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# AGGIE PRIDE IS DEAD

The dramatic conclusion of the seven part series

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# BEST OF 2007

THE REGGIES — PAGE 8

THE A&T REGISTER'S AWARDS FOR THE VERY BEST OF '07

# THE A&T REGISTER

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2007

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY

VOLUME LXXXI, NO. 14

www.ncatregister.com

The A&T Register would like to say thank you its graduating staff members, **Torell Taylor, Ben Fair and Candace Hackney**, and wish the best of luck in the future.

### NEWS

#### AGGIES TAKE A LITTLE "ME" TIME

Relationship seminar helps students try and understand themselves. **PAGE 2**

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President Bush denounces Iran's plans to develop a nuclear weapons program. **PAGE 3**

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"Guitar Hero" meets "World of Warcraft" as merger creates world's largest video game maker. **PAGE 4**

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It's the end of the road for "Sex and the Gate City" but it was one hell of a ride. **PAGE 7**

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Amber Bland scored 16 and "Tweet" Cook scored 15 in the Lady Aggies 68-39 win over Norfolk State last Saturday. **PAGE 6**

#### TEBOW EYEING HEISMAN TROPHY

Florida quarterback Tim Tebow is close to become the first sophomore to ever win the Heisman Trophy. **PAGE 6**

### CORRECTION

In last week's article "Expert speaks on money management" Stafford Thompson was cited as Stafford Brown. We apologize for any inconvenience or confusion it may have caused. — Staff

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### WEATHER

**TODAY**  
High 48 Low 33  
Mostly Sunny

**TOMORROW:** Sunny | High 44

**FRIDAY:** Partly Sunny | High 53



injustice.



dog fighting.



campus safety.



gadgets.



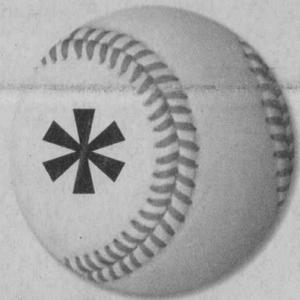
changes?

# 2007

## From Don Imus to the iPhone, '07 kept everyone guessing



iraq.



records?

The year 2007 will be remembered for Democrats taking over Congress and the realization that racism is woven into the fabric of our culture. We slept outside for iPhones and went insane for Halo 3. We were all Hokies as we mourned for those lives lost in the shootings at Virginia Tech. We cried out against dog fighting as another Virginia Tech alum threw it all away. We wondered about our safety on campus but seemed to overlook the thousands lost in Iraq, Darfur and America's inner cities as they've become "the norm" on our evening news. Like every year, celebrities came and went, big names passed away, records were broken and another group finally had enough and struck (seen any new Family Guy episodes lately?). '07 was one for the ages, but then again, isn't every year when you think about it? — M.M.



darfur.



racism.

### RACISM & INJUSTICE

Racials slurs made a comeback in 2007 but did they ever go away? Controversy surrounded public figures' openness of slanderous racial slurs.

Shortly after the Michael Richards' racial rants issue at the Laugh Factory last December, Don Imus received a brisk slap from mainstream media in April after calling the members of the Rutgers women's basketball team "some nappy-headed hoers" on his syndicated radio talk show Imus in the Morning. This led to the radio personality's seven-month suspension from the airwaves, although he made a public apology.

Duane "Dog the Bounty Hunter" Chapman, was caught spewing racist rants about his son's fiancé, a Black woman, and repeatedly called her a nigger. Yet again, a public apology.

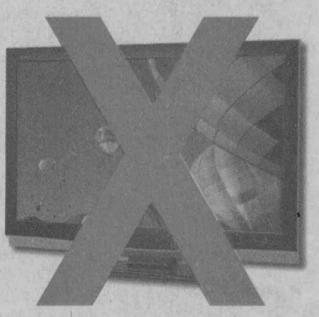
Nooses were hung from a tree in a

Jena, La. schoolyard in August 2006, because Black students decided to sit under the tree historically reserved for whites helped breathe in a breath of fresh air into the fight for civil rights.

2007 proved that racism and segregation are still alive and thriving. Six Black high school students, known as the Jena 6, faced attempted murder and aggravated second-degree battery charges after a white classmate was beaten and hospitalized. Rallies, marches and protests in support of the minors being tried as adults received heavy media coverage and national attention. Most of the charges were dropped or lowered on account of protest and prior events, like a fight and a gun drawn on Black students, leading up to the noose incident.

— L.P.

SEE 2007 ON PAGE 8



strikes.

### WINTER WALK FOR AIDS

## Community comes together to walk for important cause

BY ASHLEY REID AND LASHAWN PARKER REGISTER STAFF

The streets of Greensboro were filled with supporters of the HIV/AIDS fight last Sunday, as they marched for those who had passed or become infected with the disease.

On what could be have been another lazy Sunday, thunders of cheer, applause and chatter filled the Memorial War Stadium. After a half hour of pep talk, the crowd was revved up and ready for the walk. Many of the campus' organizations came out in support of the walk.

From the stadium, participants and their pets filled the Greensboro streets, crossing main intersections such as Lindsey, Bessemer and Market streets and passed through the Fisher Park neighborhood. Many organizations and participants marched together in song, some in dance but all energetic.

The Winter Walk for AIDS started as a candlelit visual at Grimsley High School 16 years ago and has since

evolved into other events.

"This event is a very vital fundraiser," said Mike Baker, director of development for the Triad Health Project.

According to Baker, 100 percent of proceeds go to funding for Triad Health Project's client services and general operating expenses. 500 clients at the Triad Health Project receive case management through this funding. "We've generated as much as \$100,000," said Baker.

AIDS is a continuous growing epidemic in the United States. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), reported an estimated total 40,608 new cases of AIDS within the U.S.

With such a high number of new cases just in 2005, AIDS is becoming a problem that was already in our backyards, but could be standing in our front doors now. Although there are medications to help people live with AIDS, a cure would surely help to reduce and destroy the AIDS epidemic.

SEE AIDS WALK ON PAGE 2

### NYC MEETS A&T

## Giuliani speaks on campus; event not open to students

BY MICHAEL J. McCRAY EDITOR IN CHIEF

Republican presidential front runner Rudy Giuliani came through Aggieworld Monday and spoke before a crowd of nearly 600, none of whom were students.

The event wasn't a support rally for Giuliani on the predominantly democratic but sponsored by Women For Rudy, a who rented out the Alumni Events Center for the fundraiser.

Students, for the most part, were in the dark about the invitation only event but reactions ranged from shocked replies of "that's cool" to "that's really disrespectful."



Giuliani

Plans for Giuliani's arrival were in place well before the 10 a.m. event was to begin as extra security and parking enforcement began to take place around 8 a.m.

Parking lots that are usually filled with the typical "my first car" student vehicles became a shrine to affluence as SUVs and other luxury vehicles occupied those spots.

Giuliani, the former mayor of New York City, made the stop in Greensboro

SEE GIULIANI ON PAGE 2

The A&T Register wishes everyone a safe and happy winter break, we return better than ever before January 9th.

## ON THE YARD

**WEDNESDAY**  
**Men's Basketball vs. Southern Virginia**  
 Corbett Sports Center  
 7 p.m., Free with Student ID

**Community Service**  
 Memorial Student Union  
 Exhibit Hall  
 3 p.m.

**THURSDAY**  
**The Jump Zone**  
 Moore Gym  
 8 p.m.

**FRIDAY**  
**Exam Survival Kits**  
 Counseling Services  
 Murphy Hall 109  
 2 p.m.

**SATURDAY**  
**Kids Zone**  
 Memorial Stadium Union  
 Exhibit Hall  
 9 a.m.

**MONDAY**  
**The Relaxation Zone**  
 Memorial Stadium Union  
 Stallings Ballroom A  
 11 a.m.

## Off THE YARD

**WEDNESDAY**  
**Auditions Crimes of the Heart**  
 Open Space Cafe Theatre  
 4609 West Market Street  
 7:00pm

**THURSDAY**  
**Handels Messiah**  
 Greensboro Oratorio Society  
 War Memorial Auditorium  
 Greensboro Coliseum Complex  
 7:00pm

**FRIDAY**  
**Black Choreography Collective**  
**Show**  
 ShackleFree3 Dance Productions  
 Greensboro Cultural Center Downstairs  
 Theater  
 200 North Davie St.

