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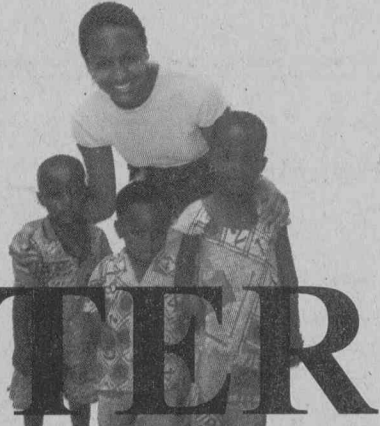
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Today:
30 percent chance
of thunderstorms
High: 88°F
Low: 68°F

Photo essay: A&T student travels to Ghana



THE A&T REGISTER

August 31, 2005

N.C. A&T State University

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Volume lxxix, Issue 1



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

While traveling in a Blackhawk helicopter to Tikrit, Iraq, Melvin Kearney witnessed flying missiles.

Soldiers return to A&T from Iraqi war

By KASSIDY JOHNSON
News Editor

Ammunition 3-feet tall and 2-feet wide are buried underground waiting for unsuspecting soldiers, and insurgents hide explosives in potato chip bags. There are trash piles taller than some of the residence dorms on the campus. There is a lack of clean water, and sometimes people go a couple of days without taking a shower.

This is only a glimpse of the war-torn country of Iraq. A country that began as the cradle of civilization, Iraq looks far different from what most would picture.

The purpose for the U.S. military to be in Iraq is to protect the innocent and fight insurgency and that is why so many have been called to duty to fight.

Melvin Kearney, a junior criminal justice major, was walking across A&T's campus, when he received the phone call that would drastically change his life forever. "When I picked up the phone, the first thing my sergeant asked me was if I was sitting down," Kearney said. "He told me to get my stuff together and call my folks; I was being deployed to Iraq."

Kearney said that he did not believe that he would be called to duty while enrolled at A&T.

Some people believe that the military does not call students enrolled in universities to action. Kearney called it "strictly myth."

"Getting on that plane was the hardest thing I ever had to do," Kearney said. "I'm geared up, my Kevlar on, my guns, all my weapons, and they called my name."

Kearney said that one of the most emotional things that has ever happened in his life came next.

"I turned around and looked at my family...I went up to my father, shook his hand and he pulled me in, hugged me and a tear came out of his eye," he said.

It was the first time Kearney had seen his father cry.

"Tears just started streaming down my face," he said. "I looked back at my dad before I stepped on the plane, and he gave me this small salute."

Kearney said he cried on the entire plane ride to Iraq.

As a protective service agent,

Kearney served as a bodyguard for the commander general. It was definitely a change from everyday life at A&T.

"My main job was to protect the general by any means necessary," Kearney said. "Walking out the front gates, it was like well I know I'm going to get shot at today."

Coming back to the states was not necessarily difficult for Kearney, but it did take adjustments.

"I feel good about being back at A&T for the simple fact that A&T showed me a lot of love from all the professors to encourage me," he said.

Dr. Roberto, a history professor at A&T sent Kearney e-mails telling him to "keep your head up." Kearney said that Roberto kept a picture of him up in the department.

"Some students would tell me that they saw my picture on the bulletin board," Kearney said. Many students on A&T's campus have received a phone call similar to Kearney's in the past two years since president Bush declared war on Iraq.

Josh Williams was a 20-year-old second-semester sophomore when he received the phone call to leave for training.

"I was also in Mrs. Phoenix's math class with Kearney," Williams said. "He received his phone call days before I received mine; I didn't think I would be called too."

Williams said that being in Iraq was like being in a history class.

"I (had) never been to a Third World country," he said.

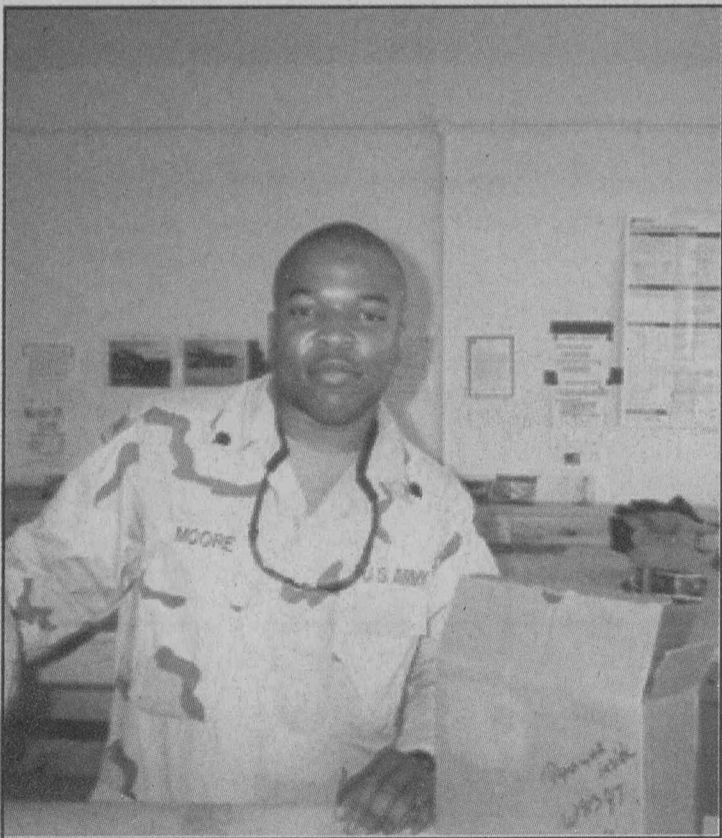
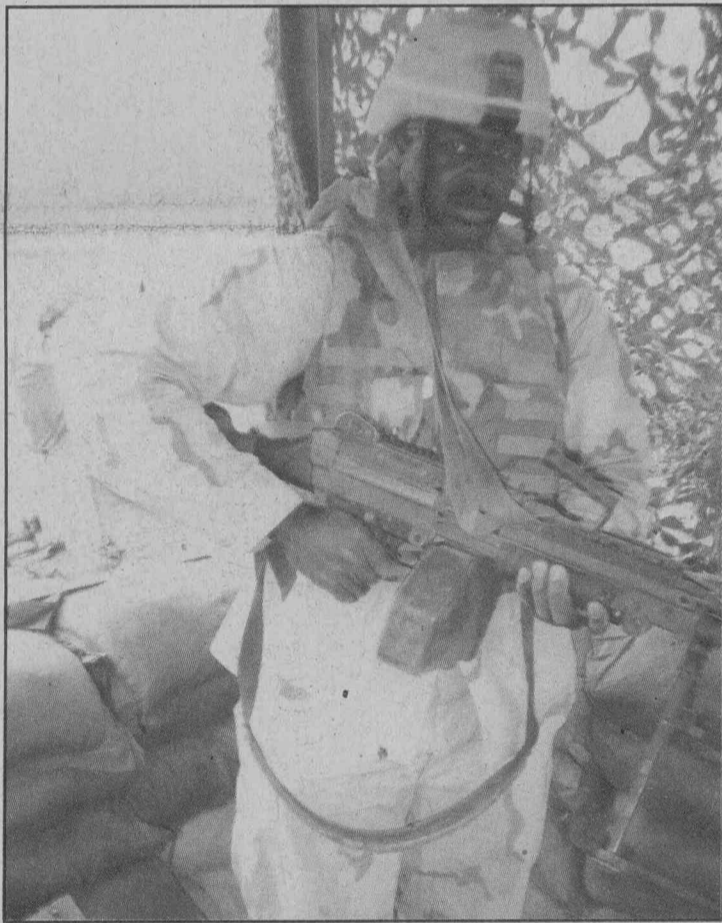
On his third day in Iraq, Williams was hit with an Improvised Explosive Device (IED). As a petroleum specialist, Williams was expected to set up gas sites throughout Balad, a city in Iraq that he was stationed in.

"However, I didn't do my MOS (military occupation specialty)," Williams said. "I worked as a tower guard, a gate guard and worked in a supply yard for a month."

Despite his everyday military obligations, Williams made educational strides too.

"I needed something time consuming and since I had been pulled from school, I thought it would be

See SOLDIERS, Page 2



Above: Josh Williams was hit with an IED while in Iraq, but he survived.

Bottom: Adrian Moore said that his experience in Iraq has caused him to grow spiritually.

Aggie-Eagle Classic may come to end

2005 is final year in contract

By CANDRA WHITLEY
Contributor

For 81 years, the Aggie-Eagle Classic football game has been synonymous with Aggie Pride.

On Sept. 5, the last Aggie-Eagle Classic game might be played.

According to Kyle Serba, the assistant media relations director at North Carolina Central University (NCCU), the agreement to continue to play the game has not been made.

"This year is the last year in the contract between the two schools, and the decision hasn't been made yet as to whether or not the game will continue," Serba said.

