are being exploited."

Timmons says the primary mission and priority of the NCAA is to facilitate education, to ensure that all student athletes are given the opportunity to participate, and to serve and protect the welfare of student athletes. But by adopting the bill of rights, Timmons believes every student athlete will be provided with a basic set of individual rights.

"This movement will make a great impact if enough people bring their voices together," said Jennings. "I don't see it happening anytime soon, but I hope something will happen."

The complete Bill of Rights can be viewed at http://www.studentathletesrights.org.

Jones not ready for big names

By Chris Wallace

Sports View

Roy Jones Jr., clearly the best pound-for-pound fighter in the world, did two things recently. He relinquished John Ruiz, winning the WBA heavyweight title. Finally, he traveled with the thought of possibly fighting Tyson. Mike Tyson or Lennox Lewis. Man...please!

Let's be quite honest here. Jones, who stands only 5'11 and 195 pounds, does not stand a chance against Lewis, 6'7 and 250 pounds or Tyson, 5'11 and 230 pounds, for that matter. Let me tell you why.

Jones is VERY cocky in the ring and hasn't faced ANY opponent with the strength of a Tyson or Lewis. Though Tyson has lost it just a bit, he is still a legitimate shot to beat anyone on any given night. Lewis is just a man amongst boys right now, and a Lewis/Jones fight would probably end before you can get up to get a drink from the fridge and come back.

So all you people out there who are wondering if Jones is ready for such a high-caliber opponent, sit on the thought. The only way Jones will face any of these two guys is if he gains 20 to 30 pounds, which isn't likely to happen so fast, or if his promoters just want the money. Roy should be wise.
MISS A&T
Continued from page 1

neering to fashion merchandising and design. All of these females have been in the spotlight within the campus community. Bacchus is active in the Media Network Club and A&T’s NAACP chapter. Bowling currently reigns as Miss Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and was a varsity cheerleader. Jacobs currently wears the crown of Miss Virginia Aggie Club and serves as vice president of the A&T chapter of Habitat for Humanity. Jones is currently Miss Junior and is an active member of the E. Gwynn Dancers. Worth is treasurer of Verge Modeling Group and was Miss Freshman during the 2000-2001 academic year. McCombs is also a member of A&T’s NAACP chapter and volunteers her free time to the Big Brother/Big Sister program.

An interesting fact in the history of A&T’s queens is that for the past four years, all of them have been Greensboro natives. Gabrielle Hurt, Nicole Worthington, Janell Feinsteiner and our current queen Brooke Myatt (who proclaims the U.S. as her place of residence) have been from Greensboro. Does this mean that the natives have an edge or will the out of state candidates put a dent in the history of A&T?

To learn more about the competition, the Miss A&T Forum will be held in Harrison Auditorium, March 25 at 3 p.m.

After a full body NAACP meeting, from left, Miss A&T candidates Jocelynn E. Jacobs, Kimberley N. Worth, Danya Bacchus and Norlyque Jones gathered for a photo. Not present were Amber A. Bowling and Cornelius McCombs. At the meeting SGA candidates discussed and informed students about their platforms.

Project Vote Smart approves A&T students for scholarships

FROM PRESS RELEASES
Project Vote Smart’s founding board has approved funds to cover all expenses for up to five N.C. A&T students to spend 30 weeks at its unique political research retreat center.

Considered the nation’s most independent, dependable and accurate political research organization with over 5,000 sponsoring news organizations and libraries, the Project conducts back-ground checks on over 30,000 political candidates and issues.

“We lack researchers from North Carolina and we are very interested in attracting students from North Carolina A&T State University,” said Lisa Colgan, the project’s intern coordinator.

With its headquarters in an exclusive high-tech wilderness park 5,000 feet up in the Rocky Mountains, the Project’s volunteers have created what the New York Times says, “is a program so good even the federal government recommends it.”

“We are still building the retreat research center and are in need of student willing to work on everything from candidate interviews and presidential research to building corral fences and painting lodge facilities,” Colgan said. “The big payoff is seeing the hundreds of news stories and thousands of citizens who now write their thanks and appreciation for our defending the citizens’ right to the facts instead of the rhetoric. The work is hard and terribly important, but you get to live in an incomparable paradise that features fishing, hiking, swimming, boating, and horseback riding.”

Students must commit to a 10-week internship, which can be scheduled at any time, but those interested in serving during Summer 2003 should act quickly before spots fill up.

Although political science, communications and journalism majors are particularly encouraged to apply, interns from all backgrounds, including recent college graduates and graduate students, are accepted and eligible for scholarship support.

Additional information and applications for Project Vote Smart internships are available on the Vote Smart website (www.vote-smart.org). Students can also call the Vote’s Research Hotline for more information (1-888-868-5762).

Wyoming College
Continued from page 3

WYOMING college is one of the schools that have benefitted from the efforts of the Wyoming Center for Advanced Trenchless Technology. The Center is working to develop a national network of trenchless technology professionals and to promote the use of trenchless technology throughout the United States. The Center’s efforts are aimed at improving the quality of life for people in Wyoming and other states by reducing the cost of water and waste systems.

The Center is working with the Wyoming Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) to develop a comprehensive trenchless technology curriculum for Wyoming’s engineering and construction programs. The Center is also working with the Wyoming Department of Transportation and the Wyoming Public Service Commission to promote the use of trenchless technology in the state’s transportation and utility systems.

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