**SATURDAY**  
**Tuna Christmas**  
 The Broach Theatre  
 520 S. Elm St. Greensboro, NC  
 8:00pm  
 \$15 for students

**SUNDAY**  
**Music in the Gathering Area**  
 The Shops at Friendly Center  
 3338 W Friendly Ave  
 2:00pm

**MONDAY**  
**The December Show**  
 Gallery 115  
 115 Pomona Dr  
 10am-5pm  
 Free Event

**TUESDAY**  
**Busy Bees with Mrs. Claus**  
 Greensboro Childrens Museum  
 220 N. Church St  
 6:30pm-7:30pm  
 \$3.00

**Get your organizations calendars in early for all of Spring 2008.**

Space will be limited so its first come, first serve (but we can't make this section the (insert organization here) calendar every weel so be realistic.

Send all events straight to the man in charge  
 editor@ncatregister.com

## Aggies take a little 'Me' time

BY LASHAWN PARKER  
 MANAGING EDITOR

Students, faculty and guests celebrated individuality at the second annual Relationship Forum titled "Me" on last Friday in the NCB Auditorium.

A presentation with pictures of Professor Ingram Hill's speech fundamentals class lit up the screen while Jill Scott's "One is the Magic Number" played in the background. The program was organized by the speech pathology professor but was coordinated by her students.

Her students were split into committees: advertising, promotional, participation, program development and ushers. They all came together for this end-of-year project that would be shared with the rest of campus. Panelists for the event included Dr. Myra Shird of the Speech Communications department, the Rev. Lisa Breedlove, Rick Alexander, Danielle Brame and many more.

Larry Drew sang an inspirational song, "Flying Without Wings." Afterward, Shird took the floor in sharing experiences on how she became comfortable in her own skin. She encouraged the audience to stop defining themselves based on others opinions of them.

"People fill voids by plugging people in," she said. "People come in beautifully wrapped packages but are empty on the inside. If you let someone else define who you are, then you need to check yourself."

The next panelist suggested the emptiness people feel stemmed from their disconnection from their creator. "Plug into the electricity which is your higher being," Breedlove said. "Be single within yourself and enjoy it. Identify yourself with yourself." Breedlove gave spiritual advice and

asked the audience to be more spiritual and to break away from cliques and crowds. "If you divide 1 by 1 you still get 1," she said.

Rick Alexander, one of Hill's students, served on the panel to give some student insight. Grabbing a quote from the movie "Gladiator," "If you live in fear no one will remember your name." Alexander encouraged the crowd to stop hiding in the shadows of their peers and to walk in their own shoes instead of conforming to the saying, "If the shoe fits, wear it."

"Don't let anyone deter you from what you're supposed to be doing," said Danielle Brame, another panelist. She shared her story of how she became so consumed with her love for her now husband that she lost sight of her initial goals.

The College of Arts & Science's administrative support associate Willene Rucker sang "Speak on for Yourself." The song's underlying message is it pays to mess up because only then do you know you're human.

The next panelist, Phillip Deans, suggested Plan Neglect, a plan to neglect people, places, things and situations that compromise you and your character. Opening his segment with the quote, "He who understands others is clever, but he who understands himself is enlightened," he asked the audience if they always did what they knew. After the show of hands, Deans told the audience that what they knew didn't mean anything if they didn't do what they knew.

He suggested that people should know themselves first and that can be one of the biggest payoffs one would have in life. "He who overcomes others is strong; he who overcomes himself is mightier still," he said.

He elaborated on the quote in ex-

plaining once a plan is set for yourself, all you have to do is stand still while others go off in their various directions. Another student, Scotty Graham, spoke on his experiences while out of school. He shared the story of a fictional character that won an athletic scholarship but could not read.

Once the student arrived at school he flunked out because he did not ask for help and returned home to eventually commit armed robbery and homicide to make ends meet. The character was arrested and wouldn't have been placed in that situation had they done what they were supposed to do in school from the start. Graham said, "You only have one opportunity, we're today not tomorrow."

The last panelist, Joseph Calendar, shared a rather personal story.

Through his anecdote, he wanted everyone to know that he felt life means nothing unless you pursue that thing that nags at your heart. This addresses students who major in subjects that may not necessarily make them happy, but will ensure financial stability.

"Don't compromise your ordained talent," said Calendar. He suggested the audience to look to their family and friends to see what type of person they were.

At the close of the forum, the floor was opened for questions and comments. Many of the audience members asked questions in reference to steps to getting to know themselves. Is it a long process? How do you know when something is a talent and not a phase? How do you know when something is right for you? At the end of the program Professor Hill told the audience, "Remember the answers to all the questions you have in life have already been placed inside of you."

The A&T Register is going on Holiday hiatus but returns better than ever January 9th. In the meantime, be sure to check out [www.ncatregister.com](http://www.ncatregister.com) for breaking news and events of the winter break. Be safe.

### GIULIANI

From page 1

and spoke for over an hour, then packed up the entourage and headed to Winston-Salem for another fundraiser.

Giuliani is still the leader among Republican presidential candidates, ahead of Mitt Romney, Mike Huckabee, John McCain and Ron Paul. Best known for being mayor New York City during 9/11, he was in office from 1994 until December 2001.

### AIDS WALK

From page 1

The CDC estimated blacks to have 20,187 of the new cases of AIDS. These statistics are alarming, being that out of five racial groups, blacks are reported to have almost half of the reported AIDS cases in 2005. 2,283 of AIDS cases reported were between the ages of 15-24.

Sophomore Bree Pelham echoed those sentiments. "I feel (like) AIDS are conquering African Americans as a people because of ignorance and lack of knowledge."

Hill on the other hand believes that social status of the black community is the main reason for its alarming rates. "People must be educated about their risks and options," said Hill.

"AIDS is a worldwide epidemic that needs to be contained as soon as possible," said senior Francis Niles. "AIDS does not discriminate along racial or socio-economic lines, whoever practices high-risk sexual or drug activities are at risk regardless of age, sex, race, income level or sexual orientation."

"This event truly allows people to think globally and act locally. There are 33 million affected by HIV/AIDS worldwide and 70 percent of that is in Sub-Saharan Africa," said Baker.

According to Baker, one million residents of the U.S are infected with AIDS with over 30,000 in North Carolina and a couple thousand people who've tested positive in Guilford County alone.

## Giving back

Aggies lead helping hand in the community

BY STACIE BAILEY  
 REGISTER INTERN

Throughout life, we run into stumbling blocks and may need extra assistance to get by. There are others in the same position or perhaps worse who are in need of a giving heart also. With that in mind, students at A&T are showing their holiday spirit by giving back to their communities at home and in Greensboro.

There are several places in the area that are in need of volunteers to help them provide for the less fortunate. Also, the school provides students with the opportunity to help without even leaving campus. Food drives, clothes donations and the recent project of helping kids make holiday cards are just a few of the recent ones.

It seems as though the holiday should be a time of merriment and smiles for all. Unfortunately, that's not the case. From homelessness to loneliness, there is always someone who needs a helping hand.

After taking a survey of 15 students, 14 of them said that they had done some type of community service this year. Nine of them participated in Greensboro and the remaining five helped out in their hometown. Services included food drives, after school programs, the Salvation Army and the Women's Resource Center of Greensboro.

"You should always give back to where you came from since your experiences there made you who you are," said Shirley McRae, a political science major from Durham.

Giving back to your community provides a sense of joy knowing that you helped someone less fortunate than you. During an episode of VH1's, "Charm School," Saaphyri gave up the most clothes knowing that she had the least. She set an example for others in

the house as well as for those watching at home.

Contributions should be made in an effort to help others and not for the expectation of gaining something in return. Saaphyri had no idea she would win and expected to get voted off before the end of the program.

Jasmine Brooks, a food science major from Raleigh says, "It's better to give than to receive. There are those less fortunate and if I didn't have much, I would like for someone to help me."

Community outreach is not just a holiday or seasonal tradition. Some people struggle on a daily basis and have to make what they have last as long as possible. Natural disasters, like hurricane Katrina, and school-related issues like tutoring, are things that happen unexpectedly and require the assistance of those whom are willing to help.

Michael Cherry, a marketing major from Durham, shares the belief that giving back should be done year-round and not just at certain times. "I believe that I was blessed enough to have life, finances, etc..., so I should (feel obligated to) give back."

It is attitudes and actions like these that encourage others to do their part in helping out their community or just in general. Let us not forget that there is a requirement of 50 hours of community service needed to graduate.

By receiving the necessary paperwork from Murphy Hall or the student organization in which you are participating, this is obtainable. Other than the above-mentioned benefits, one can earn leadership and social skills as well as networking, which can be used in the future.

As animal science major Mike Henderson of New Bern, says, "It brings people closer to each other."

### INFOCUS



PHOTO BY LEROY MIKELL - THE A&T REGISTER



PHOTO BY MICHAELA EDWARDS - THE A&T REGISTER

### CAMPUSBLOTTER

#### Robbery

12/03/2007, 11:30 p.m.  
 Riverwalk Apartments

A male student reported that he was assaulted and robbed at an off campus location. The estimated total loss is unknown at this time. There were no injuries. The Greensboro Police Department is investigating.