Aggies and friends come from all over the U.S. to witness one of the nation's most widely recognized rivalries—the A&T's Aggies versus NCCU's Eagles. The game is considered to be the largest historically black college or university (HBCU) sporting event in North Carolina and the 16th largest sporting event in the country.

Currently, the Aggies lead the series with 45 wins, 27 losses and 5 ties.

Former alumnus and A&T Student Government Association president, Terrance Jenkins shared his thoughts about the rumor.

Jenkins said he returns to North Carolina every year to participate in the classic's events.

"If there is no more Aggie-Eagle Classic then the phrase Aggie Pride has lost some of its meaning for me

as an Aggie," Jenkins said. "This could possibly be the end of it, and it's sad."

The first Aggie-Eagle Classic took place on Nov. 22, 1924 in Durham. Every year after that, the location for the game alternated between Greensboro and Durham.

Since 1994, the classic has been played in Raleigh's Carter-Finley Stadium, in order to accommodate the large amounts of people in attendance each year. The stadium holds a maximum of 53,500 people.

Carter-Finley Stadium is also considered to be a "centralized" location between A&T and NCCU.

Over the years, the games have drawn more than 30,000 fans, and on several occasions the crowd has consisted of nearly 50,000 people.

Curtis Deloatch, a former Aggie Football player and alumnus said that when he was a student at A&T, he looked forward to playing in the Aggie-Eagle Classic every year.

"I can't imagine what it would be like not to have played in it," Deloatch said. "I feel bad for the new players who might not be able to participate in it next year."

Delores Todd, the athletics director for A&T, said that the decision regarding the Aggie-Eagle Classic's end will reflect what is best for A&T.

"The actual decision about the future of the game will not be decided until after this year's game," she said.

Atlanta & Houston stars to perform at homecoming show

By ERICA FRANKLIN
Editor in chief

This year's homecoming concert will feature several "dirty south" artists from Atlanta and Houston.

On Oct. 15, Lil Jon and T.I. will return to the Greensboro Coliseum for the Greatest Homecoming on Earth. They will be accompanied by Ciara, Mike Jones, Paul Wall and Slim Thug.

SGA President Justin Ramey said that putting together the homecoming concert is one of the hardest things to do.

"It is really about the availability of the artist," Ramey said. "People have promotional things going on; they're on tour; they're in the studio; they're overseas."

Ramey said that SGA members try to fulfill the needs of the student body.

"Our main focus is really to make sure that whatever is being brought to the table (the list of artist), is something that the students will be on board with," he said. "You want to bring people who are going to sell tickets, and the people who are going to sell

tickets are the people who are making (hit) songs."

Ramey said that southern artists are becoming more and more popular.

"If you look at the top ten music charts anywhere, I guarantee you those people are from the South." Those are the people who are "pushing" records.

Megan Brooks, the vice president of internal affairs, said that SGA members used advice from the student body to make their decision.

"We did surveys throughout the summer, and we asked students in different organizations (their opinion)," she said.

Tony Williams from Diamond Life Concerts Inc. is the promoter for this year's A&T homecoming concert.

Williams said he is responsible for such things such as selecting the acts, lighting, ticket prices and the concert location.

Brooks said that the SGA has been working with Williams for about 20 years.

Williams said Kanye West was one of the artist looked at for this

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INSIDE

CAMPUS NEWS

GTRC discusses massacre



NATIONAL NEWS

Energy drinks may be a problem



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Get Down! Town event attracts crowd



SPORTS

Volleyball team loses season opener



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good to do some more schooling," he said.

With the permission of his military-unit leader, Captain Reeves, Williams called St. Leo University in Florida and registered himself into several online classes. Other members of the military unit thought this was a good idea.

Williams took it upon himself to help his fellow soldiers.

"I got funding through the military and enrolled more than 30 soldiers in the self-named, 'University Project,'" he said.

The project continues despite Williams return home.

Since arriving back in the states, Williams said he has a whole new outlook on life.

With only a little over a year left in school, he has no plans to re-enlist. Williams continues to keep in touch with his military friends.

Adrian Moore was a second-semester freshman when he was told that he had to go to war. Moore, 19, had no idea what to expect.

He explained his duties as a soldier.

"I wasn't on the front line like these guys (Kearney and Williams)," he said. "I worked with computers and telephones and ran the military supply store."

Moore said he remembered being attached to a unit of American soldiers out of Germany.

"(They) lost a lot of guys (1/4 cavalry)," Moore said. "(I knew it was turning point when) I was sitting in the chow hall (cafeteria) and saw the first sergeant crying and (muttering) 'I'm tired of losing my

guys."

Moore said his most humbling experience was when he heard the mortar rounds.

"At any time, any part of the day you can hear the loud whistling, followed by a loud explosion," Moore said. "You don't know what to think, you're just hoping and praying that it doesn't land near me."

Since Moore's return, he has grown spiritually.

"I don't take life for granted anymore," he said. "I have a bigger appreciation for life and for freedom."

Moore is a marketing major, but plans to change his major to graphic communications to start a magazine focusing on black college culture.

Since coming back from Iraq, these men have taken up the task of finding all Aggies who are enlisted in the military and all that have been deployed to different sites overseas.

The "Back from Iraq," an organization in which Kearney, Williams and Moore hope to get off of the ground, wants to send care packages and e-mails overseas to other soldiers to let them know they are not forgotten. The group is still working on compiling a list.

Iraq has become a home to some of our Aggie peers. It is hardly undeniable that the war has delivered a turning point in our society or to the university.

For these particular three men, life will never be the same.

Police Briefs

Aug. 22

**Arrest
Pride Hall**

A female juvenile, non-student was arrested for driving her mother's vehicle without a licence. The incident took place on N. Benbow Street. Citations were issued to driver and owner of vehicle.

**Call for Service
Aggie Village**

A female student reported her ex-boyfriend harassing her by following her around campus and calling her friends, attempting to obtain her new telephone number. Her vehicle was broken into and her cell was taken. During an interview, a non-student and ex-boyfriend admitted to harassment.

**Armed Robbery
Corbett Sports Center**

A female student reported

while with a male resident-student friend being approached by a black male suspect. Suspect advised both victims to empty pockets and remove jewelry. Estimate cost of property is \$730. There were no injuries.

**Vandalism
Barbee Hall**

A female student reported someone poured shampoo on her bed linen and peanuts on her desk. There was no forced entry and due to history of altercations with roommate, roommate is suspect. There was no permanent damage.

Aug. 23

**Personal Injury
Memorial Student Union**

A student reported falling off shuttle while stepping off. There were non-life threatening injuries. Student refused EMS and would treat himself.

**Robbery
Barbee Hall**

Female student reported she and a male friend were robbed at gunpoint by two unknown black males at Barbee Hall. A gold necklace was stolen. Estimate cost of property is \$100.

**Common Threats
Pride Hall**

A male student resident reported ex-girlfriend, student threatened to kill him. This was a result of terminating the relationship.

Aug. 24

**Drug Violation
Bluford Library**

A student was charged with felony possession of marijuana. Suspect was arrested and taken to jail. There was a secure bond.

**Resist/Delay/Obstruction
Nocho Street**

Non faculty/staff/student was charged with resist delay and obstruction and assault on a law enforcement officer.

Aug. 25

**Sick Call
Aggie Suites**

A female resident student reported to EMS experiencing chest pain. This wasn't the first time the resident was experiencing the pain. Student was transported to Moses Cone for evaluation and treatment.

**Lost Property
Webb Hall**

A student non-resident reported losing a wallet at Webb Auditorium. Estimated value is \$110.

compiled by Tiffany Mallory



SUBMITTED PHOTO

From left to right: Aggies Aaron Melton, Sylvester Wilson and Melvin Kearney pause as they transport Iraqi prisoners to Tikrit.

GTRC holds public hearing



PHOTO BY MIKE MCCRAY

The GTRC discussed the massacre that occurred in southeast Greensboro Nov. 3, 1979.

BY RICHARD WADE
Contributor

The Greensboro Truth and Reconciliation Commission (GTRC) held the second of three public hearings on Aug. 27.

The organization discussed the historical events surrounding the massacre on Nov. 3, 1979 in southeast Greensboro.

The shootings involved members of the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) and the Communist Workers Party (CWP) who worked at Whitehouse Mills in Greensboro.

The GTRC was created to examine how and why the massacre happened. Members of the commission said they feel that this openness will help resolve issues and serve as a model for peace.

The five victims in this incident were all members of the CWP that

existed in Greensboro at the time. In remembrance, five chairs were reserved and white roses were placed in them during the hearing. Eighty-eight seconds of silence were observed to honor those who died on that day.

Virginia Turner of Pinehurst, N.C., was the first to speak. After moving to Greensboro at age 9, she eventually became employed at Whitehouse Mills the year of the shooting. Turner explained that the communist aspect was not shared by the majority of its black members.

Turner said that the union's communist views were an undertone to its main objectives of fairness in the workplace and equal education opportunities.

Turner explained that health issues, old and partially operable machines and favoritism always

kept the reclusive employee organization on its toes.

The union met in bathrooms and would also hand out flyers for rallies outside of the plant. Turner skipped the rally on November 3, 1979 to catch-up on rest for the next day's work, but when she heard of the shooting on the Morningside News, she received a rude awakening.

Rev. Cardes Brown, another speaker at the hearing, said he remembered the day all too well. His church, Morningside Baptist, is located between Everret St. and McConnell Road. Brown was given a chilling front-row seat to the carnage of that day.

His congregation was also horrified at the fact that the Klansmen were acquitted at of the crime.

"It had the city in an uproar," Brown said.

Rev. Jesse Jackson and he voiced their stance that this should never be allowed to happen anywhere without proper police presence and supervision. Some, even in Brown's church, felt his associates and he were out of line in their actions. Brown was almost impeached by his church.

"I pray for racial harmony," Brown said. "I see progress, but times seem worse due to the broadening gap between cultures."

Leah Wise, member of the Citizens Review Commission (CRC), lived in Durham at the time of the shooting.

"We immediately assembled a conference in Decatur, Ga., where it was decided to have a demonstration in Greensboro on Feb. 2 of the following year," Wise said.

The CWP was 'outraged about the deaths of its member. Among the issues that led to the demonstration's failure was the CWP's desire to carry firearms for protection, despite the movement's desire to ban weapons from political functions.

Michael Curtis, a lawyer and member of the CRC, "(to his knowledge) the massacre stemmed from an already bitter past and the crashing of a KKK movie viewing of the racist film, 'Birth of a Nation.'"

Members of the KKK were beaten with pipes and dared to come to the union rally on Nov. 3, 1979. Curtis, who completely is against the views of the KKK said, "I believe their freedom of speech and religion was attacked that day, and these actions provoked the KKK to action."

The police were not present at the time of the shooting.

Lawrence Morse just happened to be out of town during the rally, but would have most likely been there if not. He explains that since Nov. 3, the Klan has continuously attempted to haunt Greensboro with its presence.

When the CRC heard of their grant to parade in 1987, they were again in an uproar. Morse said he was saddened and surprised that the Greensboro city commissioners produced 6,000 signatures in rebuttal of their pleas to stop the demonstration.

As an alternative, the CRC produced their own demonstration to counteract the KKK's efforts.

Weekly Update

Sept. 1

7:30 p.m.

BLUE REIGN DANCE TEAM TRYOUTS
Exhibit Hall

10:30 p.m.

OBSESSION-NIGHT LIFE ON CLOUD 9
Rumba Latina

Sept. 2

10:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

1ST ANNUAL LABOR DAY
BLACK KOTTON AFFAIR
CheapSeats

Must wear shades of black and white

Sept. 3

8:30 a.m.

AGGIE-EAGLE CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT
The Crossings Golf Club, Raleigh

10 a.m.

AGGIE-EAGLE STREET FESTIVAL
BTI Center Plaza, Raleigh

2 p.m.

AGGIE-EAGLE BATTLE OF THE BANDS
Raleigh Convention and Conference Center

8 p.m.

AGGIE-EAGLE STEP SHOW & AFTER PARTY
Raleigh Convention & Conference Center
Doors open at 6 p.m.

Sept. 4

2:30p.m.

BBQ COOK-OFF
Alltel Pavilion

4 p.m.

SOUL FEST
Alltel Pavilion

Sept. 5

LABOR DAY-NO SCHOOL

1:30 p.m.

AGGIE-EAGLE CLASSIC FOOTBALL GAME
N.C. A&T State vs. N.C. Central
Raleigh, N.C.
Carter-Finley Stadium

HOMECOMING continued from Page 1

year's concert.

"Kanye West did not fit our budget," he said. "He would have cost \$225,000."

Williams said that the package of seven artists that will perform next month cost nearly the same amount.

According to Williams, about 14,700 people attended the 2003 homecoming concert when Lil Jon and T.I. performed. Williams said that this year's concert will have a unique production quality.

"We are spending a lot of money to have a better look," he said. Each artist is planned to have props and other special features.

Tickets will go on sale on Sept. 2. Brooks said that there will be 1000 tickets sold for \$20 to A&T students.

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PHOTO BY LAURA MORTON

Although energy drinks advertise they give you a boost, food and medical experts say they can cause dehydration and be dangerous for the young and active.

Energy drinks considered dangerous by experts

By ARI BLOOMEKATZ
KRT

SEATTLE--By virtue of their name, energy drinks would seemingly provide at least one thing—energy.

Rockstar promises a better party. SoBe's Adrenaline Rush promises, well, a rush. Other drinks boast superhuman vigor with names such as Killer Buzz, Full Throttle or Rip It. Red Bull says, "It gives you wings."

No way, say medical experts. Not only do such drinks fail to offer a special boost, they say, their high caffeine and sugar content causes dehydration and could be dangerous for the young and active.

"These drinks are marketing ploys. I'm not aware of any scientific data that they do what they say they're going to do," said Mark Kantor, professor of family and consumer sciences and nutrition at the University of Maryland.

"They don't give you more energy," Kantor said. "A nutritionist defines energy as calories."

"If you refer to energy as something that gives you pep and zip and stamina, that's just a myth. There's nothing that provides that in food."

Energy drinks, which have high amounts of caffeine and ingredients such as taurine and glucuronolactone, have exploded in the beverage market since 1997. Most of the explosion has been among young people.

Some guzzle down the drinks at clubs and bars, mixing them with liquor; others tank up before playing in a sports event or grab a can to prepare for the workday or to stay awake and study.

Such uses trouble doctors. "(Energy drinks) get to be problematic when used in combination with alcohol or when used before sports or with kids," said Maher Karam-Hage, medical director of the Chelsea Arbor Addiction Treatment Center at the University of Michigan.

The main cause of concern, doctors say, is that the drinks cause extreme dehydration.

Before high-energy sporting events, some athletes use energy drinks seeking an extra kick. But some doctors and medical experts say energy drinks not only don't help, they could actually hinder an athlete's performance.

But the companies still recommend a pre-game drink.

Suzanne Nelson, former nutritionist for the University of Washington athletic programs and now with the San Francisco 49ers, said she would never tell athletes to use the drinks.

"That energized feeling is temporary, and it's not a substitute for usable energy in the form of carbohydrates," Nelson said.

A spokesperson for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said manufacturers of energy drinks must be responsible for ensuring safety before their products hit the market. If the drinks pose a risk to public health or have labeling that is misleading, the FDA will step in.

Iraq misses deadline to make constitution

By RICHARD CHIN AND
TOM LASSETER
KRT

BAGHDAD, Iraq--Iraq's ruling coalition missed another deadline to complete a constitution last Thursday, putting off until Aug. 28 a national assembly meeting to consider the document.

Shiite Muslim and Kurdish leaders, who dominate Iraqi politics, said they expected the document would be approved, while Sunni Muslim Arabs charged that the delay, the second missed deadline this week, violated the law and required that the national assembly be dissolved.

The Shiites and the Kurds have

the clout to ignore Sunni complaints for now. The Sunnis have few seats in the national assembly because they largely boycotted last January's election.

But the Sunnis are expected to turn out in larger numbers this fall when Iraqis are due to vote on the constitution. If the Sunnis are able to muster a two-thirds rejection of the document in three of the country's 18 provinces, the referendum will be defeated and the process of drafting a new constitution will have to begin all over again.

Iraqi and American officials had hoped to rally Sunni support for the constitution and thus sap strength from the largely Sunni-backed insurgency.

But the delay in completing the document, it was first to have been submitted to the assembly by Aug. 15, a deadline that was extended to Aug. 29, has left the ruling coalition looking confused in the midst of an explosion of violence.

Authorities reported the discovery last Thursday of 36 bodies, found handcuffed, naked, shot and dumped by a road near Kut, about 100 miles southeast of Baghdad. There was no identification of the bodies.

The find came a day after fighting between rival Shiite sects killed as many as two dozen people in Najaf, and a daring daylight insurgent ambush left 13 police officers and 27 civilians dead in Baghdad.

Fighting between the rival Shiites appeared to have ended Thursday.

Laith Kuba, the spokesman for Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari, said negotiators were nearing completion of three disputed articles of the constitution that had been blamed for the document's delay. He left little doubt that the Shiite and Kurdish factions intend to approve the document with or without Sunni support.

"By the end of the day, we should have a completed version of the draft," he said. "It will not please everybody, but there's an amendment to those three articles."

"The assembly will then rubber-stamp it," he said.