#### Lost Property

12/03/2007, 3:35 p.m.  
 Moore Gym

A male student reported losing his digital camera. The estimated total loss is \$180.

#### Vandalism

12/03/2007, 11:48 p.m.  
 Cooper Hall

A male graduate student reported that someone had broken a glass pane from a door. The estimated total damage is \$225. There were no injuries. There are no witnesses or suspects.

#### Arrest

11/29/2007, 13:45 p.m.  
 Off Campus

A female student was arrested on various charges. The female was transported to jail, processed, and given a secure bond. The Greensboro Police and UNC-Greensboro Police Departments are investigating. There were minor injuries reported.

— Compiled by Tiffany Adams

**U.S. BRIEFS**

## Severe storm floods towns in Pacific Northwest

**PORTLAND, Ore.**

National Guard troops evacuated residents in a flooded town Tuesday and tens of thousands of residents remained without power after back-to-back storms pounded the Pacific Northwest, killing five people.

Troops with the Oregon Air National Guard used inflatable rafts to evacuate flooded residents in Vernonia, a mountain town on the Nehalem River, about 35 miles northwest of Portland.

The storm that hit Monday smacked the region with hurricane-force winds and several inches of rain, and was blamed for five deaths in Oregon and Washington state.

By Tuesday, the second system had moved on to the Upper Plains and Midwest, where it was predicted to bring snow. In North Dakota, the National Weather Service said parts of the state could get up to 9 inches.

—(AP)

# Bush not for Iran's nuclear program

BY **TERRENCE HUNT**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Bush said Tuesday that the international community should continue to pressure Iran on its nuclear programs, asserting Tehran remains dangerous despite a new intelligence conclusion that it halted its development of a nuclear bomb four years ago.

"I view this report as a warning signal that they had the program, they halted the program," Bush said. "The reason why it's a warning signal is they could restart it."

Bush spoke one day after a new national intelligence estimate found that Iran halted its nuclear weapons program in the fall of 2003, largely because of international scrutiny and pressure. That finding is in stark contrast to the comparable intelligence estimate of just two years ago, when U.S. intelligence agencies believed Tehran was determined to develop a nuclear weapons capability and



George W. Bush

was continuing its weapons development program.

It is also stood in marked contrast to Bush's rhetoric on Iran. At his last news conference on Oct. 17, for instance, he said that people "interested in avoiding World War III" should be working to prevent Iran from having the knowledge needed to make a nuclear weapon.

Bush said Tuesday that he only learned of the new intelligence assessment last week. But he portrayed it as valuable ammunition against Tehran, not as a reason to lessen diplomatic pressure.

"To me, the NIE (National Intelligence Estimate) provides an opportunity for us to rally the international community — to continue to rally the community — to pressure the Iranian regime to suspend its program," the president said. "What's to say they couldn't start another

covert nuclear weapons program."

He also asserted that the report means "nothing's changed," focusing on the previous existence of a weapons program and not addressing the discrepancy between his rhetoric and the disclosure that weapons program has been frozen for four years.

Bush said he is not troubled about his standing, about perhaps facing a credibility gap with the American people. "No, I'm feeling pretty spirited — pretty good about life," Bush said.

"I have said Iran is dangerous, and the NIE doesn't do anything to change my opinion about the danger Iran poses to the world."

Bush said the report's finding would not prompt him to take a U.S. military option against Tehran off the table.

"The best diplomacy — effective diplomacy — is one in which all options are on the table," he said.

The president also said that the world would agree with his message that Iran shouldn't be

let off the hook yet.

In fact, Europeans said the new information strengthens their argument for negotiations with Tehran, but they also said that sanctions are still an option to compel Iran to be fully transparent about its nuclear program. European officials insisted that the international community should not walk away from years of talks with an often defiant Tehran that is openly enriching uranium for uncertain ends. The report said Iran could still build a nuclear bomb by 2010-2015.

In Kabul, Afghanistan, Defense Secretary Robert Gates reinforced the U.S. position that the new U.S. intelligence assessment shows that Tehran remains a possible threat. He said it shows that Iran has had a nuclear weapons program and that as long as the country continues with its uranium enrichment activities, Iran could always renew its weapons program.

The U.S. intelligence assessment "validated the administration's strategy of bringing diplomatic and economic efforts

to bear on Iran," Gates said Tuesday, speaking at a news conference with Afghanistan's President Hamid Karzai.

Bush called the news conference, his first in nearly seven weeks, to intensify pressure on lawmakers amid disputes over spending and the Iraq war. Taking advantage of his veto power and the largest bully pulpit in town, Bush regularly scolds Congress as a way to stay relevant and frame the debate as his presidency winds down.

Democrats counter that Bush is more interested in making statements than genuinely trying to negotiate some common ground with them.

Specifically, Bush again on Tuesday challenged Congress to send him overdue spending bills; to approve his latest war funding bill without conditions; to pass a temporary fix to the alternative minimum tax so millions of taxpayers don't get hit with tax increases; and to extend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

## Grand jury indicts top Democratic fundraiser

**NEW YORK**

A federal grand jury on Tuesday indicted Norman Hsu, a top Democratic fundraiser and former fugitive accused of cheating investors of at least \$20 million and using some of the money to make illegal donations to political candidates including Hillary Rodham Clinton.

In the 15-count indictment returned in U.S. District Court in Manhattan, the government accused the 56-year-old clothing-industry entrepreneur of duping investors nationwide with a massive Ponzi scheme.

The government said Hsu also violated federal campaign finance laws by making contributions to various political candidates in the names of others. A message left with a lawyer for Hsu was not immediately returned.

Federal prosecutors said Hsu hoped his lavish campaign contributions would help draw money to his scheme by raising his public profile.

—(AP)

## Spoiled shots bring health threat

BY **MELANIE S. WELTE**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

**DES MOINES, Iowa** — Every year, thousands of American children go through the tearful, teeth-gritting ordeal of getting their vaccinations, only to be forced to do it all over again. The vaccines were duds, ruined by poor refrigeration.

It is more than a source of distress for parent and child. It is a public health threat, because youngsters given understrength vaccines are unprotected against dangerous diseases. And it accounts for a big part of the \$20 million in waste incurred by the federal Vaccines for Children program.

"This is a substantial problem that needs to be addressed through prevention, and when problems are discovered, often times through revaccinations," said Dr. Lance Rodewald, director of immunization services at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

By CDC estimates, hundreds of thousands of doses of vaccines against such diseases as flu, diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, mumps, measles, chicken pox and the cervical cancer virus are thrown out each year because of poor refrigeration at clinics, hospitals and doctors' offices.

In one recent case in Sioux City, Iowa, more than 1,000 families were notified by letter and telephone that they needed to get their children revaccinated. State officials found that the refrigerator at the clinic that administered the shots repeatedly dropped below freezing over a 17-month period in 2005 and 2006, potentially ruining the vaccines stored there.

"We just didn't notice it," said Dr. Ray Sturdevant, president of the Prairie Pediatrics and Adolescent Clinic.

Poor refrigeration has been blamed for similar problems elsewhere around the country over the past 2½ years:

- In St. Cloud, Minn., a clinic had to revaccinate 8,600 patients, most of them children.
- In Lane County, Ore., 500

children and adults had to get another shot.

■ In western Florida, it happened to about 250 kids.

In Sioux City and other cases, the spoilage resulted from a combination of factors: The refrigerator malfunctioned or was not set or maintained at the proper temperature — a problem that can be caused simply by leaving the door open for a while — and the workers responsible for regularly logging the temperature did not seem to recognize when the readings were off.

"We do everything we can to advise and to make people aware that this is very expensive vaccines they're dealing with and we really want to handle it properly and store it properly to prevent these things from happening — but they do," said Charles Alexander, chief of immunization with the Florida Health Department.

Inadequate refrigeration can cause vaccines to lose their potency, although experts say spoiled childhood vaccines are not dangerous in themselves if given to a youngster.

## Critics poke holes in Clinton's vote against war in Iran

BY **BETH FOUHY**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

**DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)** — Hillary Rodham Clinton accused presidential rival John Edwards of making "outlandish political charges" in portraying her vote against Iran as a pretext for war as the Democratic contenders confronted each other in a debate in Iowa just one month before the state's leadoff caucuses.

Clinton came under criticism from her rivals, who highlighted her September vote in Tuesday's debate, which came the day after release of a new intelligence report that says Iran stopped development of a nuclear weapon four years ago.

Edwards said Clinton gave President Bush just what he wanted when she voted to designate Iran's Revolutionary Guard a terrorist organization. Clinton said her vote was meant to encourage diplomacy.