Shiite constitutional negotiator

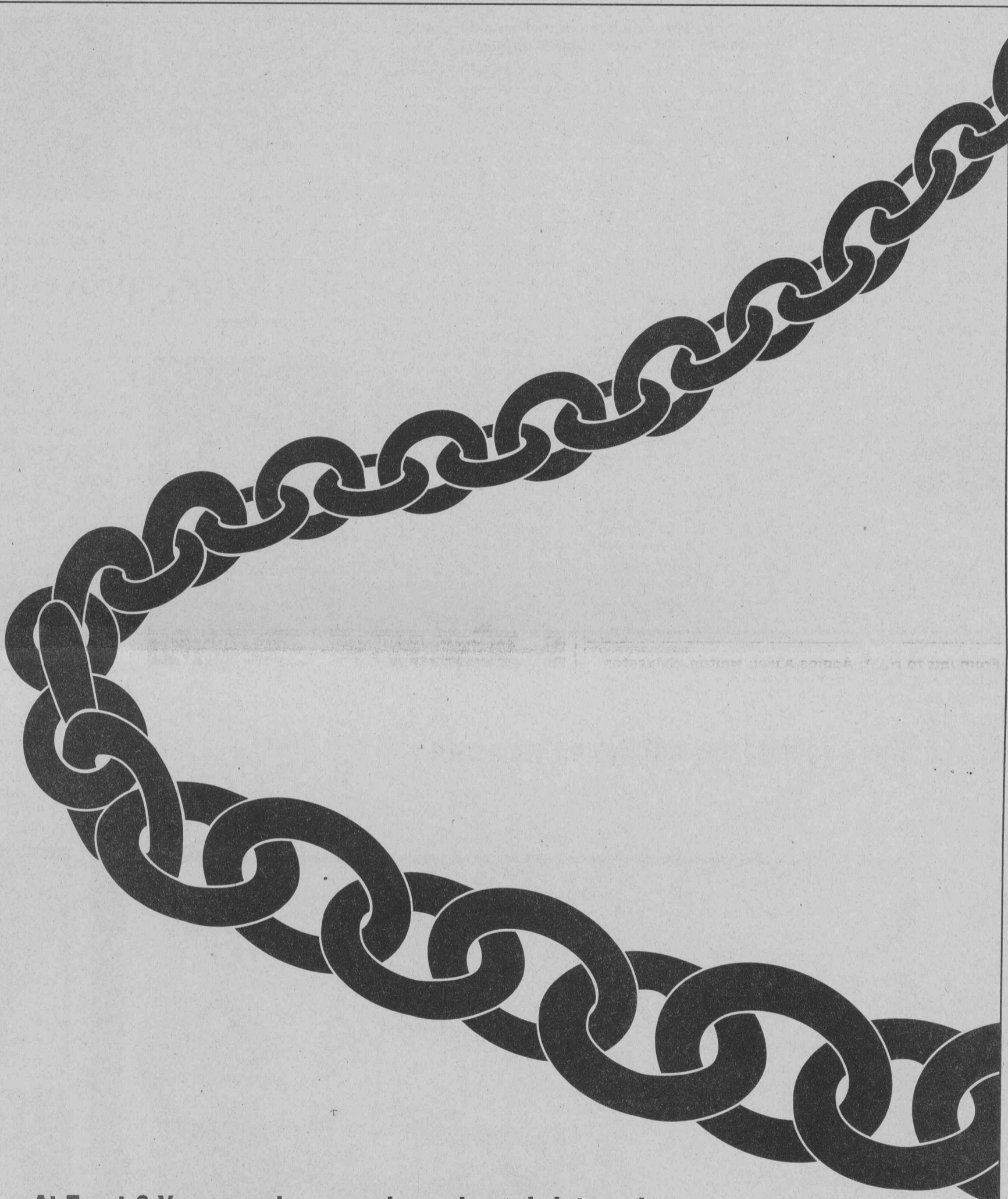
Jawad al-Maliki echoed the plan.

"What's left is the voting," al-Maliki said. "It's up to them (the Sunnis). They object, vote against it or accept it."

But Sunni negotiator Hussein Shukr al-Falluji made it clear that his faction had no plans to support the document.

"We consider it an illegal constitution under the law," he said. "They were supposed to finish it before the 22nd of August."

Analysts continued to debate how the new constitution, if it's adopted, will affect the lives of Iraqis, saying much depends on how the legislature will implement the document and how the courts will interpret it.



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Songz singz, tellz hiz bizniz

BY KASSIDY JOHNSON
News Editor

Q: How did the Twista collaboration come about?

A: Working with Twista was great. Twista is real humble, a real cool dude. I actually got a chance to meet him the year before we worked together at his album-listening party. I thought that was real cool.

Q: How long did it take you to write the album?

A: I co-produced a couple (of songs) and I wrote them all. As a collective process, it took five years for me to get this album done—just to define who Trey Songz is as an artist. [I wanted] to bring a collection of songs together that was a good representation of who I was. I have been signed with Atlantic Records for going on two years, but working on this album started a long time ago.

Q: Track 3 of your album is a song 'Cheat on You.' What would make you cheat on me?

A: I would cheat if I was giving my all, my everything to you and you [aren't giving it back to me] ain't excepting it as my all my everything. Like women are on the other side of the spectrum. As though you're giving your all and for some reason they not giving you their all back, and you don't want to leave because you love them, but you gotta cheat.

Q: Who are your idols?

A: An idol to me or somebody I look up to is never a star or somebody that was on television. It's my mama, my grandma, my aunts and just people that just made something out of nothing. So, I would most definitely say my mama and my grandma.

Q: What are you working on now?

A: I'm constantly working. I got over 200 songs recorded. I haven't had a lot of time to record because I've been on the road, but I take

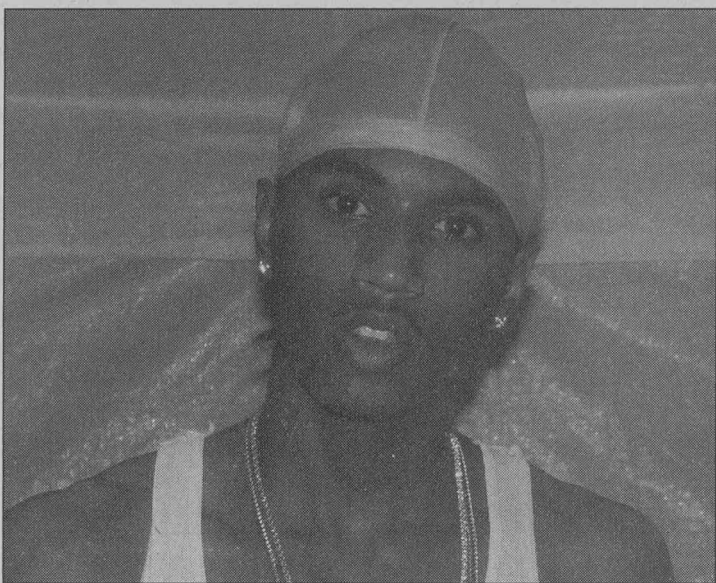


PHOTO BY CANDRA WHITLEY

Trey Songz performed downtown as a part of the Get Down! Town concert series on Aug. 27.

the studio with me everywhere I go. Troy [Taylor], my producer, we got a song we working on for his project.

Q: Outside of that I'm always working on my stuff; I'm still on mix tapes heavy and it's just a constant grind for me baby. The second album is going to be something totally crazy. Right now I'm playing by the rules.

Q: You've been compared to acts such as Omarion and Mario? What makes you different from the rest?

A: Everything I do is me. I'm not trying to be nothing I'm not. When I put my clothes on, I do it the way I would [normally do]. No body is telling me to do it.

Q: So do you have any children?

A: Nope.

Q: When is your birthday?

A: Nov. 28. I'm a Sagittarius.

Q: Where do your words come from? You're so young, this can't possibly be life experience.

A: Why it can't? It's a combination of life experience as well as when you walk through life everyday. You see more than what is your own experience or the person next to you experience. One thing

about me I'm very observant and whether its my situation or somebody else's situation, I can put it into a song because everything is a song for me.

Q: What do you look for in a woman?

A: Most importantly to me, is her sex appeal. And what sex appeal is to me is not what you wear or how your hair is; it's your swagger; it's how you are. You could be sexy in a wife-beater and some dirty sweat pants. Sex appeal is what you got when you wake up in the morning. Outside of that I mean beauty inside and out, intelligent, and down to earth. I'm a real regular dude, I like somebody that can have fun and just joke and chill out.

Q: If we were to get in your car right now who would be in your CD player?

A: Probably Young Jeezy.

Q: Anything else you want to tell your adoring fans?

A: Hey, I love ya. Keep supporting ya boy and I'm gonna keep giving you good stuff to support.

No headliners for soul show

BY DAMECHE MADURO-
JOHNSON
Contributor

The Soulfest concert will be held at Raleigh's Alltel Pavilion on Sept. 4 at 4 p.m.

Angie Stone, Vivian Green, Kem and Will Downing will be performing. Saxophonist Gerald Albright and soul-jazz guitarist Norman Brown are the two instrumentalists for Sunday evening.

According to Suzanne Golden, the public relations specialist for the Alltel Pavilion, the Soulfest concert will not have a major headliner.

"No headliner per se," Golden said. "Just seven great artists sharing the stage."

Though a specific headliner has not been chosen, neo-soul artist, Angie Stone, has received the most limelight for the upcoming event. Stone has come a long way from her childhood days in Columbia, S.C., where she began singing in her church.

From 1979 to 1982, Stone was a member of the female rap trio, The Sequence, who jumped on the

scene with their hit song "Funk You Up." She later joined another group called, Vertical Hold. The group released several hit singles including "Summertime," "Seems You're Much Too Busy" and "ASAP."

In 1996, under the guidance of rocker Lenny Kravitz's cousin, Gerry Deveaux, Stone became a solo artist. She released her debut album "Black Diamond" in September 1999. The album had guest appearances by several artists including A Tribe Called Quest's Ali Shaheed Muhammad and D'Angelo.

Her second album, "Mahogany Soul," released in 2001, features a

duet with fellow soulster Musiq Soulchild and the hit song "Brotha" with production by the legendary Raphael Saadiq and guest performances from rapper Eve and songbird/pianist Alicia Keys.

In concert, Stone will be sure to perform tracks from her latest album, "Stone Love."

Tickets are available online at www.ticketmaster.com. Prices start at \$26 for lawn seating and \$58.75 for club and VIP seating.



PHOTO COURTESY ALLTEL PAVILION

Angie Stone and others will be performing at the Soulfest concert in Raleigh.

Block party proves to be entertaining

BY CANDRA WHITLEY
Contributor

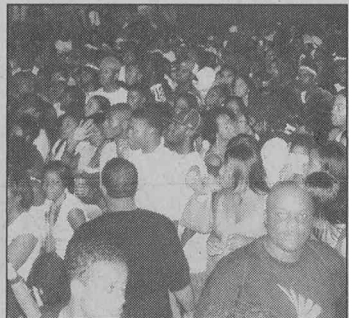


PHOTO KASSIDY JOHNSON

College students swarmed to see Saturday's events.

If you were anywhere around Elm Street this weekend you might have noticed that it looked a lot like Franklin Street on Halloween night. That's because this past Saturday was the fourth annual Get Down! Town event, sponsored by Crown Automotive. The event included food, drinks and live performances.

There was a mini step show given by the Alpha Nu Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and a fashion show courtesy of the UNCG's Cliché and A&T's Couture Productions.

On the first stage, alternative

singer Michael Tolcher gave a crowd-stirring performance when he sang for the students and allowed a few of them to freestyle while his band played.

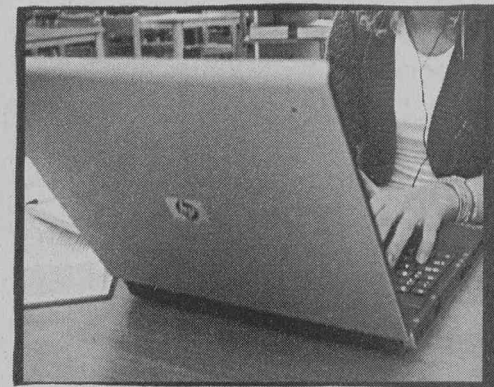
The best performances of the night, though, came from A&T's Go-Go band, the H.O.O.D. Band and headliner Trey Songz. Despite technical difficulties and a passing train, Trey Songz gave a great performance.

The downtown environment brought out quite a few people and it allowed two different genres to come together in a way that was fun and stimulating.

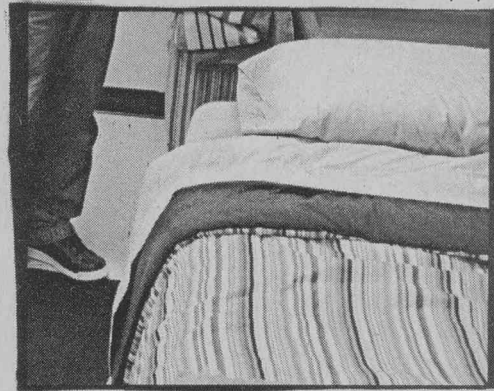
Share your space, but live on your own.



All furnishings pictured are from Wal-Mart.



HP Laptop



Bedding



Storage

Get everything for your dorm room at Walmart.com and still afford tuition.

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What's Next!!

*Club and Class
Don't Mix*



BY CANDRA WHITLEY

The Fashion Expert

This is a topic that I hold dear to my heart. I've gotten stopped by quite a few people and have been asked to write about this topic. Ladies, why do you wear club clothes to class?

Club nights are usually Wednesday through Saturday NOT Mondays or any time before 10 p.m.

Now, there are quite a few ladies I've seen on campus dressing as if they are going to Alexander Devereux's at 1:35 p.m.! I don't understand. When you are on your way to class at 8 a.m., do you not get the sense that you are over-dressed? Don't you hear that nagging voice in the back of your head saying "does this really look right?" Doesn't that get to you? It should.

Our campus has been plagued by over-accessorized, too made-up, over-dressed people who can't differentiate between night and day wear.

Many of today's fashion trends can be mistaken as daytime appropriate when in fact, they are not. Some stuff just shouldn't be worn on campus.

Every fashion magazine gives tips as to what can transform an outfit from daytime to nighttime. Pick one up--Cosmopolitan, Vogue, Ladies Home Journal. Any of these publications can provide sufficient information on how to dress in a more "appropriate" manner.

Here are a few clues to see if you are committing this heinous fashion crime. If you wear:

1. A black silky shirt to class, regardless of the style of the shirt (not including the camisole-style shirts)
2. A dress that would not be considered a sun dress
3. Lots of "sparkly" jewelry that has coordinating earrings
4. Super-short skirts with heels. Technically, that is "class" appropriate, but wearing flats will take it from club to class
5. A full face of makeup--foundation, blush, black/smoky shadow, etc.
6. Shorts (not jean material) that make your "cheeks" hang out
7. See through shirts or anything crochet (Period)

I saw all of these infractions just last week during one sitting. Luckily, I didn't have a camera.

These things could have been avoided by just asking somebody, "is this too much?" It doesn't hurt to ask. I'm sure with all the opinions on this campus, somebody would've told you the truth. Do yourself a favor.

The streets are watching!

Any topics on your mind?
Email the expert at
ayantee_fashion@hotmail.com

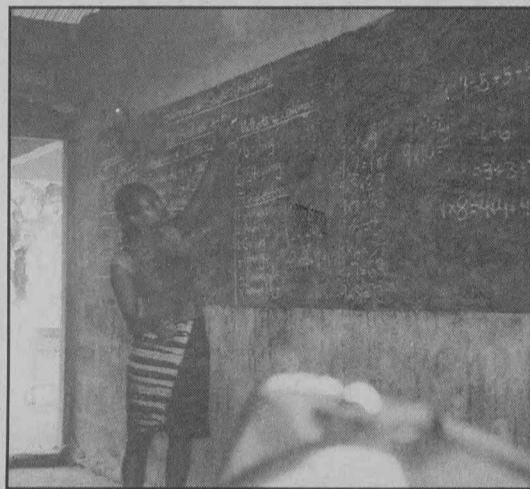
Great heights in Ghana

Senior marketing major, Khalila White spent two months during the summer in Ghana. She traveled there with Operation Crossroads Africa, an educational and cultural exchange program that allows Americans to learn about the African culture by living and working there. See page 6 for White's commentary about her experience.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

White climbed the highest mountain in Ghana, Mt. Afadjato.



Aside from helping renovate a kindergarten classroom, White taught math and English to primary school students.



While attending vocational school, White made trips to the local market to purchase fabric for sewing lessons.



Mushroom cultivation is very important to the people in the Liate Wote village.



White poses with children from the Liate Wote village.

Just Curious...

BY STANCHEKA BOONE
Features Editor



1. Has Facebook.com replaced Blackplanet.com?
2. Are you defeating the purpose of Facebook.com if you don't have a picture?
3. Why is A&T called a "party school" when we only have about two gym jams a year?
4. Why do some guys have prettier hair than most girls?
5. Why do cars need gas and a battery to operate?
6. If you had to choose, would you rather freeze to death or burn up?
7. Where do socks go when they disappear?
8. Do A&T security guards make you feel safe?
9. Has Playstation succeeded in replacing girlfriends?
10. Is it possible to survive without going to Wal-Mart at least once a week?
11. Is Spongebob Squarepants the only acceptable children's cartoon for college students to watch?
12. Is it too late for guys who don't already have cornrows to start growing their hair out?
13. Why do UNC-G students skip their own homecoming, but come to ours?
14. What is the limit for the number of pictures of yourself on your camera phone?
15. There's talk about selling breast milk in stores. Would you give your infant milk from another woman's breast?
16. Or continue giving him milk from a cow's breast?
17. When is Master P going to retire?
18. How many A&T athletes can you name?
19. How many UNC-Chapel Hill athletes can you name?
20. Isn't that sad?

Dreadlocks: first a religious style, now a fad

BY PORTIA RANKIN
Contributor

The word "dreadlock" comes from Jamaica—"dread" meaning fear and horror and "locks" refers to the process of locking the hair.