"Declaring a military group sponsored by the state of Iran a terrorist organization, that's supposed to be diplomacy?" Edwards interjected. "This has to be considered in the context that Senator Clinton has said she agrees with George Bush terminology that we're in a global war on terror, then

she voted to declare a military group in Iran a terrorist organization. What possible conclusion can you reach other than we are at war?"

Clinton objected. "You know I understand politics and I understand making outlandish political charges, but this really goes way too far," said the New York senator, who is locked in a tight three-way race with Edwards and Barack Obama in this first-voting state.

"None of us is advocating a rush to war," said Clinton, the only Democratic candidate to vote for the resolution.

Joe Biden, a senator from Delaware who chairs the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, responded by telling Clinton that "terminology matters."

"It's not about not advocating a rush to war," he said. "I'm advocating no war."

The seven candidates participating in the debate broadcast on National Public Radio stood together in criticizing Bush's assertion that "nothing's changed" despite the new intelligence report. They began their debate at the Iowa State Historical Museum by agreeing that the United States should shift its focus in dealing with Iran to diplomatic engagement.

## The Grinch who stole the christmas tree

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

**FLAG POND, Tenn. (AP)** — Authorities are on the lookout for a Grinch who stole the tops off more than two dozen Christmas trees from Danny Tipton's farm.

The thief or thieves raided the farm in eastern Tennessee sometime between Nov. 24 and last week and cut the top off the Fraser firs that were 10 to 12 feet tall.

"It's like the Grinch stealing Christmas trees," Sheriff Kent Harris said.

Tipton grows the taller trees for use in businesses, churches and homes with high ceilings and they usually sell for about \$100 each.

The culprit sawed the top six feet off about 28 trees and hauled them off the property, probably to sell off for use in

smaller homes. Tipton estimates they would get about \$15 to \$20 each.

"It's a very low person who commits such a crime as this at Christmastime," Sheriff's Maj. Ronnie Adkins said.

Tipton still has about 6,000 trees growing on his farm near the North Carolina border, but they are in various stages of maturity. The pilfered firs were ready for sale when they were taken sometime last week.

"I had gone to harvest the trees," Tipton said. "That's when I noticed there had been somebody in there cutting them. (It was) sort of disbelief. I couldn't believe anybody would go to the extremes they went to get them."

Authorities have a description of a vehicle, but a lack of evidence may hinder catching the Grinch.

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OPEC SAYS IT WILL KEEP PRODUCTION STEADY...

# Credit-card practices causing debt

BY DIBYA SARKAR  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — Credit-card executives on Tuesday deflected congressional criticism of their practice of using falling credit scores to charge customers higher interest rates.

Industry critics say it's another example of abusive, confusing credit-card practices that can push consumers deeper into debt.

Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., chairman of a Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs subcommittee, said customers who consistently pay on time are getting whacked by credit-card issuers that raise such rates without an adequate warning or a clear notice.

"The bottom line for me is this: when a credit card issuer promises to provide a cardholder with a specific interest rate if they meet their credit

card obligations, and the cardholder holds up their end of the bargain, the credit-card issuer should have to do the same," he said Tuesday.

Levin is holding out the club of possible legislation to spur voluntary changes by the industry. But executives from Bank of America Corp. and Discover Financial Services LLC. told the subcommittee that a credit score is one of several factors in determining whether to increase a customer's interest rate.

"It's important criteria for how to manage risk and pricing," said

Roger Hochschild, Discover's president and chief operating officer. Bruce Hammonds, president of Bank of America Card Services, said his bank also considers customer behavior on an account and their debt to others, in addition to credit scores.

But it's the behavior of credit-card issuers that prompted several consumers to testify before Levin's subcommittee about not being informed when their rates were hiked.

Janet Hard of Freeland, Mich., said her Discover credit-card rate nearly tripled without adequate notice and that issuers send "deliberately misleading and confusing" information.

With Americans weighed down by some \$900 billion in credit-card debt" an average \$2,200 per household" practices of the very profitable industry have been ripe for scrutiny by the Democratic-controlled Congress.

Levin's subcommittee, which has been investigating the industry, looked at how credit-card issuers raise consumers' rates, to as high as 30 percent, when their so-called FICO credit scores decline" even if they've paid credit-card

bills regularly and promptly. In many cases, consumers have little notice of the increased rate, which are automatically triggered by declines in FICO scores for reasons left unexplained, the subcommittee found.

In some cases, just opening another account, such as a department store credit card, could trigger the downgrade in credit score.

In one of the cases cited by the subcommittee, Marjorie Hancock of Arlington, Mass., wound up with interest rates on her four Bank of America credit cards of 8 percent, 14 percent, 19 percent and 27 percent, even though her credit risk is the same for all four.

Ken Clayton, managing director of card policy for the American Bankers Association, which represents the banking industry, said Monday:

"Costs for nearly every

product can change, be it because consumer's risk profiles change or because underlying costs change. Credit cards are no different."

Five big financial companies" Discover, Bank of America, Citigroup Inc., JPMorgan Chase & Co. and Capital One Financial Corp." issue around 80 percent of U.S. credit cards, according to the subcommittee. A Capital One official also testified at Tuesday's hearing.

Citigroup, JPMorgan Chase and Capital One said they will discontinue the practice; Citigroup's change already is in place and JPMorgan Chase's will take effect in March. But Levin says legislation may still be needed to get other companies to do the same.

Larry DiRita, a spokesman for Bank of America, said its customers "have the right to say 'no' to an increase."

# Despite strains business climate remains healthy

BY JEANNINE AVERSA  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — The country's top corporate executives foresee pretty good business prospects even as the economy gets squeezed by a housing collapse, a credit crunch, Wall Street turmoil and high energy prices.

A survey by the Business Roundtable, released Tuesday, showed that most executives expect sales, capital investment and hiring to remain at current levels or even improve in the coming months.

While the economy's problems have caused consumer confidence to tank, the survey's results suggest that corporate executives' assessment is that the business climate remains generally healthy despite all the strains.

The economy, which logged its fastest growth in four years during the third quarter, is expected to slow to a pace of just 1.5 percent or less in the October through December period.

In the survey, 87 percent of chief executives said they expected their sales to hold steady or increase over the next six months. That's down only slightly from 88 percent in the previous survey in September.

On the hiring front, 78 percent said they expected to hold payrolls at current levels or boost them. That's up a bit from 74 percent in the earlier survey.

Meanwhile, 86 percent said they would hold capital investment steady or increase it. That compared with 85 percent in the previous survey.

One of the reasons behind executives' good outlook is that they expect overseas demand

for their products and services to remain strong, said the group's chairman, Harold McGraw III, president and chief executive officer of The McGraw-Hill Companies.

Another reason: executives are not seeing a retrenchment by U.S. consumers, McGraw said. Still, consumer behavior is being watched closely, he said, because it is a major shaper of overall economic activity in the United States.

Health care and energy topped executives' concerns about costs.

"For the last four consecutive years, health care costs, which impact virtually all Roundtable companies, have been cited as the top pressure. But now, with oil approaching \$100 a barrel, energy costs have risen to the top concern in CEOs' minds," McGraw said.

For all of next year, the executives said they expect the economy to grow by 2.1 percent, which would mark slower growth than is forecast for this year.

Both the White House and the Federal Reserve have lowered their forecasts for economic growth next year because of fallout from the housing and credit markets. The housing slump is expected to drag on well into next year.

To prevent these problems from pushing the economy into a recession, the Federal Reserve has sliced a key interest rate twice this year. Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke hinted last week that another rate reduction could come when the central bank meets next Tuesday. The Fed's key rate, now at 4.50 percent, could be lowered by at least one-quarter percentage point,

some analysts said.

The meltdown in the mortgage and credit markets have left millions of people at risk of losing their homes, made banks and other financial players to take huge losses and forced some lenders out of businesses. The mess is a political headache for the Bush administration and Congress and poses a big challenge to Fed policymakers.

The Business Roundtable is an association of CEOs of major corporations, representing a combined work force of more than 10 million employees and \$4.5 trillion in annual revenues. The quarterly survey, conducted Nov. 5 through Nov. 20, was based on the responses of 105 of the group's 160 member companies.

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## "Guitar Hero" meets "Warcraft"

Merger creates world's largest video game maker

BY MICHAEL J. MCCRAY  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

In an effort to compete with Electronic Arts strangle hold on the video game industry as far as franchises go, Vivendi SA kicked out \$9.8 billion to buy a controlling stake in Activision, Inc.

The purchase makes the company, which will be called Activision Blizzard once the transactions complete, the world's largest maker of video games.

Vivendi SA, is French media conglomerate which also owns part of General Electric, NBC Universal, Universal

Music Group, which includes Interscope, Geffen, Island Def Jam, Motown, Bad Boy and Cash Money records.

Vivendi's video game division is its smallest but boasts it has seen success in game franchises with "Crash Bandicoot," "Spyro" and "World of Warcraft." Activision brings a history of gaming success to the table with titles like Tony Hawk and Call of Duty.

The new Activision Blizzard, valued at 18.9 billion dollars, instantly makes it a huge competitor to EA and its successful franchises including "Madden," "NBA Live" and "The Sims."

Even with the big news of a merger, rumors are still circulating around the industry about a possible breakup of the large conglomerate and some even speculate that EA will soon add to its overall already huge business by acquiring Ubisoft, the maker of the games "Driver" (2003) and just about any anything Tom Clancy.

Vivendi Games began in 1996 when the CUC International acquired Sierra On-Line, the maker of classic children's game "Math Blaster" and "You Don't Know Jack"

Reuters and the Associated Press also contributed to this story.

## Dow Chemical Co. cuts 2.3 percent of its jobs

BY JEFF KAROUB  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

DETROIT (AP) — Dow Chemical Co. announced Tuesday it is cutting 1,000 jobs, or about 2.3 percent of its work force, as part of a plan to rid itself of underperforming businesses and boost its global efficiency.

The Midland-based company, one of the nation's biggest chemical makers, said it will exit the automotive sealers business within the next nine to 18 months in North America, Asia and Latin America. It will look at options in its European operations.

Other cutbacks include idling a styrene plant in Cama-

cari, Brazil, on Jan. 1 and closing a cellulose manufacturing facility in Aratu, Brazil, in the first quarter of next year.

Wholly owned subsidiary Union Carbide Corp. will shut down its polypropylene facility in St. Charles Parish, La., before the end of the year, and the company will significantly reduce research and development and other functions at a facility in South Charleston, W.Va.

"Today's announcement reflects our commitment to prune businesses that are not delivering appropriate value and tackle tasks ...

Andrew N. Liveris, Dow's chairman and chief executive,

said in a statement.

Dow expects the cuts will result in a charge of \$500 million to \$600 million for write-downs and severance packages in the fourth quarter of 2007. The company said it expects to save \$180 million a year once the moves are made.

Dow reported a 21.3 percent drop in profit in the third quarter due to changes in German tax laws, higher domestic tax rates and charges for research and development. It posted net income after paying preferred dividends of \$403 million, or 42 cents per share, compared with a year-earlier profit of \$512 million, or 53 cents per share.

## BIZBRIEFS

### Gates makes third visit to Afghanistan in less than a year

KABUL, Afghanistan

Defense Secretary Robert Gates on Monday began his third trip to Afghanistan since becoming the Pentagon chief a year ago, visiting the country at a time when Afghans are becoming increasingly critical of U.S. military efforts in the country.

Gates, who arrived Monday evening, was planning to hold talks on Tuesday with Afghanistan's President Hamid Karzai at a time when his government has complained about U.S. and NATO strikes that have killed civilians. His most recent visit to Afghanistan was in June, when he declared that Iranian weapons were falling into the hands of anti-government Taliban fighters. He also was in Afghanistan in January.

Just ahead of Gates' visit, a suicide bomber blew himself up next to a police patrol Monday in southwestern Afghanistan, killing four people including two policemen, an official said. Separately, the U.S.-led coalition fighting in Afghanistan said it killed five suspected Taliban in the south.

— Lolita C. Baldor (AP)

### Americans owe nearly \$30,000 as their share of soaring debt

WASHINGTON

Like a ticking time bomb, the national debt is an explosion waiting to happen. It's expanding by about \$1.4 billion a day.

What's that mean to you? It means almost \$30,000 in debt for each man, woman, child and infant in the United States.

Even if you've escaped the recent housing and credit crunches and are coping with rising fuel prices, you may still be headed for economic misery, along with the rest of the country. That's because the government is fast straining resources needed to meet interest payments on the national debt, which stands at a mind-numbing \$9.13 trillion.

And like homeowners who took out adjustable-rate mortgages, the government faces the prospect of seeing this debt rolling over to higher rates, multiplying the financial pain.

— (AP)

### Investors grow pessimistic about profit prospects

BY MADLEN READ  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

NEW YORK (AP) — Wall Street wilted Tuesday as investors awaiting next week's Federal Reserve meeting remained uneasy that fallout from the slumping housing market could bring more bank losses and pull the economy into recession.

Retreating oil prices and signs of strength in industries outside the financial sector could not keep the stock market from declining for a second straight day. Investors have entered into December, usually a winning month on Wall Street, very cautiously — most expect to see lower rates when the Fed meets next Tuesday, but the size of the cut, if any, is under debate.

Meanwhile, JPMorgan downgraded major securities firms, warning that while further write-offs of bad mortgage debt might help the firms' stocks, longer-term concerns about their risk management might hurt their overall valuation. JPMorgan lowered its earnings estimates for some of Wall Street's biggest players: Goldman Sachs Group Inc., Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc., Merrill Lynch & Co. and Morgan Stanley.

— (AP)

AGGIE PRIDE IS DEAD  
PART SEVEN OF SEVEN

# The Butterfly Effect

“There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it’s going to be a butterfly.”  
R. Buckminster Fuller said these words and could not have been more accurate. There is no direct indication of what one will become, only the potential that one will become something phenomenal.

The butterfly’s life demonstrates that change is inevitable. A butterfly starts out as an insignificant egg growing into a measly caterpillar with an insatiable appetite. After consuming every opportunity to eat the caterpillar encases itself in a cocoon, moderately defenseless against the perils of the world. The most fascinating part is that through all the challenges the butterfly emerges and becomes an entity whose beauty only marvels respect.

Ironically, even with all the previous stages of a butterfly being challenging, the most difficult stage of the butterfly’s life is emergence from the cocoon. Breaking out of the shell that keeps it bound. When it finally attains freedom it understands that it is time to begin the cycle again to create the next generation of butterflies to edify the world around them.

In 1891, a lowly egg was laid in the basement of Shaw University. There was no indication of where this egg would go or what it would become the only certain thing was that egg had a purpose and an ancestral spirit that lived within. That egg that I speak of is A&T.

That egg soon hatched and crawled out that basement and became a hungry caterpillar devouring every possible opportunity that it could to become better and stronger still striving toward that purpose. Even with all the predators of equal opportunity circling overhead, that caterpillar still fought and consumed those opportunities until it became full and established a location where the true metamorphosis could begin.

In the cocoon, A&T had to endure the struggles of Civil Rights. In the cocoon, A&T had to persevere through shootings and a death. Today A&T is still inside that cocoon awaiting the opportunity to emerge, but A&T now endures the persecution of the very people she embraces, the



MARVIN Q. JONES

students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the community. As we press down on the cocoon we make it harder and harder for A&T to reach maximum potential.

Some of the things that keep this cocoon bound are selfishness, greed, complacency, ignorance, lack of community, hidden agendas, and more all I have mentioned before in past articles, all of which are problems that are constantly reoccurring because A&T fights change.

Ironically enough as much change as we seek to give the world, we are hardly willing to change ourselves.

We continue on the perpetual cycles because they are convenient, familiar, and worst of all easy. When one is not willing to change, they are not willing to move, and when one does not move they become stalled. Even the change in the style of our mascot is symbolic in how we have moved from mobilizing to stagnant. Not saying that our old mascot was a better pick, but symbolically it was always in motion with that one foot sticking out. Now the new Aggie dog is stagnant always appearing to take hold but never moving.

As the new generation of Aggies as well as those that understand the deep roots of this pride we have to mobilize and continue to move A&T forward or she is going to be stuck in that chrysalis continuing the perpetual cycle.

Insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result. We cannot expect things to improve for A&T if we continue doing the same things we have been doing. We cannot ask Dowdy to change its method if students keep coming unprepared. We cannot ask the students to be assertive with course work if the teaching is still not working. We cannot ask the alumni to donate if we continue to build loose bridges with them. We can’t reach to the community if we employ the same methods of reaching out. How can our beautiful butterfly spread her wings and create gusts of change around the world if

she is forever stuck in a chrysalis state?

Aggie Pride is not dead, but stalled. It is stalled because we are not moving A&T forward as a cohesive unit. We all have to find that electricity, that current, that energy to reach together and jumpstart the heart of A&T so the flow of pride can begin to warm the cold body that lies slumbering. With so many agendas and lack of connectivity, A&T is being pulled in numerous directions, many of which are not of the best interest. However in order to move forward this cocoon has to be broken.

A&T like the butterfly is in the hardest stage of growth and that is emergence. A&T in all of its excellence has not even begun to radiate the blinding glow that will brighten the world. It is time for a Golden Renaissance at A&T.