According to perfectdreadlocks.com, dreadlocks became popular in Jamaica by those who practiced the Afro-Christian religion, Rastafarianism. Rastafarianism stresses non-conformity and peaceful rebelliousness.

The religion emerged in the 1920's when Jamaicans wanted to revert back to African ideals. They were attempting to reclaim a vision of Africa that they felt was taken from them when they were brought to Jamaica on slave ships.

As time passed, people of non-Jamaican roots began bearing dreadlocks.

Mario's Barber Shop and Hair Studio stylist, Mario Bright, said the hair must be all-natural, with the exception of color, to start the process and it takes around six months to lock the hair.

"What locks the hair are the kinks," he said.

Bright said dreadlocks should be retightened and washed every six to eight weeks.

Having the hair done too often can cause the hair to bend and

break off. Too much tension, such as pulling hair into ponytails, can pull the hair out.

Bright explained the different styles of locks. He said those typically worn by Rastafarians are considered African dreadlocks.

The locks are formed with a solution of bee's wax and herbs. The solution is put in the palm of the hand and hair is rolled until it becomes matted.

Hair gel is commonly used to start and maintain American locks. They are smaller and have less risk of breaking than African locks.

Ziggie Bell, freshman laboratory animal science major, said her brother inspired her to get locks. She has worn them for two years and before having locks, her hair was "all natural," without chemicals.

Bell said that one of the worst things about having locks is being stereotyped.

"People automatically classify you as a marijuana smoker and a Rasta," she said.

Quentin Watkins, junior history major, allowed his hair to grow for a year before having it twisted into dreadlocks about two months ago. He said that although some of his family members have worn dreadlocks for years, he has his own reason for bearing the locks.

"[My dreadlocks] are an act of rebellion towards America and towards the system," Watkins said.

Blake Ward, sophomore mechanical engineering major, said his dreadlocks were not planned. A friend asked if she could twist his hair and his response was, "I don't care."

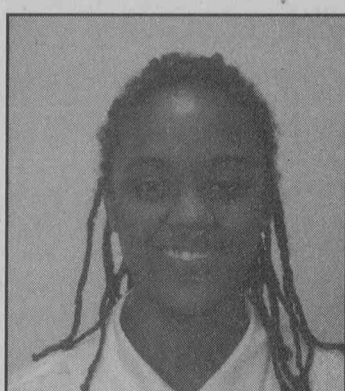
After Ward was adorned with locks he emersed himself in the Rastafarian culture. He said dreadlocks are a symbol of who you are, and represents Rasta strength and individuality. He has had locks for over four years.

Chris Smith, freshman mechanical engineering major, said he began locking his hair six years ago because everyone in his family has them.

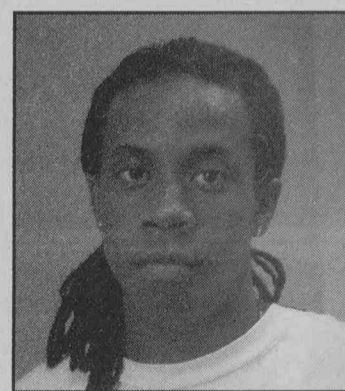
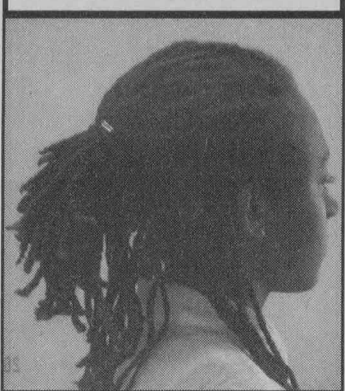
Smith said that the problem with his dreadlocks is that he can not get his hair wet and wrapping his hair consumes a lot of time. He also said that because of the dreadlocks, it was difficult for him to get a job.

"But I ended up finding one at a Dairy Queen," Smith said.

Smith washes his hair once a month with olive oil shampoo. He also uses olive oil hair grease to keep his dreads from drying.



"People automatically classify you as a marijuana smoker," said Ziggie Bell, freshman laboratory animal science major.



Christopher Smith, freshman mechanical engineering major, said he began locking his hair six years ago.





The summer trip of a lifetime

BY KHALILA WHITE
Guest commentary

How many of us Aggies spend our summers working, or going "back home," in summer school, or doing absolutely nothing with our lives? Well, I'm sure there are a small percentage of students who actually leave the country and go to a continent like no other. How many people actually spend their summers meaningfully? I myself had the summer experience of a lifetime, which was spent in Ghana, Africa. Not only was this experience meaningful because I returned back to the land in which my ancestors resided, but I had the opportunity to reach to greater community through cross-cultural exchange. Throughout my journey in Africa, I learned how to accept the uniqueness in other people and challenge myself to think outside the box, while learning about myself. I was able to grow tremendously.



I traveled with Operation Crossroads Africa, an educational and cultural exchange organization started in 1958 by Rev. James H. Robinson, a Presbyterian minister. My adventure began at orientation at Adelphi University. This is where I met the other members of my group going to Ghana, and all the other groups going to other countries in Africa. There were groups in places like Kenya, Senegal, Malawi, Gambia and South Africa.

At orientation, I learned about cross-cultural exchanges and met the other people going to Africa. The way the program is designed you are immersed with a random group from all walks of life, rich to poor, difference races, from all over the U.S. and Canada. At orientation is where I first started to recognize the difference in people, and how much there is out here to learn about life. All of these people were unique, and they all had something to contribute to this experience. The various groups participated in different ice-breakers, which really made you THINK and challenged you to step outside the box. By the time we departed, we were no longer strangers.

Finally, I was off on the plane, on my way to Africa. I was prepared to embark on any mission that came my way. I definitely did not know exactly what to expect, but that was the exciting part. I suddenly had a great feeling come over me as I stepped off the plane and onto a land like no other. We (the 3 Ghana groups) were greeted by two previous Crossroads, whom today reside in Ghana. They took us to a restaurant to get some delicious traditional African food and entertainment. As we ate Jollof rice, fish and vegetables we were entertained by a local dance troupe. They invited us to participate, so I picked up some new dance moves. After the meal, we headed for the University of Ghana, Lagon.

We resided at the University for one night. This is where we had a second orientation with the three other Ghana groups, and met our African counterparts. Our counterparts gave us a better understanding of the African culture and what exactly we would be doing for the upcoming weeks. After orientation, I said my goodbyes to the other groups and was on my way to Liate Wote. This was a small village in the Volta Region of Ghana.

The second day in the village we were greeted by the community with a welcoming ceremony and palm wine. At this moment I knew I was home. The people in the community opened up their homes and their hearts. It was overpowering to know that these people had barely anything financially and physically, but holistically and spiritually, these people had everything. I have never seen children smile like the ones in Liate Wote. The kids would smile, wave and call my name as I walked through the village. It gave me a feeling of security and fulfillment. These people had qualities of strength, belief, beauty,

significance and giving. It was a wonderful thing to be able to share and learn from the Ghanaian people.

Living in the village was a challenge for me at first. My group ended up staying at the guesthouse (a large mud hut) of the village. We had three rooms, two persons to each room. Our living conditions ended up being pretty nice, compared to other groups.

The toilet was outside near the woods, in which many insects resided. These insects just stared at you as you used the bathroom. Then I had to bucket bathe. This is when you go to the well and fill your bucket with water from the well. You then take a small bucket and pour water on you, lather, and then you pour more water on you to rinse off. I definitely learned how to conserve water. Around the house there were snakes and every kind of bug you can think of. After a while it just became a way of life.

In the village I taught English and math at primary school, cultivated mushrooms, helped the local women with processing palm oil, renovated a kindergarten classroom and painted a mural on the walls of the kindergarten. I also had the opportunity to do research on Ghanaian market women. Through this, I was able to apply what I learned in the classroom to everyday, worldly situations.

On the weekends my group and I traveled to the various regions of Ghana. I climbed the highest mountain in Ghana, which was definitely a challenge. I visited the monkey sanctuary, slave castles, canoed, went on a cruise of the Volta Lake, and went to Accra (the capitol) for a fashion show and a little clubbing. The list of my adventures is tremendous, and unforgettable.

Through these diverse situations, I was challenged to participate in activities and work with people that I would not normally work with. This elevated my mind to really recognize and appreciate the difference in people and things. Everyone was creative in their own way, and could each contribute something to the experience. I learned how small the world really is, and although there are differences, how similar we are to our neighbors.

On the plane ride back to America I reminisced on my experience...how much I gained toward my personal growth, and how glad I was that I accomplished such an incredible mission. I remembered thinking that I would miss out on something here in America, debating whether I should go, all before I made the final decision to go to Ghana. I talked to people who gave me inspiration about their own experiences abroad, and it made me want to conquer this personal goal. Once it was time to go I prepared my mind, went, and once I stepped foot on the sands of the Motherland, my mind, body, and spirit were set free. This was an AMAZING experience. Words cannot describe some of the miraculous feelings that I have. One has to experience a trip like this to truly understand.