A time where we emerge from our cocoons, mobilize, expand, and lay the eggs for the future generations so the cycle can begin again. Each generation that passes foot through this school, and by generation I do not mean students alone I mean all those that interact with students, have a obligation to fulfilling the mission Achieving Great Goals in Everything and Producing Renowned Individuals Dedicated to Excellence.

The simple flutter of a butterfly’s wing can cause a typhoon around the world. The simple flutter of sitting down caused a typhoon in the Civil Rights so we may stand up. It is time to simply flutter and create those typhoons that will strike change on any scale across the world.

So there is only one thought left; “Happiness is like a butterfly which, when pursued, is always beyond our grasp, but, if you will sit down quietly, may alight upon you.” Nathaniel Hawthorne said this; so don’t worry Aggies our joy is going to return as long as someone is dedicated to fulfilling that purpose laid in that egg in the basement of Shaw University 116 years ago and we all remain patient with all the perils happening at our school.

In the eternal spirit of Aggie Pride spread your wings and fly.

Marvin Q. Jones is a senior applied mathematics major. He can be reached at marvinqjones@gmail.com

I CAN’T BE THE ONLY ONE...  
THE MEDIA & BLACK ISSUES

## Black people are killing each other?

One reason I’ve always doubted my role in the media and my future as a working professional journalist is because at the end of the day, it’s a business built on tragedy, and I don’t see myself being able to live with my own conscience profiting from tragedy.

The death of Washington Redskins star Sean Taylor was ridiculous but it’s not uncommon. The part that kills me is the media outlets that are capitalizing on this very real problem for ratings and not to spur social change. Headlines like “Black men in crisis” ran every commercial break after Taylor shooting death and it begs the question, are you just noticing that black men in the country are dying?

Was I surprised to see Taylor’s death flash across the television as breaking news? Of course, but not because he was a black man, rather his level of notoriety. I know the deaths of young black men register as mere blips on the radar on the local or national news but even the most casual news watcher has had to notice that black on black crime is nothing new.

Do you really think they care about Sean Taylor? What about 16-year-old Tranere Mikell, who took his 9-year-old brother to play in a football game Monday, stopped by his grandmother’s house, then was gunned down a couple of blocks from his Southwest Philadelphia home?

Sure, I marveled, as most did, at Taylor’s athletic ability and punishing play on the football field but this shines light on a greater problem that will be forgotten by the time he’s replaced on peoples’ their fantasy teams.

I think many people around this country have written off violence in the black community as a cultural issue. I believe in our own community we’ve been numbed to the point where there isn’t that shock that goes along with death but rather a reaction like “Damn...oh well.”

People are outraged but more or less powerless to do anything about it. The numbers alone are staggering.

I feel like many journalists are digging up the facts for this story not because they care to change it but because this could be the story that pushes their careers to the next level. I fully understand why people outside of the media see journalists as these heartless, opportunistic, soulless shells of human beings. How can a person who had to have had a mother, maybe a family and hopefully some kind of conscious, beat down the door of a mother or father who’ve lost their son or daughter, not to console them but to get the big story on the news at 11.

The sadder part is that we are basically molded to be these emotionless machines for the sake of what? Emmy’s? Peabody’s? We are taught not to feel, which in a terrible way is what we, the media, are passing on to the millions of readers daily and millions of viewers nightly. Desensitizing them to the outright insanity that is our world today, but maybe you do need to be a little cold hearted to even survive.

Triumph from tragedy is something I hope this story and thousands like it can bring to not only the Black community but the global community and maybe people like me will have to live with headlines painting violence in the black community as spanking new, as long as the journalism is earnest and sparks thought I’ll live.

I’ve never been big on revolution and changing the world but when placed in a position to do so, like the media, where you have the audience and the access to make change happen, it’s kind of our duty to do so.

Who knows? One day this media thing might turn out to be honest business after all, we’ll just have to wait and see.

Michael J. McCray is a senior Journalism and Mass Communication major and the editor in chief of The A&T Register. He can be reached at editor@ncatregister.com



Like this strip? You’ll see more work from Brandon Murphy in 2008!

# 10 Commandments of College: The A&T Edition

BY KEISHA THOMAS  
CONTRIBUTOR

As 2007 winds down, I, as every college student, have a chance to reflect on the events of the semester. For the most part, we all have experienced downfalls as well as triumphs, both which will ultimately help to shape our college careers if they haven’t already.

How can we make sure to claim victory in the end? It’s very simple! Here is a list of 10 solid rules that every A&T student should follow in order to have a successful semester and school year:

**I. Thou shall not use all thy flex dollars the first week of the semester.**

Trust me. A day will come when you are terribly hungry, and you will swipe your AggieOne card and \$1 will be on there. You don’t need to eat at Pizza Hut, Chick-Fil-A and Blimpie everyday. You’re paying for a meal plan, so you might as well hit up that cafe!

**II. Thou shall not let Myspace and Facebook distract thee.**

Once you see that two hours have passed and you’re still on the title of your research paper, I suggest that you log out of Facebook and Myspace. Click out of the tabs

on Internet Explorer while you’re at it, so you won’t get the urge to log back in.

**III. Thou shall not mistake Thursdays for Saturdays.**

Yes, tonight most clubs are free before 12 and yes, Friday is just around the corner, but just in case you forgot—you have class tomorrow and a paper due! Looks like you need to have a party in your room with Microsoft Word.

**IV. Thou shall not hit the mall right after refund checks are distributed.**

Go right to Wachovia, Bank of America, or the bank to which you belong and deposit the money. Do NOT cash the check and blow your money on a shopping spree because when you suddenly have a bill next semester and can’t come back to school, you’re gonna wish that you had kept that money! Dowdy will NOT have mercy on your soul!

**V. Thou shall not let guys/ladies detour you from the real reason why you’re at A&T.**

Now, there are some handsome men and beautiful women on our campus. One can get easily distracted! Please be advised that spitting game and flirting will not get you that 4.0 GPA! Keep your eyes in the books and off of the opposite (or same) sex!

**VI. Thou shall keep up with all personal belongings.**

If you find yourself going to your RA five times a month to get a spare key to unlock your room or you’ve been through 4 AggieOne cards in 3 months, you’re showing signs of irresponsibility. Keep careful track of your things and keep them organized and accessible!

**VII. Thou shall not wait until reading day to contact a professor.**

So, you’ve been failing your class since the first graded assignment, and on Reading Day you decide to address your professor on the issue. BIG no-no! At the first sign of trouble with a class, it is wise to get help from a fellow classmate or teacher. It is NOT wise to wait until classes are over to suddenly care about your final grade.

**VIII. Thou shall not wait until 1 minute before your class at Gibbs Hall to leave your room in Pride Hall.**

You are not Superman. If you’re walking (or driving) it is almost impossible for you to get from one side of the campus to the other in one minute. Unless your tardiness is unavoidable, give yourself time to get to class so that you will be seated and ready when it begins.

**IX. Thou shall always check**

**Blackboard.**

Technology is scary. Checking Blackboard (for most students) has become almost as crucial as going to class. It can do things that professors normally do, such as grade assignments and exams. You must be on top and aware of class announcements, online exams, grades, and documents posted on there. Professors are using this tool more and more to keep in close contact with students. Check it frequently!

...and the most vital Commandment of all...

**X. Thou must check Ebay, Amazon, and Edward McKay’s before going to the A&T Bookstore to purchase books.**

Unless you’re ballin’ like that and would rather pay \$400 for a new book from the A&T Bookstore that you can get for \$40 used at Ed McKays, check ALL possible places before you buy books for your classes.

You are a college student. You have tuition as well as other expenses to worry about. The last thing you want to do is pay a ridiculous amount of money for a book that you’re going to possibly misplace or that you won’t need after the current semester. However, if spending unnecessary money makes you happy, be my guest!

## 9-1-1 Emergency? Hopefully not on campus

While sitting in Williams Cafeteria this past weekend, I saw a student pass out while in line for waffles. happened to a student and EMS needed to be called.

When this happened some of the other people standing in the line seemed concerned about the situation but continued making their waffles and engaging in conversations with their peers. What bothered me the most was the fact that students were getting up to get something to drink or eat just so that they could go be nosy and see what was going on. But not many of these people offered any kind of assistance.

Ten minutes passed by and EMS had been called but had not shown



TAMYIA TURNER

up yet, my cousin even called from her phone. It just so happened that prior to this a police officer had walked into the cafeteria and was later trying to assist the student until EMS got there.

ously at all.

It shouldn’t had taken that long for EMS to arrive at the Cafeteria, some would argue that if this would have happened at UNC-Greensboro, EMS would have arrived in two minutes not twenty.

This is a very true statement, sad but true. Many emergencies have taken place in the past and assistance didn’t arrive when needed. If something happens to a student and they die due to an ambulance not arriving promptly A&T is going to be looked at in a negative way, not the EMS crew who decided to take their precious time because the emergency was at a HBCU instead of the school down the street.