Through my journey, I realized that it is imperative to expect the unexpected, for there is always something new to acquire or be faced with, or to accept. I have established lifelong friendships with some of the Operation Crossroads participants and African counterparts. This is an experience of a lifetime, which will never be forgotten.

We as college students need to begin to step outside of the one box of thinking, and realize that the world is ours. We can do whatever we put our minds to accomplish. For more information about the Operations Crossroads program, I can be contacted at knwhite@ncat.edu or you can go to the website www.operationcrossroadsafrica.org for further information.

Words of Wisdom: Remember you are the pilot of your own life. YOU have the power to steer it in any direction you wish to fly...Peace, BE FREE and reach for the stars!!!

Take the A&T Four off parking stickers Letters to the editor

The A&T Four (or the Greensboro Four, depending on the publication) are symbolic of civil disobedience for social change. This country is a direct result of civil disobedience.

The Four are forever immortalized in civil rights lore. A statue of them stands at the front of Dudley Hall, and the statue is now embossed on A&T parking stickers.

Last year, the parking sticker featured the Aggie Dog mascot. This year, we have the A&T Four.

The A&T Four deserve to be honored for what they started on Feb. 1, 1960, but putting them on the A&T parking sticker is not a good way to show them recognition.

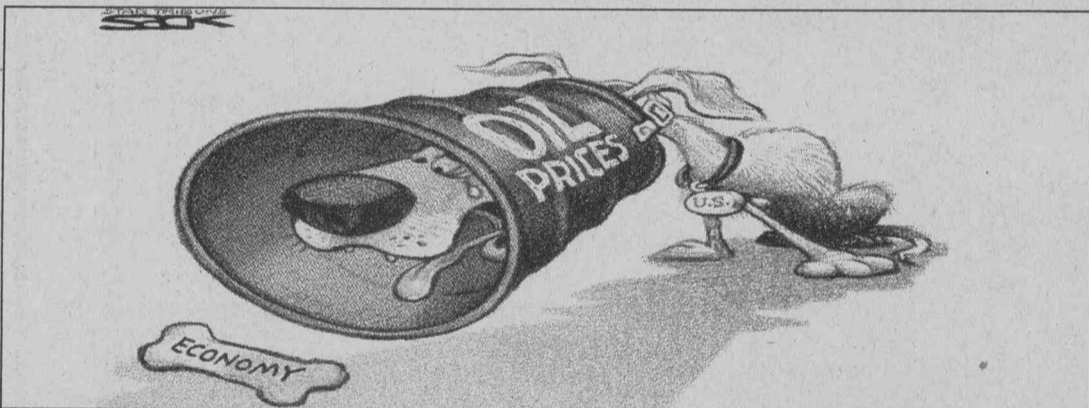
Editorials in the above column represent the opinions of the A&T Register editorial board.

The A&T Four are synonymous with the beginning of a long, hard struggle for equal rights. Parking at A&T is synonymous with the beginning of a long, hard day.

The A&T Four are symbolic of bravery in the face of danger. Parking at A&T is symbolic of next to impossible.

The A&T Four are remembered as heroes. Parking at A&T is remembered as a necessary evil.

It's an odd decision to pair one of A&T's greatest moments with one of its biggest nuisances. A parking sticker costs \$200. One day, there may be a new set of freshmen to protest the cost and difficulty of parking.



Quiz bowl, anyone?

BY CHAD ROBERTS
Copy Desk Chief

Who is the singer they called Old Blue Eyes, with connections to the mafia? In Greek mythology, what was the name of the god of war? On what date did President Bush declare an end to major combat in Iraq?

Is this useless information? Yeah, unless you're trying to make A&T's quiz bowl team. Why else would anyone care?

And I don't mean to scare you, but there are others, at A&T and every other HBCU, who have collected these trivia-type facts during life without a place or occasion to put them to use. Hello, quiz bowl.

Here's how it works: Every year, car - manufacturer Honda sponsors a quiz bowl for the top black colleges. Of all the black colleges, only 64 are invited to Florida. The tournament is in Orlando, Fla. and the winners get money for their school.

The hard part, from my understanding, is making the team. Each university holds an in-house quiz bowl tournament among different student organizations. There is also a "core" group of quiz bowl hopefuls, con-

stantly studying and preparing for the Orlando tournament.

The top performers from the campus tournament and the brightest from the core group are selected by the A&T quiz bowl team coach to compete in Florida. The competition is tough.

The 64 teams are divided into eight divisions. Each team in each division spends the first two days playing teams in the same division. The top two teams from each division then advance to the playoff round of 16.

A&T has qualified for the playoffs every year since 1996, but never won a national championship. A&T reached the quarterfinals in 2002, the school's highest finish ever. Last year's team - Brian Marsh, Shannon Banks, William Griffin, Jamal Payne and Justin Bullock - lost in the first round of the playoffs to eventual runner-up Morehouse College.

Maybe this will be the year A&T wins the championship, or at least beats six-time winner Florida A&M. I just hope I make the team and get the chance to compete against some of the best and brightest.

Answers: Frank Sinatra, Ares, May 2, 2003.

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Dear Editor,

I was elated to read Anthony Stevens' letter to the editor last week. It is not often that the government or people who support it whether it be national, local, or institutional takes such an interest in controlling news. It is also not often the government interferes with the media; and it just dawned on me why.

While the government (SGA) is often the subject of media, it is not a part of the media. The reasoning is to insure the freedom of speech. If a branch of government controlled the media, free speech would be impossible because they would make decisions on what should or should not go into the news.

There should never be an election process by the general public to decide the editor in chief of a newspaper or any news agency; nor should that editor in chief be an agent of the government. Is the director of programming of WNAA elected by the student body? Just curious.

Erica Franklin, I personally know is one of, if not the most qualified individuals on this campus to hold the position of editor in chief.

Stevens said last week that he would not give himself, "a title without the correct paperwork and proof of election to back it up!"

Those are his thoughts, as he pointed out in the letter last week.

Erica Franklin is the editor in chief. She claimed her position when she edited this year's first newspaper. Her staff acknowledges it when they are subordinate to her leadership. The students recognized it when the first paper was printed and her name appeared above the title editor in chief.

Mr. Stevens you need to recognize that Erica Franklin is the editor in chief and if you look at her portfolio she has the paperwork to back it up!

Brett Harrington

CLARIFICATION

The A&T Stylebook is not about fashion. The A&T Stylebook will be used as writing guide for student journalists. I apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

Chad Roberts
Copy desk chief

Lady Aggies drop opener to Appalachian State in four

Lady Aggies drop three straight matches after winning the first

BY TERRENCE HILLIARD
Contributor

North Carolina A&T volleyball team (0-1) had a great start in the season opener, but came up short to non-conference match-up Appalachian State (1-0) on Aug. 26 in Corbett Sports Center.

The Lady Mountaineers' Stefani Panzer recorded a match-high 16 kills and three aces to lead her team to a 3-1 (22-30, 30-17, 30-24, 30-17) victory over the Lady Aggies.

The Aggies started off very strong defensively winning the first game. Outside Hitter and Second-Team All-MEAC Arlene Mitchell led the way with five kills, while middle hitter Ashley March contributed with two kills and two blocks.

Unfortunately, the Lady Aggies would not achieve the same success throughout the night as the Lady Mountaineers came back with a solid second game, hitting .349 with a match best of 16 kills.

Head coach Millicent Sylvan said that the high points of the game came from the defense; the low point was the front row and errors.

"There were too many mistakes for an experienced team," she said.

Appalachian State's Chrissy Finch had four kills, while Rachel Gates had three kills. On defense,

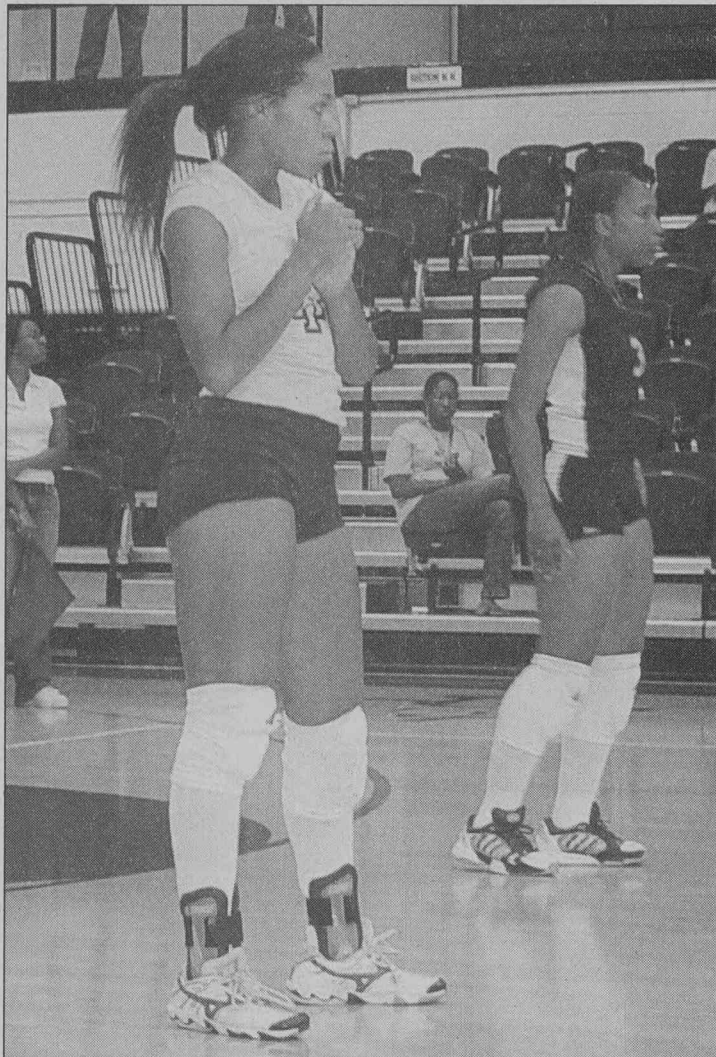
the Mountaineers were fierce and held the Aggies to a .000 percentage.