As a school that has gone through so much historically from

sit-ins to riots, you would think that we would be taken more seriously, since were so quick to take action when something negative is being done to the black community. It’s clear that we as prominent black people still don’t get that respect that should be demanded by us from other races.

The world continues to change but not enough, not enough for the student who passed out on the floor waiting for assistance, not enough for the neighbor next door with AIDS, not enough for the black man with locks going on a job interview and not enough for the future of A&T.

Tamyia Turner is a senior JOMC major. She can be reached at teturner@ncat.edu

## Men fall to .500; Ladies improve to 6-1 overall

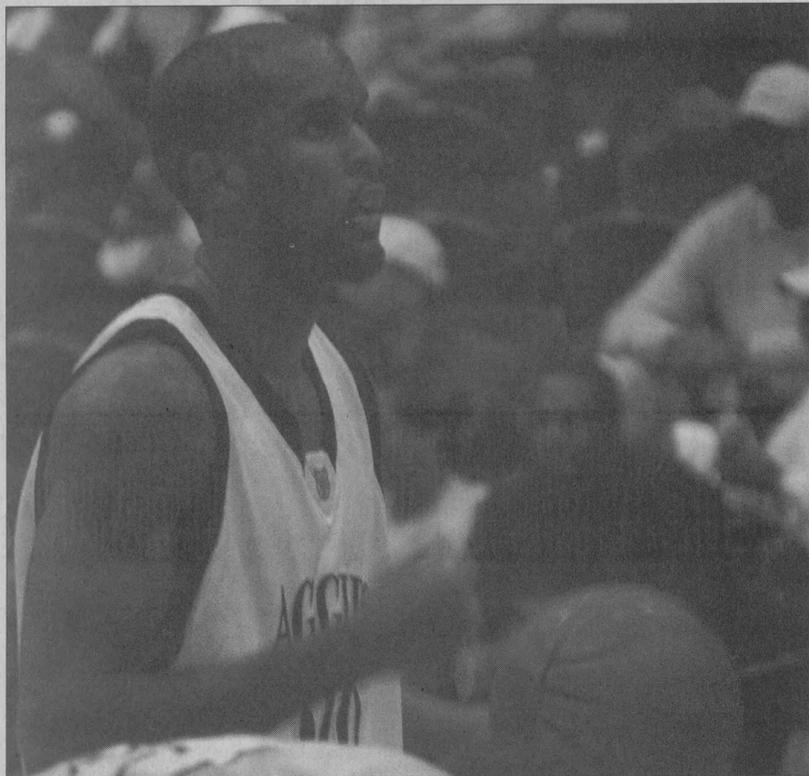


PHOTO BY LEROY MIKELL - THE A&amp;T REGISTER

SENIOR FORWARD JASON WILLIS and the Aggie men will look to improve to 5-4 and go back over .500 as they defend their perfect homecourt record versus the Knights of Southern Virginia University on Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Corbett Sports Center.

BY DANIEL HENDERSON  
CONTRIBUTOR

After traveling to Norfolk, Virginia last weekend, the Lady Aggies opened conference play with a bang.

Off to its best start in school history, the women's basketball team dismantled the Norfolk State Spartans just days after helping head coach Patricia Cage-Bibbs earn her 400th career coaching win.

"I like the way we are playing defense right now", said Bibbs. Right now that is so important because we're not quite where we need to be with our offense. There is so much of the season left so we have time to get better and better."

Bibbs may have been referring to the 28 turnovers her players committed in what she recognized as a win that may not have been pretty.

The Lady Aggies came with combinations of players against the Spartans, which ultimately led to many mistakes.

"When you are running in and out of different players you are not going to look as crisp as you would like", explained Bibbs.

They also shot a low 64.3 per-

cent from the charity strike, an area Bibbs hopes to improve with over 20 games remaining on the year.

But A&T managed to force the Knight of Norfolk State to shoot a low 25.5 percent from the field while forcing 38 turnovers.

The lady aggies are now 6-1, and have detained opponents to a low 33.6 percent from the field per game in their five game winning streak.

Norfolk State did not connect with their first field goal until 13:58 in the first period.

Amber Bland led the way in their conference victory with a game high 16 points and five rebounds, while sophomore guard Ta'Wuana Cook finished with 15 points and five assist.

Lamona Smalley dominated the frontcourt on the boards with the game high 11 rebounds, and also scored in double figures with 11 points.

In other action over the weekend, the Aggie men's basketball program was not as successful in Norfolk.

The Aggies fell short to the Norfolk State Spartans 82-76, marking their second consecutive loss since earning national attention as the 25th ranked mid-

major school in the country.

Norfolk State paid especially close attention to guard Steven Rush in helping them earn victory, who scored 9 points in one minute and 31 seconds last season at Echols Hall.

Rush finished with 16 points, while forward Jason Willis eclipsed the century mark in total career points after producing 111 points and 9 boards.

A&T's 3-point performance was disappointing after connecting on 3 out of 16 attempts.

"You have to give Norfolk State a lot of credit", said head coach Jerry Eaves.

"They came at us hard and we did not respond. We gave up too many easy shots.

The open looks helped the Spartans uphold a 50 percent field goal average for the game.

Eaves also noted that his team needs someone to step in the place of Rush being that most teams target his shooting ability as their focal point when scouting the team.

"Other guys have to step up and take shots," he said.

"He has to be more unselfish and take the ball to the basket more."

## Tim Tebow could become first sophomore Heisman winner

BY DAVE GOLDBERG  
AP FOOTBALL WRITER

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP) — The night before a game typically goes like this for Tim Tebow: He attends a team dinner and walk-through, retreats to his hotel room to finish up school-work, watches football, makes a smoothie, then gets about 10 hours of sleep.

Yes, even Florida's superhero needs rest. It prepares him for a much-simpler routine: creating touchdowns, which he has done better than just about everyone else in the country this season.

Florida's too-good-to-be-true quarterback, the guy who couldn't possibly live up to all the hype, has exceeded expectations in his first year as a starter.

Tebow became the first player in NCAA history to run for at least 20 touchdowns and pass for at least 20 touchdown in the same season. He eclipsed the school's single-season record for total offense with 3,970 yards, and he broke the Southeastern Conference's single-season record for rushing touchdowns.

Now, the 6-foot-3, 235-pound Tebow is going for another first: he could become the first sophomore to win the Heisman Trophy.

"It's unbelievable and it's an honor just to be mentioned for it," Tebow said. "It's a huge award. It's something I've watched my whole life. It has been a crazy season, so who knows what can happen?"

If Tebow does win college football's most coveted award, it wouldn't be an upset. In fact, Tebow is considered a front-runner along with Arkansas tailback Darren McFadden.

Tebow ran for 469 yards and eight touchdowns in a backup role last season, playing mostly in short-yardage and goal-line situations.

Could he throw? That was the big question surrounding Tebow this year, and he answered it emphatically.

Tebow ranks second in the Football Bowl Subdivision (formerly Division I-AA) in passing efficiency (177.9). The left-hander has completed 68 percent of his passes for 3,132 yards, with 29 touchdowns and just six interceptions.

"I think everybody is surprised how well he threw the ball this year," Florida offensive coordinator Dan Mullen said. "You knew he could throw; he's got a very strong arm. But his accuracy? To complete over 65 percent of his passes and be second in the nation in passing efficiency, that takes some skill throwing the football. And I think that's where he really surprised everybody this year."

Tebow still did plenty of running, too.

He even ran with a sore shoulder — he took painkilling shots before the last five games — and played most of the second half against Florida State with a broken right hand.

Tebow has 838 yards rushing and 22 scores. Only UCF's Kevin Smith (30) and Tulane's Matt Forte (23) have more rushing touchdowns this season. Tebow can add to his numbers when the ninth-ranked Gators (9-3) play Michigan in the Capital One Bowl on New Year's Day.

For the last few weeks, coach Urban Meyer said he needed more information about the other candidates before he would say whether Tebow deserved the Heisman.

Meyer got his answer last weekend.

"I think Tim should win it," Meyer said. "I don't like to speak unless I have an opportunity to evaluate everything."

I got to see guys play. And I never really looked at our statistics, but the money statistics are unbelievable this year. ... And then the numbers, just the touchdowns. I have to believe he deserves to win that Heisman."

Meyer is hardly alone. Florida State coach Bobby Bowden said the only reason Tebow might not win the Heisman would be because he's a sophomore. Bowden also said Tebow could win it multiple times.

Georgia coach Mark Richt and Tennessee coach Phillip Fulmer agreed that Tebow's rare combination of size and athleticism sets him apart from everyone else.

"When you're unique, you get people interested in watching you because you're different," Richt said. "That's definitely a plus in a Heisman race."

Added Fulmer: "There aren't very many of those guys around that are that big and strong and fast and can throw like that."

Not everyone is sold on Tebow's accomplishments, though.

Hawaii coach June Jones called Tebow a "system quarterback."

"Tim Tebow's system is a college system," Jones said. "He is a great quarterback who'll probably win a national championship. He's competitive; he's all those things. But a lot of his stuff comes off little dives, fades, things he is not going to do in the National Football League. That's my point."

Tebow brushed aside the comments Monday, saying he ran an offense similar to Hawaii's run-and-shoot in high school and "the numbers weren't too bad there."

Tebow threw for nearly 10,000 yards and 95 touchdowns at Nease High near Jacksonville and ran for more than 3,000 yards and 63 scores. He was a household name for Florida fans before he stepped foot on campus in January 2006.

ESPN even filmed a documentary about him titled "The Chosen One," partly because of his strong religious beliefs and missionary work in the Philippines.

Tebow's legend grew last year and has since reached folklore status.

There are numerous Internet sites dedicated to Tebow, including one that generates random facts about his greatness. Among them: "Superman's only weakness is Kryptonite. Tim Tebow laughs at Superman for having a weakness," and "What color is Tim Tebow's blood? Trick question. Tim Tebow does not bleed."

Tebow's favorite? "Tim Tebow can believe it's not butter," he said.

Tebow laughs at all the attention, taking the same kind of humble approach that endears to him to friends; coaches, teammates and everyone else in his life.

"Whenever you say anything about the Heisman, he's like, yeah, whatever," Caldwell said. "He just brushes it off like it's nothing to him. I don't think it's close. By far, he's the best player in the country and the most productive and he should win the Heisman."

"I hope if he wins it he'll show some more emotion."

## Luck on Patriots' side of late

BY DAVE GOLDBERG  
AP FOOTBALL WRITER

Now we know the last ingredient in an unbeaten season. Luck.

That's what the New England Patriots had Monday night as they became just the sixth team to start 12-0.

It was most notable on the final drive that ended with Tom Brady's touchdown pass to Jabar Gaffney that beat the Baltimore Ravens. The Patriots even had the good fortune of having a penalty called against them that negated a stop by Baltimore that would have beaten them.

In any case, the Patriots are in a funk, 12-0 or wnot.

If they play against Pittsburgh this week the way they did against the Ravens on Monday night, they'll be 12-1.

That's not necessarily a bad thing because it probably won't cost them in the standings — they've just about clinched home-field advantage in the playoffs. It will also relieve some of the pressure that's been building since the season's start and the spying episode that left Bill Belichick \$500,000 short in the wallet.

After winning their first 10 games by an aggregate 411-157, the Patriots have squeaked by Philadelphia and Baltimore by three points each and were in serious jeopardy of losing both games. In fact, they should have and they would have lost Monday night if not for a bizarre sequences of plays and penalties at the end.

Start with 1 minute 53 seconds left, the Patriots trailing 24-20 and facing a fourth-and-1 at the Baltimore 30. The ball was snapped, Brady tried to sneak and was stuffed. But the whistle had blown before the play because Baltimore defensive coordinator Rex Ryan had called time out before the ball was snapped.

So, the Patriots lined up to try it again and Heath Evans was stuffed. But there was no play, because Russ Hochstein had jumped early and was called for illegal procedure.

"The false start saved our life. Every now and then you win one," said Matt Light, the left tackle.

Indeed. On fourth-and-six, Brady scrambled for 12 yards and a first down.

The Patriots faced another fourth down at the Baltimore 13 with 55 seconds left. This time, Brady's pass to Benjamin Watson was incomplete, but Jamaime Winborne was called for defensive holding. That led to the winning TD pass.

The Ravens complained loudly afterward that the officials — meaning the NFL — was trying to help the Patriots to an unbeaten record. After Gaffney's touchdown, Baltimore's Bart Scott, normally a very solid citizen, was penalized twice — a total of 30 yards — for complaining, then picking up the first flag and throwing it.

"You can crown them champions now," cornerback Samari Rolle complained. "It's a travesty when you go out there and play that hard and the refs decide the outcome."

## Favre winning on and off the field

BY DAVE GOLDBERG  
AP FOOTBALL WRITER

NEW YORK (AP) — Brett Favre's standout season for the resurgent Green Bay Packers has earned him the title of 2007 Sports Illustrated Sportsman of the Year, making him the fourth quarterback to win the award in its 53-year history.

The 38-year-old Favre joins fellow quarterbacks Terry Bradshaw (1979), Joe Montana (1990) and Tom Brady (2005) as recipients of the award, given to an athlete who symbolizes the ideals of sportsmanship. Favre, a three-time NFL MVP, said in the cover story of the magazine's Dec. 10th issue that

leadership is about finding ways to raise his team's level of play.

"You do that by setting an example, by doing things the right way. I've always shown up, I've always been prepared, I practice every day," Favre said. "I practice hard. I study. No matter what happens on the field, I never point blame at anybody else. Everything I do comes back to leadership, the example I want to set."

Favre has started a quarterback-record 249 consecutive games, and this year surpassed Dan Marino for career touchdown passes and pass attempts. He is 450 yards away from breaking Marino's career record of 61,361 yards.

Favre has had one of the best

seasons of his 17-year career, completing 67.4 percent of his passes for 3,412 yards with 22 touchdowns and 10 interceptions.

He's on pace to surpass his career marks in completion percentage, yards passing and fewest interceptions per attempts.

The magazine also recognized Favre's history of philanthropy, including his Fourward Foundation that's donated more than \$4 million to charities in Wisconsin and Mississippi and assisted Mississippi's Gulf Coast counties after Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Miami Heat star Dwyane Wade won the magazine's award last year.

## Need a New Year's resolution?

Why not write for The A&T Register in 2008? Contributors meetings are held every

Wednesday at 5 p.m. in NCB 328A.



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## THE A&T REGISTER

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## SEX AND THE GATE CITY

## I came, I saw, I conquered

The film "The Departed" includes two important characters: the mole and the rat. I think of myself as the mole. I didn't infiltrate the high stakes realm of the FBI or drug mafia. Instead, I managed to penetrate another tough defense, a group of male associates. I deem the friends The Players. Each offered great insight into aspects of the male thought process.

At times when they attempted to escape the pressures of school, work and women, I was permitted to partake in their introspective conversations about life. Each individual maintained

his own identity by playing a specific role. As a result, I grew to understand, respect and take each for whom he truly is. The game is not merciful, but it taught me how great players strategically maneuver to score and ultimately win.

I'd like to thank my connect, Mr. Silent but Deadly, for initially granting me access to the secret society. "She's cool," he stated, so our friendship was used to vouch for my gained association. Although



CANDACE L. HACKNEY

our relationship was strictly platonic, I observed the strength of his hypnotic charm. This free agent is a seasoned player, perhaps the best I've seen in the game. I don't exactly understand the depth of his skill, but other women line up for their opportunity to bask

in his demeanor. He and The Rookie are close teammates.

The Rookie has a good game himself. No elaborate dunks though. He gets the job done with an effortless finger roll.

He chooses to play the game by the rules as much as possible, but distractions and temptation surround him. He is the "good" boyfriend, but I wasn't completely fooled by his performance on the court. The Rookie is a cocky dude. He took part in his share of flirtations too. However, of the four, I have grown closest to him. He showed me other facets of his personality beyond his arrogance.

The remaining two members offered humorous sincerity and pure overconfidence. I respect these players' swaggers though. Both men remain steadfast in

their positions. The Philandering Monogamist is the most non-committed, committed man I know. He loves his on-and-off girlfriend, but the perks of the game are far too enticing. His street ball game is quite flashy and employs little technique. There is a big difference between his style and that of Mr. Silent but Deadly. One seeks applause from the crowd, while the other moves with stealth. However, both manage to reach the common goal in their own respective ways. I appreciate the contribution of The Insightful Instigator. He is a well-balanced

player. He keeps everyone entertained but doesn't get caught up in the game like the others.

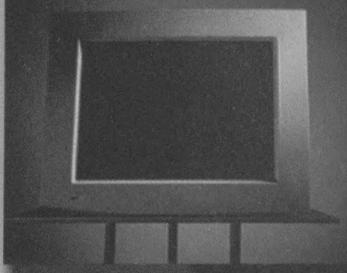
For those who thought I wrote about an ex-lover or my failed attempts at love each week, you are sadly mistaken. I wrote about you. I observed my surroundings and listened carefully.

My inspiration also resulted from The Players' candor. They were my muse. My mind was opened and opinions changed because of my association. Like an open letter, this is the wonderful experience that I chose to share with you.

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