The momentum began to shift even more as Appalachian built a close 30-24 run to hold off the Aggies in game three. They later finished the Aggies off by winning the last game 30-17. The Mountaineers hit .230 for the final match compared to the Aggies' .021.

Arlene Mitchell finished with 14 kills to lead the Aggies. Lauren Walker led the defense with 20 digs. Krystal Cooper had eight kills, while Brendan Chatman had 31 assists and eight kills.

For the Lady Mountaineers, Panzer, played all four games finishing with a match-high .516 hitting percentage, compiling her 16 kills on 31 attempts with no errors. Lorelle Rau tallied a match-high and career high 43 assists. Finch joined fellow All-Southern Conference selection, Panzer, achieving 12 kills on 26 attempts, with a .346 hitting percentage while adding a service ace and 10 digs. Kali Rumberger and Rachel Gates led the Lady Mountaineers defensively with 15 and 10 digs. Appalachian State are now 5-0 all time against the Aggies and have won two-straight openers.

Sylvan said that she is looking for leadership from her juniors Lauren Walker, Arlene and Darlene Mitchell heading into the



Sophomore Krystal Cooper contributed with eight kills against ASU.

East Carolina game.

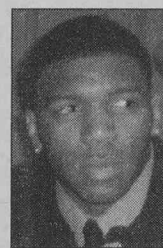
"We're gonging to go back to the basic with lots of drills and fundamentals to prepare for ECU," Sylvan said.

The Aggies will take on East Carolina, Thursday, Sept. 1 at 7 p.m., in Corbett Sports Center.

PHOTOS BY MIKE MCCRAY

Solid Gold

COMMENTARY BY
MICHAEL V. STANLEY
Sports Editor



Are you Solid Gold? N.C. A&T athletics proposed a dress code for the student body, alumni, faculty and staff to abide by for all athletics events.

The dress code insists that everyone in attendance for any athletic event wears gold to show school spirit in support of each team. The campaign was the first step to making A&T athletics more exciting.

Director of Sports Marketing and Promotions Keith E. McCluney said the concept of a color campaign came about in late May, around the time when the baseball team played Clemson in the College World Series. The department passed around shirts in the stands to all of the Aggies in attendance.

"We wanted to know what we could do on a bigger scale," McCluney said. "Initially, the first thing I did was look at what other schools were doing."

The color gold was picked over blue because it is the louder of the two; it is intended to stand out in the stands. There are several resources provided to assist people in acquiring their Aggie apparel. Aggie Mania t-shirts are being sold in the bookstore for \$9.95, Aggie Mania spirit bands will be on sale at each game for \$2.00 and citations will be given by the Spirit

Police to those who neglect to wear gold.

I think Solid Gold is a needed movement because it does affect the performing teams in a sense. The vibe that the crown gives can actually set the tone during a game; it's one of the first things opposing teams see when they walk into a stadium, gym or arena.

"A color campaign is the ultimate form of togetherness and unity," McCluney said. "When people walk in to Aggie Stadium, we want them to know that we are together."

Solid Gold is not only set out to support football and basketball, our two most dominant sports; all teams are included. The Aggie-Eagle Classic will be our first test to see how many people traveling to Carter Finley Stadium on Sept. 5 will actually wear gold.

This is indeed a challenge, I know people are used to dressing casual or wearing their hottest garments to the game and it will be interesting to see how people respond to this campaign.

McCluney said Solid Gold is trying to change the culture and the mindset when we go to games; he wants everyone to get on board and for this to be about the teams.

"I'm really excited about Sunday and especially excited about when we come home on the 10th," he said.

I want to encourage people to really get involved and wear their gold Aggie apparel to the games. The university is doing a lot of things to make this campus a better environment and the Solid Gold campaign is only going to make Aggie athletics more appealing and exciting for everyone.

Offense adds more speed at wideout

First-year starter Curtis Walls hopes to make an impact as third receiver

BY CHAD ROBERTS
Copy Desk Chief

At around 160 pounds, Curtis Walls concedes that his size puts him at a disadvantage.

"Opponents think they can jam me at the line," Walls said.

At 5 feet 9 inches, Walls is small for a wide receiver. But, when opposing teams try to jam him, Walls says he'll use one of his greatest assets - speed - to make them pay.

"That's when my quickness comes into play," Walls said.

Walls, along with returning starting wideouts Brandon Trusty and Doug Brown, hope to capitalize on the high-octane offense designed by new offensive coordinator Kent Schoolfield.

So far, Walls likes what he sees in the playbook. "I love all the routes," Walls said.

The receivers, along with returning starting quarterback Marshall Glenn, have plenty of room for improvement.

The 2004 Aggie offense ranked next to last in the MEAC in scoring (18.4 points per game) and sixth in total offense.

Schoolfield likes to throw, and he says Walls has been impressive during workouts.

"He was tremendous in spring and during camp," Schoolfield said. "When we (the offense) got bogged down in practice, he made tremendous plays for us."

Glenn, who was injured for part

of the 2004 season, struggled to find receivers on a consistent basis. He threw for 1,167 yards, but had only six touchdowns to go with 15 interceptions.

Walls started in only three games last year, but he has been practicing hard and is looking forward to contributing more this year. Walls said it all comes down to hard work and executing plays, in the game and in practice.

"He (Schoolfield) won't let us settle for being mediocre," Walls said.

Schoolfield, Walls said, is instilling a sense of urgency on the offense that should payoff when game time comes.

"That sense of urgency is going to take care of a lot of our problems from last year," Walls said.

"We're going to put up way more points," Walls said. "We're going to take some pressure off of the defense."

Schoolfield likes to score points as well, but for now he wants the young wideout to prove he can contribute in games and in practice.

"I hope he continues to play like that during the season," Schoolfield said.

Walls said he is confident - in his teammates, his own ability, and in Schoolfield's game plan.

"It's (the offensive scheme) made to light up the scoreboard," Walls said.

The Sports Network 2005 Preseason I AA College Football Poll

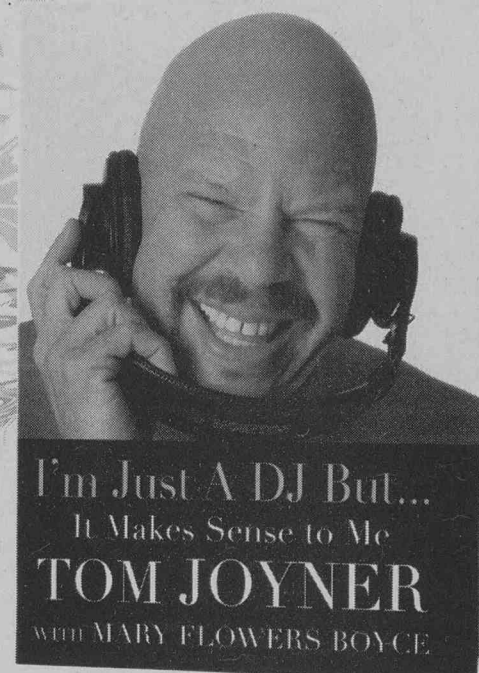
Team (First place votes)

1. James Madison (49)
2. Furman (21)
3. Montana (14)
4. Eastern Washington (11)
5. Southern Illinois (3)
6. Georgia Southern
7. New Hampshire
8. Western Kentucky
9. William & Mary (1)
10. Delaware
11. Northwestern State
12. Northern Iowa
13. Hampton (MEAC)
14. Lehigh
15. Massachusetts (1)
16. Sam Houston State
17. Cal Poly
18. Montana State
19. Harvard (1)
20. Jacksonville State
21. Wofford
22. North Dakota State
23. Texas State
24. Hofstra
25. Grambling State

GRAPHIC BY MICHAEL V. STANLEY

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